



CCEL
CHRISTCHURCH
COLLEGE OF ENGLISH
in partnership with the University of Canterbury



Student Guide 2025/27

Welcome to Christchurch New Zealand

Your best **STARTS** here.



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CCEL is the University of Canterbury and UC International College English language provider, based on UC's campus in Christchurch.

CCEL is committed to providing the highest level of academic quality and student support.

Lifestyle

Christchurch is New Zealand's second largest city with a population of about 410,000. Christchurch lies between the spectacular Southern Alps and the beautiful Pacific Ocean and is the gateway to the South Island.

FOOD

Christchurch is a culturally diverse major tourism destination. A wide range of cafés, bars and restaurants cater for different tastes and dietary preferences. Food courts such as Little High Eatery and Riverside Market are great places to socialise with friends.

ACTIVITIES

A mix of activities awaits students who study in Christchurch. Whether their interests are cultural such as the arts, film, music, architecture or something more adventurous like mountain biking or surfing, there is something for everyone.

LIVING

Christchurch is a vibrant city offering a lot to see and do. Students can be relaxing at the beach or enjoying snow sports in the mountains within easy travelling time.

Christchurch is a welcoming and friendly destination for international students.



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Campus

CCEL is located on the University of Canterbury (UC) campus. At CCEL you can enjoy a university environment and the use of UC facilities. With expansive green spaces and gardens, the natural beauty makes it a great place to learn and relax.

SPORTS AND FITNESS

The Rec Centre is the main fitness facility on campus. Membership allows CCEL students to use the gym for a range of activities: cardio and weight training, disc golf, wall climbing, yoga, squash, and other court based sports.

CAFÉS AND EATERIES

Numerous cafés and eateries on campus offer many different food types from around the world.

CCEL CAMPUS

CCEL is purpose-built for English language learning and classes are small in size (15 students per class maximum). There are 20 classrooms, a well-resourced self-study centre, use of technology in classrooms, and students get free internet and WiFi access.



Support

Moving to a new country is exciting and you may need some extra support, especially when you first arrive. Student Services are here to help you adjust to life in Christchurch and offer ongoing support throughout your stay so you can make the most of your time here.

PRE-DEPARTURE

- Help and information as required.
- Airport reception arrangements at Christchurch Airport.
- Homestay and student residence arrangements.
- Advice on temporary accommodation options.

HEALTH AND WELLBEING

- Welfare support.
- First Aid.
- Assistance with health referrals.

ORIENTATION

- Learn about our services and facilities.
- Learn about other support services available to international students in Christchurch.
- Join a campus tour.
- Learn strategies to adjust to your new life in New Zealand, including health and wellbeing.

ACADEMIC COUNSELLING

- Course progression.
- Course changes.
- Academic concerns.
- Advice on future studies.

AFTER-HOURS ASSISTANCE AND ADVICE HOTLINE

24-hour emergency assistance is available to all CCEL students.

First language support is available when necessary in Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Spanish, and many other languages. Just let us know and we will be happy to assist.

CHRISTCHURCH ACTIVITIES PROGRAMME

Christchurch, like the rest of New Zealand, has beautiful scenery, wonderful cultural activities and many adventure sports on offer. There are so many things to see and do in Christchurch, and CCEL's activities programme is the perfect way for students to have fun while improving their English.

Activities change every week, are optional, and include: Conversation Club, job search workshops, cooking classes, sport, and cultural visits. At the weekends students can choose experiences like surfing, ski trips and tourism options like whale watching.

Accommodation

All CCEL student accommodation is carefully selected and monitored by CCEL staff. CCEL can arrange for students to live in a homestay with a New Zealand family or with other students in a student residence.

HOMESTAY

Living with a CCEL homestay is perfect for students who want to experience the New Zealand lifestyle and get extra support.

Choosing to live with a host family provides students with:

- their own room with a desk for studying
- breakfast and dinner every day plus lunch at the weekend and on public holidays
- a sense of community from day 1
- the ability to practise English with their host family every day.

UNIVERSITY STUDENT RESIDENCE

The university student residence is for students who want to share an apartment with other students in Christchurch.

