



LAND BASED TRAINING
OTIWHITI STATION



Information Pack

OTIWHITI STATION LAND BASED TRAINING AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL

OPEN DAY:

The annual open day provides opportunities for prospective cadets and their families to come and learn about the school and its live-in facilities.

Please check this website for the dates.

If you missed our Open Day – please contact us as we can arrange for you to visit Otiwhiti Station and have a look around, ask our current cadets questions and meet the Otiwhiti Farm Team.

APPLICATION/SELECTION PROCESS:

An Application Form and all required documentation must be completed and sent to LBT's Head Office before the due date.

An Application Form can be found on this website.

Interviews will be held in August/September and prospective cadets will be advised if they are required for an interview.

We encourage parents and caregivers to attend the interview to support the applicant as well as providing another opportunity to view the farm and facilities.

THE TRAINING YEAR:

The training year usually begins on the first Sunday in February.

Course Dates:

One full year of Study – 42 weeks plus 4 weeks of recess. The course starts early February and finishes mid-December.

Training:

On farm four days per week the cadets will learn skills from the farm managers, field instructor, tutor, and any specialist person involved during the course. We put emphasis on a 'hands on' approach, that is, students learn best by practically applying theoretical skills learnt.

Cadets receive:

- Theory:

There will be one day per week at the Otiwhiti Station Land Based Training Agricultural School from 8.30am to 4.00pm followed by two hours of practical farm skills.

Cadets train towards:

- Level 3 - New Zealand Certificate in Agriculture (Farming Systems)
- Level 3 - NZ Cert in Primary Industry Operational Skills

There is an opportunity for any cadets who are employed and living in the area to return to the classroom for a 2nd year studying towards a structured Level 4 qualification.

- Practical
 - (a) Practical instruction and training in all areas of farm operations undertaken at Otiwhiti Station, Westoe and Thistledene.
 - (b) Teaching in the principles of agriculture, science and technology and how they are applied to the Station and ongoing maintenance of pasture crops and stock.

Cadets have access to the property, staff time and facilities to enhance and learn hill country sheep and cattle skills.

Additional training is also provided as part of the school. These include:

- Shearing (tuition provided by Shane Ratima, Ratima Shearing including handpiece work, dagging, crutching and shearing.
- Working Dog – rearing and training of a heading dog under the guidance of the Station Manager. During the middle of the year cadets purchase a Huntaway dog. Lloyd Smith, one of New Zealand's best-known sheep dog triallists visits the school to assist the shepherds with the training of their dogs twice a year.
- Equine (Horses) – Cadets, depending on capabilities will use station horses for their day to day work and will have opportunity to handle young horses under the guidance of the Manager.
- Butchery – tuition in this is provided by Cadet manager.
- Chainsaw use - including maintenance and safety.
- 4WD and ATV Driving course and basic vehicle maintenance
- First Aid – training undertaken by St Johns
- Fencing: Cadets are trained in erecting conventional and electric break fences. They are also taught how to make repairs and maintain fences.
- General stockmanship.
- General station work – cadets, when necessary are involved in all aspects of repairs and maintenance of buildings, yards, tracks and water systems. This can also include weed and pest control.
- Weekly rostered jobs including kitchen duty, cooking, grounds and maintenance around dwellings and the school, feeding dogs, chooks, pigs, milking the cow and tending the vegetable garden.

Holidays:

There will be 4 weeks holiday during the course which will be advised by the course tutor.

Holidays may be subject to change depending on the farming calendar. Cadets are required to attend 95% of the programme.

Allowances & Requirements:

Students will have potential allowances of up to \$80.00 per week. This can be used to offset fees and board.

Scholarships:

There are many scholarship opportunities for cadets as outlined in the Prospectus.

LOCATION:

Otiwhiti Station

The property is 16km northwest of Hunterville, 67km from Palmerston North and 60km to Wanganui.

Otiwhiti Station is 1680 hectares of what can best be described as hill country. Otiwhiti Station runs 6,500 sheep and 600 cattle.

Westoe

Westoe is a "high profile" farm, which borders State Highway 1 near Kakariki Rd, and the Rangitikei River, between Bulls and Marton.

At 415 hectares, it covers two terraces and is a sheep and beef finishing (fattening) farm and has a significant portion of maize, silage and specialist lamb summer finishing crops. Westoe has 120ha under irrigation.

Westoe carries 10,000 finishing lambs.

