

# Subject Handbook 2026



Year 10

## **Information**

Our junior programme is designed to provide opportunities to build and develop individual strengths while instilling high expectations and the strong grounding essential for success in NCEA and beyond. We encourage the selection of a variety of subjects to ensure a wide range of opportunities remains open to our ākonga as they enter their senior years.

We have caring and dedicated pastoral and careers teams who will support both ākonga and whānau to ensure the best choices are made for future success.

### **The Year 10 Curriculum:**

In Year 10, ākonga programmes are focussed on a range of compulsory subjects: English, Hauora (Health and Physical Education), Mathematics, Science and Social Science. Then there are specialist subjects that ākonga can select from that come from the Arts, Languages, Technology, Social Science and Hauora Faculties. With this range of subjects individual talents and interests can be nurtured and encouraged.

### **Additional Support:**

We are committed to the success of every ākonga and offer both extension opportunities and focused learning support for individual learning concerns. We offer additional assistance in literacy and numeracy for those ākonga who come to high school with extra needs.

As a school we strive to create learning environments where ākonga actively participate in the learning process alongside their teachers. We value positive learning relationships between ākonga and teachers. We encourage diversity and cultural awareness and expect our ākonga to take every opportunity that is on offer both academically and in the vast range of extracurricular activities that Gisborne Girls' High School supports. This begins with the clear expectation that attendance every day is the key to success.

# COMPULSORY SUBJECTS

## Careers Education

This course will occur during Āko Time.

Ākonga identify their values, personal qualities, interests, and achievements and explore career ideas through interactive tools. Ākonga continue building their career portfolio using the Career Central website. Activities also include ākonga gaining a greater understanding of how subjects pathway from Year 9 to 13 so they can plan their courses.

Course:	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13	University Entrance
CAREER ED	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
PATHWAYS			✓	✓	✓	
EARLY CHILDHOOD ED				✓	✓	
GATEWAY			✓	✓	✓	
TRADES				✓	✓	

## English

### 10ENG English

This subject is about developing and improving all English-based skills. The focus will be on reading and writing as well as speaking skills including Speech and Debate, and analysing visual texts. Extension includes: Speech competition, interclass Debating and Writing Competitions. Ākonga will also participate in the Literacy co-requisite qualification which is a mandatory requirement for NCEA.

Course:	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13	University Entrance
ENGLISH	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
ACHIEVEMENT ENGLISH			✓	✓	✓	✓
ENGLISH FOR LITERACY			✓	✓		
MEDIA STUDIES				✓	✓	✓

## Hauora (Health and Physical Education)

### 10HAU Hauora

Year 10 Hauora focuses on the well-being of ākonga and their peers through learning in health related and movement contexts. Ākonga will have the opportunities to develop motor skills, resilience, assertiveness, a sense of personal and social responsibility in a range of contexts including physical activity, relationships and sexuality, mental health and drug and alcohol education.

Course:	Year 9	YEAR 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13	University Entrance
HAUORA	✓	✓				
HEALTH STUDIES			✓	✓	✓	✓
PE STUDIES			✓	✓	✓	✓
OUTDOOR ED		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

# Mathematics

## 10MAT Mathematics

In this course ākonga will develop fundamental skills in algebra, geometry, statistics, and probability. Ākonga will be working at Curriculum Levels 3,4,5 and 6. Work in this course will involve a wide variety of learning activities reinforced by regular homework. Ākonga will also participate in the Numeracy co-requisite qualification which is a mandatory requirement for NCEA.

Course:	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13	University Entrance
MATHEMATICAL STUDIES			✓	✓	✓	✓
MATHEMATICS	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
STATISTICS				✓	✓	✓

# Science

## 10SCI Science

Science is about understanding the world around us. When studying science, ākonga learn to carry out investigations, research ideas and use their knowledge to solve problems. Topics include force and motion, heredity, reactions, electricity, fuels and climate change, earth systems, and microorganisms.

Course:	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13	University Entrance
SCIENCE	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
AG/HORT				✓		
BIOLOGY				✓	✓	✓
CHEMISTRY				✓	✓	✓
PHYSICS				✓	✓	✓
PSYCHOLOGY				✓	✓	✓

# Social Science

## 10SOS Social Science

This course provides the foundational knowledge and skills for success as a citizen in New Zealand society. Learning includes locational knowledge, graph interpretation, Human Rights, NZ Wars, Disease, and NZ History.

Course:	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13	University Entrance
SOCIAL SCIENCE	✓	✓				
CLASSICS			✓	✓	✓	✓
BUSINESS & FINANCE		✓	✓	✓	✓	
GEOGRAPHY			✓	✓	✓	✓
HISTORY			✓	✓	✓	✓
TOURISM				✓	✓	

# SPECIALIST SUBJECTS

Ākonga will select 8 terms of specialist subjects. Each of these courses are two terms long.

**THE ARTS** - ākonga are encouraged to choose **at least one** of these subjects

## Drama

### 10DRA Drama

This course extends and develops skills in self-confidence and expression through performance onstage, and off-stage performing arts technologies. Ākonga will look at a range of performance styles including short scripts, Shakespeare, self-created pieces and ends with a full-scale class play performed for peers and whānau.

