

Year 9 Curriculum

Teachers are strongly committed to assisting students to achieve success in their learning. They are knowledgeable and enthusiastic about their subject areas. Examples of good practice in classrooms are evident where teachers set good routines, have high expectations for students, and plan and implement strategies to engage them in the learning process. ERO Review of RBHS, 2008

Core Programme Streaming

On the enrolment form parents have the opportunity to ask for their son to be entered in the Bilingual programme. They also have the chance to indicate if they feel that their son should be entered on our Gifted and Talented register in a particular field. Once we have received enrolments forms we contact the contributing schools to get the data they have on student achievement and our Year 9 Dean discusses each student with their Year 8 teacher. We have found that this means that we get a fuller picture of achievement, rather than have students sit a placement test, which is one dimensional and can give false results. Using the data schools provide we place the students into classes based on their academic ability, with a group of hard working students selected for the diligence class. Class placements are reviewed termly, with students moved up or down to ensure that their programme best meets their needs. Students study English, Leadership, Mathematics, Physical Education and Health, Science and Social Studies in these core classes. The top accelerate class also study Chinese.

"Overall, single-sex schools provide students with a greater number of successful role models of their own sex. Greater opportunities for leadership, the ability to raise their self-esteem, and more importantly, the ability to feel good about themselves....Single-sex schools have fewer problems of discipline and control."
Anne Marie Tickner, "A Study of Attitudes in an All Boys School" 1992

Short Courses

In addition to their core subjects all Year 9 students will also take short courses in the various Art, Performing Arts and Technology subjects. These short courses are designed to give students a taster of what each of these subjects covers to aid them in making good choices later. Students are also given the option to study Chinese or Maori.

Parental Expectations

To ensure that parents are fully aware of the requirements for each programme we will ask in 2010 that parents sign an agreement detailing their part in working towards their son's success. A draft form of one of these contracts is given at the back of this booklet.

Accelerate and Curriculum Enrichment (ACE) Programme

Our ACE programme is the longest running and most comprehensive accelerate programme in the city. There are two classes in each of Year 9 and Year 10 and they study ahead of the rest of the year (Acceleration) and are

In 2009 all students from accelerate programmes at intermediate school were guaranteed places in the ACE stream. In 2010 this guarantee will be extended to students in the RIS Digital classes.

offered opportunities to develop higher level thinking skills (Curriculum Enrichment). The top 35 students in each year are offered the opportunity to go on the ACE learning retreats, with Year 9 going on a Science based trip and Year 10 going on a Social Sciences based trip to Wellington.

Bilingual Class

Parents can ask for their son to be considered for the bilingual class on enrolment. All boys who select this option take part in a three day selection camp, including a marae stay. Selection is based firstly in ability in Te Reo Maori, and then on academic criteria. The Bilingual class study Te Reo Maori for 4 hours a week and take the Level 1 examinations in this subject in Year 10.

Diligence and Mainstream Programme

After the Accelerate classes have been chosen a group of students for whom consistent effort is the key to achievement is chosen to form the diligence class. The teachers of this class use this attribute to ensure that students are given the type of work they require. The Mainstream classes are streamed on academic grounds. In 2010 we are planning to develop a special programme for the lower Mainstream classes, where they will have two teachers for their core programme, one teaching an integrated English/ Social Studies/ ASDAN programme and the other an integrated Mathematics/ Science programme, with PE, short courses, leadership and options being taught by specialists. We believe that this will provide the structure and support these boys need to develop their literacy and numeracy skills, making them better prepared for NCEA and more competitive in the work environment after they leave school.

An Example Timetable for a Year 9 Student

Each day is divided in to 5 periods, each 1 hour in length, plus house group, which is 15 minutes long and first thing in the morning. The school day starts at 8:40am and finishes at 3:00pm.

