



Westlake Girls High School

International Information



Welcome to Westlake Girls High School



Thank you for considering Westlake Girls High School for your daughter's education.

Our vision is to grow confident, optimistic, robust women who are equipped for global success. Whether your daughter is with us for a term, or all of her high school years, she will learn in an environment where students are encouraged and assisted to discover their strengths and reach their potential.

Our school was established in 1962 and is now a leading secular state girls' school in New Zealand. Academic achievement is our top priority, and we have a reputation for high-quality teaching and a well-developed culture of excellence. Our academic results consistently track above national outcomes, both nationally and against comparative schools. We pride ourselves on providing a dynamic and stimulating learning environment that engages our students and inspires them to achieve academically.

Through our vision, we aspire to be a leading educator of young women. Our alumni have excelled in a wide range of careers from politics, law and business, to sport and the creative arts.

While she is with us, your daughter's academic achievements will be enhanced through participating in our school's co-curricular activities. We want to ensure her time in New Zealand is successful and enjoyable, and will help equip her for the next stage of her academic journey.

We look forward to welcoming your daughter to Westlake Girls High School and providing her with an education and memories that will last a life-time.

Jane Stanley
Principal



At Westlake Girls High School an enthusiastic and capable team provides students from all over the world with the opportunity to experience a new culture and learning environment. Such an opportunity will be an experience of a lifetime. As a fifteen-year-old student I was given the opportunity to study and live with a host family in Japan. Not only did it develop my independence, but it also gave me an appreciation of living in another culture. I encourage all students worldwide to consider our overseas opportunity. The International team at Westlake Girls High School is keen to make your dreams a reality by studying abroad with us.

Our International team is a special group of people, coming from different parts of the world, bringing unique cultures together to make our International students feel welcome and supported. We have staff dedicated to student wellbeing, attendance, and ongoing homestay support. We also offer a 24/7 emergency telephone assistance, so our students have the comfort of knowing someone from our International team is always available to them.

In addition, our International Dean is dedicated to ensuring students grow and flourish both academically and socially. First languages support is offered to our Chinese, Korean and Thai students. Everyone at Westlake Girls High School is dedicated to assisting our International students in making the most of their education and experience of a life time.

We look forward to your daughter joining us in New Zealand and having an overseas education experience that I know she will look back on as fondly as I do.

Lauranne Croot
Director of International Students

Beautiful New Zealand

Tamaki Makaurau Auckland is New Zealand's most diverse city, with a range of ethnic groups represented. Rated as the fourth-best place to live in the world, this pretty city with its two harbours, is affectionately known as The City of Sails.

Auckland's CBD is a fun place to visit, with art galleries, museums, historic Britomart Precinct, bustling Wynard Quarter and the stunning Viaduct Harbour. Explore Mt Eden's volcanic cone or shop until you drop in Newmarket - home to New Zealand's largest mall. Auckland is perfectly situated for weekend or day trips. In addition to receiving a world class education, your daughter's time in Auckland will be full of fun and cultural activities, giving her a true Kiwi experience.



About WGHS

Westlake Girls High School is a state secondary school for girls with approximately 2,300 students situated on the North Shore of Auckland City. Our school is founded on a proud tradition of excellence - both academically and in the wide range of extra-curricular opportunities we offer. Being an all-girls school provides some unique advantages, and we strive to provide a nurturing environment where students can excel in all aspects of their lives. Located close to beautiful beaches and vibrant shopping centres, we are actively involved in, and an important part of our local community. The school is within 15 minutes by bus from the heart of Auckland City where the University of Auckland and other tertiary institutions are located. A major bus station is adjacent to the school.

New Zealand ranks as one of the top countries for Maths, Science, English and wellbeing in the OECD Pisa Index. Population of 5 million. One of the highest ranked countries for living conditions and the quality of life in the Better Life Index.

School and Sporting Facilities

Classrooms and learning areas are modern and well equipped with high speed internet access in all classrooms. The school has state of the art audio visual interactive facilities. In 2021, we will open a new purpose-built event centre. The Visual Arts department has spacious facilities with a number of general-purpose art rooms, in addition to specialist studio spaces for Printmaking, Photography, Design, Painting and Sculpture. WGHS boasts a number of high quality sporting facilities including: - International hockey turf, two all weather artificial football fields, covered and uncovered courts including ten tennis and seven netball courts, two gymnasiums, dance studio and fitness centre.





