



2020

Nelson College for Girls
Year 9 Subject Handbook





NELSON COLLEGE FOR GIRLS

Te Kura Tamawāhine o Whakatū

Dear Parents, Caregivers, Whānau and Students,

As you consider the choice of secondary education available in Nelson, we are delighted to be able to show you, through this Subject Information Booklet, the options that are available at Nelson College for Girls. You will see that we place a very strong emphasis on the core curriculum of English, Mathematics, Science and Social Sciences as well as Health and Physical Education. There are also a wide range of option subjects available to you in Year 9 as 'tasters'. These include subjects in the Arts, Languages, Technology, as well as a number of other areas.

In Year 9 it is important that you take as much opportunity as possible to understand and develop your personal interests. Knowing what you enjoy and the things that you succeed in is very important as you progress into Year 10 and then on to NCEA Levels 1, 2 and 3. You will be far more successful when you choose the subjects that interest you and that lead to a career pathway that will be exciting for you.

Your kaiārahi, your pūtoi dean and the senior staff are all available to offer you advice and support.

The choice of your secondary school is an extremely important one. At Nelson College for Girls we offer not only a wide curriculum but a number of many exciting, co-curricular opportunities in Sport and in the Arts. I hope that you will find this booklet informative and that you will enjoy our Orientation Evening.

We look forward to meeting with you.

Cathy Ewing, Principal

TIMELINE FOR 2020 YEAR 9 ENROLMENTS

Prospectus available	24 June 2019
Experience NCG	Friday 26 July 2019 9.15am - Nelson Intermediate 12.30pm - Other Schools
Open Evening	Wednesday 31 August 2019 Tours begin at 7.00pm
Enrolments close	23 August 2019

LATE ENROLMENTS ACCEPTED DURING TERM 3

Acknowledgement letters sent out to families	Early September 2019
Welcome to NCG Day	15 November 2019
Personal family interviews	November 2019

If you require any further information or guidance please contact Sheridan Mackenzie, our 2020 Transition Dean, or Cathy Ewing, Principal at:

Phone:	(03) 548 3104	Email:	admin@ncg.school.nz	Website:	www.ncg.school.nz
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Art

Art is a subject that encourages students to develop their thinking skills while applying their creativity in a range of Art activities that will include drawing as well as projects in painting, printmaking, design or sculpture.

Students are encouraged to respond to a brief in ways that allow them to reflect their personal interest, culture and creative nature. They are assisted in developing skills as well as understanding the kinds of decision-making and contextual thinking that is fundamental in the Visual Arts. This course allows students to work and learn across levels 4-6 of the New Zealand Visual Arts Curriculum.

Future Pathways: Art is a subject that becomes more specialist as students progress through school. By Year 13 there are five Art subjects as well as Art History.

Beyond school there are many training opportunities in Universities and Technical institutions and creative thinkers, designers, illustrators and photographers are currently being sought to feed the expanding visual/digital environment.

Extra Costs: The cost for materials in Year 9 Art is \$25.00.



Consumer Studies

This course emphasises financial literacy and managing personal finances. It aims to help students understand why and how we make economic decisions. Students will look at issues such as how to make informed choices, spending and saving, borrowing, budgeting, insurance and setting financial goals. This subject leads on to the other commerce related subjects offered including Economics, Accounting, Enterprise / Business and Legal Studies.

Future Pathways: This subject may lead onto careers including Banking, Financial Planning, Accountancy, Insurance, Hotel Management, Accounts and Payroll, Project Management, Human Resources, Policy Analysis, Court/Legal work, Advertising, Market Research, Mortgage Broking, Sharebroking, Farm Management, Owner-operated businesses, Importing, Exporting, Statistics or Valuation.

Extra Costs: The cost for Year 9 Consumer Studies is \$10.00.

Digital Technologies

Students taking this subject will be encouraged to develop problem solving and communication skills using a range of digital applications. Skills include digital illustration, interactive multimedia design and robotics programming. This course will build computer confidence and help develop an understanding of how technology impacts the way people work and live in the 21st Century.

Future Pathways: Digital Technologies courses run at each year level. Senior Digital Technologies is assessed by NCEA Achievement Standards. Beyond school this subject prepares students for further study and careers in digital media, animation, web design, game development, software engineering and a range of other fields relating to technology. It also provides skills to support other future pathways that employ the use of technology such as science, commerce and marketing.

Extra Costs: No extra costs.

Drama

Drama is an exciting half year course for anyone – whether they have previous experience or not. We explore theatre sports, improvisation, characters, script analysis, acting techniques and drama creation in a fun and innovative way.

