

Year 11 Programme



In Year 11, the focus for academic study is Level 1 NCEA (National Certificate of Educational Achievement).

Over the year you will develop effective study skills and lay the foundation for senior academic study, where your qualifications are important for entry to tertiary courses and awards. NCEA is globally recognised as a robust qualification and it can take you anywhere in the world. At Marsden we prepare you extremely well for life beyond school and you will find young Marsden Old Girls studying at universities in New Zealand, Australia, the UK, USA, Europe and Asia.

All students study seven NCEA subjects, of which English, Mathematics, Science and 'Move to Improve' are compulsory, and three more are options.

Across your seven subjects you are offered the opportunity to gain over 120 credits. 80 credits are required to achieve Level 1 NCEA; 50 credits achieved at Merit level or Excellence level qualifies for a Merit or Excellence endorsement, which is a personal goal for many of our students. Courses offer a balance of internal assessment (assessed within school and ongoing throughout the year) and external assessment (assessed by national examinations in November). Additional non-assessed programmes support wellbeing, social awareness and preparation for life beyond school.

Differentiated programmes aim to challenge and meet the needs of students of all ability levels. Year 11 is about developing great habits and being open to exploring new learning.

Ad Summa

Aim for the Highest | Whāia te Hiranga

We challenge you to be the best you can be.

Compulsory Subjects

English

“While thought exists, words are alive and literature becomes an escape, not from, but into living.”

CYRIL CONNOLLY

In English we inspire a life-time love of literature and language. Because success in English is fundamental to success across the curriculum, we emphasise the pleasure that comes through an understanding and growing appreciation of the English language and its literature.

At Year 11, a rich and varied programme allows the majority of students to achieve all of the standards on offer.

A balance of internal and external assessments covers the strands of the curriculum: making and creating meaning. You will develop creative and formal writing skills, comprehension skills in relation to written texts, effective communication skills through visual as well as spoken language, and study a variety of engaging written, visual and oral texts. A personal reading standard encourages you to flourish as a reader. Cultivate your interest in all things English by involvement in activities such as debating, theatre trips, and speaking and writing competitions.

If you are an International Student with ESOL needs, you will follow an adapted NCEA programme. You will have special support to build your vocabulary and comprehension skills and work towards gaining the necessary literacy credits.

Mathematics

“It is magic until you understand it. It is Mathematics thereafter.”

BHARATI KRISHNA

This course is not only about the acquisition of mathematical concepts and skills but also the application of these to practical problems. You can be creative in the way you apply your knowledge and are encouraged to think critically about your methods and approaches. While there is an emphasis on the development and maintenance of your existing skills, you are given many opportunities to apply these to a range of extended questions.

Flipped learning, collaborative group work, investigations and projects, as well as online skills practice, contribute to your mathematical learning. We encourage you to enter national competitions, such as ICAS and the Australian Mathematics Competition. Students are grouped according to their mathematical achievement. This enables us to offer invigorating extension work to those who thrive on mathematical challenges, as well as strong levels of support for those who find mathematics more difficult. A minimum of 17 credits, with at least a Merit grade in Algebra is a prerequisite for entry into the full NCEA Level 2 course.



Motivational training.

Science

“The important thing is not to stop questioning. Curiosity has its own reason for existing.”

ALBERT EINSTEIN

A scientific perspective is essential when exploring many of the major challenges and opportunities that confront our world. Through the sciences, you develop an understanding of the world, built on current scientific theories and use scientific knowledge for problem-solving and to gain an understanding of its implications and relevance in your own lives.

The Science course is divided into three modules: Biology, Chemistry and Physics. The course includes internally and externally assessed achievement standards. The classes rotate in order to share the expertise of specialist teachers in each of the scientific disciplines.

In Year 12, Science splits into three separate courses: Biology, Chemistry and Physics. You need a minimum of 16 credits in Level 1 to progress to Level 2 and to have achieved the externally assessed standard(s) relevant to the science subject(s) you plan to continue studying.

Religious Education: Ethics and Social Justice

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, the subject of Religious Education is at the core of the school's character.

Religious Education classes are taught for one period a week throughout the year. You will explore ethical dilemmas and, in the context of social justice, devise your own project for greater equity. There is no formal assessment in this course.

Physical Education

Learning is based on the concepts of hauora/wellbeing, health promotion, the socio-ecological perspective and the importance of attitudes and values that promote a healthy lifestyle.

In the world we live in there is an increased need to be aware of the benefits of regular physical activity, healthy lifestyles and positive mental health. Physical Education provides students with regular exercise, social interactions and time to analyse movements and factors that affect participation. In Health Education you are taught strategies to promote positive relationships, resilience, confidence and healthy, safe lifestyles. This course combines practical and theory classes.

Credits towards NCEA Level 1 are gained through both Health and Physical Education.



Optional Subjects

Social Sciences

Geography

Viewing the world geographically is an important skill. We live in times where an understanding of people's relationship with the land and care for the environment is crucial, as the world grapples with a rising number of global issues.

Through themes such as population and resource use, you will learn how people's diverse values and perceptions influence environmental, social and economic decisions. Studies of extreme natural events help you understand how interacting processes shape natural and cultural environments, how they occur at different rates and scales and create spatial variations. Geographic skills such as mapping, graphing, analysis, evaluation and interpretation are woven into each unit.

History

History is studied because it is essential to individuals and to societies, and because it holds great fascination, opportunity for contemplation and wisdom for the future. Historians



“Study the past if you would define the future.”

