



RODNEY COLLEGE

Educating learners today for a better tomorrow

YEAR 9 SUBJECT INFORMATION

2022

All students take English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Physical Education & Health for the whole year. They also study 4 half year options.

Academic Counselling is a class that happens once a week. Students get to discuss their achievements, future subject choices and pathways. PST (parent, student, teacher interviews) are an important part of this process. All students will also learn the tikanga/protocols of the wharenuī, classrooms and school through powhiri, kapahaka and korero.

COMPULSORY SUBJECTS

Year 9 English

English is part of the compulsory programme. This course focuses on the development of students' oral, written and visual language. Students study a range of texts such as novels, poetry and film based on an exciting array of themes; such as 'Overcoming Challenges' and 'Creating a Better World'. They take part in oral and visual presentations, such as debates and producing posters, and they write in a range of styles. The programme will include standardised reading and writing testing (asTTle) as well as 6 topics that contribute toward the Junior Certificate of Educational Achievement.

Equipment: Laptop or Chromebook

Topic name	Assessment Dates	Selected for JCEA
asTTle Persuasive Writing Pre Test	Term 1	No
asTTle Reading Pre Test	Term 1	No
Reading	Term 1	Yes
Visual	Term 2	Yes
Oral	Term 2	Yes
Writing	Term 3	Yes
asTTle Persuasive Writing Post Test	Term 3	No
asTTle Reading Post Test	Term 3	No
Response to Text Essay	Term 4 – Exam	Yes
Close Reading of Unfamiliar Texts	Term 4 – Exam	Yes

Year 9 Mathematics

Mathematics and Statistics is a part of the compulsory programme. Content is grouped into curriculum levels in number, algebra, statistics, geometry and measurement to form a two-year programme for the junior school, which allows individual students to work at their own level. Students work at their existing level of mathematical competence and are challenged to develop the skills required for success at the next level. The minimum goal in Year 9 is to be achieving at a level 4 proficiently. There are two key competencies that are particularly important for mathematics; to be effective thinkers, and to be able to communicate ones thinking with accuracy and precision.

Topic name	Assessment Dates	Selected for JCEA
Number (asTTle)	February	No
Measurement and Number	Term 1	Yes
2A Statistics Univariate	Term 1	Yes
Topic 2B Statistics Time Series	Term 2	Yes
Topic 3 Algebra and Number	Term 2	Yes
Topic 4 Probability and Number	Term 3	Yes
Topic 5 Geometry	Term 3	Yes
Number (asTTle)	August	No
End of Year Exam	Term 4	Yes

Year 9 Physical Education & Health

Physical Education and Health is a compulsory subject that runs as the fourth period of a student's two option classes. Students will learn and develop strategies to enhance the wellbeing of themselves, others and society. Specifically, in Physical Education students will learn in, through and about movement through a range of sporting and exercise contexts and situations. In Health, students will learn the skills and knowledge to make safe and sensible decisions to do with the topics of nutrition, alcohol and sexuality. The course runs for the entire year and assessments are at Curriculum Level 4. Equipment: Active wear for all practical lessons. Pens or pencils for theory lessons

Topic name	Assessment Dates	Selected for JCEA
Skill Development	Term 1 & 2	Yes
Social Responsibility	Term 1	Yes
Relationships	Term 2	Yes
Components of Fitness	Term 3 & 4	No
Alcohol	Term 3	Yes
Cooperative Learning	Term 4	No

Year 9 Science

Science is a foundation course designed to give students an understanding of concepts needed for further study in science and to develop science literacy, numeracy and writing; research skills and investigative skills. Key Competencies and Science Capabilities are developed through the Nature of Science with incorporation of Maturanga Maori, which flows through all topics. Assessments are at Curriculum Level 3, 4 & 5 giving all students a chance to achieve or excel. Class workbooks are at 3 levels as well, letting students work at a level they can understand and be successful at. Following the first assessment in Term 1, the class chooses the topic sequence by class vote.

Topic name	Assessment Dates	Selected for JCEA
Nutrition	Mid Term 1	Yes
Respiration	End Term 1	Yes
Cells and Microscope	End Term 1	Yes
Mechanics	Term 2	Yes
Earth and Space Cycles	Term 3	Yes
Matter, Mixing and Separating	Term 4	No

Year 9 Social Science

Social Studies is the study of people: how we work together, make decisions, respond to challenges and interact with the natural environment. Students will explore a range of current and historical issues, while developing a range of writing and interpretative skills.

