



# SENIOR CURRICULUM HANDBOOK 2027



CHILTON  
SAINT JAMES SCHOOL



# CONTENTS

4	Introduction	
6	Curriculum Leads	
7	Heads of Departments	28
9	Dual Pathway	
10	Cambridge Pathway	
14	NCEA Pathway	
18	Chilton Ballet Academy Academic Programme	
20	University Entrance	
21	New Zealand Scholarship	
22	Choosing a Pathway	72
24	Individual Learning Pathway	
25	Course Enrolment Timeline	
26	2027 Course Structure	
27	Curriculum Overview	
	<b>Cambridge Pathway</b>	
29	English	
34	Languages	
40	Mathematics	
43	Performing Arts	
49	Physical Education	
50	Sciences	
59	Social Sciences	
67	Visual Arts	
	<b>NCEA Pathway</b>	
73	English	
74	Languages	
75	Mathematics	
77	Performing Arts	
81	Physical Education	
83	Science	
85	Social Sciences	
88	Technology	
90	Visual Arts	

# INTRODUCTION

## Curriculum Pathways at Chilton Saint James School

This Senior School Curriculum Handbook is designed to give whānau and students an overview of the curriculum framework at Chilton Saint James to support decision making around subject selection. At Chilton we believe in the importance of a learning programme that is personalised to ensure the best outcomes for each student.

Our Dual Curriculum Pathway allows students to choose between the Cambridge International Programme or NCEA. We are committed to supporting our students needs with a curriculum pathway that empowers each student to reach their full potential. Please take the time to read through

this handbook so that you can make informed decisions about the choice of subjects and which pathway will work best. Some students already know what subjects they will study at university and for those students the subject choices are clear. For many students this might not be the case and they may still be considering their future options.

We encourage students to keep a broad curriculum base rather than narrowing down their choices too quickly. Identifying what subjects students have a strong interest in and developing an understanding of what they would like to study in the future will assist with their decision making.



# CURRICULUM LEADS



**Principal**

Caroline Robertson

[crobertson@chilton.school.nz](mailto:crobertson@chilton.school.nz)



**Deputy Principal**

Sarah Malone

[smalone@chilton.school.nz](mailto:smalone@chilton.school.nz)



**Curriculum Manager**

Ali Bainbridge

[abainbridge@chilton.school.nz](mailto:abainbridge@chilton.school.nz)



**Senior Dean Year 11 - 13**

Annette Paterson-Spice

[apaterson-spice@chilton.school.nz](mailto:apaterson-spice@chilton.school.nz)



**Careers Advisor +  
Principal's Nominee**

Jo Wallace

[jwallace@chilton.school.nz](mailto:jwallace@chilton.school.nz)

# HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS



## English

Shamla Kader

skader@chilton.school.nz



## Languages

Susan Hart

shart@chilton.school.nz



## Mathematics

Jo Hilario

jhilario@chilton.school.nz



## Performing Arts

Rowan Johnston

rjohnston@chilton.school.nz



## Physical Education

Lynne Keelty

lkeelty@chilton.school.nz



## Science

Tim Noble

tnoble@chilton.school.nz



## Social Sciences

Miriam Nhema

mnhema@chilton.school.nz



## Technology

Annette Paterson-Spice

apaterson-spice@chilton.school.nz



## Visual Arts

Nick Clark

nclark@chilton.school.nz



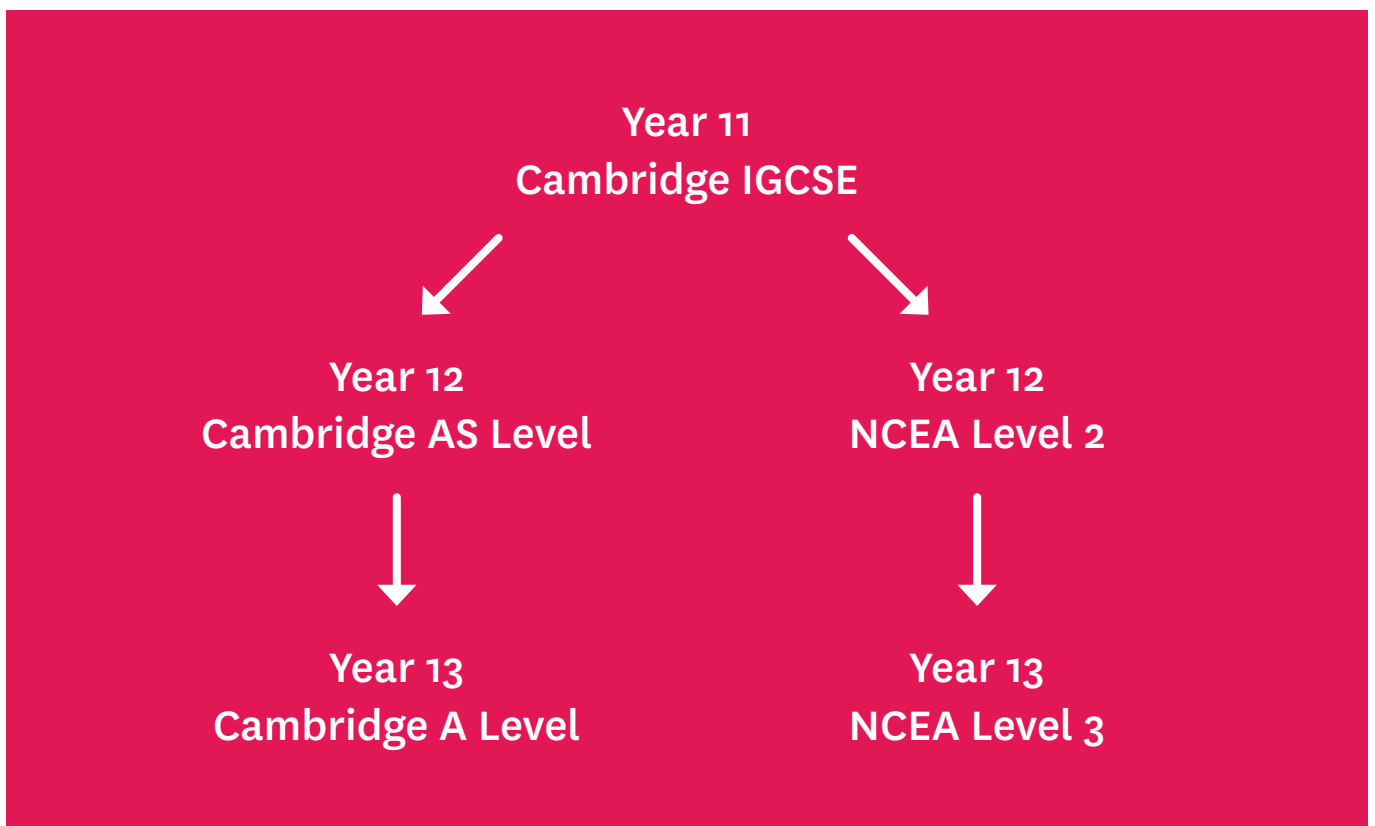
# DUAL PATHWAY

## Cambridge and NCEA

Chilton offers a Dual Pathway Curriculum Model. Students have the choice to pursue the Cambridge Assessment International Education (CAIE) path or the National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA) pathway. Both choices lead to excellent learning outcomes, further study opportunities and are a great base for future career pathways.

In Year 11, all Chilton students will complete the IGCSE course following the Cambridge curriculum. After completing this course, students have the option to either continue with the Cambridge pathway by progressing to AS Level and then A Level, or switch to the NCEA pathway by studying NCEA Level 2 and subsequently Level 3.

Class viability will be dependent on numbers once students have selected their courses.



# CAMBRIDGE PATHWAY

## Understanding Cambridge Assessment International Education



Cambridge Assessment International Education (CAIE) is an examination board offering 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 do Cambridge Assessment International Examinations 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
- Advanced Level (**A Level**) Year 13

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. Students will generally sit their examinations in the October/November session. 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)**

At Chilton, IGCSE will be offered to our Year 11 cohort as in previous years. IGCSE is an excellent foundation year for students to choose between the Cambridge and the NCEA pathways in Year 12.

Subjects (e.g. Mathematics) can offer a choice of 'Core' and 'Extended' papers to cater for students with differing abilities. Students who enrol for 'Core' can only attain a maximum grade of C. Extended results are graded from A\* to U.

<b>IGCSE Grade (Core)</b>	<b>IGCSE Grade (Extended)</b>
	A*
	A
	B
C	C
D	D
E	E
F	F
G	G
U	U (Ungraded)

## **AS Level**

### **(Advanced Subsidiary Level) Year 12**

AS Level courses can be taken by both Year 12 and Year 13 students and count towards University Entrance. Results are graded on a five-point scale, from A to E. There are no A\* grades awarded for AS.

<b>AS Grade</b>	<b>Points</b>
A	60
B	50
C	40
D	30
E	-
U (Ungraded)	-

### **A Level (Advanced Level) Year 13**

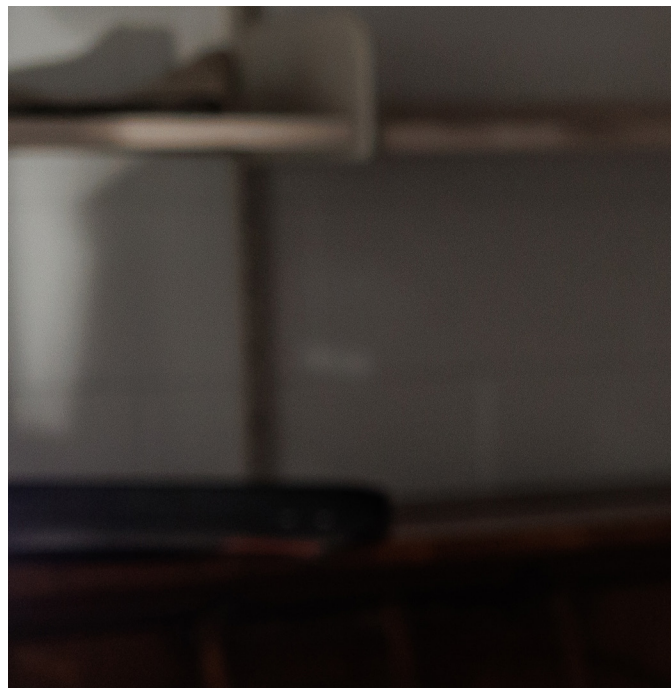
An A Level result is the average of a student's AS and AL results. Points are doubled in AL and count towards University Entrance.

<b>A Level Grade</b>	<b>Points</b>
A*	140
A	120
B	100
C	80
D	60
E	-
U (Ungraded)	-



# NCEA PATHWAY

## Understanding National Certificate of Educational Achievement



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

There are three levels of NCEA, Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3. In our Chilton pathway, students will have the option of Level 2 and 3. The flexibility of NCEA allows us to deliver skills-based learning that is personalised and engaging.

### **NCEA Standards**

With 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 that are 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 that are assessed externally, such as written examinations.

For example, instead of doing a three-hour exam on the whole subject of English, students could be assessed in separate standards about 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) for a satisfactory performance
- Merit (M) for very good performance
- Excellence (E) for outstanding performance
- Not Achieved (N) if students don't meet the standard's criteria

### Achieving Level 2 and 3 NCEA

Students earn credits for each standard which contribute to the qualification. Levels 2 and 3 of NCEA are 60 credit qualifications.

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

The co-requisite standards only need to be achieved once and can be used for both Level 2 and 3.

Level	Credits		Co-req	Credits
NCEA Level 1 is not offered at Chilton. Instead, students sit Cambridge IGCSE		<b>Plus</b>	Literacy (Reading)	5
Level 2	60		Literacy (Writing)	5
Level 3	60		Numeracy	10

### **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, a student must earn a minimum of 50 credits at Excellence. These credits must be at the level of the certificate or above. To achieve a Merit endorsement, a student must earn a minimum of 50 credits at Merit (or Merit and Excellence). 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. It can be awarded at Achieved, Merit and Excellence. Students achieve course endorsement if, in a single school year, they achieve 14 or more credits at either Achieved, Merit, or Excellence, with at least 3 credits from externally assessed standards and 3 credits from internally assessed standards.





