



Wakatipu  
HIGH SCHOOL  
FOUNDATION



# 2022 IMPACT REPORT

WHSF.NZ



Proudly supporting  
Wakatipu High School  
students to  
**Reach for their Heights**

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Wakatipu High School Foundation  
c/- Findex Queenstown, Te Ahi Building, Level 1, 13 Camp Street, Queenstown 9300  
Email: [exec@whsf.nz](mailto:exec@whsf.nz)  
Registered Charity Number: CC49702

Photography provided by Wakatipu High School.

# OUR STORY

The WHS Foundation's goal is to **support Wakatipu's only public high school** to provide the best all-round education for Wakatipu youth.



The Wakatipu High School Foundation is a charity that works with the Wakatipu community to support Wakatipu High School (WHS), the only public high school in the Wakatipu Basin.

Established in 2013 with a generous \$500,000 donation from the Peter Wilding Estate, the WHS Foundation now partners with many community members, businesses and funders who share our vision of enabling all WHS students to meet their potential in a supportive and well-resourced environment.

WHS is a Decile 10 school in Queenstown, one of the most expensive areas in New Zealand, which means it receives the lowest level of funding from the Ministry of Education.

The WHS Foundation has contributed more than \$1.65 million to various programmes at the school and plans to invest another \$450,000 this year to benefit WHS students.



**Our vision** is for all WHS students to be enabled to **meet their potential** in a supportive and well-resourced environment.



OUR INITIATIVES



**ENABLE WHS STUDENTS TO REACH FOR THEIR HEIGHTS**

We support WHS to deliver the best possible educational opportunities so students are enabled to reach their goals.



**SUPPORTS INCLUSION**

We support initiatives that ensure students have equitable access to education and extra-curricular opportunities.



**SUPPORTS WELLBEING**

We fund programmes that support whole school wellbeing as well as build resilience and respect.



# UPDATE FROM THE CHAIR

I'm pleased to present the Wakatipu High School Foundation's 2022 Impact Report which highlights the work we do to support WHS to deliver a great all-round education to its students.

The WHS Foundation was initially established as a charitable foundation to ensure Wakatipu youth had equitable access to the best possible educational opportunities in a well-resourced learning environment. As we enter into 2023 and our 10th year of operation, our commitment to this mission is strong. I am proud to work with a dedicated team of volunteer trustees and a strong and passionate WHS senior leadership team to support our shared vision.

## FAREWELL WAYNE & STEVE

As 2022 came to a close, we farewelled two very important members of our school community - WHS Principal Steve Hall and WHS Foundation Chair Wayne Foley.

Steve Hall has made a profound impact on the school and community over the past ten years. When Steve first arrived at WHS in September 2012, there were 662 students and 51 teachers at the old Gorge Road site. Today, the school has grown to 1220 students and 90 teachers, and is housed in a brand new, modern learning campus. Steve's dedication and leadership has enabled thousands of students to achieve their best possible qualifications while engaging in a great all-round education. His mahi over the past ten years will leave a lasting legacy on WHS. Thank you, Steve, for all your contributions.

I would like to thank former Chair, Wayne Foley, for his efforts on behalf of the WHS Foundation. As an original founding trustee of the WHS Foundation, Wayne returned to lead the Foundation during the first COVID-19 lockdown. Wayne and his wife Julia have been an integral part of the Wakatipu community for over 25 years, and his commitment to supporting the school and the community has been unwavering. Thank you, Wayne, for your tireless efforts on behalf of the WHS Foundation

## OUR FUTURE FOCUS

We've committed to supporting 11 key initiatives in 2023, totaling a record \$450,000 donation. These initiatives range from supporting a new Literacy and Numeracy programme to the junior outdoor education programme, funding two teaching positions as well as two teacher aide positions and the important Awhi Support Fund which ensures equitable access to educational opportunities.

As we focus on supporting WHS in 2023 and beyond, we are grateful for your ongoing support and look forward to continuing to work together to provide world-class educational opportunities to WHS students.

*Charlie Phillips*

WHS Foundation Chair



2023 Principal Oded Nathan, incoming Chair WHS Foundation Charlie Phillips, outgoing WHS Foundation Chair Wayne Foley, outgoing Principal Steve Hall.

