

# Education

## Welcome to Oamaru & Waitaki District



### Preschool

In Waitaki there are kindergartens, playcentres, early learning centres and home-based care. All centres must meet NZ government standards to operate, however they vary in the type of education they provide, the ages they cater for, the type of building they operate from, and the fees they charge.

Kindergartens are the government run early education provider.

Playcentres have more parent involvement and opportunities for parents to become educators if they wish to complete the training courses.

The early learning centres generally have longer hours which may suit working people better.

Home based care is at a person's home in a family environment with limited ratios of children to carers.

Ultimately you need to choose the best setting for your child and the best way to make a choice is to go and visit with your child.

### Pre School Education Providers

#### Kindergartens

- Casa Nova
- Edna Mc Culloch
- Glen Warren
- Holmes
- Maheno

#### Playcentres

- Lower Waitaki
- Oamaru
- Weston
- Palmerston

#### Early Learning Centres

- Best Start Oamaru Kindy
- Barnardos Early learning Centre
- Little Wonders
- Montessori Preschool
- Montessori Oamaru
- Waitaki Valley Pre School

#### Home Based Care

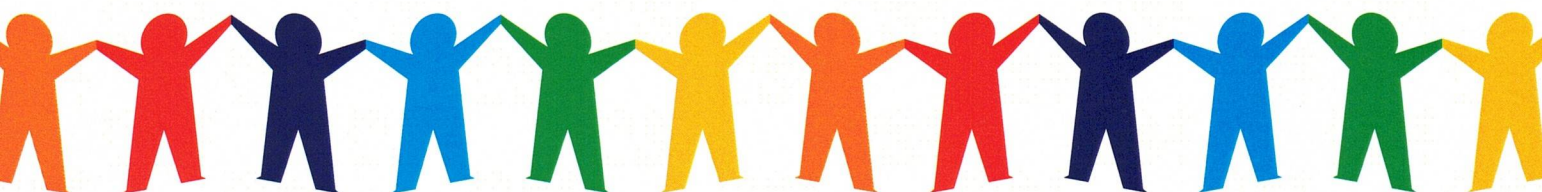


- Barnardos Home Based
- Porse
- Creators At Home

All early childhood providers must adhere to government set standards.

If your child is aged under five and at home with you, there are many playgroups and activities that you can attend together. Go to Facebook - Oamaru Kids' Collective.

Waitaki Multicultural also has a playgroup on Tuesdays and Fridays at the Plunket Rooms, Severn St.



# Education

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AGE	SCHOOL	CLASS
>5 years	Kindergarten, Playcentre, Early Learning Centre and Home Based Care	
5 - 11 years	Primary School (or Full Primary School)	Year 1
		Year 2
		Year 3
		Year 4
		Year 5
11 - 12 years	Intermediate School (or Full Primary School)	Year 6
		Year 7
13< years	Secondary school	Year 8
		Year 9
		Year 10
		Year 11
		Year 12
		Year 13



## Primary

In NZ it is compulsory to attend school from the age of six, however nearly all children start at age five.

There are five town based primary schools. Fenwick, Te Pakihi o Maru, Pembroke, St Josephs and Weston. Some of these schools have enrolment zones so it is recommended that you choose the closest primary school to your home.

Oamaru Intermediate is the only school in North Otago which solely caters for years seven and eight students. It is zoned.

There are many rural schools. Ardgowan, Duntroon, Five Forks, Hampden, Kakanui, Maheno, Omarama, Palmerston, Papakaio, Totara and Waitaki Valley.



WAITAKI  
MULTICULTURAL



## Secondary

Waitaki Girls' High School and Waitaki Boys' High School are single sex schools, while St Kevin's College and East Otago High School (Palmerston) are coeducational schools.

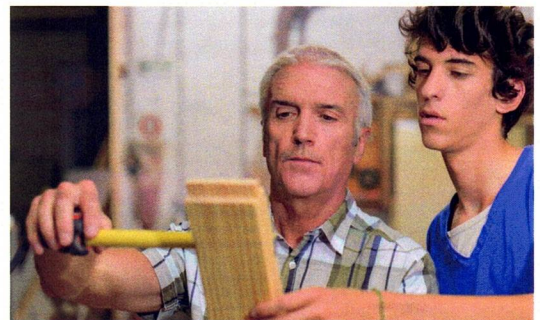
YMCA - Ara Institute

St Joseph's School and St Kevin's College are integrated catholic schools and fees may be payable.

## MIGRANT TIP

In NZ the quality of education in State Schools and Private Schools is of the same excellent quality.

[www.ero.govt.nz](http://www.ero.govt.nz)



## Tertiary

Ara Institute of Canterbury is the main tertiary provider in Waitaki. Free buses run daily to the Timaru campus. The closest Universities are in Dunedin and Christchurch.

## Improving Your English

Literacy Aotearoa provide free assistance for residents. For English tuition for non-residents contact [coordinator@waitakimulticultural.org.nz](mailto:coordinator@waitakimulticultural.org.nz)

## Waitaki Multicultural Council

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