A proud history, an exciting future

Westlake Girls High School was established in 1962 and is now a leading secular state girls' school in New Zealand with more than 2,300 students.

We are a Decile 9* school which is recognised nationally and internationally for its high-quality education, wide ranging extra-curricular opportunities and for providing a nurturing environment where students can excel in all aspects of their lives.

A place to excel

Our academic results consistently track above national outcomes, both nationally and against comparative schools. We pride ourselves on providing a dynamic and stimulating learning environment that engages our students and inspires you to personal growth, both academically and through our extensive co-curricular programme. Students are encouraged to become creative and independent learners which helps prepare you for tertiary study and future careers.

*Decile 10 schools have the highest proportion of students from high socio-economic families; Decile 1 schools have the highest proportion of students from low socio-economic families.

A place to call home

We celebrate our ethnic and cultural diversity and value the different perspectives introduced by students from a wide range of nationalities and backgrounds. Around 48% of our students are NZ European, 34% are Asian, 9% are Maori, 4% are from the Pacific Islands and 5% are from other nationalities. Every year we also host more than 270 international students from several different countries.

A place to be adventurous

Some of you naturally know what you love. For others, it takes a bit of exploring to find that area of interest that really ignites a spark.

At WGHS we encourage you to try new things. We have more than 30 clubs available and we provide a safe learning environment for you to give things a go - like robotics, debating, languages or sustainability projects. No matter what your interest, we have teachers and support staff who can guide you to develop your passion.

A place of guidance

WGHS is overseen by a Senior Leadership Team consisting of Principal Jane Stanley, an Associate Principal and Deputy and Assistant Principals. Our students are placed in one of five Houses, and each House has two Deans who oversee discipline, pastoral care and curriculum issues.

Our Board of Trustees currently comprises a Board Chair, Deputy Chair, Principal, Parent Trustee, Staff Trustee, Student Trustee and two other general Trustees.

For more information, please visit www.westlakegirls.school.nz and click on "Community/Board of Trustees"

A place to belong

Becoming a responsible global citizen starts in our own back yard, and we encourage you to take an active part in the community around us. There are beach clean-ups at Milford, Well Foundation volunteers at North Shore Hospital, and you'll see our students water testing Wairau Creek to monitor pollution levels.

Five charities are chosen each year to benefit from fundraising activities by our students, and on 25 April you will find us participating in the local ANZAC Day parade and ceremony. We also feature regularly in North Shore magazines and newspapers. This is our community and we want you to be a proud part of it.



ERO Report

The Education Review Office (ERO) carries out an independent review of every school on a regular basis. Our most recent review commented:

“Westlake Girls High School is a high-performing school in regard to its academic achievement and its focus on the positive development of young women. The school offers many enriching educational opportunities and experiences.”

“Through its vision, the school aspires to be a leading educator of young women. It has a culture and legacy of high expectations for academic achievement balanced with a caring focus on student wellbeing. Students report a strong sense of belonging and pride in their school and they appreciate the school’s inclusive and supportive culture.”

“Teachers are increasingly focused on engaging students in programmes that encourage creative learning, as well as success in qualifications.”

International Prefects

In 2013 Westlake Girls introduced a House system and every student belongs to one of five Houses named after significant local areas. The House colours - black, gold, red, blue and green - reflect the Olympic rings to encourage the pursuit of excellence and relate to the meaning of each of the House names.

The House system offers leadership opportunities for senior students and allows all students to feel connected to a smaller community within the school. Throughout the year the Houses compete in a variety of events and select a house charity to support.

Each House has a House Captain, Academic Prefect, Arts Prefect, Cultural Prefect, Environmental Prefect, International Student Prefect, Service Prefect, Sport and Wellbeing Prefect, and Junior House Prefects overseeing the Junior School.

The International Prefects are chosen from within our cohort of current International students. They are nominated for the position of Prefect, and voted in by students at the school. International Prefects play an important role in organising and promoting internationally-themed events, supporting other International students and advocating for the International student body.



Wellbeing

International student wellbeing is supervised by the International Director and International Department staff. A signatory to The Education (Pastoral Care of International Students) Code of Practice 2016, Westlake Girls High School considers the students' wellbeing to be of paramount importance.