## PARTING WORDS

# WAYNE FOLEY

As the outgoing Chairman of the Foundation I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on the journey of the school and that of the Foundation which will have been going 10 years in 2023. I believe that through the outstanding leadership and vision of Steve Hall, Steve and the school community have created what in my view is NZ's leading co-ed secondary school. It is a school to rival any private school in NZ by any measure. I know that our new Principal Oded Nathan is going to continue to build on Steve's legacy.

There can be no doubt that the Foundation has played and continues to play a key role in not only financially supporting and enabling select initiatives at the school but has also provided a link to the wider community, sharing the message about the amazing achievements of our school and the opportunities it provides to our local youth. In my mind the school is our community's greatest asset but in order to sustain and optimize outcomes the school is always going to need the continued support of the wider community through the Foundation. The Foundation is incredibly grateful to all our supporters - from our business donors, event sponsors and attendees to our individual donors - your generosity enables the

Foundation to support the school to the level it does - thank you.

I would also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the Foundation's past Trustees and thank the Foundation's current Trustees - Karen Spires, John Wikstrom, Dave Bulling, Daniel Gibbons, Liz Walker and the Foundation's incoming Chair Charlie Phillips, as well as the Foundation's outgoing Executive Officer Mia McGregor and Administrator Carolyn Rooney for all their ongoing hard work. It is a big ask for Trustees to engage with our community seeking financial support every year and fitting in all the activities surrounding the Foundation around working lives and families. Through their commitment and the support of our community, by the end of calendar 2023 the Foundation will have contributed \$2m + to supporting the great all-round education our school delivers.

It has been a privilege to have been part of the school story and the Foundation.

*Wayne Foley*

WHS Foundation Chair  
Retired December 2022



# A MESSAGE FROM 2023 WHS PRINCIPAL

Delivering Aotearoa New Zealand's best all-round education is WHS vision and 2023 will see us focused on realising this aspirational vision. For students, this will see them striving for and supported to achieve their best possible qualification. They will also grow holistically into confident and connected citizens, who know how to look after their wellbeing and will have the skills, competencies and capabilities to make significant contributions at a local, national and global level.

I have an absolute passion for education and I strongly believe that education can fundamentally improve the trajectory of young people and their families, and can have an enduring impact on communities at large.

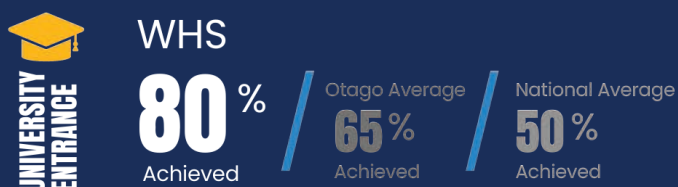
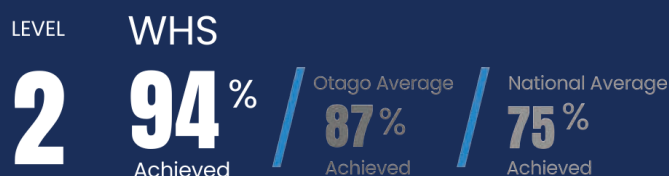
I also believe that schools and educators have the responsibility to provide a future-focused education that prepares ākonga/students for 'their future and not our past'.

Having worked at WHS since 2010 and been the Deputy Principal from 2012 and Associate Principal from 2019, I have had the opportunity to develop long standing relationships with various stakeholders in the learning community. I am looking forward to building on these relationships moving forward as the Principal of Wakatipu High School.

*Oded Nathan*

WHS Principal

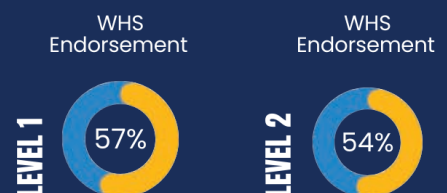
## WHS 2022 ACADEMIC RESULTS



HIGH PERFORMANCE

**21**  **SCHOLARSHIPS**

**#1**   
**IN OTAGO & SOUTHLAND**  
STATE CO - ED SCHOOLS





# PARTING WORDS

## STEVE HALL

2022 has been another interesting and challenging year for Queenstown, education and Wakatipu High School - although thankfully the second half has been better than the first.

Covid unfortunately continued well into 2022, with student and staff absences meaning that we had to 'roster home' during term one. While this was an effective strategy, and fortunately we managed to avoid it in term two, hybrid learning and the loss of continuity and connection affected staff and students and education and culture. Thankfully things improved from term three, and it was great that significant events such as Winter Sports Week and the school musical, Footloose, were able to go ahead.