Thistledene

Thistledene is located on the outskirts of Cheltenham near Feilding and has 121 hectares of land. Thistledene is used for lamb finishing and winters 3,500 lambs.

ACCOMMODATION:

The accommodation ("The Hood") was moved onto site in 2014 ex Flock House Bulls. The Hood was built in 1974 and some renovation was undertaken on the building when it was originally moved to site. "The Hood" is slowly being modernised with new bathroom facilities, new carpet, and the recent installation of double-glazed windows. The Hood accommodates up to 20 cadets. Cadets each have a single room and share a communal kitchen, lounges, bathrooms, drying room and laundry.

The cookhouse provides a great gathering place for the cadets and staff.

THE CLASSROOM:

Another integral part of the school is the school classroom facilities including a swimming pool and use of the Otairi Community Hall.

MANAGEMENT AND STAFF:

Farm staff will work with cadets teaching them during a normal work-day.

Farm staff consist of:

Farm Managers – Otiwhiti Station, Westoe, Thistledene
Cadet Managers
Operations Manager
Land based training tutor
External – any other tutors bought to the farm to teach specific skills such as Shearing, Chainsaw etc.
The Duncan family

CADETS INFORMATION:

A. General:

1. All cadets are expected to uphold the name of Otiwhiti Station Land Based Training Agricultural School and ensure via their actions and conduct that the opportunities given to them through training in practical farming are being fully utilised.

***Otiwhiti Station Land Based Training Agricultural School
and associated farms are all “SmokeFree and DrugFree”.***

2. Any property owned by Otiwhiti Land Based Training Agricultural School is to be maintained in good condition and cared for. This includes the buildings, implements, tools and stock.
3. Any firearms bought to the Station need to be kept securely and used and stored at the Cadet Manager’s discretion. Any cadet bringing firearms to the Station must hold a Firearms License.
4. No new dogs or horses may be bought to the Station without the Manager’s permission.
5. The Cadet Managers should be advised of any injuries or illness immediately.
6. Leave may be granted by the Cadet Managers only and must be obtained by them prior to leaving the Station.
7. Cadets must be fit and healthy and have had a tetanus injection before reporting to the Station.

8. Station vehicles are not to be used for any reason unless authorized.
9. Insurance of Cadets belongings is the responsibility of the individual Cadets.
10. It is expected that Cadets will be in their rooms each night by 9.30pm, with lights out at 10.00pm Sunday to Thursday.

B. Farm Work

1. Work duties will be organised by the Cadet Managers and is available to individual cadets on FarmIQ.
2. Members of staff are required to monitor the work and conduct of cadets under their supervision.

C. Accommodation (the “Hood”)

1. Cadets are required to keep their rooms tidy, make their beds before breakfast.
2. Other cleaning work around the “Hood” shall be carried out by front of station cadets.

D. Behavior

1. All cadets are required to carry out instructions of the Manager and or other members if the permanent staff in charge of work.
2. Right is reserved to terminate cadetships should any cadet’s work or progress be considered at any time unsatisfactory. Cadet’s may be subjected to a fine (to be deducted from allowance) for a breach of the forementioned rules. Three warnings will be given – verbal, written, parents bought in for final warning. Serious misconduct is instant dismissal.

ENTRY INFORMATION:

1. Entry Pre-requisites:

- Students will have to show a keen interest in farming as a career choice
- Average to above academic achievement and above average behavior and attitude.
- If students wish to enter at Year 12 (Form 6) or above, they must have either passed NCEA Level 2 or may gain entry at the discretion of the interview panels. All students must have NCEA Level 1 Maths or equivalent.
- Year 13 students are preferred

2. Conditions:

- Enrolment is for one year
- Students must attend 95% of this programme.
- Students will have potential allowances of up to \$80.00 per week.
- Successful applicants must be medically fit and must have a current anti-tetanus injection.
- Timely payment of fees as outlined in the Prospectus.
Cadets will be provided with an equipment list upon acceptance to course.

All cadets are required to undertake theoretical and practical training that is assessed regularly during their cadetship. If progress and results are not satisfactory the right is reserved to terminate cadetships as per LBT's Policy and Procedure. It is recommended that Cadets are on the way to having their motor vehicle Driver's License.

Words we live by at Otiwhiti Station:

'Respect, Honesty and Integrity,'

to be key in all your thinking and actions.

- *for people*
- *for animals*
- *for property*