



YEAR 9

2025 Course Outline

In Year 9 you will study a combination of compulsory and optional subjects.

Please note that a small number of identified students will be directed to select supplementary English or ESOL instead of choosing a language (Te Reo Māori or Japanese) if subject teachers indicate that they need to focus on strengthening their English in preparation for NCEA. You will be contacted directly if this applies to you.

Use this information booklet and discuss your selections carefully with your parents / caregivers. Along with this booklet, the option process letter explains how to make your choices on the Student Portal. If you are unsure and want further advice, see Mrs Curham -Year 8 Dean, Head of Departments (HOD's) or your subject teachers.

Compulsory Subjects

Religious Education

English

Mathematics and Statistics

Science

Junior Social Science

Physical Education and Health

Optional Subjects

Language (Choose a full year course of either)

Te Reo Māori MAO

Japanese JPN

At least 1 Technology (Two Terms i.e. One Semester of either)

Hard Technology THM

Textiles (Soft Materials) TSM

Food Technology TFM

DVC (Design and Visual Communication) DVC

Digital Technologies

At Least one Art subject

Drama DRA

Music MUS

Art ART

Important information:

2025 Year 9 subject costs

All Year 9 course charges and the cost of any enhancement resources are provided in each subject outline as estimates only. Confirmation of these will occur at the start of 2025. All course costs as outlined must be paid in full by 1 April 2025.

Take home workbooks where stated as an enhancement resource, will be available on-line through Office Max myschool from the beginning of December. The URL link for Sancta Maria College students is www.myschool.co.nz/sanctamariacollege

On-line learning enhancement platforms

Education Perfect Year 9 and 10 students

Your child will be able to access Education Perfect online learning as a trial until the end of March. This digital platform supports their learning and has many benefits:

- Students can access the resource from home
- Teachers can set regular homework which can be accessed from home or school and be monitored by caregivers
- Facilitates teachers being able to individualise learning programmes
- Consolidate and reinforce concepts covered in class
- Will develop student agency about managing schoolwork

They will have a full license to access all curriculum subjects including Religious Education, Maths, Science, English, Languages, Social Sciences, Health, Digital Technologies, ESOL.

This is highly recommended as a valuable educational enhancement platform. Teachers can use this to set personalised tasks for students that can accelerate and extend their learning at the appropriate level. This license, (cost to be confirmed) will be loaded onto your child's account unless we are notified otherwise.

Turnitin Year 9-13 students

Over 85% of our students will go on to university or tertiary study from Sancta Maria College. To ensure the best preparation for their academic writing the college will be using for Years 9-13 students an academic tool called Turnitin.

Sancta Maria College Year 9-13 students will have full access to the Turnitin Assignment tool for every assessment submission. Turnitin is a 'text-matching' software which is designed to educate students regarding appropriate citation and referencing techniques. Turnitin is also used to provide our College with confidence in the academic integrity of student work. Turnitin does this by comparing a student submission against an archive of Internet documents, Internet data, a repository of previously submitted papers, and subscription repository of periodicals, journals, and publications. Turnitin then creates an 'Originality Report' which can be viewed by both teachers and students, which identifies where the text within a student submission has matched another source.

It is important to note that Turnitin does not detect plagiarism. Turnitin will only match the text within a student's assignment to text located elsewhere (e.g. found on the Internet, within journals or on databases of student papers). Correct interpretation of these results by both teachers and students is essential for the successful use of Turnitin.

It also protects our students' original work from being used without citation by another person and serves as a learning tool to help instructors and students better identify and correct unintentional plagiarism. These skills are necessary at university and Turnitin is used at both Auckland University and AUT for all their student assessment submissions. This \$15 license will be loaded onto your child's account unless we are notified otherwise.

Year 9 Languages

All students will study either Te Reo Māori or Japanese in Year 9.

Students have been given a taster course in both Te Reo Māori and Japanese this year and will study the language they choose for five periods in every ten-day cycle for one year unless they would like to be considered for, or are directed to, the extra English language classes or ESOL classes by their teachers.