The other key feature of the year was the continuation and completion of 'Phase 2' (the planned expansion of the school to its capacity of 1800). After a challenging year of construction and disruption in 2021, this year we only had the first two terms to get through and it was great to get the main building open and operating in Term 3, with the new double gymnasium ready for 2023.

Despite these challenges we have continued to deliver our great all-round education in 2022. Along with our focus on learning, progress and achievement - and our predictions for student achievement this year are strong, we have continued to offer a wide range of opportunities in sports, arts, music, culture, leadership, community and the outdoors in which our students have been able to learn, develop and grow.

The Foundation's contribution to this has once again been significant in 2022. From the wonderful assistance that the Awhi (financial support) Fund has provided to a number of students and families this year, to the additional teachers and support for wellbeing, peer support and junior camps, the Foundation and its business partners, donors and supporters have had a very positive

impact on WHS's again in 2022. Especially as my time at Wakatipu High School comes to an end, I want to acknowledge the remarkable contribution of the Foundation - it has made such a difference to our ability to progress and to deliver a great all-round education for our students. I am very grateful, and my sincere thanks goes to the Foundation and everyone who supports it.

*Steve Hall*

WHS Principal  
Retired December 2022

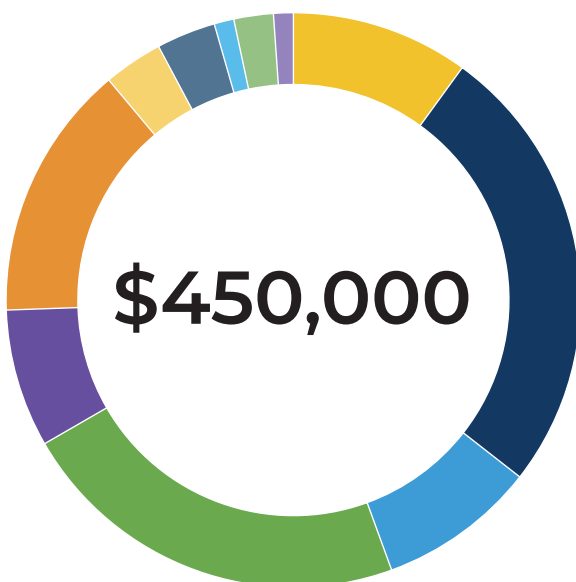




# FUNDING 2023

The WHS Foundation is the vehicle by which the school and our community can realise their vision for a vibrant, meaningful education for Wakatipu youth.

**WE'RE FUNDING \$450,000 AT WHS IN 2023**



- Literacy and Numeracy Programme
- Junior Outdoor Education Programme
- Awhi Support Fund
- School Vans
- Peer Support 'STARS' Programme
- Teacher Aides
- Extracurricular Support
- Two Additional Teachers
- Wellbeing Programme
- Dux Scholarship
- Head Student Leadership

## Literacy and Numeracy Programme

Funding this programme enables WHS to double the number of numeracy classes in 2023 and employ a full-time Literacy specialist. This will result in more students being supported with their numeracy and literacy needs and in turn will allow more students to access learning across the curriculum, and support more students to achieve their best qualification possible.

## Junior Outdoor Education Programme

Outdoor education at WHS is an important part of the fabric of WHS, partly because of the stunning environment we all live, work and play in, but also because of the part it plays in the holistic development of students. Our junior camps such as the Year 9 Greenstone Camps and the Year 10 Branches Camp, have become iconic for Wakatipu youth. Through camps such as these the students learn about themselves, others, personal growth, social development and citizenship.

## Awhi Support Fund

Approximately 1 in 10 students receive support from the Awhi Fund. This ensures no students are disadvantaged by financial hardship, making a very real difference to families in our community.

## School Vans

We are funding the purchase of two school vans across 2022-23. These vans will be used primarily for extra and cocurricular activities transport.

## Teacher Aides

Teacher aides support students' learning, progress and achievement in a variety of ways. We are funding one of the six additional teacher aide roles WHS are employing in 2023, over and above government funding.

## Two Additional Teachers

We fund two additional teachers for the school above the government staffing allowance which helps to reduce the average class size to 22.