We are close to North Shore Hospital and Shorecare Medical Centre and have a registered school nurse on site.

Additional Student Support

International Students are provided with:-

- Specialised language help and assistance from our Chinese, Korean and Thai Advisors
- An orientation programme and continued support
- First language assistance (French, Japanese and Spanish)
- Online student visa renewals
- Full Medical and Travel Insurance can be arranged by the school
- 24-hour emergency phone contact

Accommodation

All students are required to live in approved homestay accommodation. Westlake Girls has an experienced Homestay Coordinator who checks and approves all our homestay families.

We also have an experienced designated caregiver support person who supports families designated by parents.

Careers Advice

Career advisors are able to offer up-to-date information on careers and university pathways in New Zealand and overseas.

Learning Enhancement

The Learning Enhancement department of the school is here to support students in many ways. We have four highly trained and experienced guidance counsellors, one of whom speaks 5 Asian languages. This counsellor has special duties in and around specific support for our International students and regularly liaises with the International team. The Learning Support part of the team caters for a wide range of students and their learning needs. This team is headed by a Learning Support Coordinator and is supported by a team of teacher aides. They can tailor a programme of support for a student that sits alongside the regular curriculum classes.

For Further Information

You can find out more about Westlake Girls High School by visiting our website:

www.westlakegirls.school.nz

Email: international@westlakegirls.school.nz



Academic Pathways

Year 9 Music Performance Academy is a 3 term course catering for students who have previously learnt and are currently learning a musical instrument. More details are provided in the music brochure. Term 4 offers an Arts course for these students.

In addition, we offer a STEAM programme at Years 9 and 10. This programme provides students with an integrated approach to learning through Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics. Further information is provided in the STEAM brochure.

Year 9

All 8 learning areas are covered to create a broad and balanced curriculum

English/EAP

Mathematics

Physical Education/Health

Science

Social Studies

In addition choose 4 subjects to be studied for 1 term each:

Art

Music or Music Performance Academy (3 terms for Academy)

Dance or Drama

Business Studies

Technology:

- Digital Technology
- Fabric Technology
- Food Technology
- Hard Materials Technology or Design & Visual Communication

and choose 2 languages to be studied for 2 terms each:

Languages:

- Chinese
- ESOL
- French
- Japanese
- Spanish
- Te Reo Māori

Year 10

All students study the compulsory core subjects of:

English/EAP

Mathematics

Physical Education/Health

Science

Social Studies

Students choose 3 other full-year option subjects from:

Art Visual or Art Design

Business Studies

Dance

Drama

Languages:

- Chinese
- ESOL
- French
- Japanese
- Spanish
- Te Reo Māori

Music:

- Music Contemporary or Music Classical

Technology:

- Design and Visual Communication
- Digital Technology
- Fabric Technology
- Food Technology
- Hard Materials Technology

Year 11

All students must choose an **English/EAP, Mathematics** and **Science** option

They then choose 3 options of their choice from:

Art Visual or Art Design

Business Studies:

- Accounting
- Business Studies
- Economics

Languages:

- Chinese
- ESOL
- French
- Japanese
- Spanish
- Te Reo Maori

Music:

- Music Contemporary or Music Classical

Performing Arts:

- Dance
- Drama

Physical Education:

- Health
- Physical Education

Social Science:

- Geography
- History
- Social Studies

Technology:

- Design and Visual Communication
- Digital Technology
- Fabric Technology
- Food Technology
- Hard Materials Technology

Year 12

All students must choose an **English/EAP** option and choose 5 options of their choice from:

Art:

- Design
- History
- Photography
- Visual

Business Studies:

- Accounting
- Business Studies
- Economics
- Financial Management

Career Education:

- Child Development
- Fashion and Design
- Hospitality
- Travel and Tourism

Languages:

- Chinese
- ESOL
- French
- Japanese
- Spanish
- Te Reo Māori

Mathematics

- Mathematics and Calculus
- Mathematics and Statistics

Media Studies

Music:

- Music Contemporary or Music Classical

Performing Arts:

- Dance
- Drama

Physical Education:

- Health
- Outdoor Education
- Physical Education

Science:

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Earth and Space Science
- Physics

Social Science:

- Classical Studies
- Geography
- History
- Social Studies

Technology:

- Design and Visual Communication
- Digital Technology
- Fabric Technology
- Food Technology
- Hard Materials Technology

New Zealand Scholarship

Westlake Girls High School operates a prestigious scholarship programme to support students who are operating at a high level of achievement in most Year 13 subjects. These classes are offered usually as extra sessions before or after school to provide the extra tuition and feedback needed to reach the very high standard that scholarship requires. In some subjects these classes are timetabled as part of an extension programme. For most subjects a student will be sitting an extra examination in November to compete for a scholarship award.

