



**WHANGANUI
COLLEGIATE
SCHOOL**

Senior Curriculum Handbook



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2025	Cambridge	NCEA	
	Year 11 IGCSE 6 subjects	Year 12 Level 2 6 subjects	Year 13 Level 3 5 subjects
			Study
English	English Literature OR English as a Second Language	English OR English as a Second Language	English OR English as a Second Language
		Media	Media
Mathematics	Core OR Extended	Mathematics	Statistics
		Mathematics Pure	Calculus
Sciences	Combined	Biology	Biology
		Chemistry	Chemistry
		Physics	Physics
		AgHort	AgHort
Visual Art	Art & Design	Design	Design
		Painting	Painting
		Photography	Photography
		Printmaking	Printmaking
Music	Music	Music	Music
Drama	Drama	Drama	Drama
Technology	Design & Technology	Joinery/Furniture	Fine Furniture
		Product Design	Product Design
Social Sciences	History	History	History
	Geography	Geography	Geography
	Economics	Economics	Economics
	Global Perspectives		
	Accounting	Accounting	Accounting
			Agribusiness
Physical Education & Health	Physical Education	Physical Education	Physical Education
		Outdoor Education	Outdoor Education
		Health	Health
Languages	NCEA Te Reo Māori	NCEA Te Reo Māori	NCEA Te Reo Māori
	Spanish	Spanish	Spanish

	Compulsory subject
	Highly Recommended
	Subject not available



**WHANGANUI
COLLEGIATE
SCHOOL**

Introduction

Curriculum Pathways at Whanganui Collegiate School

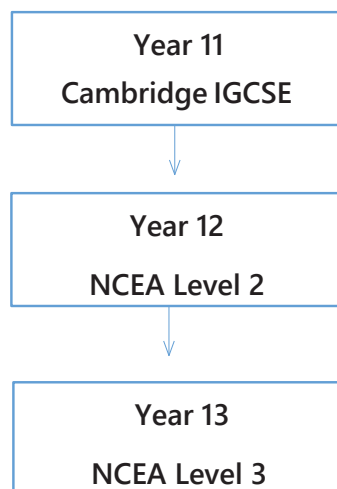
The Senior Curriculum Handbook is designed to provide an overview of the curriculum framework at WCS to support decision making around subject choice selection, providing a learning programme which may be personalised to ensure the best outcomes for each student.

In Year 11 students study Cambridge IGCSE; in Year 12 students study NCEA Level 2 and in Year 13, students study NCEA Level 3.

Some students know what subjects they will study to best prepare them for whatever they choose to do on leaving WCS and for them, their choices are clear, however others may still be considering their future options. We encourage students to keep a broad curriculum base, identifying subjects they have a strong interest in and developing an understanding of what they would like to study in the future which will assist their decision making.

The Pathway

Cambridge & NCEA



Cambridge Pathway

Understanding Cambridge Assessment International Education

Cambridge Assessment International Education (CAIE) offers a wide range of internationally recognised qualifications, administered by the University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate (UCLES). Established in 1863, it provides examination services in over 160 countries around the world.

How does it work?

Cambridge offers three general secondary qualifications.

- International General Certificate of Secondary Education (**IGCSE**) offered to all our Year 11 students
- Advanced Subsidiary Level (**AS**) Year 12-13 students
- Advanced Level (**A Level**) Year 13 students (maybe offered from 2026)

Cambridge courses are generally assessed through external examinations. A small number of subjects also have a coursework component e.g. music. The different course components of each subject are assessed by separate examination papers, including practical work in the sciences. Students receive grades and percentage marks for each subject.

Examinations are held twice a year in May/June and October/November. We enter our students into the November examination series.

Cambridge qualifications are recognised internationally and can be used for University Entrance qualification in New Zealand and overseas universities.

IGCSE

(International General Certificate of Secondary Education)

IGCSE will be offered to Year 11 students.

Subjects such as Mathematics can offer a choice of 'Core' in a single subject and 'Extended' catering for differing abilities.

Students who enrol for 'Core' can only attain up to a grade of C. Extended results are graded from A* to U.

IGCSE Grade	Percentage
A*	90%+
A	80-89%
B	70-79%
C	60-69%
D	50-59%
E	40-49%
U	0-40%

NCEA Pathway

Understanding National Certificate of Education Achievement

The National Certificate of Education Achievement (NCEA) is administered by the New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA) and is internationally recognised.

There are three levels of NCEA. Students may opt for Level 2 for 2025 and Level 2 and Level 3 for 2026. The flexibility of NCEA allows for skills-based learning that is personalised and engaging.

NCEA Standards

NCEA subjects are divided into standards. Each standard describes what a student needs to know or what they must be able to achieve to meet the standard.

Internal and External Achievement Standards

Internal assessments are standards assessed at School and marked by teachers with national moderation. They can be practical and are sometimes completed over extended periods.

External assessments are standards assessed externally i.e. as written examinations.

Example: instead of doing a three-hour exam on English, students could be assessed in separate standards: writing a business letter, analysing a text, making a film and giving a speech. Some standards will be tested in

an examination at the end of the year and some will be assessed during the year.

NCEA Grades

When students receive their results, they will know how many credits they have achieved.

ACHIEVED (A) = satisfactory performance

MERIT (M) = very good performance

EXCELLENCE (E) = outstanding performance

NOT ACHIEVED (N) = not met standards criteria

Achieving NCEA Level 2 and Level 3

Students earn credits for each standard which contributes to the qualification. NCEA Level 2 and Level 3 are 60 credit qualifications.

Students will only be awarded an NCEA qualification once they have met the additional co-requisite Literacy and Numeracy standards. Co-requisite standards can be attempted twice a year commence in Year 10 through to end of Year 13.

Credit Requirement for NCEA Qualification

Level 2 = 60 credits

Level 3 = 60 credits

Literacy Reading = 5 credits

Literacy Writing = 5 credits

Numeracy = 10 credits

Certificate and Course Endorsement

When students perform consistently above the Achieved level, their results can be 'endorsed' to reflect that high achievement. Students can achieve an endorsement at the certificate or individual course level.

NCEA Certificate Endorsement

NCEA certificates can be endorsed with Merit or Excellence. To achieve an Excellence endorsement, 50 credits at Excellence must be earned. To achieve a Merit endorsement, 50 credits at Merit (or Excellence) must be earned. These credits must be at the level of the certificate or above.

Course Endorsement

Course endorsement provides recognition of student achievement in an individual course in a single school year. Students achieve course endorsement if, in a single school year, they achieve 14 or more credits at either Achieved, Merit or Excellence and at least 3 credits from externally assessed standards and 3 credits from internally assessed standards.



University Entrance

University Entrance (UE) is the minimum requirement to go from school to a New Zealand university and opens doors to tertiary study in other countries.

To be awarded University Entrance following the NCEA pathway, students must complete the following at NCEA Level 3:

- 14 credits at Level 3 in each of three approved subjects.
- 10 Literacy credits at Level 2 or above, made up of: 5 credits in reading and 5 credits in writing.
- 10 Numeracy credits at Level 1 or above, made up of: co-requisite Level 1 Numeracy unit standard 32406 or certain achievement standards.
- NZQA Approved Subjects for University Entrance.

University Entrance provides entrance to university. However, some universities require certain subject areas to be included, and some have specific entry criteria. All universities publish these details.

For a complete list of NCEA Achievement Standards for each approval subject, please click [HERE](#)

Year 11 Explained

Whanganui Collegiate School has announced we will be replacing NCEA Level 1 with Cambridge International Education and offering the International General Certificate of Secondary Education (or IGCSE) from 2024.

Year 12 Explained

Year 12

(Typically, NCEA Level 2)

Whanganui Collegiate School is committed to students learning at the Level appropriate to their ability. Some students may be offered the opportunity to study subjects at other Levels.

Admission to Level 2 courses relies upon the student meeting the prerequisites set down for the individual subjects.

Students will study **6 subjects** which would ordinarily include English. Students whose first language is not English must take ESOL unless they have permission from the teacher in charge of ESOL. Additionally, students will take a course in Level 2 Hauora.

Students intending to continue into Year 13 must ensure that their choice of subjects at Year 12 will lead to a valid course of study at that Level with at least 4 subjects able to be studied over a two-year programme.

