

Year 9 Course Information Booklet 2017



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INTRODUCTION

COMPULSORY SUBJECTS

Welcome to St Patrick's College as a Year 9 student in 2017. As new entrants to the College there are certain **compulsory subjects** which you are required to take. These are:

Religious Education	English	Mathematics	Technology
Science	Social Studies	Music	Physical Education
Art			

Study of these core subjects ensure students get the basic grounding required for their time in the academic system of the College and their future careers.

Note that although Technology is a compulsory subject, it is covered in the option lines. This means that boys only do it for six months and not in their core classes.

OPTION SUBJECTS

Students will select a further three options from the list below, which they will study as well as their core subjects. Each of these options will be studied as half year courses with students doing two options in each half of the year with Technology being one of the four subjects covered in the option lines.

Students are strongly encouraged to include a language as one of their three options.

The option subjects a student may choose are:

French	Economics & Business Studies	Graphics
History	Performance Music	Maori
Samoan		

Parents are welcome to contact the Assistant Rector if they require any assistance or advice about option choices.

Assistant Rector
Mr David Martin – david.martin@stpats.school.nz

EXTENSION LEARNING PROGRAMME

This programme is aimed at providing talented students with academic challenges and rewards for academic excellence. Each year one of the Year Nine and Ten classes is a streamed class. Able students in the non-streamed classes are also provided with challenges and extension through their core subjects. All students will be involved with integrated studies projects which help to provide for flexible learning opportunities.

BANDING FOR ENGLISH AND MATHEMATICS

The College is giving particular emphasis to literacy and numeracy in the junior school. For this reason students are banded for English and Mathematics. This means that instead of doing these subjects in their core classes they are 'banded' by ability levels to ensure that they are being taught at the most appropriate level. Students are assessed through the year and student placement in these bands reviewed according to the progress they have made. The banding also means more staffing in these subject areas as these groups are kept smaller, especially at the lower end to ensure that gaps in a student's essential skills are covered more thoroughly.

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

Students who are new to New Zealand, are not native speakers of English, and have been identified through entry testing as having reading, writing and comprehension difficulties will be given extra help through ESOL classes. A student taking ESOL will be timetabled to have only one option class each half year to enable them to have a full year of ESOL. If a student makes sufficient progress in the first half of the year they will have the opportunity to do another option subject.

LEARNING SUPPORT DEPARTMENT

The Learning Support Department is responsible for ensuring that students with moderate and high needs have their schooling needs met as best they can be within a mainstream schooling environment. If your son has special assessment requirements please contact Ms Duffy, the HOD of Learning Support, preferably before the start of the College year. Her email address is michelle.duffy@stpats.school.nz

VARIATION IN COURSES OFFERED IN THIS BOOKLET

While the College endeavours to provide the widest possible range of subjects to meet student needs courses may vary from those offered in this booklet. Some courses are subject to staff availability. Also if numbers opting for a course are very low, this may threaten the viability of running such a course.

It is important that students and parents reach a final decision on the courses that they wish to take in 2017 and **return their Course Selection Sheet to the College by Monday, 22nd August 2016.**

Included in this subject selection booklet is:

- An Option Choice Sheet – to complete and return
- Year 11 Prerequisites
- Option Subject Information
- Information on St Patrick's College Education Pathways
- A Curriculum Flow Chart.

It is a good idea to use the curriculum Flow Chart to map possible subject choices through to Year 13. It is also suggested that you review the entry criteria for NCEA Level 1 subjects. This information may assist in setting academic goals for your son.

