

Colours, Honours and High Honours Awards

Senior School (Years 11-13)



General Information

- In line with the aspirations of our Graduate Profile and guided by our Touchstones, the College wishes to recognise its students' outstanding contribution and exceptional achievement in Academic, Arts, Cultural and Sporting endeavours - to confirm the pursuit of excellence in a holistic model of education, the value of commitment and building self-esteem in students.*
- Students in the Senior School can be awarded Colours, Honours and High Honours badges for their achievements.*
- Students must be awarded Colours before progressing to Honours and/or High Honours. Colours, Honours and High Honours can be attained simultaneously if the criteria for each award have been met.*
- Students can be awarded Colours, Honours and High Honours awards more than once in the same category, e.g. Arts for different achievements, e.g. Choir and Band.*

Colours Criteria

Academic Colours

Academic Colours can be attained through achievement and performance in Academic competitions and NCEA attainment. The awarding of Academic Colours is via the following criteria:

- Attaining NCEA Level 1 or Level 2 with a Merit Endorsement and at least two Merit/Excellence Course Endorsements or 60+ Merit/Excellence credits.*
- An outstanding contribution to Academic competitions. This is awarded to a student for exceptional participation in academic competitions, e.g. debating, speech competitions, YIA, Young Enterprise Scheme (YES). Colours will only be awarded to students who comply with the following Colours Selection Criteria.*
 - Students must have attended all practice sessions and/or group meetings as directed by the activity's Teacher in Charge unless injury, illness or other notified absence has prevented this from occurring.*
 - Students must have performed to a high standard and displayed a positive approach and total respect for their team/group and the adult(s) in charge of the activity.*

Arts Colours

Arts Colours can be attained through achievement and performance in Visual Art, Music, Drama, Dance and the Performing Arts. The awarding of Arts Colours is via the following criteria:

1. Students must have performed in the top group/ensemble offered by Aquinas College for one year and/or have achieved in an individual activity that Aquinas College offers at a regional level.
 - a. Students must have attended all practice sessions and group/ensemble meetings as directed by the activity's Teacher in Charge.
 - b. Students must have performed to a high standard, displayed a positive approach to their team/group and total respect for the Teacher or staff member in charge of the activity.
2. A significant achievement in an Arts activity/competition/endeavour. This is awarded to a student for exceptional participation in an Arts activity/competition/endeavour, e.g. PACANZ (Visual Arts exhibition, Performing Arts Competitions Association of NZ Inc) competition in Dance, Music or Drama. Music, Speech, Drama examinations and Musical Theatre productions are also included.
 - a. The Director of Music and Performing Arts has specific criteria to determine recipients. Applications are to be made to the Director of Music and Performing Arts to assess the achievement(s).

Further notes:

1. Middle School students who represent the College in a Premier group/ensemble will attain Middle School recognition. NB: Their representative years will count towards Senior School Colours and Honours when they enter the Senior School. Students must complete at least one entire 'season' as a senior student to be eligible

Cultural Colours

Cultural Colours can be attained through achievement and performance in Cultural Performing Arts. The awarding of Cultural Colours is via the following criteria:

1. Students must have performed in the top rōpū/group offered by Aquinas College for one year.
 - a. Students must have attended all practice sessions and rōpū/group meetings/hui as directed by the activity's Teacher in Charge unless injury, illness or other notified absence has prevented this from occurring.
 - b. Students must have performed to a high standard and displayed a positive approach and total respect for their rōpū/group and the adult(s) in charge of the activity.
2. A significant achievement in a cultural activity/competition/endeavour. This is awarded to a student for exceptional participation in cultural competitions, e.g. Ngā Manu Kōrero Speech Competition, Chanel Shield, Pasifika Speech competition.
 - a. The Māori and Pasifika mentor has specific criteria to use in determining recipients. Applications are to be made to the Māori and Pasifika Mentor for an assessment of the achievement(s).
 - b. If applicable, students must have attended all practice sessions and rōpū/group meetings as directed by the activity's Teacher in Charge unless injury, illness or other notified absence has prevented this from occurring.
 - c. Students must have performed to a high standard and displayed a positive approach and total respect for their rōpū/group and the adult(s) in charge of the activity and the competition/endeavour itself.

Further notes:

1. Middle School students who represent the College in a top rōpū/group will attain Middle School recognition. NB: Their representative years will count towards Senior School Colours and Honours when they enter the Senior School.

