

# Subject Handbook 2026



Year 11

### **NCEA Level One:**

NCEA involves standards-based assessment. National standards have been set in each learning area and each standard is worth a set number of credits. When a student achieves a standard they earn credits towards their NCEA qualification. With achievement standards ākonga can gain standards with achieved, merit or excellent grades. With unit standards the credits can usually only be “achieved”. In each learning area, different aspects of skills, knowledge and understanding are assessed separately. Some are assessed externally (which means they are assessed by external markers), while others involve internal assessment. A selection of internally-assessed standards will be checked by National Moderators each year to make sure assessment practice is fair and consistent.

You can achieve your NCEA certificate with Merit or Excellence endorsement. To gain NCEA with Excellence you need to achieve at least 50 credits at excellence level. To gain NCEA with Merit you need to achieve at least 50 credits with either merit or excellence. You can also gain endorsement in individual subjects by gaining 14 credits at either achieved, merit or excellence level. In most subjects you must gain at least 3 credits from external assessment.

**When a total of 60 credits are achieved and you have achieved the co-requisites in Literacy and Numeracy a NCEA Level 1 qualification will be awarded.**

### **Course Planning:**

Ākonga studying at year eleven **must take a course in English and Mathematics**. You then have to **choose four other subjects**. Be careful that you check the subjects that you **MUST** study to follow the future study or career of your choice. Put these into your programme first, and then look at the exciting options left. When considering your future directions use the Career information you have gathered. Remember that it is often a combination of subject areas that best prepares you for any particular career idea or industry sector, so you do not have to specialise too soon – keep your options open.

### **Viability of courses:**

The timetable will be constructed based on the subjects chosen by our ākonga. Whether a course will run depends on the number of ākonga who have opted for it. Some courses may be cancelled and ākonga guided into new courses.

### **Higher qualifications:**

NCEA can be gained at Levels Two and Three as you move up the school. Level Two is widely considered as the minimum school-leaving qualification. All students are encouraged and supported to gain this qualification.

In Year 13, you can also gain the University Entrance qualification. This is the highest school qualification and is the minimum entry requirement for study at a New Zealand University or other tertiary institutions for degree level courses. Most, but not all Year 13 subjects are approved UE subjects - check this before you select your courses as you will need a minimum of three UE approved subjects in Year 13.



# THE ARTS

## Drama

### 11DRA Drama

This is about developing performance and communication skills by learning, creating, rehearsing and performing theatre in small groups for the class. There are also opportunities to explore theatre technologies and backstage roles as part of a wider theatre performance for the public.

#### What we will study:

- Communication skills for performance and public speaking including voice, body, movement and space.
- Drama production technologies such as lighting and costume design
- Different theatre styles e.g Physical theatre & New Zealand theatre
- Horror tropes as part of Fright Night

#### Work in the subject involves:

- Performance techniques
- Improvisation
- Devising/creating drama
- Viewing and responding to professional theatre
- Developing skills in performing arts technologies, such as costume and prop design

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## Entertainment & Events Technology

### 11EET Entertainment & Events Technology

This course is a hands-on course where we learn skills to support music and drama events. There are opportunities to explore events technologies and non performing roles. The course is suited to both performers and non performers.

#### What we will study:

- P.A. and Lighting systems and how to operate them
- Costume design
- Set and prop design and construction
- The creation and recording of music
- Entertainment and Events careers and industry

#### Work in the subject involves:

- Developing design and practical skills in costume, set and prop design
- Creating and recording original music
- Learning how to set up and operate a PA system
- Learn how to rig, focus and operate lights

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## Music

### 11MUS Music

This is about all aspects of music: creating, recording, listening and performing music and learning to utilise the technologies associated with music. We will also learn about aspects of the music industry. It is recommended that you have completed Year 10 Music or entry may be granted at the discretion of the HOF.

#### What we will study:

- Music creation and production
- Performance
- Music technologies
- Music careers and industry

#### Work in the subject involves:

- Creating and recording original music
- Performing
- Rockquest/Tangata Beats and songwriting competitions
- Learning about music technologies

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## Visual Art

### 11ART Visual Art

Ākonga in Visual Art Year 11 will carry out a practice-based visual inquiry exploring the theme Tuia: Tuia te muka tangata, weaving together the threads of humanity. This inquiry will be centred within our local context – Turanganui-a Kiwa/Tairāwhiti.

