

Te Kura o Hato Māka, St Mark's School

St Mark's School is the only Anglican integrated school in the South Island. Over the last decade staff at the school have committed themselves to growing a school of faith and love. Our Special Anglican Character and the 5 Marks of Mission both depend on and underpin that culture.



Without it, the approaches and educational programmes that we have in place would not be effective in supporting student achievement. Students, whānau and staff greatly value programmes such as:

- Pūmanawa gifted education / MODS
- Dyslexia groups
- Specialist teaching model
- Leadership programmes
- Coaching and mentoring programmes

These programmes are successful because they are delivered in a school where school culture creates a foundation of inclusiveness, respect and care.

At the same time, these programmes effectively operationalise our important school values. Without them our special character would not have that authentic edge and would not create for students a school environment where everyone is valued and respected.

Students, their progress and their welfare are at the center of everything we do at St Mark's.

Our school culture is made up of many special elements that, when combined, create a school of excellence, faithfulness, courage and grace (school values) and is punctuated by inclusiveness, respect, love and care.

It is the way the school "feels" as you walk around and observe the way people interact and the way they care for each other. It is embodied in the language people use to communicate and in the way they conduct themselves.

There is an overwhelming belief in the school as a family, and members want to be included in that because it is special and a privilege to have. We see people choosing to act in ways that support and grow that family rather than undermine it. We see students choosing to serve the school instead of serving their own wants. We see all teachers caring about the success of every student, not just the ones in their class.

New families into the school often comment on how great St Mark's feels, and they cannot quite explain why. What they are experiencing is our school culture that has not happened accidentally, it has been mindfully identified, grown and nurtured to be a school that strives to meet the many diverse needs of students within an authentic Anglican school that values God's love and care for all.

Adrian Rennie
Tumuaki /
Principal