

Student candidates for 2026 Head Student positions

Hamilton Zoe		Hi everyone, my name is Zoe Hamilton, and I'm running for Head Girl in 2026. I want to take on this role because it is a great opportunity to get more involved in our school and to represent the student body. Being Head Girl isn't just about a title, it's about making sure your ideas and concerns are heard. This role would also give me the chance to take on more responsibility and help lead our school with positive energy. I've been involved in a variety of activities, from captaining the Senior Reserve Netball team to participating in Showquest. With these experiences I learned skills such as teamwork, problem-solving, and they also gave me a great way to work with so many different people. These experiences have taught me how to support others, and step up when leadership is needed. Most importantly, I want to be a Head Girl who is approachable, relatable, and easy to talk to. I am very approachable and love to have a good yap. My goal is to create an environment where every student feels valued and heard. I would love to be your Head Girl in 2026 and to represent our school with pride. So please vote for me. Kind Regards Zoe Hamilton
Love Annie		Hi everyone, my name is Annie Love and I am putting myself forward as Head Student of Dunstan High School for 2026. I believe that being Head Student is about leading from within, not above others. It's about being involved, approachable, and consistent for the school's community. That's who I've always aimed to be, and the Head Student I will show up to be. I want to be Head Student, because throughout my previous years at Dunstan I've made an effort to connect with all ages, backgrounds, and interests. I've participated in many academic, sporting, and cultural experiences that have allowed me to grow as a person and as a leader (Athletics captain, and being a part of both hockey and softball tournament teams). I've performed every year onstage at Showquest in Invercargill, gone on biology camp at Tititea, and spent time in S block with the special needs students. I love spending time connecting and being part of the S Block world. It's different to the mainstream world that we all tend to take for granted. Every experience has built relationships that I value, but this position is not just about me. Alone we can achieve a lot, but together we can achieve so much more. Head student is about working together, being allowed to learn

		with fun, and having fun within the learning. As Head Student, I want to acknowledge everyone's contribution, to value our successes, and keep us together, as that's the heart of Dunstan.
Morgan Avie		A key memory from Year Nine was my first assembly at Dunstan. Nervously sitting up the front row, beside my fellow Haast year nines. I remember looking up to the head students, slightly intimidated by their age and status. But over the year I would grow to admire their strength, leadership and compassion. Since then, sixteen head students have sat on those chairs, and I'd like to be one of the next. Hi, I'm Avie and I'm running for Head Girl for 2026. My aspiration for Head Girl stems from my desire to inspire others, just as the previous head students have inspired me. Being Head Girl would let me give back to Dunstan while growing my confidence and ability to connect with people across the school. To me, leadership is the confidence to stand apart from the crowd, resilience during tough times, the understated guidance that uplifts others. Netball, softball and hockey has shown me this firsthand. Captaining Dunstan 9A, 10A, the U16 Central Lakes team, and being part of this year's Senior A leadership team have taught me collaboration, consistency, and the power of showing up when it matters. In school I'm a member of the Student Council and Service Committee. My participation in these committees has opened the door to building connections with a diverse group of people and understanding how to take initiative. Outside of school I like volunteering at local events, from conferences about inspiring women to sporting tournaments which have deepened my sense of community and service. That memory of year nine is something I'll never forget. Now, I want to be that person for someone else; a leader who inspires confidence, resilience and the ambition to give it your best.
Morrel Jelenal		Kia Ora, I'm Jelena Morrell, and I'm standing for Head Girl because I believe leadership is about action, not just words. It's about stepping up and making our school a place we can all be proud of. I've been given endless opportunities throughout my time here at Dunstan and now I am ready to give back. I've already had chances to lead, running school events like formal, tutoring year 10s, helping students get involved, and working with others to bring ideas to life. I want to keep doing that on a bigger scale, making sure every voice is heard and every student feels included. If you give me the chance to be Head Girl, I'll bring energy, commitment, and honesty to the role. I want to create a school year where students feel