# CHILTON BALLET ACADEMY

## Academic Programme

The Chilton Ballet Academy Programme is designed for students aspiring to excellence in both classical ballet and academic study. Ballet training forms a significant part of the school day, with students completing a carefully structured Cambridge academic programme in their remaining classes. The Cambridge pathway enables students to balance intensive training with academic progression towards internationally recognised qualifications and University Entrance.

### Programme Structure

The cba academic programme supports a progression towards University Entrance through the Cambridge International curriculum.

Students achieve University Entrance through gaining numeracy in IGCSE Mathematics, literacy through AS



English Literature, with a minimum of 120 UCAS or New Zealand tariff points across three AS Level subjects.

### Chilton Ballet Academy Year 1

Students in Chilton Ballet Academy Year 1 undertake intensive ballet training alongside a focused Cambridge academic programme.

Students study:

- IGCSE English Literature
- IGCSE Core Mathematics
- AS Drama

This pathway enables students to continue building the literacy and numeracy requirements needed for University Entrance, while also developing the performance and creative skills that complement their dance training.



### **Chilton Ballet Academy Year 2**

In Chilton Ballet Academy Year 2, students continue their intensive dance programme while completing the academic requirements for University Entrance through Cambridge International qualifications.

Students study:

- AS English Literature
- A choice of either AS Business or AS Psychology

### **University Entrance Pathway**

The Chilton Ballet Academy academic programme is designed to lead directly to University Entrance through the Cambridge pathway.

Students complete:

- Numeracy through IGCSE Mathematics
- Literacy through AS English Literature
- Three AS subjects contributing towards the 120 UCAS or New Zealand tariff points required for University Entrance

<b>AS Grades</b>	<b>Points</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>60</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>D</b>	<b>30</b>

The Chilton Ballet Academy academic programme provides students with a carefully designed pathway that supports both academic achievement and elite ballet training. Through internationally recognised Cambridge qualifications, students are equipped with the knowledge, skills, and university entrance requirements needed to pursue future pathways in tertiary study, professional dance training and beyond.

# UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE

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

## **University Entrance with Cambridge**

For a student to gain entry to tertiary study in the Cambridge system, students must complete the following:

- All students must gain numeracy. In Cambridge, this means at least a Grade D in either Core or Extended IGCSE Mathematics. Many students will achieve this in Year 10.
- All students must gain literacy via an E Grade in an AS English course (Literature in English or English Language).
- All students must also gain a minimum of a Grade D in three AS subjects and receive at least 120 points on the UCAS Tariff. The 120 points must be from more than two subjects.

## **University Entrance with NCEA**

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
  - » 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](#)

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. Further questions can be directed to the Careers Advisor.

For entrance to university in other countries, consult the Careers Advisor.



# NEW ZEALAND SCHOLARSHIP

New Zealand Scholarship is an award that recognises top secondary school students. Top students in each subject are given the opportunity to do NZ Scholarship assessments in order to achieve this award.

Assessments are designed to be challenging for the most able students in each subject. The assessment may be a written or spoken examination or by the submission of a portfolio or report of work produced throughout the year, depending on the subject.

Students who achieve NZ Scholarship receive a monetary award, and students who receive multiple NZ Scholarships may also be recognised through NZQA's Top Scholar Award Ceremony.

## [NZ Scholarship Subjects](#)

Importantly, you do not need to be completing NCEA qualifications in order to enter NZ Scholarship – entries are open to both pathways at Chilton Saint James School.

To enter, you should speak with your teacher to see if this may be a good opportunity for you to pursue. Entries are free for domestic students, however, there is a fee for international students.

For further information, discuss with the Principal's Nominee at Chilton Saint James School, or go to this [NZQA website](#).

# CHOOSING A PATHWAY

## Cambridge or NCEA

Chilton Saint James School offers two equivalent senior school qualifications: the Cambridge Assessment International Examinations (CAIE) and the National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA). Both pathways are equally rigorous, the crucial factor is to select the qualification path that best aligns with your style of learning and assessment preferences. The following table includes information to help you choose your pathway in Year 12.



## A Comparison of our Dual Curriculum Pathways

	Cambridge	NCEA
Assessment Structure	Suits students who prefer to accumulate knowledge over the year, working to external examinations in Term 4	Suits students who prefer assessment at the time of learning with a mixture of internal and external assessments
Learning Style	Structured, content-rich learning allowing students to delve deeply into chosen subject areas, promoting specialisation and expertise	Students who enjoy project-based, skills learning. Ability for the course to be personalised to meet learning needs
Curriculum Content	All students internationally studying the same content, global learning community	New Zealand based content options
Level of Achievement	For each subject, students receive an overall grade derived from the percentage of questions they correctly answered. This grade reflects their performance in that subject.	Grading of standards at Achieved, Merit or Excellence, courses endorsed at Merit or Excellence, NCEA Certificate levels endorsed at Merit or Excellence
Assessment Conditions	Exam access arrangements that are applied for pre-examination	Special Assessment Conditions (SAC) are available in internal and external NCEA assessments. SAC can include the use of a reader or writer assistant, rest breaks, access to quiet spaces, braille or enlarged papers.
Costs	Entry fees per subject. These vary each year.	No entry fees for domestic students
University Entrance Requirements	At least three subjects, in which no grade is lower than a D. A minimum of 120 points at the A Level or AS Level. Numeracy: a D grade or better in IGCSE Mathematics. Literacy: an E grade or better in AS English Language or Literature.	Level 3 (60 L3 credits) and 14 credits in each of three approved Level 3 subjects AND 10 Literacy credits at Level 2 or above (5 Reading + 5 Writing credits) AND Minimum of 10 Numeracy credits at Level 1 or above



# INDIVIDUAL LEARNING PATHWAY

The Individual Learning Pathway is designed to support the student in working towards NCEA credits through practical, vocationally focused learning. The programme builds on the individual student's strengths and interests while developing key skills for future employment, training, and independent living.

Students take part in hands-on learning experiences that strengthen communication, teamwork, problem-solving, and self-management. Alongside earning NCEA credits, the pathway aims to build confidence and a sense of purpose by linking learning to real-world contexts.

Future pathways will be selected based on individual strengths, interests, and goals and may include opportunities such as Early Childhood Education and other work-ready learning such as budgeting, CV writing, and interview preparation.

## **Course Costs**

These are dependent on the pathway the student wishes to pursue.

## **Prerequisites**

Entry into the Individual Learning Pathway is by school recommendation. Placement is considered in partnership with the student, family, Deputy Principal, and Head of Personalised Learning to determine whether a personalised programme is the most appropriate pathway for success.



# COURSE ENROLMENT TIMELINE

<b>20 May</b>	•	Senior Curriculum Pathways parent information evening
<b>8 June</b>	•	Chilton Saint James Senior School Curriculum Handbook available online
<b>30 June</b>	•	Student sessions for Year 10 - 11 students on Senior Pathways
<b>15 June – 3 July</b>	•	Student parent curriculum conferencing
<b>29 July</b>	•	Curriculum evening, 5.30pm, Greenwood Library.
<b>3 August</b>	•	Subject selections due

# 2027 COURSE STRUCTURE

## Year 11 Cambridge IGCSE

- 5 Subjects
- Compulsory: English and Mathematics (Core or Extended)
- Three other subject choices
- External examinations plus coursework where appropriate

## Year 12 Cambridge AS Level

- 4 Subjects
- Compulsory: English Literature or English Language
- Three other subject choices
- IGCSE prerequisites for most classes
- External examinations plus coursework where appropriate

## Year 12 NCEA Level 2

- 5 Subjects
- Compulsory: English and Mathematics with Statistics
- Three other subject choices
- Entry at the discretion of the Assistant Principal and HoD
- Combination of internal and external assessments

## Year 13 Cambridge A Level

- 4 Subjects
- No compulsory courses
- Entry at the discretion of the Assistant Principal and HoD
- External examinations plus coursework where appropriate

## Year 13 NCEA Level 3

- 5 Subjects
- No compulsory courses
- Entry at the discretion of the Assistant Principal and HoD
- Combination of internal and external assessments

# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Learning Area	Cambridge			NCEA	
	Year 11 IGCSE	Year 12 AS	Year 13 AL	Level 2	Level 3
English	English	English Literature	English Literature	English	English
		OR English Language	English Language		
Mathematics	Mathematics (Core or Extended)	Mathematics	Mathematics	Mathematics with Statistics	Mathematics with Statistics
Sciences	Biology	Biology	Biology	Biology	Biology
	Chemistry	Chemistry	Chemistry		
	Physics	Physics	Physics		
Visual Arts	Art and Design	Art and Design - Fine Art	Art and Design - Fine Art	Design	Painting
		Digital Media and Design	Digital Media and Design	Painting	Photography
				Photography	
Languages	Chinese	Chinese	Chinese		
	French	French	French		
				Te Reo Maori (Level 1)	
Performing Arts	Music	Music	Music	Music	Music
		Drama	Drama	Drama	Drama
				Dance	
Social Sciences	Business Studies	Business Studies	Business Studies	Business Studies	
	History	History	History	Geography	Geography
		Psychology	Psychology		
Physical Education	Physical Education	Sport and Physical Education		Physical Education	Physical Education
Technology				Food and Nutrition	
				Materials Technology	
Individual Learning Pathway	Individual Learning Pathway			Individual Learning Pathway	Individual Learning Pathway

 Compulsory Subject

**SUBJECTS**  
**CAMBRIDGE**

# ENGLISH

## IGCSE Literature in English

### Course Description

The world of literature helps shape one's identity and reflects one's culture. Studying literature, written in English, unfolds landscapes and times beyond the learner's immediate experiences.

IGCSE Literature in English offers students 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 students 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 students to read for pleasure, to explore wider and universal issues, promoting a better understanding of themselves and the world. This course will also be the foundation of the dual pathway into CAIE or NCEA, either NCEA or Cambridge AS and A Level at Years 12 and 13.

The course content will be as follows:

Poetry – 15 selected poems by Kayo Chingonyi

Prose – *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee

Drama – *Blues for an Alabama Sky* by Pearl Cleage

Drama – *Anthony and Cleopatra* by William Shakespeare

### Prerequisites

IGCSE Literature in English is open entry.

### Course Costs

Students will be required to have their own copy of the set poetry, prose and drama texts. The titles and editions will be confirmed in Term 4.

### Assessment

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
1	Poetry and Prose	1 hour 30 minutes	50%
2	Drama	1 hour 30 minutes	50%

# AS Level Literature in English

## Course Description

AS Literature in English aims to develop an appreciation of, and an informed personal response to, literature in a range of text from different periods and cultures. Students will develop their interdependent skills in reading and analysis, effective and appropriate verbal and written communication and the effects of wider reading on personal development.

Students will also develop specific skills in their response to prose, poetry and drama, an understanding of a writer's craft and choices in form, structure and language and how these aspects shape meaning for the reader. The focus is on producing informed and independent opinions, judgements, understanding and insight in a clear and organised written format. They will also focus on their choice of form, structure and language, and analyse how these stylistic choices shape meaning and relate to an audience.

The course content will be as follows:

Drama – *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* by Edward Albee

Poetry – *Selected Poems from Ariel (1965)* by Sylvia Plath

Prose – *The Yield* by Tara June Winch

Unseen – Choice of any combination of two text types studied

## Prerequisites

Entry to AS Literature in English requires a C grade in IGCSE Literature in English. All other entries are at the discretion of the Head of Department.

## Course Costs

Students will need to provide their own copies of the studied texts. The titles and editions will be confirmed in Term 4. There may be an opportunity to attend productions. Costs could range from \$17 for cinema productions through to live drama performances which cost between \$35 and \$50.

