



Here are three important things to consider before applying for a student exchange.

## 1. YOUR EDUCATION

Talk about your intention to go on exchange with your parents and school including your teachers, deans, and career adviser.

A common question we get asked is 'How will NCEA/IB/Cambridge work with my student exchange?' Unfortunately, there is no straightforward answer as each school operates differently. The best thing you can do is seek advice from your teachers about how you can manage your studies while you're abroad.

### HERE ARE QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:

Do you have enough credits to pass your NCEA?

Are your teachers willing to send you internal assessments to complete while you're away?

Do you need to do well in certain subjects to be able to take them again the following year?

Will you be able to catch up with your studies after you come back from exchange?

Do you know what the eligibility criteria is for the tertiary institution\* you wish to apply for after you graduate from high school?

\*Most tertiary institutions recognise New Zealand students who have been on exchange under 'discretionary entrance'. This means they will probably consider your application even if you don't meet the University Entrance standard.

## 2. THE EXCHANGE EXPERIENCE

Studying abroad is not for everyone. A good way to find out whether you'd enjoy a student exchange is to talk to exchange students at your school. Ask them about their experience of living and studying in a different country. We can also put you in touch with students who have been on exchange to the country of your choice.

Another good exercise is to write a list of pros and cons of studying abroad. See whether the benefits outweigh the cons. The more research you do, the more this will become clear. Think about your priorities and what you want to achieve in your high school years

PROS	CONS

## 3. FINANCES

Think about how you will finance your exchange. There are four main ways to do this:

- Parents
- Part-time job
- Fundraising
- Scholarship

Many of our students manage to finance their exchange through their own hard work by either taking on a part-time job or doing some fundraising. Your contribution will make your exchange experience worthwhile, so we highly recommend you take some responsibility for financing the programme

## ARE YOU READY TO GO ON THE EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME?

- ✓ I have consulted with my teachers, deans, and parent(s) and have their full support
- ✓ I understand the costs involved and will be able to afford my exchange
- ✓ I have good grades at school
- ✓ I know how to manage my schoolwork alongside my exchange
- ✓ I have researched student exchanges and understand the challenges and benefits

