

# Gateway

## Retail

Damien Miller enjoys fishing and the outdoors. He was keen on a career that might combine these and opportunity to encourage others into outdoors pursuits.

Damien applied for and was accepted into the Gateway Programme at Waitaki Boys' High School. There are limited places on the course and students are interviewed to help decide if they are suitable candidates. Ideally students should demonstrate maturity, focus and an interest in particular career.



## How does it work?

During the first month on the programme, Damien completed a First Aid course and Health & Safety in the Workplace units. Initially Damien began with an automotive work placement.

Whilst he enjoyed this, Damien decided it wasn't really for him. With the help of the Gateway Co-ordinator, Damien switched to a work placement (Friday each week) with **Oamaru Sports & Outdoors**. The work placement meant Damien got to try a range of activities and gained valuable experience and training from the team at Oamaru Sports & Outdoors.

The opportunity to work one day a week to try out a real career in a real workplace is something Damien really enjoyed. Damien's hard work and friendly nature paid off when he was offered an full time position with Oamaru Sports & Outdoors.