



# NZ Diploma in Christian Studies

Christian Leadership  
**Level 6**

[www.pathways.ac.nz](http://www.pathways.ac.nz)

# Understand The Diploma

## Purpose

Contribute to the mission of Christian churches, agencies and community organisations in leadership positions to manage people, administer events and provide strategic leadership.

## Aims

The aim of the programme is to provide people who have a desire to contribute to the mission of Christian churches, agencies, and community organisations with the skills and knowledge to operate in senior positions to manage people, administer events and provide strategic leadership.

## Outcomes

Graduates may continue to contribute to the mission of a Church, agency or community organisation in a voluntary capacity or employed in leadership roles in a range of contexts e.g. within Churches, Youth Groups, Camps, Small Groups, Children's Ministry. Graduates may also continue into Degree programmes in Theology, Divinity or Christian Studies.

*Become a  
Dynamic  
Christian  
Leader*

Graduates will be known for their:

- ✓ Christ-Like Character
- ✓ Biblical & Theological Knowledge
- ✓ Critically Informed Practice
- ✓ Culturally Responsive Practice
- ✓ Strategic Missional Leadership

### METHOD OF STUDY:

Full-time (1 year) or  
Part-time (2 years)



## Understand The Delivery

The New Zealand Diploma in Christian Studies (Christian Leadership) is a one-year full-time, or two-year part-time, programme, designed to blend theory and practical leadership experience by connecting classroom and context through a partnership model with a host organisation. It is delivered through a mixture of these methods:



- **Host Organisations**

Students are connected to a host organisation (church, mission, ministry or marketplace) throughout the year. This connection is established by the end of the first block course in February with the student beginning their placement in the organisation in March. This allows for genuine integration of theory and practice as students work through their courses while simultaneously having the opportunity to be in their Host Organisation for up to 5 hours per fortnight over 20 weeks of the year; fitting the visits around attending onsite block weeks at Pacific Park and the two field-based placements.

- **Face-To-Face (Block Weeks)**

Students meet together four times throughout the programme (typically for a week) once at the very beginning of the programme, and then three other times at strategic points in the programme. These are known as Block Weeks. Teaching and learning approaches during this time prioritise the opportunity to develop/ practise skills, hear and engage with experienced leaders and participate in workshops. Importantly, these times provide the opportunity to share the results of their own study and inquiry with each other and to continue to build relational connections – to do what is not able, or not so easily able to be undertaken online.

- **Online**

Pathways College has been expanding and developing its expertise with online teaching and learning for many years and it is through this delivery method that students access course material, assessment tasks and resources to support their learning. Online components of this programme are hosted on the Moodle Learning System (Pathways Connect).

## Understand The Content

The **NZDipCS (Level 6)** is an **approved NZQA programme** with a total of **120 credits** as outlined below:

- Leadership: Biblical Principles & Models  
*(15 credits)*
- Leadership: Identity & Calling  
*(15 credits)*
- Relational Leadership: Empowering, Ethical & Inclusive *(15 credits)*
- Working with Groups in Context  
*(4 week placement) (15 credits)*
- Leading in a Digital & Secular Culture  
*(15 credits)*
- Leadership in Context  
*(8 week placement) (30 credits)*
- Strategic, Missional & Resilient Leadership  
*(15 credits)*





Block Weeks

## By the beach

As part of this programme students attend regular Block Weeks. It's a good opportunity for a cohort to connect with each other while benefiting from face-to-face lectures. Plus, students stay at Pacific Park Christian Holiday Camp, which is close by the pristine white sand and surf of Papamoa Beach.

Block Weeks are a highlight for students, Pathways staff and lecturers. Sharing meals together evokes a sense of community and there is time to enjoy a stroll on the beach, or a coffee fix at local cafés.



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*My two years at Pathways were ones I will not forget.*

*I gained so much more than the Bible knowledge that I signed up for. I grew within myself and my faith.*

– Elizabeth Wood, Graduate of NZ Diploma in Christian Studies (Theological Strand) Level 5 in 2022 and NZ Diploma in Christian Studies (Christian Leadership) Level 6 in 2023.



Let's get

## Connected



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