CONFUCIUS

are essential contributors to our society. Employers often deliberately seek graduates with the skills historical study promotes, such as research, analysis and interpretation,

critical thinking and strong written and verbal communication. Level 1 History introduces you to historical inquiry, communication of historical ideas and evidence and interpretation of differing perspectives.

The course includes a focus on the peaceful resistance and confiscation at Parihaka, an indigenous settlement in Taranaki. You will travel to Parihaka and New Plymouth to gain on site understanding and experience of this unique place.

Languages

Communicating with people from other cultures is an important skill in this age of global mobility. Learning a language also helps you analyse and understand your own culture and language.



Chinese

You will consolidate and expand on material covered at junior level, with an emphasis on both written and spoken Chinese. Through both internal and external assessment you will work towards oral, listening and reading standards. A range of topics is covered in this course to develop communication skills. Throughout the year, you will assemble a portfolio where spoken interactions are submitted. We recommend solid achievement in both external and internal standards as a prerequisite for Level 2 study.

You will have the opportunity to participate in the New Zealand Chinese Speech Competition in Term Two.

French

You will consolidate and expand on material covered at junior level, with an emphasis on both written and spoken French. The course comprises both internal and external assessment covering oral, reading and listening skills. A variety of topics and materials is used to develop your communication skills. Throughout the year, you will assemble a portfolio where spoken interactions are submitted. You have the opportunity to reinforce vocabulary acquisition through Language Perfect which is an effective online learning resource. We recommend solid achievement in both external and internal standards as a prerequisite for Level 2 study.

German

You will consolidate and expand on material covered at junior level, with an emphasis on both written and spoken German. In Term 3 you have the opportunity to participate in the Goethe Language Competition. The course comprises both internal and external assessment covering oral, reading and listening skills. A variety of topics and materials is used to develop your communication skills and equip you with strategies to decode meaning. Throughout the year, you will assemble a portfolio where spoken interactions are submitted. You have the opportunity to reinforce vocabulary acquisition through Language Perfect which is an effective online learning resource. We recommend solid achievement in both external and internal standards as a prerequisite for Level 2 study.

Technology

“The biggest risk is not taking any risk... In a world that’s changing really quickly, the only strategy that is guaranteed to fail is not taking risks.”

MARK ZUCKERBERG

Digital Technologies

Computer programming is becoming fundamental to 21st century literacy. Technological innovation has seen exponential growth of career opportunities in the digital world. In this course, you will work on a mix of standards (both external and internal), focused on web development and the fundamentals of computer programming. You will work with web based languages HTML, CSS and JavaScript, and programme in Python language. You will also complete written reports exploring your own use of operating systems and software.

Textiles Technology

The course covers pattern drafting, finding textile solutions to technological problems, integration of digital design into folio and practical work. Students complete a range of garments, a design portfolio and written reports. You are encouraged to make a full investigation to fulfil the requirements of a brief with a practical solution, using textiles. At this level, you are expected to extend and widen your range of skills as a variety of technological solutions

The Arts

Art

The Visual Arts teach you to think through and within a material, while encouraging creative and independent thinking and risk taking, in the pursuit of excellence.

In this course you will investigate art and artworks by contemporary artists, which reflect Māori and European influences and contexts, as well as investigating art making ideas. You will explore artistic conventions in the generation and development of your own work across the fields of drawing, painting, print-making and photography. In Terms 3 and 4 you will develop a portfolio of work which is submitted for external assessment. Digital processes and image making are an integral part of the practical art-making process and are used to extend the range and depth of your ideas and thinking.



Digitech workshop.

emerge. The Level 1 NCEA course consists of both internal and external assessment.

Home Economics

The course combines Home Economics and Health achievement standards. Assessment is both through practical internally assessed standards and an external examination. The course covers nutrition for a nominated individual, how nutritional information and packaging can influence food choices, food safety and nutritional information and how it influences food choice and wellbeing. You will also learn basic procedures to produce a specified product.





Anjali Gentejohann's entry into the Create1World competition, to raise awareness for social justice.

Music

Co-curricular music is optional and separate from the core Music programme.

You may choose to begin your study of music as an academic subject at this point, providing you have taken instrumental or voice lessons, including theory, for at least two years. It is expected that you will continue with vocal or instrumental tuition alongside your academic course work in Music.

The Level 1 NCEA course consists of internal and external assessment. The course involves solo and group performances, composition and music analysis. The externally assessed standards involve aural dictation and theoretical music. Depending on your musical background, there are possibilities for multi-level study in Music.

Guided Study and Learning Support

It is an NZQA requirement that students who are approved for special assessment conditions must be overseen by our Learning Support team. You may opt into a Guided Study programme as an option, where you work in small groups to manage your assessment load across subjects. Your Guided Study teacher gives you direction and strategies to help break your workload down into manageable chunks. Guided Study is the equivalent of an option subject and is recommended for students who find the regular classroom environment particularly challenging.

Alternatively, you may choose to work with our SPELD trained Learning Support teacher in a fortnightly personalised meeting. This would require you to be withdrawn from another class. Both Learning support and Guided Study are designed to build your confidence and help you meet your potential.

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, the integration of our Visible Wellbeing™ approach 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.

Left: Professor Lea Waters introduces Visible Wellbeing™ to our students.



Marsden

Our Values

Excellence

Hiranga

Marsden School has a high-performance environment 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.

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