Year 13

All students must choose 5 options of their choice from:

Art:

- Design
- History
- Painting
- Photography
- Printmaking
- Sculpture

Business Studies:

- Accounting
- Business Studies
- Economics
- * - Financial Management

Career Education:

- * - Child Development
- * - Fashion and Design
- * - Hospitality
- * - Travel and Tourism
- English/ *EAP

Languages:

- Chinese
- French
- Japanese
- Spanish
- Te Reo Māori

Mathematics:

- Mathematics and Calculus
- Mathematics and Statistics

Media Studies

Music:

- Music Contemporary Music Classical

Performing Arts:

- Dance
- Drama

Physical Education:

- Health
- Outdoor Education
- Physical Education

Science:

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Earth and Space Science
- Physics

Social Science:

- Classical Studies
- Geography
- History
- Social Studies

Technology:

- Design and Visual Communication
- Digital Technology
- Fabric Technology
- Food Technology
- Hard Materials Technology

* Practical courses not considered as University Entrance approved.



2019 Academic Results

NCEA	WESTLAKE GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL	NATIONAL AVERAGE
LEVEL 1	91.2%	70.6%
Endorsed with Merit	49.5%	33.9%
Endorsed with Excellence	30.1%	19.9%
LEVEL 2	94.8%	77.5%
Endorsed with Merit	40.5%	25.1%
Endorsed with Excellence	25.0%	16.7%
LEVEL 3	92.8%	67.3%
Endorsed with Merit	43.2%	26.2%
Endorsed with Excellence	18.6%	14.8%
University Entrance	83.6%	49.3%

NB: At Level 1 students take 6 subjects including English, Mathematics and Science. At Level 2 students take English plus 5 other subjects of their choice. At Level 3 students take 5 subjects of their choice.

Graduate Destinations

In 2019 our graduating Year 13 class totalled around 500 students. Each year the majority of our graduates go on to attend prestigious universities in New Zealand and overseas.

UNIVERSITIES OUR STUDENTS HAVE ATTENDED RECENTLY	
NEW ZEALAND	
Auckland University of Technology (AUT)	University of Canterbury
Lincoln University	University of Otago
Massey University	University of Waikato
University of Auckland	Victoria University of Wellington
INTERNATIONAL	
Australian National University	University of Houston
California Institute of the Arts	University of Miami
Ewha Women's University of Korea	University of New South Wales
Fordham University	University of Northern Colorado
LMU Munich	University of Queensland
McGill University, Canada	University of Southern California
Miami University	University of Sydney
Monash University	University of Western Australia
New York University, Abu Dhabi	William and Mary College, Virginia
Princeton University	Yale University
University of Bristol	Yonsei University, Korea

Music

Our highly acclaimed music department, often joining with Westlake Boys High School, enables students to learn or carry on with a wide selection of musical instruments of their choice or they can sing in one of our award-winning choirs. Westlake ensembles regularly achieve national honours, tour internationally and compete in overseas competitions. If music is your passion, you'll be spoilt for choice!



International Students Sherry Zhang and Amelie Kreibich



Visual Arts

Our innovative Visual Arts programme ensures students have the freedom to explore different styles and develop their skills. All Year 9 students have one term of Visual Art classes. In Year 10, students can select a design course or Fine Arts course. In Year 11, students participate in an NCEA Visual Arts course and, in Year 12, they select from Art History, Design, Photography and Practical Art. All five practical art disciplines are offered at Year 13, where students select from Art History, Design, Painting, Photography, Printmaking and Sculpture.



