Te Kauwhata College



Senior Curriculum Information

2026



Introduction

This option booklet provides students and parents/guardians with information about the subjects available in Years 9 - 13 at Te Kauwhata College. Students have a wide range of options to choose from and it is critical that decisions about option choices are made carefully. It becomes increasingly difficult for students to change academic and/or career pathways as they progress further into senior secondary school. Students should endeavour to follow a broad-based general course of study up to Year 11 and then start to narrow down a Vocational Pathway or Tertiary Course.

As you plan your course and choose your options check:

- The level at which each subject stops
- The **prerequisites** for entry to each subject
- The number of credits generated by each subject
- The proportion of internal and external assessment in each subject
- Whether the subject offers Achievement Standards or Unit Standards or a combination
- Whether or not the subject is on the University approved list of subjects
- What subjects, credits, grades are required for entry to the University or Technical institute course that you are interested in
- The total subject course costs including the cost of fieldwork
- That the subject equips you with the skills, content and understandings you need to enter a certain career pathway
- The pathway model to see what this subject will enable you to do in future years
- That you have sufficient flexibility to change your course design if your career goals change

To make good decisions you need the right information. Discuss your subject choices with your family, teachers, Deans and Careers Advisor.

Think carefully, consult widely and choose wisely.

Overview

Year 11 students are expected to take the equivalent of 6 full-year subjects. English, Mathematics and Science are compulsory at Level 1.

Year 12 students are also expected to take the equivalent of 6 full-year subjects. However, this may be negotiated with the Academic Dean.

Year 13 students are expected to enroll in the equivalent of 5 full-year subjects. If you would like to study 6 subjects, this may be negotiated with the Academic Dean.

Te Kura

Te Kauwhata College has the ability to enroll small numbers of students into Te Kura (the Correspondence School). This is for Year 12 and 13 students only as these students are expected to learn and study independently. Students who request these classes must have a proven track record of managing their own learning and the ability to work independently.

Ability + Interest + Occupation = Option Choice



How good are you at a subject?



Assessment results will help you to determine your ability.



Discuss your ability level with your teachers and your parents.



What do you enjoy?



Do you like the work or is it just that you like the teacher?
Don't do a subject just to be with friends.



If you are interested in the subject, you are more likely to do well.



If you know what you would like to become, ask your teachers, Dean or Careers Advisor about the options you need to take.



If you don't know what you want to become, keep your options open by not specialising too soon.



Investigate carefully all subjects you are interested in.



Make your final option choice keeping in mind the formula above.

National Certificate of Educational Achievement

NCEA is administered by the New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NCEA) as part of the National Qualifications Framework. To complete the National Certificate of Educational Achievement students must earn credits.

NCEA qualifications are offered at three levels. The criteria for these qualifications at the different levels are summarised in the table below:

Level	Credits required	Must Include	Must Include		
NCEA Level 1	60 Credits at Level 1	Numeracy or Te Paangarau	Literacy or Te Reo Matatini		
NCEA Level 2	60 Credits at Level 2	10 Credits from the new Numeracy or Te Paangarau Standards (Co-Req)), or from the	10 Credits from the new Literacy or Te Reo Matatini Standards (Co- Req) or from a list of other approved standards until the end of 2027		
NCEA Level 3	60 Credits at Level 3	list of other approved standards until the end of 2027			

Each subject at Year 11, 12 and 13 will offer several Standards.

Each standard is worth a number of credits. When the student meets all the requirements of the standard, credits are awarded.

There are two types of standards – Unit Standards and Achievement Standards.

Unit Standards are internally assessed and the student can only gain a 'Not Achieved' or an 'Achieved' grade.

Achievement Standards are internally or externally assessed and students can gain four grades: "Not Achieved", "Achieved", "Merit", or "Excellence"

Achievement Standards' credits can be awarded at four levels:

- 'Not Achieved' gain no credits
- 'Achieved' pass the standard, gain the credits
- 'Merit' did very well in the standard
- 'Excellence' highest grade possible.

Subject/Course Endorsement

Students will gain an endorsement for a subject if, in a single school year, they achieve:

- 14 or more credits at Achieved, Merit or Excellence, and
- at least 3 of these credits from externally assessed standards and 3 credits from internally assessed standards. (there are exemptions for Levels 3 and 3 Physical Education and Level 3 Visual Art)

Certificate Endorsement

NCEA certificates can be endorsed with 'Merit' or 'Excellence'. If, at the level of the certificate, your student earns 50 credits at Merit level (or higher) they will earn an NCEA Certificate endorsed with Merit. If at least 50 credits at Excellence level they will achieve an NCEA Certificate endorsed with Excellence.

Literacy and Numeracy Credits

Currently there is a transitional period in the phase over to CAAs (Common Assessment tasks) for gaining literacy and numeracy. Up until 2027 there are some "additional standards" that contain a substantial amount of reading and/or writing that can count towards literacy credits. Some standards that contain a significant number of calculations or graphs can count towards numeracy credits. However if used to count towards the 20 co-requisite credits, these same credits won't count towards the 60 for NCEA Level.

Online: At any time students may check their progress by logging onto www.nzqa.govt.nz/learner-login.

EVERY COURSE OFFERED IS DEPENDANT UPON THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS OPTING FOR THAT SUBJECT AND TEACHER AVAILABILITY

What are the Vocational Pathways?

The Vocational Pathways are a tool that provides a clear framework for vocational options, support better programme design and careers advice, and improve the links between education and employment.

They are the product of a partnership between government agencies, the industry training sector, secondary and tertiary education representatives, and industry and employer representatives.

There are six pathways which represent new ways to structure and achieve NCEA level 2 and provide a more coherent framework for foundation vocational education and training. The pathways will help students to develop their own individual education plan, so they are better informed and able to make better choices to meet their goals.

There are a range of tools you can use to help plan and design your programmes and help students to plan their future career opportunities.

For further information: http://youthquarantee.net.nz/vocational-pathways/

Vocational Pathways provides tools so students can develop a career map and plan what they may need to study to meet their goal and move into further study or the workforce. You can identify the type of job you would like and identify the courses and subjects you need to take to get there. Every study option is colour coded so you see at a glance which industry or careers you are working towards.