Sport Colours

Sport Colours can be awarded to members of Premier Sports Teams, in individual sports representing the College, or in sporting endeavours outside of the College at the highest level for one year. The awarding of Sport Colours is via the following criteria:

1. For team sports: students should have played all of the season's fixtures unless injury, illness or other notified absence has prevented this from occurring.
 - a. Students must have attended all training sessions and team meetings for the season as directed by their team coach or the Teacher in Charge of the sport unless injury, illness or other notified absence has prevented this from occurring.
 - b. Students must have performed to a high standard, displayed a positive approach to their team and have total respect for their coach and other members of the team's support staff.
 - c. Students must have adhered to school rules and fair play charter throughout the season.
2. For individual sports: specific criteria are held by the Director of Sport.
 - a. This includes College-based and representative Swimming, Athletics and Cross-Country events.
3. A significant achievement in a sport not offered by the College.
 - a. The Director of Sport has specific criteria to use in determining recipients. Applications are to be made to the Director of Sport to assess the achievement(s).

Further notes:

1. Where Middle School students represent the College in a Premier Sports Team, they will attain Middle School recognition. NB: Their representative years will count towards Senior School Colours and Honours when they enter the Senior School.

Honours Criteria

Academic Honours

Academic Colours can be attained through achievement and performance in Academic competitions and NCEA attainment. The awarding of Academic Honours is via the following criteria:

1. Attaining NCEA Level 1 or Level 2 with Excellence Endorsement and at least two Excellence Course Endorsements or 60+ Excellence credits.
2. An outstanding contribution to Academic competitions. This can be awarded to students for placing 1st, 2nd or 3rd in a regional academic competition, e.g. speech competitions, YIA, Young Enterprise Scheme (YES).

- a. *Students must have attended all practice sessions and/or group meetings as directed by the activity's Teacher in Charge unless injury, illness or other notified absence has prevented this from occurring.*
- b. *Students must have performed to a high standard and displayed a positive approach and total respect for their team/group and the adult(s) in charge of the activity.*
- c. *If the competition has fewer than five competitors, Honours will be awarded to 1st place. If the competition has more than five but less than ten competitors, Honours will be awarded to 1st and 2nd place. For competitions with more than ten competitors, Honours will be awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.*

Arts Honours

Arts Honours can be attained through achievement and performance in Visual Art, Music and the Performing Arts. The awarding of Arts Honours is via the following criteria:

1. *Students must have performed in competition as part of the top ensemble/group offered by Aquinas College for at least two years and/or have achieved at a regional level in an activity that Aquinas College offers.*
 - a. *Students must have attended all practice sessions and team/group meetings as directed by the activity's Teacher in Charge unless injury, illness or other notified absence has prevented this from occurring.*
 - b. *Students must have performed to a high standard and displayed a positive approach and total respect for their team/group and the adult(s) in charge of the activity.*
2. *An outstanding achievement in an Arts /competition/endeavour outside the College and /or have placed (1st/2nd/3rd) in an individual activity at a regional level.*
If the competition has fewer than five competitors, Honours will be awarded to 1st place. If the competition has more than five but less than ten competitors, Honours will be awarded to 1st and 2nd place. For competitions with more than ten competitors, Honours will be awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. Examples include, but are not limited to, PACANZ (Performing Arts Competitions Association of NZ Inc) competition in Dance, Music or Drama.
3. *Outstanding achievement in Music, Speech and Drama examinations and contributions to Musical Theatre productions will also be considered.*
 - a. *The Director of Music and Performing Arts has specific criteria to determine recipients. Applications are to be made to the Director of Music and Performing Arts to assess the achievement(s).*

Cultural Honours

Cultural Honours can be attained through achievement and performance in Cultural Performing Arts. The awarding of Cultural Honours is via the following criteria:

1. *Students must have performed in the premier rōpū/group offered by Aquinas College for at least two years.*
 - c. *Students must have attended all practice sessions and rōpū/group meetings as directed by the activity's Teacher in Charge unless injury, illness or other notified absence has prevented this from occurring.*

