



24 February 2025

Principal's Update

Kia Ora parents, caregivers and students,

Welcome back to the start of the 2025 school year. I hope that you have all had a wonderful, restful break with friends and family. I am honoured to be beginning my journey as the new Principal of Elim Christian College and I look forward to meeting you all at school, on the sports field, the playground and at church. I would like to thank the community for the warm welcome that my family and I have already received from so many people.

The newsletters that are out tomorrow from our Deputy Principals have a selection of the essential information you might need to make the start of the year as simple and successful as possible. I encourage you to go through the information with your children. There are also a few messages that I would like to share from my perspective to help set up how we can best work with you to support your son or daughter.

Making 2025 a year where all achieve success

There are few simple strategies that our young people can adopt that will make this a great year of learning.

- Be present and on time. Without regular attendance and good punctuality, it is very hard to be successful in a school environment. It is essential that each student establishes good habits to make sure they are in the right place at the right time, with the right equipment and the right attitude. Please discuss routines and organisation with your son or daughter to help them with this. We will be focussed on each student's attendance this year to make sure they have every opportunity to learn.
- Form good relationships with teachers. We are all here to help young people thrive in their studies, their friendships and their extra curricular activities. Having good regular communication with your son or daughter's teacher will help with this. It is always easier to resolve any issues while they are small before they become a hindrance to an enjoyable learning environment.
- Ask for help! If your son or daughter is struggling with any aspect of school life, please encourage them to ask their teachers for support.
- Build good study patterns, particularly in the middle school years. The middle school is a unique time where children have the time and support to develop good learning

habits without the pressure of national assessments. This will prepare them well for the rigours of senior secondary and beyond.

Remember that we want all of our students to engage with our ARISE values so that they get the best out of school and enjoy their time at Elim Christian College.

Drop off and pick up times at Golflands Campus

As a school, we don't offer before or after school care. Regrettably, we are not resourced by the ministry to be able to do so. There are community groups that have some limited options for such care. We would encourage you to contact them regarding capacity.

At Golflands Campus the earliest that students are able to be at school is 8:15am. Before this time there is no supervision or access to classrooms, toilets and safety provisions. Please do not drop students at school before this time.

All students need to be collected from school or have arrangements for their care in the afternoon by 3:30pm. Beyond this time we begin to lock some buildings for security reasons and students are not allowed to remain unsupervised on site.

In Ephesians 2:10, the Bible tells us that we are the handiwork of God, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. To me this speaks of the master creator having a purpose for each and every one of us. It means that every student here at Elim Christian College has plans that God wants them to pursue. What an honour for us to work in partnership with God and you and your children to bring these to fruition. I wish you all a fantastic year!

Ngā mihi nui

Mr Julian Adamson
Principal