## Peer Support 'STARS' Programme

The STARS programme is a year-long peer mentoring programme that supports, motivates and positively reinforces Year 9 students and develops leadership in senior students.

## Head Student Leadership

Each year our valued partner Colliers Otago supports us to send the WHS Head Girl and Boy to attend an Outward Bound course to develop their leadership capabilities.

## Wellbeing Programme

Wellbeing is increasingly an issue for NZ teenagers and schools. We're funding the role and work of the Wellbeing Coordinator to continue the development and delivery of a whole-school wellbeing programme for students and staff.

## Extracurricular Support

We provide funds enabling WHS to recognise the many coaches, managers, teachers-in-charge that support the wide range of extracurricular activities at WHS.

## Dux Scholarship

Awarded to the highest academic achiever.



# SUPPORT YOUTH EDUCATION IN OUR COMMUNITY

**Our local Business Partnership Programme, regular individual donors, as well as our event sponsors, are critical in supporting our annual sponsored initiatives at WHS.**

## GIVE YOUR WAY

We love talking to our community about how they help support Wakatipu High School. If you have a great idea on how to support our goals then please let us know, otherwise here are some of the few ways you can help us make a difference.

## EVENTS

Our fundraising events serve a dual purpose of both raising funds for the WHS Foundation and providing connection between the WHS Foundation, WHS and our community.

Our event sponsors are a critical support in this area, donating time, venue space, food and beverages as well as goods and services to be used in auction items and prizes.

Thank you to all our 2022 event attendees, as well as our many generous event sponsors. A special thank you to our venue hosts Sherwood Restaurant and Millbrook Resort for their support once again in 2022.





## BECOME A BUSINESS PARTNER

**Our business partner programme brings together a dynamic group of companies that recognise that through education, young people can enrich both their own lives and the community in which they live**

### 01 Make a Difference

Make an annual donation at a level that suits you and your business. Your contribution will help provide funding for \$450,000 in school-wide programmes.

### 02 Connect & Engage

You will join a network of businesses that connect with the school and each other. We provide opportunities to network, attend exclusive events and engage with the school community.

### 03 Recognition

We value the support of our partners and proudly recognise them on social media, website, Impact Report, WHS and Foundation newsletters, wall of recognition and exclusive events.

#### Platinum Partner

\$10,000 +

Gold Partner

\$5,000 +

Silver Partner

\$2,000 +

Blue Partner

\$1,000 +

Associate Partner

Goods & Services

# LEAVE A LEGACY

**The WHS Foundation Endowment Fund was established to provide perpetual funding to benefit future generations.**

Endowments provide a stable funding base to drive the teaching missions of the institution, assisting them to survive storms and making them less reliant on public funding mechanisms.

The objectives of our endowment fund at WHS Foundation align with our unique role supporting the only public high school in the Wakatipu Basin to provide high-quality education to all children in the district. WHS plays a vital role in shaping the future of the Wakatipu Community by nurturing the next generation of front-line staff, business leaders, entrepreneurs, and tradespeople.



## Gift

An establishment gift is made and forms the principal.



## Invest

The principal is protected, invested and grows.



## Grant

A portion of the fund's value is distributed annually - forever.

## BECOME A FRIEND OF WHS FOUNDATION

**The WHS Foundation is the vehicle by which the school and our community can realise their vision for a vibrant, meaningful education for Wakatipu youth.**

### Spend my Super

One percent of over 65's do not claim their NZ Superannuation, leaving their superannuation entitlement in the hands of the government to spend.

The Spend my Super initiative enables people to donate some or all of their NZ Superannuation payments to support WHS students in perpetuity through our Endowment Fund.

### Endowment Gifts

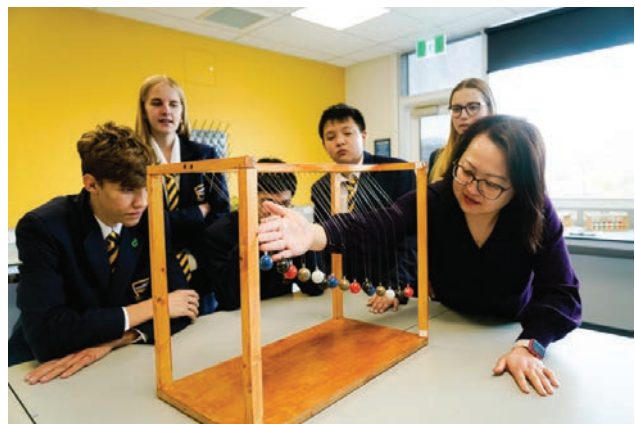
Endowment gifts generally will take the form of cash, but equally any gift of shares in companies listed on stock exchanges, real estate, life insurance policies or personal property will be gratefully received.

