

# Year 11 Programme



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

Our students agree they are ready for a step up to assessment at this stage in their learning and seek an additional challenge. Our senior students tell us they found it motivating to have a goal to work towards in Year 11. Level 1 NCEA, while not essential to further study, is an excellent foundation for the more in-depth study that will follow. During your Level 1 programme, you gain essential time management strategies and study skills. You learn to unpack and follow task instructions and experience examinations for the first time.

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 Physical Education and Health are compulsory, and three more are options. Across your seven subjects you are offered the opportunity to gain over 100 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.

We challenge you to be the best you can be.

Marsden *Inspiring Girls*

## COMPULSORY SUBJECTS

### English

**66** *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

**66** *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.



## 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 and Health

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 conservation and climate, you will learn how people's diverse values and perceptions influence environmental, social and economic decisions. Studies of population growth and change help you understand how interacting processes shape natural and cultural environments, and how these environments vary across space and time. Geographic skills such as mapping, graphing, analysis, critical 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,



*Study the past if you would define the future."*

CONFUCIUS

opportunity for contemplation and wisdom for the future. Historians 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. You will also study an additional topic. This is currently the Holocaust.

## 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.

### 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.

### Te Reo Māori

Five language skills necessary for effective communication, namely listening, speaking, reading, writing and cultural awareness, are inter-related and reflected in the Level 1 teaching and learning programme for Te Reo Māori. Students will apply a range of communication skills in a variety of contexts that will enable them to express their thoughts in Te Reo Māori with accuracy, fluency and cultural integrity.

## 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 planning documents and analyse how computer interfaces communicate with the user.

### 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 emerge. The Level 1 NCEA course



Digitech workshop.

consists of both internal and external assessment. All students will have access to Adobe for \$10 for the year. There are some additional charges for materials.

### Food and Nutrition

You will learn about 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. The course combines Home Economics and Health achievement standards. Assessment is both through practical internally assessed standards and an external examination.

## The Arts

### Art

*“The aim of art is to represent not the outward appearance of things, but their inward significance.”*

ARISTOTLE

In the Visual Arts you will create and respond to works using curiosity, collaboration, courage, critical thinking and creativity.

You will engage in extending your skills and understanding of arts practice, whilst being encouraged in creative and independent thinking to develop your own subject matter. You will research contemporary New Zealand and international artists to inform your creative developments. Using a range of media, which could include painting, printmaking, sculpture, photography and digital design, you will develop a body of work assessed against three achievement standards at Level 1 NCEA.





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

## Music

**66** *The true beauty of music is that it connects people.”*

ROY AYERS

Music is an integral part of life at Marsden and there are musical opportunities for all students. Music as an option targets students who wish to pursue music as a field of academic study.

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

The Level 1 NCEA course consists of internal and external assessment. Solo and group performances are assessed each term, giving many opportunities for success alongside

your work with your instrumental or voice teacher. You will have class time to develop two compositions, including time with the Composer-in-Residence, and learn to analyse two pieces by other composers. 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

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.



## 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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