This student is in the first House Group in Drake (9DA) and in the top Accelerate Class (9A1)

9DA	Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
HG	8:40 – 8:55	House group	House group	House group	House group	House group
1	8:55 – 9:55	Art	Social Studies	PE	Chinese	Maths
2	9:55 – 10:55	Maths	Graphics	Science	English	Chinese
INTERVAL 10:55 - 11:20						
3	11:20 – 12:20	English	Maths	Music	Science	English
4	12:20 – 1:20	Science	English	Maths	Art	Social Studies
LUNCH 1:20 – 2:00						
5	2:00 – 3:00	Social Studies	Science	Leadership	PE	Graphics

Well-considered curriculum design ensures that flexible and innovative use is made of NCEA achievement and unit standards, and Industry Training Organisation (ITO) courses, to prepare students for future employment, ERO Review of RBHS, 2008

Year 10

The Year 10 programme is similar to Year 9 in that students spend the majority of their time with their streamed core class. Core classes remain together for English, Leadership, Mathematics, PE and Health, Science and Social Studies (Te Reo Maori for the bilingual class), with 10A1 studying Chinese as well. Students then choose two further courses to study through the year from these options:

Art	Automotive	Business
Chinese	Food and Nutrition	Graphics
Information Management	Maori	Maori Carving
Maori Performing Arts	Music	Technology

Throughout Year 10 students undertake a thorough careers education programme to aid them in their choice of subjects for Year 11.

Year 11

In Year 11 students start to take more responsibility for the direction of their education.

Year 11 Accelerate Programme

The top Science students in Year 10 are placed into the senior accelerate classes for Year 11. These students study English Mathematics and two Science subjects as a group plus two other subjects of their choice. They are given the opportunity to test their abilities against the rest of the world through the Cambridge IGCSE Examinations in English and Maths and study several standards at Level 2. Students in the senior accelerate programme are set high standards for academic achievement and work completion and their places are constantly under review. These students are limited to the Achievement Standard pathway (shown in italics below) for their other two courses and aim to achieve the Level 1 Certificate endorsed with Merit or Excellence.

Normal Year 11 Programme

English and Mathematics remain compulsory in Year 11, but students may choose three more subjects from a wide range of options (Achievement Standard pathway shown in italics):

Accounting	Art	Automotive
Chinese	Digital Technologies	Economics
Food and Nutrition	Furniture and Timber Trades	History
Geography	Graphics	Maori Carving
Maori Performing Arts	Music	Physical Education
Accelerate Science	Science	Te Reo Maori
Technology		

Year 12

In Year 12 only English is compulsory for most students. Most students choose 4 option subjects to study alongside their English course, although a student may choose to study Mathematics and two Sciences together with two other subjects. This programme is designed to allow those considering a Science or Engineering pathway to maintain the breadth in their study. Accelerate students follow the Cambridge AS syllabi in Mathematics and English. Options include:

Accounting	Art	Automotive
Biology	Building and Timber Trades	Business/Management
Chemistry	Chinese	Commerce
Digital Technologies (Business)	Digital Technologies (programming)	Economics
Food and Hospitality	Food and Nutrition	Forestry
Geography	Graphics	History
Maori Carving	Maori Performing Arts	Mathematics Accelerate
Mathematics	Music	Physical Education
Physics	Science	Statistics
Te Reo Maori	Te Reo Rangatira	Technology
Tourism		

Year 13

In Year 13 students have a free choice of options, with no compulsory subjects. Students in the senior accelerate programme do not have a restricted choice, but are expected to sit scholarship examinations in at least two subjects. Where possible, timetabled scholarship classes will be set up in English, Mathematics with Calculus and Statistics and Modelling.

Options Include:

Accounting	Art	Automotive
Biology	Business/ Management	Building and Timber Trades
Chemistry	Chinese	Digital Technologies (Business)
Digital Technologies (programming)	Economics	English
English Accelerate	Food and Hospitality	Food and Nutrition
Forestry	Geography	Graphics
History	Maori Carving	Maori Performing Arts
Mathematics	Maths with Calculus	Music
Physical Education	Physics	Sports Academy
Statistics and Modelling	Te Reo Maori	Te Reo Rangatira
Technology	Tourism	