

INFORMATION ON FACILITIES, EQUIPMENT AND STAFFING

John Paul II High School, Greymouth, New Zealand.

John Paul II High School, like most schools has general purpose classrooms and specialist rooms including a modern music suite, recently modernized science laboratories for the study of science, physics, chemistry and biology, a hard materials workshop utilizing all hard materials as well as fabrics, Food Preparation Laboratory, Gymnasium, Fine Arts suite and a well-appointed Information and Communication Laboratory equipped with up-to-date computers. There are computers with Internet access in every classroom as well as an additional research suite for student use resulting in one computer for every two students in the school. Students also have access to our own on-site Video-conferencing facilities. A modern library is being built currently.

Ample sporting facilities are available for use within a short walk from our school and many codes of sporting activities are available within the school. These include Rugby League, Rugby, cricket, netball, basketball, tennis and hockey.

Staff members are well trained and many of them are highly experienced teachers, a number of whom have overseas experience including teaching in Japan and Korea. Secondary teachers are specialists within their subject fields and are all degree-qualified. Other staff members include a Guidance Counsellor, Vocational Guidance Advisor, a Sports Coordinator and a Special Educational Needs Coordinator.

The school provides ample playground space and equipment for lunchtime sporting activities to encourage fitness and social interaction between all students in our school.

The school is located in Greymouth on the West Coast of the South Island of New Zealand. Greymouth is a small coastal town of about 6,000 people and overlooks the Tasman Sea.

John Paul II High School is very small by both national and international standards with a roll of less than 150 students catering for girls and boys between the ages of 13 and 18 years who are of the Catholic faith. The size of the school means that pastoral care is a strength in that all teachers know every student personally and our teacher to student ratios are low compared to larger schools.

For students who enjoy the great outdoors, the opportunities include white-water and black-water rafting, kayaking on graded rivers, lakes and rivers for fishing and swimming, hills for tramping, rock-climbing, abseiling, snow-skiing in winter and water-skiing in summer, body-boarding and surfing. The air is pollution free and the country side exceptionally green in appearance.

