

# YEAR 9 LEARNING AREAS

English - Health & Physical Education -  
Mathematics - Science - Social Sciences -  
- Technology - The Arts - Learning  
Languages

## Full Year Courses:

All Year 9 students study the following:

- ✓ English
- ✓ Health & Physical Education
- ✓ Mathematics
- ✓ Science
- ✓ Social Studies

## Semester (two terms) Courses:

All students study two more subjects from each of the following learning areas:

- ✓ Technology
- ✓ The Arts

All students study one language:

- ✓ Learning Languages

All students study another subject from any one of the following learning areas:

- ✓ Integrated Studies
- ✓ Learning Languages
- ✓ Social Sciences-Financial Capability
- ✓ Technology
- ✓ The Arts

All subjects are timetabled and are only taught if sufficient numbers of students wish to study them. Refer to the Year 9 subject choice form in the student enrolment document.

## FULL YEAR COURSES

### ENGLISH

English is all about communication and language, enjoying and studying oral, written and visual texts.

Students will become increasingly skilled speakers and listeners, readers and writers, presenters and viewers.

There are three thematic based modules and four Common tests throughout the year, and an end of year exam.

**CONTACT PERSON:** Mrs R Jamieson

### HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

This course provides a variety of learning experiences with emphasis on participation in a range of physical activities, including athletics, swimming, fitness, dance, gymnastics, hockey, wrestling, volleyball, adventure based learning, basketball, cricket, football and touch. Our Health programme seeks to prepare our students for their journey as teenagers with units on Me and My World, Drug Awareness, Sexuality/Puberty and Keeping Ourselves Safe. The 4 key strands from the health and physical education curriculum are explored in detail

and learning objectives from each strand are assessed.

**CONTACT PERSON:** Mr H Uivel/Miss S Hayman

### MATHEMATICS

This course consolidates, explores and develops content and processes from levels 3 and 4 of the New Zealand Curriculum. Content from Number & Algebra, Geometry & Measurement and Statistics strands is presented within a range of meaningful contexts.

The Mathematics classes are divided into two top classes, who follow a busy enrichment programme, Year 9 to Year 10 mixed ability classes and two smaller classes for those students who may need to learn at a slower pace. Students may be changed from one class to another during the year into a class offering a more suitable programme.

A semester based Junior Numeracy Programme is also offered to students who have bigger gap in their Mathematics education and students are invited to join the course by the HOF in consultation with the Numeracy Co-ordinator. Calculators are used and all students must purchase a Casio scientific calculator at the beginning of the year.

Students do end of topic assessments and a three hour exam. They are also offered international competitions to take part in. (Compulsory for the top classes)

**COURSE COST:** approx. \$25 for Education

Perfect and an extra \$20 for competitions

**CONTACT PERSON:** Mr S Achary or Mr D Hall

### SCIENCE

Learning in Science is fundamental to understanding the world in which we live and work. This course develops skills and attitudes through the broad learning contexts of the:

- Nature of Science
- Living World
- Physical World
- Planet Earth and Beyond
- Material World

Within these learning contexts students will study topics such as Introduction to Science, Food and Digestion, Matter, Astronomy, Mixing and Separating, Hydrology, Ecology, Botany, and Waves and Energy, as well as the opportunity to carry out a scientific investigation leading to submitting a Science Fair project.

In the study of these topics students will be given opportunities to develop their scientific skills and attitudes as well as being made aware of the nature of science and its relationship to technology.

**COURSE COSTS:** \$23 for a write-on format student workbook; \$8 for ICAS Science exam (optional)

**CONTACT PERSON:** Mr C Taylor

### SOCIAL SCIENCES

#### SOCIAL STUDIES

Social Studies is about how societies work and how people can participate as critical, active, informed, and responsible citizens. Contexts are drawn from the past, present, and future and from places within and beyond New Zealand. Students will use a range of important skills, such as communication, numeracy and problem-solving skills. They will also develop the ability to self-manage and work collaboratively with others. Year 9 students explore the idea of People and Power using concepts such as culture, government, and economic decision-making.

**CONTACT PERSON:** Mr J Khan & Mr R Cox

#### THE FOLLOWING ARE ALL SEMESTER COURSES (TWO TERMS)

### INTEGRATED STUDIES

#### CROSS CURRICULAR LITERACY (9CCL)

This course accelerates learning in key literacy skills that students will need across a range of subjects. Students focus on research, reading, writing and speaking skills that lead to success at NCEA Level One. Self-management skills are developed through project-based learning. Topics in this course are drawn from a range of curriculum areas and are relevant and chosen in conjunction with students.

Cross-curricular Literacy is for any students who want to focus on and develop the literacy skills they will need in their different subjects.

**CONTACT PERSON:** Mr I Crandell-Tanner

### LEARNING LANGUAGES

#### FOUNDATION ENGLISH (EF) - by invitation

This course is designed to meet the English language learning needs of students who are working at foundation and stage one levels of *The English Language Learning Progressions* (ELLP).