		supported, motivated, and excited to be part of. Together, we can make 2026 a year to remember, not just for what we achieve, but for how we work together and lift each other up. Thank you Jelena
Olivier Mikayla		Hello! My name is Mikayla Olivier, and I would like to be considered for head girl for 2026, because I think that it would be a great opportunity for me to step up and show initiative, as well as show the school how I can help future students at Dunstan. Over the years I have been involved in both sports and other commitments. I have done both rowing and netball for four years, and I was in the formal committee as well. Outside of school I have also worked with both Waita theatre productions and Alexandra musical societies, so I know that I can work well with people outside of my social group. Because of this, I can also keep calm under pressure, and I'm flexible to change. I want to bring fresh ideas into this school, and help as much as I can with the student body in mind. Thank you!
Sangster Tahlia		I would love to be Dunstans Head Girl for 2026 and a part of Manukura as I am passionate about being a leader and representing our school, and supporting others to succeed. For the last several years I have been involved in leadership roles both at school and in the wider Alexandra. I have been on the School Student Council for the past two years, involved in SVA for the past three years, was the Alexandra Ice Skater Representative for 2025 and currently hold the Youth Representative position on the Central Otago Advisory Board. All these leadership positions have taught the importance of teamwork, communication, and responsibilities, and the importance of confidence in a leader, who can listen, support, and guide others. As head girl I would bring these skills and experiences to the role to ensure that every student feels valued and represented. I am a driven and dedicated person who strives to do my best in all arrears of school life, and would carry this commitment into the role. Most importantly, I want to give back to Dunstan High School by setting a positive example, encouraging others to reach their full potential, and helping to create a supportive, and inspiring environment where both students and staff feel proud to belong.

Tait Sophie		My name is Sophie Tait and Head Girl is a role that I would be honored to be considered for in 2026. To me, this role isn't just a badge or a title, it is about leadership, encouragement, and trust. Head Girl is a position that I have always looked up to and admired, if I was to be elected I would step into this role as a person that the younger students could look up to and be someone that is always approachable and a friendly face around the school. During my time at Dunstan I have been a part of various sports teams, while also coaching and umpiring netball, teaching me patience, teamwork and resilience. These experiences have built my confidence and while also helping to develop my leadership and communication skills. This past year I have been a part of the service committee and the student council. These opportunities have allowed me to see the positive impact that student leadership can have, and the initiatives that are taken to encourage student voice and pride for our school. As Head Girl I would bring energy, dedication, and a genuine desire to make a difference to our school. To extend the culture where everyone feels welcome and encouraged to step out of their comfort zone and to enjoy their time at Dunstan. While in this role I will continue to set initiatives for Dunstan and encourage changes that will benefit our school. I believe that my experience, determination and passion will make me perfect for this role. Thank you for considering me for this exciting role.
Tuffin Poppy		Hello, my name is Poppy Tuffin and I would love to be your Head Girl because I would love to represent Dunstan High School and you as the student body. This opportunity will strengthen my problem solving skills and confidence as well as give me real-life experience in leadership. This role will allow me to work with staff, students and the community. I am already involved in The Service Committee, The Student Council, Dunstan girls 1st XV rugby team and the girls hockey 1st XI and I am a part of the Dunstan Hostel. I have also previously been part of Dunstan High School rowing and the Dunstan Arms Rowing Club. Being involved in all of these different areas has helped me develop my public speaking, allowed me to work with others and contribute ideas as well as learn to listen to others. Importantly, these teams have also reinforced my values that I carry such as honesty, resilience, compassion and team work. As I try my best to carry these values in my daily life, I would also incorporate these into my role of head girl. So I would really appreciate it if you gave me the opportunity to be your head girl for 2026, vote for me, Poppy Tuffin.