When you make your gift, we work closely with you to ensure the funding goes to your desired cause and that you are recognised appropriately.

### Bequests

Gifts in the form of bequests in a will are deeply appreciated.

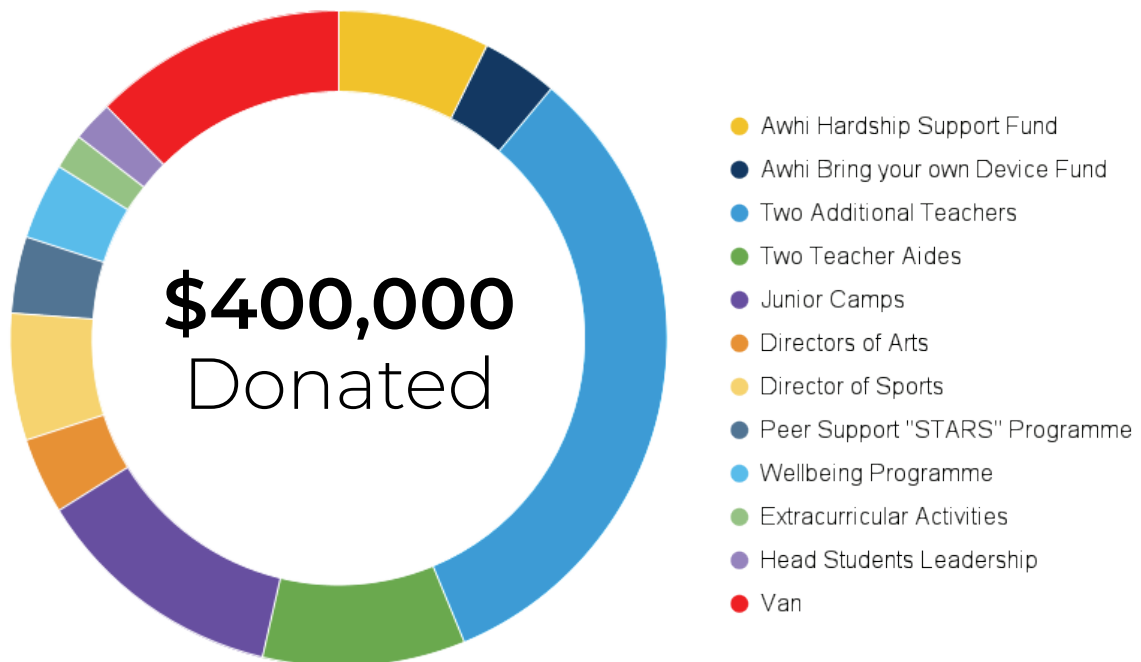
If a gift is to be bequeathed as part of a will it would be prudent to have solicitors engaged to ensure your intentions are accurately expressed in your will and to advise the WHS Foundation of your bequest appropriately.



# HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2022

The WHS Foundation was proud to work with our supportive Wakatipu community to raise and donate \$400,000 to WHS in 2022.

Here are some of our highlights from the last year:

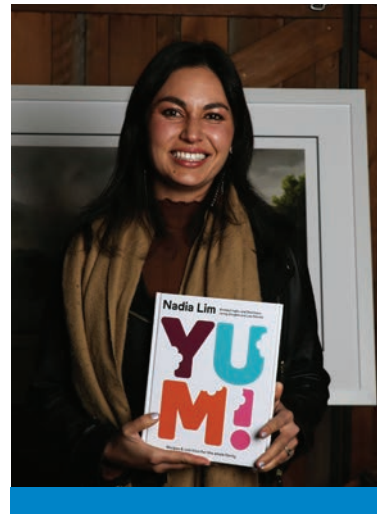


**"Uncle" Jack McPherson  
Branches Camp Visit**





June  
**Winter Feast Gala Dinner**  
 Sponsored by Jarden  
 Raised \$80,000



July  
**The Yale Whiffenpoofs Supper & Song**  
 Raised \$12,000



September  
**'Trip of a Lifetime' Raffle with Fiordland Discovery**  
 Raised \$25,000



December  
**Annual Golf Tournament at Millbrook Resort**  
 Raised over \$45,000



# OUR IMPACT

## 2022

Since 2013, the WHS Foundation has donated **over \$1.65 Million** to Wakatipu High School.



