



Zayed College for Girls

# ZAYED COLLEGE FOR GIRLS

EDUCATE A WOMAN, EDUCATE A NATION

6 MARCH

2026

## NEWSLETTER

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Assalamu Alaikum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatuhu, Kia ora koutou katoa

Allah Subhana wa Ta'Ala reminds us in the Qur'an:

"If you are grateful, I will surely increase you." (Surah Ibrahim 14:7)

### 2025 NCEA Achievement

We are pleased to share a summary of our 2025 NCEA results, which show that Zayed College for Girls continues to perform strongly when compared with both the national average and similar schools across all qualification levels.

#### NCEA Level 1 (Year 11)

90% of our Year 11 students achieved NCEA Level 1, 18% higher than the national average of 72% and well above similar schools at 75%.

This strong foundation reflects the commitment of our students and the effectiveness of early academic support systems that help our girls build confidence and good study habits from the beginning of their NCEA journey.

#### NCEA Level 2 (Year 12)

At Level 2, which is widely regarded as the most important qualification benchmark for future pathways, 93% of our students achieved the qualification. This compares with 73% nationally and 80% in similar schools.

This outstanding result demonstrates the dedication of our Year 12 cohort and the strong academic guidance provided by our teachers.

#### NCEA Level 3 (Year 13)

Our Level 3 achievement rate of 85% continues to exceed both the national average (71%) and similar schools (77%).

This reflects the maturity, perseverance and academic ambition of our senior students as they prepare for life beyond school.

### University Entrance

University Entrance is an important pathway for students pursuing tertiary study. In 2025, 71% of our students achieved University Entrance, compared with 51% nationally and 58% in similar schools.

This result highlights the strong preparation our students receive for tertiary education and future careers.

These results represent more than statistics. They reflect:

- The hard work and determination of our students
- The dedication and expertise of our teachers
- The support and encouragement of our families

Together, these partnerships create an environment where our girls are able to achieve, grow in confidence and pursue excellence.

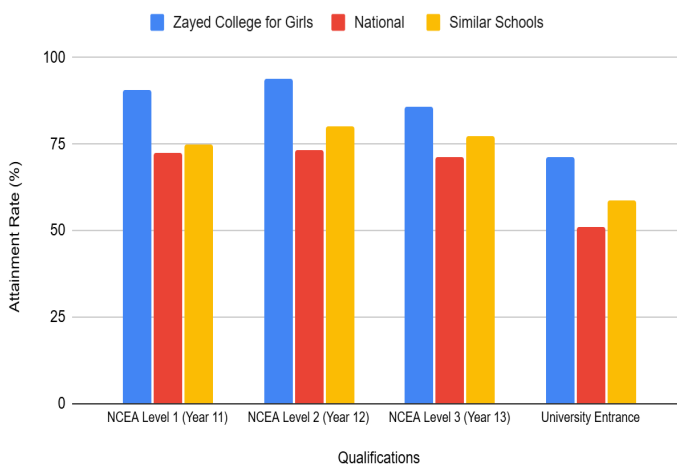
We are deeply proud of our students and grateful to Allah Subhana wa Ta'Ala for the success He has placed in their efforts. May He continue to increase our students in knowledge, character and opportunity as they move forward in their educational journeys.

Assalamu Alaikum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatuhu

Nazmeen Ahmad

Principal

### 2025 Performance of Zayed College for Girls Compared to National Averages



## ENVIRONMENT MATTERS

During this term, the Enviro group of students is coordinating two exciting competitions. It's a fantastic opportunity to learn more about your environment, explore new ideas about sustainability and connect with like-minded, environmentally conscious people.

Get involved, have fun and be part of a group that cares about making a positive difference for our planet!

### Moth Plant Competition

From March 22nd to April 22nd, join the Moth-Pod Competition where our school will work together to collect moth pods which are invasive weeds to help protect our native plants and trees. It's a great way to get involved and support our environment!