Winter Heidi		My name is Heidi Winter, and it would be an honour to serve as Head Girl of Dunstan High School in 2026. This school plays a key role in our lives, and I would like to give back to our community by supporting and representing our student body. I bring commitment and drive to everything I do—academics, the arts, sport, and service. I've represented New Zealand in ice swimming, holding five junior world records and earning a world championship title. I've also been named 2025 Central Otago Junior Sportswoman of the Year and 2023 Otago Emerging Female Swimmer of the Year. These experiences have given me public speaking opportunities on the radio, TV, and live stage interviews. I'm the swimmer's representative for the Alexandra Swim Club, where I advocate for our swimmers and step in as a coach when needed. I've also played team sports, including hockey, netball, and touch rugby. In the arts, I've co-led our ShowQuest team, managing choreography, music, props and rehearsals. I've studied piano for nine years and ballet since I was four. For the past five years, I've co-taught ballet classes and performed in various competitions and concerts. Giving back matters deeply to me. I'm involved in the Student Volunteer Army and support initiatives like Central Way, delivering meals and firewood to those in need. Through my many experiences, I've developed discipline, patience, resilience, leadership, and perseverance. I believe that anything can be achieved if there is enough passion, dedication and commitment to a cause. As Head Girl, I would use these values in a positive way to support the school and help ensure students feel valued, supported, and proud to be part of Dunstan High School. Kind Regards, Heidi
Alexander Nate		My name is Nate, and I am putting myself forward for the role of Head Boy. I want to be your Head Boy because I believe this role is about representing the whole school, not just myself. Every student deserves to feel heard, supported, and valued, and I would work hard to make sure your voices are at the centre of what I do. For me, this role is also about growth. I know it will challenge me and help me develop leadership skills and other qualities I can use later in life. Over my four years at Dunstan, I've been actively involved in our school community. I've served on a range of committees, including two years as a

		leader of the Sustainability Committee and this year as part of the Service Committee. I've also represented students on the Student Council and had the privilege of being chairman of the Youth Council. Outside of committees, I've contributed to productions, from backstage in Oliver, to MC'ing Rising Stars to performing in Peter Pan. Last year, I was honoured to be named the first Blossom Festival King, where I gained valuable experience speaking in front of thousands of people, giving interviews, and engaging with the community. These experiences taught me what it means not only to lead, but to represent others with respect and energy. This is not about me, it's about us. If given the privilege of being your Head Boy, I will bring commitment and a strong voice for everyone. One of my goals would be to strengthen connections across year groups and to create inclusive spaces in our school, such as outdoor areas where students can connect, relax, or even play games like outdoor chess.
Battrick Otis		Hello, my name is Otis Battrick, and I am a current year 12 student. I am proudly a part of Pyke I am honoured to put myself forward for the role of Head Boy. This is a position that reflects leadership, responsibility, and the ability to represent the values of our school with pride. Throughout my time here, I've worked to lead by example, both in the classroom and on the field. I've had the privilege of playing in the 1st XV, where teamwork, discipline, and resilience are essential every day. These values were also crucial when I captained the U15 rugby team when I was a part of it, and more recently, I have taken on the co-captaincy of the Otago Country U16 representative side. These roles have taught me how to lead with purpose, communicate effectively, and bring the best out of others, whether in high-pressure moments or during everyday challenges. If I make Head Boy, I will apply this knowledge to improve our Kura as much as possible. I see the role of Head Boy not just as a badge of honour, but as an opportunity to give back, to be someone that younger students can approach comfortably, rely on, and be inspired by. I believe in leading through action, staying grounded, and representing all students with fairness and respect. If given the opportunity, I will bring energy, commitment, and a genuine passion for our school community. Thank you for your consideration. Vote Otis Battrick for head boy 2026.

Boucher Finn		Kia ora, my name is Finn Boucher, and I'm a Year 12 student. I'm putting my name forward to be one of your Manukura representatives for 2026. I came to Dunstan at the start of Year 11 and have loved making the most of the opportunities here, from sports to school trips. I'm running for Manukura because I want to give back to the school and community that have given me so much. In the past, I've had leadership experience as one of the Junior House Captains at King's High School in Dunedin. That role taught me how to lead and support different groups, whether it was trying to organise juniors during interhouse footy or working with Deans and teachers. If I was elected I would want to introduce a brother/sisterhood aspect to the school and bring in connectivity to every student. I would describe myself as approachable, a good listener, and someone who values fairness and teamwork. These would be good attributes that I could use to lead the student community. Outside of school, I spend as much time as I can in the bush hunting or at my local golf course, having a round with the oldies. Please vote for me as your Manukura representative for 2026. I'll lead by example and do my best for all of you.
Donnelly Harper		I am Harper Donnelly, a year 12 student running for the role of Head student representative for 2026. You should know me from sports, academics, my BOT speech or just seeing me around the school. I love playing sports for Dunstan from the hokey turf, the basketball court, and to the ski field. I have been involved in many sports throughout my time at Dunstan and it's a big part of how I connect with people here. But I'm running for this position because I think this will be a great opportunity to be involved with the school in a different way other than sport. Being a Head student will give me a chance to do more and meet new people. I have been involved with tutoring, coaching, and have also been on the student council as a voice for pyke, i want to be a voice for dunstan. You should vote for me so I can contribute more to this school in a way that matters. I'm approachable and enjoy listening to people, and I want to make sure everyone feels like their ideas and voices are heard. As Head Student, I'd like to focus on making sure every student feels connected and supported, whether through sports, arts, academics, or other opportunities. I'd be honoured to represent Dunstan as a head student for 2026, so vote for me, Harper Donnelly.