The aim of the course is to help students move, when they are ready, into a limited range of mainstream subjects. Topics have been chosen to aid this transition to mainstream subjects.

Students are provided with individualised programmes within the course framework to build on their strengths and support their English language learning needs across the four skills areas of reading, writing, listening and speaking. The EF Programme recognises the importance of learning high frequency vocabulary and regular time is spent on this. Subject specific teachers from Maths and Science also teach the students in the EF classroom.

**CONTACT PERSON:** Ms S Weiss

### ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNING (9ELL)

This English Language Learning option class is designed to meet the English language learning needs of a group of Year 9 students from a range of language and cultural backgrounds. Most of the students are also in mainstream subjects, including English. The students with lower language proficiency also receive English Language support in the school's English Foundation class.

The course is designed to ensure that the students develop familiarity with the topics, text and task types they will encounter in mainstream New Zealand classrooms. It also aims to improve the students' English listening, speaking, reading, writing and vocabulary levels.

It is anticipated that some students will move on to 10ELL at the end of the year whereas some will transition into mainstream English classrooms.

**CONTACT PERSON ESOL:** Ms S Weiss

### FRENCH, SPANISH, JAPANESE, MANDARIN CHINESE (9FRE, 9SPA, 9JAP, 9MAN)

These are all one semester courses and will meet the needs of beginners and those with some prior learning. The programmes all offer an introduction to the main communicative skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing, integrated with cultural knowledge. In Japanese and Chinese, students will also learn the Hiragana script and some basic Chinese Characters. The languages department is innovative in its use of e-learning, and students will be encouraged to make use of a variety of digital tools. Where students have substantial previous learning, the student should discuss the programme with the head of department.

Students who have significant prior knowledge may have an opportunity to accelerate.

**CONTACT PERSON FRENCH:** Mrs S Collett

**CONTACT PERSON JAPANESE:** Ms F Akiyama

**CONTACT PERSON MANDARIN CHINESE:** Ms C Howard-Shi

**CONTACT PERSON SPANISH:** Ms A Danzeisen

### TE REO MĀORI (9MĀO)

This one semester course offers an introduction to the main communicative skills of speaking, listening, writing and reading in Te Reo Māori. Students who have significant prior knowledge of Te Reo Māori (as in those from a kura kaupapa background) should discuss an alternative programme with the HOD Māori.

**CONTACT PERSON:** Matua Walker

## SOCIAL SCIENCES

### FINANCIAL CAPABILITY (9FIN)

This course aims to develop financially capable students who can operate in the real world. Basic economic concepts are introduced in the unit The Economic Problem. Earning an Income explores different sources of income. Managing your Money looks at how to prepare a simple personal budget and how to make your money work for you by saving or investing. Spending your Money Wisely evaluates

payment options and different places or ways to buy goods and services. Students learn practical life skills in addition to communication, numeracy, decision making, self-management, work and study skills.

**CONTACT PERSON:** Ms M McKnight

## TECHNOLOGY

### DESIGN & VISUAL COMMUNICATION (9DVC)

This course encourages individual thinking and creativity in design, and provides the foundation for learning in Design and Visual Communication.

The course aims to provide a variety of design and drawing experiences that are challenging, creative, useful, and enjoyable and that draw upon students' interests and cultural backgrounds. Students will further develop their knowledge of the principles and elements of design, and extend their ability to apply a design process to solve design problems.

Aspects of the course include:

- Presentation techniques, basic sketching techniques, colour rendering, basic principles of design, application of the design process, using design briefs and model making.

**COURSE COSTS:** \$10 subject fee for take home materials. Students are required to have their own pad of A3 plain white paper.

**CONTACT PERSON:** Miss S Oehley

### DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES ESSENTIALS (9DTE)

The aims of this course are to prepare students to be competent and efficient users of Digital Technologies. The course is made up of a range of units from the list below.

- Design a Year 9 page using bitmap images for the school magazine
- Experiment with augmented reality
- Develop a toy using 3D modelling software and a 3D printer
- Develop a simple game using Gamedesigner

The three key strands from the Technology curriculum are explored in detail and learning objectives from each strand are assessed.

**COURSE COSTS:** \$10 for printing  
**CONTACT PERSON:** Miss C Bourke

### ELECTRONICS (9ELT)

This introduction to electronics includes designing and building some basic projects. Students will learn about electronic components and how they can be useful. Skills will be developed in soldering and making printed circuit boards. A small charge will be attached to this course.

**CONTACT PERSON:** Mr M Giltiver

### FOOD TECHNOLOGY (9FNT)

The aims of this course are to develop knowledge and practical skills in the preparation, cooking and service of food. Students will think creatively and critically, make decisions, learn to work in a team and begin to understand the place of technology in our world today. The content of the course is focussed around practical work and includes working with recipes, food safety, eating for good health and the development of a snack food for a teenager.