For all the Subject choices: All New Zealand Curriculum Key Competencies are put into practice in this course: Managing Self; Relating to others; Participating and Contributing; Using Language, Symbols and Texts; Thinking. The New Zealand Curriculum Arts Strands are also practiced – Developing Ideas; Developing Practical Knowledge; Understanding Context; Communicating and Interpreting.



GETTING ADVICE AND LOOKING AHEAD

There are many staff members you can see to get help with your course choices. They can offer guidance about choosing subjects for next year and the future.

- Your Mentor Teacher
- Your Subject Teachers
- Any Dean
- Learning Area Leaders can offer information about different courses within their subject area (list follows)
- Mrs Kelly in the Careers department

GLOSSARY

Assessment Policy	Te Kauwhata College has a written policy which sets out rules and guidelines covering things like deadlines and further assessments	Literacy and Numeracy	To gain an NCEA qualification at any Level, students need to achieve the 20 credit co-requisite using the new Literacy and Numeracy standards. To gain University Literacy students must also achieve 10 credits at level 2 in writing and 5 in reading.
Core	Compulsory Subjects	NZQA	New Zealand Qualifications Authority. Controls all national assessments and certificates.
Credits	Credits are 'points' towards an NCEA qualification. Every standard is worth a set of credits	Prerequisite	A subject or module that has to be taken before you can enroll in a particular subject.
ESOL	English as a Second Oral Language	Standards	Nationally recognized units of work that are assessed by measuring students learning against specific performance criteria. There are four grades for Achievement Standards: 'Not Achieved', 'Achieved', 'Achieved with Merit', 'Achieved with Excellence'. For Unit Standards grades are only 'Not Achieved' and 'Achieved'.
External Assessment	Students work is marked directly by NZQA markers. Most external assessments will be end of year external exams.	Internal Assessment	Students work will be assessed by Te Kauwhata College teachers. Marking is checked regularly by NZQA moderators.

Curriculum Areas within Te Kauwhata College

(Further Information on any course can be obtained from the Learning Area Leader or Teacher in Charge of each subject)

Curriculum Area	Learning Area Leader/Teacher in Charge		
Careers, Gateway	Mrs Kelly		
Digital Technology	Mr Nikitin		
Drama and Dance/Performance	Whaea Sera Henare		
English	Mr Riley		
Enterprise Studies/Business/Commerce	Mrs Kumar		
Food Technology	Mr Ord		
Horticulture	Mrs Pengelly		
Materials Technology	Mr Nikitin		
Mathematics	Mrs Curray		
Music	Mr Walker		
Physical Education and Health	Mrs Vodanovich		
Science	Mrs Pengelly		
Social Sciences	Mrs Apisai-Cook		
Te Reo Maaori	Whaea Whitney Williams-Totorewa		
Visual Art	Mrs Riches		

THE CURRICULUM – AN OVERVIEW

The number BEFORE the subjects indicates the NCEA Level

Shaded areas denote compulsory subjects

Year 9	Year 10	Year 11 NCEA Level 1	Year 12 NCEA Level 2	Year 13 NCEA Level 3
English	English	1 English	2 English	3 English
Health	Health	1 Health Studies	2 Health	3 Health
Mathematics	Mathematics	1 Mathematics & Statistics	2 Mathematics Academic 2 Mathematics Applied	3 Mathematics 3 Statistics
Physical Education	Physical Education	1 Physical Education	2 Physical Education 2 Sports Studies	3 Physical Education
Science	Science	1 Science	2 Biology 2 Chemistry 2 Physics	3 Biology 3 Chemistry 3 Physics (TBC) 3 General Science
Social Studies	Social Studies	1 Geography 1 Social Studies	2 Geography	3 Geography/Social Studies
Digital Technology	Digital Technology	1 Digital Technology	2 Digital Technology	3 Digital Technology
Enterprise Studies	Enterprise Studies	1 Commerce	2 Business Studies	3 Business Studies

Year 9	Year 10	Year 11 NCEA Level 1	Year 12 NCEA Level 2	Year 13 NCEA Level 3
Food Technology	Food Technology	1 Hospitality	2 Hospitality	
			2 Gateway	
			2 Haka	3 Haka
		1 History	2 History	
Horticulture	Horticulture	1 Horticulture	2 Horticulture	3 Horticulture (TBC)
Materials Technology	Materials Technology	1 Construction Technology 1 Mechanical Engineering	2 Construction Technology 2 Mechanical Engineering	
Music	Music	1 Music	2 Music Studies	3 Music Studies
Performance	Performance	1 Dance 1 Drama	2 Dance 2 Drama	3 Dance 3 Drama
Te Reo Maaori	Te Reo Maaori	1 Te Reo Maaori	2 Te Reo Maaori	3 Te Reo Maaori
Visual Art	Visual Art	1 Visual Art	2 Art Painting 2 Photography	3 Art Painting 3 Photography

Level 1

60 credits are required at any level (Level 1, 2 or 3) including the 20 credit co-requisite (or additional Standards up until 2027)

If you are entering Year 11 in 2026

- A full time course at Year 11 will be 6 subjects.
- After consultation with students and parents/caregivers, the school may advise students to enroll in appropriate courses. Check prerequisites have been met.
- All students will study English, Mathematics and Science at Level 1.
- They will also need 3 further subjects.
- EVERY COURSE OFFERED IS DEPENDANT UPON THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS OPTING FOR THAT SUBJECT AND TEACHER AVAILABILITY

Commerce

1COMM

Credit Value: 20

Number of Field Trips: TBC Subject Material Costs: Nil

Prerequisites: Nil

This subject gives students a chance to learn and apply skills related to Business Studies, Economics and Accounting. It is theory and practical based. Students learn how our economy operates and how businesses function in the commercial world of Aotearoa New Zealand. They will learn some of the fundamentals of how organisations operate responsibly in today's world, and have the option to learn this through practical skills by establishing and running their own business.

Pathway: This subject provides students with a broad financial knowledge base to draw from in a variety of roles & organisations. Commerce branches into Accounting, Agribusiness, Business studies and Economics.

Dance

1DANC

Credit Value: 15

Number of Field Trips: 1
Subject Material Costs: Nil

Prerequisites: Nil, but preferably taken Year 10 Dance

Course: This course will focus on students gaining a wide range of skills through practical assessments from a variety of Dance styles such as Hip Hop, Contemporary, Jazz, Lyrical, Cultural and Modern. Students will gain knowledge of choreographic devices and elements to create unique pieces of dance that reflect their individuality and creativity. Students will be able to select specific standards to create a more personalised programme that supports their overall learning goals.