### Sea Week Art Competition

"Celebrate Sea Week from the **15th of February to the 15th of March** by joining the National Ocean Art Inspired Competition - create an ocean themed art piece that relates to the themes: 'how I connect with the ocean' and 'human impact on our ocean'.

Feel free to use any medium you choose! From paint and pencils to sculptures using 3D objects, sand, rubbish, the possibilities are endless! But **please make sure you consider your impact on the environment with the art you create.** Please create something new for your entry and please note that this is not a photography competition. The photograph should be of the art piece you created.

### Age Groups

Whai (Stingray) - Between age 11-16

Mangō (Shark) - 17 and over

New this year a group project entry! Ranga ika (School

of Fish) - Group of 2+ people ages 18 and under

The deadline for entries is the 15th of March.

All entries can be submitted by submitting a clear photo of your artwork along with some information about you. You will also be asked for the title of your piece and a description of your inspiration behind creating it.

If you need further information about either competitions, please contact **Eiliyah Nawaz**, the Y13 Environmental Leader.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NCEA ENDORSEMENT STUDENTS 2025

An endorsement reflects sustained effort, resilience and commitment across the year. We celebrate each of you and thank your families and teachers who supported your journey.



Sakha, Elham  
Sattar, Farisha

### Level 1 NCEA Y12 Endorsements

#### **Excellence Endorsement**

Khan, Asmaa

#### **Merit Endorsement**

Abusaaieliek, Heba  
Akil, Sumaya  
Al-Ani, Janna  
Ali, Shaniza  
Awan, Roshaneh  
Batool, Fizzah  
Gosai, Shritika  
Gul, Madeena  
Halane, Iqra  
Imran, Amatullah  
Katawazi, Safa  
Khan, Mahnoor  
Khan, Mariam  
Khan, Marwah  
Nawaaz, Aizah  
Rahim, Sana  
Siddiqa, Sameehah  
Thabiti, Najat

### Level 2 NCEA Y13 Endorsements

#### **Excellence Endorsement**

Ahmed, Shifa  
Halane, Yusra  
Rashid, Amira  
Yusufee, Salma

#### **Merit Endorsement**

Abusaaieliek, Sojood  
Adilova, Sevara  
Ali, Fathimah  
Ali, Hafsa  
Belgacem, Asmaa  
Faheem, Faiza  
Mirza, Razaan  
Nawaaz, Eiliyah  
Nazif, Asmaa  
Patel, Shifa  
Razmin, Ummul Hafsa  
Saaliha, Sumaiyah  
Safi, Farishta

## ATTENDANCE SNAPSHOT – FEBRUARY

Alhamdulillah, we have had a **fantastic** first month of attendance at school. Our students have shown a strong commitment to their learning and it is especially heartening that the highest attendance week occurred during the first full week of Ramadan. This reflects the beautiful character, discipline and sense of responsibility our girls demonstrate while balancing their studies and acts of worship.

**Overall Attendance for the month: 90.9%**

### Weekly Attendance

Week 1 – 90%

Week 2 – 91.3%

Week 3 – 90.3%

Week 4 – 91.9% (first full week of Ramadan)

### Attendance by Year Level

Our attendance across the year levels has been very strong, with several year groups achieving over 90% attendance. .

Year 7 – 96.5%      Year 11 – 93.6%

Year 8 – 94.1%      Year 12 – 90.6%

Year 9 – 87.7%      Year 13 – 87.8%

Year 10 – 88.9%

A special mention goes to **Year 7** for having the highest attendance, followed closely by **Year 8** and **Year 11**, who have also been coming to school regularly and consistently.

We encourage all students to aim for 90% attendance or higher so they don't miss important learning in class. Being at school regularly helps students keep up with their work, understand their lessons better and build good habits like responsibility and commitment.