**Course Costs:** \$40.00 (Covers all food and workbook)

**CONTACT PERSON:** Mrs S Paris

### MATERIALS TECHNOLOGY (WOOD - 9MTW and METAL - 9MTM)

This is a practical based course involving the planning, design and development of outcomes from a brief. There is an emphasis on designing outcomes that are suitable for intended use, as well as developing practical skills using a range of materials and equipment to complete a chosen outcome. Students will also learn various aspects of the technology curriculum which supports their classroom practice and helps develop a deeper understanding of technology in the modern world. Costs involved relate to materials used.

**COURSE COSTS:** \$20

**CONTACT PERSON:** Mr B McDonald

### MATERIALS TECHNOLOGY (FABRICS - 9MTF)

This is a practical based course involving fabric decoration, design folio work, craft and garment design and construction. Students use the technology process to complete two practical projects, and develop skills in using a range of materials and equipment, particularly the sewing machine.

**CONTACT PERSON:** Miss A Wells

## THE ARTS

### ART (9ART)

This course is designed for students to develop new practical art skills and build confidence in their artistic abilities. Students are given the opportunity to explore their creativity through the use of different media and art techniques. This is a practical course with some written artist model research.

**COST:** \$15

**CONTACT PERSON:** Mrs R Hickman-Elder

### DRAMA (9DRA)

This course offers a range of skill based activities leading from improvisation to production drama. Students have the opportunity to develop confidence in speaking, moving and in theatre craft. This is a practical course with some written evaluation of group and individual performance.

**COST:** Performance \$5.

**CONTACT PERSON:** Mrs S Binks

### MUSIC (9MUS)

This course aims to develop performance skills and musical confidence while establishing students' understanding of basic musical concepts through musical knowledge, learning to read music and digital music production. Students are given the opportunity for musical exploration and creativity through composition and music technology. Students are taught to use online music production programs and produce their own compositions and songs. Of the three periods of music a week, one is for practical music and learning to play in a band. Students will have the opportunity to learn

an instrument and develop their musical ability.

CONTACT PERSON: Mr M Cook

## THE FOLLOWING TWO COURSES ARE BY INVITATION AND WILL RUN IN SEMESTER TWO

### JEEP Junior Enrichment & Extension Programme – by invitation

#### Rationale

Hillcrest High School's Junior Enrichment and Extension Programme (JEEP) is offered in Year 9 and Year 10. JEEP's goal is to offer our junior gifted & talented students opportunities to enrich and deepen their thinking and learning through inquiry driven classroom activities and EOTC experiences such as trips to the international film festival, live performance, exhibitions, tours of thought-provoking places and physical challenges. Students who take JEEP go on to excel in a range of areas, from sport, to academic subjects, music and the arts, cultural activities and many other extra-curricular activities. The majority of our senior student leaders at Hillcrest began their path to leadership in JEEP.

9JEEP runs in Semester 2 each year, allowing our new Year 9 students Semester 1 to settle into the routines of High School. 10JEEP is a year-long course building upon and extending the foundations laid in 9JEEP.

Note: It is possible to apply for 10JEEP, without having done 9JEEP.

#### Selection Procedures

The selection process is rigorous for JEEP and includes a collation of the following information:

1. Assessing data available from contributing schools as well as our current AsTTle & PAT data;
2. Self-referral from students;
3. Teacher recommendation including discussions with Deans, form teachers and subject teachers;
4. Also for Year 9 JEEP, assessment from observations made on our two-day retreat in early Term 2 at Hamilton Gardens Pavilion. Here we run various activities to challenge and stimulate you. These range from group projects, team building exercises, to quizzes and creative thinking tasks.

#### Framework

JEEP's course is designed around the Autonomous Learner model (Betts, 1985) to meet the cognitive, emotional and social needs of gifted and talented students. By developing student's autonomy for lifelong learning, JEEP fosters a growing of their awareness of the world around us through inquiry-based learning and reflection, debate and discussion. Students are encouraged to master concepts by presenting seminars to their peers, completing individual and group research projects and creating action plans for positive change within our community.

Contacts: Ms Mary Raleigh & Ms Jodie Terry

### YEAR 9 JUNIOR SPORTS DEVELOPMENT – by invitation

Students applying for this half year programme will go through a rigorous selection process during term 2 before being accepted into the group. Selection will be based on sporting ability, potential and effort in both sport and Physical Education. The selected group will participate in a timetabled option course in term 3 and 4, where class will be held 3 times a week. This course will prepare the students for the Year 10 programme and will cover fitness testing & training, skill development, goal setting, keeping training logs and nutrition in sport.

There will be some trips during school time and students will need to catch up on work missed.

Following this program, students can then apply to be a part of the Year 10 programme.

CONTACT PERSON: Mr G Hay