Admission to Level 2 courses relies upon the student meeting the prerequisites set down for the individual subjects and approved by the relevant Head of Learning. **All courses expect a solid result in the Collegiate Derived Grade Examinations at Level 1.**

Please Note:

All courses listed in this book are subject to the following conditions:

- Some courses may not run due to insufficient numbers of students.
- Some courses may not run due to staffing availability.
- Given the large number of courses we offer, it is not always possible to accommodate every combination of subjects. We work hard to minimise the number of clashes in our timetable, but occasionally they do occur.
- Entry into any course or combination of courses is subject to the relevant Head of Learning approval and final confirmation by the Senior Master - Academic.

Entry requirements to subjects at this level are typically:

- *"Open to all students"* – this course has no specific entry requirements
- *"14 credits at xxx, or at HOL discretion"* – this course has specific entry requirements. Performance in Collegiate examinations will be used as an initial indicator, with NCEA results used to confirm entry to courses. If a student does not meet the entry requirements, the Head of Learning may use their discretion, upon interviewing the student, to allow a student into a course.

Year 13 Explained

Year 13

(Typically, NCEA Level 3)

Whanganui Collegiate School is committed to students learning at the Level appropriate to their ability. Some students may be offered the opportunity to study subjects at other Levels.

Admission to Level 3 courses relies upon the student meeting the prerequisites set down for the individual subjects.

Students will study **5 subjects** (up to 6 subjects are available), which may include Level 2 subjects if appropriate. **It is expected that students should be studying the second year of a subject in at least four subjects.** Additionally, students will take a course in Year 13 Hauora.

Goals for Year 13 Students:

- Entrance to New Zealand Universities and other tertiary level courses.
- Entrance to overseas universities.
- Attaining NCEA Level 3.
- Completing National Certificates and Vocational pathway endorsements

Extension:

To gain University Entrance students need to pass Level 3 and have at least 14 credits in 3 University approved subjects. Students studying at Level 3 may also sit Scholarship exams in chosen subjects. The decision regarding entry, rests with the student and relevant staff, Head of Learning or Subject Teacher. Some students may take relevant University papers. Both are supported by specialist subject teachers.

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- *"14 credits at xxx, or at HOL discretion"* – this course has specific entry requirements. Performance in Collegiate examinations will be used as an initial indicator, with NCEA results used to confirm entry to courses. If a student does not meet the entry requirements, the Head of Learning may use their discretion, upon interviewing the student, to allow a student into a course.

English

Cambridge IGCSE English Literature

Cambridge IGCSE English Literature offers learners the opportunity to read, interpret, evaluate and respond to a range of literature in English. The range includes drama, prose and poetry from the works of Shakespeare to contemporary literature. This course enables learners to deepen their understanding and appreciation of the ways in which writers use English to express meaning and achieve effects. Cambridge IGCSE Literature in English will stimulate learners to read for pleasure and to explore wider and universal issues, promoting a better understanding of themselves and the world.

The aims are to enable students to:

- enjoy the experience of reading literature
- understand and respond to literary texts in different forms and from different periods and cultures
- communicate an informed personal response appropriately and effectively
- appreciate different ways in which writers achieve their effects
- experience literature's contribution to aesthetic, imaginative and intellectual growth
- explore the contribution of literature to an understanding of areas of human concern.

The syllabus enables learners to read, interpret and evaluate texts through the study of literature in English. Learners develop an understanding of literal meaning, relevant contexts and of the deeper themes or attitudes that may be expressed. Through their studies, they learn to recognise and appreciate the ways in which writers use English to achieve a range of effects, and will be able to present an informed, personal response to the material they have studied. The syllabus also encourages the exploration of wider and universal issues, promoting learners' better understanding of themselves and of the world around them.

Assessment:

All candidates take:

Paper 1 - Poetry and Prose AND either:

Paper 2 - Drama OR Paper 3 - Drama (Open Text)

AND Paper 4 - Unseen Texts OR Paper 3 (Open Text)

and Component 5: Coursework Course Outline:

Students will analyse and use language communicated orally, visually and in writing. The course includes:

- making meaning of ideas or information they receive (Listening, Reading, and Viewing);
- creating meaning for themselves or others (Speaking, Writing, and Presenting).

Assessment:

Internal credits - up to 14

External credits - 8

Total credits - up to 22

University Entrance Literacy:

Up to 12 University Entrance Reading credits

Up to 14 University Entrance Writing credits

This course leads to: English Level 3

- develop interdependent skills of reading, analysis and communication
- analyse and evaluate the methods writers use in creating meaning and effects
- encourage wider reading and an understanding of how it may contribute to personal development
- build a firm foundation for further study of literature.

NCEA Level 2 English

NCEA Level 3 English

This course exposes students to critical thematic analysis to develop discriminating, insightful understanding of ideas, how and for what purpose they are conveyed. Students are required to be sophisticated and precise in their responses to a range of challenging texts.

Assessment:

Internal credits - up to 14

External credits - 8

Total credits - up to 22

Approved subject for University Entrance

University Entrance Literacy: Up to 22 University Entrance Literacy credits

Scholarship is offered to students who take this course.

Media Studies

NCEA Level 2 Media Studies

Level 2 Media Studies provides an introduction for students who are new to the subject. Students both analyse media texts and produce their own. The general theme for the year is you – the teenager!

We will look

at how teens engage with a variety of media texts. In the first portion of the course, the focus is ethics and the media. Students will produce a podcast on an ethical issue within the media combining primary and secondary research. Moving into term two the shift is toward visual media. We will look at how a particular group is represented in the media, before undertaking a close narrative analysis of a film or television series. Finally, in term three the class will look at a media product specifically focusing on its production. Our last unit is a genre study of the 'teen' genre.

Assessment

Internal credits - up to 13

External credits - up to 7

Total credits - up to 20

University Entrance Literacy

Up to 4 University Entrance Reading credits

Up to 3 University Entrance Writing credits

This course leads to: Level 3 Media Studies

NCEA Level 3 Media Studies

Level 3 Media Studies develops on the foundation established in the Level 2 course, while still being accessible to those new to the subject. It continues the focus on reading and producing media texts in accordance with the three Learning Objectives of the Media Curriculum. In the first term of the course the focus is representation. Students will analyse an issue of representation within New Zealand Society and produce a short video essay. In the second term, the focus is media industry and developments. Students will explore an industry and a recent major development within the industry and present their findings to the class as a speech or podcast. In the third term, we move into an exploration of a film genre. Students will closely study a film genre looking at how it reflects a specific society, as well as critically analysing it in a variety of meaningful ways.

Assessment

Internal credits - up to 13

External credits - up to 8

Total credits - up to 21

Approved subject for University Entrance

University Entrance Literacy: Up to 7 University Entrance Literacy credits

This course continues to build on the media literacy skills developed at Level 2, but the course can also be selected as a new course at Level 3.

Scholarship is offered to students who take this course.



English as a Second Language

Cambridge IGCSE English as a Second Language

Cambridge IGCSE English as a Second Language develops skills for understanding and communicating in a range of situations in English. These skills include the ability to understand written and spoken texts and selecting relevant information from them. This information may be directly stated or implied. Learners develop the linguistic skills required for progression to further studies or employment through being able to communicate clearly in writing and speaking, on both familiar and less familiar topics.

Cambridge IGCSE English as a Second Language offers learners the opportunity to develop practical communication skills in reading, writing, listening and speaking. Learners will be presented with a variety of texts that will build up their skills in reading and writing. They will learn to select relevant details, understand the difference between what is directly stated and implied, and practise writing for different purposes and audiences. Learners will listen to a range of spoken material, including talks and conversations, to develop listening skills. Learners will engage in conversations on a variety of topics and develop their skills in responding to different situations and audiences with a degree of accuracy and clarity. Cambridge IGCSE English as a Second Language will enable learners to become independent users of English both to support further study and to communicate effectively in a variety of practical contexts.

Assessment:

All candidates take will take three components: A reading and writing examination, a speaking examination and a listening examination.

NCEA Level 2 English as a Second Language

NCEA Level 2 International English students continue to build on the knowledge and skills gained in the Cambridge IGCSE English as a Second Language course in Year 11 or, if they are joining us for the first time, their prior learning and English knowledge. Students will work towards achieving credits at Level 2 and 3 English Language (ESOL). Students may complete assessments in all four strands: Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing. Students will also be prepared for the NCEA Literacy co-requisite (NCEA Level 1) and will complete a variety of reading and writing activities to prepare for these assessments. In addition, IELTS preparation may begin for some students.

