Year 9 Options 2016

Please select 4 Option Subjects but you will only study 2. This is because some options may not be offered if only a few students select it.

Year 9 Drama

In Year 9 Drama you will build on basic performance skills such Drama Techniques, Drama Elements and Drama Conventions. These skills will assist them in performing in a range of situations.

There will be an opportunity to create props and costumes for Drama. You will learn to work with a wide range of people in various situations. You will develop communication abilities and confidence when performing in public.

An interest in performance techniques and creating original work for an audience would be of benefit but these skills will be taught during the course so are not essential. Enthusiasm and a willingness to try everything are essential.

The skills acquired in Drama can be fed into any number of pathways. Being able to speak with confidence in a public situation is an invaluable asset in many other subject areas that involve discussion and presentation. Being able to work cooperatively and creatively in a group develops excellent problem solving skills that can be applied to many areas. There is a $10 charge associated with this course to cover materials for mask making.

Year 9 Mandarin

Year 9 Mandarin would be a new course in 2016. The introduction of this new course is conditional upon student numbers and staffing. We do want to measure student interest in this new option subject.

The Year 9 course covers language and culture; exploring both modern and traditional aspects of China. Students will experience a variety of media, enhancing their learning through song and movement, digital resources, authentic Chinese items and traditional customs.

Students will learn:
- to confidently read and write
- to give a detailed self-introduction
- to begin to describe their world
- about selected aspects of Chinese culture, history and society
- appropriate Chinese etiquette

Year 9 Spanish

Spanish is one of the most widely spoken languages, there are more Spanish speakers in the world than English speakers. There are over 350 million native speakers of Spanish in twenty two countries. The Year 9 Spanish course teaches not only a lively and expressive language, but a fascinating and different culture.

Students will have the opportunity to learn:
  • to describe themselves and others
  • to use articles and adjectives applying correct grammar
  • about Spanish and Latin american lifestyle, festivities and traditions

Learning Spanish will give the possibility to understand other Latin based languages like Portuguese and Italian.

Our Year 9 Spanish students learn through:
  • Videos and presentations
  • Our language softwares "Linguascope and Language Perfect" interacting within the class using their acquired, written, reading and speaking knowledge.
  • Experiencing field trips where they will apply their conversational skills and exchange with other spanish students from other schools in New Zealand.

Year 9 Music

In Year 9 Music you will develop as a musician on your chosen instrument. You will further develop your experience and skills in performance, both solo and in a group. You will learn to set up stage equipment such as speakers and mixing desks. You will also experience writing your own song. There will be an element of theory in terms of learning major and minor scales as well as working out chords in a key.

There will be a chance to use digital audio software to create original mixes.

Year 9 Visual Arts

Students will given opportunities to develop ideas, skills and techniques in drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, design and time based art through a series of practical projects representing a variety of contexts.

Year 9 Visual Arts is for students who wish to:
  • develop creativity and individual self expression in visual art processes
  • acquire skills, knowledge and understanding of art through authentic pathways
  • develop a wide appreciation of the visual world and recognise their place in it
  • students having experienced a range of techniques in the various processes and looking at the work of established artists will be able to reflect upon the possibilities of specific media
  • students will be encouraged to generate a range of responses to visual problems within relevant, authentic contexts

http://www.studentartguide.com/articles/reasons-to-study-art

Year 9 Graphics and Design

Graphics and Design is a main communication tool, it is an international language therefore, it enables students to show their ideas avoiding languages barriers.

Graphics and design combines the important educational aspects of communication and creative problem solving. This course will give students the chance to develop their own solutions to realistic design problems through the application of a design process. They will also get the skills to precisely communicate their solutions, by applying a range of Graphics Modes:

- Free hand sketching
- Technical drawing
- Graphics softwares

It is directly related to the dramatic technological developments that have occurred in today's society, and involves fields such as

- architecture
- environment
- engineering
- technological
- media
- packaging.