Living in the university residence will provide:

- a single room with a desk for studying
- shared living facilities with up to 5 other students
- kitchen facilities for meal preparation
- life on the university campus, within walking distance of CCEL.

(Subject to availability)



Study with CCEL

CCEL is the official English language provider for the University of Canterbury (UC) and UC International College (UCIC). The New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA) has rated CCEL as having the highest level of academic quality and student support.

A RANGE OF COURSES

CCEL courses include General English, Exam Preparation, High School Preparation and English for Academic Purposes.

Group Programmes (study tours) provide a powerful option for groups of students to travel and study together, and develop life-long friendships.

RECOGNITION OF QUALITY

CCEL is approved and accredited by NZQA. CCEL is also a proud member of English New Zealand and quality assured by both English New Zealand and Quality English.

JOIN US ONLINE

For students who are unable to travel to New Zealand for their Academic English course, EAP 1 and EAP 2 are offered online in hybrid classes.

STUDY AND WORK

CCEL students meeting the relevant Immigration New Zealand visa requirements are eligible for part-time work rights while studying.

CHOOSE YOUR COURSE

Levels / CEFR	General English*	Exam Prep†	EAP 1‡	EAP 2	High School Preparation
100 / A1	✓				
200 / A2	✓				✓
300 / B1	✓				✓
400 / B1+	✓	✓	✓		✓
500 / B2	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
600 / C1	✓	✓		✓	✓

* Entry level to General English is based on a placement test

† Entry to Exam Prep courses is for students at 400 (Intermediate) level and above

‡ Entry to EAP courses is based on an acceptable external or internal CCEL test score



Courses

GENERAL ENGLISH

General English courses are for people who want to improve their all-round English skills and learn how to communicate effectively.

COURSE OVERVIEW

- Improving speaking, listening, reading, and writing abilities. Using grammar, vocabulary and pronunciation for effective communication.
- Gaining confidence in communicating with English users from different cultures.
- Building a solid foundation of skills for further study and/or life-long learning of English.
- Receiving regular feedback on progress.

PLACEMENT AND ASSESSMENT

- Day 1 placement test.
- Regular assessment of speaking, listening, reading and writing skills.
- Ongoing monitoring of progress and academic counselling.

KEY DETAILS

Intake

Start any Monday (other than public holidays)

Levels

Beginner to Advanced (CEFR A1 to C1)

Duration

2 – 50 weeks

Hours per week

Full-time: 20 hours of face-to-face teaching

Part-time: 15 hours of face-to-face teaching

Class times

Monday to Friday 8.30 am to 1.00 pm

EXAM PREPARATION

Students can prepare for internationally recognised Academic English exams, such as IELTS, at CCEL.

COURSE OVERVIEW

- Learning about test structure and task types through regular practice.
- Studying strategies to maximise results.
- Learning how to avoid common errors that can impact test results.
- Focus areas include:
 - Listening: previewing and predicting, listening for specific information;
 - Reading: speed reading strategies;
 - Skimming and scanning;
 - Speaking: expressing ideas and opinions;
 - Seeking clarification and pronunciation;
 - Writing: interpreting questions, planning;
 - Organising and reviewing content.

ASSESSMENT

Listening, reading, writing and speaking skills are assessed through practice tests.

KEY DETAILS

Intake

Start any Monday (other than public holidays)

Levels

Intermediate to Advanced (CEFR B1+ to C1)

Duration

2 – 10 weeks

Hours per week

Full-time: 20 hours of face-to-face teaching

Class times

Monday to Friday 8.30 am to 1.00 pm



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Note: All courses and levels are subject to minimum number of enrolled students.

HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Our High School Preparation Programme is designed to help students prepare for high school study in New Zealand.

COURSE OVERVIEW

- Developing speaking, listening, reading, and writing abilities.
- Learning key language for a range of subject areas: Mathematics, Science, History and Literature.
- Developing independent and cooperative research skills to complete projects.
- Building confidence in presentation skills.

ASSESSMENT

- Listening, reading, writing and speaking skills are assessed through in-class tests.
- Participating in class tasks, individual and group, and completing assigned set tasks.

KEY DETAILS

Intake

Set start dates. Contact study@ccl.co.nz for details.