## Assessment

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
1	Drama and Poetry	2 hours	50%
2	Prose and Unseen	2 hours	50%

# A Level Literature in English

## Course Description

For AL Literature in English students will be expected to adopt an academic approach to prescribed texts, developing an in-depth and nuanced understanding of a text's central concerns, a sensitivity to how language creates meaning and a thorough knowledge of relevant contextual details. In addition to this, students will be introduced to critical perspectives on texts and learn how to engage with the critical discourse that has developed in response to texts and authors. This is a demanding, but also a very enriching course. There is an opportunity to encounter a wide range of literature, from William Shakespeare's plays to more contemporary works. This course prepares students for further study in a range of disciplines at tertiary level due to the high levels of analysis through a theoretical lens, critical thinking, intertextuality and argument.

The course content will be as follows:

Drama – *The Taming of the Shrew*  
by William Shakespeare

Drama – *Sweat* by Lynn Nottage

Prose – *Mansfield Park* by Jane Austen

Poetry – Selected Poems from *Night Sky with Exit Wounds* by Ocean Vuong

## Prerequisites

Entry to AL Literature in English requires a C grade at AS Level in English. All other entries are at the discretion of the Head of Department.

## Course Costs

Students will need to provide their own copies of the studied texts. The titles and editions will be confirmed in Term 4.

There may be an opportunity to attend productions. Costs could range from \$17 for cinema productions through to live drama performances which cost between \$35 and \$50.

## Assessment

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
3	Shakespeare and Drama	2 hours	50%
4	Prose and Poetry	2 hours	50%

# AS Level English Language

## Course Description

AS English Language provides students an opportunity to make critical and informed responses to texts and produce and develop their own imaginative writing that is wide-ranging in form, style and context. Students also develop a firm foundation for further study of language and linguistics.

The Reading paper has two sections: Directed Response and Text Analysis. Students are required to identify characteristic features of a text by relating them to the meaning, context and audience as well as commenting on aspects of form, structure and language. They are also required to write in an organised and appropriate style.

The Writing paper has two sections: Including shorter Writing and Reflective Commentary as well as Extended Writing. Students may be required to produce advertisements, brochures, leaflets, editorials, news stories, articles, reviews, blogs, investigative journalism, letters, podcasts,

(auto)biographies, travel writing, diaries, essays, scripted speech, narrative writing and descriptive writing. They will also focus on their choice of form, structure and language, and analyse how these stylistic choices shape meaning and relate to an audience.

## Prerequisites

Entry to AS English Language requires a C grade in IGCSE Literature in English. All other entries are at the discretion of the Head of Department.

## Course Costs

English Language for Cambridge International AS & A Level Coursebook 2nd Edition (Mike Gould, Marilyn Rankin). 2019: Cambridge University Press. ISBN13: 9781108455824, approximately \$80.

## Assessment

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
1	Reading	2 hours 15 minutes	50%
2	Writing	2 hours	50%

# A Level English Language

## Course Description

Linguistics is the scientific study of language. AL English Language addresses questions relating to the structure of language, how and why languages differ and change, how humans acquire and process language and the relationship between language and society.

The course has two papers:

Language Analysis and Language Topics.

These papers include four main units of work which are:

Language Change where students learn about the important stages of the development of English, how and why language changes as well as techniques and linguistic data for measuring rates of change.

Child Language Acquisition is about the main stages of early childhood language acquisition up to eight years old as well as theories on the way in which children learn and use language. Students also learn about the conventions and features of unspoken conversation and how spoken language is transcribed.

English in the World is the study of the influences which have made English a global language. Students will consider the controversy about the ways that English has been spreading in relation to the decline of varieties of English.

Students will also discuss the ethics involved in promoting English over local languages and learn about the varieties of English which now exist worldwide.

Language and Self is based on the many influences on language, social groups and self-identity. Students will examine the links between language and thought and evaluate the different ideas related to the importance of 'nature vs nurture' in learning and using language.

## Prerequisites

Entry to AL English Language requires a C grade at AS Level in English. All other entries are at the discretion of the Head of Department.

## Course Costs

English Language for Cambridge International AS & A Level Coursebook 2nd Edition (Mike Gould, Marilyn Rankin). 2019: Cambridge University Press. ISBN13: 9781108455824, approximately \$80.

## Assessment

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
3	Language Analysis	2 hours 15 minutes	50%
4	Language Topics	2 hours 15 minutes	50%

# LANGUAGES

## IGCSE Mandarin Chinese

### Course Description

Students will develop their ability to communicate effectively in Chinese about everyday activities, their personal and social life, the world around them, the world of work and the international world. Students will continue to develop the four language learning skills - reading, writing, listening and speaking - and gain further insight into Chinese culture, society and civilisation. Opportunities for learning experiences outside the classroom include a variety of cultural activities.

### Prerequisites

The prerequisite for IGCSE Mandarin Chinese is Year 10 Chinese. All other entries are at the discretion of the Head of Department.

### Course Costs

Chinese Workbook \$35.

### Assessment

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
1	Listening	approx. 40 minutes	25%
2	Reading	1 hour 15 minutes	25%
3	Speaking	approx. 10 minutes	25%
4	Writing	1 hour 15 minutes	25%

# AS Level Chinese Language

## Course Description

Through the study of a variety of themes, students will communicate in Chinese at an advanced level using the four skills of listening, reading, writing and speaking. They will read increasingly complex and varied texts and respond critically to these, exploring and justifying their own and others' opinions and perspectives.

Broad topic areas include culture, health and well-being, education and future plans, community and society, our responsibility for the planet and science and technology. Students will gain insight into the cultures of the countries and communities around the world where Chinese is spoken. Enrichment opportunities outside the classroom include a variety of cultural activities.

## Prerequisites

The prerequisite for AS Chinese Language is a C grade in IGCSE Mandarin Chinese. All other entries are at the discretion of the Head of Department.

## Course Costs

There are no additional costs for this course.

## Assessment

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
1	Listening	approx. 60 minutes	25%
2	Reading	1 hour 30 minutes	25%
3	Writing	1 hour 30 minutes	25%
4	Speaking	approx. 16 minutes	25%

# A Level Chinese Language and Literature

## Course Description

Through the study of a variety of themes, students will communicate in Chinese at an advanced level using the four skills of listening, reading, writing and speaking. Students will read increasingly complex and varied texts and respond critically to these, exploring and justifying their own and others' opinions and perspectives. Through the study of literature, students will be encouraged to develop skills in analysis and interpretation of texts and to give a personal response.

Broad topic areas include culture, health and well-being, education and future plans, community and society, our responsibility for the planet and science and technology. Students will gain insight into the cultures of the countries and communities around the world where Chinese is spoken. Enrichment opportunities outside the classroom include a variety of cultural activities.

## Prerequisites

The prerequisite for A Level Chinese Language and Literature is a C grade in AS Chinese Language. All other entries are at the discretion of the Head of Department.

## Course Costs

There are no additional costs for this course.

## Assessment

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
1	Reading	1 hour 30 minutes	c.33%
2	Writing	2 hours	c.33%
3	Literature	2 hours	c.33%

# IGCSE French

## Course Description

Students will develop their ability to communicate effectively in French about everyday activities, their personal and social life, the world around them, the world of work and the international world. They will continue to develop the four language learning skills - reading, writing, listening and speaking - and gain further insight into the life and culture of France and French-speaking countries. Opportunities for enrichment outside the classroom include restaurant meals and outings to French movies.

## Prerequisites

The prerequisite for IGCSE French is Year 10 French. All other entries are at the discretion of the Head of Department.

## Course Costs

Education Perfect subscription \$35.

## Assessment

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
1	Listening	approx. 50 minutes	25%
2	Reading	1 hour	25%
3	Speaking	approx. 10 minutes	25%
4	Writing	1 hour	25%

# AS Level French Language

## Course Description

Through the study of a variety of themes, students will communicate in French at an advanced level using the four skills of listening, reading, writing and speaking. Students will read increasingly complex and varied texts and respond critically to these, exploring and justifying their own and others' opinions and perspectives.

Broad topic areas include culture, health and well-being, education and future plans, community and society, our responsibility for the planet and science and technology. Students will gain insight into the contemporary society and cultural heritage of France and French-speaking countries. Enrichment opportunities outside the classroom include restaurant meals and outings to French movies.

## Prerequisites

The prerequisite for AS French Language is a C grade in IGCSE French. All other entries are at the discretion of the Head of Department.

## Course Costs

Education Perfect subscription \$35.

## Assessment

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
1	Listening	approx. 60 minutes	25%
2	Reading	1 hour 30 minutes	25%
3	Writing	1 hour 30 minutes	25%
4	Speaking	approx. 16 minutes	25%

# A Level French Language and Literature

## Course Description

Through the study of a variety of themes, students will communicate in French at an advanced level using the four skills of listening, reading, writing and speaking. They will read increasingly complex and varied texts and respond critically to these, exploring and justifying their own and others' opinions and perspectives. Through the study of literature, students will be encouraged to develop skills in analysis and interpretation of texts and to give a personal response.

Broad topic areas include culture, health and well-being, education and future plans, community and society, our responsibility for the planet and science and technology. Students will gain insight into the cultures of the countries and communities around the world where French is spoken. Enrichment opportunities outside the classroom include restaurant meals and outings to French movies.

## Prerequisites

The prerequisite for A Level French Language and Literature is a C grade in AS French Language. All other entries are at the discretion of the Head of Department.

## Course Costs

Two literature texts, approximately \$60.

## Assessment

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
1	Reading	1 hour 30 minutes	c.33%
2	Writing	2 hours	c.33%
3	Literature	2 hours	c.33%

# MATHEMATICS

## IGCSE Mathematics

### Course Description

The IGCSE course aims to develop students' ability to further grow their mathematical skills and apply them to solve everyday problems. Students will be encouraged to communicate mathematical thinking in a clear manner and develop logical thinking as well as being able to draw conclusions.

The Core course focusses on the development of the numeric, statistical and geometric skills that students have been introduced to in Middle School.

The Extended course progresses this further and introduces higher algebra, including the beginning of calculus ideas and trigonometry.

### Prerequisites

IGCSE Core Mathematics is open entry and will be covered in the Year 10 Mathematics programme. This course can be repeated in Year 11 if necessary.

IGCSE Extended Mathematics is taught in Year 11 and requires a C grade in IGCSE Core Mathematics, or an appropriate school examination mark (as approved by the Head of Department).

At least a D grade in IGCSE provides UE numeracy for those pursuing a Cambridge qualification.

### Course Costs

Online programme to support learning and revision, approximately \$20. Students will be required to purchase the course text.

### Assessment: Core Mathematics

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
Core Mathematics 1	Paper 1 Non-calculator	1 hour 30 minutes	50%
Core Mathematics 3	Paper 3 Calculator	1 hour 30 minutes	50%

### Assessment: Extended Mathematics

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
Extended Mathematics 2	Paper 2 Non-calculator	2 hours	50%
Extended Mathematics 4	Paper 4 Calculator	2 hours	50%

# AS Level Mathematics

## Course Description

Mathematics is about problem solving and representing systems and models in different ways. This course covers two aspects: Pure Mathematics and Probability and Statistics.

Pure Mathematics develops algebraic skills that allow students to express mathematical reasoning and generalise about different situations. Calculus is developed further so that students understand the link between functions and graphs and are able to optimise situations. Geometric ideas are extended to include trigonometric equations and proofs, and circular measure.

The Probability and Statistics paper introduces probability distributions and the mathematics of determining arrangements to meet a given situation.

## Prerequisites

Entry to AS Mathematics requires at least a C grade in IGCSE Extended Mathematics.

## Course Costs

Online programme to support learning and revision, approximately \$20. Students will be required to purchase the course text.

## Assessment

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
1	Pure Mathematics	1 hour 50 minutes	60%
5	Mechanics	1 hour 15 minutes	40%

# A Level Mathematics

## Course Description

A Level Mathematics is a continuation of the development of skills and the application of mathematical ideas from the AS Course. The final grade for A Level Mathematics is created from the average of the student's performance in both the AS and AL examinations. The Pure Mathematics component continues to develop algebraic skills by introducing logarithmic equations and complex numbers. Calculus is extended and differential equations are introduced. Geometric ideas are extended to include new trigonometric ratios and more complex proofs. Vectors in three dimensions are worked with. The Probability and Statistics paper uses the probability distributions taught in AS along with learning the Poisson Distribution and how to perform hypothesis tests. Sampling ideas are also developed.

