

Years 7/8 2019 Programme



Our day is organised into six subject lessons. You are often taught in your home rooms but also go to specialist rooms, like the gym, the Art House, and Waihanga (technology room) for practical classes. Your teachers are specialists – experts in the subject they are teaching you.

Because literacy and numeracy are incredibly important foundation skills, we have English and Mathematics five times a week. Science and Social Sciences have four lessons a week and other subjects like Physical Education and Health, Art, Music, Religious Education, Languages and Technology are regular features of your timetable.

Your day is a mix of active, practical and quiet classroom learning. Explore ideas that fascinate you,

get creative, think outside the square, solve problems, speak up and collaborate.

Technology is used across all subjects and you need to bring your own device. As well as discovering its potential, you will learn to use technology powerfully and responsibly, to enhance your learning.

All Year 8 students participate in the William Pike Challenge Award, an activity-based programme that runs throughout the year. It includes outdoor activities, community service and developing a new hobby, sport or skill. It aims to develop your confidence, tenacity and teamwork, while pushing you outside your comfort zone – and it's fun! The Term One camp for all Year 8 students helps meet some of the criteria of the award. Read more about the William Pike Challenge Award at www.williampike.co.nz/wpca/

We challenge you to be the best you can be.

Ad Summa

Aim for the Highest | Whāia te Hiranga

English

In English we want you to develop a lifetime love of literature and language and become confident writers and speakers.

Success in English is fundamental to success across the curriculum and developing your skills in understanding and appreciating language will enhance your learning in all subjects. English classes offer daily opportunities to explore your creative potential.

At Years 7 and 8 we focus on making and creating meaning through a variety of enjoyable contexts: studying a range of written, visual and oral texts, involvement in activities such as Book Day, regular library sessions, and visiting guest speakers.

PAT tests help us monitor your progress, identify strengths and weakness and develop ways in which we can best support your learning.

Mathematics

Mathematics is the study of patterns and relationships to help explain the world around us. We want you to discover and explore many different mathematical ideas in a range of different ways.

As well as developing and maintaining your mathematical skills, you will expand your thinking skills through problem-solving activities, such as the University of Otago Problem Challenge and World of Mathematics activities. Creativity and curiosity are encouraged through your approach to mathematical challenges.

Mathematics classes are grouped according to current levels of confidence in mathematical concepts. Extension activities are available to challenge our enthusiastic and able mathematicians.

All students are enrolled in online Mathematics and offered the opportunity of entering national competitions, such as ICAS.

Science

“Science is a way of thinking much more than it is a body of knowledge.”

CARL SAGAN

In Year 7 and 8 we want to encourage your natural curiosity about the world around you, develop your observational and thinking skills and inform your problem solving and decision-making.

You will learn about the scientific method, plan your own experiments and constructively criticise your own investigations, seeing yourselves as scientists. Studying forensic science and environmental education will develop your skills in problem-solving, co-operation and evaluation. Year 7 students learn about the concept of kaitiakitanga and the importance of being guardians of the environment, based on Māori world view. You will also complete an independent investigation for your first CREST Award and work towards Science badges. In Year 8 you also have the opportunity to complete your Junior Eureka Award.

A weekly CASE activity (from King’s College University of London’s Cognitive Acceleration through Science Education) gives your brain a workout.

Social Sciences

In Social Sciences we encourage you to think logically, critically and creatively, to discover and use strategies for positive change and sustainability.

Confidence, curiosity and leadership are part of each day’s learning. In contexts that are varied and interesting, you will read widely, learn to research effectively and write competently. We want you to explore ways in which societies work and discover how you can participate and take action

as informed and responsible citizens. You will learn the discriminatory skills which help you become informed, rational and caring members of society. In Years 7 and 8 Te Reo and tikanga (Māori language and protocol) are integrated into our programme. Year 7 experience a day on a marae, including participating in a pōwhiri. In Year 8, you undertake a self-directed social action campaign. Field trips are a regular part of learning.

