

2026 Intake

EXTRA CURRICULAR **ARTS AND CULTURE**



arts@wdsq.school.nz
www.waikatodiocesan.school.nz/arts-and-culture/
<https://www.instagram.com/arts.at.dio/>

Dio has a significant number of Extra-curricular arts activities in which our students can be involved.

Current activities are:

Barbershop	Instrumental Groups	Drama Productions
Choir(s)	Junior Drama Club	Drama Opportunities
Culinary Art	Kapa Haka	Techy Angels
Debating	Student Magazine 'Noise'	All Saints Worship Band
Dance Group(s)	Performance Lessons	Orchestra
Guitar Ensemble	Jazz Band	

Key School Wide Events

- House Singing Competition

This is the main inter-house arts event and a highlight of Term 2.

- Compulsory Activity: All students participate with their allocated House.
- The Process: Building up over the second half of Term 2, the competition culminates in a spectacular evening concert towards the end of the term.
- Performance: Each House performs one worship song and one song from a different genre each year. These performances are chosen, arranged, and taught by the student House Leaders and their team.

- Arts Performance opportunities

Don't miss these amazing opportunities to see our students shine!

- Events: NCEA Music Performance Evenings, Dance Showcase, High Achievers' Concert, Drama Class Productions, and the Arts Showcase are all wonderful nights out featuring both curriculum and co-curricular talent.

Singing Groups

We offer a range of choirs to suit every interest and commitment level:

- Espresso Barbershop Chorus:
 - Sings fun, four-part a cappella harmony.
 - Focuses on choreography, tags, and having a lot of fun!
 - Building up to a nationals performance again (they came 2nd in 2025!)
 - No Audition Required: Welcomes any singer.
- Cantiamo Chapel Choir:
 - The all-comers choir for anyone with a love of singing.
 - Primary Focus: Serving the special Chapel services (House Services, special services, annual choral eucharist at St Peters Cathedral)
 - Performance: They also participate annually at The Big Sing in Tauranga
 - No Audition Required: Join for enjoyment and service to the school.
- Bel Suono Choir:
 - Focuses on high-level singing and competitions.
 - Prerequisite: Membership in the Chapel Choir (Cantiamo Choir) is required.
 - Entry: Entry is by audition (held in November 2025).
 - Start of 2026: The year begins with an intensive, pre-Term 1 camp.

Te Kaahu Piihopatanga (Kapa Haka)

Our Kapa Haka group, Te Kaahu Piihopatanga, plays a central role in upholding school culture.

- They perform at many school events, including poowhiri, whakatau, Chapel services, Matariki celebrations, and more.

See overleaf

- The year begins with a noho/live-in camp before Term 1 starts. Incoming Kapa Haka students are encouraged to join this noho. Details will be sent out at the end of Term 4 or email ftautuhi@wdsq.school.nz

Get Involved: Registration and Information

- Finding Information
 - Extra-Curricular Guide: The comprehensive guide for all Arts and Culture co-curricular activities will be available on the main website: www.waikatodiocesan.school.nz. Look under the Arts and Culture section.
 - 2026 Updates: This guide will be fully updated with relevant 2026 dates and details in December.
- Registration
 - During the first few days of school, students will receive an email with a link to a google form for Arts Registration, giving them the opportunity to sign up for their chosen arts and cultural groups.

Optional Performance Lessons

- Structure: Private performance lessons (e.g., instrumental, vocal) are optional and are scheduled during school hours up to 3:30 pm. Each lesson is 30 minutes long.
- Student Responsibility: Students must take responsibility for catching up on any class work they miss and should give their tutor plenty of notice if they cannot attend a lesson due to an assessment.
- Fees: Fees are charged each term at the current private market rates.
- Itinerant Music Scheme: A limited number of lessons are covered by the itinerant music scheme and are offered at no cost to the student. These spaces are limited, and NCEA students are given preference.
- Sign-Ups: Sign-up forms are available on our website or linked [here](#) and we encourage you to get these ASAP.

Extra-Curricular Fees

- Some fees are charged for participation in co-curricular activities. These may cover competition entry fees, costume costs, or transportation for trips.
- Billing: Costs are most often charged to the student's school account
- Transparency: You will always be notified of these costs prior to them being charged.

Support and Leadership

- Student Arts Council and Arts Captains: Led by the Head of Arts (Arts Prefect), this dynamic student group helps organise and promote all things Arts. Their activities include the annual Arts Report, fun Arts Activity Days showcasing various art forms, and celebrating student achievement through the Arts Awards.
- Operations Coordinators: These staff members support our curriculum arts teachers by arranging a wide range of enriching activities, field trips, and co-curricular opportunities throughout the year.

Celebrate External Success

We love to celebrate the achievements of our students outside of school!

- If your child is involved in a community theatre production, achieves amazing results in a dance/music exam or competition, or makes a representative team/group, please let us know! A photo is always welcome. You can email the details directly to: arts@wdsq.school.nz

Have an Idea?

- If you are interested in an arts activity that you don't see listed, please let us know! We are always open to exploring new opportunities for our students. You never know—it might be something we can make happen!
- Please let us know via the [Google form](#).