

COURSE COUNSELLING

It is important to choose senior courses carefully as your decisions may affect the type of pathways toward employment you choose in the future, your success at school and your feelings about school.

All students in Year 10, 11 and 12 will receive advice from a course counsellor to ensure that a sensible and realistic course of study is planned. Parents will also be involved in this decision, and they must approve the proposed course. Course counselling will take place in Term 3 and 4.

If you need help with your choice of subjects please ask:-

- Your present subject teacher
- Your Learning Advisor
- A teacher who knows you well
- The Guidance Counsellor, Miss J Fisher
- The Careers Advisor, Mrs M Donaldson

Research shows that the two main influences on subject choices are:

- What courses your friends are taking
- Who is teaching a particular course

Neither of these should influence your course choice. Your friends may not be in the same class as you next year, even if you take the same courses; and no-one yet knows who will be teaching any course next year. So concentrate on what you need for YOUR FUTURE.

As an overall plan, it is suggested that you choose courses that you:

- enjoy
- have achieved good results in
- reflect your interests and abilities
- help you reach your career and employment goals
- will develop skills, knowledge and attitudes useful throughout your life

Pre-requisites have been set to assist students in making realistic choices as their capability for a course must be considered to ensure success.

It is important that students keep this booklet.

- If your NCEA Credits or Unit Standard credits are not good enough to allow you to take the course you had planned, or if you change your mind about which courses you wish to study, you will be able to make changes before the start of next year. Staff work in the following fields:

Miss J Fisher

Ms J Simpson

Mrs M Donaldson

Mrs Donald

Guidance Counsellor

Level 3 Pastoral Manager, University Liaison

STAR Coordinator, Gateway Coordinator,

Careers Advisor

Distance Learning Coordinator

LITERACY AND NUMERACY REQUIREMENTS FOR NCEA LEVEL 1

The pathways for gaining Literacy and Numeracy credits in 2023 are as follows:

Literacy

Through achievement standards across a range of subject areas (as listed on the NZQA website):

- a minimum of 10 credits from the list of achievement standards which meet the literacy requirements for NCEA Level 1

Or

- passing the Literacy Reading/Writing Standards assessed by NZQA at set times of the year. Your English teacher will have more information about this as you may have completed these credits in Year 10

Numeracy – there are two pathways

1. Through achievement standards across a range of subject areas (as listed on the NZQA website): a minimum of 10 credits from the list of achievement standards which meet the numeracy requirements for NCEA Level 1

OR

2. Through doing all three numeracy unit standards 26623, 26626 and 26627

A list of the NCEA Level 1 achievement standards for Literacy and Numeracy is published on the NZQA website. As these credits can be gained through a range of subjects, check each course outline for further information.

For further information refer to the NZQA website: www.nzqa.govt.nz or contact the Assessment Manager.

HOW DO I GET NCEA QUALIFICATIONS?

When you have achieved 80 credits at Level 1, you'll qualify for NCEA Level 1, as long as ten of those credits show numeracy skills and ten other credits show literacy skills. These skills can be shown in a range of courses across the curriculum. Your course teachers will be able to tell you which standards qualify for numeracy and literacy skills.

NCEA Level 2 requires a minimum of 60 credits at Level 2 or above **and** 20 credits at any other level. Credits can be used for more than one qualification so some of your NCEA Level 1 credits can count towards NCEA Level 2. For NCEA Level 2 or 3 you will not need to achieve extra credits for literacy or numeracy skills, but you need to have Level 1 literacy and numeracy. You do not have to complete the Level 1 or 2 qualifications before starting on Level 2 or 3, but it is recommended.

NCEA Level 3 requires 60 credits at Level 3 or above plus 20 credits from any other level.

NCEA Level 1, 2 and 3 certificates can receive endorsement. Students will require 50 credits at Excellence to gain an NCEA endorsed with Excellence.

Students will require 50 credits at Merit and Excellence to gain an NCEA endorsed with Merit. Students who achieve 14 or more credits at Merit or Excellence in a course (subject) will receive a course endorsement.

We encourage students to set and work towards these goals.

Students could consider entering the New Zealand Scholarship in one or more subjects if they are experiencing high success in their Level 3 studies. Scholarship awards range from \$500 to \$10,000.

Scholarship is a monetary award to recognize top students. It does not attract credits nor contribute towards a qualification but the fact that a student has gained a Scholarship will appear on the Record of Learning. The scholarship examinations are additional to the external exams in November.

Scholarship will enable students to be assessed against challenging standards, and will be demanding for the most able students in each subject. Scholarship students will again be expected to demonstrate high-level critical thinking, abstraction and generalization, and to integrate, synthesise and apply knowledge, skills, understanding and ideas to complex situations.

NCEA Waimate High School subject courses will offer at least 15 credits. Standards will be tailored to meet the needs and ability of the students. Not all students will attempt all the credits offered.

Student Progress / Assessment Reviews

Waimate High School has procedures which ensure that you and your parents or caregivers are informed about the assessment of your work during the year. Opportunities are provided for discussions with teachers about progress and parents can also view student achievement information via the KAMAR parent portal. In particular circumstances, you or your parents may wish to contact the teacher in charge of a subject, the Learning Advisor, Your Pastoral

Manager, Deputy Principal or the Principal.

COURSE OF STUDY

Level 1

Course Selection

Students at Waimate High School will take a course working towards a qualification called the National Certificate in Educational Achievement (NCEA), Taumata Matauranga a Motu Kua Taea.