COURSE SELECTION PROCEDURE

1. Students should discuss the option choices with parents.
2. Students should choose the subjects that will allow them to achieve their academic and career goals.
3. Complete the course selection sheet (or use the online KAMAR process if preferred).
4. Return the course selection sheet to the College by **Monday, 22nd August 2016.**

REQUIREMENTS FOR NCEA LEVEL 1 COURSES

The entry requirements for NCEA level 1 courses are as follows:

Accounting:	None but a good grade in Maths is preferred
Art:	Year 10 Option Art, or good level of achievement in Core Art
Chemistry:	None
Computer Studies:	None
Economics:	None
French:	Year 10 French
Geography:	None
Graphics:	Year 10 Graphics
History:	None
Maori:	Year 10 Maori, or satisfactory skill level as assessed by the Maori teacher
Music:	Year 10 Music or equivalent external music examination, theory and practical to Grade 2 level
Physical Education:	None
Physics:	None
Samoan:	Year 10 Samoan, or satisfactory skill level as assessed by the Samoan teacher
Technology:	Year 10 Technology

Year 9 Option Subjects:

Course Descriptions

BUSINESS STUDIES

Business Studies allows students to learn about communication and gain an understanding of economic, marketing and accounting concepts as they relate to small businesses. Students will receive practical experience at forming and running their own business on a small scale. The course also offers the student a hands-on approach to computers as a tool for preparing reports and researching information. The course continues through to Year 10 Economic and Business Studies, and Year 11, 12 and 13 Accounting and Economics.

DESIGN AND VISUAL COMMUNICATION (GRAPHICS)

This is an exciting subject that studies the various techniques available to us to communicate information in a graphic form. It covers two and three dimensional modelling, freehand drawing as well as pictorial and projection presentations. Practical design activities that encourage individual creativity are an important part of this course. This subject is alive, enjoyable and is extremely useful as it provides the student with experiences, skills, knowledge and attitudes which will enable him to clearly and precisely communicate designs and information - skills that can be used in other study areas. The course continues through to Year 13 NCEA Level 3.

Cost \$30.00: This is a contribution to the cost of all materials the student will use.

HISTORY

The Year 9 History option provides students with an overview of history, focusing mostly on Ancient Civilisations and the Middle Ages. It is also an excellent subject for developing literacy skills. The main topics covered are:

- Ancient Civilisations including Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece and Rome
- The Dark Ages including the Barbarians, the Vikings and Anglo-Saxons
- The Middle Ages including the Crusades, Feudal Society, the Black Plague, Knights and Castles

The course develops the important communication skills of reading, simple essay writing, arguing a point of view, and note taking. The course continues through to Year 13 NCEA Level 3.

FRENCH

From the beginning spoken French is introduced in a wide range of daily situations. The language is taught with emphasis on communication that is relevant to the student's own experience and interests. French cultural studies are a major focus of the course. We look at French language and culture in the world with a strong emphasis on the Pacific, where the indigenous culture and society are similar to Aotearoa - New Zealand. The course continues through to Year 13 NCEA Level 3.

MAORI

Year 9 Maori is a fun course incorporating the best of Te Reo Maori (spoken Maori) and tikanga (customs). Students are taught to read, write and speak Maori to a competent level. Maori language is brought into the 21st century with the best that information technology can produce. The course incorporates modern teaching methodologies, challenging schemes of work, video and computer-generated learning. This course continues through to Year 13 NCEA Level 3.

