



Empowering students to thrive in our Whānau culture

From our Principal



Kia ora koutou, thank you for considering Mountainview High School as your school of choice.

I hope this prospectus provides you with an understanding of our innovative and creative culture. Our philosophy is to provide each child with an education that empowers them to thrive in all aspects of their life.

The staff at Mountainview High School work tirelessly to provide unique learning experiences for our students. Our courses are highly engaging and responsive to the needs of our learners. We understand the world is changing, so we must adapt our teaching and learning programmes to ensure our students develop the skills needed for success in their future.

A student's high school experience, however, goes far beyond the sole focus of academic achievement. At Mountainview we ensure that every student's hauora is supported so they are successful in their secondary education.

We see looking after our students' wellbeing as being equally as important as their academic progress.

Our ākonga thrive in our whānau environment. Although friendly rivalry exists between the whānau, we pull together and look out for each other when needed. Our students' unconditional support for each other is one of the reasons our kura is so special. The whānau system gives every learner a sense of belonging and embodies the Māori concept of tūrangawaewae.

It is my pleasure to welcome you to our school, and I look forward to you visiting us to meet our amazing students for yourself.



Kenny Diamond
Principal

Head Students 2024



Emily Duncan
Student Leader



Sunny Chen
Student Leader



Erin Rawson
Deputy Student Leader



Jack Conlan
Deputy Student Leader



About us

Mountainview High School is an exciting and thriving Year 9 to Year 13 co-educational secondary school located in Timaru, central South Island, New Zealand.

Whilst we have a history that goes back more than 100 years we have only been on the current school site since the mid 1980s.

This relocation presented us with the rare opportunity to redevelop the school completely, making the most of modern learning environments and embracing new technologies, such as Digital Learning.

We place our students at the heart of every decision we make. This allows us to respond to the needs of our community in engaging and innovative ways. Our learning programmes are tailored to provide our students with the best chance of academic, sporting, cultural, and personal success.

We have excellent teachers, superb learning spaces, and a picturesque environment that is the envy of most schools in the country. We recognise “what works” in education, but also acknowledge that the world is changing and we must change too. Sometimes it is not a matter of simply doing things better; sometimes you must adapt and do better things.

Together we understand that our students, and their whānau, bring an abundance of riches to our school; their stories have great wealth and deserve to be heard. Our responsibility is to support our students and their whānau as they continue to write their stories. We achieve this by providing deep learning experiences in a co-curricular environment that encourages them to work together, while thinking critically about the big issues their generation will face.

For our ākonga, their education is not confined to what happens in the classroom. Our Careers department works closely with local business and tertiary institutes to provide a range of experiences to help students choose their future pathways. We also offer our students a wide range of sporting, and cultural opportunities during the school year. These activities run through the week (before, during and after school) and on weekends, so you can be sure to find an activity that fits in with your lifestyle.

We are proud of our students, both past and present, and acknowledge the hard work completed by everyone associated with Mountainview High School since its opening in March 1984. Our current students continue to build upon our culture of curiosity, kindness, innovation and whānau this gives us great hope for the future. Our staff continue to ensure that the Mountainview students of today become the leaders of tomorrow.

Whānau system

On enrolment at Mountainview High School each student is welcomed into one of our Whānau (Moana, Hiwi, or Whenua). This Whānau will be your central hub for the entire time you are at school.

There is a great deal of rivalry between the three Whānau within the school, and each year they compete across a range of sporting, academic, and cultural activities, for the Preen's Shield. Our Whānau system also provides a foundation for our education and wellbeing platforms (Ako). Students are arranged into whānau based on a range of parameters including but not limited to siblings and legacy, interests and hobbies, primary school peer group, and formal request. Our aim is to match each student with a Whānau that best provides them with a sense of tūrangawaewae (belonging).



Building lasting relationships between students, home & school



Guidance

We know that our students live in a world much different than previous generations. We also acknowledge that for some students, high school comes with a range of new emotions and a great deal of anxiety.

Our Guidance and Counselling services provide students with the chance to centre themselves and ease any anxieties they may have.

We have a fully trained Counsellor at school to provide support as well as a range of support agencies on call if required. Our people can support student's dealing with a range of situations, and we encourage our students to make an appointment to see our Counsellor if their wellbeing is being negatively affected.



Ako

Within each Whānau every student will belong to an Ako group. These groups will meet each week with an assigned kaiako (teacher) to provide educational guidance as they move through the school year.

