



CRAIGHEAD
DIOCESAN SCHOOL

Craighead Diocesan School

Craighead Diocesan School is an integrated school for girls providing rich learning experiences for students in Years 7 to 13. Approximately one third of the students are boarders. The boarding house provides a home away from home for up to 130 students. The school's founders, the Shand sisters, had a vision for a school that addressed the needs of the whole person – their spiritual, moral, emotional intellectual, social, and physical well-being. This includes commitment to service and stewardship, tolerance and respect for difference, and the pursuit of truth and justice. These values are derived from an Anglican Christian heritage. The Religious and Social Education (RSE) programme sits within this strong commitment to holistic education across all year levels. The development of the RSE curriculum has been a significant focus of the chaplain and is ongoing. The classroom experience sits alongside weekly chapel and quarterly special character events for current students. Demand for places at the school remains strong and the school are seeking permission from the Ministry of Education to increase the roll.

The school has long enjoyed a close relationship with St Mary's Anglican Church in Timaru. St Mary's host two of our significant 'Special Character Services' during the year. Carol services at the end of Term 4 were enriched by a strong school choir and talented musicians and brought the wider school community together. In keeping with the special character of the school two senior students, our sacristans, work closely with the chaplain. This year Briar Allan and Charlotte Blake are serving in these roles and their enthusiasm and commitment to leadership are a delight.

The development of the historic Shand House continues. It will be a beautiful feature in the school when the restoration and development work is complete. This year saw the launch of Shand Gin in three flavours which has been well received.

To synod members who are interested in the school, I recommend the Craighead website which captures many different features of life in this community. Check it out here: <https://www.craighead.school.nz/>

Reverend Stephanie Mander
Chaplain
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