



5 February 2026

Clayfield College

Re: Clayfield College – Saint Kentigern College Exchange Program

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Clayfield College is pleased to offer a new international cultural exchange opportunity for 2026 Year 10 students with Saint Kentigern College in Auckland, New Zealand. Clayfield College students will spend two weeks in New Zealand to commence the exchange. We anticipate departure on 18 April (during the school holidays) and returning to Australia on 2 May with their New Zealand counterparts, who will then spend two weeks in Brisbane.

This is a Home Stay exchange, where students will stay with a matched Saint Kentigern family in Auckland. Likewise, Saint Kentigern students will be matched with a Clayfield College family when they arrive. Should boarders be part of the exchange group, they will be expected to stay in the Boarding House.

During the exchange, students will attend school each day, participate in co-curricular activities, and wear their Clayfield College uniform. They may also have the opportunity to visit some of Auckland's local attractions and attend an ANZAC Day Service.

The estimated cost for this trip is approximately \$2500, which includes flights, travel insurance, administration fees and spending money for weekend excursions. Regular College fees remain payable, though there are no additional costs associated with attending Saint Kentigern. As this is a Home Stay exchange, accommodation is provided at no cost. Parents of successful applicants will be required to complete a Blue Card check.

Academic expectations for Term 2 will be discussed with successful candidates.

The College will coordinate flights to and from Brisbane for all exchange students, and further travel details will be communicated following the selection process.

A general overview of what students may experience includes:

- Life in a New Zealand school
- Participation in new sports and activities
- Building friendships with peers from another country
- Visiting local attractions in Auckland
- Expanding horizons by living abroad for two weeks

Due to the limited availability of 4–6 positions, interested students must submit a written application explaining their reasons for wanting to participate. After applications are received, shortlisted students will be invited to an interview with the Director of Senior School, Dean of Senior School and the Chaplain. The selection criteria below are provided to help students prepare for both the written application (1 A4 page, 11pt) and the interview (approximately 10 minutes).

Selection Criteria

ACADEMIC ENGAGEMENT	Students on Exchange may need to catch up on learning they have missed while away. This means that the successful applicants must be engaged in their academic work and able to demonstrate, by consistent application, that they take personal responsibility for their learning. Academic results will
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Let your light *shine*

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	not be used to determine successful candidates; effort and academic resilience will be.
CO-CURRICULAR INVOLVEMENT	Exchange students will join in the co-curricular activities of Saint Kentigern College. Ideally the successful applicants will have participated actively in the co-curricular life of Clayfield College.
SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL SKILLS	As students will be staying in a home stay or College Boarding House, it is important that they are able to relate well to their peers and behave appropriately towards adults. They will need to demonstrate the maturity, resilience and self-awareness to manage the inevitable feelings of homesickness owing to being away from family and familiar surroundings. Students will travel together without adult supervision.
CULTURAL AWARENESS	We would expect exchange students to demonstrate an interest in learning about, and immersing themselves in Australian culture. As well as this, students should be articulate and able to talk with confidence about Clayfield College and current issues of relevance.

In summary, successful students will represent their families, the College, and their country during the exchange, with grace and commitment.

Timeline

Term	Week	Information
Term 1	Friday 20 February	Exchange application forms due
	Week 5	Student interview
	Week 6	Students informed of their application outcome
	Week 7	Successful applicants' meeting will be held and trip details presented

Please email for an application pack. Final written letter applications should be submitted via email to Mr Adrian Walker at awalker@clayfield.qld.edu.au by **Tuesday 10 February with interviews taking place on Friday 20 February**. If your child wishes to apply, please share this information with them and ensure their application is submitted on time.

If you have any questions about the exchange or the application process, please contact Mr Adrian Walker.

Kind regards,

Mrs Natasha Podoliak
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Mr Adrian Walker
Dean of Senior School
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