Each Ako group will also provide an opportunity for you to have access to critical support across a range of topics as and when it is appropriate for you and your peers. Their Ako teacher (kaiako) will also be the main point of contact between your school whānau and your home whānau.

Ako is seen as being fundamental to success at Mountainview High School. It provides an opportunity for ākonga and kaiako to learn with each other while building lasting relationships between student, home and school.



Junior Curriculum

Our Junior learning programmes are designed to place our ākonga in the driving seat, equipped and ready to navigate any challenges that they may face. We believe learning is not something that is done to a student, it is a journey that occurs with them. Our teachers are amazing at activating learning for our young people, by empowering them to thrive in and beyond the classroom. As our students complete their years in the Junior School, they will be introduced to our values (Te Awa), Learning Dispositions, and Literacies. Through these strands our students develop into empowered young people who are curious about their learning, and ready to tackle the Senior School with confidence.



Junior Academy Classes

We believe that no one subject area is more or less important than another, on the contrary it is our belief that the richest learning experiences occur when there is connection and mutual purpose between the various learning areas. Our Academy classes were built with this philosophy at the centre of our thinking. These classes are rich contextual learning environments that capture students' imagination and allow their creativity to shine. Regardless of your passion from the Performing Arts to cutting edge robotics and technology, our Academy classes provide a range of amazing options.



Junior Whānau Classes

Our Junior Whānau classes provide students with tūrangawaewae during their time here at Mountainview High School. Learning in these spaces is co-constructed using our values as a springboard into the learning. Our teachers collaborate across 5 curriculum areas to develop high interest topics that students engage with throughout the year. These learning opportunities are delivered across the week in optimal sized whānau groups which allow for strong relationships between ākonga and kaiako to develop. We know that the relationship between the teacher and student has a profound impact on the students progress. Our Whānau based classes put the focus on the quality of the relationships, so that our students can engage in the rich learning experiences in our classrooms.



Showcase

Students will be expected to develop their learning in the classroom into real world projects that can be displayed at our showcase evenings throughout the year. These project based learning showcases provide our students with the opportunity and experience in managing their time, problem solving, and critical thinking. It gives our students an opportunity to consider their learning in relation to the community they live in and provides our students' parents with a wonderful chance to see their children's learning come to life. You could be sitting down for a live performance, playing with technological innovations, or wandering through a museum dedicated to the 20th Century; our showcases provide plenty of proud moments.



Digital Learning

Advances in Digital Technology have changed the way we live, and in education the impact has been profound. We are now capable of providing our students with learning opportunities previously unimaginable. At Mountainview High School, we have always embraced technology for the positive effect it can have on our students' learning. We believe that as part of providing a future focussed education, we must prepare them for a landscape that will become increasingly digital in nature.

As such, every student at Mountainview High School will have access to a digital device as and when they need one. Meaningful use of digital technologies allows us to provide learning opportunities that are more equitable and relevant to the world in which our students will live and work.

The Learning Model

The Mountainview High School Learning Model helps students gain a better understanding of what they are learning and its purpose. Our aim is to provide each student with an easily accessible way of understanding the progress they are making in their study. We do this by building our students' trust and confidence so that risk taking becomes "the norm" in our classes.

The Learning Model is a framework for this risk taking and provides opportunities for powerful reflections as students begin to understand:

- What did I do well?
- What don't I understand?
- What are the next steps in my learning?

Our model is used consistently across all of our classes, so students can be confident in the knowledge that the language used in our programmes is universal. This helps provide a sense of familiarity for our students and builds a common vocabulary when discussing learning at Mountainview High School.

We encourage our students to use the model to delve deeper than simply asking "what" they are learning, but to ask "why" it is important and "how" it is relevant to them.



The language used in our Learning Model connects well to NCEA. As such, a thorough understanding of the model is a perfect way to prepare students for life in the Senior School.

Senior Curriculum

The MVHS Senior school continues the learning journey for the student by using modern collaborative practices that place the needs of the student foremost in the classroom.

Ako is the concept that recognises the knowledge that both teachers and students bring to the learning environment. The reciprocal learning concept is central to the Senior school that enables both students and teachers to build positive caring relationships that are inclusive and where everyone is empowered to learn from each other.

Mountainview provides a variety of curriculum choices for learners of all academic abilities and allows students to challenge and develop their thinking skills. Contextualised learning that develops and encourages inquiry and reflection that will benefit the learning skills of the individual student. As well as benefiting the whole community as forward thinking team players who are able to adapt to new situations develop and enter the fast changing employment landscape.