### Student Attendance STAR (Stepped Attendance Response)

64% **Regular Attendance** (90%>)

23% **Irregular Attendance** (80–89%)

7% **Moderate Absence** (70–79%)

6% **Chronic Absence** (<69%)

### Understanding the Ministry of Education's STAR Attendance System

The Ministry of Education has introduced a national framework called the Stepped Attendance Response

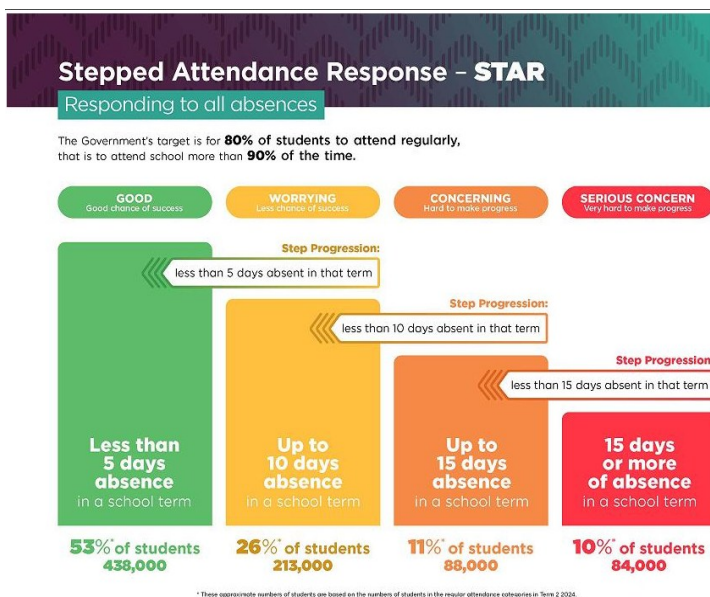
(STAR) to help schools and families work together to improve student attendance. The purpose of STAR is simple: **to identify attendance concerns early and support students before the situation becomes serious.**

The government has set a national goal for 80% of students to attend school at least 90% of the time by 2030.

**Our most important request is communication.**

If your daughter is sick, facing challenges or something at home is affecting attendance, please let us know.

When schools and families communicate openly, we can work together to support the student.



The STAR system is not about punishment.

It is about working together early so that every student has the best opportunity to succeed.

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring your daughter attends school regularly and benefits fully from her education.

As we near the last ten days of Ramadan, we know that fasting while coming to school and keeping up with work can be difficult.

However, this effort and patience bring great reward from Allah. While the school may recognise students with certificates and points, the reward from Allah is much greater and lasting.

May Allah accept their fasting, increase them in knowledge and good character and reward them greatly in these blessed days. Ameen.



### Nurturing hearts through faith, gratitude and patience

Assalamu alaikum wa rahmatullahi wa barakatuhu,

Every great tree begins as a seed — nurtured with care, love and guidance. Seeds of Tarbiyah is our new newsletter column dedicated to helping families and students grow together in faith and good character.

Each piece will offer reflections, reminders and practical ways to live our Islamic values daily, insha'Allah.

Life moves fast — with classes, deadlines, friendships, responsibilities and everything happening in the world, it is easy to forget what truly matters.

This first reflection focuses on two qualities that help us grow stronger every day: **gratitude (shukr)** and **patience (sabr)**.

Being grateful is more than saying alhamdulillah when things go well. It is noticing the small blessings — waking up healthy, having parents who care, friends who support, teachers who guide. Gratitude teaches our children to see abundance instead of lack. It turns what we have into enough.

And when things do not go our way — when we face stress, disappointment or uncertainty — that is when sabr begins to grow. Patience is not weakness; it is quiet strength. It is trusting that Allah's plan is always wise, even when we cannot yet understand it.

The Prophet reminded us that the believer is in a state of goodness — grateful in times of ease and patient in times of hardship.

When we nurture shukr and sabr in our homes and classrooms, we plant seeds that grow into resilience, humility and deep faith. And with every small effort, those seeds grow — light upon light.

**O Allah, plant in our hearts the seeds of gratitude and patience. Help us to recognise Your blessings and to trust You in every situation. Make our homes places of faith, our school a place of growth and our children strong in character and firm in belief, Āmeen.**

## TECHNOLOGY

This year in our Year 8 Technology classes, students are exploring Sustainable Toys as part of our focus on sustainability.