Languages

“To speak a foreign language is to have another soul.”

CHARLEMAGNE

To be a truly global citizen, the ability to communicate and connect with people from other cultures is important. Learning another language also enables us to reflect on our own culture and language. At Years 7 and 8 you have

the opportunity to experience Te Reo Māori, Mandarin Chinese, French and German languages in ‘taster’ courses. A different language is the focus of each term and each is taught by a specialist language teacher. This experience will help you select the language or languages you may later wish to study in greater depth. Language learning is a requirement at Marsden until the end of Year 9 and many students choose to continue it into their senior years.

Technology

“What Technology does is create new opportunities.”

TIM O’REILLY

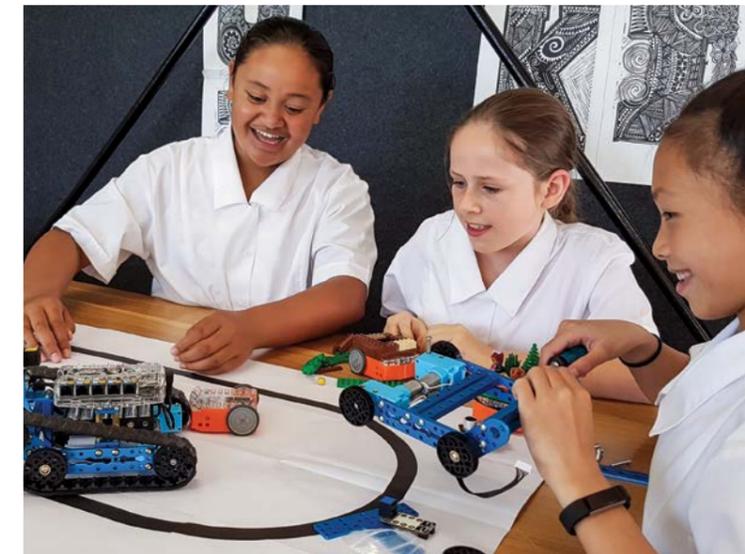
Through studying technology, you will develop practical skills and use these to develop innovative solutions, products and systems. In Years 7 and 8, Technology is taught as a block course in three contexts: Food, Textiles and Digital Technologies.

Textiles Technology

In Year 7 Textiles you develop an understanding of how the early Māori adapted to the land, using new materials, gaining skills and expressing their identity. You are taught safe procedures for using the sewing machine and iron, you learn how to use patterns and basic stitching. In Year 8, the course introduces more detailed patterns and basic construction. In textiles you get to be a creative problem solver and showcase your results at the end of year fashion show.

