

To whom it may concern,

It is a privilege to write this testimonial for Chris Waugh.

I first met Chris five years ago not initially in a teaching capacity, Chris and my daughter were both part of a relay team swimming the length of Lake Wanaka to raise money for counselling services for the youth of Wanaka.

Since then Chris has been my daughter's English teacher at NCEA Level One and Level Three and I cannot praise his teaching highly enough. He has presented himself to me as a parent as passionate, innovative and driven, and is wholeheartedly committed to ensuring that each and every one of his students leaves his class as a more educated and well rounded individual. The course he teaches not only allows him to deliver the curricular content, but also to equip his students with knowledge and skills to apply outside of the classroom. Chris challenges his students to think outside of the exam-focused mindset, instead encouraging and supporting them to examine issues beyond the classroom and to think critically for themselves. Consequently, my daughter has walked out of Chris' class not only with proficiency in the English language, but also with the confidence in her English to analyse and challenge the world she lives in, and the ability to express this in both spoken and written form. Chris genuinely treats every student as an individual and takes great pride in creating meaningful teacher / student relationships with his students. As a parent, I admire Chris' commitment to this and value the sense of respect and belonging that he has instilled within my daughter as one of his students.

Chris' true love of the English language, both written and spoken, as well as his wholehearted commitment to his students, shines through in any interaction I have with him as a parent. He gives up his time freely outside of classroom hours and continuously goes above and beyond to ensure his students needs are met. To me as a parent, Chris has continuously been open, honest, enthusiastic and very patient with my many questions during the year.

Chris is simply exceptional and any institution he chooses to work for in the future will be extremely lucky to have him.

Kind Regards,

*Karenza Heath*