- a. *Students must have performed to a high standard, displayed a positive approach to their rōpū/group and total respect for the Teacher or staff member in charge of the activity.*
2. *Outstanding achievement in a cultural activity/competition/endeavour. This is awarded to a student for placing in regional cultural competitions, e.g. Ngā Manu Kōrero Speech Competition, Chanel Shield, Pasifika Speech competition.*
 - a. *Students must have attended all practice sessions and/or group meetings (if applicable) as directed by the activity's Teacher in Charge.*
 - b. *Students must have performed to a high standard and displayed a positive approach and total respect for the Teacher or staff member in charge of the activity and the competition/endeavour itself.*
 - c. *If the competition has fewer than five competitors, Honours will be awarded to 1st place. If the competition has more than five but less than ten competitors, Honours will be awarded to 1st and 2nd place. For competitions with more than ten competitors, Honours will be awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.*
3. *An outstanding achievement in another Cultural endeavour recognised by the community, whānau, iwi and hapū.*
 - a. *The Māori and Pasifika mentor has specific criteria to use in determining recipients. Applications are to be made to the Māori and Pasifika mentor for an assessment of the achievement(s).*

Sport Honours

Sport Honours can be awarded to members of Premier Sports Teams, in individual sports representing the College, or in sporting endeavours outside of the College. The awarding of Sport Honours is via the following criteria:

1. *For team sports: Students must have been a full-time member of a Premier Sports Team for at least two years.*
 - a. *For team sports: students should have played all of the season's fixtures unless injury, illness or other notified absence has prevented this from occurring.*
 - b. *Students must have attended all training sessions and team meetings for the season as directed by their team coach or the Teacher in Charge of the sport unless injury, illness or other notified absence has prevented this from occurring.*
 - c. *Students must have performed to a high standard, displayed a positive approach to their team and have total respect for their coach and other members of the team's support staff.*
 - d. *Students must have adhered to school rules and fair play charter throughout the season.*
2. *For individual sports: specific criteria are held by the Director of Sport.*
 - a. *This includes College-based and representative Swimming, Athletics and Cross-Country events.*
3. *An outstanding achievement in a sport not offered by the College.*
 - a. *The Director of Sport has specific criteria to use in determining recipients. Applications are to be made to the Director of Sport to assess the achievement(s).*

High Honours Criteria

The awarding of Academic High Honours is via the following criteria:

1. Attaining New Zealand Scholarship or Outstanding Scholarship.
2. Students who are selected for a New Zealand team/group in an academic endeavour.
3. Students who have been placed in the highest award group of a national academic competition for their age group, e.g. Distinction Award for Kiwi English.
 - a. If the competition has fewer than five competitors, High Honours will be awarded to 1st place. If the competition has more than five but less than ten competitors, High Honours will be awarded to 1st and 2nd place. For competitions with more than ten competitors, High Honours will be awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.
4. Students who are part of an Aquinas College team/group that place 1st, 2nd or 3rd in a National Championship in line with the participating group numbers as in criterion 3.a.

Arts High Honours

The awarding of Arts and Culture High Honours is via the following criteria:

1. Students who are selected for a New Zealand team/group, e.g. NZSSC, NZSSSO, NZSSBrass Band, Rising Star Concerto competition, NZ Chamber Music National ensemble, orchestra, or choir, will receive High Honours.
2. Students who are placed in the highest award group of a national competition for their age group, e.g. Shelia Winn or Brass Band Nationals U15, U19.
 - a. If the competition has fewer than five competitors, High Honours will be awarded to 1st place. If the competition has more than five but less than ten competitors, High Honours will be awarded to 1st and 2nd place. For competitions with more than ten competitors, High Honours will be awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.
3. Students who are part of an Aquinas College team/group that place 1st, 2nd or 3rd in a National Championship in line with the participating group numbers as in criterion 2.a.

Cultural High Honours

The awarding of Cultural High Honours is via the following criteria:

1. Students who are placed in the highest award group of a national competition for their age group, e.g. National Kapa Haka, Ngā Manu Kōrero.
 - a. If the competition has fewer than five competitors, High Honours will be awarded to 1st place. If the competition has more than five but less than ten competitors, High Honours will be awarded to 1st and 2nd place. For competitions with more than ten competitors, High Honours will be awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.
2. Students who are part of an Aquinas College rōpu/group that place 1st, 2nd or 3rd in a National Championship in line with the participating group numbers as in criterion 1.a.

Sport High Honours

The awarding of Sports High Honours is via the following criteria:

1. Students who have been selected, through an open trial process, for a New Zealand sports team.
2. Students who have been placed in the highest award group of a national competition for their age group, e.g. U19 National Cross Country.
 - a. If the competition has fewer than five competitors, High Honours will be awarded to 1st place. If the competition has more than five but less than ten competitors, High Honours will be awarded to 1st and 2nd place. For competitions with more than ten competitors, High Honours will be awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.
3. Students who are part of an Aquinas College sports team that places 1st, 2nd or 3rd in a National Championship in line with the participating team numbers as in criterion 2.a.