## Prerequisites

Entry to AL Mathematics requires at least a C grade in AS Mathematics. All other entries are at the discretion of the Head of Department.

## Course Costs

Online programme to support learning and revision, approximately \$20. Students will be required to purchase the course text.

## Assessment

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
1 (from AS)	Pure Mathematics	1 hour 50 minutes	60%
5 (from AS)	Mechanics	1 hour 15 minutes	40%
3	Pure Mathematics	1 hour 50 minutes	30%
6	Probability and Statistics	1 hour 15 minutes	20%

# PERFORMING ARTS

## IGCSE Drama

### Course Description

IGCSE Drama is a lively, practical and creative course for students who enjoy performing, collaborating and bringing ideas to life on stage. It is ideal for students who are imaginative, curious, expressive and willing to explore how theatre can entertain, challenge and move an audience.

Students develop their skills as performers and theatre-makers through scripted and devised performance work. They explore how drama communicates ideas, relationships and meaning through voice, movement, characterisation, space, staging and design.

The course combines practical performance with written reflection and analysis.

Students work with extracts from published plays, create original devised drama from a stimulus, and perform both individually and as part of an ensemble.

Major areas of study include:

- *Individual and group performance skills*
- *Scripted performance using extracts from published plays*
- *Group devised drama created from original stimuli*

- *Characterisation, voice and movement*
- *Use of space, staging and dramatic structure*
- *Design elements including set, costume, props, lighting and sound*
- *Reflection on the rehearsal and performance process*

For the coursework component, students submit three practical pieces: an individual performance based on an extract from a play, a group performance based on an extract from a play, and a group devised performance based on an original stimulus.

### Prerequisites

The school prerequisite for IGCSE Drama is Year 10 Drama. All other entries are at the discretion of the Head of Department.

### Course Costs

Students may be required to provide basic costume items, rehearsal clothing or props for practical performance work. Students may also be required to attend live theatre performances where appropriate, and these may incur additional costs.

### Assessment

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
1	Written Examination	2.5 hours	40%
2	Coursework	Practical performance coursework	60%

# AS Level Drama

## Course Description

The AS Level Drama course is an exciting full year course of study and the first year of A Level Drama. This course aims to develop a reflective interest in, and lasting enjoyment of, drama and theatre as a unique means of human communication and expression. It aspires to build confidence and nourish each student's continuing practical, intellectual and artistic growth. Through the deeper understanding of the power of drama to engage, influence and persuade.

Cambridge AS Drama has a two-component structure that focuses on the study and performance of plays written in various historical and social contexts and the devising of drama based on that study.

## Prerequisites

Entry to AS Drama requires no previous experience, but a background in performance, theatre and knowledge of Year 10 Drama is an advantage.

## Course Costs

Students will need to provide their own copies of the studied texts. There may be an opportunity to attend productions. Costs could range from \$17 for cinema productions through to live drama performances which cost between \$35 and \$50.

## Assessment

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
1	Written Examination	2 hours	50%
2a	Practical Scripted Performance	Coursework 10 - 25 minutes	25%
2b	Practical Devised Performance Vlog (Self-Evaluation)	Coursework 10 - 25 minutes	25%

# A Level Drama

## Course Description

Cambridge International AL Drama provides opportunities for students to develop their skills as theatrical practitioners, engaging with performance texts in practical and creative ways. It fosters engagement with, and enjoyment of, the study of a wide range of theatrical styles and genres. Through their study, students will develop as skilled, well-informed, reflective practitioners, able to research ideas and create and interpret meaning through Drama.

The Cambridge A Level Drama course is a full year course of study after a year of AS Level Drama. The course has a two-component structure that focuses on the devising of drama inspired by a practitioner, tradition or style, an individual scripted programme of thematically linked materials and a research essay on theatre.

## Prerequisites

Entry to A Level requires a C grade at AS level in Drama. All other entries are at the discretion of the Head of Department.

## Course Costs

There may be an opportunity to attend productions. Costs could range from \$17 for cinema productions through to live drama performances which cost between \$35 and \$50.

## Assessment

50% of the A Level grade is made up of assessment from a student's AS Drama grade.

## Assessment

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
3	Theatre-making and Performing: Devised Performance 800 word Written Analysis Individual Scripted Performance	Coursework  15 - 20 minutes  8 minutes	25%
4	Theatre in Context: Research Essay 2500-3000 Words	Coursework	25%

# IGCSE Music

## Course Description

Students will develop their ability to communicate effectively through performing both as a soloist and as a member of an ensemble. They will continue to develop their skills as composers. Students will explore a wide range of musical styles, genres and cultures through the study of set works alongside further developing their theoretical and aural skills.

Major works studied in 2026 will include:  
Beethoven - Symphony No. 5 in C minor

Haydn - Trumpet Concerto in Eb Major

The study of traditional Chinese music is another course component.

## Prerequisites

The prerequisite for IGCSE Music is Year 10 Music. All other entries are at the discretion of the Head of Department.

## Course Costs

Students will need to download and subscribe to either Dorico or Sibelius music notation software. Students will also be required to be take lessons for their chosen solo performance instrument. Students will need to cover the cost of rehearsals with any accompanist for the performing component.

## Assessment

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
1	Listening	1 hour 15 minutes	40%
2	Performing	Coursework	30%
3	Composition	Coursework	30%

# AS Level Music

## Course Description

Students will develop their ability to communicate effectively through performing both as a soloist and as a member of an ensemble. They will continue to develop their skills as composers. Students will explore a wide range of musical styles, genres and cultures through the study of set works alongside further developing their theoretical and aural skills.

Major works studied in 2026 will include:

Bach - Orchestral Suite No. 1

Vivaldi - Concerto in G minor for two violins, cello and strings

Students will also study works under the topic of Journeys:

Dvorak - Symphony No. 9 in E minor (*New World Symphony*)

Price - Travel Songs

Bonds - Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening

Nyman - MGV

## Prerequisites

The prerequisite for AS Music is IGCSE Music. All other entries are at the discretion of the Head of Department.

## Course Costs

Students will need to download and subscribe to either Dorico or Sibelius music notation software. Students will also be required to take lessons for their chosen solo performance instrument. Students will need to cover the cost of rehearsals with any accompanist for the performing component.

## Assessment

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
1	Listening	1 hour 15 minutes	40%
2	Performing	Coursework	30%
3	Composition	Coursework	30%

# A Level Music

## Course Description

Students will hone their skills as performers, composers and musicologists. Two components of the three offered will be undertaken which is combined with a percentage of their AS Level Music grades.

Students will present written research to support their performing and composing. As a solo performer, a 20-minute recital will be submitted and/or as a composer, a substantial 8-minute composition notated and recorded as their submission. There is no ensemble performance component in A Level Music.

## Prerequisites

Entry to A Level requires a C grade at AS level in Drama. All other entries are at the discretion of the Head of Department.

## Course Costs

Students will, depending on the components chosen, need to download and maintain a subscription to either Dorico or Sibelius music notation software (Extended Composition). Students will also be required to take lessons for their chosen solo performance instrument (Extended Performance). Students choosing Extended Performance will need to cover the cost of rehearsals with any accompanist.

## Assessment

Students choose two of the following three available components indicated in the table below. 50% of the A Level grade is made up of assessment from a student's AS Music grade (30% Listening and 20% Practical).

## Assessment

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
3	Extended Performance	Coursework Externally Assessed	25%
4	Extended Composition	Coursework Externally Assessed	25%
5	Investigating Music	Coursework Externally Assessed	25%

# PHYSICAL EDUCATION

## IGCSE Physical Education

### Course Description

Physical Education is a combination of theoretical studies and practical physical performance. In IGCSE these two components are worth 50% of the grade.

The theory topics include anatomy, physiology, biomechanics, psychology, the skill learning process, fitness training and the societal influences of sport and physical activity.

For the practical coursework component, students will complete preparation and assessment in four physical activities. These will be graded by the teacher and moderated by Cambridge. The four activities must be selected from the approved CAIE list. There is often the opportunity for students to use an activity in which they are already involved.

### Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course.

### Course Costs

There may be a small charge for coaching or venue hire – this is dependent on chosen sports.

### Assessment

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
1	Paper 1 Theory	1 hour 45 minutes	50%
2	Coursework	Practical assessment throughout Terms 1, 2 and 3	50%

# SCIENCES

## IGCSE Biology

### Course Description

Biology is the fascinating study of living things, from plants and animals through to microscopic organisms. The Cambridge IGCSE Biology syllabus helps students to understand the living world in which they live.

Biology is unique because of the complexity of living things and how they interact with each other and the environment. It's intriguing to think that many rocks and minerals on Earth originated from living things.

Most students find Biology particularly interesting because the concepts are so relatable to their own experiences in life.

### Prerequisites

This is at the discretion of the Head of Department.

### Course Costs

Students will need a textbook to supplement the classwork. Unless there has been a major syllabus revision, a second-hand book is sufficient.

### Assessment

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
1	Multiple Choice	45 minutes	30%
2	Short Answer Questions	1 hour 15 minutes	50%
3	Alternative to Practical	1 hour	20%

# AS Level Biology

## Course Description

This course builds on the skills acquired at previous levels and delves deeper into the biological principles of living organisms. AS Level Biology is a foundation for the study of Biology at A Level and at university.

This course covers many of the biological concepts that are fundamental to understanding life. Students learn about the cell as the basic unit of living organisms and the wide range of underlying processes that allow cells to function and sustain life.

In the second half of the course, plant and human biology is offered to pique student interests further.

## Prerequisites

A B grade or higher in IGCSE Biology.

## Course Costs

Students will need a textbook to supplement the classwork. Unless there has been a major syllabus revision, a second-hand book is sufficient.

## Assessment

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
1	Multiple Choice	1 hour 15 minutes	31%
2	Structured Questions	1 hour 15 minutes	46%
3	Advanced Practical Skills	2 hours	23%

# A Level Biology

## Course Description

This course builds on the skills acquired at previous levels and delves deeper into the biological principles of living organisms, particularly in human biology. A Level Biology provides the foundation for the study of Biology at university.

A Level Biology has a strong focus on human anatomy and physiology. Paper 5 gives students the opportunity to analyse and evaluate scientific methodology in real world contexts.

This course prepares students for a wide variety of possible careers in health and biological sciences.

## Prerequisites

A B grade or higher in AS Biology or a C at the discretion of the Head of Department.

## Course Costs

Students will need a textbook to supplement the classwork. Unless there has been a major syllabus revision, a second-hand book is sufficient.

## Assessment

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
1 (from AS)	Multiple Choice	1 hour 15 minutes	15.5%
2 (from AS)	Structured Questions	1 hour 15 minutes	23%
3 (from AS)	Advanced Practical Skills	2 hours	11.5%
4	Structured Questions	2 hours	38.5%
5	Planning, Analysis and Evaluation	1 hour 15 minutes	11.5%

# IGCSE Chemistry

## Course Description

Chemistry is all around us, from the tiny atoms that make up every living thing to the chemical reactions responsible for climate change. Understanding basic chemical principles can be central to the understanding of all sciences and allows students to apply scientific knowledge to explain the everyday applications around them.

IGCSE Chemistry is essential for progression into AS Chemistry. Studying Chemistry can be an incredibly rewarding experience as it provides a deeper understanding of the world around us and gives us a better appreciation of everyday things like food, air and our own bodies.

Chemistry is a fascinating science full of unusual trivia. Some of the most fun and most interesting chemistry facts include: The only solid elements that assume liquid form at room temperature are bromine and mercury. However, you can melt gallium by holding a lump in the warmth of your hand.

## Prerequisites

This is at the discretion of the Head of Department.

## Course Costs

Students will need a textbook to supplement the classwork. Unless there has been a major syllabus revision, a second-hand book is sufficient.

## Assessment

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
1	Multiple Choice	45 minutes	30%
2	Short Answer Questions	1 hour 15 minutes	50%
3	Alternative to Practical	1 hour	20%

# AS Level Chemistry

## Course Description

This course explores the principles of Chemistry in depth and provides an excellent foundation for tertiary study.

Chemistry is well-suited to students who love to investigate, are curious and inquisitive and like to solve problems. Students will particularly enjoy the practical aspects of classes as we build up towards the practical examination.