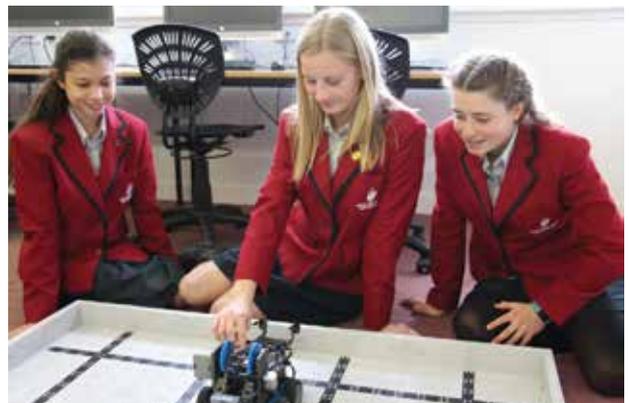
Sienna Liu - Year 13



Nichaphat Pai Sangkathavorn - Year 12

STEAM

The Steam programme is a two-year programme which offers Year 9 and 10 students an integrated approach to learning. This Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics curriculum provides a pathway to deep learning that strengthens links between subjects, providing opportunities through project-based learning for students to become life-long learners, leaders and changemakers of the future. Integrated into STEAM are robotics, coding, electronics, 3D printing design and virtual reality.



Sport

Westlake Girls is one of New Zealand's leading sporting schools, with a strong commitment to sporting excellence. All our students are encouraged to participate in a school sport during their time at Westlake. We have over 30 sports ranging from Athletics to Yachting with opportunities both for the committed athlete to develop their potential, and also for others to play at social or beginner level.

Badminton

Westlake Girls has a proud tradition in the sport of badminton with a high number of students competing for the school. Both seniors and juniors play as teams in the North Harbour competitions during terms 2 and 3.

Basketball

Basketball is very popular at WGHS with the Premier team constantly featuring at the national championships. Basketball commences in term 2 through to term 3 with opportunities for students to play in teams that include; Premier, Open, U19, U17 and U15's.

Hockey

Westlake Girls have numerous senior and junior teams that play in North Harbour competitions. The 1st XI team also competes in the Auckland Intercity competition. All practices are held at the Westlake Girls Hockey Turf with games being played on a Thursday and Friday.

Marching

Marching is a summer sport and the competition season is held between October and March. Training starts in May each year and is held on the undercover courts on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 5pm - 7.30pm.

Rowing

Over the past 30 years, Westlake Girls High School has developed an enviable reputation in the rowing world. Our teams compete and achieve strong results regionally, and nationally in the New Zealand Championships. We have won many gold, silver and bronze medals in a wide range of competitions.

Table Tennis

Table Tennis is an excellent winter sport. Played indoors at Active Zone in Glenfield every Friday after school in Term 2 and 3. Westlake Girls are fortunate to have skilled and competitive coaches to guide enthusiastic students.

Outdoor Education Programme

Westlake Girls Outdoor Education offers exciting outdoor experiences for students, to equip them with the tools to participate in outdoor activities in the future, including: bush craft, hiking, rock climbing, a trip to Mount Ruapehu and high and low ropes, one day skiing/snowboarding and other fun filled activities.



Student Reflections

Hiu-Sin Chenug (Hong Kong)

This is my second year at Westlake Girls High School. The reason I chose WGHS is that the graduation rates are relatively high. I still remember my first day at WGHS. It didn't seem strange to me, instead, it felt warm and welcoming. I have made lots of friends, everyone is friendly, and I enjoy studying at WGHS. The most important thing is that I have improved my grade here because the teachers are patient and have a high education standard.

Lijing Sun (China)

WGHS is an excellent reflection of New Zealand, which is multicultural, diverse, inclusive and a safe community.

WGHS also provides a sense of belonging among students. I have become a member of the student council this year and we have discussed several issues that we and the school can improve on. The school listens to every single voice. I have achieved excellent academic results which is very satisfying. The international department tracks our learning progress. They care about our well-being. We receive weekly messages on google classroom from the teachers in charge and these posts are very motivating and sweet. WGHS has provided great opportunities for me to broaden my perspective. Being at Westlake has become one of the most precious memories of my life.

Niki Sun (Taiwan)

This is my last year of studying at WGHS and I can't believe that time passes so quickly. I always remember how I wasn't used to the environment and lifestyle when I first came to New Zealand about three years ago. I feel so lucky to be in Westlake because it gives students a variety of opportunities to participate in activities that help one to discover the things they like to do. My favourite thing in school is to have composition lessons in music because it is my passion and that all of my teachers are so nice and are being really helpful. WGHS has provided me an opportunity to learn under a multicultural environment and make friends from different countries. I will always remember the beautiful memories that I have of Westlake.