Mountainview fully recognises the importance of the triangular relationships between kaiako, ākonga and whānau to provide consistent connection opportunities to share and provide feedback and feedforward. This allows the whole school community to feel valued in the learning journey and provides strength together to deal with challenges as well as celebrating success.





Our Values - Te Awa

Braided rivers are quite rare and Aotearoa has a number of them. Rivers flow from the mountains to the sea and our values flow, from our kura to our community. Each braid represents a different value, separate but weaving between each other as they make their way to the sea.

Whanaungatanga

Whanaungatanga means relationships, kinship, a sense of family connection, building trust and long lasting bonds. It is a relationship through shared experiences and working together which provides people with a sense of belonging. It develops as a result of kinship rights and obligations, which also serve to strengthen each member of the kin group. It also extends to others to whom one develops a close familial, friendship or reciprocal relationship. Through developing Whanaungatanga, young people are nurtured in the community, so they can contribute strongly in society. It is fundamental to tuakana teina, which is reciprocal or shared learning.

Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi. Engari, he toa takitini.

Success is not the work of one, but the work of many.

Manaakitanga

Manaakitanga means hospitality, kindness, generosity and support. It is the process of showing respect and caring for others. Hospitality is a value that if done well can have a long lasting effect. It is also the natural etiquette of care and compassion and for treating others as you would like them to treat you.

He aroha whakatō, he aroha puta mai.

If kindness is shown then kindness you shall receive.

Kaitiakitanga

Kaitiakitanga means guardianship and protection. It is a way of managing the environment, based on the Māori world view. Kaitiaki is a guardian. This can be a person or a group that cares for an area such as a lake or forest. Kaitiakitanga is about caring for the environment and also taking care of others, through guardianship. It is also about self care and taking care of oneself.

Whatungarongaro te tangata toitū te whenua.

As people disappear from sight, the land remains.

Rangatiratanga

Rangatiratanga means chieftainship, the right to exercise authority, chiefly autonomy and authority, leadership of a social group, sovereignty, self determination and self management. Rangatiratanga is about being determined, open minded, reflective and committed. It can be demonstrated by the tuakana (seniors) leading by example to the teina (juniors), through role modelling the expected behaviours of the kura (school).

Ko te amorangi ki mua, te hāpai ō ki muri.

Leadership to the fore, we all have important roles to play.

Pūkengatanga

Pūkengatanga is about striving for the pursuit of excellence in everything that we do. It is about giving value to all backgrounds, prior experiences and skills. Pūkengatanga is about being open to learning, being prepared and dedicated to achieving goals and objectives.

Puraho maku, kei ngaure o mahi.

Let others acknowledge your strengths.



Leadership at MVHS

Our belief is that people are not born great leaders, they are made. We understand that, as a school, we have a responsibility to help develop the future leaders of New Zealand. With this in mind, we have a number of student leadership opportunities within the school community that provide our ākonga with the experience needed to develop their leadership skills. Many of these opportunities begin in Year 9 and continue throughout their entire schooling.

Board of Trustees (Student Representative)

This is a position elected solely by our students. The Student Representative is responsible for representing the interests of the entire student body at the monthly Board of Trustees meeting. This role is elected each year and open to any student between Years 9 and 13.

Head Students

Our Head Student team consists of four Year 13 students who have shown leadership consistently during their time at school. They embody our core values and often act as a symbol of our school at public events. Our Head Students are elected at the end of their Year 12 year by their teachers and peers.



Whānau Leaders

All three of our Whānau have their own council and leaders attached. Each Whānau Council is made up of students from Year 9 to 13, providing an opportunity to grow leadership skills throughout the school. By having three separate councils, each Whānau has its own identity and leadership style. Council members are largely responsible for running assemblies, planning inter-whānau events, and attending the Executive Council meetings.

Other Councils

We also offer a range of other leadership opportunities within the school through one of our many smaller councils. These include Sports Council, Arts Council, Environment Council, as well as a number of subject specific clubs. Many of these opportunities are available to both Junior and Senior students and new members are always welcome to attend.



Ko te amorangi ki mua, te hāpai ō ki muri.

Leadership to the fore, we all have important roles to play.



| STEM

STEM programmes at Mountainview are created around our core Learning Principles of Engagement, Empowerment, and Innovation. Our students reap the benefits of these principles as they experience ever evolving deep learning opportunities that engage their curiosity while our teachers empower them to be the true drivers of their education. Students experience the full spectrum of Science, Mathematics, and Technology throughout the Junior school in both single cell and co-taught settings.