Levels

Elementary to Advanced (CEFR A2 to C1)

Duration

5 – 24 weeks, school holidays by arrangement

Hours per week

Full-time: 20 hours of face-to-face teaching plus 5 hours of supervised independent study

Class times

Monday to Friday 8.30 am to 1.00 pm, plus supervised independent study



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Note: All courses and levels are subject to minimum number of enrolled students.

ccl.co.nz/enrol



Group Programmes

CCEL has a long history of offering successful Group Study Tour Programmes.

FOR STUDENTS

Each programme is tailored to the needs of the student and/or their institution. Using English in real life situations and gaining confidence in speaking are key components.

Students can be in integrated classes or taught in closed classes, depending on age and need. Special focus areas can include: General English, Business English or Academic English.

Sample week programme for students

Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Arrival Day Meet host families	Free day with host families	9:00am – 12:30pm English Classes	9:00am – 12:30pm English Classes	9:00am – 12:30pm English Classes	9:00am – 12:30pm English Classes	9:00am – 12:30pm English Classes
		Activity Willowbank Wildlife Park	Activity Walking tour of City Centre	Activity Botanic Gardens and canoeing on Avon River	Activity International Antarctic Centre	Graduation Ceremony Following day: Farewell host families

FOR TEACHERS

This type of programme gives visiting teachers the opportunity to experience a different kind of classroom dynamic and teaching methodologies that they can then take back to their own classrooms.

Sample week programme for Teachers - ESP

Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Arrival Day Meet host families	Free day with host families	8:30am – 1:00pm English Classes	8:30am – 1:00pm English Classes	8:30am – 1:00pm English Classes	8:30am – 1:00pm English Classes	8:30am – 1:00pm English Classes
		1:45am – 3:30pm Teaching Methodology	1:45am – 3:30pm Teaching Methodology	1:45am – 3:30pm Teaching Methodology	1:45am – 3:30pm Teaching Methodology	1:45am – 3:30pm Teaching Methodology
Full Day trip Akaroa	Free	8:30am – 1:00pm Interview New Students	8:30am – 1:00pm Class Observation	8:30am – 1:00pm School Visit	8:30am – 1:00pm School Visit	8:30am – 1:00pm Class Observation
		1:45pm – 3:30pm Teaching Practice	1:45pm – 3:30pm Teaching Practice	1:45pm – 3:30pm Teaching Practice	1:45pm – 3:30pm Teaching Practice	1:45pm – 3:30pm Teaching Practice



Your English language pathway to UC and UCIC

As the official English language provider for the University of Canterbury (UC) and UC International College (UCIC), students who successfully complete an EAP course and meet the academic entry requirement can transfer to their chosen tertiary programme.

EAP 1 (ENGLISH FOR ACADEMIC PURPOSES)

COURSE OVERVIEW

- Developing academic speaking, listening, reading, writing and critical thinking skills.
- Gaining confidence in presentation delivery, developing skills for taking exams and improving exam outcomes.
- Learning about and using referencing skills and participating in tutorial type settings.

KEY DETAILS

Intakes

February, June and October

Levels

Intermediate to Upper Intermediate (CEFR B1+ to B2)

Duration

12 weeks

Hours per week

Full-time: 20 hours of face-to-face teaching

Class times

Monday to Friday 1.15 pm to 5.30 pm

LEADING TO

EAP 2 or direct entry to UCIC Diploma in University Studies (DipUS) or Certificate in Foundation Studies

EAP 2 (ENGLISH FOR ACADEMIC PURPOSES)

COURSE OVERVIEW

- Focusing on development of higher level academic skills: speaking, listening, reading, writing and critical thinking skills. In-depth evaluation of academic texts.
- Delivering extended researched academic presentations.
- Learning about and using referencing skills and participating in tutorial type settings.