## Prerequisites

A B grade or higher in IGCSE Chemistry.

## Course Costs

Students will need a textbook to supplement the classwork. Unless there has been a major syllabus revision, a second-hand book is sufficient.

## Assessment

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
1	Multiple Choice	1 hour 15 minutes	31%
2	Structured Questions	1 hour 15 minutes	46%
3	Advanced Practical Skills	2 hours	23%

# A Level Chemistry

## Course Description

A Level Chemistry prepares students well for tertiary study because they explore the subject in considerable depth. The course includes the social, environmental, economic and technological aspects of Chemistry.

Chemistry is a very practical subject and students with an inquisitive and logical mind will enjoy the investigative approach to learning the concepts.

This course prepares students for a wide variety of possible careers, including health sciences. It also produces informed students who can evaluate scientific information in a variety of different contexts.

## Prerequisites

A B grade or higher in AS Chemistry or a C at the discretion of the Head of Department.

## Course Costs

Students will need a textbook to supplement the classwork. Unless there has been a major syllabus revision, a second-hand book is sufficient.

## Assessment

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
1 (from AS)	Multiple Choice	1 hour 15 minutes	15.5%
2 (from AS)	Structured Questions	1 hour 15 minutes	23%
3 (from AS)	Advanced Practical Skills	2 hours	11.5%
4	Structured Questions	2 hours	38.5%
5	Planning, Analysis and Evaluation	1 hour 15 minutes	11.5%

# IGCSE Physics

## Course Description

A broad study of Physics at IGCSE level provides a better understanding of the natural and technical world. It will help you to develop the knowledge and skills necessary for further study at more advanced levels and is essential for progression into AS Physics.

Physics is the study of the concepts underpinning natural phenomena, from the smallest particles that make up matter to the largest scales of the universe. It is the foundation for all other sciences and engineering.

Students acquire the essential scientific skills required for progression to further studies or employment. Most importantly, students learn about the material world all around them so that they can make informed decisions about scientific matters.

## Prerequisites

This is at the discretion of the Head of Department.

## Course Costs

Students will need a textbook to supplement the classwork. Unless there has been a major syllabus revision, a second-hand book is sufficient.

## Assessment

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
1	Multiple Choice	45 minutes	30%
2	Short Answer Questions	1 hour 15 minutes	50%
3	Alternative to Practical	1 hour	20%

# AS Level Physics

## Course Description

AS Physics provides a detailed coverage of the principles of Physics and an excellent grounding for further studies in Physics.

This course deals with the structure of matter and the interactions between the fundamental constituents of the observable universe. Physics helps us to understand how the world around us works. It explains the fundamental concepts embedded within both Biology and Chemistry.

AS Physics is an exciting and challenging step up from IGCSE Physics.

## Prerequisites

A B grade or higher in both IGCSE Physics and IGCSE Mathematics.

## Course Costs

Students will need a textbook to supplement the classwork. Unless there has been a major syllabus revision, a second-hand book is sufficient.

## Assessment

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
1	Multiple Choice	1 hour 15 minutes	31%
2	Structured Questions	1 hour 15 minutes	46%
3	Advanced Practical Skills	2 hours	23%

# A Level Physics

## Course Description

This course provides an opportunity to study advanced principles of Physics. A Level Physics is an excellent preparation for those continuing with the subject at tertiary level or for those students who wish to be extended in their thinking.

Physics is a very logical subject based on investigation and the application of mathematics. Physicists also tend to be creative and original thinkers. The A Level Physics course allows students to express these traits throughout an exciting range of topics.

This course prepares students for a wide variety of possible careers and produces informed students who can evaluate scientific information in a variety of different contexts.

## Prerequisites

A B grade or higher in both AS Physics and AS Mathematics or a C at the discretion of the Head of Department.

## Course Costs

Students will need a textbook to supplement the classwork. Unless there has been a major syllabus revision, a second-hand book is sufficient.

## Assessment

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
1 (from AS)	Multiple Choice	1 hour 15 minutes	15.5%
2 (from AS)	Structured Questions	1 hour 15 minutes	23%
3 (from AS)	Advanced Practical Skills	2 hours	11.5%
4	Structured Questions	2 hours	38.5%
5	Planning, Analysis and Evaluation	1 hour 15 minutes	11.5%

# SOCIAL SCIENCES

## IGCSE Business Studies

### Course Description

The IGCSE Business Studies syllabus develops students understanding of business activity in the public and private sectors and the importance of innovation and change. Students find out how the major types of business organisations are established, financed, run and how their activities are regulated. The course covers aspects of Business Studies, Accounting and Economics. Factors influencing business decision-making are also considered, such as sustainability and business ethics as they are the essential values of co-operation and interdependence. The IGCSE Business Studies course provides students with an opportunity to examine how New Zealand Business and Global Business operate and their importance to the economy. Students not only study business concepts and techniques but also enhance related skills such as numeracy and inquiry.

### Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course.

### Course Costs

Students are expected to buy their own course book as well as pay for educational excursions.

### Assessment

Students sit an external examination comprising of two papers as indicated in the table below. They will also sit school examinations and profile tests in the build-up to the external examination.

### Assessment

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
1	Short Answer and Data Response	1 hour 30 minutes	50%
2	Case Study	1 hour 30 minutes	50%

# AS Level Business Studies

## Course Description

The AS Level Business Studies course will develop students capacity to analyse characteristics and activities of business organisations at national and international level and how they respond to the changing demands of their environments. Students will enhance their understanding of how effective managers and leaders develop successful organisations in terms of customer focus and the products/services they offer. They will acquire knowledge that relates to financial planning and decision-making to ensure business survival, change and sustainable success.

AS Business Studies offers the following units: Business and its environment; Human Resources Management; Operations Management; and Finance and Accounting.

## Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites to this course.

## Course Costs

Students are expected to buy their course book as well as pay for educational excursions.

## Assessment

Students sit an external examination comprising of two papers as indicated in the table below. They will also sit school examinations and profile tests in the build-up to the external examination.

## Assessment

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
1	Business Concepts 1	1 hour 15 minutes	40%
2	Business Concepts 2	1 hour 30 minutes	60%

# A Level Business Studies

## Course Description

A Level Business Studies allows students to experience the diverse and dynamic world within which businesses exist. With a focus on how decisions are made, they will gain the knowledge to understand how businesses operate within real contexts, analyse alternative courses of action and develop the ability to make justified recommendations. These transferable skills build confidence and are essential for anybody working in a business environment and can facilitate further study within business related areas. Students will also learn how to use business concepts to solve problems and understand the needs of businesses and their stakeholders within given contexts, while understanding that businesses and their stakeholders have responsibilities to society and the environment.

This course enables students to evaluate business behaviour from the perspective of a range of stakeholders and consider their relative influence on business organisations.

## Prerequisites

At least a C grade at AS Level Business.

## Course Costs

Students are expected to buy their own course book as well as pay for educational excursions.

## Assessment

Students sit an external examination comprising of two papers as indicated in the table below. They will also sit school examinations and profile tests in the build-up to the external examination.

## Assessment

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
1	Business Decision Making	1 hour 45 minutes	60%
2	Business Strategy	1 hour 15 minutes	40%

# IGCSE History

## Course Description

By immersing themselves in the past, students will uncover some of the key events, people and societies that have shaped how we live today. As they piece together historical evidence, they will experience the powerful role of history, gaining the skills to ask relevant questions to interpret and analyse information and to draw their own conclusions. Our IGCSE History course develops skills that support both further study and career development. Students will develop a range of practical skills, including communication, problem solving, analysis, research and independent thinking. This course offers a deep understanding of the international relations between 1919 and 1939, culminating in the Second World War, as well as the origin, course and development of the Cold War to 1991.

## Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course.

## Course Costs

Students are expected to buy their own course book as well as pay for educational excursions.

## Assessment

The syllabus will examine students ability to recall, analyse and evaluate a range of factors. They will be asked to interpret and test reliability of multiple sources. Students will sit a combination of school examinations and profile tests to prepare for the external examinations at the end of the year.

## Assessment

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
1	Structured Questions	2 hours	40%
2	Document Questions	1 hour 45 minutes	30%
4	Alternative to Coursework	1 hour	30%

# AS Level History

## Course Description

Studying international history offers valuable insights into the complexities of global affairs and their impact on our world.

International history provides context for current global events; by examining past interactions between nations, students will gain a deeper understanding of the forces shaping our present world. Students study historical methods that offer analytical tools to dissect international relations. These tools help them to explore long-term trends, identify causes and explain the establishment of historical phenomena.

AS History course will cover the success and failures of the League of Nations, Imperialism as well as the history of China and Japan between 1912 to 1945. History is not just about memorising dates and events; it is about understanding the dynamics that have shaped our world and using that knowledge to create positive change.

## Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites to this course, although knowledge of IGCSE History is an added advantage.

## Course Costs

Students are expected to buy their own course book as well as pay for educational excursions.

## Assessment

The syllabus will test students ability to recall, analyse and evaluate a range of factors. Students will be asked to interpret and test reliability of multiple sources. They will sit a combination of school examinations and profile tests to prepare for the external examinations at the end of the year.

## Assessment

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
3	Document Interpretation	1 hour 15 minutes	40%
3	Depth Study	1 hour 45 minutes	60%

# A Level History

## Course Description

A Level History will build on key skills learned in AS Level History. Students will need to consider why historians produce different interpretations of the same events. A Level History offers an in-depth exploration of historical events, movements and figures. By studying specific periods or themes, students gain a nuanced understanding of the complexities that shaped societies, cultures and civilisations. History is not just about memorising dates; it is about interpreting evidence, evaluating sources and constructing coherent narratives. A Level History hones critical thinking skills by encouraging students to question assumptions, consider multiple perspectives and draw informed conclusions.

A Level History equips students with critical skills, broadens students' world views and provides students with an understanding of humanity's journey through time.

It's not just about the past; it's about shaping a more informed and thoughtful future. Our course covers the events and outcomes of the Cold War in international history.

## Prerequisites

At least a C grade at AS Level History.

## Course Costs

Students are expected to buy their course book as well as pay for educational excursions.

## Assessment

Students sit an external examination comprising of two papers as indicated in the table below. They will also sit school examinations and profile tests in the build-up to the external examination.

## Assessment

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
9489/33	Document Interpretation	1 hour 15 minutes	40%
9489/43	Depth Study	1 hour 45 minutes	60%

# AS Level Psychology

## Course Description

The AS Psychology course will equip students to evaluate psychological research from a range of approaches. These approaches include the biological, cognitive (the way we think), learning (how we acquire new knowledge) and social (who we are around), approaches which are exemplified with a range of studies, from classic to modern. Students will study whether behaviours stem from individual differences or the situation they find themselves in, and whether they are due to nature or nurture. They will also become adept at planning psychological research from questionnaire-based studies to experiments both in the laboratory and the field.

Through their study, students will become more aware of themselves and the influences around them that change and challenge their thinking and behaviour.

## Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course.

## Course Costs

Students are expected to buy their own course book as well as pay for educational excursions.

## Assessment

This syllabus will test students ability to recall, apply and analyse psychological theories, research methods and key studies. They will sit a combination of school examinations and profile tests to prepare for the external examinations at the end of the year.

## Assessment

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
1	Approaches, Issues and Debates	1 hour 30 minutes	50%
2	Research Methods	1 hour 30 minutes	50%

# A Level Psychology

## Course Description

A Level Psychology allows students to build on their skills of research methods and the approaches to psychology in two selected specialist options: Clinical Psychology and Health Psychology. The Clinical Psychology option considers the diagnostic criteria, explanations and treatments for a variety of mental and behavioural disorders/conditions such as schizophrenia and obsessive-compulsive disorder. The Health Psychology option focuses on psychological factors that influence health, considers ways to measure and treat conditions such as pain and stress, and ways to influence behaviours around health and health choices. Students will apply this new knowledge to planning research using methods such as interviews and case studies. They will also explore additional issues and debates such as determinism versus free will and reductionism versus holism.

## Prerequisites

At least a C grade at AS Level Psychology.

