



YEAR 9

2027 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 Head of Departments (HOD's) or your subject teachers.

Compulsory Subjects

Religious Education RED

English ENG

Mathematics and Statistics MAT

Science SCI

Social Science SOS

Physical Education and Health PES

Optional Subjects

Language (Choose a full year course of either)

Te Reo Māori MAO

Japanese JPN

At Least one Arts subject

Drama DRA

Art ART

Music MUS

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

Digital Technology DTG

Hard Technology THM

Textiles (Soft Materials) TSM

Food Technology TFM

DVC (Design and Visual Communication) DVC

Important information:

2027 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 2027. All course costs as outlined must be paid in full by 1 April 2027.

Online learning enhancement platforms

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 an academic tool for Years 9-13 students 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's 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 \$16 license will be loaded onto your child's account unless we are notified otherwise.

The following subjects are your Compulsory Subjects:

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (9RED)

COURSE INFORMATION

Recommended study for: Year 10 Religious Education

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. The basis of study this year will be the “Our Faith - Tō Tātou Whakapono” programme set by the New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference.

The theme for this year’s study is ‘Tūhono - Connected’. God’s grace connects us with God, each other and the world. The course will begin with introductory 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.

Topics covered:

- Creation & Covenant
- Journeys of Freedom
- The Trinity
- The Gift of Belonging

SCHOOL BASED ASSESSMENTS

- Term 1 – Creation & Covenant- Sway Presentation
- Term 2 – Journeys of Freedom- Song Writing
- Term 3 – The Trinity- Video Presentation
- Term 4 – The Gift of Belonging- Written Exam

COURSE ENHANCEMENT COSTS

\$20 Retreat (college)

Stationery as per ‘Back to school’ lists (Officemax)

COURSE LENGTH

Full Year

COURSE LEADS TO:

Year 10 Religious Education

Teacher in charge of subject: Mr Tamayo

HoD in charge of subject: Mr Piggitt

ENGLISH (9ENG)

COURSE INFORMATION

Recommended study for: Year 10 English

The Year 9 English programme explores how characterisation, language and narrative structure construct ideas about identity, and how these choices position readers to consider the ways in which readers, writers and texts connect with one another to develop deeper understanding.

Students will engage with a range of literary and non-literary texts, developing their ability to respond creatively, personally and critically. Across the year, students strengthen their reading, writing, speaking and listening skills while building their knowledge and application of grammar, punctuation, vocabulary and language choices.

ASSESSMENT FOCUS

- Term 1 – Reading and Writing
- Term 2 – Text Studies
- Term 3 – Film and Oral language
- Term 4 – Critical literacy and writing

COURSE ENHANCEMENT COSTS

\$20.00 Literacy Essentials Workbook (OfficeMax)
Stationery as per 'Back to School' lists (Officemax)

COURSE LENGTH

Full Year

COURSE LEADS TO:

Year 10 English

Teacher in charge of subject: Ms Du-Blom

HoD in charge of subject: Ms Du-Blom

LITERACY ACCELERATION (9LIT)

COURSE INFORMATION

Recommended study for: Students who are identified as needing a literacy boost to prepare them for the CAA Reading and Writing assessments, usually completed in Year 10.

Literacy Acceleration (9LIT)

This class caters to students who lack confidence and/or skill in reading comprehension and writing, especially students who have literacy delays due to dyslexia / dyspraxia etc. Teachers will identify candidates for this English class, and placement will be by invitation. It is run during an option line and occurs as well as mainstream English. Use of Assistive Technology to support literacy will be integrated into learning tasks. Elements of structured literacy approaches will also be used. 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.

SCHOOL BASED ASSESSMENTS

- Term 1 to 4:
Ongoing language development tracking using a range of suitable tools. There are no formal assessments for this course, due to the nature and purpose of the class.

COURSE ENHANCEMENT COSTS

Stationery as per 'Back to School' lists (Officemax)

COURSE LENGTH

Full Year, usually instead of a language option. *Possible discharge at end of semester one depending on progress made.*

COURSE LEADS TO:

Possible invitation to attend 10LIT

Teacher in charge of subject: Mrs Havell

HoD in charge of subject: Mrs Havell

ENGLISH LANGUAGE (ENL)

COURSE INFORMATION

Recommended study for: Teacher directed

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.