Food Technology

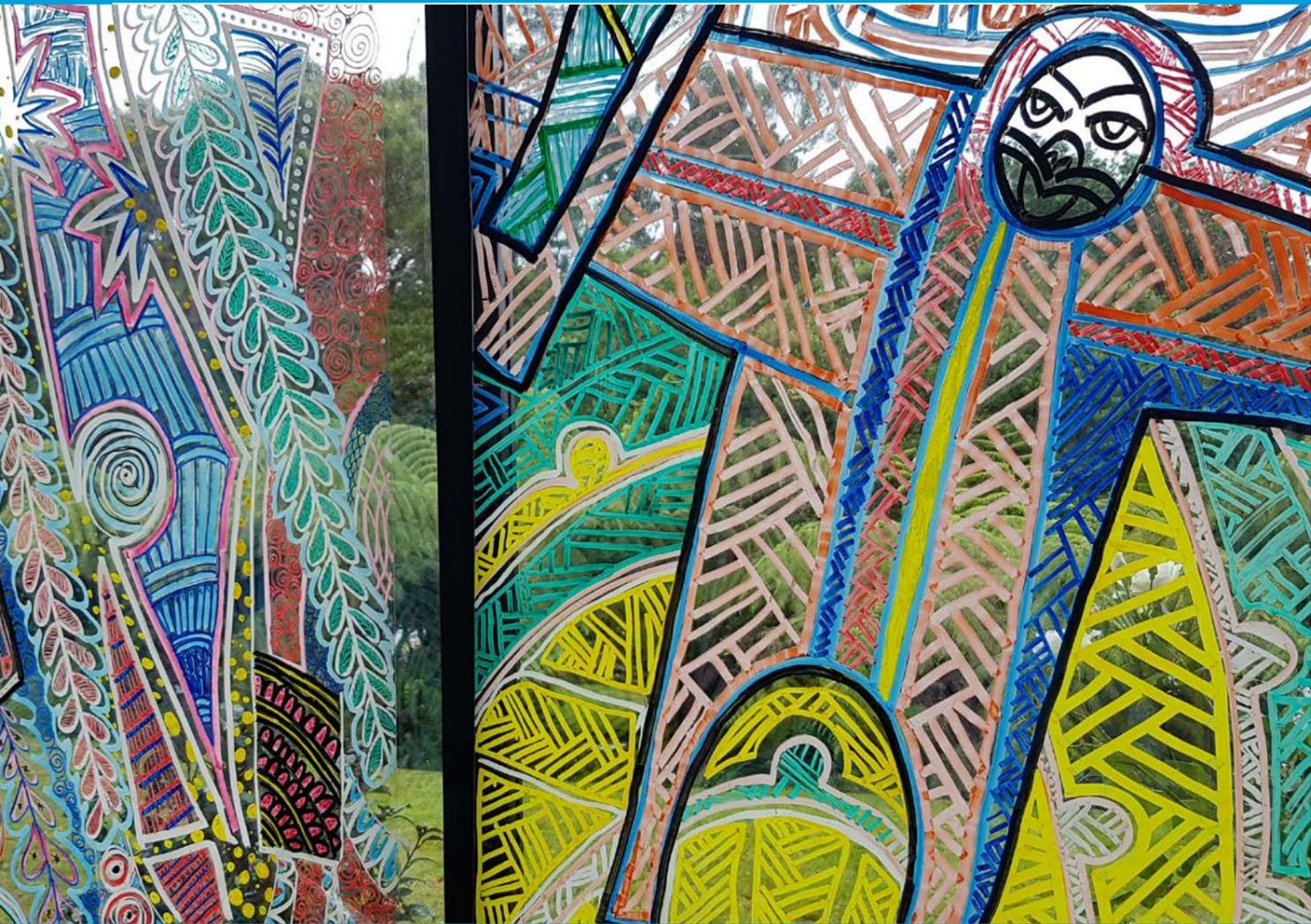
Managing your time, working co-operatively and learning about food safety, hygiene and food preparation are important components of this course. One of your activities is to research, plan and create a healthy breakfast. In Year 8, nutrition is a key aspect of the programme.



Digital Technologies

Digital Technologies teaches students how to be entrepreneurial and creative. In Year 7 you learn how to create simple computer programmes and animations. You also learn typing skills, using an online programme. In Year 8 you have the opportunity to design, plan and programme a computer game, as well as manipulate robots using simple code. You will learn to design and innovate with 3D printing CAD software. In our Waihanga space all students make, build, construct, erect, create, develop and generate.





“Imagination is the source of every form of human achievement.”

SIR KEN ROBINSON

Art

Art encourages creativity, independent thinking and risk-taking. We want you to develop your critical understanding of the culture of Aotearoa, its place in the world. Digital processes and traditional art processes combine, giving you the opportunity to explore new and exciting ways of creating art.

In Year 7 you use a range of media and processes, learning about line, tone and colour and exploring methods of drawing, printmaking, designing and working in three dimensions. In Year 8 there is a major focus on Māori art, including kowhaiwhai, taniko, tukutuku patterns and their meanings. You will create your own lanterns as part of Wellington’s celebration of Matariki.

Music

“Where worlds leave off, music begins.”