PERFORMANCE MUSIC

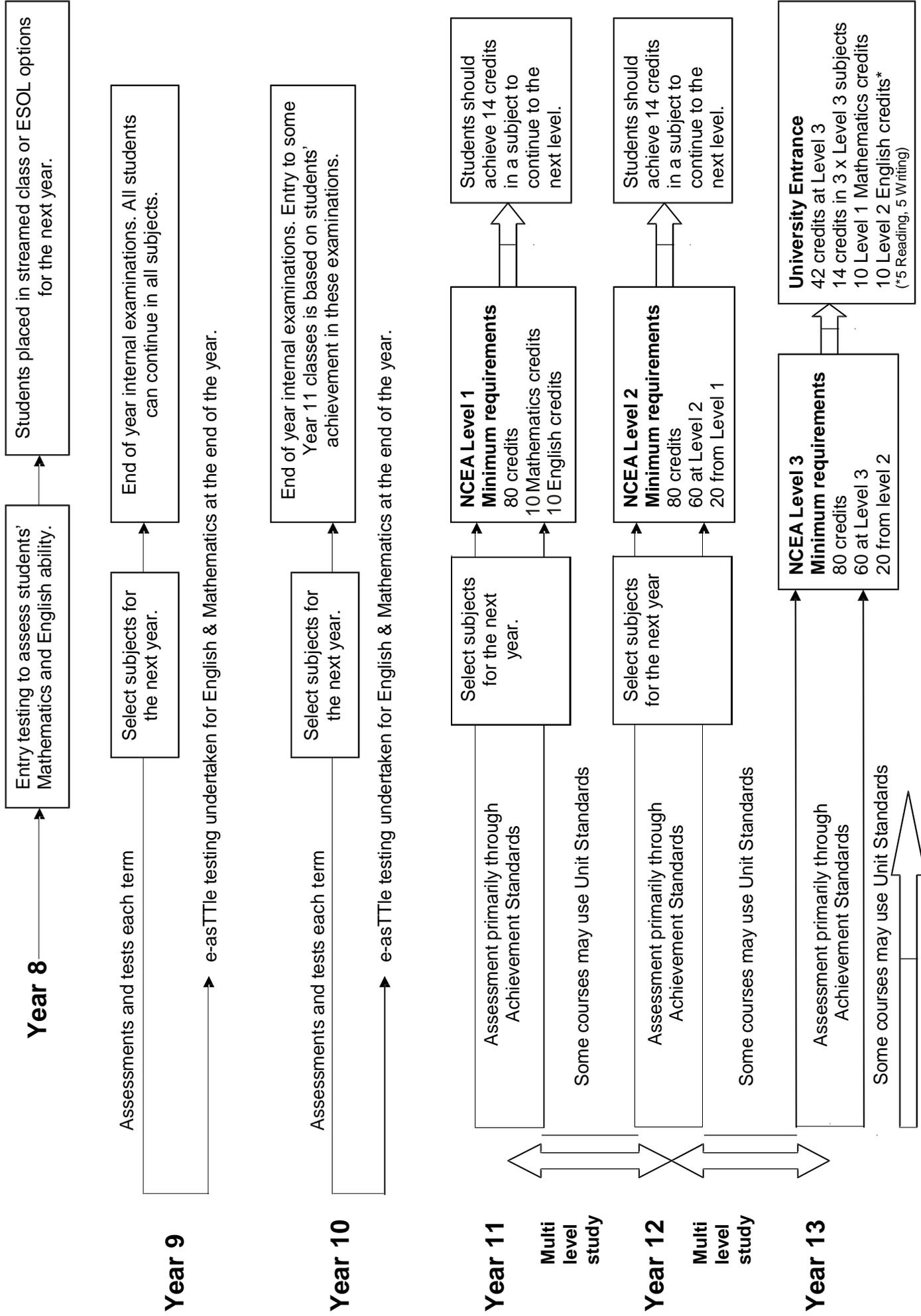
The Year 9 Performance Music course has been designed to enable students to reach their musical potential as performers and composers. The course also aims to stimulate and develop an appreciation and enjoyment of music for life. This is done through performing, composing, listening, analysis and research. Further to this, the course helps develop social skills through group co-operation, and assists in the development of confidence through performances in the College and in the community.

All students select an instrument to study and have lessons from either an itinerant music tutor at school or a private tutor outside of school hours (voice is an instrument).

SAMOAN

The Year 9 course introduces students to simple written and spoken Samoan. Students will develop communication skills in areas relevant to their own interests and experiences. For instance the topics of family, food, church and sport will be among the themes covered. Throughout the year a strong emphasis will be put on teaching vocabulary and sentence structure. A significant part of the course covers Samoan culture, including traditional family units, customs, legends, dance and music. Another aspect of the course is to look at Samoan history and geography.