In Science students explore and make sense of the Natural World. Through a diverse range of learning experiences they are encouraged to think critically and empowered to make decisions based around Scientific evidence. In Junior modules students learn about Biology, Chemistry and Physics blended with a wide range of other subjects. These broad contexts enable students to make powerful connections in their learning. Students are encouraged to explore real life issues and look at innovative solutions to problems that we are currently facing in the world today.

In the Senior school we offer a diverse range of courses including Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Earth and Space Science, General Science and Agriculture/ Horticulture. Learning experiences include field trips, scientific investigation, group work and research tasks, which all aim to capture the imagination and curiosity of our learners in Science. These courses also encourage critical thinking and problem solving, which are crucial skills for the world of work and a stepping stone to further education, including University.





Our core learning principals are:
Engagement, Empowerment & Innovation



Cultural Opportunities

Whāia te iti kahurangi, ki te tūohu koe me he maunga Aoraki,

Pursue that which is precious, and do not be deterred by anything less than Aoraki Mountain.

- 1. Te Reo Māori me ōna Tikanga - NCEA Levels 1-3 + Junior Classes**
Language, Lore, Practices, Customs, and Protocols (The customary system of values and practices that have developed over time and are deeply embedded in the social context).
- 2. Ahurea Kanorau/Rangahau**
Cultural Diversity/Research.
- 3. Ngā Mahi ā-Rēhia me Tāne Rore**
Māori Performing Arts inclusive of Kapa Haka.
- 4. Te Tiriti o Waitangi/He Whakaputanga/Hītori**
The history behind two of our founding documents.
1835: Declaration of Independence.
1840: Treaty of Waitangi.
Māori History.



Inā kei te mōhio koe ko wai koe, I anga mai koe i hea, kei te mōhio koe, kei te anga atu ki hea.

If you know who you are and where you are from, then you will know where you are going.

Nā reira, nau mai, tauti mai ki te kura tuarua nei o MVHS. Mauria mai tō taonga:

- Kia tipu i te kakano, hei wharikihia i te tūāpapa o te hīkoi.
- Kia piki me ētahi heke, hei akiaki, hei puawai.
- Kia haumaruru te noho oranga, hei whakakā i te kete, hei ako.
- Kia tūwhitia te hopo, hei korowai nō te mana whenua, hei toa, angitu hoki.
- Kia rite mō te anga whakamua, hei rere ki te ao whanui.





Ka Tiritiri o te Moana

| Careers

Every student at Mountainview High School is offered the chance to link with local tradespeople and businesses through our Careers department. Regardless of our students' future career goals our staff can help them make invaluable connections within the local community. Our Careers department can help place students in work experience through our Gateway programme, or simply set up opportunities for face to face conversations with professionals working in the student's chosen career.

We also link closely to our tertiary partners, both locally and nationally. We regularly host, and visit, both Universities in the South Island, so students have the opportunity to see what study options are open to them after graduation. We also have close connections with the various polytechnic institutes, and many of our students complete courses through these campuses while still at high school.

Our staff work closely with our Ako teachers to ensure that every student has a plan for the future, and a clear path to achieve their goals. Regular conferencing between the Ako teacher, the student, and their whānau ensure that our students have the best chance of achieving their career aspirations



The Arts

Mountainview Arts offer a unique and collaborative approach to drama, music, dance and visual art; with a focus on practical experience and maximizing performance opportunity.

We believe in building confidence in each student through rich Art experiences and have a focus on growing the individual. As students grow their capability, by practicing the Arts in real world situations, they are given opportunity to be leaders.

Rich learning of the Arts allows students to grow, develop a sense of belonging and personal ownership. Our delivery of the Arts through the module system in the Junior school allows students to grow in authentic learning contexts, which fosters creativity and allows students to find, express and articulate their own ideas and voice.

Year 9-13 courses in Drama, Music and Visual Art create pathways for students to be lifelong learners. The discipline of dance is woven into many of the production opportunities that Mountainview offers. Pathways through national qualifications (NCEA) in the Arts lead to vocational and tertiary opportunities.

The Arts Council is formed every year allowing Senior students to promote the Arts amongst the wider student body. The annual Arts Week is led by these student leaders and they run events such as Arts Workshops, Mounties Got Talent, Have a Go Days, Theatre Sports, Art Exhibitions and lunchtime concerts.