Along with performance skills, students also develop devising skills, working in groups to create and perform original theatre pieces. During the production process students will have the opportunity to learn foundation skills in lighting and sound.

While Drama is mainly a practical subject, the course also features written evaluation, research and design.

Future Pathways: Studying drama can lead to a number of diverse pathways from working in the film and theatre industry to law and community leader roles. Studying drama gives students the chance to work and build relationships in many different environments.

Extra Costs: \$30.00 for theatre trips and workshops.

English

English language is fundamental to all learning, both now and in the future. The English programme is a dynamic and challenging course encouraging positive and active participation. It builds critical thinking and confidence in all areas of communication. Students study, use and enjoy language and literature communicated orally, visually and in writing.

Future Pathways: English is the basis for effective communication both orally and in writing. It is necessary for all other subjects in school and is important for many tertiary courses.

Extra Costs: No extra costs.

Food & Biotechnology

This course aims to increase students understanding of how various technologies are used to design and make a range of food products. In Food Technology, students will follow the design brief process. They will be involved in developing a food product from the initial concept stage through to the development of a final product. In Biotechnology, students will research the processes involved in the production of foods using biotechnology principles.

Future Pathways: This subject assists students to become familiar with career choices in the food industry such as food product developer, sensory analyst, food technologist, and biotechnologist.

Extra Costs: \$50.00 to cover food costs associated with practical work.

Food & Nutrition

This course aims to provide students with opportunities to gain the nutritional knowledge and practical skills required to understand and implement healthy food choices. The course also focuses on encouraging students to think critically about the impacts of everyday food choices on personal and societal health and wellbeing. The course is divided into a series of topics. In each topic there is a variety of practical cooking activities as well as a range of written tasks and projects.

Future Pathways: This subject prepares students for possible careers associated with food and nutrition as well as those in the wider field of health and wellbeing.

Extra Costs: \$60.00 to cover food costs associated with practical work.

French

In French, students will develop their communicative and receptive skills. By the end of the course, they will be able to have brief spoken interactions, write simple texts, follow basic spoken French and read short stories. Students will learn how to express likes and dislikes, facts about themselves and other people. Project work about France and French life will encourage students to reflect on cultural differences. The French programme supports and encourages active participation, promotes independent learning and the responsible use of technology.

If you have studied French at Year 9, you are able to continue with the language at Year 10.

Future Pathways: French can be studied through to Year 13. French can lead onto many careers, locally and internationally, including Diplomatic service, Tourism, Interpreting, Translating, teaching careers, etc.

Extra Costs: No extra costs.

Graphic Design & Visual Communication (DVC)

Graphics at Year 9 is an introductory course that seeks to communicate design ideas through drawing and modelling. This subject endeavours to further develop the natural creative talents of students by developing freehand and instrumental skills that express and communicate ideas. A variety of presentation and illustrative techniques are used including computer applications and methods using a variety of media.

Future Pathways: This subject leads towards careers such as Architecture, Engineering, Fashion Design, Product Design, Landscape Architecture.

Extra Costs: The cost for Year 9 Graphic Design and Visual Communication is \$10.00.



Health Education

The Year 9 Health Education programme, combined with the Year 10 programme, has the aim of developing the knowledge and skills necessary to make safe and informed decisions about health issues, both now and in the future.

At Year 9 this includes developing competencies for mental wellness and resilience through gaining a greater understanding of the issues surrounding self worth. Students will learn and practise the skills required to enhance relationships and reduce conflict. They will learn strategies to keep themselves safe in risk situations, including those involving alcohol and abuse.

Lessons are usually interactive and students are encouraged to share opinions and perceptions. Students use an in-house workbook which is purchased at the start of the year.

The following themes are included in the programme at Year 9: Communication Skills, Mental Health Matters, including bullying and online safety, Alcohol and Body Image.

Future Pathways: Health can be pursued right through to Level 3 NCEA and beyond as a university subject.

Extra Costs: The in-house workbook costs \$10.00. While not compulsory, it is used extensively throughout the year.

Japanese

Students develop basic language skills so they can introduce themselves and others, produce and respond to simple questions and requests and exchange personal information in Japanese. During the course, students learn to read and write Hiragana script, and some Katakana and Kanji. We also learn about life in Japan, and traditional and contemporary culture. Reading, writing, speaking and listening skills are all developed throughout the course.

Future Pathways: Japanese can be studied through to Year 13 and at University. Japanese can lead onto many careers, locally and internationally, including Diplomatic service, Tourism, Interpreting, Translating, teaching careers, etc.

Extra Costs: \$3.00 for Workbook (compulsory) and \$5.00 for a Japanese food making experience.