EDUCATION PATHWAYS THROUGH ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE



Curriculum Flow Chart 2016

Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13
Religious Education (compulsory)				
English (compulsory)	English (compulsory)	*English 102 (compulsory)	*English 203 (compulsory)	English 304 English 303
		*English 101 (compulsory)	*English 202 (compulsory)	
			Drama 203	Drama 304
			Media Studies 203	Media Studies 304
				ESOL 300
ESOL	ESOL	ESOL 100	ESOL 200	
Mathematics (compulsory)	Mathematics (compulsory)	*Mathematics 102 (compulsory)	Mathematics 203	Mathematics with Calculus 304
		*Mathematics 101 (compulsory)	Mathematics 202	Statistics and Modelling 304
Science (compulsory)	Science (compulsory)	*Science 102 (compulsory)		
		*Science 101 (compulsory)		
			Biology 203	Biology 304
		Chemistry 102	Chemistry 203	Chemistry 304
		Physics 102	Physics 203	Physics 304
Social Studies (compulsory)	Social Studies (compulsory)	Geography 102	Geography 203	Geography 304
History	History Geography	History 102	History 203	History 304
			Classical Studies 203	Classical Studies 304
Physical Education (compulsory)	Physical Education (compulsory)	Physical Education 102	Physical Education 203	Physical Education 304
		*Physical Ed. 100 (compulsory)	Physical Education 202	Physical Education 303

Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13
			Outdoor Education 203	Outdoor Education 303 Outdoor Leadership
Business Studies	Economics and Business Studies	Economics 102	Economics 203	Economics 304
		Accounting 102	Accounting 203	Accounting 304
Graphics	Graphics	Graphics 102	Graphics 203	Graphics 304
Technology (compulsory)	Technology (compulsory)	Technology 102		
			Automotive 202	
			Building 202	
			Furniture 202	
Art (compulsory)	Art	Art 102	Practical Art 203	Art – Design 304 Art – Practical Art 304
French	French	French 102	French 203 (St Catherine’s College)	French 304 (St Catherine’s College)
Te Reo Maori	Te Reo Maori	Te Reo Maori 102	Te Reo Maori 203	Te Reo Maori 304
Samoan	Samoan	Samoan 102	Samoan 203	Samoan 304
		Computing 101	Computing 202	Computing 303
Performance Music	Performance Music	Music 102	Music 203	Music 304
Music (compulsory)				
			Transition & Hospitality 202	Transition & Hospitality 202 Gateway 202

St Patrick's College Wellington



YEAR 9 SUBJECT OPTIONS FOR 2017

Please indicate on this form your son's option preferences for 2017, and return to the College by Monday 22 August 2016.

Student's name: _____

In 2015 St Patrick's College introduced BYOD and all Year 9 students in 2017 will be required to have a Chromebook. Further details around when and where to purchase a Chromebook will be provided later in the year.

Please note:

- All students are encouraged to choose a language as one of their options. It is possible for students to choose more than one language.
- The study of a language *should* begin in Year 9 if students wish to continue with this in following years.
- The core subjects at Year 9 level are Art, English, Maths, Music, Physical Education, Religious Education, Science, Social Studies, and Technology.
- We offer an ESOL class for students dependent on entry test results and previous academic records.
- We also have a streamed class. Entry into this class is determined by entry test results and previous academic records.

Please choose **three options** from this list:

French

Economics and Business Studies

Graphics

History

Maori

Performance Music

Samoan

Option 1 _____

Option 2 _____

Option 3 _____

Course information can be obtained from the College website – www.stpats.school.nz and is detailed under the Academic drop down menu – Course Options – Junior . If you have any queries or problems in selecting your son's options, please ring 939-3070 ext 233 or email the Assistant Rector, Mr David Martin (david.martin@stpats.school.nz)

Please return this sheet to the College by Monday 22 August 2016.