This course leads to: English as a Second Language Level 3

NCEA Level 3 English as a Second Language

Level 3 International English students continue to work towards gaining the Literacy credits needed for University Entrance. They can achieve UE via the Level 4 English for Academic Purposes standards, as well as through Achievement Standards in other subjects (e.g. Economics, Biology). Individual students are guided and supported according to their needs. Students are allocated time to study for additional examinations which they may need to complete for international universities.

Students who wish to study in English-speaking universities outside of New Zealand may also be looking for an IELTS, SAT, TOEFL or TOEIC Qualification. They can opt to use class time in ESOL to prepare for this.

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Mathematics

Cambridge IGCSE Mathematics

Cambridge IGCSE Mathematics supports learners in building competency, confidence and fluency in their use of techniques and mathematical understanding. This course helps learners to develop a feel for quantity, patterns and relationships. Learners will develop their reasoning, problem-solving and analytical skills in a variety of abstract and real-life contexts. Cambridge IGCSE Mathematics provides a strong foundation of mathematical knowledge both for candidates studying mathematics at a higher level and those who will require mathematics to support skills in other subjects. The course is tiered to allow all candidates to achieve and progress in their mathematical studies.

The aims are to enable students to develop:

- develop an understanding of mathematical principles, concepts and methods in a way which encourages confidence, provides satisfaction and enjoyment, and develops a positive attitude towards mathematics
- develop a feel for number and understand the significance of the results obtained
- apply mathematics in everyday situations and develop an understanding of the part that mathematics plays in learners' own lives and the world around them
- analyse and solve problems, present the solutions clearly, and check and interpret the results
- recognise when and how a situation may be represented mathematically, identify and interpret relevant factors, select an appropriate mathematical method to solve the problem, and evaluate the method used
- use mathematics as a means of communication with emphasis on the use of clear expression and structured argument
- develop an ability to apply mathematics in other subjects, particularly science and technology
- develop the ability to reason logically, make deductions and inferences, and draw conclusions
- appreciate patterns and relationships in mathematics and make generalisations

- appreciate the interdependence of different areas of Mathematics
- acquire a foundation for further study of mathematics or for other disciplines.

All candidates will study the following topics:

Numbers	Numbers
Algebra	Algebra and graphs Coordinate Geometry
Shape/Space	Geometry Mensuration Trigonometry Vectors and Transformations
Probability & Statistics	Probability Statistics

IGCSE Extended Syllabus

The Extended IGCSE course has been designed for the students with a keen interest in Mathematics and leads naturally into higher education or professional training. It is targeted at those expected to achieve grades A* to E. Students wishing to attempt AS level need to have successfully studied the Extended Curriculum course.

IGCSE Core Syllabus

The Core curriculum is within the ability range of a large majority of students. It provides a full overview of the subject and is targeted at students expected to achieve grades C to G and it prepares students well for the NCEA pathway in Year 12.

Assessment:

All candidates take two components of 4 possible examination papers

NCEA Level 2 Mathematics

This course provides students with a broad base of theoretical Mathematics skills. This course includes Algebra, Calculus, Probability and Statistical Methods.

Assessment

Internal credits - up to 11

External credits - up to 9

Total credits - up to 20

Students choosing to study Mathematics at Level 2 will have a choice between Level 2 Mathematics or Level 2 Pure Mathematics.

This course leads to: Level 3 Calculus, Level 3 Statistics

Costs: A graphical calculator is required. NZQA has stated that students who do not have one to use may be significantly disadvantaged in some papers.

NCEA Level 2 Pure Mathematics

This course provides students with a deep and rich understanding of Algebra, Trigonometry, Calculus, Probability, Co-ordinate Geometry and Graphing methods.

Assessment:

Internal credits - up to 11

External credits - up to 13

Total credits - up to 24

Students choosing to study Mathematics at Level 2 will have a choice between Level 2 Mathematics and Statistics or Level 2 Pure Mathematics.

This course leads to: Level 3 Calculus, Level 3 Statistics

Costs: A graphical calculator is required. NZQA has stated that students who do not have one to use may be significantly disadvantaged in some papers.



NCEA Level 3 Statistics

This course centres on the development of skills in probability methods, mathematical and statistical analysis. It is intended for students who will study at a university level either Health Science, Biological Science, Social Sciences, Statistics or Commerce. Topics include:

- Time series
- Bi-variate data
- Formal Inference
- Probability concepts
- Probability distributions.

Assessment:

Internal credits - up to 12

External credits - up to 8

Total credits - up to 20

Approved subject for University Entrance: This subject is considered an Approved Subject for University Entrance

Success in Probability AS91267 is advised. Scholarship is offered to students who take this course.

Costs: A graphical calculator is required. NZQA has stated that students who do not have one to use may be significantly disadvantaged in some papers.

NCEA Level 3 Calculus

This subject centres on the further development of Calculus and its applications. Topics include:

- Trigonometry applications
- Differentiation
- Integration and differential equations
- Complex number equations

Assessment:

Internal credits - up to 6

External credits - up to 12

Total credits - up to 18

This subject is considered an Approved Subject for University Entrance

Success in Calculus AS91262 is advised. Scholarship is offered to students who take this course.

Costs: A graphical calculator is required. NZQA has stated that students who do not have one to use may be significantly disadvantaged in some papers.



Science

Cambridge IGCSE Science Combined

This IGCSE course is divided into three key sections: Biology, Chemistry, and Physics, each comprising a range of essential topics.

In the Biology segment, learners will explore the fundamental aspects of life. This encompasses living organisms' characteristics, cell structure and function, biological molecules, enzymes, plant and animal nutrition, transport mechanisms, gas exchange and respiration, coordination and response in organisms, reproduction, the interplay between organisms and their environment, and the impact of human activities on ecosystems.

The Chemistry portion delves into the core principles of matter. Topics span the particle nature of matter, experimental techniques and chemical analysis, atoms, elements, compounds, stoichiometry, electricity's relationship with chemistry, energy changes during chemical reactions, various reaction types, properties of acids, bases, and salts, the organisation of the Periodic Table, properties of metals, chemistry related to air and water, and introductory concepts in organic chemistry.

The Physics segment concentrates on fundamental principles of motion, work, energy, and power. This also encompasses thermal physics, properties of waves including light and sound, electrical quantities, and electric circuits. Also included is the study of Space physics.

Candidates are required to study all three sections to gain a comprehensive understanding of the core concepts in biology, chemistry, and physics. This IGCSE course provides students with a solid foundation in the fundamental principles of these disciplines.

Assessment:

The course is assessed by 3 examination papers of 45 minutes, 75 minutes and 60 minutes duration. There is no course work component. Students may enter the Core or Extended examination.

This course leads to: Level 2 NCEA Biology, Chemistry, Physics or Agricultural & Horticultural Science. It is NOT a suitable pathway to AS Biology or AS Chemistry or AS Physics.

NCEA Level 2 Biology

This course explores biological concepts and processes such as cell structure and function, genetics and evolution and animal gas exchange. Practical skills will be enhanced as students will carry out a range of investigations. Emphasis will be placed on linking organisms' structures to their function and practical investigative skills. The course is divided into three sections:

- Cell structure and function
- Animal structure and function
- Genetics and Evolution

Assessment:

Internal credits - up to 10

External credits - up to 12

Total credits - up to 22

Level 1 Literacy:

Up to 15 Level 1 Literacy credits are available

Level 1/University Entrance Numeracy:

Up to 4 Level 1/UE Numeracy credits are available

Success in IGCSE Combined Science (Grade A-E) is advised.

This course leads to: Level 3 Biology

NCEA Level 2 Chemistry

The course is divided into three sections which prepare students for the external achievement standards:

- Bonding, structure, properties and energy changes
- Organic Chemistry
- Chemical Reactivity

Up to three internal achievement standards may be offered.

Assessment:

Internal credits - up to 10

External credits - up to 13

Total credits - up to 23

Level 1 Literacy:

Up to 13 Level 1 Literacy credits are available

Level 1/University Entrance Numeracy:

Up to 4 Level 1/UE Numeracy credits are available

Success in IGCSE Combined Science (Grade A-E) is advised.

This course leads to: Level 3 Chemistry

Costs: Graphical calculators are recommended but not essential.

NCEA Level 2 Agricultural & Horticultural

This primary production course covers Level 2 Agriculture and Horticulture achievement standards.