Construction Technology

1CTEC

Credit Value: 16

Number of Field Trips: Nil Subject Material Costs: Nil

Prerequisites: Nil

This course has two parts. The first is to ensure students have sound knowledge of safety in the workshop and an understanding of basic tools. This will be assessed in the form of a two credit Unit Standard, completed at the start of the course.

The second part of the course will focus on constructing a small object that will provide the basic skills required to construct a stool. The object will require students to practice techniques such as mitre joints, hinge fasteners and finishing techniques.

The main part of the course will entail the construction of a four-legged stool. This will include the seat, legs and support. The final design should be approved by your teacher through accurate third party orthographic sketches.

Digital Technology

1DIGT

Credit Value: 20

Number of Field Trips: Nil Subject Material Costs: Nil

Prerequisites: Nil

This course has two parts. The first is to develop a design for a wireless desktop computer. This involves choosing a customer, selecting the required hardware and software and justifying your choices. The unit will also include a basic testing and diagnostics section. Students pull apart and rebuild desktop computers during practicals, as well as install hardware such as wireless adaptors and graphics cards.

The second part of the course will focus on learning the basics of Python. This language is one of the most popular for developing games. Students will master the fundamentals through a series of activities and then spend four weeks on an interactive activity. Acquiring these types of IT skills can open doors to tertiary studies, high paying jobs and careers that do not even exist at the moment.

Drama

1DRAM

Credit Value: 15

Number of Field Trips: 1 Theatre trip

Subject Material Costs: Nil

Prerequisites: Nil, but preferably taken Year 10 Drama

Each student will be required to work in groups for internal assessments. However, students can select specific standards to cater for their individual academic goals. Drama provides a platform to increase self confidence that can be applied to all areas of students' lives. There will be opportunities to watch live theatre as well as performing to a live audience.

Geography

1GEOG

Credit Value: 15

Number of Field Trips: 1 Subject Material Costs: Nil

Prerequisites: Nil

The new Geography course at Level 1 allows students to look at connections, study their own histories, and analyse comparable global case studies. There are 15 credits on offer, 10 credits from two internal standards and 5 credits from one external standard.

English

1ENGL

Credit Value: 20

Number of Field Trips: as applicable

Costs: Costs of EOTC opportunities throughout the year to attend live

performances, as applicable.

Prerequisite: Nil. NCEA Level 1 English is compulsory.

The NCEA Level 1 English programme will be based on each student's needs and future pathways. With the changes to NCEA Level 1, there are now only four Achievement Standards available to students, so the NCEA Level 1 English programme will include all of these standards but will still be responsive to each student's needs.

Health Studies

1HEAL

Credit Value: 20

Number of Field Trips: TBC Subject Material Costs: Nil

Health Studies is about engaging in three key areas of learning - Food and Nutrition, Mental Health and Relationships and Sexuality, in relation to hauora, and the health and well-being of individuals whaanau and communities. It is about the complex interconnections between the physical, mental and emotional, social and spiritual dimensions of people's lives.

Through Health studies, aakonga can learn about how kaitiakitanga, manaakitanga and whanaungatanga contribute to the hauora of individuals, whaanau and communities.

History 1HIST

Credit Value: 15 (20)

Number of Field Trips: TBC Subject Material Costs: Nil

Prerequisites: Nil

Students will research and analyse key events from National History that have had a significant impact on New Zealand. These events can be anything from the creation of the steam engine to the rise of the Polynesian Panthers. The study of History is heavily student interest based and will involve using research skills to find and evaluate historical sources, examining the causes and consequences of key events, and learning about the perspectives of different groups and the actions they have taken because of those perspectives. Students will also gain an understanding of the choices and actions that lead to the events and the long term fall out for New Zealand society because of those events.

Hospitality

1HOSP

Credit Value: 20

Number of Field Trips: Nil Subject Material Costs: Nil

Prerequisites: Nil

In Year 11 Hospitality you will be completing unit standards developed by Service IQ. They include preparation of meats, salads, fruit, vegetables and baking. The unit standards are all internally assessed. For most unit standards you will complete practical and theory assessments. You must also complete a Supplementary Workbook and Evidence File.

Horticulture

1HORT

Credit Value: 17

Number of Field Trips: 1
Subject Material Costs: Nil

Prerequisites: Nil

Horticulture at Level 1 offers students the chance to learn how to grow plants, the importance of soil preparation, and garden maintenance skills. Each student will be responsible for their own patch of earth and their growing success will be the result of their effort maintained throughout the year. Learn about fertilisers, soil quality, naming plants, cultivating vegetables, and maintaining the best growing environment for a variety of plants. This course is fully internally assessed through Unit Standards.

Mathematics and Statistics

1MATH

Credit Value: 15 to 20 Number of Field Trips: Nil

Subject Material Costs: scientific or graphics calculator is needed.

Prerequisites: Nil

Level 1 Mathematics is a compulsory subject. All students in this class will aim at doing at least three standards (two internals and one external). Mathematics at Level 1 is a revision of all strands (Number, Algebra, Measurement, Geometry, Statistics and Probability) learnt from Year 10 and below. Learning and teaching will be by strand. Students are required to do the two internal assessments and may choose either one of the two external assessments. Most of the learning is applied in real-life situations and contexts.

Most students will also need to sit the Numeracy co-requisite online examination this year given in Term 2 and Term 4.

Mechanical Engineering

1MECH

Credit Value: 24

Number of Field Trips: Nil Subject Material Costs: Nil

Prerequisites: Nil

This course has two parts. The first is to ensure students have sound knowledge of safety in the workshop and an understanding of basic tools. This will be assessed in the form of a two credit Unit Standard, completed at the start of the course.

The second part of the course will focus on constructing a small object that will provide the basic skills required to construct 2 basic objects. Each project will require students to learn a series of basic engineering skills such as machining and finishing techniques. The first part of the course will entail the construction of a sliding bevel. This will include the blade, housing and connector. The second is a hinged box with welded joints. Designs should be approved by your teacher through accurate third party orthographic sketches.