## Course Costs

Students are expected to buy their own course book as well as pay for educational excursions.

## Assessment

This syllabus will test students ability to recall, apply and analyse psychological theories, research methods and key studies. They will sit a combination of school examinations and profile tests to prepare for the external examinations at the end of the year.

## Assessment

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
3	Specialist Options: Approaches, Issues and Debates	1 hour 30 minutes	50%
4	Specialist Options: Application and Research Methods	1 hour 30 minutes	50%

# VISUAL ARTS

## IGCSE Art & Design

### Course Description

In this stimulating course, students will explore a wide range of media as they develop ideas in response to a theme. Students will receive close guidance as they are taught how to apply art making techniques and processes effectively. This course will cover a variety of inspirational artists and their response to the world around us. As students gain confidence, they will have opportunities to express their own imaginative ideas.

### Prerequisites

The Visual Arts department recommends that students entering these subjects have taken Year 10 Visual Art as a subject.

### Course Costs

Approximately \$200.

### Assessment

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
1	Coursework	Coursework	50%
2	Externally Set Assignment	8 hours over 2 days	50%

# AS Level Art & Design

## Course Description

In this exciting course, students will learn about the power of art's visual language to express ideas. It provides an opportunity to build the practical skills, and independent expression required to create a personalized project with compelling visual outcomes. It is designed to accommodate a wide range of interests, materials and approaches to artmaking. Students may focus on one medium or combine several, including drawing, painting, printmaking and mixed media. A variety of traditional and contemporary techniques are studied, including ways to record what we observe accurately, illustrate our imaginings and distort reality.

## Prerequisites

The Visual Arts department highly recommend that students have passed IGCSE Art and Design or Year 11 Visual Art at another school.

## Course Costs

There are no additional costs for this course providing students have an IGCSE art pack from a previous year.

## Assessment

This course is made up of two components, both worth 50%. The first component, the 'coursework' is completed over Terms 1 and 2. When the exam questions become public, students' will choose one question to respond to and complete the 'Externally Set Assignment' over Term 3 and during the 15-hour timed exam.

## Assessment

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
1	Coursework	Coursework	50%
2	Externally Set Assignment	15 hours over 3 days	50%

# A Level Art & Design

## Course Description

This A Level Art and Design course builds on AS Art and Design with the previous years AS grade contributing to 50% of the A Level Grade. When taken the next year, this course automatically becomes A Level Art and Design – students then complete a third component, ‘Personal Investigation’ that they explore and develop for the full year. This component will contribute 50% of the overall grade for this course, while the components the students have completed the year prior will contribute 25% each of the overall grade for this course.

## Prerequisites

Students must have completed and passed the AS Art and Design components before doing the AL Art and Design course.

## Course Costs

There are no additional costs for this course providing students have an IGCSE art pack from a previous year.

## Assessment

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
1 (from AS)	Coursework	Coursework	25%
2 (from AS)	Externally Set Assignment	15 hours over 3 days	25%
3	Personal Investigation	Completed over the full year	50%

# AS Level Digital Media & Design

## Course Description

This innovative course offers the opportunity for students to explore, analyse and apply photographic and filmic conventions. It encourages independent expression and the development of critical, reflective practice. The course provides a platform for students to enrich their understanding of creative uses of technology and to improve their skills in a wide range of traditional and contemporary techniques. Students gain understanding of the relationship between their work and audience, and how it is influenced by many aspects including their chosen media and methods. Effective communication is fundamental to this course and essential for operating in today's design world, requiring collaboration and engagement with a variety of cultures and emerging technologies.

## Prerequisites

The Visual Arts department highly recommend that students have passed IGCSE Art and Design or Year 11 Visual Art at another school.

## Course Costs

Adobe Creative Cloud licence \$30.

## Assessment

This course is made up of two components, both worth 50%. The first component, the 'coursework' is completed over Terms 1 and 2. When the exam questions become public, students will all choose one question to respond to and complete the 'Externally Set Assignment' over Term 3 and during the 10-hour timed exam.

## Assessment

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
1	Coursework	Coursework	50%
2	Externally Set Assignment	10 hours over 3 days	50%

# A Level Digital Media & Design

## Course Description

When taken the next year, this course automatically becomes A Level Digital Media and Design. Students then complete a third component, 'Personal Investigation' that they explore and develop for the full year. This component will contribute 50% of the overall grade for this course, while the components the students have completed the year prior will contribute 25% each of the overall grade for this course.

## Prerequisites

Students must have completed and passed the AS Digital Media and Design components before doing the AL Digital Media and Design course.

## Course Costs

Adobe Creative Cloud licence \$30.

## Assessment

Component	Name of Paper	Examination	Weighting (%)
1 (from AS)	Coursework	Coursework	25%
2 (from AS)	Externally Set Assignment	15 hours over 3 days	25%
3	Personal Investigation	Completed over the full year	50%

# SUBJECTS NCEA

# ENGLISH

## NCEA Level 2 English

### Course Description

Students will hone their abilities to use English to express themselves clearly, understand others deeply and engage thoughtfully with the world around them. This includes interpreting and producing texts, which help them explore and articulate complex ideas and emotions. Students will know how to identify perspectives in texts and explain how these perspectives shape and enhance the meaning of the text as well as draw connections across complex and varied texts to support their interpretations. The main elements of the course will be crafting texts, oral communication, text analysis, critical analysis and responding to texts.

### Prerequisites

Entry to NCEA Level 2 English requires a pass in IGCSE Literature in English. All other entries are at the discretion of the Head of Department.

### Course Costs

Students will need to provide their own copies of the texts studied. The titles and editions will be confirmed in Term 4.

### Assessment

The following combination of internal and external standards will be assessed.

Several of these standards support University Entrance literacy requirements.

### Assessment

Achievement Standard Title	Standard Number	Credits	Internal/ External
Analyse specified aspect(s) of studied written text(s) supported by evidence	AS 91098	4 credits	External
Analyse specified aspect(s) of studied visual or oral text(s) supported by evidence	AS 91099	4 credits	External
Produce a selection of crafted and controlled writing	AS 91101	6 credits	Internal
Construct and deliver a crafted and controlled oral text	AS 91102	3 credits	Internal
Analyse aspects of visual and/or oral text(s) through close viewing and/or listening, supported by evidence	AS 91107	3 credits	Internal

# LANGUAGES

## NCEA Level 1 Te Reo Māori

### Course Description

In this course, students will develop the ability to converse with te reo Māori speakers in both familiar social situations and some less familiar ones. They will use basic Māori language patterns spontaneously and show a willingness to experiment with new language and to read independently. Students will write short passages, personal letters and simple formal letters in te reo Māori. They will become increasingly confident in using a range of strategies for learning te reo Māori and for communicating with others in predominantly Māori social contexts.

Themes will be drawn from the following list: Whakapapa and Whānau (Genealogy and Family), Ngā Mahi a Rēhia

(Leisure Activities and Hobbies), Hauora (Health and Wellbeing), Matariki (Māori New Year), Kai (food), Ngā Rongoā Māori (Māori Medicine), Ngā Tikanga Māori (Māori Customs and Protocols). Enrichment opportunities include a noho (sleepover) at a marae and involvement in occasions such as Mihi Whakatau and pōwhiri.

### Prerequisites

Entry to NCEA Level 1 Te Reo Māori requires Year 10 Te Reo Māori. All other entries are at the discretion of the Head of Department.

### Course Costs

There are no additional costs for this course.

### Assessment

Assessment will be selected from the following Level 1 NCEA Te Reo Māori standards.

### Assessment

Achievement Standard Title	Standard Number	Credits	Internal/ External
Te kōrerorero i ngā pārongo, i ngā ariā me ngā whakaaro Interact in spoken te reo Māori to share and respond to information, ideas and opinions	AS 92092	5 credits	Internal
Te whakapuaki whakaaro e pā ana ki tētahi horopaki e ora nei te reo Communicate in te reo Māori in relation to a language vitality context	AS 92093	5 credits	Internal
Te whakaatu i te māramatanga ki te reo Māori me ōna mātāpono i tētahi horopaki e taunga ana Demonstrate understanding of te reo Māori and its principles within a familiar context	AS 92094	5 credits	External
Te tuhi e pā ana ki tētahi horopaki e taunga ana Communicate in written te reo Māori relating to a familiar context	AS 92095	5 credits	External

# MATHEMATICS

## NCEA Level 2 Mathematics with Statistics

### Course Description

This course will build on IGCSE knowledge and skills. Geometry will be extended through the development of co-ordinate geometry skills and trigonometry is extended to deal with non-right-angled triangles. Networks and project management will be introduced. The remainder of the course will focus on the development of statistical knowledge. Students will investigate simulation and will make inferences based on sample statistics. They will learn how to write and evaluate statistical reports. The standards used will provide a foundation of statistical knowledge that will support further fields of study such as Science, Social Science and Business involving the analysis and interpretation of data.

### Prerequisites

Entry to NCEA Level 2 Mathematics requires a pass in Level 1 Numeracy. At least a D grade in IGCSE Mathematics or a pass in the NCEA corequisite Numeracy Standard. All other entries are at the discretion of the Head of Department.

### Course Costs

Online programme to support learning and revision, approximately \$20.

### Assessment

Standards will be selected from the following list with a maximum of 20 credits being offered.

### Assessment (Compulsory)

Achievement Standard Title	Standard Number	Credits	Internal/External
Apply probability methods in solving problems	AS 91267	4 credits	External
Apply trigonometric relationships in solving problems	AS 91259	3 credits	Internal
Use networks in solving problems	AS 91260	2 credits	Internal
Use statistical methods to make an inference	AS 91264	4 credits	Internal

### Remainder of credits selected from the following

Investigate a situation involving elements of chance using simulation	AS 91268	2 credits	Internal
Design a questionnaire	AS 91263	3 credits	Internal
Conduct an experiment to investigate a situation using statistical methods	AS 91265	3 credits	Internal
Apply sequences and series in solving problems	AS 91258	2 credits	Internal
Apply co-ordinate geometry methods in solving problems	AS 91256	2 credits	Internal

## NCEA Level 3 Mathematics with Statistics

### Course Description

This course will build on skills and knowledge gained in the Level 2 Mathematics and Statistics NCEA course. This course will cover the theory and practice of statistical processes. The course is appropriate for students interested in the quantitative aspects of the biological and social sciences, medicine, commerce, administration, or any field in which collection, analysis, modelling and interpretation of data is important. The internal aspects of this course involve research and will be taught using computer-based technology, such as online statistical graphing software, spreadsheets and graphical calculators.

### Prerequisites

Entry to NCEA Level 3 Mathematics requires a pass in Level 1 Numeracy and at least an Achieved grade in the AS 91267 Probability Methods external exam.

### Course Costs

External workbooks to support learning and revision, approximately \$20.

### Assessment

Standards will be selected from the following list with a maximum of 20 credits being offered.

### Assessment (Compulsory)

Achievement Standard Title	Standard Number	Credits	Internal/ External
Investigate time series data	AS 91580	4 credits	Internal
Investigate bivariate measurement data	AS 91581	4 credits	Internal
Apply probability concepts in solving problems	AS 91585	4 credits	External
Apply probability distributions in solving problems	AS 91586	4 credits	External

### Remainder of credits selected from the following

Apply linear programming methods in solving problems	AS 91574	3 credits	Internal
Use statistical methods to make a formal inference	AS 91582	4 credits	Internal
Conduct an experiment to investigate a situation using experimental design principles	AS 91583	4 credits	Internal
Apply systems of simultaneous equations in solving problems	AS 91587	3 credits	Internal

# PERFORMING ARTS

## NCEA Level 2 Dance

### Course Description

NCEA Level 2 Dance gives students the opportunity to further develop their performance, choreography, and analytical skills through both practical and theory-based learning. Students will experience a range of different dance styles while building confidence, creativity, and performance quality.

