

Dear Miss Hoetzel,

I spend nearly half a year in Tauranga (NZ) and I just wanted to say thank you, that you gave me the opportunity of doing this exchange.

When I arrived in New Zealand I was quiet nervous about my host family and the new school. But this concern was unnecessary. My host family was very nice and from the first moment they involved me in their family life. Additionally I got a host brother from Brazil and all together there was a great atmosphere in my new family and we had a lot of fun.

Right at the first school day I obviously didn't know anyone but during lunch time I already knew some nice guys, I had lunch with. Due to the fact that you are able to choose the subjects, I had some very interesting subjects like Technology Metal and Technology Engineering which we do not have in Germany. In those subjects I learned some new things like welding and working with metal.

Some friends I met in school invited me to come to their Youth Group on Wednesday and Friday nights. I always had a lot of fun there and I again met new people and made new friends. On those nights, we always did some sport activities, talked in groups and had dinner together.

During the two weeks of Easter vacation I made a guided trip to the South Island with other international students. Everyone of the group enjoyed the trip where we saw everything of the beautiful South Island, for example the wonderful landscapes and also the high number of sights and attractions.

It was an unforgettable time, leaving was very hard for me and after three weeks in Germany I am still missing all those wonderful people I met there.

Therefore I want to say thank you that you made it possible for me to live in this amazing country.

Benjamin Schönhofen