Physical Education

1PHED

Credit Value: 20

Number of Field Trips: TBC, could require a donation

Subject Material Costs: Nil

Prerequisites: Satisfactory level of Achievement in Year 10

Movement is essential to the human experience. It facilitates a lifelong understanding of our bodies, contributes to our hauora, and allows us to live physically active lives. Movement affects and is affected by who we are. It shapes how we experience and interact with others, and our relationships and place in society.

Physical Education develops the cultural, social, emotional and intellectual capabilities of aakonga. These capabilities inform ways in which aakonga understand tikanga, provide diverse ways of participating in physical activities, and contribute to the positive effects movement has on hauora.

Music

1MUSC

Credit Value: 15

Number of Field Trips: Nil Subject Material Costs: Nil

Prerequisites: Preferable Year 9 and 10 Music - Students should be able to read the letter names in the treble and bass clefs, be familiar with note values and, preferably, to have learnt an instrument for 3 or more years.

Music offers students the opportunity to develop their creativity, performance skills, and understanding of music through a mix of practical and academic tasks. It is expected that students entering this course have a basic understanding of music theory or have taken Music as a subject in Year 9 or 10. The programme includes three key areas of assessment: composition, where students create original music or songs; instrumental or vocal performance; and research/report writing, which involves exploring ideas of context and producing a written work. Literacy skills are necessary for participating in this course.

Science

1SCIE

Credit Value: 16 + 5 + 5 optional depending on individual course design

Number of Field Trips: TBC Subject Material Costs: Nil

Science at NCEA Level 1 is compulsory. Students complete minimum of 3 internals offering 16 credits covering Physics, Chemistry & Biology, and the option of an external exam (5) for those aiming for a subject endorsement. Internal Assessments are taught in contexts accessible to students such as vehicle motion, food microbes and chemistry of the home and nature. Our final optional internal links to our local environment and waterways. Students wishing to gain subject endorsement may choose to independently complete an external for genetics offering another 5 credits This course will allow a basic coverage of all the main science disciplines to allow entry into higher learning in Level 2 and 3 of the separate sciences.

Social Studies

1SOST

Credit Value: 15

Number of Field Trips: Nil Subject Material Costs: Nil

Prerequisites: Nil

The Level 1 Social Studies course is a study into human interaction.

It explores human rights violations and injustice, a response to a social action and Social Enquires.

Senior social studies is about how societies work and how people can participate in their communities as informed, critical, active, and responsible citizens.

Students examine the causes and effects of social issues that relate to identity, culture, and organisation, and learn to take actions that may bring about social improvement.

Students investigate how individuals, communities, and societies respond to change and how ideas about society develop over time.

Visual Art

1VART

Credit Value: 15

Number of Field Trips: TBC

Subject Material Costs: see stationery list

Prerequisites: Nil, but preferably taken Year 10 Visual Art

Level 1 Visual Arts will suit students who enjoy and have talent in areas of visual art and design. The focus of our Visual Arts Course is to foster, challenge and stretch students creative thinking and celebrate their individuality through art practice. Students will develop and strengthen knowledge and skills of drawing, painting, and other art practices (printmaking or sculpture) through the exploration of techniques, variety of media and the visual arts curriculum. Students generate and develop their own ideas using artist models from Aotearoa and around the world. This course thoroughly prepares students for a wide range of exciting courses offered at Year 12 and Year 13.

Te Reo Maaori

Credit Value: 27

Number of Field Trips: 1
Subject Material Costs: Nil

Prerequisites: Nil

This course has a component of both tuhituhi (written language) and koorero (oral language). Tauira will be supported to learn, understand and incorporate kiiwaha (colloquial sayings), kupu hou (new vocabulary) and whakatauki/whakatauaki (proverbs) into their assessments.

1TREO

This is a highly academic course that covers the following strands; Koorero and Tuhituhi. There will also be two Te Ao Haka standards offereded in this course. There is also an EOTC trip to Rangiriri Maiorooro/trenches in which students will perform a Te Ao Haka item.



Level 2

60 credits are required at level 2 or above Plus 20 credits from the co-requisite (or additional standards up until 2027)

If you are entering Year 12 in 2026

- A full time course at Year 12 will be 6 subjects, there are no compulsory subjects in Year 12
- After consultation with students and parents/caregivers, the school may advise students to enroll in appropriate courses. Check prerequisites have been met.
- EVERY COURSE OFFERED IS DEPENDANT UPON THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS OPTING FOR THAT SUBJECT AND TEACHER AVAILABILITY

Important Information

If you intend to go to University, you need to complete the University Entrance Literacy requirements, which are attainable at both Level 2 and Level 3 in a range of subjects.

Art Painting

2VART

2BUSS

2BIOL

2CHEM

Credit Value: 20

Number of Field Trips: TBC

Subject Material Costs: see stationery list

Prerequisites: Nil, but preferably taken Level 1 Visual Art

Level 2 Painting will suit students who enjoy and have talent in areas of visual art painting. This course aims to give students the opportunity to explore and celebrate artistic expressions of self, community, and culture. Students learn to think creatively, critically, and reflectively. Painting students investigate the work of traditional and contemporary artists to develop and produce their own series of drawings and paintings from this investigation. Throughout the course students will learn how to work with different methods, media, and tools of the painting practice.

Business Studies

Credit Value: 19

Number of Field Trips: TBC

Subject Material Costs: Market Day (setting up your Business)

Prerequisites: Nil

This course introduces students to the practical aspects of running their own business and being self-employed. They will experience first-hand what it is like to operate a business and discover that running a business in Aotearoa New Zealand today involves responsibilities that go beyond just making a profit. The subject delivers both theory and academic content related to the functions of business such as marketing and market research, human resources and motivation theory, and some financial skills. There are practical and technical skill sets, as well as interpersonal skill sets of working within a team, and running a business. This course will benefit students in any career they choose.

Pathway: This course leads to Level 3 Business Studies and a university approved course.

Credit Value: 19

Biology

Number of Field Trips: 1
Subject Material Costs: Nil

Prerequisite: Satisfactory standard of achievement at Year 11.

Step into the world of Biology! Expanding learning beyond humans, animals, and plants as separate entities, we now explore connected systems and processes that Scientists use to explain life. This is an Achievement Standards course that includes both internal and external assessment that covers theoretical aspects relating to genetics as well as practical skills through investigating patterns in an ecological community. This course is literacy rich and uses skill strengths of reading, writing, critical thinking, and pattern recognition.