KEY DETAILS

Intakes

March, June and October

Levels

Upper Intermediate to Advanced (CEFR B2 to C1)

Duration

12 weeks

Hours per week

Full-time: 20 hours of face-to-face teaching

Class times

Monday to Friday 1.15 pm to 5.30 pm

LEADING TO

UC Undergraduate and Postgraduate Degrees

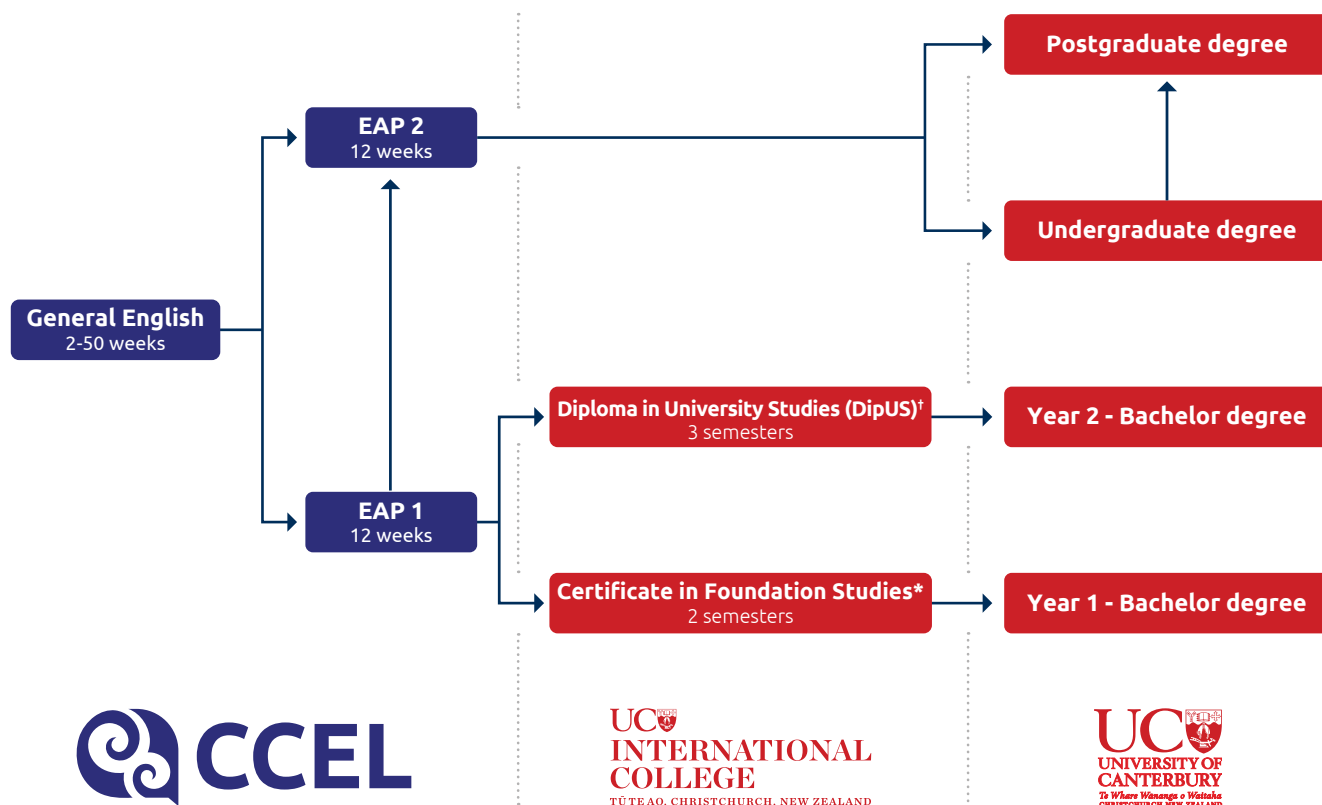


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PATHWAY COURSE PROGRESSION CHART



* Certificate in Foundation Studies pathways successful students to Year 1 of their degree at UC or to Diploma in University Studies via UCIC.

† DipUS is equivalent to Year 1 of the relevant degree from UC. Successful students then pathway to Year 2.