HEINRICH HEINE

Music is an integral part of life at Marsden and there are musical opportunities for all students. Any girl can participate in a choir or take private music lessons in a chosen instrument from one of our excellent team of itinerant teachers. Lessons occur in school time on a rotational timetable. There are a number of performance opportunities throughout the year. Musicians can also be part of the orchestras, auditioned choirs, jazz and smaller ensembles. Co-curricular music is optional and separate from the core Music programme taken by all students.



Year 7 Band Programme

Whether you are a budding musician or have never played before, the Year 7 Band Programme is a journey of discovery in learning an instrument and being able to perform as part of a band. You will choose from five wind instruments: flute, clarinet, bassoon, trumpet or trombone. You will hire your instrument and it is yours to look after, and to practise. A specialist team of teachers will support your learning in a small group. With five minutes practice a day, you will be amazed at the progress you make! The band performs at assemblies each term and your parents are welcome to come along and listen.

Year 8 World Music

Year 8 offers an exciting trip around the musical world. From dancing Irish reels to performing on the beautiful gamelan from Indonesia, you will learn how different cultures use the same elements to create their unique musical styles.

Incorporated into each the year 7 and 8 music programmes, is a general music course. It explores the elements of music through singing, composition, notation, performing, listening and assessing your own and others’ performances.



Health and Physical Education

In Health and Physical Education, the focus is on your own wellbeing, as well as on the wellbeing of others and society as a whole.

Physical Education

You will participate in a wide variety of activities, such as athletics, cricket, badminton, touch rugby, fitness, basketball, cross country, football, hockey, gymnastics and dance. We want you to acquire new skills and strategies, develop existing motor skills and develop positive interpersonal skills and teamwork.

Health

Year 7 Health explores the physical and social changes associated with growing up and ways of responding to pressure from others. Year 8 further develops ideas about wellbeing, identity, rights and responsibilities, puberty, resilience and body systems.

Religious Education

The Life and Times of Jesus (Year 7); Understanding Christianity (Year 8)

Marsden is an Anglican school whose wellbeing and organisation is under the care of the Anglican Diocese of Wellington. Although you are not required to be a member of this, or any church, Religious Education is at the core of

the school's character. Its aim is to deepen your awareness and experience of spiritual, religious and ethical knowledge. You will also receive religious education through assemblies and a church service each term. In Year 7 our class focus is on the life and times of Jesus and storytelling from the New Testament. In Year 8 we explore the meaning of Christianity.

Learning Support

Ko te ākongā te pūtaka o te ako.

The learner is at the centre of learning.

Classroom learning can be overwhelming and the option to review learning in a small and quiet space can help make sense of the day. Learning Support in small groups is available to students who struggle disproportionately in aspects of their learning, who experience gaps in their knowledge and who have specific learning differences, including dyslexia and processing issues. Students are withdrawn from class for one or two lessons a week

(depending on availability), in a small group. You learn strategies to improve your reading and writing skills and enhance your comprehension and time-management. Our specialist Learning Support teacher will liaise with other teachers to support your learning in other subjects. You may request Learning Support or it may be recommended by your teacher.

Wellbeing and Pastoral Care

Marsden recognises the need for a proactive, preventative approach to mental health to help students flourish psychologically and socially, as well as academically.

Through the delivery of the curriculum and our pastoral programmes we will equip you with the knowledge and skills to foster positive emotions, engage in and appreciate new learning, value and build caring relationships, develop a sense of purpose and meaning, and pursue worthwhile endeavour.

Marsden Our Values

Excellence Hiranga

Marsden Schools are high-performance environments where everyone aspires to be the best they can be in their academic and co-curricular pursuits.

Resilience Manahau

Those who can pick themselves up and keep going have the greatest chance of personal happiness and success. Resilience is the explicit focus of a number of our programmes.

Creativity Auahatanga

The ability to think outside the square, to respond to the challenges of today in innovative ways, to find new ways of working, thinking and living is vital to a successful future.

Service Oha

It is important for our students to be aware of their place in the local and global community. In keeping with Anglican values and tradition, consideration for others is fostered and delivered through co-curricular programmes.

Marsden, *lifelong.*

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