YEAR 9

LEARNING AREAS

- English - Health & Physical Education - Mathematics - Science - Social Sciences - Technology - The Arts - Learning Languages

Full Year Courses:
All Year 9 students study the following:
- English
- Health & Physical Education
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social Studies

Semester (two terms) Courses:
All students study two more subjects from each of the following learning areas:
- Technology
- The Arts

All students study one language:
- Learning Languages

All students study another subject from any one of the following learning areas:
- Integrated Studies
- Learning Languages
- Social Sciences-Financial Capability
- Technology
- The Arts

All subjects are timetabled and are only taught if sufficient numbers of students wish to study them. Refer to the year 9 subject choice form in the student enrolment document.

FULL YEAR COURSES

ENGLISH

English is all about communication and language, enjoying and studying oral, written and visual texts.

Students will become increasingly skilled speakers and listeners, readers and writers, presenters and viewers.

There are three thematic based modules and four Common tests throughout the year, and an end of year exam.

CONTACT PERSON: Mrs R Jamieson

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

This course provides a variety of learning experiences with emphasis on participation in a range of physical activities, including athletics, swimming, dance, gymnastics,2 inventive games, contact sports and fitness.

Our health programme seeks to prepare our students for their journey as teenagers with units on Me and My World, Sexuality and Puberty, Drug Awareness and Keeping Ourselves Safe. The 4 key strands from the health and physical education curriculum are explored in detail and learning objectives from each strand are assessed.

CONTACT PERSON: Mr H Uivel/Miss S Cochrane

MATHEMATICS

This course consolidates, explores and develops content and processes from Levels 3 and 4 of the New Zealand Curriculum. Content from Number & Algebra, Geometry & Measurement and Statistics strands is presented within a range of meaningful contexts.

The Mathematics classes are divided into two top classes, who follow a busy enrichment programme, 9 to 10 mixed ability classes and two smaller classes for those students who may need to learn at a slower pace. Students may be changed from one class to another during the year into a class offering a more suitable programme.

Calculators are used and all students must purchase a Casio scientific calculator at the beginning of the year.

Students do end of topic assessments and a three hour exam. They are also offered international competitions to take part in.

(Compulsory for the top classes)

COURSE COSTS: approx. $20 for workbooks and an extra $20 for competitions

CONTACT PERSON: Mr S Achary

SCIENCE

Learning in science is fundamental to understanding the world in which we live and work. This course develops skills and attitudes through the broad learning contexts of the:
- Nature of Science
- Living World
- Physical World
- Planet Earth and Beyond
- Material World

Within these learning contexts students will study topics such as Introduction to Science, Food and Digestion, Matter, Astronomy, Mixing and Separating, Hydrology, Ecology, Botany, and Waves and Energy, as well as the opportunity to carry out a scientific investigation leading to submitting a Science Fair project.

In the study of these topics students will be given opportunities to develop their scientific skills and attitudes as well as being made aware of the nature of science and its relationship to technology.

COURSE COSTS: $23 for a write-on format student workbook; $8 for ICAS Science exam (optional)

CONTACT PERSON: Mr C Taylor

SOCIAL STUDIES

Social Studies is about how societies work and how people can participate as critical, active, informed, and responsible citizens.

Contexts are drawn from the past, present, and future and from places within and beyond New Zealand. Students will use a range of important skills, such as communication, numeracy and problem-solving skills. They will also develop the ability to self-manage and work collaboratively with others. Year 9 students explore the concepts of culture, migration, government, and also economic decision-making.

CONTACT PERSON: Mr J Khan

THE FOLLOWING ARE ALL SEMESTER COURSES (TWO TERMS)

INTEGRATED STUDIES

CROSS CURRICULAR LITERACY (9CL)

This course will look at key literacy skills that students will need across a range of subjects. It will give students strategies for dealing with increasingly difficult academic vocabulary they will encounter in secondary school, as well as strategies for approaching different text types in reading and writing, such as explanations, arguments, and reports. The development of these cross-curricular literacy skills will be through a series of real and thematic units of work.

Cross-curricular Literacy is for any students who would like an overview of the literacy skills they will need to develop in their different subjects.

CONTACT PERSON: Mr J Crandell-Tanner

LEARNING LANGUAGES

FOUNDATION ENGLISH (EF) - by invitation

This course is designed to meet the English language learning needs of students who are working at foundation and stage one levels of The English Language Learning Progressions (ELLP).

The aim of the course is to help students move, when they are ready, into a limited range of mainstream subjects. Topics have been chosen to aid this transition to mainstream subjects.

Students are provided with individualised programmes within the course framework to build on their strengths and support their English language learning needs across the four skills areas of reading, writing, listening and speaking. The EF Programme recognise the importance of learning high frequency vocabulary and regular time is spent on this.

Subject specific teachers from Maths and Science also teach the students in the EF classroom.

CONTACT PERSON: Ms S Weiss

ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNING (9ELL)

This English Language Learning option class is designed to meet the English language learning needs of a group of Year 9 students from a range of language and cultural backgrounds. Most of the students are also in mainstream subjects, including English.

The students with lower language proficiency also receive English Language support in the school’s English Foundation class.

The course is designed to ensure that the students develop familiarity with the topics, text and task types they will encounter in mainstream New Zealand classrooms. It also aims to improve the students’ English listening, speaking, reading, writing and vocabulary levels.
It is anticipated that some students will move on to 10ENL at the end of the year whereas some will transition into mainstream English classrooms.