HOW EAP ASSESSMENT WORKS AND ENTRY REQUIREMENTS TO EAP 1 AND EAP 2

Students are assessed on a weekly basis through different methods:

- Presentation of portfolio
- Tests: all skills, grammar and lexis
- Short assessed writing
- Oral presentations
- Extended writing assessments

	Entry requirements (one of the following)	Pass requirements	Exit to
EAP 1	Pass grade in the CCEL EAP 1 entry test*	Grade C+ or above	Diploma in University Studies (DipUS) Certificate in Foundation Studies EAP 2
	IELTS 5.0		
	Cambridge PET pass		
	TOEFL 32		
EAP 2	Pass grade in the CCEL EAP 2 entry test*	Grade C+ on EAP 2 assessment (approximately equivalent to IELTS 6.0)	UC Undergraduate Programmes
	C+ pass in EAP 1		
	IELTS 5.5		
	Cambridge FCE pass		
	TOEFL 46		
	Pass grade in the CCEL EAP 2 entry test*	Grade B+ on EAP 2 assessment (approximately equivalent to IELTS 6.5)	UC Postgraduate Programmes
	B pass in EAP 1		
	IELTS 6.0		
	Cambridge FCE pass		
	TOEFL 60		

*can be taken prior to arrival



UC International College



UC International College (UCIC) is CCEL's sister college. UCIC offers a direct pathway for international students who wish to study a Bachelor's degree at the University of Canterbury. UCIC is located right on the beautiful UC campus and offers students a truly embedded experience at their future university. UCIC students have access to the world-class facilities and services that the UC campus has to offer.

PROGRAMMES AT UCIC

DIPLOMA IN UNIVERSITY STUDIES (DIPUS)

DipUS is equivalent to the first year of the relevant bachelor degree at the University. It allows students to transition from high school and complete their bachelor degree in the same amount of time as students admitted directly to UC.

DipUS is designed to give students extra academic and language support in the important first year of tertiary study. Students will study the equivalent of eight academic courses (120 credits) over 12 months and pathway directly into Year 2 at UC.

CERTIFICATE IN FOUNDATION STUDIES

Certificate in Foundation Studies is designed to help bridge the gap between high school and university entrance. Delivered in a nurturing and supportive environment, students will study eight courses to prepare them for their chosen degree at the University of Canterbury.

PRE-MASTER'S PROGRAMME

The pre-master's programme offers a pathway into postgraduate study for international students who don't meet prior study requirements, increasing access to Master's degree programmes in Business, Engineering, Science, Health, Education and Arts.

The pathway comprises one semester of study that prepares students generally for postgraduate study and one semester of study that builds relevant subject-specific knowledge.



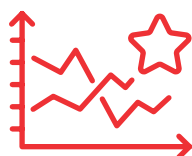
FAST-TRACK INTO UNIVERSITY OF CANTERBURY, RANKED IN THE TOP 2% OF UNIVERSITIES WORLDWIDE

UCIC provides alternative pathways to realise your goals of attaining a UC Bachelor Degree.



THRIVE IN A SUPPORTIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

- Study in small classes with experienced and caring teaching staff.
- Receive extensive academic support and develop critical study skills.



PROVEN TRACK RECORD

98% of UCIC graduates have progressed into UC. Every year, many UCIC students receive UC First Year International Scholarships.



MANY ACTIVITIES

Develop your English and other soft skills by joining activities at UCIC, such as Buddy Programme, Student Representative Council, Peer Tutors etc.



ENJOY LIFE ON THE UC CAMPUS

UC International College is located on the beautiful UC campus. Students can join in a huge range of social events and activities at UC.

WHY UC INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE?

UCIC can also offer international students the option of beginning their studies online. This can help students save time and money and stay on track towards their University of Canterbury degree.

Location

Alice Candy Building, Corner Clyde Rd and Arts Rd
University of Canterbury, Christchurch 8140 New Zealand

Email: info@ucic.ac.nz

Ph: +64 3 260 4300

Apply

We are looking forward to welcoming you to CCEL. Here are 5 simple steps to help you start your study journey. If you have any further questions, contact us.



STEP 1: ENROL WITH CCEL

CCEL works with education agencies all over the world. They can help students choose the best course and can also help with visa applications and travel arrangements. Please contact us to check the location of your nearest agencies. It is also possible to enrol directly with CCEL. Download and complete our Enrolment Form at ccel.s46230.p1122.sites.pressdns.com/enrolment/process/. When we receive your enrolment application, we'll send you an Offer of Place and invoice for course fees.