Agriculture topics include livestock topics related to reproductive technologies, livestock behaviour and livestock growth and development.

Horticulture topics include plant propagation, plant management practices, landscaping and a practical investigation.

Assessment:

Internal credits - up to 12

External credits - up to 8

Total credits - up to 20

This course leads to: Level 3 Agricultural & Horticultural Science

NCEA Level 2 Physics

Physics is the science of matter and energy and of interactions between the two, grouped in fields such as mechanics, electricity, electromagnetism, waves and light as well as atomic and nuclear physics.

The five main areas of study are:

- Practical Investigation
- Atomic and Nuclear Physics
- Mechanics
- Electricity and Electromagnetism
- Light and Waves

Assessment:

Internal credits - up to 10

External credits - up to 16

Total credits - up to 26

Success in IGCSE Combined Science (Grade A-E) is advised.

This course leads to: Level 3 Physics

Costs: Graphical calculators are recommended.

NCEA Level 3 Biology

This course examines the key biological ideas that explain the place of humans in the past (human evolution), present (animal behaviour and plant responses) and future (biotechnology). The course is divided into four sections:

- Responses of plants and animals to their external environment.
- Trends in human evolution.
- Human manipulation of genetic transfer and its biological implications.
- Integration of biological knowledge to develop an informed response to a socio-scientific issue.

Assessment:

Internal credits - up to 9

External credits - up to 13

Total credits - up to 22

This subject is considered an Approved Subject for University Entrance

Level 1 Literacy:

Up to 22 Level 1 Literacy credits are available

University Entrance Literacy:

Up to 22 University Entrance Literacy credits

Scholarship is offered to students who take this course.

Costs: \$65.00, Zoo Visit (optional)

NCEA Level 3 Chemistry

This course is a more rigorous consideration and expansion of the chemical concepts encountered at NCEA Level 2. The following topics are covered:

Atomic Structure

- Bonding and related properties
- Thermochemistry
- Organic Chemistry
- Aqueous Solution Chemistry
- Equilibrium Principles

Spectroscopy selected Chemical Processes in the world around us, and Redox Chemistry may be offered as internally assessed Achievement Standards.

Assessment:

Internal credits - up to 9

External credits - up to 15

Total credits - up to 24

This subject is considered an Approved Subject for University Entrance

Level 1 Literacy:

Up to 21 Level 1 Literacy credits are available

University Entrance Literacy:

Up to 8 University Entrance Literacy credits

Scholarship is offered to students who take this course.

Costs: Graphical calculators are highly recommended but not essential.

NCEA Level 3 Physics

Physics is the science that deals with matter and energy and their actions upon each other in fields such as electricity, heat, light, mechanics and sound. The five main areas of study are:

- Practical Investigation
- Modern Physics
- Mechanics
- Electricity and Electromagnetism
- Waves

Assessment:

Internal credits - up to 10

External credits - up to 16

Total credits - up to 26

This subject is considered an Approved Subject for University Entrance

Scholarship is offered to students who take this course.

Costs: Graphical calculators are recommended



NCEA Level 3 Agricultural & Horticultural Science

Agriculture and horticulture are two main parts of New Zealand's primary industry sector. Primary industries form the backbone for many New Zealand communities and are the country's biggest export earner. Primary Production is about producing living things from the land and water.

This combined agriculture and horticulture course will appeal to students with an interest in commercial production of primary products and their marketing to maximise profits. Based on the production process, students are given an insight into New Zealand's agricultural and horticultural exports, with a particular focus on lamb meat and apple crop production.

Other standards provide students with the option of investigating other primary products of their choice and the environmental factors associated. The course links well with subjects such as science, biology, geography and economics.

Assessment:

Internal credits - up to 10

External credits - up to 10

Total credits - up to 20



Visual Arts

Cambridge IGCSE Art & Design

Cambridge IGCSE Art & Design encourages a range of skills, stimulates aesthetic awareness, knowledge and critical understanding of art, and provides opportunities for learners to develop a range of skills. Crucially, a personal and independent perspective is encouraged at all times. The syllabus is designed to accommodate a wide range of abilities, materials and resources, and allows the different skills of the teaching staff to be fully used. The syllabus appeals to learners who wish to explore practical work through a range of two and/or three-dimensional processes and include new media and technologies in addition to traditional media and processes.

- The aims are to enable students to develop:
- an ability to record from direct observation and personal experience
- an ability to identify and solve problems in visual and/or other forms
- creativity, visual awareness, critical and cultural understanding
- an imaginative, creative and personal response
- confidence, enthusiasm and a sense of achievement in the practice of art and design
- growing independence in the refinement and development of ideas and personal outcomes
- engagement and experimentation with a range of media, materials and techniques, including new media and technologies, where appropriate
- experience of working in relevant frameworks and exploration of manipulative skills necessary to form, compose and communicate in two and/or three dimensions
- a working vocabulary relevant to the subject and an interest in, and a critical awareness of, other practitioners, environments and cultures
- investigative, analytical, experimental, interpretative, practical, technical and expressive skills which aid effective and independent learning.

Assessment:

All candidates take two components: Course Work and an Externally Set Assignment.

NCEA Level 2 Visual Arts Design

Students will develop specialist skills and knowledge in Design. Students use drawing to apply knowledge and understanding of specific techniques, processes and conventions of Design. They will undertake research into methods and ideas of established and contemporary design practice which will inform the development of an original portfolio of artwork based on a business, product or event of their personal choice.

Assessment:

Internal credits - up to 4 External credits - up to 12 Total credits - up to 16

This course leads to: Level 3 Visual Art Design

It is strongly recommended that the student has studied IGCSE Art + Design in Year 11. Costs: A1

Portfolio printing (approx. \$50)

NCEA Level 2 Visual Arts Painting

Students will develop specialist skills and knowledge in painting. Students use drawing to apply knowledge and understanding of specific techniques, processes and conventions. They will undertake research into methods and ideas of established and contemporary painting practice which will inform the development of an original portfolio of artwork based on a personal theme.

Assessment:

Internal credits - up to 4 External credits - up to 12 Total credits - up to 16

It is strongly recommended that the student has studied IGCSE Art + Design.

This course leads to: Level 3 Visual Art Painting

Costs: Painting students will purchase an Art kit from Art Department (approximately \$130)

NCEA Level 2 Visual Arts Photography

Students will develop specialist skills and practical knowledge in Digital Photography. They will undertake research into methods and ideas of established and contemporary practice which will inform the development of an original portfolio of artwork based on a personal theme. The course comprises two internal Achievement Standards, one which is skills based and the second is about the development of creative ideas. The second standard develops toward a large portfolio of practical work for external assessment.

Assessment:

Internal credits - up to 4

External credits - up to

12 Total credits - up to

16

It is strongly recommended that the student has studied IGCSE Art + Design in Year 11.

This course leads to: Level 3 Visual Arts

Photography Costs: Students are charged for specialist photographic printing (approx. \$100 per year) and must have their own DSLR camera.

NCEA Level 2 Visual Arts Printmaking

Students will develop specialist skills and knowledge in printmaking. Students use drawing to apply knowledge and understanding of specific techniques, processes and conventions. They will undertake research into methods and ideas of established and contemporary printmaking practice which will inform the development of an original portfolio of artwork based on a personal theme.

Assessment:

Internal credits - up to 4

External credits - up to

12 Total credits - up to

16

It is strongly recommended that the student has studied IGCSE Art + Design at Year 11.

This course leads to: Level 3 Visual Arts

Printmaking Costs: Printmaking students will purchase an Art kit from the Art Department (approximately \$130)

NCEA Level 3 Visual Arts Design

Students will develop and extend their skills and knowledge in Design through personal project work. Students will use drawing to apply in-depth knowledge and understanding of specific techniques, processes and conventions appropriate to their chosen theme.

They will undertake independent research, critically analysing methods and ideas of established and contemporary design. This will inform the development and clarification of an original portfolio of work based on a central proposal of study. The course is comprised of two linked internal Achievement Standards that develop towards a portfolio of practical work for external assessment.