### 10DRP Drama Production

This course is focused on all things backstage but are essential for a show to happen. The course focuses on developing understanding of scripts and design concepts for costume design, prop making, lighting design and rigging and team work and crucial communication skills needed to develop and present a creative concept. Ākonga will be learning skills that can lead to a professional career in backstage operations in theatre and event management. This course leads to year 11EET (music and drama combined tech course).

## Music

### 10MUS Performance Music

This course is about performing as a member of a group, song writing and increasing musical knowledge. It also builds on skills taught in Year 9. Work in this course will involve a variety of class activities. This course focuses on building song writing / composition skills and performing in groups and as a soloist. Ākonga will receive group tuition in either drums, bass, guitar or keyboard.

## Visual Arts

### 10ART Visual Arts

This course builds on Visual Art ideas, methods and processes, with a focus on Aotearoa / NZ cultural contexts. Ākonga will further develop their own creativity by studying both Māori and European artforms and being exposed to a range of personal cultural symbolism. Ākonga will explore themes relating to their own immediate world / their personal identity and be introduced to a wide range of different media and art techniques. Ākonga will create final individual works to be displayed in our school gallery.

### 10DES Design

This course builds on digital art making ideas, methods and processes acquired at Year 9 in digital drawing and photography. Ākonga will explore themes relating to their own immediate world / their personal identity, gaining further confidence in digital drawing using Procreate on Ipads, and computer design using Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop.

Course:	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13	University Entrance
DRAMA	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
MUSIC	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
VISUAL ART	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
DESIGN	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

# TECHNOLOGY - ākonga are encouraged to choose at least one of these subjects

## Digital

### 10DGT Digital

In this course ākonga learn to design and create their own digital outcomes to become creators, not just users of technology. This course may involve image creation, computer science, programming and robotics.

## Food and Nutrition

### 10FTN Food Technology

This course further develops your understanding of the technology design process in a food context. Ākonga will expand their knowledge in nutrition and well-being whilst developing outcomes in authentic contexts.

## Product Design

### 10PDT Product Design

This course consolidates the design process. Ākonga have the opportunity to build on and extend their knowledge of specialist tools, materials and techniques. Themes focus on designing and developing marketable products for a fundraiser event.

## Textiles

### 10TET Textiles

This course further develops ākonga understanding of the technology design process in a textiles context. Themes focus on solving authentic issues which enable them to progress skills and knowledge in this area.

Course:	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13	University Entrance
TECHNOLOGY	✓					
DIGITAL		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
FOOD AND NUTRITION		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
PRODUCT DESIGN		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
TEXTILES		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
COOKERY			✓	✓	✓	
YES					✓	✓

# LANGUAGES

## Spanish

### 10SPA Spanish

This course opens the minds of ākonga to the culture and whakataukī of the Hispanic World. Learning involves working as the editor, to design and produce a magazine in Spanish. The theme of which is a personal ākonga choice, and the pages consist of a range of texts, for example, an editorial, adverts, fashion article, recipes, puzzle pages, travel and interviews. ¡Vamos! Let's go!

Course:	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13	University Entrance
SPANISH	✓	✓				

## Te Reo Māori

### 10MAO Te Reo Māori Te Takapau

This course builds upon the foundations of Year 9. Learning in this course will involve a wide variety of communicative learning activities reinforced by regular grammatical/vocabulary homework.

## Te Ao Haka

### 10TAH

This is a foundational course for those ākonga interested in developing their knowledge and skills within the disciplines of mōteatea, waiata-ā-ringa, poi, and haka wahine. Work in this course will involve a wide variety of learning activities supported by on-going research tasks.

## Ngā Manu Tangiata Tikanga o nehe

### 10TIK

This course runs in conjunction with Year 10 Te Reo Māori for those students in Manu Tangiata. Ākonga broaden their knowledge and understanding of tikanga Māori through practice in real world contexts. Topics of study include karakia, waiata, hui, whakapapa, kōrero atua and pōhiri.

Course:	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13	University Entrance
MAORI	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
TE REO RANGATIRA			✓	✓	✓	✓
TIKANGA			✓	✓	✓	
TE AO HAKA		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

# Business and Finance

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## 10BUS

Business and Finance supports students to become responsible, confident, and independent managers of money. They will learn about managing money, different kinds of income, taxes, saving, KiwiSaver, needs vs wants, budgeting, good and bad credit, and interest.

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Course:	Year 9	YEAR 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13	University Entrance
<b>BUSINESS AND FINANCE</b>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

# Outdoor Education

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## 10OED

This course develops and enhances the interests of ākonga in te taiao, New Zealand's environment. Ākonga will discover and practice skills connected with the whenua and Aotearoa's living communities – koiora. Topics in the subject involve:

- Regular hikoi
  - Bush camping skills
  - Overnight camp
  - Safety management
  - Research into endangered manu/insects
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Course:	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13	University Entrance
<b>OUTDOOR EDUCATION</b>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