STEP 2: MAKE PAYMENT

Payment of the course fees invoice can be made via online banking, one of the student payment services available or credit card.

Find out more about our payment methods at ccel.s46230.p1122.sites.pressdns.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/23/Bank-Details.pdf



STEP 3: ACCEPT YOUR OFFER

When fees have been received, a receipt and confirmation of placement with CCEL will be sent.



STEP 4: OBTAIN YOUR VISA

Visa requirements vary according to the country students are from and the length of study. The Immigration New Zealand website has information about visa types and requirements for students and visitors entering New Zealand at www.immigration.govt.nz/new-zealand-visas/.

First-time Student Visa applicants should follow the useful Immigration New Zealand information sheet www.immigration.govt.nz/documents/checklists/first-time-student-visa-application-information-sheet.pdf



STEP 5: KEEP IN TOUCH

Three weeks before you arrive, send us your full flight details so we can make any final arrangements, such as organise a transfer service if you need one. If your plans change, let us know.

DONT FORGET!

PREPARE YOUR DOCUMENTS

- ☒ A copy of your current passport
- ☒ A copy of your current visa (if you hold one)
- ☒ A Conditional Offer if you are continuing your studies at UC International College or the University of Canterbury.
- ☒ A copy of your official English test results, (e.g. IELTS, TOEFL, PTE-Academic or others) - for English for Academic Purposes courses only.

PATHWAY VISA WITH UC INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE AND THE UNIVERSITY OF CANTERBURY

Students who are studying English at CCEL and are interested in continuing their studies at UC International College and then the University of Canterbury, may be eligible for a Pathway Visa. A Pathway Visa allows you to apply for a single visa to cover your study period from English language to the end of your programme at the University of Canterbury. This is a great way to reduce the time and cost involved in visa applications.



SEE IMPORTANT
DATES FOR CCEL



APPLY NOW

Before you arrive

Before travelling to New Zealand, you need to be aware of some important facts and details to guide and support you. Some notes are provided below for your reference and review.



CONDITIONS OF ENROLMENT

Conditions of Enrolment, including refund and deferral policies are available at www.ccel.co.nz



MEDICAL AND TRAVEL INSURANCE

International students (including group students) must have appropriate and current medical and travel insurance while studying in New Zealand.



GRIEVANCE AND COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

CCEL is open to feedback and is committed to solving problems and resolving grievances in good faith.

CCEL will:

- give students a voice,
- work towards finding out where a problem exists,
- work towards a fair solution.

See the Grievance Procedure section in our Conditions of Enrolment at www.ccel.co.nz



ACCIDENT INSURANCE

The Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC) provides accident insurance for all New Zealand citizens, residents, and temporary visitors to New Zealand, but you may still be liable for all other medical and related costs. Further information can be viewed on the ACC website at www.acc.co.nz



ELIGIBILITY FOR HEALTH SERVICES

Most international students are not entitled to publicly funded health services while in New Zealand. They may be liable for the full costs of any treatment required, if not adequately covered by appropriate medical and travel insurance.



ATTENDANCE

Your attendance is monitored and recorded on a daily basis to ensure that your visa requirements are met.



IMMIGRATION

Full details of immigration requirements, advice on rights to employment in New Zealand while studying, and reporting requirements are available from Immigration New Zealand, and can be viewed on their website at www.immigration.govt.nz



HOLIDAYS

CCEL is closed on weekends and public holidays. Please see the Enrolment Guide for dates of New Zealand public holidays each year.



CODE OF PRACTICE

CCEL has agreed to observe and be bound by the Education (Pastoral Care of Tertiary and International Learners) Code of Practice 2021 (the Code). Detailed information can be found at www2.nzqa.govt.nz/international/study-nz-quals/code-international-students/



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In partnership with



CCEL is a member of



CCEL is endorsed by the University of Canterbury as a provider of English language intensive courses for overseas students in Christchurch. The information in this guide is correct at July 2025.

Changes in circumstances after this date may alter the accuracy or currency of the information. CCEL reserves the right to alter any matter described in this guide without notice. Readers are responsible for verifying information by contacting CCEL. Some selected photographs in this publication have been supplied by ChristchurchNZ.com. This guide is provided free of charge.

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