### Entry Requirements

Completion of Year 10 Visual Art, coupled with a genuine interest in this subject.

HOD may grant discretionary entrance based upon examples of previous work.

#### What we will study:

- Local physical and cultural environments
- Mixed media observational Drawing, Photography, Printmaking, Painting
- Inspirations and practices of relevant local and national artists

#### Work in the subject involves:

- Exploring art-making processes and ideas to create a sustained body of artworks in response to our theme
- Visit to historic sites and marae
- Following the Arts Development Cycle of inquiry, research, planning, production and reflection
- Exhibition of student work

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## **11DES Design**

This course introduces students to design processes, procedures, and techniques through ongoing design projects. Ākonga will focus on practical application and creative thinking while developing skills in research, investigation, exploration, and the application of design conventions using hand drawn and computer aided design.

### Entry Requirements

Completion of Year 10 Digital Art, coupled with a genuine interest in this subject.

HOD may grant discretionary entrance based upon examples of previous work. It is preferable to have some experience in Adobe Photoshop and creative packages.

#### What we will study:

- Exploring design processes and ideas to create a sustained body of work through photography, digital illustration and design tools across a range of design influences and eras.
- Discover the basic skills needed for Photoshop, Procreate, Illustrator and Indesign
- Gain skills in graphic design while working on a range of different projects following the Arts Development Cycle of inquiry, research, planning, production, reflection and critique using design terminology

#### Work in the subject involves:

- Exploring art-making processes and ideas to create a sustained body of artworks in response to our theme
- Following the Arts Development Cycle of inquiry, research, planning, production and reflection

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Course:	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13	University Entrance
ART	✓	✓	✓	✓
DES	✓			
DRA	✓	✓	✓	✓
EET	✓			
MUS	✓	✓	✓	✓

# CAREERS

## Pathways

### 11PAT Pathways

This is about the interpersonal and work-ready skills and knowledge required for employment, study and training.

#### What we will study:

- Explore career ideas and workplace requirements and responsibilities
- Health and safety in the workplace
- Community support services
- Preparation for employment
- Knowledge of Anger Management

#### Work in the subject involves:

- CV writing and interviews
- Engagement with community, educational and employment services
- Opportunities to gain work experience and volunteer work

## Gateway

In Year 11 ākonga can apply to join the Gateway programme in an area of interest. This will provide practical workplace experience outside of school and completion of industry based unit standards by the workplace supervisor.

Course:	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13	University Entrance
PAT	✓	✓	✓	
ECE		✓	✓	
GAT	✓	✓	✓	
Trades		✓	✓	

# ENGLISH

## English

### 11ENG English; 11ENA English Achievement and 11ENL English for Literacy

There are three Year 11 courses. You will work with your teacher to select the appropriate Year 11 course.

#### What we will study:

- A range of writing activities
- Close reading tasks and language activities
- Speech

#### Work in the subject involves:

- Text connections, speech, static Images.
- Personal responses
- Language analysis
- Writing

In Years 12 and 13 there is also a Media Studies course that is available.

Course:	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13	University Entrance
ENG	✓	✓	✓	✓
ENA	✓	✓	✓	✓
ENL	✓	✓	✓	
MED		✓	✓	✓

## Hauora and Movement

### 11 Hauora and Movement

This course will focus on both Health and Physical Education. Ākonga will demonstrate an understanding of hauora in a health-related context through the application of a model of health. Akonga will apply movement strategies in a range of applied settings. This course will allow participants to take PE and/or Health at Level Two.

#### What we will study:

- Application of physical skills and strategies and managing fitness
- Learn about key health models i.e Te Whare Tapa Wha and others.
- Mental health

#### Work in the subject involves:

- Actively participate in games which could include pickleball/ badminton or netball/ volleyball
- Practical performance and participation
- Research and report writing

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## Health Studies

### 11HES Health Studies

This course will focus on ākonga developing an understanding of the wellbeing of themselves, other people and society through learning in different health-related contexts.