Miku (Japan)

When I first came to WGHS my English wasn't very good but since I've been here it has improved a lot. I love that I have so many friends from different countries and I can learn about their culture through our conversations. Being away from home I have become more independent and learnt lots of things about myself. My homestay mother always encouraged me and told me that my English was improving day by day. She cheered me up and made me feel more confident. I feel so grateful to have had her as my homestay mother.

Francine (Indonesia)

I really enjoy my time studying at Westlake Girls High School because the school offers various subjects, lots of programmes and activities that helped me to decide my future career pathway. The teachers and friends are welcoming. At first, it was very difficult being away from home, family and friends but I have gained a lot from my experience. I have become more independent and confident. I am extremely thankful for the opportunity to study abroad in New Zealand with the friendly people and beautiful nature.

Jacqueline Ramos (Philippines)

Studying in New Zealand and at Westlake Girls gave me a wider view of the world. It exposed me to a different culture and therefore allowed me to appreciate the different cultures of the world.

One of the things that I like most about studying at Westlake is how they offer a range of subjects. We are given the opportunity to learn and explore our interests and are not constrained and stuck with subjects we feel aren't for us. Westlake also offers a lot of opportunities and extra co-curricular activities that enabled me to step out of my comfort zone, discover new skills and hobbies and meet other people who share my interests. Learning has become more enjoyable and less stressful. I really enjoy studying at Westlake and I would recommend it to anyone who wants to start an adventure that will enrich their lives.

Minjoo OH (Korea)

A lot has changed since I came here six months ago. I am now less shy and less stressed about schoolwork. I like studying in New Zealand as there is more freedom to study the subjects I am interested in. I really enjoy my food technology lessons which I didn't have in Korea. Westlake has a diverse range of cultures and my English has improved since interacting with students from New Zealand and other countries. The teachers work hard to make sure international students are enjoying school and their new life in New Zealand.

Kanyanat (Thailand)

When I came to WGHS, everything was new to me. If I don't understand something, teachers are always kind to me and answer my questions. There are a lot of different nationalities at Westlake, the students are kind and help me when I don't understand some Kiwi pronunciations. Some of them also teach me some vocabulary that helps me to improve my English skills.

Beyond learning subjects, I also learn about Kiwi culture from my homestay. They always introduce me to some local foods. I really like my homestay family because they are friendly and I always talk to them. They make me feel more confident to speak English.

Amelie (Germany)

As soon as I arrived at Westlake, I felt welcome. I have met so many wonderful people and of course my English has improved. My favourite thing about Westlake is that there are so many opportunities to get involved in. You get to pick your subjects and you can join choirs, play sports and more. I loved playing basketball and I also joined a choir, in which I met many of my friends.

Being away from home, not only improved my English, it also helped me to become more open minded, talk to people I did not know and of course it made me independent. I learned how to cook, make my bed, and tidy my room without my mom telling me to.

If you are thinking of joining Westlake, I would tell you to do so. I loved the environment of my school, the friendly atmosphere, and the fact that the international department were always there to support me if I had a problem. I am beyond thankful, to be able to experience such a fantastic adventure on the other side of the world, far away from home.



How to Enrol

1. Enrol online at wghs.enrol.school.nz OR
2. Email your application to international@westlakegirls.school.nz and include: a completed enrolment form, signed tuition contract, scanned copies of most recent school report and passport photo page.
3. School Acceptance - A letter will be sent confirming: an offer of a student place and will include: commencement date, course duration, fee schedule and date for fees to be paid to the school.
4. Pay fees to the school by the due date.
5. The school will confirm receipt of payment and will present the offer of a placement to New Zealand Immigration for the student visa application process to begin.
6. Our school's Homestay Co-ordinator will contact students for details of accommodation requirements. All accommodation is school approved.
7. Medical and Travel Insurance is compulsory for all International students. The school can arrange for insurance through a New Zealand provider if requested.
8. Airport pickups and introductions to host parents can be arranged by the school if required.



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www.westlakegirls.school.nz