Chemistry

Credit Value: 19

Number of Field Trips: 1
Subject Material Costs: Nil

Prerequisite: Satisfactory standard of achievement at Year 11.

Step into the world of Chemistry, where learning is bubbly, colourful, and sometimes smelly! Use your skills of observation, pattern recognition, literacy, and numeracy to learn about chemistry in this course which offers both internal and external assessment opportunities. Develop an understanding of the fundamentals of chemistry supported by engaging practical learning opportunities.

Construction Technology

2CTEC

Credit Value: 18

Number of Field Trips: Nil Subject Material Costs: Nil

Prerequisite: Nil

This is a full-year practical, project-based course where students can earn 18 Level 2 credits by completing BCITO trades-based Unit Standards. Students will complete 2 woodwork projects. The knowledge & skills gained from this course will allow students to enter a Level 3 WTEC course in the following year. Alternatively, they could attend Wintec for pre-trade experience and, ultimately, a career in the building, manufacturing and construction trades.

Digital Technology

2DIGT

Credit Value: 14

Number of Field Trips: Nil Subject Material Costs: Nil

Prerequisites: Nil, but preferably taken NCEA Level 1 Digital Technology

The NCEA Level 2 Digital Technology programme focuses on student needs and industry pathways. It comprises three internal Achievement Standard assessments with a strong industry focus. The first focuses on building a wired network. The second involves conducting an inquiry into digital technologies used in industry. The third is about Python coding. Students without Level 1 digital experience should be prepared to work hard to bridge the knowledge gap.

Dance

2DANC

Credit Value: 22

Number of Field Trips: 1 Subject Material Costs: Nil

Prerequisites: Nil, but preferably taken NCEA Level 1 Dance

This course will focus on students gaining a wide range of skills through practical assessments from a variety of Dance styles such as Hip Hop, Contemporary, Jazz, Lyrical, Cultural and Modern. Students will continue to deepen their theoretical knowledge of choreographic devices and elements to showcase their individuality and creativity. Students will be able to select specific standards to create a more personalised programme that supports their overall learning goals.

Drama

2DRAM

Credit Value: 18

Number of Field Trips: 1-2 Theatre trip

Subject Material Costs: Nil

Prerequisites: Nil, but preferably taken NCEA Level 1 Drama

Each student will be required to work in groups for internal assessments. However, students can select specific standards to cater for their individual academic goals. Drama provides a platform to increase self confidence that can be applied to all areas of students' lives. There will be opportunities to watch live theatre as well as performing to a live audience.

English 2ENGL

Credit Value: 15 or 18 Number of Field Trips: TBC

Subject Material Costs: Costs of EOTC opportunities throughout the year to attend

live performances, as applicable.

Prerequisite: Satisfactory standard of achievement at Level 1

This is a full year English programme for students who wish to undertake learning and achievement in the English curriculum for pathway purposes. The programme prepares students for two end of year examinations, as well as several internally assessed standards. The programme is academically challenging, will comprise a blend of oral, visual, and written aspects of the English curriculum, and provides a possible pathway to undertaking Year 13 English in 2027.

Geography 2GEOG

Credit Value: 17

Number of Field Trips: TBC Subject Material Costs: Nil

Prerequisite: NCEA Level 1 Geography 12 Credits

Geography course at Level 2 is University Entrance approved and continues to build on the geographic concepts and skills taught in Level 1. The course includes both natural and cultural Geography. Topics may include sustainability, urban distribution patterns, the global topic, a relevant contemporary issue, and geographic skills. This course allows students to look at both natural and cultural environments while analysing people's perspectives on current issues and events. Field trips during the year provide vital opportunities to gather case study material for assessment and attendance is therefore compulsory.

Gateway 2GATE

Credit Value: 30 but additional relevant credits from courses are also available.

Subject Material Costs: Nil

Students in this course need to be willing to work independently as they will all be on an individual learning program. The expectation is that they complete Unit Standards that are specific to their chosen career area. Depending on their career pathway they will also be required to complete a work placement, so must be motivated "and work" ready.

Continuation in this subject: Because there is no Gateway at Level 3 it is expected that students completing this program will proceed to further study in a tertiary institution or gain entry into the work force.

Haka 2HAKA

Credit Value: 17

Number of Field Trips: TBC Subject Material Costs: Nil

Prerequisite: Satisfactory standard of achievement at Year 11

Level 2 Te Ao Haka is a unique opportunity to connect deeply with Maaori culture, language, and identity through the powerful art of haka. This course goes beyond performance; it teaches students about whakapapa (genealogy) and tikanga (customs). Te Ao Haka enables students to delve into the rich cultural elements of haka, encompassing movement, expression, language, and storytelling. There will be an opportunity for aakonga to take part in a tour at Ngaa Maiorooro o Rangiriri, where the students will authentically display the elements of te ao haka.

Aakonga can use Te Ao Haka towards NCEA and University Entrance.

Health

2HEAL

Credit Value: 20

Number of Field Trips: Nil Subject Material Costs: Nil

Prerequisite: Satisfactory standard of achievement at Health Year 11.

Health is about the wellbeing of individuals, whānau, and communities. It is about developing an understanding of the factors that influence the health of these groups.

By engaging in this subject, aakonga develop further understanding of Aotearoa New Zealand as a bicultural nation, with diverse viewpoints on hauora, health, and wellbeing. Aakonga will learn about how actions can enhance hauora and explore ways to manage change situations that impact health and wellbeing.

Horticulture

2 HORT

Credit Value: 24

Number of Field Trips: 1 Subject Material Costs: Nil

Prerequisites: Nil, but preferably taken Level 1 Horticulture

Level 2 horticulture builds on knowledge of growing plants learned in Level 1. Rather than growing plants from seed, you will explore the world of plant propagation. Develop the skills that will allow you to grow a tree from a stick, understand the importance of nutrients in the soil and take ownership of your patch of earth to watch your learning grow. This course is made up of Unit Standards and is suitable for those wishing to pursue a career on the land, or as a companion course to Biology or Chemistry.