NB: A Middle School student who meets the criteria for High Honours in one or more areas identified above will receive their High Honours award upon entering the Senior School.

The Process

With the exception of NCEA and New Zealand Scholarship generated Academic awards, the following process will be used for the awarding of Colours, Honours and High Honours Awards:

1. When an activity, group or team has concluded its season/competition, students will have the opportunity to complete an awards nomination form. Students will be given the opportunity to outline which criteria they believe they have met (Colours, Honours, High Honours, Contribution).
 - a. For teams and groups, there will be a system for the Teacher in Charge of the activity to converse with Coaches, Managers or other adults overseeing the team or group to determine recipients.
2. If applicable, Teachers in Charge will hold a committee meeting to discuss the Colours, Honours, High Honours and Contribution nominees from their respective team, group or activity. NB: This may be undertaken electronically.
3. Through a process of discussion and revision and adhering to the selection criteria, a list of nominees will be generated for the Deputy Principal Senior School (Academic) / Director of Music and Performing Arts (Arts) / Māori and Pasifika Mentor (Cultural) / Director of Sport (Sport).
 - a. Where a nomination has not been accepted, this will be communicated to the student with reasons by the Teacher in Charge of the activity.
4. Students have the opportunity to lodge a written appeal with the Deputy Principal Senior School (Academic) / Director of Music and Performing Arts (Arts) / Māori and Pasifika Mentor (Cultural) / Director of Sport (Sport) if they believe this decision is incorrect.
5. Appeals will duly be considered and decisions communicated directly to students.

6. *Final lists of award winners are submitted to the Deputy Principal of the Senior School for discussion with the Principal.*
7. *The Principal gives final approval of awards.*
 - a. *Any further revision of this list by the Principal will be explained to affected students by the Deputy Principal Senior School (Academic) / Director of Music and Performing Arts (Arts) / Māori and Pasifika Mentor (Cultural) / Director of Sport (Sport).*
8. *Awards will be presented to students at an assembly or prizegiving as appropriate, e.g. Academic Honours assembly, Matariki celebration, Arts Week etc.*

Contribution Awards and Mission and Ministry Recognition



Senior School (Years 11-13)

General Information

The College seeks to intentionally grow servant leaders who positively influence others through their actions by using their God given gifts and talents for the common good of society.

Recognition of Mission and Ministry

Under the premise that "God doesn't call the equipped; God equips the called!" Our students are invited to engage with their faith, to become a connected Disciple of Christ and a witness for others through peer-to-peer ministry and contributing to our wider community through acts of service. We wish to acknowledge the immense contributions that our students have made as they grow in their knowledge to belong, believe, become in a Catholic community of faith by granting these exemplary students Mission and Ministry badges.

Contribution Awards – Academic, Arts, Cultural and Sport

Commitment and service to teams and groups and in our community are highly valued at Aquinas College. Commitment is one of the values that underpin strong and mutually beneficial relationships. It is a strong indicator of self-discipline, resilience and persistence. The Contribution Award for Academic, Sport, Arts and Culture recognises these students and their valuable contribution in service to these pursuits.

Criteria

Mission and Ministry

Commitment and service to becoming a servant leader are core to the holistic development of the whole person at Aquinas College. Commitment and ongoing service encourage the development of servant leaders who exhibit the traits of humility by willingly helping others, who advocate for those who are poor and vulnerable, and who are a witness of their faith for others.

The awarding of the Mission and Ministry Badge recognises these students and is based on the following criteria:

- 1. An outstanding contribution to Special Character through servant leadership. This is awarded to a student for exceptional participation in Mission and Ministry Initiatives. For example, participating in the Intentional Discipleship Pathway, contributing to Special Character through peer-to-peer ministry, Youth Nights,*

Little Church, Church ministry, social actions, such as Loaves and Fishes, Service Trip, and being involved in ongoing acts of service in the community.