Extra English Language (9LAN)

This class caters to students who lack confidence and/or skill in reading comprehension and writing. Teachers will sometimes identify candidates for this English class based on the needs of their students. This class is vital and as such compulsory for identified students. It will give them a strong foundation for success, not only in NCEA English, but in all subjects as NCEA is very literacy rich.

ESOL

This class caters to students who are from a second language English background and have been identified as needing support in learning academic English. It is vital for identified students as it gives them a strong foundation for success, not only in NCEA English, but in all NCEA subjects. It is compulsory for identified candidates.

The following subjects are your Compulsory Subjects

Course name	Religious Education
Recommended study for	Year 10 Religious Education
Course enhancement costs	\$10 approx. Online digital resource
Materials cost	Retreat. Approx. cost \$15- \$20
Other costs	Field trips if and when they apply
Course description	<p>Religious Education is central to all that we do at Sancta Maria College. It is through Religious Education that we learn more about our faith.</p> <p>The year's study will begin with introductory mini topics on the Special Character and Values of Sancta Maria College. Students will experience a variety of prayer forms over the course of the year.</p> <p>There are four major topics covered in Year 9, one topic per term. The topics are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Trinity• Early Church.• Creation and Covenant• Gift of Belonging
Course leads to	Year 10 Religious Education
Course length	Full Year

Course name**English****Recommended study for**

Year 10 English

Course enhancement costs

Education Perfect TBC
Literacy Essentials Workbook \$15

Materials cost**Other costs**

\$25 – End of Year English Trip. Charged at time of event.

Course description

The Year 9 English programme covers a range of studies - plot, character, setting and style from a variety of literature and film studies, language, reading, oral and visual skills. Year 9 students experience a variety of project-based learning programmes from documentary making, to engaging writing projects that will challenge students of all levels and abilities. This course is designed to prepare students for Year 10 English.

Course leads to

Year 10 English

Course length

Full Year

Course name	Mathematics and Statistics
Recommended study for	Year 10 Mathematics and Statistics
Course enhancement costs	<p>Education Perfect TBC</p> <p>If a student is new to the school - \$17 for a Numeracy revision book to prepare for the new Numeracy qualification</p>
Materials cost	<p>Students are recommended to invest in a Graphic Calculator (approx. \$130), as this will be well used throughout their Senior Mathematics and Statistics courses. Alternatively, a Scientific Calculator (we recommend Casio FX8200AU \$70)</p>
Other costs	
Course description	<p>Year 9 students will study a generic course that gives them an understanding of concepts that are the basis for studying Mathematics through to Year 13. The course aims to give students the numeracy skills and conceptual knowledge required to use Mathematics in everyday situations. Key strands covered are Number (integers, fractions, decimals and percentages), Algebra and graphs, Geometry, and Probability.</p>
Course leads to	Year 10 Mathematics
Course length	Full Year

Course name	Science
Recommended study for	Year 10
Course enhancement costs	\$ 20 Take home workbook, Education Perfect TBC & Field trip advised at time of event.
Materials cost	
Other costs	
Course description	<p>Students will learn a lot about the world around them and also learn a lot of science skills that will help in future Science studies.</p> <p>During Year 9, students will complete a range of integrated topics incorporating a several areas of science including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The nature of science 2. The nature of matter 3. Life and the taiao 4. Life of plants and animals 5. Energy
Course leads to	Year 10 Science
Course length	Full Year

Course name	Junior Social Sciences
Recommended study for	Year 10 Junior Social Sciences
Course enhancement costs	Approximately \$50 for possible school trip
Materials cost	No specific costs for Junior Social Sciences materials. However, students should come to class with their own standard stationery supplies.
Other costs	None.
Course description	<p>Students in Year 9 Junior Social Sciences learn about the world around them and how they can participate as informed citizens in New Zealand society. From 2025 the new Aotearoa New Zealand histories curriculum has become compulsory. Topics will be drawn from the following, including rohe and local contexts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whakapapa me te whanaungatanga – Culture and identity • Tino rangatiratanga me te kāwanatanga – Government and organisation • Tūrangawaewae me te kaitiakitanga – Place and environment • Kōwhiringa ohaoha me te whai orange – Economic activity.
Course leads to	Year 10 Junior Social Sciences
Course length	Full Year

