

What Makes West Auckland Great – By Brooke Todd from Massey High School

As someone fortunate enough to call West Auckland home, I am constantly reminded of the aspects that make this place great. It has such a growing natural beauty and community which is such a privilege to have grown up in. The community aspect is very important to me, and the whanaunga within that is immense and growing. West Auckland is truly set apart from the rest with the diversity of the community. Living here means being a part of many different cultures, and people of so many different walks of life come together to enjoy it. The multicultural aspect adds a real richness to many people's daily lives, including my own, and it fosters an atmosphere of inclusivity and acceptance.

Not only that, we have the natural beauty, flora and fauna, such as our west coast beaches, the Waitakere ranges, but also so many galleries and studios to see. I think what makes West Auckland not just great, but exceptional, is the sense of community spirit that permeates the area. People are known for their warmth, friendliness, and willingness to lend a helping hand to others in the community, a great example of this being the help which was provided to those who were displaced after the floods and cyclone Gabrielle, everyone came together to help those in need. The community spirit is palpable and creates a lovely welcoming and supportive environment.

Living here I am constantly reminded of the wonders that surround us all, and I feel extremely grateful to be a part of this thriving community.