Frequently Asked Questions

What do students study?
In the morning classes students study grammar, reading, writing, listening, and speaking from a textbook. In the afternoon classes, students study speaking, listening, vocabulary, grammar and communication skills based on a weekly topic of interest.

How long are the classes?
Morning class is from 9am to 12noon with a break for morning tea. Lunch is for 1 hour and afternoon class is from 1pm to 3pm.

What happens on the first day?
Students have a test to decide which class they should join. They are shown around the college and Napier city and they spend time with the Homestay Co-ordinator going through the Student Handbook.

What is included in the fees?
Full-time students receive 25 hours a week of structured education from Monday to Friday. A diary, notebook, paper and photocopied materials are provided by the College. Students have free access to textbooks and library books.

When do students pay the fees/accommodation?
When we receive an application form we send an invoice for the fees and accommodation. The money should then be transferred to our bank account. It is necessary to have the Evidence of Payment of Fees and an Offer of Place before applying for a student visa. New Horizon pays accommodation money directly to the homestay family. All fees (tuition and accommodation) must be paid 14 days before the course starts.

How easy is it for students to travel from Auckland to Napier?
Very easy. Flights are frequent and take about 1 hour. Students need to make a booking for this when they book their flight to New Zealand. The bus takes about 7 hours but students may have to stay overnight in Auckland depending on flight arrival times.

How do students get to the Domestic Terminal?
Students can travel on a free blue "Airport Terminals Transfer Bus" which regularly goes to the Domestic Terminal. Or, students can walk, following the blue lines. Or, we can arrange for students to be personally met and transferred to the Domestic Terminal. The cost is $75.00 payable to New Horizon.

Should students have travel and medical insurance?
It is New Zealand law that students have travel and medical insurance. New Horizon can arrange insurance for you before you come to New Zealand or you can arrange it yourself in your own country. Insurance that you arrange yourself must meet our minimum requirements.

How much spending money should students bring?
This is up to the individual student but NZ$50-100.00 per week is a good estimate. Students should not carry large amounts of money. New Horizon staff will help new students to open a bank account soon after their arrival.

Where do students live?
Most students live with local people in a homestay arrangement. There is also hostel accommodation in the city, which is suitable for adult students.

When are students informed of their homestay details?
As soon as the completed application is received we match the student to a suitable homestay and the student is informed of the details. The student can write or send a photograph of themselves to their homestay before their arrival. The homestay may also send a welcoming letter.

How do we find a homestay?
New Horizon will find a suitable homestay for the student. All homestays are inspected by our Homestay Co-ordinator to make sure they are of the best standard.

What if there is a problem?
Our Homestay Co-ordinator will help with the problem and arrange for another homestay if necessary. If a student wishes to change homestays they must give one week's notice. If students change there is a fee of $100 for each change.

What is included in the homestay accommodation charge?
Students staying with a homestay will have two meals a day provided on school days. Lunch will be provided by the homestays on weekends and public holidays. They will have a room of their own and will be able to take part in normal family life and activities with the homestay.

What happens during College vacations?
Students may travel and take sightseeing trips or continue living with their homestay. If students are away for 4 or more consecutive nights and one week's notice has been given they will receive a 70% refund of their homestay fee for the time they are away. The other 30% is kept by the homestay to retain the room for the student.

When do students meet their homestay?
Homestay families meet the students at Napier airport when they first arrive.

What should students do if they can't find the homestay people at the airport?
The homestay holds a sign with the student's name on it. When we send the homestay details we also send a form with the name of the student and the contact details of New Horizon and the homestay on it. The student should bring this with them to New Zealand so that if they need help they can show it to airport staff.

How will students get to the College each day?
Most students buy a bicycle and cycle to school, walk or catch the bus. All our homestays are within an acceptable distance from school, so please note that walking may not be the best way for you to get to school.

What about when students leave NZ?
The homestay (and usually all the new friends) will take the student to Napier airport for the return trip.