SCHOOL BASED ASSESSMENTS

- Term 1 to 4:
Ongoing language development tracking using a range of suitable tools. There are no formal assessments for this course, due to the nature and purpose of the class.

COURSE ENHANCEMENT COSTS

\$x Education Perfect
 \$20.00 Literacy Essentials Workbook (OfficeMax) (same book as in English - do not purchase twice)
 \$20 DEE Publication Words Book (college)
 Stationery as per 'Back to School' lists (Officemax)
 \$TBC Field Trips (to be added to account at time of trip)

COURSE LENGTH

Full Year

COURSE LEADS TO:

Possible invitation to attend 10ENL

Teacher in charge of subject: Miss d'Annibale

MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS (9MAT)

COURSE INFORMATION

Recommended study for: Year 10 Mathematics & Statistics

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 include Number, Algebra and Graphs, Measurement, Geometry, Statistics and Probability.

SCHOOL BASED ASSESSMENTS

- Term 1: Two end of topic tests
- Term 2: Two end of topic tests
- Term 3: Two end of topic tests
- Term 4: End of Year Exam

COURSE ENHANCEMENT COSTS

Stationery as per 'Back to School' lists (Officemax)

Calculator - 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)

COURSE LENGTH

Full Year

COURSE LEADS TO:

Year 10 Mathematics

HoD in charge of subject: Ms O'Carroll

SCIENCE (9SCI)

COURSE INFORMATION

Recommended study for: Year 10 Science

Year 9 Science introduces students to increasingly abstract scientific ideas and helps them connect these ideas to everyday life and the environment.

Students will learn about:

- **Matter and chemical change:**
- **Motion and forces**
- **Earth systems**
- **Genetics and variation**
- **Transport in living organisms**
- **Ecosystems**

Throughout the course, students will carry out practical investigations, use scientific equipment safely, interpret graphs and data, construct and evaluate models, and examine the quality of scientific claims.

SCHOOL BASED ASSESSMENTS

Term 1: End of Topic Tests

Term 2: End of Topic Tests

Term 3: End of Topic Tests

Term 4: End of Topic Tests and End of Year Exam

COURSE ENHANCEMENT COSTS

- Stationery as per 'Back to School' lists (Officemax)
- \$TBC Field Trip (to be added to account at time of trip)

COURSE LENGTH

Full Year

COURSE LEADS TO: Year 10 Science

Teacher in charge of subject: Mr Williamson

HoD in charge of subject: Mr Williamson

SOCIAL SCIENCES (9SOS)

COURSE INFORMATION

Recommended study for: Year 10 Junior Social Sciences

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 2027, the new Social Sciences curriculum will be implemented.

Topics are drawn from the following strands:

- Civics and Society – Democracy process and international relations
- History – New Zealand history and global history
- Geography – Tourism and New Zealand Coasts
- Financial and Economic Activity – Financial systems, decision-making and managing money

SCHOOL BASED ASSESSMENTS

- Term 1 – Civics and Society: System of government topic test
- Term 2 – Financial and Economic Activity: Financial planning topic test
- Term 3 – History: Pacific histories assessment
- Term 4 – Geography: Coastal processes examination

COURSE ENHANCEMENT COSTS

Stationery as per 'Back to School' lists (Officemax)
\$100 for a possible Field Trip to Rangiriri

COURSE LENGTH

Full Year

COURSE LEADS TO:

Year 10 Junior Social Sciences

Teacher in charge of subject: Mr J Rimamate

HoD in charge of subject: Mr J Rimamate

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION (9PED)

COURSE INFORMATION

Recommended study for: Year 10

Students will be challenged in the areas of personal health and development, relationships, movement concepts, healthy communities and environments. The course will focus on developing personal performance and tactical awareness in invasion games and net and wall games. Students will also develop a personal exercise plan by monitoring physiological changes, and they will engage in outdoor education focusing on sustainable practices, tiakitanga (guardianship), and risk documentation.

Health topics covered over the year focus on adolescent change, building resilience, and navigating personal transitions. Students will explore health-enhancing decisions around nutrition, alcohol, and other drugs, with a strong emphasis on harm reduction and managing peer pressure. The course also covers bodily autonomy, understanding hormonal changes, and the legal age of consent, strategies for staying safe online, and critically examining how media influencers shape self-perception.

