

David Holt

Class of 1996

Private Wealth Adviser



David's Story

We often speak of the St John's 'family', the deep connections within the school's community that far outstrip the high school years. These bonds - many of them spanning generations - are particularly evident when talking to David Holt.

"My late father, John, was heavily involved in school life, firstly as a student in the 1960s, and in my time at the school, as a sports manager and coach. Four of my uncles (Ross, John, Brian and the late Greg Kneebone) also went to St John's. My sister Katie worked at the college, and her son (my nephew), starts there in 2024. My cousin and good friend Zak Kneebone is a St John's College Foundation Trustee and college old boy. To this day, I'm in touch with my high school friends on a daily basis and regularly catch up with Nick Judd (Head Boy 1994) on the golf course."



"On the golf course with my uncles and fellow SJC old boys John and Brian Kneebone."

When reflecting on his time at St John's College it's these brilliant friendships and the sense of community that stand out the most for David. He points out that this network, the values of having a strong work ethic, being good to people and working as part of a team, continue to be invaluable in both David's personal life, and professional career.

High school was dominated by sport - he captained the 1st XI cricket team, played for the rugby 1st XV and was involved in age group basketball teams. Mel Young, Yvonne Philips and Dennis Hetet were stand-out teachers: English was one of his preferred subjects.

David arrived at the end of high school, not quite sure what he wanted to do. "I was a bit of a late starter, but I am very proud of what I've achieved."

He started a business degree at the Waikato Institute of Technology but two years into his study put that on hold to take up an opportunity to be the overseas player for a cricket club in Ireland. Returning from overseas he got a graduate position on the premise that he would continue his studies and complete a postgraduate programme. Today, David is a Private Wealth Advisor, advising clients on their investments to help them reach their investment goals and objectives. It is exactly where he wants to be.

Outside of work David enjoys spending time with friends and family, and playing golf.

Advice to younger self: "Wouldn't change a thing."

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