

# Whitby Collegiate

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## Curriculum Overview

**The culture of Whitby Collegiate is one where students, supported by their teachers, are open about their desire for academic and personal achievement and work positively to reach their goals. Students are proud of their own successes and the success of others.**

Academic programmes have been developed in line with the New Zealand Curriculum and cover the essential learning areas of the Arts, English, Health and Physical Education, Languages, Mathematics, Science, Social Sciences and Technology. In addition, Religious Education is an explicit programme of learning. In Years 7 to 10 there are numerous opportunities for inter-disciplinary studies. We aim to provide every student with a broad, well-balanced, general education commensurate with their ability.

As a fully BYOD school, all students are expected to bring their own digital devices. Technology enriches the learning process and

empowers students to interact with the local and global community and a variety of approaches is used regularly across all curriculum areas as a tool for learning.

Although there is no formal selection process for entry to Whitby Collegiate, we maintain a fine tradition of students achieving personal excellence. This can be attributed to the climate of high expectations shared by staff and students, the strong system of pastoral care, the challenges offered for independent creative thought and action, the range of co-curricular activities and the opportunities to participate in and contribute to local, national and international forums.

Academic and pastoral staff work together to ensure that the progress of individual students is carefully monitored, that their particular needs are met and their passions are acknowledged and fostered. Provision is made for gifted students. Learning support is also available for students with additional learning needs.

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## Qualifications

At Whitby Collegiate students work towards achievement in the national qualification, the National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA): Level 1 at Year 11, Level 2 at Year 12 and Level 3 at Year 13. NCEA is an internationally recognised qualification, which can be used to gain entry to tertiary institutes around the world. It is a standards-based qualification, assessed internally through coursework and also by external examinations in November. Students usually take seven subjects at Year 11, six subjects at Year 12 and five subjects in Year 13 and are motivated to achieve their NCEA with a Merit or Excellence endorsement.

An additional option is the New Zealand Scholarship examinations which are designed to challenge top academic students in Year 13. Scholarship is aimed at the highly motivated, independent learner and is supported by small group tutorials, online learning or additional work done out of regular class time.

Additional information can be obtained about these qualifications on the following websites:

**NCEA:**

[www.nzqa.govt.nz/qualifications-standards/qualifications/ncea/understanding-ncea/how-ncea-works/](http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/qualifications-standards/qualifications/ncea/understanding-ncea/how-ncea-works/)

<http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/qualifications-standards/qualifications/ncea/understanding-ncea/the-facts/>

**New Zealand Scholarship:**

[www.nzqa.govt.nz/qualifications-standards/awards/new-zealand-scholarship/](http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/qualifications-standards/awards/new-zealand-scholarship/)

# Curriculum and Course Planner

Learning Area	Year 7/8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13
<b>Technology</b>	Digital Technology	Digital Technology	Digital Technology	○ Digital Technology	○ Digital Technology	○ Digital Technology
<b>Physical Education &amp; Health</b>	Physical Education & Health	Physical Education & Health	Physical Education & Health	SHAPE (Senior Health & PE)	SHAPE (Senior Health & PE)	SHAPE (Senior Health & PE)
				○ Physical Education	○ Physical Education	○ Physical Education
<b>Religious Education</b>	Religious Education	Religious Education	Religious Education	Religious Education	Six-weekly blocks of Religious Education, Health, Careers and Curious Time	Six-weekly blocks of Religious Education, Health, Careers and Curious Time
<b>Science</b>	Science	Science	Science	Science	○ Biology	○ Biology
					○ Chemistry	○ Chemistry
					○ Physics	○ Physics
<b>Mathematics</b>	Maths	Maths	Maths	Maths	○ Maths	○ Statistics
					○ Calculus	
<b>Social Sciences</b>	Social Sciences	Social Sciences	History	○ History	○ History	○ History
			Geography	○ Geography	○ Geography	○ Geography
			Business Studies	○ Economics	○ Economics	○ Economics
<b>The Arts</b>	Art	Art	Art	○ Art	○ Painting	○ Painting
				○ Photography	○ Photography	
				○ Design	○ Design	
<b>Music</b>	Music	Music	Music	○ Music	○ Music	○ Music
<b>Learning Languages</b>	Spanish	Spanish	Spanish	○ Spanish	○ Spanish	○ Spanish
<b>English</b>	English	English	English	English	English	○ English

## Key

Compulsory subjects
 
 ○ Optional subjects

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## Choosing subjects

During Term 3 of each year, we ask students to indicate subject choices for the following year. Our timetable is developed around these options. We endeavour to accommodate all students' preferences but this is not always possible. Students are advised to choose carefully as, once option lines are set and classes established, changes may not easily be accommodated. Subject teachers, Tutor Teachers, Deans and the Academic Dean are all available to advise on subject choices.