Throughout the course, students will:

- Experience and perform a variety of dance styles including contemporary, jazz, ballet, lyrical, musical theatre, and cultural dance
- Perform both solo and group dance works
- Develop an understanding of the choreographic process and how to communicate ideas through movement
- Create and choreograph their own movement material and solos
- Use choreographic devices and structures to develop and resolve ideas

- Analyse and respond to dance performances and choreography
- Continue to refine technique, musicality, expression, and performance presence

This course encourages students to work both independently and collaboratively while developing their own artistic style and confidence as performers and choreographers. Level 2 Dance is suited to students who enjoy performing, creating movement, and exploring ideas in a supportive and practical environment.

### Prerequisites

Consultation with Ms Best

### Assessment

Several of these standards support University Entrance literacy requirements.

### Assessment

Achievement Standard Title	Standard Number	Credits	Internal/ External
Choreograph a group dance to communicate an intention	AS 91205	4 credits	Internal
Choreograph a solo dance to communicate an intention	AS 91206	4 credits	Internal
Perform a repertoire of dance	AS 91209	6 credits	Internal
Provide an interpretation of a dance performance with supporting evidence	AS 91211	4 credits	External

# NCEA Level 2 Drama

## Course Description

This course aims to develop a reflective interest in, and lasting enjoyment of, drama and theatre as a unique means of human communication and expression. It aspires to build confidence and develop the enjoyment of drama as a means of nourishing each student's continuing practical, intellectual and artistic growth, through the deeper understanding of the power of drama to engage, influence and persuade.

In this exciting NCEA Level 2 Drama course, students will develop knowledge of genre and form while extending their skills in performance, script analysis, research and creative problem-solving. Through practical workshops and performances, students will explore a range of dramatic forms, including plays, improvisation and devised (their own original) theatre. They will also learn to analyse and interpret scripts, developing their critical thinking and communication skills around their own and others' work.

By the end of the course, students will be able to demonstrate a range of technical and practical skills and will be well-equipped to undertake NCEA Level 3 Drama. This course is particularly relevant for students wishing to further their tertiary studies in areas where the analysis and interpretation of speech, language and literature is important. These include English, Social Sciences, Law and Languages.

## Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course.

## Course Costs

Students will need to provide their own copies of the studied texts. There may be an opportunity to attend drama performances which could range from \$17 to \$50.

Several of these standards support University Entrance literacy requirements.

## Assessment

Achievement Standard Title	Standard Number	Credits	Internal/ External
Discuss a drama or theatre form or period with reference to a text	AS 91215	4 credits	External
Devise and perform a drama to realise an intention	AS 91214	5 credits	Internal
Use complex performance skills associated with a drama or theatre form or period	AS 91216	4 credits	Internal
Perform a substantial acting role in a scripted production	AS 91218	5 credits	Internal

## NCEA Level 3 Drama

### Course Description

Ideal for students who are collaborative, creative and eager to challenge themselves in a supportive and stimulating environment, our NCEA Level 3 Drama course aims to refine performance skills, explore the art of direction and delve into the creative process of critically examining the work of influential theatre practitioners. This course is designed for students passionate about theatre, offering challenging and rewarding opportunities to develop as performers, creators and critical thinkers by engaging in practical performance work, collaborative projects, theoretical study and leadership roles that are focused on preparing them for future studies or careers in the arts and beyond.

By the end of this course, students will emerge with enhanced performance abilities, directing knowledge, critical analysis skills and research competencies that prepare them for further studies in drama or related fields.

This course is particularly relevant for students wishing to further their studies at a tertiary level in areas where the analysis and interpretation of speech, language and literature is important. These include English, Social Sciences, Law and Languages.

### Prerequisites

Entries are at the discretion of the Head of Department.

### Course Costs

Part of this course requires attending live theatre. Costs could range from \$17 for cinematic productions through to live drama performances which cost between \$35 and \$50.

### Assessment

Standards will be selected from the following.

Students should be aiming to achieve a minimum of 14 credits in this course in order to support the University Entrance qualification.

Several of these standards support University Entrance literacy requirements.

### Assessment

Achievement Standard Title	Standard Number	Credits	Internal/ External
Select and use complex performance skills associated with a drama form or period	AS 91516	4 credits	Internal
Perform a substantial acting role in a significant production	AS 91517	5 credits	Internal
Demonstrate understanding of live drama performance	AS 91518	4 credits	External
Direct a drama performance	AS 91520	5 credits	Internal

# NCEA Level 2 Music

## Course Description

In this entirely internally assessed course students will continue to further develop their ability to communicate effectively as both a solo performer and as a member of an ensemble. They will compose new works and co-ordinate the performance and recording of these pieces of music. Students will investigate an aspect of music grounded in Aotearoa, making this curriculum very relevant to their experience.

## Prerequisites

Entry to NCEA Level 2 Music requires IGCSE Music. All other entries are at the discretion of the Head of Department.

## Course Costs

Students will need to download and maintain a subscription to either Dorico or Sibelius music notation software. Students will also be required to take lessons for their chosen solo performance instrument. Students will need to cover the cost of rehearsals with any accompanist for the “Performing as a featured soloist” component.

## Assessment

Achievement Standard Title	Standard Number	Credits	Internal/ External
Perform two substantial pieces of music as a featured soloist	AS 91270	6 credits	Internal
Compose two substantial pieces of music	AS 91271	6 credits	Internal
Demonstrate ensemble skills by performing a substantial piece of music as a member of a group	AS 91272	4 credits	Internal
Investigate an aspect of New Zealand music	AS 91278	4 credits	Internal

# PHYSICAL EDUCATION

## NCEA Level 2 Physical Education

### Course Description

This course covers theoretical and practical aspects of Physical Education and Sport. It focuses on the development of knowledge and skills of physical activity, such as applied anatomy, biophysical principles and the process of training for a specific outcome. Another key focus is the societal and political influences associated with physical activities and the well-being of individuals and communities.

### Prerequisites

Entry to NCEA Level 2 PE requires a D grade at IGCSE PE. All other entries are at the discretion of the Head of Department.

### Course Costs

There may be a small cost associated with coaching or entry to an event.

### Assessment

The course will be comprised of a selection of the following standards. There will be a total of 18 – 22 credits.

### Assessment

Achievement Standard Title	Standard Number	Credits	Internal/ External
Examine the role and significance of physical activity in the lives of young people in New Zealand	AS 91327	3 credits	Internal
Demonstrate understanding of how and why biophysical principles relate to the learning of physical skills	AS 91328	5 credits	Internal
Demonstrate understanding of the application of biophysical principles to training for physical activity	AS 91329	4 credits	Internal
Perform a physical activity in an applied setting	AS 91330	4 credits	Internal
Examine the significance for self, others and society of a sporting event, a physical activity or a festival	AS 91331	4 credits	Internal
Examine the implementation and outcome(s) of a physical activity event or opportunity	AS 91335	3 credits	Internal

# NCEA Level 3 Physical Education

## Course Description

This course covers both theory and practical aspects of Physical Education. It focuses on an increasing development of knowledge and skills relating to physical activity, such as applied anatomy, biomechanics and the process of skill development. You will also be developing a high level of critical thinking related to societal influences and issues around physical activity and lifelong well-being.

## Prerequisites

Entry to NCEA Level 3 PE requires passing NCEA Level 2 PE. All other entries are at the discretion of the Head of Department.

## Course Costs

There will be a cost associated with implementing the physical event. This will depend on the chosen sport.

## Assessment

The course will be comprised of a selection of the following standards. There will be a total of 18 – 22 credits.

Several of these standards support University Entrance literacy requirements.

## Assessment

Achievement Standard Title	Standard Number	Credits	Internal/ External
<b>Physical Activity</b> Demonstrate quality performance of a physical activity in an applied setting	AS 91501	5 credits	Internal
<b>Sociology</b> Examine a current physical activity, trend or issue impacting on New Zealand society	AS 91502	4 credits	Internal
<b>Well-Being</b> Evaluate physical activity experiences to devise strategies for lifelong well-being	AS 91498	4 credits	Internal
<b>Safety Management</b> Analyse safety management for outdoor activities.	AS 91504	3 credits	Internal
<b>Leadership</b> Examine contemporary leadership principles applied in physical activity contexts	AS 91505	4 credits	Internal

# SCIENCE

## NCEA Level 2 Biology

### Course Description

NCEA Level 2 Biology builds on the skills acquired in the Cambridge IGCSE Biology course and is an excellent foundation for NCEA Level 3 Biology and tertiary study.

This course covers some of the same topics as Cambridge AS Level Biology, but the NCEA course has a greater focus on the fundamental concepts of genetics and evolution that underpin studies in Biology. The internally assessed standards provide students with an opportunity to learn research skills that are invaluable at tertiary level.

### Prerequisites

Entry to NCEA Level 2 Biology requires a C grade in IGCSE Biology. All other entries are at the discretion of the Head of Department.

### Course Costs

Students will need a textbook or study guide to supplement the classwork. A workbook may also be prescribed.

### Assessment

Standards will be selected from the following (to a maximum of 22 credits).

Several of these standards support University Entrance literacy requirements.

### Assessment

Achievement Standard Title	Standard Number	Credits	Internal/ External
Demonstrate understanding of life processes at the cellular level	AS 91156	4 credits	External
Demonstrate understanding of genetic variation and change	AS 91157	4 credits	External
Demonstrate understanding of gene expression	AS 91159	4 credits	External
Carry out a practical investigation in a biology context, with supervision	AS 91153	4 credits	Internal
Analyse the biological validity of information presented to the public	AS 91154	3 credits	Internal
Demonstrate understanding of adaptation of plants or animals to their way of life	AS 91155	3 credits	Internal
Investigate biological material at the microscopic level	AS 91160	3 credits	Internal

# NCEA Level 3 Biology

## Course Description

NCEA Level 3 Biology builds on the skills acquired in NCEA Level 2 Biology and provides an excellent foundation for tertiary study. This course delves deeper into advanced topics such as genetics, evolution and ecology, emphasising the fundamental concepts that underpin biological sciences. The internally assessed standards offer students the opportunity to build critical research skills and build on the theory for the externally assessed standards.

## Prerequisites

Entry to NCEA Level 3 Biology requires completion of Level 2 Biology with an Achieved average. All other entries are at the discretion of the Head of Department.

## Course Costs

Students will need a textbook or study guide to supplement the classwork. A workbook may also be prescribed.

## Assessment

Standards will be selected from the following.

Students should be aiming to achieve a minimum of 14 credits in this course in order to support the University Entrance qualification.

Several of these standards support University Entrance literacy requirements.

## Assessment

Achievement Standard Title	Standard Number	Credits	Internal/ External
Demonstrate understanding of trends in human evolution	AS 91606	4 credits	External
Demonstrate understanding of evolutionary processes leading to speciation	AS 91605	4 credits	External
Carry out a practical investigation in a biological context, with guidance	AS 91601	4 credits	Internal
Integrate biological knowledge to develop an informed response to a socio-scientific issue	AS 91602	4 credits	Internal
Demonstrate understanding of how an animal maintains a stable internal environment	AS 91604	3 credits	Internal

# SOCIAL SCIENCES

## NCEA Level 2 Business Studies

### Course Description

The Level 2 Business Studies course provides students with the knowledge of how to operate a business enterprise within New Zealand. The internal achievement standards will take students through the steps of carrying out market research and becoming a small business operator. This will give students the opportunity to gain knowledge, skills and experience through creating, reviewing and refining a business activity within a community context. Students will have the opportunity to visit local businesses in order to gain knowledge of how real-life businesses work. Through the external assessments students will also learn about the internal operations of a business. Previous knowledge from IGCSE Business Studies is beneficial but not essential as a precursor to this course.

### Prerequisites

Entry to NCEA Business Studies requires a C grade at IGCSE Level Literature in English or NCEA literacy credits, and a C grade at IGCSE Level Mathematics or NCEA numeracy credits. All other entries are at the discretion of the Head of Department.

### Course Costs

Students are expected to buy their own course book and workbook as well as pay for educational excursions.

### Assessment

This course will be assessed through two internal assessments and two external assessments. School examinations and tests will also be used to prepare students for the two external assessments at the end of the year.