The learning of the Arts allows for a full expression of what it is to be human... to be creative, use the imagination, to develop technical skills to express and communicate ideas with fluency. Arts disciplines allow for unique expressions of imaginative thinking, they are way of exploring a diversity of perspectives (including those other cultural viewpoints and ways of seeing things).



Visual Art involves creating by drawing, painting, print making, photography and digital processes. Using a variety of tools and materials like pencils, pens, etching plate, acrylic paint, inks, cameras and digital mediums. It includes an understanding and appreciation of fine art, its traditions, as well as its contemporary contexts.

Drama at Mountainview creates a sense of belonging and acceptance, where students can express and refine thoughts and ideas in a safe space - fostering a sense of student ownership.



Music allows students to create and perform music that comes from their own personal experience. Music students are encouraged to express ideas, share and collaborate, and develop leadership qualities. In composition, performance or musical appreciation students are given opportunity to explore their own creativity.

Rich opportunities to practice the Arts are integral to learning at Mountainview High School. Musicals, concerts, Junior and Senior productions, solos, Jazz Band, Shakespeare, Rock Bands, Art Exhibitions, Theatre Sports, School Trips, Circus - Mountainview Arts can do it all!





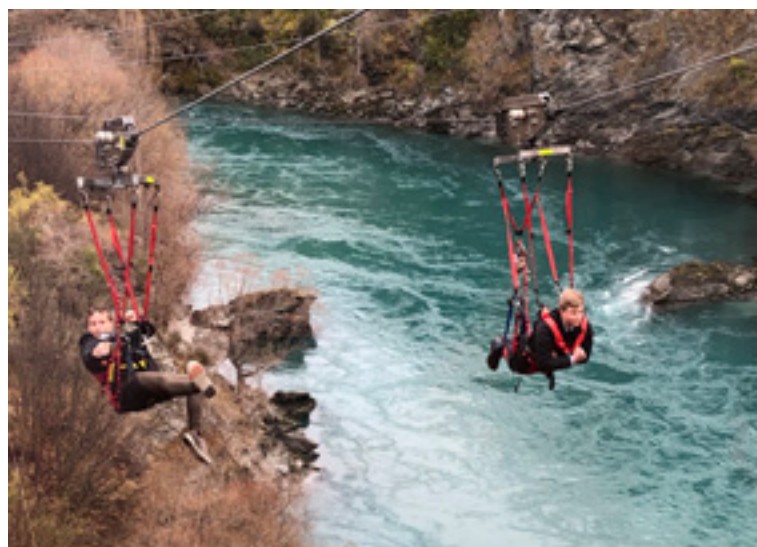
| Humanities

The Humanities are a core component of the educational programme at Mountainview High School. Our students are provided with multiple opportunities to engage in the humanities including quality in class learning opportunities and valuable learning outside the classroom.

In the Senior school, students regularly participate in off site excursions to areas such as Queenstown, Arrowtown, Akaroa, and Aoraki. We also offer the opportunity to see a variety of plays and poets, and films if the experience will enrich a students' learning.

Our Humanities department stretches across many areas of the school including Geography, History, English, Media Studies and Commerce. These areas give every student an opportunity to develop their knowledge of the humanities while developing skills highly desired by employers and tertiary institutions (skills like collaboration, critical thinking, communication, and creativity).

The Humanities equips our students with the ability to thrive in a multi-cultural society while respecting the bi-cultural foundations set forth in Te tiriti o Waitangi. Our humanities courses are dynamic and innovative, which allows us to be responsive and relevant to the needs of our community both locally and nationally. No matter what your passions may be, we have something for everyone within the Humanities, at Mountainview High School.



Languages

As we all know, the world we live in today is extremely small. Access to other cultures and languages is possible for anyone who wishes to extend their understanding of the world we live in. The ability to communicate in multiple languages is a common skill today and at Mountainview, we wish to nurture this ability. Statistics from 2017 show that 60 plus different languages are spoken New Zealand. In fact statistics also show that 13 or more different languages are spoken in our own community on a daily basis.

If we look for the most commonly spoken languages, we will see that Spanish, Japanese, English and Te Reo Māori, our national language feature highly. It is no coincidence that these languages are offered at Mountainview High School.

Mountainview offers the opportunity for students to see the world. Not only through the classroom but also through trips that are offered bi-annually to Spain and Borneo. Students get to experience the culture and language first hand through organised excursions and virtual exchanges. Why not come and see what they are all about?