#### What we will study:

- Hauora/wellbeing
- Socio-ecological perspective
- Mental Health
- Relationships & Sexuality
- Nutrition

#### Work in the subject involves:

- Research
- Decision-making
- Report writing

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## Physical Education Studies

### 11PES Physical Education Studies

This course will focus on ākonga learning in, through, and about movement to enhance hauora and sport performance.

#### What we will study:

- Practical movement skill performance
- Practical experiences in a range of physical activities within school and local community
- Interpersonal and leadership skills
- Aspects that influence movement and performance

#### Work in the subject involves:

- Practical performance and participation
- Application of skills and strategies
- Reflecting on learning and report writing

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## Outdoor Education

### 11OED Outdoor Education

Ākonga will participate in a range of outdoor activities, which aim to promote and develop individual and group well-being/hauora through movement.

#### What we will study:

- Physical movement strategies
- Developing competence in group O.E. situations – Contexts – kayaking, orienteering, overnight camps
- Movement experiences on personal Hauora
- Kotahitanga – group unity

#### Work in the subject involves:

- Practical performance in a range of O.E. contexts
- Decision-making and problem-solving
- Reflection and report writing

Course:	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13	University Entrance
HES	✓	✓	✓	✓
PES	✓	✓	✓	✓
OED	✓	✓	✓	✓

# MATHEMATICS

## Mathematics

### 11MAM Mathematics; 11MAT Mathematical Studies

There are two Year 11 courses. You will work with your teacher to select an appropriate Year 11 course.

#### 11MAM Mathematics

##### What we will study:

- Statistical enquiry processes
- Mathematical problems relating to life in Aotearoa
- Mathematical & Statistical Information
- Mathematical reasoning

##### Work in the subject involves:

- Calculating/analysing statistical measures and displays
- Working with numbers, tables, equations and graphs
- Interpreting and applying mathematical and statistical information in context
- Applying algebraic and geometrical procedures to solve problems

## Mathematical Studies

### 11MAT Mathematical Studies

##### What we will study:

- Statistical enquiry processes
- Mathematical problems relating to life in Aotearoa
- Real world mathematical skills

##### Work in the subject involves:

- Calculating and analysing statistical measures and displays
- Working with numbers, tables, equations and graphs
- Solving problems to meet the requirements for Numeracy in a variety of situations

Course:	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13	University Entrance
MAM	✓	✓	✓	✓
MAS		✓	✓	✓
MAT	✓	✓	✓	✓

# MĀORI

## Te Reo Māori

### 11MAO Te Reo Māori

This is about developing a student's knowledge and skill to express themselves in te reo Māori with accuracy, fluency and cultural integrity. Students will also develop an understanding of the historical events and impacts surrounding te reo Māori and its survival.

#### What we will study:

- Te Ao Māori contexts and events
- Grammatical structure and lexicon of the Māori language

#### Work in the subject involves:

- Research
- Critical discussion
- Listening/reading/writing/ speaking activities in te reo

## Tikanga

### 11TIK Tikanga

This is about broadening and deepening student's knowledge, understanding and application of tikanga Māori in real world contexts. This course supports the learning of te reo Māori.

#### What we will study:

- Leadership
- Events in Māori history
- Traditional waiata, karakia

#### Work in the subject involves:

- Research
- Critical discussions and exploration of tikanga and values underpinning te Ao Māori

## Te Ao Haka

### 11TAH Te Ao Haka

Te Ao Haka is a performance-based subject. It provides opportunities for ākonga to engage in Māori culture, language, and traditional practice.

#### What we will study:

- Key features of Te Ao Haka
- Perform an item from a Te Ao Haka discipline
- Categories and elements within Te Ao Haka

#### Work in the subject involves:

- Research
- Critical discussion and exploration of features and categories within Te Ao Haka
- Performance

Course:	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13	University Entrance
MAO	✓	✓	✓	✓
TRR	✓	✓	✓	✓
TIK	✓	✓	✓	
TAH	✓	✓	✓	✓



# SCIENCE

## Science

### 11SCI Science

This is an introductory course to prepare for study in AgHort, Science, Biology, Chemistry and Physics at higher levels. In Years 12 and 13 you can also study Psychology.

#### Entry Requirements

Working at a curriculum Level of 5B or higher is recommended for success.