History

2HIST

Credit Value: 19

Number of Field Trips: TBC Subject Material Costs: Nil

Prerequisites: Nil

Students will research and analyse key events from World History that have had a significant impact on New Zealand. These events do not have to have taken place in New Zealand and can be anything from the creation of the steam engine to the rise of the Polynesian Panthers. The study of History is heavily student interest based and will involve using research skills to find and evaluate historical sources, examining the causes and consequences of key events, and learning about the perspectives of different groups and the actions they have taken because of those perspectives. Students will also gain an understanding of the choices and actions that lead to the events and the long term fall out for New Zealand society because of those events.

Hospitality

2HOSP

Credit Value: 16

Number of Field Trips: Nil Subject Material Costs: Nil

Prerequisites: Nil, but preferably taken Level 1 Hospitality

In Year 12 Hospitality you will be completing unit standards developed by Service IQ. The unit standards are all internally assessed. For most unit standards you will complete practical and theory assessments.

Year 12 Hospitality gives you the opportunity to develop skills used in the Hospitality industry. It also provides useful qualifications if you are applying for a part-time job in a food business. The skills you learn in this course will be of value for the rest of your life!

Mathematics Academic

2MATA

Credit Value: 19

Number of Field Trips: Nil

Subject Materials Cost: Students are recommended to purchase a graphics calculator.

Students will be significantly disadvantaged without this calculator.

Prerequisite: Grades of Achieved or better in at least one externally assessed

Achievement Standard in mathematics, including at least one grade of Merit or better.

Full level 2 NCEA course. For students who wish to continue mathematics at higher levels.

Continuation in this subject: Year 13 Mathematics or Year 13 Statistics.

Careers: Science, business, services, or engineering fields.

Mechanical Engineering

2MECH

Credit Value: 18

Number of Field Trips: Nil Subject Material Costs: Nil

Prerequisites: Level 1 Mechanical Engineering

This course has three parts. The first is to ensure students have sound knowledge of safety in the workshop and an understanding of basic tools. This will be assessed in the form of a Unit Standard, completed at the start of the course.

The second part of the course will focus on constructing a working handcart. The project will require students to learn a series of engineering skills such as machining and finishing techniques.

The main part of the course will entail the construction of a sliding bevel. This will include the blade, housing and connector. The final part of this course involves the completion of orthographic drawings.

Continuation in this subject: Level 3 Mechanical Engineering

Mathematics Applied

2MATH

Credit Value: 15

Number of Field Trips: Nil

Subject Material Cost: Scientific or graphics calculator needed.

Prerequisite: Grades of Achieved or better in at least one externally assessed Achievement Standards and 10 credits from internally assessed achievement

standards in Mathematics

Selected standards from Level 2 Mathematics and Statistics. This is an alternative from the Academic Level 2 course.

Continuation in this subject: If students do very well in this course, they may do Mathematics or Statistics at Year 13.

Music Studies

2MUSC

Credit Value: 18-22

Subject Material Costs: Nil

Preferable previous courses taken: Level 1 Music. Students should have passed the equivalent Achievement Standards at Level 1. Students should preferably have 4 years or more of study with an itinerant music teacher on their specific instrument for Performance Standards.

Prerequisites: Head of Faculty discretion.

Level 2 Music allows students to further develop their skills and explore individual interests in music through a balance of practical and theoretical work. Students are expected to have completed Level 1 Music and to have built a solid foundation in instrumental performance and music concepts through previous junior and senior music classes. The course offers flexibility for students to focus on their strengths, with assessments in both group and solo performance, digital composition and songwriting using music technology, and a mandatory literacy-based report exploring the significance of New Zealand music. Strong instrumental ability and a solid understanding of music theory are essential for success at this level.

Photography

2PHOT

Credit Value: 20

Number of Field Trips: TBC Subject Material Costs: Nil

Prerequisite: Nil but preferably taken Level 1 Visual Art

Level 2 Photography will suit students who enjoy and have talent in areas of visual art. Students will need to be able to think creatively and imaginatively to develop ideas in traditional and contemporary photography practice. The Photography course aims to give students the opportunity to explore and celebrate artistic expressions of self, community, and culture. Students learn to think creatively, critically, and reflectively and develop skills in the field of photography. Students will learn how to work with adobe suite and manual digital cameras.

Physics

2PHYS

Credit Value: 20

Number of Field Trips: TBC Subject Material Costs: Nil

Prerequisite: Satisfactory standard of achievement at Year 11.

Step into the world of Physics – a world which you already understand – we'll show you how! This course will give you the skills to explain and communicate your understanding of Physics in connection with motion, electricity, and waves and their application in your life. Theoretical calculations will be proven through experimental testing, with assessment opportunities that are both internal and external. This course compliments Level 2 Mathematics and is highly relevant for anyone interested in problem-solving, design engineering, or health pathways.

Physical Education

2PHED

Credit Value: 14

Number of Field Trips: 1

Subject Material Costs: There is an EOTC component to this course and a donation may be

asked for towards the cost.

Prerequisite: Satisfactory standard of achievement at Year 11 Physical Education.

Physical Education develops the cultural, social, emotional and intellectual capabilities of aakonga. These capabilities inform ways in which aakonga understand tikanga, provide diverse ways of participating in physical activities, and contribute to the positive effects movement has on hauora.

This is a practical and theory based course. Students will participate in a variety of physical activities and study the affects on well-being, as well as develop interpersonal skills through involvement in group activities. This course is a prerequisite for Level 3 Physical Education.

Sports Studies

2SPRT

Credit Value: 28

Number of Field Trips: 1 Camp or Day trip Subject Material Costs: EOTC component costs

Prerequisite: Nil

Physical Education develops the cultural, social, emotional and intellectual capabilities of aakonga. These capabilities inform ways in which aakonga understand tikanga, provide diverse ways of participating in physical activities, and contribute to the positive effects movement has on hauora.

The course is a practical and theory based course. Students will participate in a variety of physical activities and study the effects of participation on well-being. They will also develop their interpersonal skills through involvement in group activities.

This course is a combination of Unit and Achievement standards.

Te Reo Maaori 2TREO

Credit Value: 18

Number of Field Trips: 1
Subject Material Costs: Nil

Prerequisite: Minimum of 12 credits from NCEA Level 1 Te Reo Maaori.

This course has a component of both tuhituhi (written language) and koorero (oral language). Tauira will be supported to learn, understand and incorporate kiiwaha (colloquial sayings), kupu hou (new vocabulary) and whakatauki/whakatauaki (proverbs) into their assessments.