In MPT, they are investigating old versus modern toys, creating timelines, and comparing how favourite toys looked in the past compared to today. They are examining how technology has evolved over time, including changes in texture, materials, colours, and product design.

Students are also analysing the materials used in toys — both historically and currently — and evaluating how sustainable they are.

They are discussing the variety of materials available today, how they differ from those used in the past and their environmental impact. This is an exciting work in progress, and we look forward to sharing more updates and the final outcomes of the wonderful projects our girls are developing. So far, it's going very well, Alhamdulillah. ~ Ust Sahar



## WHATS COMING UP

11 Mar	School Photos
16 Mar	Science Roadshow y9 & y10
20 Mar	The school will be closed for Eid Ul Fitr. (depending on moon sighting)
23 Mar	Eid Day celebration. Students finish school at 12:30pm
23 Mar	Parent Teacher Student Conference from 1pm to 6pm
25 Mar	Tip Top Factory trip y9 & y10
26 Mar	Waitakere Transfer Station trip y7 & 8
30 Mar - 1 Apr	Camp Hunua y 9 - y13
1 Apr	Auckland Adventure Park y7 & 8 Last Day of School for Term One.

## Vector Electricity Network Upgrades – Important Notice for Our Community

Vector has notified the school of an extensive infrastructure project taking place in and around **Māngere** to install new electrical equipment. This work is essential to ensure our local electricity network remains **safe, reliable, and able to support our growing community**.

### Project Overview

To minimise long-term disruption, Vector has coordinated **three major projects to occur at the same time**. This combined approach reduces the need for contractors to return later and allows the work to be completed more efficiently. Where possible, existing infrastructure will be used to avoid major excavations in busy central hubs and arterial roads.

### Key Details

**Timeline:** Mid-March to August 2026

**Final Phase:** Cable installation will take place later in the year

**Work Hours:** Monday – Sunday, 7:00 am – 7:00 pm (occasionally up to 10:00 pm)

**Locations:** Westney Road, Kirkbride Road, George Bolt Memorial Drive, and surrounding streets

### Impact on Our School Day

#### Traffic & Parking

Please allow **extra time for student drop-offs and pick-ups**. Temporary parking restrictions will be in place on **Westney Road**. We kindly ask parents to follow all signage and exercise patience with other drivers during this period.

#### Student Safety

Excavation areas will be securely barriered. Parents are encouraged to remind students to **stay alert and keep a safe distance from construction zones and heavy machinery** when arriving at or leaving school.

We appreciate the cooperation of our school community in helping keep our students safe while these essential upgrades take place in our neighbourhood.



## Photo Day – Tuesday 11 March

Our annual School Photo Day will take place on Wednesday 11 March.

On this day, class group photos and individual student photos will be taken. Individual photos are also used for school ID cards and school records.

**Ensure you are in correct school uniform and no make-up is permitted.**

If a student does not wish to appear in the class group photo, she may step aside during the group photo session. However, individual ID photos will still be taken for school records and ID cards.

Please ensure your daughter attends school on this day and arrives prepared for photos.

Details of how to purchase photos will be sent out after Photo Day.

## EOTC Activities Are Part of the School Curriculum

We have several Education Outside the Classroom (EOTC) learning opportunities organised for students this month.

These include visits to the Science Roadshow, the Tip Top Ice Cream Factory (a classic Auckland experience — many of us remember going there as children) and the Waitākere Transfer Station, where students will learn about waste management and environmental responsibility.

Each of these trips is directly connected to classroom learning and helps bring the curriculum to life. They provide students with real-world experiences that deepen their understanding of science, sustainability, and how industries operate in our community.

**Because these activities form part of the teaching programme, attendance is expected and treated the same as a normal school day. EOTC is not an optional outing but an important extension of students' learning.**

**ROADWORK  
AHEAD**