

Kvie Nguyen

Growing up in a small town in Vietnam, English was the subject I loved most and devoted myself to wholeheartedly. When my dad bought me my first laptop at eight years old, it opened the door to a world of technology that immediately captivated me. Those early passions with languages and computers grew side by side, shaping my childhood dream of pursuing a future in tech, software, and innovation.

In 2018, I moved to New Zealand to study Year 12 at Avonside Girls' High School. My time at Avonside was truly transformational and remains one of the most meaningful parts of my journey studying abroad. I grew from a shy student who hesitated to ask questions or speak up, into someone confident in sharing ideas and reaching out for opportunities - knowing that every step of the way, I was supported by the school's International Department.

After high school, I was honoured to receive the University of Canterbury Engineering International Scholarship, which led me to pursue a Bachelor of Software Engineering. In my third year, I completed an internship at Xero, an accounting software company. This hands-on experience not only challenged me technically, but also helped me see what was possible for my future. Receiving an offer to return to Xero after graduation gave me the confidence to realign my academic path, and I transitioned into a Bachelor of Computer Science to better support my career goals.

My journey has been shaped by courage, support, and a willingness to grow. Leaving home at a young age taught me that having support - and knowing you are never alone - is one of the most important foundations for success. As an international student, I hope to inspire others to step beyond their comfort zones, trust in their abilities, and embrace the opportunities that come with change.



**Associate Software Engineer -
Xero Accounting Software**

Topic: Two Student Voices | Two Journeys |
One Aotearoa



✉ khavy2382002@gmail.com

 [Kvie Nguyen](#)