Agriculture

Year 11 and 12 Agriculture classes have a large practical component, making full use of our gardens, glasshouse, orchard and school farm. Classes are a mix of theory tasks and practical activities such as plant propagation, poultry rearing and Food Science.

The aim of the Year 13 Agribusiness course is to prepare students for careers in the primary sector. It is designed for students who excel in science and/or commerce subjects. This academic course exposes students to the wide range of skills required and the opportunities available in the primary sector beyond the farm gate. It covers a diverse range of topics, including Marketing, Soil Science, Finance, Biosecurity, and Food Science.



A photograph of four students in school uniforms sitting at a desk in a classroom. They are looking towards the left of the frame. The student in the foreground is a young woman with brown hair tied back, wearing a dark green blazer with red piping and a crest. The other students are also in similar uniforms. The background is slightly blurred, showing a classroom setting with a whiteboard and other students.

Empowering
students to thrive in
our Whānau culture

Sporting Opportunities

Our holistic approach to education is founded on nurturing a healthy mind and a healthy body. Students are actively encouraged and supported to participate in sports teams during their time here.

We pride ourselves in giving our students as many sporting opportunities as possible.

We offer a wide variety of sports to our students, which would not be possible without the wonderful support of our staff, parents and community volunteers.

Sports are offered at different age levels and this often means there is something for everyone, regardless of age or ability.



We encourage our students to play at least one winter and one summer sport. Sports fees are paid to the school to cover registration costs and playing uniforms.

Our annual school sports events: Swimming, Athletics and Cross Country/Fun Run are held in term one and are a great way for the whānau to have fun and create a competitive whānau spirit.

We take part in the following Exchanges (which may also include chess, debating and theatre sports):

- Bayfield High School, in Term 2 (alternating yearly between Dunedin and Timaru)
- Waimate High School, in Term 2 (alternating yearly between Waimate and Timaru)
- Mt Hutt College, in Term 3 (alternating yearly between Methven and Timaru)

Our students compete at Local, Aoraki, South Island and National levels, including Senior and Junior tournament weeks.

Mountainview has a student Sports Committee, led by two Captains (Year 12 and 13 students) and supported by the Sports Coordinator. They run lunchtime whānau competitions of varying sports games, help run our annual events, our sports photo day and our annual Sports Awards.





| Uniform



Juniors

Year 9 and Year 10 regulation uniform

- Regulation dark navy trousers or shorts
 - Mountainview High School socks - long with red and navy stripe (to be worn with the shorts)
 - Black socks or long school socks (to be worn with the trousers)
- Regulation dark navy skirt or tailored navy shorts
 - Black knee-highs or black ankle socks, which must show above the shoe (to be worn with skirt or tailored navy shorts)
- Green shirt, short or long sleeves with the Mountainview monogram and tailored bottom (these are fitted & non fitted)
- Mountainview High School tie (Year 9-12 Blue/Green)
- Black shoe (plain black - no logos or colours).

PE Uniform

Students are required to have a PE uniform that they will use for any PE Modules that they select in addition to all inter whānau and inter school sporting events.

The Uniform comprises of:

- A whānau PE Top (The colour will depend on the whānau they are in eg; Hiwi - Red, Moana - Blue, Whenua Yellow)
- Mountainview blue PE Shorts.

Seniors

Year 11 -13 regulation uniform

- Regulation dark navy trousers or shorts
 - Mountainview High School socks – long with red and navy stripe (to be worn with the shorts)
 - Black socks or long school socks (to be worn with the trousers)
- Regulation dark navy skirt or tailored navy shorts
 - Black knee-highs or black ankle socks, which must show above the shoe (to be worn with skirt or tailored navy shorts)
- White shirt, short or long sleeves with the Mountainview monogram and tailored bottom (these are; fitted & non fitted)
- Mountainview High School blazer (Blazer is compulsory for all Year 11, 12, 13 students)
- Mountainview High School tie (Year 9-12 Blue/Green)
- Mountainview High School tie (Year 13 Red/Green tie)
- Black shoe (plain black - no logos or colours).

Formal occasions for Seniors

The blazer and tie must be worn to school assemblies and at any time students are representing the school in the community.

Optional clothing items for all students

Apart from the regulation uniform, students also have a series of options to complement their everyday wear.

Optional

- Knit jersey/knit cardigan – green jersey with red and navy neck stripe
- School scarf
- School jacket
- School hoodie



Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi. Engari, he toa takitini

Success is not the work of one, but the work of many



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