Assessment:

Internal credits - up to 4

External credits - up to 14

Total credits - up to 18

This subject is considered an Approved Subject for University Entrance

Scholarship is offered to students who take this course. Costs: A1 Portfolio printing (approx. \$75)

NCEA Level 3 Visual Arts Painting

Students will develop and extend their skills and knowledge in Painting through personal project work. Students will use drawing to apply in-depth knowledge and understanding of specific techniques, processes and conventions. They will undertake independent research, critically analysing methods and ideas of established and contemporary painting. This will inform the development and clarification of an original portfolio of paintings based on a central proposal of study. The course is comprised of two linked internal Achievement Standards that develop towards a portfolio of practical work for external assessment.

Assessment:

Internal credits - up to 4

External credits - up to

14 Total credits - up to

18

This subject is considered an Approved Subject for University Entrance

Scholarship is offered to students who take this course.

Costs: Painting students will purchase an Art kit from Art Department (approximately \$130)

NCEA Level 3 Visual Arts Photography

Students will develop and extend specialist skills and knowledge in Photography through personal project work. Students will use drawing to apply in-depth knowledge and understanding of specific techniques, processes and conventions. They will undertake independent research, critically analysing methods and ideas of established and contemporary photography. This will inform the development and clarification of an original portfolio of photographs based on a central proposal of study. The course is comprised of two linked internal Achievement Standards that develop towards a portfolio of practical work for external assessment.

Assessment:

Internal credits - up to 4 External
credits - up to 14 Total credits - up
to 18

This subject is considered an Approved Subject for University Entrance

Scholarship is offered to students who take this course.

Costs: Students are charged for specialist photographic printing (approx. \$130 per year) and must have their own DSLR camera.



NCEA Level 3 Visual Arts Printmaking

Students will develop and extend their skills and knowledge in Printmaking through personal project work. Students will use drawing to apply in-depth knowledge and understanding of specific techniques, processes and conventions. They will undertake independent research, critically analysing methods and ideas of established and contemporary printmaking.

This will inform the development and clarification of an original portfolio of printmaking based on a central proposal of study. The course is comprised of two linked internal Achievement Standards that develop towards a portfolio of practical work for external assessment.

Assessment:

Internal credits - up

to 4 External credits

- up to 14 Total

credits - up to 18

This subject is considered an Approved Subject for University Entrance

Scholarship is offered to students who take this course.

Costs: Printmaking students will purchase an Art kit from the Art Department (approximately \$130)



Music

Cambridge IGCSE Music

Cambridge IGCSE Music is accepted by universities and employers worldwide as providing proof of musical skills, knowledge and understanding. This syllabus offers students the opportunity to develop their own practical musical skills through performing and composing. They also develop their listening skills by studying music from the main historical periods and styles of Western music as well as from selected non-western traditions. The emphasis of the syllabus is as much on developing lifelong musical skills as on acquiring knowledge.

Learners studying Cambridge IGCSE Music are given the opportunity to:

- listen to and learn about music from a wide range of historical periods and major world cultures
- develop their skills in performing music, both individually and in a group with other musicians
- develop their skills in composing music in a style of their own choice.

The aims are to:

- enable candidates to acquire and consolidate a range of basic musical skills, knowledge and understanding, through the activities of listening, performing and composing
- help candidates develop a perceptive and critical response to the main historical periods and styles of Western music
- help candidates to recognise and understand the music of selected non-western traditions, and thus to form an appreciation of cultural similarities and differences
- provide a foundation for the development of an informed appreciation of music
- provide a foundation for further study in music at a higher level

Assessment:

All candidates take three components: An examination, a Prepared Performance, and Composing

Costs: For students who choose to have individual instrumental vocal lessons at school there is a weekly charge as part of the school's itinerant programme.

NCEA Level 2 Music

Students follow a course in music reading which leads to an external written paper. Students choose a selection of units from:

- Performing as a Solo Musician
- Performing in a Group
- Performing on a Second Instrument
- Composing; Arranging
- Demonstrating Knowledge of Two Music Pieces.

There are optional further external papers on music aural skills and music analysis for those with pre-requisite skills.

Assessment:

Internal credits - up to 14

External credits - up to 4

Total credits - up to 18

Level 2 University Entrance Literacy:

Up to 14 Literacy credits are available

Some theoretical knowledge of Music is required.

Students taking performance units should already be competent on their chosen instrument and should continue to have individual instrumental or vocal lessons throughout the course. There is a choice of units so that non-performers may join the course if they have a genuine interest in music listening, analysis and/or composing.

Students normally prepare for 14 Internal credits and 4 External credits but up to 41 credits are available from which to choose.

This course leads to: Level 3 Music

Costs: There is a charge for weekly individual instrumental lessons for students who choose to be part of the school's itinerant programme. Students are also encouraged to enter, as appropriate, Trinity, NZMEB or Royal Schools of Music examinations which are also charged.



NCEA Level 3 Music

All students follow a course in music reading which leads to an external written paper. Students may choose a selection of units from:

- Performing as a Solo Musician
- Performing in a Group
- Performing on a Second Instrument
- Composing
- Arranging; Song Writing
- Analysing a Substantial Music Work
- Researching a Music Topic.

All students either analyse the historical context of a set work leading to an essay-style external paper or learn advanced music harmony leading to an external paper.

Assessment:

Internal credits - up to 14

External credits - up to 4

Total credits - up to 18

This subject is considered an Approved Subject for University Entrance

University Entrance Literacy:

Up to 6 University Entrance Reading credits

Although open to all students, completion of Level 2 Music or strength in a musical instrument is advised.

Students choose from a list of 11 units and normally prepare for 14 Internal credits and 4 External credits although more are available. Students choosing performance units are expected to demonstrate at least 5 years of individual tuition on their chosen instrument. Scholarship Music is available for very high-quality solo performers with a high level of analytical and literacy skills.

Costs: There is a charge for weekly individual instrumental lessons for students who choose to be part of the school's itinerant programme. Students are also encouraged to enter, as appropriate, Trinity, NZMEB or Royal Schools of Music examinations which are also charged.

Drama

Cambridge IGCSE Drama

Cambridge IGCSE Drama provides opportunities for learners to develop practical skills in performance, both as an individual and within a group. Learners will understand the artistic choices made by actors, directors and designers in presenting performances for an audience. They will also learn about theatrical styles and genres. Learners will explore how to develop their own ideas in creating original drama.

The aims are to enable students to develop:

- an interest in and enjoyment of drama and theatre
- an understanding of the dramatic process of moving from script to performance
- skills in devising original drama
- practical performance skills as individuals and within a group
- an understanding of, and engagement with, the role of actor, director and designer in creating a piece of drama
- an understanding of how performers communicate with an audience.

Learners develop an understanding and enjoyment of drama through practical and theoretical study.

Candidates will study:

- The elements of practical drama
- how to work with extracts from published plays as an actor, director and designer
- how to devise, develop and structure their own original dramatic material from stimuli such as short titles, poems, pictures, songs, historical events and stories
- how to evaluate their contribution to the devising process and the success of the final piece
- how to use staging and design as part of a dramatic performance
- Individual and group performance skills and how they are applied to create character and communicate meaning to an audience

Assessment:

All candidates take two components: An examination and Coursework

NCEA Level 2 Drama

Building on the work from IGCSE Drama, the course continues working with the three major strands within Drama: techniques of voice, movement, body and use of space, elements and conventions and knowledge of specific drama forms and theatre history. Students will devise and perform scripted performances, and this will involve out-of-class rehearsal. All assessment tasks will require a developmental portfolio and will prepare students for the external exam. Students will attend performances both within and outside of school.

Assessment:

Internal credits - up to 18

External credits - up to 8

Total credits - up to 26

University Entrance Literacy:

Up to 13 University Entrance Reading credits

Up to 4 University Entrance Writing credits.

Open entry, however, it is an advantage to have participated in IGCSE Drama due to the specific vocabulary and learning at that level.

This course leads to: Level 3 Drama

NCEA Level 3 Drama

The emphasis of the year is on performances using the three major strands within Drama: using drama techniques of voice, movement, body and use of space; elements and conventions; and knowledge of specific drama forms and theatre history. The students will work on a scripted or devised performance chosen from a specific theatre form, a text driven performance and an original devised performance. Students will attend performances both within and outside of school.

Assessment:

Internal credits - up to 18

External credits - up to 8

Total credits - up to 26

This subject is considered an Approved Subject for University Entrance

University Entrance Literacy:

Up to 21 University Entrance Literacy credits

Students are advised to have completed Level 2 Drama because of the specific knowledge gained in that course. Scholarship is offered to students who take this course.