SCHOOL BASED ASSESSMENTS

- Term 1: Health - Navigating Adolescent Change, PE - Performance improvement in Invasion Games
- Term 2: Health - Substance Use and Harm Reduction, PE - Fitness Testing and Personal Exercise Plan
- Term 3: Health - Sexuality, Values, Consent Online Safety and Body Image, PE - Net and Wall Skills and Tactics
- Term 4: Health – Health – End of year exam, PE - Outdoor Education and Risk Management

COURSE ENHANCEMENT COSTS

Nil.

COURSE LENGTH

Full Year

COURSE LEADS TO:

NCEA PE

Teacher in charge of subject: Mr N James

HoD in charge of subject: Mr N James

Year 9 Languages - Compulsory

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.

TE REO MAORI (9MAO)

COURSE INFORMATION

Recommended study for: Year 10

Students will build confidence in understanding and communicating using te reo Māori through familiar sentence patterns and everyday vocabulary.

Learning will take place through engaging contexts such as Whanaungatanga (relationships) - building on from their Year 8 'Ko Wai Au?' (Who am I?) unit of work; Te Huarere (the weather), Matariki, Hauora (health and wellbeing), Te Wiki o te Reo Māori and Te Kīngitanga.

Alongside learning the language, students will explore tikanga Māori and deepen their understanding of te reo Māori revitalisation within Aotearoa and their role in supporting te reo Māori to flourish.

SCHOOL BASED ASSESSMENTS

- **Term 1:** Whanaungatanga – presentation sharing family connections
- **Term 2:** Te Huarere – presenting a weather report
- **Term 3:** Hauora – facilitating an active workshop promoting health and wellbeing
- **Term 4:** Te Kīngitanga – research project and presentation

COURSE ENHANCEMENT COSTS

Stationery as per 'Back to School' lists (Officemax)
\$50 Field Trips (to be confirmed at time of trip)

COURSE LENGTH

Full Year

COURSE LEADS TO:

Year 10 Te Reo Māori

Teacher in charge of subject: Mrs Hiddleston

HoD in charge of subject: Mrs Hiddleston

JAPANESE (9JPN)

COURSE INFORMATION

Recommended study for: Year 10

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.

SCHOOL BASED ASSESSMENTS

- Term 1 Hiragana, language expressions, simple language structures
- Term 2 Reading and Writing
- Term 3 Listening and Spoken presentation
- Term 4 Interaction and Narrative work presentation (original play/skit)

COURSE ENHANCEMENT COSTS

\$TBC Field Trips (to be added to account at time of trip)
\$30.00 - iitomo1 Student Activity Book (college)
Stationery as per 'Back to School' lists (Officemax)

COURSE LENGTH

Full Year

COURSE LEADS TO:

NCEA Japanese

Teacher in charge of subject: Mrs Kevern

HoD in charge of subject: Mrs Kevern

Year 9 Arts 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 four periods in every ten-day cycle.

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

Year 9 Technology Programme

All students will study at least one Technology

- Digital Technology DTG
- Hard Technology THM
- Textiles (Soft Materials) TSM
- Food Technology TFM
- DVC (Design and Visual Communication) DVC

Students will complete two terms of study in their selected subject.

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

ART (9ART)

COURSE INFORMATION

Recommended study for: Year 10

Students will develop the following skills which leads to Year 10 Art.

- **Drawing:** Using pencil to create realistic, observational drawing
- **Painting:** Using painting conventions such as flat colour and blending to create a finished painting
- **Printmaking:** Students will be introduced to woodcut printmaking, learning the process to create a finished print
- **Photography:** Students will have an opportunity to learn about photography conventions and complete their own set of photographs

Students will create artwork that responds to both contemporary and traditional artists and themes. Students will work within a theme but will have choice of their own subject matter and creative outcomes which allows agency and their own creativity to develop.

Students will be introduced to ways of working that support learning at senior level.

