

## PARENT CHECKLIST

Choosing a school for your child is an important decision. Here are some of the questions you might want to ask.

My questions	Response
What is special about this school?	<p>Time and time again we are told that what makes this college special is the quality of the relationships between students and staff. Our vision is to be a student centred learning organisation where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• commitment to our students is paramount</li> <li>• every student has the right and the responsibility to achieve to their potential</li> <li>• every student knows that they matter to their teachers diversity is appreciated and celebrated</li> </ul>
What will my child learn in their first year at your school?	<p>At Mount Maunganui College we believe the fundamental purpose of education is to increase young people's resourcefulness to enable them to cope with life and reach their potential. Our motivation as educators is to develop our students' character to allow them to become more resilient, resourceful, reflective and reciprocal, preparing them for a lifetime of change.</p> <p>In their first year all departments focus their learning around our Ko wai ra programme, this enables students to learn what it is to be a Mount Maungnui College student and to internalise the fact that this is their place. Teachers will also be focusing on key student dispositions such as being:</p> <p>Reciprocal: Collaborative/cooperative learner Respectful of and open to alternative points of view</p> <p>Resilient: Having courage to make mistakes Knows what to do when they don't know what to do - perseveres</p> <p>Resourceful: Curious Prepared to ask questions Problem solver</p> <p>Reflective: Can identify what they are learning and why as well as their next learning steps</p>
How will I know what progress my child has made?	<p>Progress is relayed to parents via our student reports in Term 1, 3 and 4 as well as in Parent Teacher Interviews held in Terms 1 and 3.</p> <p>Templates are being developed for 2014 to place students relative to mid year and end of year targets for students. This placement will be supported by progress the student has made to date; their next learning steps; and what parents / whanau can do to help aid student progress.</p>
What should I do if I am worried about my child's progress or experiences at school?	<p>If you have any concerns about your child's academic progress the first port of call will be with the student's subject teacher. Depending on the situation we may need to involve the Head of Department for that subject area along with the year level Dean. In a small percentage of cases we would also look to involve the Senior Leader in charge of</p>

	<p>that learning area.</p> <p>If you have concerns that are more social in nature, the first port of call would be the form teacher, year level dean and / or school counselor (depending on the situation).</p>
How does the school make sure that children are safe and happy?	<p>Mount Maunganui College will provide a safe and caring learning environment for all students. Where conflict arises a restorative approach will be used to rebuild the relationship.</p> <p>As a school we will undertake regular school wide self-review utilising student voice as a way of ensuring that Mount Maunganui College is safe and happy.</p>
What other ways are parents involved around this school?	<p>Parents are encouraged to join our Parent Teacher Association as a way of supporting the school. Hillary Pickering is the contact person for the PTA. If you were interested in being involved in coaching or managing a sports or cultural group, then Terry Cochrane (Sports) or John Pringle (Cultural) are the contacts for these areas.</p>
What fees or donations does the school ask for?	<p>Our school donation is \$95 for one student or \$140 for two or more students.</p> <p>Subject fees are included in our subject pathways booklet.</p>
What happens if a parent can't afford to pay them?	<p>Contact should be made with our school business manager, Donna Beattie to discuss fees.</p>
Where can I source a copy of the school charter?	<p>You will find the school charter under the Leadership tab on our school website.</p>
Where can I source a copy of the school's last ERO report?	<p>You will find the school's EO report under the ERO tab on our school website.</p>
Will my child be given a stationery list?	<p>Years 9 and 10 students are provided with a stationery list. Years 11, 12 and 13 will be informed about any stationery requirements within their specific subject areas.</p>
Where do I buy the school stationery from?	<p>We do not have any preferred stationery suppliers. Our stationery lists are supplied to the main stationery suppliers in the Mount / Tauranga area. For example Warehouse Stationery and Office Products Depot.</p>
What time does school begin and end?	<p>The school day begins at 8.45 am and concludes at 3.10 pm on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. On Wednesday the school day begins at 9.00 am (to allow for staff professional development) and concludes at 3.10 pm.</p>
What happens if my child gets sick?	<p>Please ring the attendance officer on (07) 575 3093 ext 828 or email <a href="mailto:attendance@mmc.school.nz">attendance@mmc.school.nz</a> stating the reason for absence, indicating if doctor, dentist and/or illness or other reason.</p>
What happens if there is an emergency?	<p>If your child is involved in an accident we have medically qualified staff to assess your child and make any necessary decisions. Part of this process involves the school contacting parents / whanau / carers.</p> <p>Our school also has procedures in place to deal with fire, earthquake, tsunami or lock down scenarios.</p>

## SCHOOL QUALITY CHECKLIST

A good school needs to do more than just teach “the three R’s”.

