

Satellite Campus Briefs

TELFORD NEWSLETTER

Students From Across New Zealand Call Telford Home

Telford's 2026 student cohort reflects the strong nationwide appeal of rural education, with students travelling from all corners of New Zealand to study on the agricultural campus.

This year, students have joined Telford from Northland, Waikato, Wellington, Nelson, Canterbury, Southland, and throughout the Otago districts. The diverse mix of students brings together a wide range of backgrounds, experiences, and perspectives, creating a vibrant and supportive campus community.

The current cohort includes students enrolled in Rural Animal Healthcare, Farming Systems, Equine Level 3, and Diploma programmes, all gaining hands-on industry experience through Telford's practical learning environment.

Campus life has also been strengthened through activities organised by the Student Council, such as quiz nights and games in the gym. These events have provided students with opportunities to connect, build friendships, and enjoy life outside the classroom.



Wānaka A&P Show a Memorable Experience for Diploma Students

The Wānaka A&P Show was a major highlight for Telford's Diploma students this year, providing an incredible opportunity to gain hands-on experience while representing Telford at one of New Zealand's premier rural events.

Thanks to the support of Mike Elliot from the Upper Clutha A&P Association, students were able to attend and volunteer across a range of activities during the two-day event in sunny Wānaka.

Throughout the show, Telford students assisted with dog trials, goat showing, equine events, cattle showing, and sheep showing. Their hard work and enthusiasm helped to support the smooth running of the event while giving students valuable practical experience within the rural and agricultural sector.



The trip also gave students the chance to work together outside the classroom, meet people from across the industry, and create lasting memories in one of New Zealand's most beautiful locations.

Telford would like to extend a sincere thank you to Mike Elliot, the Upper Clutha A&P Association, and all the students who gave their time and energy to support the event. Their efforts represented Telford with pride and professionalism throughout the show

Farm 4 Life Partnership

Southland dairy farmer and Farm 4 Life founder Tangaroa Walker is partnering with Telford to deliver flexible, app-based farming qualifications to learners across New Zealand.

The programme combines real-world farming experience with video-led learning through the Farm 4 Life app, allowing students to complete the Certificate in Farming Systems and Equipment (Level 3) while learning on-farm. Telford will provide programme management, assessment support, and access to expert agricultural tutors.

Mr Walker created Farm 4 Life to help prepare young people for careers in farming through practical, engaging learning designed for hands-on learners. The app now reaches hundreds of thousands of followers and includes hundreds of educational farming videos.

The qualification places a strong focus on farming systems, equipment operation, health and safety, and personal wellbeing, helping learners gain industry-ready skills while studying in a flexible format.

Telford Head of Faculty Hamish Small says the partnership highlights a modern and practical approach to agricultural education, supporting learners and employers across the primary industries.

Strong Turnout for Telford Open Day in Balclutha



More than 150 prospective students and their whānau gathered at Telford in sunny Balclutha for a successful and engaging Open Day, showcasing the campus's hands-on approach to rural education.

Visitors had the opportunity to explore Telford's working farm, tour specialised learning spaces, and experience the welcoming atmosphere of the on-campus hostel facilities. The day provided future students with a firsthand look at the practical training and community-focused environment that make Telford a unique place to study.

Current students played a key role throughout the event, guiding tours and sharing their personal experiences of life and learning at Telford. A highlight of the day was the Student Q&A panel, where students spoke openly about their studies, career pathways, and daily life on campus.

Telford staff expressed their appreciation to everyone who travelled from near and far to attend the Open Day, acknowledging the strong support shown by prospective students, families, and the wider community.

Those who missed this year's Open Day will have another opportunity to visit, with a second Telford Open Day for 2026 set to be announced soon.

That's a Wrap on Equine Skills Level 3

Telford's Equine Level 3 students have officially completed their course, with many now preparing to return for Level 4 beginning on 13 July.

Throughout the semester, students developed skills in horse care, stable management, anatomy and physiology, grooming, and riding, while building a deeper understanding of their equine partners.

As part of their assessments, students groomed and prepared horses for local dressage riders competing at the Strath Taieri A&P Show, where they were graded on their presentation and turnout skills. They also attended the Cromwell Eventing competition, with students choosing to ride, groom, or support classmates throughout the event.

The course finished with the iconic Stone House photoshoot, where students and their ponies dressed up for a memorable final celebration of their time together. Telford is proud of the confidence, growth, and dedication shown by all students throughout the programme.



Danone Scholarships Strengthen Telford Partnership

The partnership between Danone and Telford is set to continue in perpetuity, reflecting a shared commitment to developing future leaders in agriculture, animal health, farm systems, and the equine industries.

Through this initiative, Danone will provide three scholarships for academic achievement, practical skill development, and financial hardship support. These scholarships aim to remove financial

barriers and create stronger pathways into agricultural education while supporting sustainable and innovative food production systems.

Danone, a global leader in sustainably produced dairy nutrition, says the programme is designed to support the next generation of farmers and agricultural professionals. The scholarships will help students better understand animal health, farm systems optimisation, and

responsible land management, while promoting long-term sustainability in the sector.

Telford has welcomed the partnership as a significant boost for its students and programmes, highlighting the value of combining industry support with hands-on, practical training. The initiative will also provide students with greater industry connections and exposure to real-world agricultural careers.