Miller Harry		Hi, my name is Harry Miller. I'm having a crack at Head Boy because over the last couple of years I've realised that I don't want to leave Dunstan wishing I had done more. Over my early years at Dunstan, I wasn't really getting amongst life, and would probably say I was avoiding opportunities that were presented in front of me that now looking back, I probably should have taken them. Over the last couple years, I've been trying to get more involved with more activities in, and outside of school, a big one for me is when I decided to get involved in playing rugby, this was one of the best things ive ever done and only wish I had started sooner, being a part of a team was a huge eye opener for me, learning to work with people around me, being part of a team and challenging myself. I even had the privilege of playing at Forsyth Barr Stadium for our rugby final, which is definitely a moment to remember and shows that the scary and hard things in life are often the most rewarding. I believe that I am a worthy candidate for either Head Boy or Deputy. I would describe myself as a reliable, trustworthy, genuine guy, who is open-minded and hard-working and not afraid of stepping up to a challenge. I would love the opportunity to stand and represent our school in a leading role and really step up to the challenge to finish my career at Dunstan. Thank you for taking the time to consider my application.
Mudzamiri Shannon		Kia ora, my name is Shannon Mudzarmiri. I came to Dunstan from Zimbabwe in Year 10. School in New Zealand is very different from that in my home country, and I have enjoyed being involved in many school and community activities here in Alexandra. After school, I want to train to be an Aviation Mechanic. Currently, I am one of the Sustainability Committee Leaders, and I have enjoyed leading and taking part in the activities the Committee has run over the last 2 years. I have played in the Dunstan Football Team this year, and I belong to St John Youth. I want to be a leader at Dunstan, as this is a way that I can contribute to the school. I feel that it is important to give back to the school community that has supported and encouraged me to become the best version of myself. A leadership role at Dunstan will allow me to develop my leadership skills further, which will be important when I move on to further education and employment. I have enjoyed the opportunity to run activities with the Year 9s in Haast House, and I have also enjoyed the opportunity to run activities for others at St John Youth. I relate well to both students and staff, treating everyone with respect and being prepared to listen and take action where necessary.

		I believe that I now have the maturity to be reliable, responsible and represent the school well, whether in school or out in the community.
Mullally Jake		Hi, my name is Jake Mullally, and I am putting myself forward as a candidate to be a part of the Dunstan Manakura for 2026. I'm currently in Year 12, about to go into Year 13. I have been connected to the school for a long time and have seen my siblings be involved in these leadership roles and have learnt from them. Although I am not them, I know I have my own leadership qualities that I wish to offer to the school. My leadership style is more about collaboration. I believe that a strong leader doesn't stand above others but stands alongside them - helping bring out their strengths, motivating them when challenges arise, and celebrating achievements. They can encourage others to reflect on their actions and guide them toward better choices. Sport is a big part of my life and it has been a great way I've connected with lots of students and staff, but also with our wider community - on the rugby field, hockey turf, softball diamond and even the golf course. In these sports, I have had leadership roles and I have also learnt from past students about how to be a good leader. The main lesson sport has taught me is that a good leader inspires trust and respect by supporting others, communicating clearly, and putting the team's success above their own. I also volunteer my time off the field with the Otago Rugby Youth Advisory Board and I am a member of SVA. These are the qualities I would bring to this role, and I would be proud to serve as Head Boy - not just as a representative, but as someone who works alongside our students and staff to make our school the best it can be.