#### What we will study:

- Chemical reactions
- Genetic variation
- Energy

#### Work in the subject involves:

- Practical investigations
- Research
- Theory assessments

Course:	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13	University Entrance
SCI	✓	✓	✓	✓
AGH		✓		
BIO		✓	✓	✓
CHE		✓	✓	✓
PHY		✓	✓	✓
PSY		✓	✓	✓

# SOCIAL SCIENCES

## Business and Finance

### 11BUS Business Studies

This is an introductory course to key business and finance concepts using case studies.

#### Entry Requirements

Attainment of at least 4A in Social Science Writing is recommended for success.

#### What we will study:

- Financial decision making
- Business Projects
- Financial relationships

#### Work in the subject involves:

- Following processes
- Paragraph writing to apply concepts
- Interpreting business information

## Classical Studies

### 11CLA Classical Studies

This is an introductory course into the mythology, archaeology, and ancient history of Greece and Rome.

#### Entry Requirements:

Attainment of at least 5B in Social Science Writing is recommended for success.

#### What we will study:

- Ancient Greek mythology
- Gender, class & slavery
- Roman religion and archaeology

#### Work in the subject involves:

- Interpreting ancient sources
- Writing essays
- Critical thinking

# Geography

## 11GEO Geography

This is an introductory course on New Zealand geography, world geography, and sustainability.

### Entry Requirements

Attainment of at least 4A in Social Science Writing is recommended for success.

#### What we will study:

- Extreme natural events: floods, cyclones
- Causes and effects on people – Traffic Congestion
- Population concepts in NZ
- Sustainability – Global deforestation

#### Work in the subject involves:

- Mapping, graphing and fieldwork
- Interpreting geographic sources
- Writing paragraphs
- Peoples perspectives and opinions

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# History

## 11HIS History

This is an introductory course on New Zealand and global history.

### Entry Requirements:

Attainment of at least 5B in Social Science Writing is recommended for success.

#### What we will study:

- 1981 Springbok Tour
- Te Hau Ki Tūrangā

#### Work in the subject involves:

- Interpreting sources
- Writing essays
- Critical thinking

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Course:	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13	University Entrance
BUS	✓	✓	✓	✓
CLA	✓	✓	✓	✓
GEO	✓	✓	✓	✓
HIS	✓	✓	✓	✓
Tourism		✓	✓	

# TECHNOLOGY

# Cookery

## 11COO Cookery

You will begin to learn about what it takes to work in a restaurant or cafe as a chef. You will develop basic cooking know-how and gain valuable skills for the hospitality industry.

#### What we will study:

- Food preparation and food hygiene
- Food and kitchen safety
- Knife care, use and handling

#### Work in the subject involves:

- Pre-industry training unit standard
  - Practical cooking lessons
  - Understanding recipes and terminology
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# Food and Nutrition

## 11FTN Food and Nutrition

In this course you will gain practical skills while developing food products for authentic contexts.

### What we will study:

- Technological practice - developing products for an authentic context
- Relationships between food, nutrition and an individual's hauora
- Practical skills including safe food handling

### Work in the subject involves:

- Researching and recording information
- Trialling
- Planning, preparation, cooking and serving of healthy meals for teenagers and their whānau

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# Technology

## 11TEC Technology

You will choose to learn in **one** of these areas: **Textiles** or **Product Design**. Students will gain practical skills while learning about the materials, processes and steps involved in the sustainable design and creation of products and solutions of your choice.

### What we will study:

- Technological practice - including brief development, conceptual design and prototyping
- Practical skill building

### Work in the subject involves:

- Researching
- Testing
- Trialling
- Practical work

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## 11DGT Digital Technologies

You will study computational concepts, design skills and technical understandings that underpin the creation of digital products and systems.

### What we will study:

- Create a program for a task using iteration
- Following the design process
- Design and develop a digital outcome for a stakeholder

### Work in the subject involves:

- Decomposing problems
- Programming using a variety of apps
- Designing and developing a website

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Course:	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13	University Entrance
COO	✓	✓	✓	
DGT	✓	✓	✓	✓
FTN	✓	✓	✓	✓
TEC	✓	✓	✓	✓

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines, set against a background of light-colored, draped fabric. At the top center of the page, the word "NOTES" is printed in a large, bold, black sans-serif font. Below the title, there are approximately 28 evenly spaced horizontal lines extending across the width of the page, providing space for writing.