## JUNIOR CAMPS

**Outdoor education at WHS is an important part of the fabric of our school, partly because of the stunning environment we all live, work and play in, but also because of the part it plays in the holistic development of students.**

Our Junior Camps include a Year 9 Greenstone Camp in term one and a Year 10 Branches Camp - now beyond its 50th year in term four. These have become iconic rites of passage for generations of Wakatipu youth as through camps such as these the students learn about themselves, others, personal growth, social development and citizenship.

Our 2022 Outdoor education programme was proudly sponsored by 'Uncle' Jack McPherson.



## PEER SUPPORT 'STARS' PROGRAMME

**The STARS programme is a year-long peer mentoring programme that supports Year 9 students with their transition to high school. It also develops leadership capabilities of the senior students who are involved.**

WHS Foundation partially funds the Graeme Dingle Foundation Stars Programme at WHS. The Stars programme uses the tuakana-teina mentoring model and achieves positive and measurable results, including increased academic engagement and achievement for junior and senior students. Stars makes the transition into high school a more positive experience for Year 9 students whilst providing leadership and citizenship development opportunities for senior students. Stars has four components - adventure camp, peer mentoring, community adventure and a community project.

## HEAD STUDENTS LEADERSHIP

As part of their generous support of the WHS Foundation, Colliers supported our Head Boy James Scoles and Head Girl Sofia Taquet to attend an Outward Bound Course.





## AWHI SUPPORT FUND

**Awahi means to nurture or support in Māori. The Awahi Support and Awahi Bring your own device (BYOD) Funds are WHS Foundation flagship programmes that make a very real difference to financially disadvantaged families.**

The purpose of the Awahi Fund is to ensure equity of access to WHS's great all-round education. Students and families who face financial hardship can access support for the costs of school essentials, such as uniform, fees, laptops, camps and extracurricular activities.

The Covid pandemic continued to have a significant financial impact on numerous families in 2022, particularly those in the tourism and hospitality industries and businesses that flow from them. There was an increase in both new families applying as well as families that have applied in the past who have been further impacted by loss of work and income. The most common applications are for uniform and extracurricular activities, as well as BYOD applications.

The Awahi Fund embodies the meaning of its name, and makes a positive difference to the lives of many students and families in our community.

**12%**

of students  
(140 individual students)  
received Awahi support in  
2022

**\$374**

was the average amount  
of support given per  
applicant

## WELLBEING PROGRAMME

The WHS Foundation funded a whole school wellbeing programme in 2022.

“ The continued support of the WHS Foundation on wellbeing has enabled us to continue to develop and deliver schoolwide wellbeing priorities and programmes to support students and staff alike. The research is clear that wellbeing and resilience can be taught and learned, and that programmes designed to promote wellbeing are associated with academic improvement. WHS has focussed on the concepts of Positive Education to teach knowledge and skills that assist staff and students to build up their kete of resources in order to strengthen their relationships, build positive emotions, adopt a strengths-based approach, enhance personal resilience, develop a growth mindset and live a healthy lifestyle. ”

**Lucy Ford**  
Wellbeing Coordinator, WHS

## TWO TEACHING POSITIONS

The WHS Foundation funded two additional teaching staff positions over and above Government entitlement in 2022.

These additional positions enable lower average class sizes and increases the range of subjects offered to students, including through to Year 13.

This additional funding allows students to follow their passions and pathways and enables teachers to differentiate to meet the needs of students, supporting their engagement, learning, progress and academic achievement.



## TWO VANS

**The WHS Foundation partnered with 'Uncle' Jack McPherson and the Hugo Charitable Trust to purchase two new school vans in 2022/2023.**



WHS students often need to travel near and far to participate in their sporting, cultural or other extracurricular activities.

The cost of travel can create a barrier for some families, but through the provision of two school vans, the cost to participate is significantly reduced and thus barriers to participation is minimised.

WHS has very high participation rates in extracurricular activities, and the support from the WHS Foundation including these two vans plays a supportive role in keeping students participating in extracurricular activities in a time where families are struggling financially.