This is a highly academic course that covers the following strands; Koorero and Tuhituhi. This course will also incorporate tikanga maaori aspects in which aakonga will embrace karakia and waiata.

EVERY COURSE OFFERED IS DEPENDANT UPON THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS OPTING FOR THAT SUBJECT AND TEACHER AVAILABILITY





Level 3

60 credits are required at Level 3
Plus 20 credits from the co-requisite (or additional standards up until 2027)

If you are entering Year 13 in 2026

- A full time course at Year 13 will be 5 subjects, there are no compulsory subjects in Year 13
- After consultation with students and parents/caregivers, the school may advise students to enroll in appropriate courses. Check prerequisites have been met.
- Whether courses run will depend on sufficient numbers of students

University Entrance in 2026

The New Zealand Qualifications Authority has established entry requirements for students who wish to enter university. It is therefore important for all students who are entering Year 13 in 2026 to ensure that they are taking a course which will provide them with appropriate credits to gain entry to University in 2027.

- NCEA level 3
 Including the 20 Literacy and Numeracy CAA or additional standards
- 14 credits at Level 3 in each of three approved subjects. (Unit standard credits are not approved for U.E.)
- UE Literacy 10 credits at Level 2 or above made up of 5 credits in reading and 5 credits in writing

Art Painting

3VART

Credit Value: 22

Number of Field Trips: TBC

Subject Material Costs: see stationery list

Prerequisites: Level 2 Painting or Learning Area Leader discretion

Level 3 Painting will suit students who enjoy and have talent in areas of visual art painting. This course aims to give students the opportunity to explore and celebrate artistic expressions of self, community, and culture. Students learn to express and interpret ideas and build confidence to take artistic risks. To think creatively, critically, and reflectively. Students will explore and investigate artist models then use this research and knowledge to think creatively and imaginatively and develop their own artworks. Success in Level 3 Painting will provide the base knowledge and skills that are useful in further education and studies of art and/or designs. And can provide foundation skills in the art industry.

Business Studies

3BUSS

Credit Value: 19

Number of Field Trips: TBC

Subject Material Costs: Cost of starting own Business

Prerequisites: 12 Level 2 Business studies credits OR 12 Level 2 credits in ENGL or

similar subjects

This subject gives students a chance to learn and apply skills related to Business Studies. The highlight of this course is a practical business experience which sees students develop, outsource production, market, and sell an innovative and sustainable product. Students will gain valuable experience in leadership, business operations, human resource, finance and collaborating with others. The subject delivers both theory and academic content related to business and the practical and technical skill sets, as well as interpersonal skill sets of working within a team, and running a business.

This course is university entrance approved

Biology

3BIOL

Credit Value: 18

Number of Field Trips: 1 Subject Material Costs: Nil

Prerequisite: Satisfactory standard of achievement at Year 12

Continue your learning in Biology, the science of living things! This is an Achievement Standards course that provides students with a foundation in understanding the evolution of species generally and human evolution specifically. You will learn about how modern genetic engineering may affect our species. This course offers both internal and external assessment of learning through disciplines including researching a controversial biological issue and applications of biotechnology. This course is designed to prepare students for further studies in Biological Sciences and requires critical literacy skills including development and justification of an argument using evidence.

Chemistry

3CHEM

Credit Value: 23

Number of Field Trips: 1 Subject Material Costs: Nil

Prerequisite: Satisfactory standard of achievement at Level 2 Chem.

Continue your learning from NCEA Level 2 Chemistry. In this course we build on your knowledge from last year and dive deeper into chemistry concepts and apply it to real world examples and contexts. A trip to Waikato University allows you to experience how in field laboratory work is done by Chemists. This course is assessed both internally and externally and is designed to prepare students for further studies in this field whether it is at university or out in the field.

Dance

3DANC

Credit Value: 14

Number of Field Trips: 1 Subject Material Costs: Nil

Prerequisites: Head of Faculty discretion

This course will focus on students demonstrating their practical Dance abilities from a variety of Dance styles such as Hip Hop, Contemporary, Jazz, Lyrical, Cultural and Modern. Producing unique choreography that is creative and shows the students theoretical knowledge of choreographic devices and elements allow students to perform at live performances over the course of the year. All students will be able to select specific standards to create a more personalised academic learning programme that supports their individual goals.

Drama

3DRAM

Credit Value: 14

Number of Field Trips: 2 Theatre Trips

Subject Material Costs: Nil

Prerequisites: Head of Faculty discretion.

Students can select specific standards to cater for their individual academic goals and are able to work individually or collaboratively. Drama provides a platform to increase self confidence that can be applied to all areas of students' lives. The skills attained in Drama are beneficial for a wide range of career pathways. There will be opportunities to watch live theatre as well as performing to a live audience.

Digital Technology

3DIGT

Credit Value: 26

Number of Field Trips: 1
Subject Material Costs: Nil

Prerequisites: Satisfactory standard of achievement at Year 12

Entry will be by agreement with the Teacher in Charge of Digital Technology, based on engagement in Year 12 or a clear indication of suitable skills to allow students to succeed at NCEA Level 3.

This course focuses on wireless networking, critical inquiry and the creation of an advanced digital tool for educational use.

The latter involves creating a series of web videos focusing on a chosen subject.

English

3ENGL

Credit Value: 15 or 18
Number of Field Trips: TBC

Subject Material Costs: Costs for EOTC opportunities to experience live

performances, as applicable.

Prerequisite: Students must have gained significant success in the full year NCEA

Level 2 English programme, and also require NCEA Level 3 English for their career / tertiary pathway.

This is a full year academic English course for students wishing to go to university or other tertiary level study. It requires critical and independent thinking, reading and writing skills, a strong work ethic, and excellent self-management.

General Science

3GSCI

Credit Value: 14

Number of Field Trips: Nil Subject Material Cost: Nil

Prerequisites: Satisfactory standard of achievement in at least 1 Level 2 science

subjects

Science is the study of the world around us. Scientists seek to understand and explain their observations of the natural world. This course is based around the issues and challenges facing our local waterways. It is all assessed internally, no exams.

In this NCEA Level 3 course a range of topics will be covered by different disciplines such as Earth & Space Science, Chemistry and Biology. This course can lead to any science or engineering courses for university entrance.