- a. The Assistant Principal responsible for Special Character has specific criteria to determine recipients. Applications are to be made to the Assistant Principal responsible for Special Character to initiate the process towards attaining a Mission and Ministry Badge.*
- b. Students must have attended all planning sessions and group meetings as directed by the Initiative's Teacher in Charge unless injury, illness or other notified absence has prevented this from occurring.*
- c. Students must have displayed a positive approach and total respect for their group and the adult(s) in charge of the Initiative and service endeavour.*
- d. Students to have shown the commitment of a servant leader who:*
 - i. Exhibits humility by willingly helping others.*
 - ii. Advocates for those who are poor and vulnerable.*
 - iii. Is a witness of their faith for others.*

Academic Contribution

The awarding of Academic Contribution is via the following criteria:

- 1. Have made a noteworthy contribution to the academic pursuits of the College through voluntary service, e.g. tutoring.*
- 2. Being an active member of the Student Academic Committee for at least two years.*
- 3. For students who are not already Colours or Honours recipients in a particular activity: Students have represented the College in academic competitions (e.g. YIA, YES) for three straight years in the senior school (or five out of the possible seven years at the College).*

Arts Contribution

The awarding of Arts Contribution is via the following criteria:

- 1. Have made a noteworthy contribution to the Arts at the College through voluntary service, e.g. supporting the establishment of visual arts exhibitions, working with a junior choir etc.*
- 2. Being an active member of the Student Arts Committee for at least two years.*
- 3. For students who are not already Colours or Honours recipients in a particular activity: Students must have represented the College for three straight years in the senior school (or five out of the possible seven years at the College) in an area of the visual and/or performing arts, e.g. Choir.*
 - a. Have displayed a positive and exemplary attitude towards the activity, ensemble or group members and adults in charge of the activity/pursuit.*

Cultural Contribution

The awarding of Cultural Contribution is via the following criteria:

- 1. Have made a noteworthy contribution to Cultural pursuits at the College through voluntary service, e.g. supporting junior Kapa Haka, Tuakana Teina etc.*
- 2. Being an active member of the Student Cultural Committee for at least two years.*
- 3. For students who are not already Colours or Honours recipients in a particular activity: Students must have represented the College for three straight years in the*

senior school (or five out of the possible seven years at the College) in Cultural pursuit, e.g. Kapa Haka, Chanel Shield etc.

- a. Have displayed a positive and exemplary attitude towards the activity, rōpu or group members and adults in charge of the activity/pursuit.

Sport Contribution

The awarding of Sport Contribution is via the following criteria:

1. Have made a noteworthy contribution to Sport at the College through voluntary service, e.g. coaching, managing, umpiring etc.
2. Being an active member of the Student Sport Committee for at least two years.
3. For students who are not already Colours or Honours recipients in a particular sport: Students must have represented the College for three straight years in the senior school (or five out of the possible seven years at the College) in a sport, e.g. Football, Hockey etc.
 - a. Have displayed a positive and exemplary attitude towards the activity, ensemble or group members and adults in charge of the activity/pursuit.

The Process

The following process will be used for the awarding of the Mission and Ministry badge and Contribution Awards:

1. When a student believes they have met the criteria above, they will have the opportunity to complete an application form.
2. The Assistant Principal responsible for Special Character (Mission and Ministry) will undertake a process to establish participation and contribution to Mission and Ministry, Academic, Arts, Cultural or Sport will be conducted by the Assistant Principal responsible for Special Character (Mission and Ministry) or the appropriate Teacher in Charge (Contribution Awards).
3. Through a process of discussion and revision and adhering to the selection criteria, a list of nominees for Contribution Awards will be generated for the Deputy Principal Senior School (Academic) / Director of Music and Performing Arts (Arts) / Māori and Pasifika Mentor (Cultural) / Director of Sport (Sport).
 - a. Where a nomination has not been accepted, this will be communicated to the student with reasons by the Teacher in Charge of the activity.
4. Students have the opportunity to lodge a written appeal with the Assistant Principal responsible for Special Character (Mission and Ministry), Deputy Principal Senior School (Academic) / Director of Music and Performing Arts (Arts) / Māori and Pasifika Mentor (Cultural) / Director of Sport (Sport) if they believe this decision is incorrect.
5. Appeals will duly be considered and decisions communicated directly to students.
6. Final lists of Mission and Ministry and Contribution Award recipients are submitted to the Deputy Principal of the Senior School for discussion with the Principal.
7. The Principal gives final approval of recipients.
 - a. Any further revision of this list by the Principal will be explained to affected students by the Assistant Principal responsible for Special Character

(Mission and Ministry), the Deputy Principal Senior School (Academic) / Director of Music and Performing Arts (Arts) / Māori and Pasifika Mentor (Cultural) / Director of Sport (Sport).

8. Awards will be presented to students at an assembly or prizegiving as appropriate, e.g. a College Mass, Matariki celebration, Arts Week etc.

Senior School Badges

	Academic	Arts	Cultural	Sport	Mission & Ministry
High Honours					
Honours					
Colours					
Contribution & Service					