This is a course with the emphasis placed on creativity and individual choice, developed to meet the needs of today's students and tomorrow's citizens.

The programme is developed around briefs that are based on realistic and thought provoking situations. Students will use graphics skills to develop, record and communicate individual and innovative solutions in a variety of ways.

This course stimulates students' self confidence, self esteem and pride in achievement through enabling them to reach personal success.

Year 9 Technology Food

This course involves using technological practice to develop food products that meet a design brief. You will have to design, develop and test your ideas until you find a solution to meet your brief.

You will learn to think creatively and to work independently. You will develop skills to become a supportive team player able to undertake research accessing a variety of sources. You will be able to produce written and practical evidence to support your development work.

The variety of skills learnt in Year 9 Food Technology lead smoothly on to Year 10 and beyond. These skills will help with production of work in other curriculum areas and problem solving skills, developed through the design briefs, will be of use across the curriculum.

Year 9 Technology- General

This course involves developing outcomes to meet a given brief.   In the development of your outcome/s you will make models or mockups that will test your ideas prior to working through the construction process. You will have the opportunity to use a range of hard materials to produce your final outcome - choosing the best materials that will enable your outcome to be "fit for purpose".

This course requires creative and critical thinking. You will enhance your patience, enthusiasm and ability to work individually and in a group.

The variety of skills and knowledge you develop will lead you into the Year 10 Technology course. You will also be able use the knowledge you develop in Technology in other curriculum areas.

Year 9 Fabric Technology/ Soft Materials Technology

This course involves developing a range of outcomes using Soft Materials. You will develop knowledge and skills to create outcomes that meet a given design brief. Within your technological practice, you will design, develop and test your ideas until you find a solution to meet your brief.

Possible learning opportunities will be co constructed and be both personal and community projects and competitions. You will get the opportunity to make items using Soft Materials for yourself and others and the home. You may be interested in entering competitions such as the local Wearable Arts Competition and/or sewing for charity to support causes such as Middlemore Foundation (Middlemore Hospital) and the SPCA and Make a Difference.

You will learn how to operate the Sewing machine correctly and learn correct sewing techniques that will enable you to successfully create these items. The wide range of skills and knowledge learnt in Year 9 Soft/Fabric Technology will transfer to Year 10 and beyond. First time sewers welcome.

Year 9 Media Studies

In Media Studies you will learn to explore media concepts with critical awareness and have practical experience in production work.

This course can give you essential skills and expertise as you progress to senior Media Studies, and beyond. You will develop the ability to communicate confidently as you work in production groups developing media products such as short films. You will develop flexibility, problem solving and openness to new ideas. You will experience "hands-on" use of technology such as cameras and digital editing software. You will be able to critically interpret a wide range of media.

Your group project experiences will enhance your problem solving skills and ability to use your creative skills to produce a finished
product to fit a brief.

Year 9 Social Enterprise

"What is Social Enterprise?
A social enterprise is a venture that uses a business model to create social and environmental value. Social enterprises generate income through trading products or services, and the majority of any revenues are reinvested back in to their core mission. "
(*Inspiring Stories)*

Social Enterprise is 'doing charity *by* doing trade'. A **social enterprise** company is any for profit or non-profit organisation that applies strategies to achieving philanthropic goals. Social enterprises would consider themselves to have social objectives.Social enterprises do not aim to offer any benefit to their investors, except where they believe that doing so will ultimately further their capacity to realise their philanthropic goals.

You will be involve in exciting project work and you can interact with people in New Zealand and around the world.

Year 9 Programming

This course will help students to develop programming skills using a range of programming languages. Students will be challenged to develop their logical reasoning, systematic thinking, and problem-solving skills.

Students will undertake coding projects applied to real life applications and an interest in combining programming skills with electronics will be an advantage as students will have the opportunity to identify, design, test and develop technological solutions to real world issues, meeting stakeholders' specifications.

Students will have the opportunity to enter competitions applying their programming skills using Raspberry Pis and Arduinos.