Science is highly recommended. In special cases an application can be made to the Principal to amend this requirement.

To complete an NCEA Level 1 certificate students must earn 80 credits including a minimum of 10 literacy and 10 numeracy credits. They gain credits by meeting standards in their chosen course areas. Some standards will be assessed by external exams, others will be assessed by internal assessment.

Course Completion

To receive a grade in a subject you must first satisfactorily meet all individual subject requirements.

Level 2

Students at Level 2 level usually study six course subjects. The courses will usually be at Level 2 but they may be at a lower or higher level. A course can be studied at one level only, except in special circumstances.

All full time students are encouraged to study a course in English. All students in Year 12 will discuss their course selections with the careers staff to ensure that they have met the standards for study at this level and their choices are appropriate for their future plans.

Course Completion

In order to progress into Level 2 courses you will need to have satisfactorily completed a course of study. To do this you must:-

- show a satisfactory attitude to work
- fulfill a reasonable homework level
- complete any assignments that are required
- meet necessary Level 2 course pre-requisites

Assessment Courses

Level 2 courses will be assessed by Achievement standards and / or some Unit standards. Most courses taught at Level 2 work towards qualifications registered on the National Qualification Framework. Achievement standards and/or Unit standards that are completed and achieved gain credits towards National Certificates. The most important is the National Certificate in Educational Achievement. To gain this qualification a student must gain 80 credits - at least 60 at Level 2 or above. Merits and Excellences at this level can be beneficial for students going onto Tertiary Education.

Level 3

Students wishing to return to school beyond Level 2 can choose between:

- full-time enrolment in Level 3
- part-time enrolment (not recommended, special cases only)

Students wishing to enrol as full-time students in Level 3 must:

- enrol for 21 hours of structured learning per week (i.e. 5 full subjects, or the equivalent if correspondence study is part of the programme.)
- meet the work requirements in each course for which they are enrolled.

A standard Level 3 course will involve 5 subjects and a study line.

Information for Students Planning to Move to Full Time University Study

Students intending to move to full-time university study are advised to take **five** Level 3 subjects

ENTRY TO HALLS OF RESIDENCE

Students apply in Term 3. They are advised of the result of their applications in late October. There is competition for places and decisions are based on:

- academic performance in Level 2 certificate supported by the school's assessment of work in Level 3. (Merits and Excellences will help you get into your choice of Hall).
- indications of students' sense of responsibility and of wise use of their leisure time. Parents should note that hall administrators are quite intolerant of alcohol-related concerns and request specific comments from schools in this area.

UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

NZQA is responsible for setting the University Entrance requirements. These are the minimum requirements that domestic students leaving school after Year 13 and who are not yet 20 must meet in order to study at degree level at a New Zealand University or some courses at Polytechnics.

- attain NCEA Level 3
- achieve 14 credits at Level 3 in each of two subjects from the list of approved subjects and at least 12 credits at level 3 in another subject. The list of approved subjects will consist of subjects derived from the *New Zealand Curriculum* with achievement standards at Level 3.
- Achieve UE numeracy – 10 credits at Level 1 and above from specific achievement standards, or three specific numeracy unit standards.
- Achieve UE literacy – 10 credits (five in reading and five in writing) at Level 2 and above from specific standards.

Note: Many Polytechnic courses require 12 Level 1 or above credits in both literacy and numeracy.

Universities also require a Guaranteed Entry Score (GES) of at least 150 points, as well as UE. To gain the GES, your best 80 credits from Level 3 (or above) UE approved subjects will be rated. However, you can only use a maximum of 24 credits from each subject. This means that any credits over 24 will not contribute to the GES. Your grades will be rated as follows:

Excellence = 4 points per credit, Merit = 3 points per credit, Achieved = 2 points per credit.

Note: you need to check the GES requirement for your intended university or degree, as it may be more than 150 points. For some courses, the GES can be 180 points, e.g. Medical Sciences.

Check out the requirements for entry to first year university courses you are hoping to take next year, to ensure that you are taking all the right courses this year.

You also need UE for degree courses at Polytechnics, so check it out as soon as possible.

For further information refer to the NZQA website: www.nzqa.govt.nz or contact the Assessment Manager.

Approved Subjects for University Entrance

Applicants to New Zealand universities require credits in approved subjects. Here is a list of the subjects. To check the field, sub field, domain and standards visit:

nzqa.govt.nz/qualifications-standards/awards/.../approved-subjects-for-university-entrance

Accounting	Agriculture & Horticulture
Biology	Business Studies
Calculus	Chemistry
Chinese	Classical Studies
Computing	Construction and Mechanical Technologies
Cook Islands Maori	Dance
Design (Practical Art)	Design and Visual Communication
Digital Technologies	Drama
Earth and Space Science	Economics
Education for Sustainability	English
French	Geography
German	Graphics
Health Education	History
History of Art	Home Economics
Indonesian	Japanese
Korean	Latin
Mathematics	Mathematics with Calculus
Statistics and Modelling	Media Studies
Music Studies	Painting (Practical Art)
Photography (Practical Art)	Physical Education
Physics	Printmaking (Practical Art)
Processing Technologies	Religious Studies
Samoan	Science
Sculpture (Practical Art)	Spanish
Social Studies	Statistics
Technology	Te Reo Māori
Te Reo Rangatira	