Te Reo Māori

Students in this course will develop basic language skills and a knowledge of tikanga. They will learn to use Te Reo Māori to speak about themselves, their families and their school. Reading, writing and listening skills will also be developed.

Future Pathways: Te Reo Māori can be studied through to Year 13 and beyond, and is useful in many jobs and careers, he tino taonga te reo.

Extra Costs: No extra costs.

Mathematics

The aim in Year 9 Mathematics classes is to continue the development of numeracy skills and the ability to reason logically, to enable students to apply Mathematics to everyday life, and to appreciate the significance of mathematical ideas. It is important to us that students experience Mathematics as being interesting, rewarding and stimulating. Content coverage will include: Number, Geometry, Probability, Measurement and Algebra.

Future Pathways: Mathematics prepares students for the problem solving requirements of their chosen vocation such as careers in Engineering, Medicine & Nursing, Teaching, Quantity Surveying, Computer Science, Programming, Policy Design, Finance & Accounting, Science & Technology.

Extra Costs: Students are encouraged to purchase the homework resource book at approximately \$30.00.

Materials Technology – Multi

This course gives students the opportunity to develop basic design and practical skills through the use of a variety of materials such as wood, metal, plastic, glass and cardboard. Students are guided through the design process in order to solve given issues. They work both independently and in groups to produce high-quality outcomes, learning the importance of accuracy, safety and time management. Students use a variety of materials to make quality take-home products.

Future Pathways: As it is a university approved subject, Materials Technology - Multi can lead onto design and all aspects of technology related careers.

Extra Costs: There are costs which cover materials to be used in class. No further purchase required.

Material Technology - Textiles

This course gives students the opportunity to develop basic design and practical skills through the use of textiles (fabric). Students are guided through the design process in order to solve given issues. They work both independently and in groups to produce high-quality outcomes, learning the importance of accuracy, safety and time management. Students use a variety of materials to make quality take-home products.

Future Pathways: As it is a university approved subject, Materials Technology - Textiles can lead onto design, fashion and all aspects of technology related careers.

Extra Costs: There is a small course cost which covers incidentals in the classroom. There are two small projects that fabric will need to be purchased for.



Music

Music in a modern learning environment is focused on gaining skills in performing, composing and understanding sound. The well-rounded musician is able to show ability in all of these, and our Year 9 course is designed to help build confidence in these essential skills. By the end of the course students will have gained experience in performing in front of others, writing their own music and recording this on the music software available. Students will be encouraged to join the Itinerant music programme in order to receive subsidised tuition on an instrument of their choice. All students will have the exciting opportunity of learning to play the keyboard in class.

Future Pathways: Tertiary studies. Careers in music performance, audio engineering, tutoring and teaching

Extra Costs: \$10.00 for materials used during the course. Itinerant music lessons are available to all students, though there is a significant reduction in these costs for any student taking classroom music as a subject. Itinerant lessons have a termly cost.

Outdoor Education

This course enables students to experience a wide range of outdoor pursuits including Kayaking, Mountain biking, Rock climbing, Abseiling, Orienteering, Sailing, Snorkelling and Tramping. Through the medium of the outdoors students gain confidence, self esteem, trust, initiative, cooperation and team-work. Safety, trip planning and an appreciation of our natural environments will also be our focus.

Each week we will have two classroom based lessons learning about the theory behind each activity which will then be applied in a 2 hour practical. The practicals are fun and often very challenging. These practicals will require an attendance commitment of a timetabled hour plus a lunchtime once a week (or the last period of the day running through till 4.30pm after school, depending on the school timetable).

A short overnight tramp will take place in our local Nelson hills. An adventure day will be run involving a full day journey amongst beautiful scenery and wildlife, usually around the coastline of northern Nelson.

Future Pathways: This course leads to Year 10 Outdoor Education (half year) and two senior full year NCEA level courses. Careers in education, the adventure industry and tourism are possible pathways through pursuing Outdoor Education.

Extra Costs: A course cost contribution of \$180.00 will help with transport, sailing, climbing, the tramp, adventure day and the use of our well maintained mountain bikes. This course has a minimum clothing requirement of thermal top and bottom and cross-trainers.

Physical Education

Physical Education presents students with a unique learning environment, which offers students a chance to learn motor and social skills, both essential for a productive and healthy lifestyle. Through Physical Education students learn:

- to understand and appreciate the body and its physical potential;
- to gain social and personal satisfaction by participating in a range of sporting and recreational activities; with a view to life-long participation;
- to be sensitive to and tolerant of the differing ability of others;
- to enjoy satisfying competition while discouraging the 'win at all costs' attitude;
- to foster co-operation, fair play and good sporting behaviour;
- to develop social responsibility.