And different people look for different things in a school.

Key questions	Response
Does this school offer the type of curriculum (i.e. activities and/or subjects) that will suit my child?	All our academic, sporting and cultural pursuits are underpinned by and through our school mission statement Wāhia te pono – Success with integrity. At Mount Maunganui College we believe how we learn is just as important as what we learn. Read our junior and senior subject pathways booklets (under the Academic tab) to see if they will suit the needs of your student.
How interested are the students in what they are learning?	Regular student voice is gathered using engagement and perseverance surveys completed by our students. This information is used to inform how we deliver units of work within each subject.
What information does the school use for deciding how well students are doing?	Our school uses PAT data as well as regular formative and summative testing which is carried out throughout the year. Our core subject areas are currently working on Common Assessment Tasks that will enable teachers to measure the progress of students within units of work as well as placing them against the relevant sub levels within the curriculum within the Junior school. This information will be used to assess the performance and accurate placement of students.
What do parents / whanau / carers know about their student’s achievement and what they need to do to improve?	Parents / whanau / carers will receive three reports throughout the year. A progress report in Term 1 and a more detailed report in Terms 2 and 4, which will state Mount Maunganui College’s expectation for student performance at Term 2, and Term 4. The report will outline each core curriculum subject’s evaluation of where your child sits relative to that expectation. It will also highlight your child’s progress, next learning steps and what the parents / whanau / carers can do to help in this process.
What does the school’s charter say it wants to provide for its students (its vision or mission statement)?	At Mount Maunganui College we believe the fundamental purpose of education is to increase young people’s resourcefulness to enable them to cope with life and reach their potential. Our motivation as educators is to develop our students’ character to allow them to become more resilient, resourceful, reflective and reciprocal, preparing them for a lifetime of change. Our guiding proverb is: Whāia te iti kahurangi, ki te tūohu koe, me he maunga teitei.  Pursue excellence – should you stumble, let it be to a lofty mountain.
What are the school values?	Our school values are: <b>R</b> espect <b>I</b> ntegrity <b>C</b> o-operative learner <b>H</b> onesty

<p>What does ERO say the school does well?</p>	<p>Academic achievement: The school has a strong focus on all students achieving success. There has been significant improvement in National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA) academic achievement in 2009 and 2010.</p> <p>Safe learning environment: The board and staff are committed to the provision of a safe, supportive and inclusive environment for students. Feedback from students confirms this.</p> <p>Strong community: The core value of respect for self, others and the environment is promoted, along with a sense of self belief and pride in the school. Students and staff are encouraged to make a positive contribution in the local and wider community.</p> <p>Parents who met with ERO expressed enthusiastic support for the school. They appreciate the school's effective communication systems, find staff approachable and confirm that there are many opportunities for them to be involved in their children's education.</p>
<p>What is the school doing to make sure it keeps improving?</p>	<p>At Mount Maunganui College we are embarking on a process of developing assessment capable learners who have an understanding of and are able to articulate their learning and can plan their next learning steps with a teacher or peer. Students will develop a strong understanding of the assessment tools being used and what their results mean. They will understand the learning intentions of each lesson and be able to accurately self-assess themselves against success criteria and know their next learning steps. Students will also be able to peer assess against success criteria and give feedback based on the criteria.</p>
<p>What does the school do to help students do well when they leave the school ("transition out")?</p>	<p>Mount Maunganui College encourages students at every year level to evaluate who they are and to explore the many occupational choices open to them. Students have the opportunity of being involved in work placements, meeting with representatives from different occupations as well as visiting with various tertiary providers.</p> <p>We pride ourselves on our ability to cater for students' individual needs, our trade specific programme wraps pastoral care resources around the students as part of the transition process to ensure success into their future career pathways.</p> <p>Our communication with all students, teachers and parents is well developed and enables targeted opportunities for our students, who then take responsibility for making their own informed decisions as to their future pathways.</p>