

# CASE STUDY

## Cambridge IGCSE Enterprise



SPRINGBANK SCHOOL, NEW ZEALAND

**Springbank School is a co-educational independent school situated in the beautiful Bay of Islands, a peaceful, rural area on New Zealand's stunning North Island. The school takes students from Year 1 to Year 13 (ages 5 to 18) and is proud of its cultural diversity. Fourteen different nationalities are currently represented including the UK, Korea, Japan, Germany, USA, Thailand, Switzerland, Canada, India, South Africa, Greece, Italy, Russia and New Zealand.**

Since 2007, the school's primary aged students have been studying the Cambridge International Primary Programme, while the lower secondary students have been studying Cambridge Checkpoint in Maths, English and Science. Year 11 students sat Cambridge IGCSEs in 2009, for the first time, with very pleasing results including a Top in New Zealand award for Cambridge IGCSE ICT.

Springbank School is committed to offering Cambridge qualifications such as IGCSEs as well as Cambridge International AS Levels and Cambridge International A Levels. The school feels Cambridge's internationally benchmarked curriculum prepares its students well for life and continued learning in a global world.

### **Why does Springbank School teach Cambridge IGCSE Enterprise?**

Springbank School sees the teaching of Cambridge IGCSE Enterprise as a natural fit with its academic vision, which includes nurturing enterprise and entrepreneurship in their students as an integral part of the school curriculum, particularly from Year 6 through to Year 9.

Cambridge IGCSE Enterprise has become an important part of the school curriculum. Springbank students throughout the school have the opportunity to learn and apply enterprise skills and knowledge. When students start working towards Cambridge IGCSE Enterprise, they are already familiar with the subject, and they are able

“ **Cambridge IGCSE Enterprise is an internationally recognised qualification that develops and measures a student's individual skills in enterprise and entrepreneurship, while teaching practical skills such as problem-solving, risk-taking, perseverance and teamwork. The syllabus has a clear prescriptive outline with a good balance of practical work and theory, and it mirrors our school's vision in developing students who show initiative, leadership and who are confident with business ideas and methods.** ”

Michelle Chapman,  
Cambridge IGCSE Enterprise teacher

to consolidate prior interest in enterprise. Cambridge IGCSE Enterprise focuses on innovation and gaining entrepreneurial skills and this has sparked a lot of interest.

Springbank School's entrepreneurial character is actively supported by staff. Many of the teachers have business backgrounds, and have been able to incorporate their



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knowledge and experience into their teaching programmes where appropriate. This breadth of experience has meant that teachers have been able to be – and continue to be – valuable role models and mentors for students, preparing them for the real world of employment and business.

In the last few years, Springbank School has won a number of awards for enterprise projects and student activity, and the students are justifiably proud of their school and their achievements.

The students are highly motivated in their work and enjoy engaging in real-life projects and activities. Gaining a qualification such as Cambridge IGCSE Enterprise is an exciting milestone in their learning.

### How does Springbank School teach Cambridge IGCSE Enterprise?

In the 2010 New Zealand academic year (February to December), the entire Year 9 plus one Year 10 student are studying Cambridge IGCSE Enterprise for three hours every week. Students have taken part in a 'Young Leaders Seminar' – organised by the school – which has included

presentations from top business and sports personalities, and guest speakers from the local business community.

Throughout the course, Springbank students are encouraged to come up with innovative and original ideas for business – one being tutoring older people in the correct use of mobile phones.

“ Students really enjoy the practical project work. They like the creativity of the course, and the decision-making skills they are developing, all of which allow them to express themselves, to be innovative and to show initiative. They have particularly enjoyed working with non-profit organisations, and analysing these organisations' strengths and weaknesses. ”

Michelle Chapman,  
Cambridge IGCSE Enterprise teacher

*Springbank students worked with a local Maori tribe to carve a canoe for a Maori village museum.*



*Springbank students developed fundraising activities to help local community projects*