Haka

ЗНАКА

Credit Value: 20

Number of field Trips: 1
Subject Material Costs: Nil

Prerequisite: Minimum of 12 credits from NCEA 2 Te Ao Haka

Level 3 Te Ao Haka provides opportunities for aakonga to engage in Maaori culture, language, and traditional practices. Aakonga learn their whakapapa, history and language through the medium of haka. The subject combines traditional and contemporary culture. There will be an opportunity for aakonga to showcase their haka skills and watch a kapa haka performance.

Aakonga can use Te Ao Haka towards NCEA and University Entrance.

Geography

3GEOG

Credit Value: 15

Number of Field Trips: 1 Subject Material Costs: Nil

Prerequisites: NCEA Level 2 Geography 14 Credits (1 must be external standard)

Level 3 Geography is University Entrance approved and continues to build on the concepts and skills taught at Level 2. The course consists of three Internal standards and one external standard. There is an opportunity for Subject Endorsement at this level pending discussions with HOD Social Sciences. Topics may include interacting processes, cultural analysis, global diamond market, and human trafficking.

Health

3HEAL

Credit Value: 19

Number of Field Trips: Nil Subject Material Costs: Nil

Prerequisite: Satisfactory standard of achievement at Health Year 12.

Health is about the wellbeing of individuals, whānau, and communities. It is about developing an understanding of the factors that influence the health of these groups. By engaging in this subject, ākonga develop further understanding of Aotearoa New Zealand as a bicultural nation, with diverse viewpoints on hauora, health, and wellbeing. Ākonga will learn about how actions can enhance hauora and explore ways to manage change situations that impact health and wellbeing.

Level three Health looks at the wider effects of issues on whole communities and societies. Looking at strategies that make the most impact, whilst always weaving the underlying concepts of health throughout their strategies.

Horticulture

3HORT

Credit Value: TBC

Number of Field Trips: TBC Subject Material Costs: Nil

Prerequisite: Satisfactory standard of achievement at Level1 and Level 2.

This course is constructed for the needs of the students, allowing flexibility for those who would like to explore Agricultural principles. This course is a mix of internal Achievement and external Standards and is suitable for students that would like to pursue further training within the Ag/Hort industry, a career on the land, Environmental sciences or as a companion course to Biology or Chemistry.

Mathematics

3MATH

Credit Value: 21

Number of Field Trips: Nil

Subject Materials Cost: Students need to purchase a Casio graphics calculators, which costs

approximately \$120.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Level 2 Mathematics, including grades of Achieved or better in 91257 and at least 9 credits from other internally assessed Level 2 standards.

A full Level 3 NCEA course that includes calculus, trigonometry, and algebra.

University Entrance: This course is approved as a University Entrance course

Careers: Recommended for those pursing engineering and science fields at tertiary level.

Music Studies

3MUSC

Credit Value: 18-22

Subject Material Costs: Nil

Qualification: Level 3 is UE approved

Prerequisite: Level 2 Music. Students should preferably have 4 years or more of study with an itinerant music teacher on their specific instrument for Performance Standards.

Level 3 Music is a student-led programme designed for those with a strong background in music, building on skills developed through previous senior music courses. It is essential that students entering this course have prior experience in performance, composition, and music literacy, as the programme requires a high level of independence and self-direction. The course is shaped around students' individual interests and strengths, with assessments in solo and group performance, composition or songwriting using music technology, and a research-based report focused on understanding a complex musical piece. Foundational literacy skills and a solid grasp of music theory and concepts are necessary to meet the demands of this course. Level 3 Music is a University Entrance-approved subject and supports students preparing for further study in music or the creative arts.

Photography

3PHOT

Credit Value: 22

Number of Field Trips: TBC

Subject Material Costs: USB memory stick

Prerequisites Level 2 Photography or Learning Area Leader discretion.

Level 3 Photography will suit students who enjoy and have talent in areas of visual art painting. Students will need to be able to think creatively and imaginatively to develop ideas in the traditional and contemporary art field of photography. This course aims to give students the opportunity to explore and celebrate artistic expressions of self, community, and culture through the photography practice. Students learn to express and interpret ideas and build confidence to take artistic risks. To think creatively, critically, and reflectively. They learn to think "outside the box". To develop skills in digital media work with adobe suite and manual operation of the digital cameras.

Physical Education

3PHED

Credit Value: 14

Number of Field Trips: Camp or Day trips **Subject Material Costs:** EOTC component

Prerequisite: Satisfactory standard of achievement at Year 12.

Physical Education develops the cultural, social, emotional and intellectual capabilities of aakonga. These capabilities inform ways in which aakonga understand tikanga, provide diverse ways of participating in physical activities, and contribute to the positive effects movement has on hauora.

This is a practical and theory based course. Students will participate in a variety of physical activities and study the affects on well-being, as well as develop interpersonal skills through involvement in group activities.

Statistics

3STAT

Credit Value: 16

Number of Field Trips: Nil

Subject Materials cost: Students need to purchase a graphics calculator. A standard

Casio costs approximately \$120.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Level 2 Mathematics, including grades of Achieved or better in 91267 and at least 9 credits from internally assessed Level 2 standards.

A full Level 3 NCEA course which includes probability, statistical investigation. Investigations justified by research is used in some of the assessments.

University Entrance: This course is approved as a University Entrance course for 1 subject – Statistics.

Careers: Recommended for those pursuing management, business and science fields at tertiary level.

Physics (currently a Te Kura subject TBC)

3PHYS

Credit Value: 19

Number of Field Trips: TBC Subject Material Costs: Nil

Prerequisite: Satisfactory standard of achievement at Year 12.

Continue your learning in Physics. Level 3 Physics will further expand on concepts learned at Level 2 and then apply them to modern technology and the way established laws of Physics are impacting the growth of infrastructure and technology in today's society. Strengths in Algebra with Calculus is an advantage for this course which uses mathematical relationships to quantify theory. Both internal and external assessments will be offered in this Achievement Standards course.

Te Reo Maaori

3TREO

Credit Value: 19

Number of Field Trips: 1
Subject Material Costs: Nil

Prerequisite: Minimum of 12 credits from NCEA Level 2 Te Reo Maaori.

This is a highly academic course that covers the following strands; Koorero and Tuhituhi. Tauira will be supported to learn, understand and incorporate Kiiwaha (colloquial sayings), kupu hou (new vocabulary) and whakatauki/whakatauaki (proverbs) into their assessments.