Technology

Cambridge IGCSE Design & Technology

Cambridge IGCSE Design & Technology enables learners to identify, consider and solve problems through creative thinking, planning and design, and by working with different media, materials and tools to produce a made product. Learners gain technical and design awareness and develop skills such as initiative, resourcefulness, enquiry and ingenuity. They also develop communication skills central to the design process. Cambridge IGCSE Design & Technology provides an ideal basis for further study and equips learners with technical knowledge and practical design and making skills for the world of work. The syllabus is designed to accommodate a wide range of interests, materials and resources, and allows the different skills of the teaching staff to be fully exploited.

The aims are to enable students to:

- develop creative thinking in areas relevant to design and technology
- apply problem-solving skills to practical and technological problems
- develop communication skills central to design, realisation and evaluation
- gain knowledge and understanding of design and technology
- develop skills in research and investigation
- design and make products, taking into consideration sustainability and the wider impact on society
- develop the ability to make aesthetic, economic, ethical and technical value judgements.

Assessment:

All candidates take three examinations.

This course leads to: Level 2 NCEA Technology Product Design or Technology Building

NCEA Level 2 Joinery/Furniture

This course includes basic joinery, including the use of power tools, hand tools, and other building skills introducing essential skills and safe working practices for the trade's area. All tools are supplied, and the course is delivered in the school environment. These are hands-on courses that will give students the skills to get started in building and construction. Each course is made up of units that cover the use of hand-held tools, project planning, first aid, basic wood furniture construction, measurement, and literacy and numeracy skills.

Assessment:

Internal credits - up to 40

External credits - 0

Total credits - up to 40

The programme prepares students for further study at Level 3 and then onto apprenticeships and the workplace. The 40 credits are Unit Standards (BCITO)

Costs: Dependent on what is made: Outdoor Furniture \$500-\$800.

This course leads to: Level 3 Technology Fine Furniture



NCEA Level 2 Product Design

Students will decide their own pathway at the start of the year, deciding between a focus on Product or Architectural design. These pathways are supported with idea generation and presentation. Students develop their graphic drawing skills, computer aided design skills and presentation skills throughout the year whilst generating ideas and outcomes. Critical thinking, evaluation skills and self-determination are necessary to provide a quality design portfolio that effectively communicates design ideas.

Assessment:

Internal credits - up to 12

External credits - up to 3

Total credits - up to 15

This course is ideal for those students wishing to pursue careers in Design, Architecture or Engineering.

16 credits - Internal & External Achievement Standards
OR up to 23 credits - Internal course only-Unit Standards & Achievement Standards

Costs: Dependent on what is made: \$50-\$100

This course leads to: Level 3 Technology Product Design



NCEA Level 3 Technology Product Design

Students are expected to demonstrate research skills, initiative, high quality graphic design skills, computer aided design skills and presentation skills. Students will choose to focus on Product or spatial design, supported by idea generation and presentation.

Assessment:

Internal credits - up to 12

External credits - up to 4

Total credits - up to 16

This subject may be considered an Approved Subject for University Entrance

This course is ideal for those students wishing to pursue careers in Design, Architecture or Engineering.

16 credits - Internal & External Achievement Standards (UE Course) OR Up to 22 credits - Internal course only-Unit Standards & Achievement Standards.

NCEA Level 3 Technology Fine Furniture

In this course, students learn basic carpentry, including the use of power tools, hand tools, fabrication and construction, and safe working practices for the trade area. All tools are supplied, and the course is delivered in the school environment. The programme will prepare students for apprenticeships and the workplace. These are hands-on courses that will give students the skills to get started in building and construction. Each course is made up of units that cover the use of hand-held tools, project planning, first aid, basic wood furniture construction, measurement, and literacy and numeracy skills.

Assessment:

Internal credits - up to 16

External credits - 0

Total credits - up to 16

16 credits - Unit Standards (BCITO)

Costs: Dependent on what is made: \$350-\$500

Social Sciences - History

Cambridge IGCSE History

This course offers students the opportunity to study world history in the 20th Century (international relations since 1919). Students explore history from a diversity of perspectives, including social, economic, cultural and political.

The following key questions are addressed:

- Was the Treaty of Versailles fair?
- To what extent was the League of Nations a success?
- How far was Hitler's foreign policy to blame for the outbreak of war in Europe in 1939?
- Who was to blame for the Cold War?
- How effectively did the United States contain the spread of communism?
- How secure was the USSR's control over Eastern Europe, 1948–c.1989?

In addition, candidates complete a depth study on Germany, 1918-1945

Assessment:

Paper 1 – Structured Questions (2 hours). 40%. Externally assessed.

Paper 2 – Document Questions (1 hour 45 minutes). 30%. Externally assessed.

Paper 4 – Alternative to Coursework. (1 hour). 30%. Externally assessed.

History encourages students to raise questions and to develop and deploy historical skills, knowledge and understanding to provide historical explanations.

This course leads to: Level 2 NCEA History

NCEA Level 2 History

In History our students will be able to determine the significance of the people, places and events that they learn about and be able to consider that significance in different ways. They will develop their understanding of the nature of historical inquiry and how it is based on evidence. Their critical thinking skills will enable them to assess the strengths and limitations of the sources used.

The following topics may be taught:

- Spanish Civil War
- NZ Protests: These may include the 1981 Springbok Tour; Nuclear-Free NZ; and other significant protests which have shaped our history as a nation

Assessment:

Internal credits - up to 9

External credits - up to 10

Total credits - up to 19

University Entrance Literacy:

Up to 14 University Entrance Reading credits

Up to 14 University Entrance Writing credits

Students do not have to have studied History. Strong literacy skills are recommended.

This course leads to: Level 3 History

NCEA Level 3 History

History is about engaging with historical narratives from the past. Our students explore concepts such as cause and effect, continuity and change over time as well as different perspectives. By recognising how the past has shaped the present, our students are able to grow as confident, questioning, and empathetic individuals, who are developing an understanding of their own place in, and their connection to, the world around them.

The following topics may be taught:

- 1789 French Revolution
- 19th Century New Zealand History - Waikato Wars; Invasion of Parihaka; Suffragette Movement and the right to vote

Assessment:

Internal credits - up to

10 External credits - up

to 10 Total credits - up

to 20

This subject is considered an Approved Subject for University Entrance

University Entrance Literacy: Up to 20 University Entrance Literacy credits

Students do not have to have studied History.

Strong literacy skills are recommended. Scholarship is offered to students who take this course.

Social Sciences - Geography

Cambridge IGCSE Geography

Cambridge IGCSE Geography develops lifelong skills, including:

- an understanding of the processes which affect physical and human environments
- an understanding of place on a local, regional and global scale
- the ability to use and understand geographical data and information
- an understanding of how communities around the world are affected and constrained by different environments.

The aims are to enable students to:

- an understanding of location on a local, regional and global scale
- an awareness of the characteristics, distribution and processes affecting contrasting physical and human environments
- an understanding of the ways in which people interact with each other and with their environment
- an awareness of the contrasting opportunities and constraints presented by different environments
- an appreciation of and concern for the environment
- an appreciation of the earth including its people, places, landscapes, natural processes and phenomena.

The syllabus is divided into three themes:

Theme 1: Population and settlement

Theme 2: The natural environment

Theme 3: Economic development

The themes are designed to develop an understanding of natural and human environments.

Assessment:

All candidates take two components. Candidates will be eligible for grades A* to G.

Paper 1: Geographical Themes

(1 hour 45 minutes). 40%. Externally assessed.

Paper 2: Geographical Skills

(1 hour 30 minutes). 27.5%. Externally assessed.

Component 3: Coursework.

27.5%. Centre-based assessment.

NCEA Level 2 Geography

This course reinforces Geographic Skillfulness and the interpretation of a wider range of resources. The techniques of data research, the appreciation of global perspectives and the investigation of geographic issues and evaluation of courses of action progresses.

The prescribed topics for the year are:

Studies of natural landscapes (physical geography) and a range of geographic skills

Assessment:

Internal credits - up to 11

External credits - up to 8

Total credits - up to 19

University Entrance Literacy:

Up to 4 University Entrance Reading credits

Up to 4 University Entrance Writing credits

Completion of IGCSE Geography is advantageous.