Course name	PE and Health
Recommended study for	Year 10
Course enhancement costs	Nil
Materials cost	
Other costs	Use of your device for learning
Course description	<p>In Year 9 Health, students will be covering a range of topics which will enhance their understanding of how their Hauora can be impacted, and learn to make positive health enhancing decisions. The main topics include: Alcohol, Coping with Change, Loss and Grief and Nutrition - Within these topics, students will gain an understanding on how to make health enhancing decisions that can impact themselves, others and wider NZ society.</p> <p>In Year 9 PE, will move through a range of practical activities, which encourage co-operation and inclusion, but also allows for personal growth. These activities include cooperative sport through a Sports Education Model, Fitness which includes learning about the components of fitness, Anatomy of the human body along with Biomechanics which will include Projectile Motion, Force Summation and Balance, along with a performance improvement programme in Badminton.</p>
Course leads to	NCEA PE
Course length	Full Year

Course name	Digital Technologies
Recommended study for	Year 10
Course enhancement costs	\$10.00
Materials cost	
Other costs	
Course description	<p>Students will continue to develop their understanding of Computational Thinking and Designing and Developing Digital Outcomes.</p> <p>Designing and Developing Digital Outcomes: They will use Photoshop to produce a visual Mihimihi and develop websites using HTML5 and CSS3.</p> <p>Computational Thinking: They will learn programming fundamentals and algorithms by develop their coding skills using Scratch and Python.</p> <p>Computer Science: They will learn about Binary and Data Representation.</p>
Course leads to	Year 10 Digital Technologies
Course length	Full Year

Course Name**Te Reo Māori****Recommended study for**

Year 10

Course enhancement costs

Education perfect TBC

Materials cost

Stationery – pens/highlighters/1B8 exercise book

Other costs

Field trips at the time of the event approximately \$50

Course description

Students will be able to understand te reo Māori that contains well-rehearsed sentence patterns and familiar vocabulary and can interact in predictable exchanges. They will learn to read and write straight forward versions of what they have learned to say. They will be aware of and understand some of the typical cultural conventions that operate in interpersonal communication. Students will be developing an awareness of the processes involved in learning te reo Māori.

Students will do this in contexts such as tōku whānau – my family, mihimihi – introducing myself, te akomanga – the classroom, Matariki, te marae, maramataka – calendar, te āhua o te rangi - weather

Alongside learning the language, students will develop knowledge and understanding around tikanga Māori and the revitalisation of te reo Māori within Aotearoa.

Course leads to

Year 10 Te Reo Māori

Course length

Full year

Course name**Japanese****Recommended study**

Year 10

Course enhancement

Write-in student Take home Workbook and audio(Approx. cost of \$30) from OfficeMax online

1-year on-line vocabulary and language studies subscription(Approximate cost of \$25)

Materials

Nil

Other

As opportunities arise during the year (activities such as Bunkasai Festival and Shared Obento/ Japanese theatre/ performance/ show / exhibition / Speech Competition / Japanese food tasting)

Course

Follow on from their Year 8 Course, Year 9 students will be involved in a comprehensive Introductory Course in Japanese. Students will learn how to express themselves in Japanese in everyday situations, such as introducing oneself and others, talking about family, pets and friends, discussing one's favourite hobbies, food or social events using social media platforms and digital tools in collaborative learning contexts. Students will also learn more about Japan, its people, culture, and customs through literature, media, information technology and people interaction. Students will have the opportunity to host visiting Japanese student groups during the year to put into practice their Japanese language skills. Students will be able to apply to go on Sancta Maria College Japan Cultural trip in their senior year of studies.

Course leads

NCEA Japanese

Course

Full Year

Year 9 Art Programme

All students will study at least one of the following three subjects:

Art

Music

Drama

Students will complete two terms of study in their two selected subjects. The time allocation given to these subjects is five periods in every ten-day cycle.

The school will try to ensure students are given their first choice, but this will depend on the numbers of students opting for different subjects.