CONTACT PERSON: Mrs U Bonning

FRENCH, SPANISH, JAPANESE, MANDARIN CHINESE (9FRE, 9SPA, 9JAP, 9MAN)

These are all one semester courses and will meet the needs of beginners and those with some prior learning. The programmes all offer an introduction to the main communicative skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing, integrated with cultural knowledge. In Japanese and Chinese, students will also learn to write in Hirigana script and some basic Chinese Characters. The languages department is innovative in its use of e-learning, and students will be encouraged to make use of a variety of digital tools. Where students have substantial previous learning, the student should discuss the programme with the head of department. Students who have significant prior knowledge may have an opportunity to accelerate.

CONTACT PERSON FRENCH: Mrs S Collett
CONTACT PERSON JAPANESE: Ms F Akiyama
CONTACT PERSON MANDARIN CHINESE: Ms C Howard-Shi

TE REO MĀORI (9MĀO)

This one semester course offers an introduction to the main communicative skills of speaking, listening, writing and reading in Te Reo Māori. Students who have significant prior knowledge of Te Reo Māori (as in those from a kura kaupapa background) should discuss an alternative programme with the Hod Māori.

CONTACT PERSON: Matua Walker

FINANCIAL CAPABILITY (9FIN)

This course aims to develop financially capable students who can operate in the real world. Basic economic concepts are introduced in the unit The Economic Problem. Earning an Income explores different sources of income. Managing your Money looks at how to prepare a simple personal budget and how to make your money work for you. Spending your Money Wisely evaluates payment options and different places or ways to buy goods and services. Students learn practical life skills in saving, spending and different places or ways to buy goods and services. Students learn practical life skills in making, self-sufficiency and students will be encouraged to make use of a variety of digital tools. Where students have substantial previous learning, the student should discuss the programme with the head of department. Students who have significant prior knowledge may have an opportunity to accelerate.

CONTACT PERSON: Mrs S Collett

FOOD TECHNOLOGY (9FNT)

The aims of this course are to develop knowledge and practical skills in the preparation, cooking and service of food. Students will think creatively and critically, make decisions, learn to work in a team and begin to understand the place of technology in our world today. The content of the course is focused around practical work and includes working with recipes, food safety, eating for good health and the development of a snack food for a teenager.

Course Costs: $40.00 (Covers all food and workbook)

CONTACT PERSON: Mrs S Paris

MATERIALS TECHNOLOGY

(WOOD - 9MTW and METAL - 9MTM)

This is a practical based course involving the planning, design and development of outcomes from a brief. There is an emphasis on designing outcomes that are suitable for intended use, as well as developing practical skills using a range of materials and equipment to complete a chosen outcome. Students will also learn various aspects of the technology curriculum which supports their classroom practice and helps develop a deeper understanding of technology in the modern world. Costs involved relate to materials used.

Course Costs: $20

CONTACT PERSON: Mr B McDonald

MATERIALS TECHNOLOGY (FABRICS - 9MTF)

This is a practical based course involving fabric decoration, design folio work, craft and garment design and construction. Students use the technology process to complete two practical projects, and develop skills in using a range of materials and equipment, particularly the sewing machine.

CONTACT PERSON: Mrs R Gluyas

THE ARTS

ART (9ART)

This course offers a range of techniques in painting, drawing, design, printing and sculpture. Students learn through both practical and theory components. This course is designed for students who wish to learn new skills in Art and continue into year 10 and beyond.

CONTACT PERSON: Mrs R Hickman-Elder

Drama (9DRA)

This course offers a range of skills based activities leading from improvisation to production drama. Students have the opportunity to develop confidence in speaking, making and in theatre craft. This is a practical course with some written evaluation of group and individual performance.

CONTACT PERSON: Mrs S Blinks

MUSIC (9MUS)

This course aims to develop performance skills and musical confidence while establishing students’ understanding of basic musical concepts through musical knowledge and learning to read music. Students are given the opportunity for musical exploration and creativity through composition and improvisation activities. Of the three periods of music a week, one is for practical music and learning to play in a band. Students will have the opportunity to learn an instrument and develop their musical ability.

CONTACT PERSON: Mr M Cook

The following two courses are by invitation and will run in semester two

JEPP

Junior Enrichment & Extension Programme – by invitation

The Junior Enrichment and Extension Programme (JEPP) provides extension opportunities for academically able students. It includes group work, discussion, problem-solving, thinking outside the square, and working outside of one’s comfort zone.

The programme uses the Multiple Intelligences Framework to ensure that students gain opportunities to learn that intelligence can be expressed, developed and explored in multiple areas. The social/emotional as well as the intellectual needs of these students are met. The framework provides many dimensions of learning and engagement to develop and reinforce autonomous leaner skills and attitudes.

Students who participate in Year 9 JEPP will not be granted automatic entry to Year 10 JEPP.

Applications for entry into the Year 10
programme will be open to all Year 9 students.

CONTACT PERSON: Ms M Raleigh

YEAR 9 JUNIOR SPORTS DEVELOPMENT – by invitation

Students applying for this half year programme will go through a rigorous selection process during term 2 before being accepted into the group. Selection will be based on sporting ability, potential, effort in both sport and school and general attitude. This is not a timetabled option course but a range of extra-curricular experiences. The group will meet once a week (generally in the morning before school) in terms 3 and 4. This course will prepare the students for the Year 10 programme and will cover goal setting, fitness testing & training, strategy, teamwork and keeping training logs. There will be several trips during school time and students will need to catch up on work missed. Students who demonstrate the required levels of effort and dedication will be offered a place in the year 10 programme.

CONTACT PERSON: Mr B Kennedy