This course leads to: Level 3 Geography

Costs: A field trip to the Tongariro Plateau, approx. \$320 (optional)



NCEA Level 3 Geography

This course builds upon the studies, knowledge and skills of the previous two years. There is emphasis on the study of contemporary issues from a geographer's perspective. There is a strong development of analytical writing skills, research techniques and the interpretation of a wider range of resources that is highly valued by universities and employers. Geographical skills (mapping and graphing) continue to be applied, and key ideas built upon. The course has two common topics:

Natural processes (physical geography) - a study of local Whanganui coastal processes. OR

Cultural process (human geography) - a study of tourism development in NZ and its impacts on those settings.

Assessment:

Internal credits - up to 11

External credits - up to 8

Total credits - up to 19

This subject is considered an Approved Subject for University Entrance.

University Entrance

Literacy:

Up to 15 University Entrance Literacy credits

Completion of Level 2 Geography advantageous.

Costs: Cultural Field Trip to Waitomo tourist destination (expense notified early- approx. \$320) (optional); Local Natural Coastal Field Trip approx. \$30 (optional)

Social Sciences - Economics

Cambridge IGCSE Economics

The IGCSE Economics syllabus develops an understanding of economic theory, terminology and principles. Students study the economics of different countries and how they interrelate. They also learn to work with simple economics data and to use the tools of economic analysis. Students will apply their understanding to a range of current local, national and international issues. The course covers the following topics:

- The basic economic problem and the allocation of resources
- Microeconomic decision makers
- Government's role in the macroeconomy
- Economic development and international trade

Assessment:

All candidates take two components. Candidates will be eligible for grades A* to G.

Paper 1: Multiple Choice (45 minutes). 30%. Externally assessed.

Paper 2: Structured Questions (2 hours 15 minutes). 70%. Externally assessed.

This course leads to: Level 2 NCEA Economics

NCEA Level 2 Economics

Students will gain skills and experiences relating to contemporary economic issues such as:

- Inflation
- International Trade
- Economic Growth
- How Government Policies can influence our economy
- Unemployment.

Assessment:

Internal credits - up to 10

External credits - up to 8

Total credits - up to 18

University Entrance Literacy:

Up to 10 University Entrance Reading credits

Up to 8 University Entrance Writing credits

This course leads to: Level 3 Economics



NCEA Level 3 Economics

Students will gain knowledge, develop a variety of skills and experience related to economic concepts that discuss, in a contemporary context:

- The Marketplace at a micro level
- The role of the Government in the economy
- Macroeconomics in relation to government goals.

Assessment:

Internal credits – up to 10

External credits - up to 10

Total credits - up to 20

This subject is considered an Approved Subject for University Entrance

University Entrance Literacy:

Up to 20 University Entrance Literacy Credits

Scholarship is offered to students who take this course.]



Social Sciences - Global Perspectives

Cambridge IGCSE Global Perspectives

This course aims to make students aware of global problems and encourages them to explore potential solutions. It focuses on current affairs and global events. It revolves around various topics that provide a context for students to understand global issues from personal, local, national, and global viewpoints.

This course develops useful transferable skills. To develop their understanding, students will develop their critical thinking skills by researching, decision making, planning, effective communication, creative problem-solving, reflection, teamwork and independent learning.

Assessment:

All candidates take three components. Candidates will be eligible for grades A* to G.

- Component 1: Written Examination (1 hour 15 minutes). 35%. Externally assessed.
- Component 2: Individual Report. 30%. Internally set and externally marked.
- Component 3: Team Project. 35%. Internally assessed and externally moderated.



Social Sciences - Accounting

Cambridge IGCSE Accounting

Cambridge IGCSE Accounting is accepted by universities and employers as proof of an understanding of the theory and concepts of accounting, and the ways in which accounting is used in a variety of modern economic and business contexts. Learners focus on the skills of recording, reporting, presenting and interpreting financial information; these form an ideal foundation for further study, and for a future career within the profession. The syllabus is structured so that learners attain both practical skills and theoretical knowledge.

The aims are to enable students to develop:

- knowledge and understanding of the principles and purposes of accounting for individuals, businesses, non-trading organisations and society as a whole
- an understanding of accounting concepts, principles, policies, techniques, procedures and terminology
- improved skills of numeracy, literacy, communication, enquiry, presentation and interpretation
- improved accuracy, orderliness and the ability to think logically
- an excellent foundation for advanced study.

Assessment:

All candidates take two components. Candidates will be eligible for grades A* to G.

Paper 1: Multiple Choice (1 hour 15 minutes). 30%. Externally assessed.

Paper 2: Structured Questions (1 hour 45 minutes). 70%. Externally assessed.



NCEA Level 2 Accounting

This course focuses on management. Students will examine the systems within a business, safe-guarding assets, reporting accurately, management effectiveness and operational efficiency. XERO, a computer accounting software package, is learned as well as an analysis and presentation of financial reports for small business.

Assessment:

Internal credits - up to 10

External credits - up to 9

Total credits - up to 19

There is potential for a further 9 internal Business Studies credits for students with a viable business idea. This is at the teacher's discretion and carried out over two years in the students own time.

This course leads to: Level 3 Accounting

NCEA Level 3 Accounting

Accounting gives students the tools to make real life financial decisions in a constantly changing and uncertain world. It is the process of preparing and communicating financial information to a wide range of users. The context for Level 3 is large firms including partnerships, companies, and manufacturing entities.

Topics include Partnership and company structures, job costing, using break even to develop budgeted reports and analysis of an NZX company report.

Assessment:

Internal credits - up to 13

External credits - up to 9

Total credits - up to 22

This subject is considered an Approved Subject for University Entrance and has the potential for University Entrance in Accounting.

University Entrance Literacy:

Up to 9 University Entrance Literacy credits

Social Sciences

Agribusiness

NCEA Level 3 Agribusiness

This course investigates the issues facing the primary industry in New Zealand. It looks at the day-to-day challenges that a primary industry business would face. This covers a broad range of challenges such as economic, environmental, innovation, and business decisions based on internal and external factors.. All units are Achievement Standards. The Course comprises of 20 credits

Note this is recognised as a UE subject under the Business Studies domain and is recognised at all NZ Universities with the exception of Auckland University.

In 2025 the units offered in the course will consist of a range of below;

- Analyse how a product meets market needs through innovation in the value chain. (Internal assessment)
- Analyse the effect of financing options of a strategic capital expenditure decision of a business. (Internal assessment)
- Analyse future proofing strategies to ensure long term viability of a business (Internal assessment)
- Demonstrate understanding of how internal factors interact within a business that operates in a global context (External Assessment)
- Demonstrate understanding of strategic response to external factors by a business that operates in a global context (External Assessment)



Physical Education & Health

Cambridge IGCSE Physical Education

Cambridge IGCSE Physical Education encourages learners to develop:

- knowledge, skills and understanding of a range of relevant physical activities
- an ability to plan, perform and evaluate physical activities
- an understanding of effective and safe performance
- an understanding of the role of sport and physical activity in society and in the wider world
- an excellent foundation for advanced study

An enjoyment of physical activity is to enable students to:

- develop their knowledge and understanding of the theory underpinning physical performance in a modern world
- use and apply this knowledge and understanding to improve their performance
- perform in a range of physical activities, developing skills and techniques, and selecting and using tactics, strategies and/or compositional ideas
- understand and appreciate safe practice in physical activity and sport
- understand and appreciate the benefit of physical activity and sport for health, fitness and well-being
- gain a sound basis for further study in the field of Physical Education

This course provides candidates with an opportunity to study both the practical and theoretical aspects of Physical Education. It is also designed to foster enjoyment in physical activity. The knowledge gained should enable candidates to develop an understanding of effective and safe physical performance.

Candidates will study all the following topics: (designed to contribute to the development of understanding and knowledge of the principles involved in safe, health-related exercise. All these sections are interrelated).

Unit 1: Anatomy and Physiology

Skeleton and joints
Muscles, Bones Energy
Supply Muscles and tendons
Circulatory and respiratory systems

Unit 2: Health, Fitness and Wellbeing

Health and Wellbeing
Diet
Training; methods and principles
Fitness
Testing VO₂
Max

Unit 3: Skill

Acquisition Skill and Ability
Performance classification
Stages of Learning
Information Processing
Feedback/Guidance
Psychology

Social, Cultural and Ethical Influences

Leisure and recreation
Facilities, participation, excellence
Global events
Media
Access to sport

Assessment:

A. Coursework: Practical 50%

You are required to select and be assessed in FOUR practical activities from the Coursework on the next page. You may choose a maximum of two from any one category – only two Invasion Games OR only two from Fitness.