Course name	Art
Recommended study for	Year 10
Course enhancement costs	\$10.00 take home component
Materials cost	Nil
Other costs	Nil
Course description	<p>Students will continue to develop skills in drawing, painting, printmaking and sculpture. They will create artwork that responds to both contemporary and traditional artists and themes. Students will be introduced to ways of working that support learning at senior level.</p>
Course leads to	Year 10 Art
Course length	Two Terms (One Semester)

Course name	Music
Recommended study for	Year 10
Course enhancement costs	(\$100 for the year and students will need to hire or have their own instrument).
Materials cost	Nil
Other costs	<p>Nil</p> <p>Music is a part of our everyday lives. It is an expression of emotion and a universal language that everyone understands. Year 9 Music will provide students with practical and creative experiences in a well-equipped and fun environment.</p> <p>Year 9 Music consists of 4 parts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance - Students will develop performance skills through singing, playing keyboards, ukulele, drums and guitars. • Composition - creating their own music, and their own song using MuseScore, LMMS & Garageband music software. • Theory and Listening - how to read, write and listen to musical elements. • Music History - Students will study the instruments of the orchestra and learn about NZ music. <p>All students studying music are expected to be learning an instrument or singing. Students may learn an instrument through the Itinerant Music Scheme – in 2025 the instruments offered are Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass, Bass Guitar, Trumpet, Trombone, Clarinet, Flute & Saxophone. Also offered through the school, but not as part of the itinerant scheme, are Piano and Guitar (additional charges apply).</p> <p>Students studying music are also expected to be involved in a co-curricular music group, such as the Senior Choir, Festival Orchestra, Concert Band, Big Band, Stage Band or Symphonia. They are also encouraged to become involved in some of the many musical competitions and activities, such as Rock Quest, Tangata Beats, The Big Sing, KBB Festival and Stand Up Stand Out</p>
Course description	
Course leads to	Year 10 Music
Course length	Two Terms (One Semester)

Course name	Drama
Recommended study for	Year 10
Course enhancement costs	Nil
Materials cost	Nil
Other costs	Nil
Course Description	<p>Drama has the capacity to move and challenge values, cultures and identities. Through participation in drama, students develop their capacities of expression and imagination and learn to focus on and use their senses. The process of making and presenting drama gives students opportunities to develop their self-confidence and skills in interpreting, researching, negotiating, problem solving and decision making</p> <p>This course includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvisation/Theatre sports – You will learn a series of theatresports games designed to help you think quickly, initiate and advance ideas, accept other peoples’ ideas and learn basic performance skills. • Role-play and character development – Through a series of exercises and activities you will learn to create and portray a range of convincing characters and sustain a role throughout a performance. • Drama techniques workshop (use of voice, body, movement and space) - In this workshop you will learn how the effective use of drama techniques help to show meaning in a performance. You will learn how to speak clearly and to project your voice on stage. • Performance Poetry – You will show the use of drama techniques in a performance of a given poem. • Perform an acting role – You will research a character in a given script, and will develop the characteristics that allow the audience to see the character and not you – use drama techniques to shape your character. • Drama journal work – You will complete a written journal on all the units covered in this course.
Course leads to	Year 10 Drama
Course length	Two Terms (One Semester)

Course name	Technology
Recommended study for	Year 10
Course Choices	<p>Technology - Textiles (two terms) Technology - Hard Materials (two terms) Technology - Foods (two terms) Technology - DVC Graphics (two terms)</p> <p>Students will be informed of costs at the start of each course.</p>
Course enhancement costs	
Materials cost	\$60.00 (each two terms) to cover the take home materials of the course
Other costs	Nil
Course Description	<p>Technology can be described as intervention by design. It has an impact on us all whether you are academic or practical. It is a useful subject if you choose to take a trade apprenticeship, chose a career in a technology- related industry, or even if you choose a university career path.</p> <p>Year 9 technology will provide students with practical and creative experiences, gaining skills while completing a range of activities and learning experiences.</p> <p>All Technology courses include:</p> <p>Technological practice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the stages that need to be followed in order to go from the problem to be solved to the solution. <p>Technological knowledge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> developing and learning new practical skills <p>Nature of Technology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> looking at how technology fits into society and the world around us
Course leads to	Year 10 Technology
Course length	Two Terms (One Semester)