Students also have the opportunity to extend their interest in physical activity by participating in the many sports teams and activities run outside the school curriculum. Physical Education is available as a specialist subject in the senior school. Students will have the opportunity to participate in a wide range of activities and sports in these practical courses. Through these activities students will learn new skills as well as learning about themselves, about teams and about the role of sport in the wider community.

Future Pathways: PE leads to a number of potential careers in the sports, recreation and health sectors.

Extra Costs: \$10.00 for Year 9 subject resource.

Science

Science involves finding out about and understanding about the world in which we live. As part of our exciting Year 9 course, students will explore science knowledge and issues in a variety of everyday contexts. With an emphasis on experimentation and inquiry-based learning, students will develop skills in observation, testing, recording, interpreting and researching, all in well-equipped specialised labs. Content is taken from the New Zealand Science Curriculum but is designed to respond to the interests and aspirations of our students. Topics covered in Year 9 include; an Introduction to Science, Heat, Waves, Chemistry, Astronomy, and Plants.

Future Pathways: Year 10 Science (extension Level 1 NCEA class) / Four Year 11 Science courses / Senior Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Earth and Space Science. A student of science is a critical thinker and a creative problem solver. In an ever changing and competitive job market, such skills are proving invaluable.

Extra Costs: \$25.00 for a Science workbook.

Social Studies

Social Studies is the study of people and society in different times and places. In Te Reo Māori it is known as Tikanga ā Iwi, 'the way of the people'. The focus for Year 9 Social Studies is on identity and diversity with the key question of 'Who am I?' Unuhia te rito o te harakeke, kei hea te kōmako e kō? Ui mai ki ahau, 'He aha te mea nui o te Ao?' Māku e kī atu, 'He tangata, he tangata, he tangata.' If you remove the central shoot of the flaxbush, where will the bellbird find rest? If you were to ask me, 'What is the most important thing in the world?' I would reply, 'It is people, it is people, it is people.' The contexts studied will be decided on by each class. Current Events will be an important part of Social Studies. There will be many opportunities for student interest and choice.

Future Pathways: This course leads to Year 10 Social Studies, several half-year Year 10 options and senior NCEA level courses including Accounting, Economics, Geography, History, Media Studies and Classics. Studying Social Sciences can lead to a large number of employment opportunities all that involve working with people.

Extra Costs: There may be some small costs to cover local field trips - most are under \$10.00.

LEARNING PROGRAMMES

EXTENSION • LITERACY SUPPORT

Gifted & Talented Education

Nelson College for Girls aims to identify gifted and talented students through testing and teacher, parent, self and peer nomination. The Gifted and Talented coordinator then mentors their learning and offers internal and external enrichment and encouragement throughout the year. There are one or two (depending on need) extension classes at Year 9 and Year 10. Teachers throughout the College aim to present a differentiated curriculum to meet student needs.

Learning Support

Nelson College for Girls has a strong belief and commitment in creating an environment that values and is inclusive of the needs of all students in our school.

Students with special education needs or learning difficulties have their specific learning needs addressed through modified programmes that run inclusively in their core and option classes.

It is the responsibility of the school's Special Education Needs Coordinator (SENCO) to provide targeted support for identified students, and to also support Deans, Teachers and Teacher Aides to ensure learning needs are met in an effective, inclusive and meaningful way.

Extra support is provided in a variety of ways including, teacher aid assistance; individual learning programmes; adapted timetables and specialised literacy and numeracy resources. This also includes identifying and supporting students who require special assessment conditions for internal and external NCEA assessments.

Students are identified as requiring extra support using information from a range of sources, including students' whānau, their previous schools, their kaiārahi, and subject teachers, their Dean, outside agency information and recent assessment data.

This information is collated on the NCG KAMAR system. This information is used by the SENCO and Pastoral Team to ensure the learning and pastoral needs of all focus students are being addressed in some way. This register is updated regularly so student needs, and student progress can be effectively tracked, monitored and where necessary programmes adapted and individualised.

Where specialist support from outside agencies is necessary, referrals are made via the SENCO.

The school is trialing SPEC education from Term 3, 2019 with a small group of Year 9 students. It is our goal to then roll out SPEC education for junior students in 2020. This provides an alternative pathway for education that gets recorded on the NZQA framework.

Bronte House is a two storey villa on the school boundary. It was donated by Judith Lenart to the school as a venue for Intergrated Learning.

At Bronte House we take a holistic approach to learning where the students well-being is paramount.

We use the Te Whare Tapa Wha model to scaffold the girls who are learning with us.



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