B. Examination: Theory 50%

You are required to sit a 1¾ hr examination in October/November that contributes 50% of your IGCSE Grade.

Candidates will also undertake four different physical activities chosen from at least two of seven categories.

Games, Gymnastic, Dance, Athletic, Outdoor & Adventure, Swimming, Combat activities.

Physical activities make a significant

contribution to course aims and objectives, serving as a source of material to facilitate learning.

This course leads to: AS Physical Education or Level 2 NCEA Physical Education

NCEA Level 2 Physical Education

This course covers the practical and theoretical aspects of Physical Education. Students will:

- Demonstrate understanding of how and why biophysical principles relate to the learning of physical skills.
- Demonstrate understanding of the application of biophysical principles to training for physical activity.
- Perform a physical activity in an applied setting.
- Evaluate leadership strategies that contribute to the effective functioning of a group.
- Analyse the application of risk management strategies to a challenging outdoor activity.

The breakdown over the course of the year is approximately 40% practical and 60% theory work.

Assessment:

Internal credits - up to 20

External credits - 0

Total credits - up to 20

Previous high levels of skill, effort and positive involvement in PE and sport is an advantage. This course leads to: Level 3 Physical Education

Costs: Approximately \$600 for 3-day outdoor activities camp and instruction (external costs).





NCEA Level 3 Physical Education

This course covers the practical and theoretical aspects of Physical Education. Students will:

- Evaluate physical activity experiences to devise strategies for life-long wellbeing.
- Analyse a physical skill performed by self or others.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of a performance improvement programme.
- Demonstrate quality performance of a physical activity in an applied setting.
- Examine a current physical activity event, trend, or issue and its impact on New Zealand society.

The breakdown over the course of the year is approximately 40% practical and 60% theory work.

Assessment:

Internal credits - up to 19

External credits - 0

Total credits - up to 19

This subject is considered an Approved Subject for University Entrance

University Entrance Literacy:

Up to 4 University Entrance Reading credits

Scholarship is offered to students who take this course.

Costs: Approximately \$280 for golf coaching, driving range and Tough Guy & Gal Challenge - Rotorua.

Physical Education & Health

NCEA Level 2 Outdoor Education

Students will receive an opportunity to develop positive attitudes towards outdoor pursuits and the development of practical outdoor skills. This course is largely practical based and is aimed at personal development and teamwork in the outdoors. Students entering this course must be willing to accept the physical and mental challenges in the below adventure pursuits in the outdoors. This course includes:

- Outdoor skills, Tramping, Camping, Navigation.
- Rock Climbing, Adventure Based Learning, Orienteering, Risk Management, High and Low Ropes.
- Mountain Biking.
- Rafting

Assessment:

Internal credits - up to 28

External credits - 0

Total credits - up to 28

This is a Unit Standard course.

This course involves multiple days out of School. Students will miss time in their other subjects and there is an expectation that students will catch up on the work that they have missed. This course should not be taken in conjunction with outside provider courses that require a day off site each week. This needs to be a consideration for students as they contemplate this subject.

This course leads to: Level 3 Outdoor Education

Costs: \$400-\$500

NCEA Level 3 Outdoor Education

Students will receive opportunities to develop positive attitudes towards outdoor pursuits and the development of practical outdoor skills. This course is designed around giving practical experience in a range of outdoor areas that will allow students to have a base level of skill and understanding to build on for future adventure, participation and/or study in the outdoors. Students entering this course must be willing to accept the physical and mental challenges in the below adventure pursuits in the outdoors:

- Tramping, camping, navigation, river crossing, bush survival
- Adventure based learning, risk management
- Kayaking/Rafting
- Mountain Biking
- Rock climbing
- Orienteering

Assessment:

Internal credits - up to 28

External credits - 0

Total credits - up to 28

It is recommended that students have done Level 2 Outdoor Education as many of the standards are a progression from the previous level.

This is a Unit Standard course.

This course involves multiple days out of school. Students will miss time in their other subjects and there is an expectation that students will catch up on the work that they have missed. This course should not be taken in conjunction with outside provider courses that require a day off site each week. This needs to be a consideration for students as they contemplate this subject.

Costs: \$750-\$850

Languages - Te Reo Māori

NCEA Level 3 Te Reo Māori

A range of themes and skills will be practised and extended through listening, speaking, reading, and writing in Māori.

The following topics will be covered:

He Mahi Whakangungu, Nga Waihanga Tuhinga, Nga Ahuatanga Whakarongo and Nga Ahuatanga Korero.

This level of Māori requires a wide range of vocabulary and grammar skills.

This course will be offered via Te Kura and offers up to 30 NCEA Level 3 credits.

Assessments:

Internal assessments:

AS91650 Whakarongo (2 listening pieces) | 6 credits

AS91651 Korero (2 speaking pieces) | 6 credits

AS91654 Waihanga Tuhinga (2 writing pieces) | 6 credits

External assessments:

AS91652 Panui (reading comprehension) | 6 credits

AS91653 Tuhi (a writing piece) | 6 credits

This subject is considered an Approved Subject for University Entrance

University Entrance Literacy:

Up to 6 University Entrance Reading credits

Up to 12 University Entrance Writing credits

18 credits contribute to UE Literacy requirements

Costs: It is an advantage to have your own Māori-English, English Māori dictionary.

Languages - Spanish

Cambridge IGCSE Spanish

Cambridge IGCSE Spanish develops a set of transferable skills for understanding and communicating in everyday situations in Spanish. Learners begin to develop cultural awareness of countries and communities where Spanish is spoken. They acquire the essential linguistic skills required for progression to further studies or employment.

The aims are to enable students to:

- develop the language proficiency required to communicate effectively in Spanish.
- offer insights into the culture and society of countries and communities where Spanish is spoken
- develop awareness of the nature of language and language learning
- encourage positive attitudes towards speakers of other languages and a sympathetic approach to other cultures
- provide enjoyment and intellectual stimulation
- develop transferable skills (e.g. memorising, drawing of inferences) to complement other areas of the curriculum
- form a sound base of the skills, language and attitudes required for progression to work or further study, either in Spanish or another subject area.

The subject content is organised in five broad topic areas (A–E below). These provide contexts for the acquisition of vocabulary and the study of grammar and structures. The study of these topic areas enables students to gain an insight into countries and communities where Spanish is spoken.

The five topic areas are:

- Everyday activities
- Personal and social life
- The world around us
- The world of work
- The international world

The syllabus gives students opportunities to develop and apply a wide range of foreign language skills. Candidates will be expected to read and understand a variety of written and spoken texts on familiar topics. Candidates will be required to demonstrate understanding of the main ideas, opinions and attitudes, as well as select and extract relevant details and deduce the meaning of occasional unknown words from context. They will also have opportunities to write in Spanish on familiar, everyday topics, and to speak the language by taking part in everyday conversations.

Assessment:

All candidates take all four examinations.

NCEA Level 2 Spanish

Learning a new language provides a means of communicating with people from another culture and exploring one's own personal world.

Students learn to communicate in Spanish using more sophisticated language on a range of themes relevant to young adults. They learn to express and justify their own ideas and opinions and to support or challenge the opinions of others. Students further develop their listening, speaking, reading and writing skills whilst continuing to extend their vocabulary and grammatical knowledge and deepen their awareness of Hispanic culture.

Assessment:

Internal credits - up to 14

External credits - up to 10

Total credits - up to 24

This course leads to: Level 3 Spanish

NCEA Level 3 Spanish

Learning a new language provides a means of communicating with people from another culture and exploring one's own personal world. Languages are inseparably linked to the social and cultural contexts in which they are used.

Students learn to communicate confidently and fluently in Spanish using complex language on a range of themes relevant to young adults. They learn to express and justify their own ideas and opinions and to support or challenge varied ideas and perspectives. Students work with extended texts at Level 3 Spanish. Students further develop their listening, speaking, reading and writing skills whilst continuing to extend their vocabulary and grammatical knowledge and deepen their awareness of Hispanic culture, both in relation to Spain itself as well as to other Hispanic countries.

Assessment:

Internal credits - up to 14

External credits - up to 10

Total credits - up to 24

This subject is considered an Approved Subject for University Entrance

Scholarship is offered to students who take this course.





WHANGANUI COLLEGIATE SCHOOL