SCHOOL BASED ASSESSMENTS

Semester one and two assessments are the same

- Term 1 / 3 Drawing skills & Woodcut Printmaking
- Term 2 / 4 Painting & Photography

COURSE ENHANCEMENT COSTS

\$25 Take home component (college)

COURSE LENGTH

Two Terms (One Semester)

COURSE LEADS TO:

Year 10 Art

Teacher in charge of subject: Ms Simmons

HoD in charge of subject: Ms Simmons

MUSIC (9MUS)

COURSE INFORMATION

Recommended study for: Year 10 Music

Year 9 music students will develop the following skills which lead to Year 10 Music:

- **Performance:** Developing core instrumental skills (by singing, playing the guitar, ukulele, keyboard) as a soloist or in a group ensemble.)
- **Music Theory notation:** by learning how to read music or further develop their theory level.
- **Listening and Responding to Music:** by referring to the Elements of music through analysis and their Historical context.
- **Music Technology and Composition:** Creating digital music with music software.

All students studying music are encouraged to learn an instrument or sing through either the itinerant scheme or with private lessons.

In 2027 the instruments offered through the Itinerant Music Scheme are:

Voice (singing) , Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass, Bass Guitar, Trumpet, Trombone, Clarinet, Flute & Saxophone, Guitar and Drum Kit. There are limited spaces.

Students who study music and have itinerant music lessons are also expected to be involved in a co-curricular music group, such as the Choir, Concert Band, Big Band, Stage Band or Symphonia or Chamber Strings, or a Rock Band.

SCHOOL BASED ASSESSMENTS

- Term 1 or Term 3 Music Theory and Research and Performance Task
- Term 2 or Term 4 Solo /Group Performance and Music Technology Composition Task.

COURSE ENHANCEMENT COSTS

- \$25.00 ABRSM Discovering Music Theory Grade 1 (take home workbook, available at the cashier office) (college)
- \$20 Music Course Workbook (college)
- \$50 Membership for the year per ensemble group Choir, Orchestra, Concert Band, Big Band, Stage Band or Symphonic chamber strings. (maximum \$100)
- There are some orchestral instruments available for hire with an additional instrument hire cost (if required) See HOD Music for further details.

Stationery as per 'Back to school' lists (Officemax)

COURSE LENGTH Two Terms (**One Semester**)

COURSE LEADS TO: Year 10 Music

Teacher in charge of subject: Ms Shone

HoD in charge of subject: Ms Shone

DRAMA (9DRA)

COURSE INFORMATION

Recommended study for: Year 10

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

This course includes:

- Improvisation/Theatre sports – You will learn a series of theatre sports games designed to help you think quickly, initiate and advance ideas, accept other people's 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.
- 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.

SCHOOL BASED ASSESSMENTS

Semester Course – Assessments for semesters 1 and 2 are the same

Semester 1 and 2

- Theatre Sports
- Superhero (Genre work) Unit
- Māori Mythology
- Acting/Devising Unit

COURSE ENHANCEMENT COSTS

Stationery as per 'Back to school' lists (Officemax)

COURSE LENGTH

Two Terms (One Semester)

COURSE LEADS TO:

Year 10 Drama

Teacher in charge of subject: Ms Oliver

HoD in charge of subject: Ms Oliver

TECHNOLOGY

COURSE INFORMATION

Recommended study for: Year 10

Digital (two terms) Technology (9DTG)

Textiles (two terms) Technology (9TSM)

Hard Materials (two terms) Technology (9THM)

Foods (two terms) Technology (9FTM)

DVC Graphics (two terms) (9DVC)

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, choose a career in a technology- related industry, or even if you choose a university career path.

Year 9 technology will provide students with practical and creative experiences, gaining skills while completing a range of activities and learning experiences.

All Technology courses include:

Technological practice

- The stages that must be followed to solve a problem or issue that leads to a solution that is successful and fit for purpose.

Technological knowledge

- Developing and learning new knowledge skills through research, problem-solving and critical reflection.

Nature of Technology

- Investigating how technology fits into our community, society, and the world around us.

SCHOOL BASED ASSESSMENTS

- Term 1
- Term 2
- Term 3
- Term 4

COURSE ENHANCEMENT COSTS

\$80 Materials per semester (college) - includes take home products

Except Digital Technology - \$10 (college)

Stationery as per 'Back to School' lists (Officemax) for DVC

COURSE LENGTH

Two Terms (One Semester)

COURSE LEADS TO:

Year 10 Technology

Teacher in charge of subject: Mrs Rehu

HoD in charge of subject: Mrs Rehu