## DIRECTOR OF SPORTS

**The Director of Sports position allows WHS to strategically grow, resource and develop both participation and performance pathways - integral to providing a great all-round education.**

The WHS Foundation has funded this role since its inception in 2020. This position has enabled more students to participate in more sports and to do so with improved performance and at a lower cost.

## DIRECTOR OF ARTS

A new position in 2022, the Director of Arts allows WHS to grow both participation and performance pathways in the Arts.

“

*The new Director of Arts position enabled us to create an Arts Vision for the school and the start of an accompanying framework for further development of the Arts at WHS. Planning is underway for an even more extensive extra and co-curricular programme within school which should lead to greater participation levels in the future. Conversations with arts-based groups/organisations and individuals within the community have also taken place with the aim of building even stronger connections that will enhance opportunities for students both in and out of school.*

**Alison Price**  
Director of Arts, WHS

”

## TWO TEACHER AIDES

In 2022, we funded two teacher aide positions to support students with learning differences.

“

*Teacher Aides can make a real difference to learners. They have a wide range of valued roles and responsibilities, and can enhance learner outcomes by drawing on positive relationships, good training, collaborative practices, and cultural expertise. The WHS Foundation funded two Teacher Aides and with approximately 20% of neurodivergent students out of our more than 1200 students, there is an insatiable demand for assistance. Meeting all of these student's needs is difficult, and very challenging. As government funding entitlement in this area is low, this additional resource is invaluable and we are extremely appreciative.*

**Katie Tomkins**  
HOLA - Learning Support, WHS

”

## EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Extra and co-curricular activities are important aspects of the great all-round education WHS offers.

Participation in extra and co-curricular activities is something that is valued by students, parents and the community but WHS would not be able to offer the vast range of opportunities without the many coaches, managers, teachers-in-charge and volunteers that enable these opportunities to occur.

This fund enables us to acknowledge the contribution of staff who support the delivery of our great all-round education by helping provide students with opportunities in sport, arts, culture, leadership, service and the outdoors.



**We recognise that through education, young people can enrich their own lives and the community in which they live.**





# TRUSTEES



**Charlie Phillips**  
Chairman



**Karen Spires**  
Trustee



**Dave Bulling**  
Trustee



**Liz Walker**  
Trustee



**John Wikstrom**  
Trustee



**Daniel Gibbons**  
Trustee

## Advisory Trustees

Oded Nathan (WHS Principal)  
Adrian Januszkiewicz (WHS Board of Trustees)

## Retired Trustees

Wayne Foley (December 2022)  
Steve Hall (Advisory, December 2022)

## WHS Foundation Team 2022

Mia McGregor (Executive Officer)  
Carolyn Rooney (Administrator)

## Accountant

Daniel Gibbons of Findex

## Lawyer

Graeme Todd of Todd & Walker

# THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS



We believe that when we all work together, great things happen. Thank you to all our wonderful supporters and business partners for making our work possible.

## DONORS

### JACK MCPHERSON

Junior Outdoor Education Programme and  
Van Donor 2022

### HUGO CHARITABLE TRUST

Van Donor 2022

### MARY AND JOHN THOMPSON

Endowment Donor 2021 and 2022

### JOHN HARMAN

Spend my Super Donor 2021, 2022



## PLATINUM PARTNERS



## GOLD PARTNERS



## SILVER PARTNERS

Aotea Electric  
 Hanlon Plumbing  
 McCulloch + Partners  
 Mitre10 Mega Queenstown  
 SBS Bank  
 Todd&Walker Law  
 Upper Village  
 Wynn Williams

## ASSOCIATE PARTNERS

Fiordland Discovery  
 Millbrook Resort  
 Sherwood Queenstown  
 Hotel St Moritz  
 Queenstown Chamber of Commerce

## BLUE PARTNERS

Artbay Gallery  
 BDO Accountants  
 B&B Interiors  
 Clark Fortune McDonald & Associates  
 Cook Brothers Hospitality Group  
 Craigs Investment Partners  
 Deloitte Queenstown

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 Kinloch Wilderness Retreat  
 Lakes Weekly Bulletin  
 Loaded Reports  
 David Reid Homes  
 NJ Blocklaying  
 NZSKI

On behalf of all of us at  
the WHS Foundation,  
we **thank you** for your  
ongoing support.



WHSF.NZ