### Assessment

Achievement Standard Title	Standard Number	Credits	Internal/ External
Understanding the internal operations of a large business	AS 90843	4 credits	External
Investigate the application of motivation theory to a business	AS 90847	3 credits	Internal
Conduct market research for a new or existing product	AS 90846	3 credits	Internal
Carry out, review and refine a business activity within a community context with guidance	AS 90848	9 credits	Internal

# NCEA Level 2 Geography

## Course Description

Geography is the study of ngā taiao (the environment) and the interconnections within them. Consideration will be given to the question “What is where, why there, and why care?” so we can make sense of place. We use the key geographic concepts such as environment, sustainability, interaction and processes to understand environments and our place in them. At Level 2 we will study the Taupō volcanic zone, investigate urban patterns, and investigate a local or global contemporary geographic issue. Students will gain key skills in analysing data, comparing and evaluating ideas to make decisions. There will also be opportunities for field trips to gain data for a research project.

## Prerequisites

Entry to NCEA Level 2 Geography requires a C grade at IGCSE Level Literature in English or

NCEA literacy credits, and a C grade at IGCSE Level Mathematics or NCEA numeracy credits. All other entries are at the discretion of the Head of Department.

## Course Costs

Students are expected to buy their own course book and workbook, as well as pay for educational excursions, such as to the Kāpiti Coast.

## Assessment

This course will be assessed through three internal assessments, two which all students will complete and a third which will involve a choice depending on the preferred context. School examinations and tests will also be used to prepare students for the two external assessments at the end of the year.

Several of these standards support University Entrance literacy requirements.

## Assessment

Achievement Standard Title	Standard Number	Credits	Internal/ External
Demonstrate geographic understanding of a large natural environment	AS 91240	4 credits	External
Demonstrate geographic understanding of an urban pattern	AS 91241	3 credits	Internal
Apply geography concepts and skills to demonstrate understanding of a given environment	AS 91243	4 credits	External
Conduct geographic research with guidance	AS 91244	5 credits	Internal
<b>EITHER:</b> Explain aspects of a contemporary New Zealand geographic issue	AS 91245	3 credits	Internal
<b>OR:</b> Explain aspects of a geographic topic at a global scale	AS 91246	3 credits	Internal

# NCEA Level 3 Geography

## Course Description

Geography is the study of ngā taiao (the environment) and the interconnections within them. Consideration will be given to the question “What is where, why there, and why care?” so we can make sense of place. We use the key geographic concepts such as environment, sustainability, interaction and processes to understand environments and our place in them. At Level 3 we will study the cultural process of tourism with Rotorua as our case study, investigate contemporary events and geographic issues. Students will gain key skills in analysing data, comparing and evaluating ideas to make decisions. There will also be opportunities for field trips to support our learning.

## Assessment

Achievement Standard Title	Standard Number	Credits	Internal/ External
Demonstrate understanding of how a cultural process shapes geographic environment(s)	AS 91427	4 credits	External
Demonstrate understanding of a given environment(s) through selection and application of geographic concepts and skills	AS 91429	4 credits	External
Analyse a significant contemporary event from a geographic perspective	AS 91428	3 credits	Internal
Analyse aspects of a contemporary geographic issue	AS 91431	3 credits	Internal
Analyse aspects of a geographic topic at a global scale	AS 91432	3 credits	Internal
Conduct geographic research with consultation	AS 91430	5 credits	Internal

## Prerequisites

Entry to NCEA Level 3 Geography requires a minimum of 14 credits at Level 2 Geography. All other entries are at the discretion of the Head of Department.

## Course Costs

Students are expected to buy their own course book and workbook, as well as pay for educational excursions, such as to Rotorua.

## Assessment

This course will be assessed through four internal assessments which will be completed throughout the year. There will also be school examinations and tests to complete for the two external assessments at the end of the year.

Students should be aiming to achieve a minimum of 14 credits in this course in order to support the University Entrance qualification.

Several of these standards support University Entrance literacy requirements.

# TECHNOLOGY

## NCEA Level 2 Food and Nutrition

This course aims to further develop students understanding of nutrition, food choices and issues relating to food and how this affects people living in New Zealand society. Students will also explore how food choices impact on the environment now and in the future and whether current practices are sustainable.

Students will develop their ability to think critically and understand dietary patterns and specific food needs of people. Practical food preparation will reinforce understanding of knowledge taught.

### Prerequisites

Entry to NCEA Level 2 Food and Nutrition requires a D grade at IGCSE. All other entries are at the discretion of the Head of Department.

### Course Costs

Approximately \$250 per year over Terms 1 - 3. Optional barista course, approximately \$340.

### Assessment

The NCEA Level 2 Food and Nutrition course will be comprised of a selection of the following Achievement Standards (subject to change).

### Assessment

Achievement Standard Title	Standard Number	Credits	Internal/ External
Analyse issues related to the provision of food for people with specific food needs	AS 91300	5 credits	Internal
Analyse beliefs, attitudes and practices related to a nutritional issue for families in New Zealand	AS 91301	5 credits	Internal
Optional: Work Ready Barista	US 28145 US 17593 US 17285	10 credits	Internal via External Provider

## NCEA Level 2 Materials Technology

### Course Description

Level 2 Materials Technology is an exciting and creative course that allows students to explore the world of fashion and textiles through a hands-on, design-led approach. This course challenges students to think critically and creatively as they develop design briefs that respond to real-world issues, such as sustainability and ethical production. Students will learn how to take an idea from concept to creation, developing and testing their own garments or textile outcomes. Along the way, they'll explore what makes a successful technological outcome and gain a deeper understanding of the impact design has on people, communities and the environment. Whether you're passionate about fashion, interested in sustainable design or keen to develop practical skills, this course offers the perfect platform to innovate, problem-solve and bring your ideas to life.

### Prerequisites

Entry to NCEA Level 2 Materials Technology requires Year 10 Materials Technology. All other entries are at the discretion of the Head of Department.

### Course Costs

\$60 per term.

### Assessment

This course is made up of the following four assessments.

### Assessment

Achievement Standard Title	Standard Number	Credits	Internal/ External
Undertake brief development to address an issue	AS 91354	4 credits	Internal
Develop a conceptual design for an outcome	AS 91356	6 credits	Internal
Demonstrate understanding of sustainability in design	AS 91363	4 credits	External
Demonstrate understanding of the nature of technological outcomes	AS 91362	4 credits	Internal

# VISUAL ARTS

## NCEA Level 2 Design

### Course Description

This course leads students through the fundamentals of modern design by introducing them to designer artist models who have adopted or broken conventional approaches to traditional formatting. Students will learn how to use Adobe Suite Software such as Photoshop and Illustrator to create successful, professional and eye-catching graphics for clients or causes.

### Prerequisites

Entry to NCEA Level 2 Visual Arts requires a C grade at IGCSE Level English Language or NCEA literacy credits, and a C grade at IGCSE Level Mathematics or NCEA Numeracy credits. All other entries are at the discretion of the Head of Department.

### Course Costs

Adobe Creative Cloud licence, \$30.

### Assessment

This course is made up of two internal standards introduced during Term 1 and both completed by the end of Term 2. The portfolio is begun at this stage, which is due at the beginning of Term 4.

### Assessment

Achievement Standard Title	Standard Number	Credits	Internal/ External
Use drawing methods to apply knowledge of conventions appropriate to design	AS 91310	4 credits	Internal
Develop ideas in a related series of drawings appropriate to established design practice	AS 91315	4 credits	Internal
Produce a systematic body of work that shows understanding of art making conventions and ideas within design	AS 91320	12 credits	External

# NCEA Level 2 Painting

## Course Description

This course introduces students to the history, conventions and ongoing development of painting as a true artistic endeavour. Students will be taught how to apply methods employed by a wide range of artist models and how to use these approaches to broach important cultural issues or express emotions.

## Prerequisites

Entry to NCEA Level 2 Painting requires a C grade at IGCSE Art and Design, or Year 11 Visual Arts at another school. All other entries are at the discretion of the Head of Department.

## Course Costs

There are no additional costs for this course providing students have an IGCSE art pack from a previous year.

## Assessment

This course is made up of two internal standards introduced during Term 1 and completed by Term 2. The portfolio, is begun at this stage and is due at the beginning of Term 4.

## Assessment

Achievement Standard Title	Standard Number	Credits	Internal/ External
Use drawing methods to apply knowledge of conventions appropriate to painting	AS 91240	4 credits	Internal
Develop ideas in a related series of drawings appropriate to established painting practice	AS 91241	4 credits	Internal
Produce a systematic body of work that shows understanding of art making conventions and ideas within painting	AS 91243	12 credits	External

# NCEA Level 3 Painting

## Course Description

This course continues with skills and knowledge students have developed in Level 2 Painting, extending their understanding of the medium and editing proficiency using Adobe products. Students create a three-panel board for their external portfolio, as opposed to two panels from the previous year.

## Prerequisites

Entry to NCEA Level 3 Painting requires at least an achieved grade in NCEA Level 2 Painting. All other entries are at the discretion of the Head of Department.

## Course Costs

There are no additional costs for this course providing students have an IGCSE art pack from a previous year.

## Assessment

This course is made up of two internal standards introduced during Term 1 and Term 2 respectively. The externally assessed portfolio can consist of works from these standards or can be generated from totally new work begun after the two internal standards.

Students should be aiming to achieve a minimum of 14 credits in this course in order to support the University Entrance qualification.

Several of these standards support University Entrance literacy requirements.

## Assessment

Achievement Standard Title	Standard Number	Credits	Internal/ External
Use drawing to demonstrate understanding of conventions appropriate to painting	AS 91446	4 credits	Internal
Systematically clarify ideas using drawing informed by established painting practice	AS 91451	4 credits	Internal
Produce a systematic body of work that integrates conventions and regenerates ideas within painting practice	AS 91456	14 credits	External

# NCEA Level 2 Photography

## Course Description

This course presents the camera as a tool to see our world and ourselves, and how to present this view to others and to consider how they might interpret imagery. Students are taught the fundamental principles of digital photography, both using a SLR camera itself, and post-shoot editing using the Adobe Suite Software such as Photoshop, Lightroom and Bridge. Students are also introduced to a wide range of photographer artist models across history and the impact of photography on cultural perception.

## Prerequisites

Entry to NCEA Level 2 Painting requires a C grade at IGCSE Art and Design, or Year 11 Visual Arts at another school. All other entries are at the discretion of the Head of Department

## Course Costs

Adobe Creative Cloud licence, \$30.

## Assessment

This course is made up of two internal standards introduced during Term 1 and both completed by Term 2. The portfolio, is begun at this stage, which is due at the beginning of Term 4.

## Assessment

Achievement Standard Title	Standard Number	Credits	Internal/ External
Use drawing methods to apply knowledge of conventions appropriate to photography	AS 91312	4 credits	Internal
Develop ideas in a related series of drawings appropriate to established photography practice	AS 91317	4 credits	Internal
Produce a systematic body of work that shows understanding of art making conventions and ideas within photography	AS 91322	12 credits	External

# NCEA Level 3 Photography

## Course Description

This course continues with skills and knowledge students have developed in Level 2 Photography, extending their understanding of the medium and editing proficiency using Adobe products. Students create a three-panel board for their external portfolio, as opposed to two panels from the previous year.

## Prerequisites

Entry to NCEA Level 3 Photography requires at least an achieved grade in NCEA Level 2 Photography. All other entries are at the discretion of the Head of Department.

## Course Costs

Adobe Creative Cloud licence, \$30. It is highly recommended students own a SLR camera for this course.

## Assessment

This course is made up of two internal standards introduced during term 1 and term 2 respectively. The externally assessed portfolio can consist of works from these standards or can be generated from totally new work begun after the two internal standards.

Students should be aiming to achieve a minimum of 14 credits in this course in order to support the University Entrance qualification.

Several of these standards support University Entrance literacy requirements.

## Assessment

Achievement Standard Title	Standard Number	Credits	Internal/ External
Use drawing to demonstrate understanding of conventions appropriate to photography	AS 91447	4 credits	Internal
Systematically clarify ideas using drawing informed by established photography practice	AS 91452	4 credits	Internal
Produce a systematic body of work that integrates conventions and regenerates ideas within photography practice	AS 91457	14 credits	External

***Learn Local. Go Global.***



CHILTON  
SAINT JAMES SCHOOL