



JAMES HARGEST COLLEGE KEEP FAITH



James Hargest College
Kia Ora!

School Ball

We are Emma and Antonia, from Hamburg and Hanover in Germany. We spent one year at James Hargest College in Invercargill, in the South of New Zealand.

Our journey began in July 2017 and ended in July 2018. We didn't know each other before, but today we are best friends. When we first came to New Zealand we did not know many people but after a few weeks we found a lot of good friends. Kiwi students are super friendly. Every international student has a buddy who shows them around in the first couple of weeks. We also joined the International Friendship Club to help new international students to feel welcome, the LEO Committee, numerous cultural activities like Kapa Haka and various sport teams.



Kapa Haka

decorated in an “under the stars” theme and the organisers made a great effort to make it night we will never forget - and it paid off.

James Hargest College offers various subjects. Different languages, sciences, everything around food and nutrition, tourism and commerce, there are subjects for everybody! They also have a great offer of different sports and itinerant music lessons. You can keep improving your skills or even start to learn a new instrument.

We can advise you to take the subject Outdoor Recreation. It is a good choice if you enjoy being outside and if you are



ready for

new adventures. Due to many camps you will find a lot of friends that share your passion of being outdoors. On these camps you will do things like rock climbing, mountain biking, kayaking, tramping, cross country skiing and sleeping in a self made snow cave. It also is a good possibility to get around the country a bit more.

We also joined the Kapa Haka Group and got to know a culture which is completely different to the German culture: Maori!



Bluff Hill

The group welcomed us warmly and integrated us into the singing and dancing. We learnt how to do different Hakas and got to learn maori songs. But more important: It made us realise how important culture is. The Maori culture is unique to New Zealand, and it was a privilege to be a part of it.

Sports are a good opportunity to get to know kiwis and make new friends. Horse Riding and rowing, as well as Volleyball, Netball, and Touch Rugby. Playing these sports, we found new friends and improved our skills in those sports.



Some of these activities were outside of school, so you get the chance to meet people from other local schools such as Girl's High, Verdon or Boy's High.

We both were incredibly lucky to stay in wonderful host families relatively close to the beach. They made us feel very welcome, integrated us into their

everyday life and showed us the beautiful country. We went on many trips to Beaches, Caves, Cities and everything in between. We went surfing in summer, saw dolphins and had a wonderful time. With a family friend, we went to the beautiful Milford Sound and saw snow. It was a fun trip with good sightseeing. Staying with a host family really gives you the chance to meet so many new

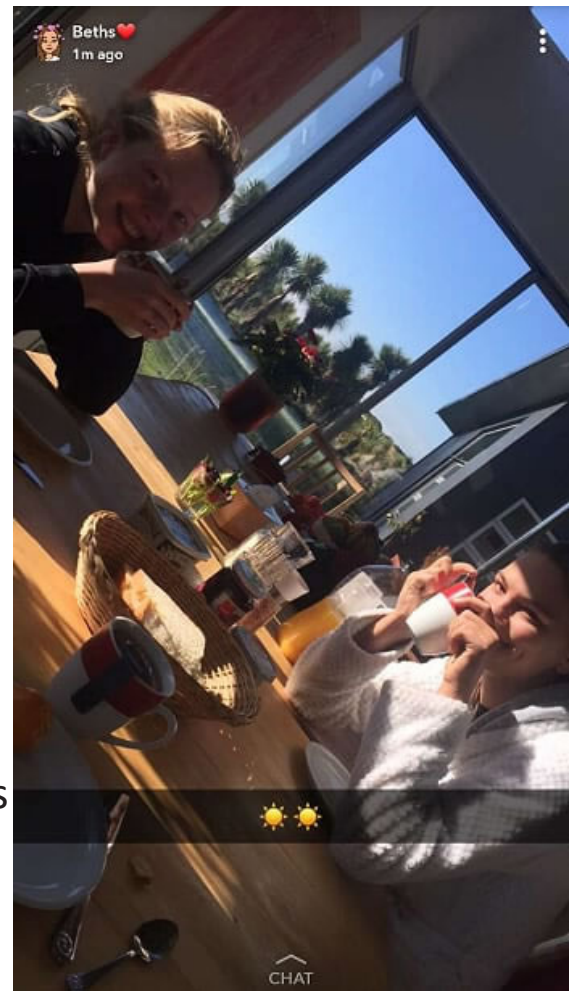


people and hopefully always be in contact with them. Family dinners, get-togethers or simply an evening in front of the TV watching movies; we had much fun with our second families.

Invercargill is close to Bluff, an industrial town in the deep South of NZ. The ferry for Stewart Island departs from Bluff. Bluff Hill is also a good walking track and the view from the top is absolutely amazing. Bluff is also famous for their oysters. There is an oyster festival once a year you can attend if you're into oysters.

We are grateful for the wonderful time at James Hargest College and can recommend this school to everyone who is looking at coming to New Zealand. If you want more information about the school, you can always contact the school (jelder@jameshargest.school.nz) or you can always message us.

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Homestay



Kapa Haka