### Course structure

#### Years 7–9

All students study English, Mathematics, Science, Social Sciences, Art, Digital Technology, Religious Education, Music, Physical Education and Health, and Spanish. Students in Year 8 participate in the William Pike Challenge, a high quality programme for youth development, while Year 9 students undertake the DARE Programme, devised and run by Whitby Collegiate staff. Both programmes focus on service and an appreciation of, and experience in, the outdoors.

#### Year 10

All students study English, Mathematics, Science, Religious Education, Art, Music, Physical Education and Health, and Digital Technology. In addition, there are half-year courses in Geography/History and Business/Spanish. Students in Year 10 take part in the Duke of Edinburgh Hillary Award Scheme.

#### Year 11

All students study towards NCEA Level 1 in English, Mathematics and Science. Three optional NCEA subjects are chosen from Art, Music, History, Geography, Spanish, Economics, PE and Digital Technology.

In addition, all students participate in Religious Education and a Senior Health and Physical Education programme.

#### Years 12–13

##### Year 12

All students take NCEA Level 2 English then choose five additional NCEA options from Mathematics, Chemistry, Biology, Physics, Geography, History, Economics, Spanish, Photography, Painting, Music, Physical Education and Digital Technology. In addition, all students rotate through six-weekly blocks of Careers, Religious Education, Curious Time and Health. They also participate in a Senior Physical Education programme.

##### Year 13

All students work through six-weekly blocks of Careers, Religious Education, Curious Time and Health, and study towards NCEA Level 3 in five subjects, chosen from: English, Calculus, Statistics, Chemistry, Biology, Physics, Geography, History, Economics, Photography, Painting, Physical Education, Spanish, Music and Digital Technology. In addition, all students participate in a Senior Health and Physical Education programme. Scholarship is an additional qualification, which targets high achieving students in individual subjects.

#### Note:

- Multi-level courses may be scheduled for students with an advanced background in a particular subject if the timetable allows.
- Small classes may combine year levels in order to be viable. Insufficient demand for a subject may mean that it cannot be timetabled.
- If a student wishes to study a subject not offered at Whitby Collegiate it may be possible for that study to be undertaken through Te Kura. Additional fees will be incurred for this service.
- Learning Support is available for students with additional learning needs.

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## Tertiary study and beyond

While some specialisation may be necessary in the Senior School, it is wise to keep options open. Students should both recognise their strengths and respond to challenges. At school students learn how to learn and develop the values, knowledge, and competencies that will enable them to live full and satisfying lives. They learn how to become life-long learners. Research shows us that today's students will work through a mosaic of different phases, roles and careers in their lifetime. Education must prepare them to be adaptable. Learning to think independently, and to be creative, flexible problem solvers is as, if not more, important than acquiring knowledge in a particular discipline.

There are many ways students can find out about future options for study and work. Students are welcome to make an appointment with the Academic Dean or browse through resource material during sessions with their Tutor Teacher. University representatives visit the school on a regular basis to meet with senior students.

The following websites provide useful information about work and study:

#### Careers:

[www.careers.govt.nz/](http://www.careers.govt.nz/)

#### New Zealand tertiary institutes:

[www.victoria.ac.nz](http://www.victoria.ac.nz)

[www.auckland.ac.nz](http://www.auckland.ac.nz)

[www.otago.ac.nz](http://www.otago.ac.nz)

[www.massey.ac.nz](http://www.massey.ac.nz)

[www.waikato.ac.nz](http://www.waikato.ac.nz)

[www.canterbury.ac.nz](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz)

[www.whitireia.ac.nz](http://www.whitireia.ac.nz)

[www.lincoln.ac.nz](http://www.lincoln.ac.nz)

[www.weltec.ac.nz](http://www.weltec.ac.nz)