Topic name	Assessment Dates	Selected for JCEA
Introductory Social Studies skills	Term 1	No
Who Are We? Assignment	Term 1	Yes
Our Savage Earth Assignment	Term 2	Yes
Who Are We? Test	Term 2	Yes
Pasifika / Tourism Test	Term 3	Yes
Skills Test	Term 4	Yes
Power to the People Test	Term 4	Yes

OPTION SUBJECTS

Year 9 Design & Visual Communication (DVC)

This one semester (two terms) course introduces the creative world of design. Students develop their knowledge and drawing skills, building up an understanding of design language and drawing techniques which are applied to problem solving design issues. It is fun and a key focus is freehand drawing, rendering and the presentation of work. No prior experience is required as all skills are taught during the course. The course carries through to Year 13 and provides an excellent basis for tertiary study in most subjects.

Topic name	Assessment Dates	Selected for JCEA
Freehand drawing	Term 1/3	Yes
Spatial Design & Perspective	Term 1/3	Yes
Design Process	Term 2/4	Yes

Year 9 Digital Technology

This course focuses on introducing digital technology in an ever-increasing digital world. Students will develop and explore various digital media, building problem solving skills delivered in digital units. No prior experience is required as all skills are taught during this course. Students will be assessed by JCEA which mirrors NCEA Achievement Standards, the course carries through to NCEA Level 3.

Topic name	Assessment Dates	Selected for JCEA
Digital Skills	Terms 1/3	Yes
Digital Knowledge	Terms 1/3	Yes
Digital AO	Terms 2/4	Yes

Year 9 Drama

Drama is a creative programme and runs for one semester (2 Terms) at assessment Level 4. Students are introduced to the Elements and Conventions of drama and will learn to develop acting techniques. They will learn such skills as basic mime, improvisation and role play. They will also devise and perform a short, improvised scene using elements, conventions and techniques. They will develop a character in a short play and investigate and perform a scene from a theatre form – melodrama. Drama helps develop confidence and the opportunity to step beyond the comfort zone. Also cooperation, participation and through working in a small group, as well as the performance skills. It can also enhance memory, literacy, creative skills and imagination.
Equipment: 1 x 20 page clearfile

Topic name	Assessment Dates	Selected for JCEA
Devise and improvise a show scene	Term 1	Yes
Performing in a short play – creating a role	Term 1	Yes
Performing a melodrama	Term 2	Yes
Exploring world theatre	Term 2	No

Year 9 Engineering Technology

Year 9 Engineering Technology is all about learning and improving knowledge and skills in engineering. The course introduces the use of machines, hand tools, machining and basic welding, which enables students to produce a range of engineering projects. The course also covers workshop safety and the basics of drafting for engineering and 3D drawing. This course leads on from Year 7 and 8 manual classes but requires no prior experience.

Course contribution: \$40 Equipment: Pencils 2H to HB and eraser

Topic name	Assessment Dates	Selected for JCEA
The function and aesthetics of products	Terms 1/3	Yes
Sheet metal tool tray	Terms 1/3	Yes
Every day carry tool	Terms 2/4	Yes

Year 9 Food Technology

Food Technology covers the basics of the technology curriculum, so they are able to prepare dishes independently. A primary focus is on nutrition for teenagers, choosing food wisely and meal planning. The core components are safety, hygiene and the use of equipment. The key competencies underpin all learning activities along with the RESPECT Code. Covered shoes and hair ties (for long hair) are compulsory for health and safety.

Course contribution: \$80 Equipment: ruler, glue stick, sealed container to take food home, hair ties

Topic name	Assessment Dates	Selected for JCEA
Fast, Clean and Safe	Terms 1/3	Yes
Nutrition for teenagers	Terms 1/4	Yes
Independent Study – Implement basic procedures to make products	Terms 2/3	Yes

Year 9 Materials & Technology (wood based)

This is a one semester (two terms) course where students will make set projects which require some individual design and problem solving capability associated with mainly wood related materials. Although not compulsory, it is an advantage to have satisfactorily completed this course before selecting a technology course in Year 10.

Course contribution: \$50 Equipment: 1 x A4 20 pocket

Topic name	Assessment Dates	Selected for JCEA
Workshop safety and responsibility	Term 1/3	Yes
Knowledge and understanding when using resistant materials	Term 1/3	Yes
Applied use of tools, materials, processes and techniques	Term 2/4	Yes

Year 9 Maori

Students will be introduced to the four strands in the Te Reo Maori Curriculum; these include panui (reading), tuhituhi (writing), korero (talking), whakarongo (listening). The course has a lot of fun activities to prepare students for Year 10 Maori. There will be lots of group work with the expectation of raising confidence in the four strands. Students will start with learning to identify simple instructions, asking and responding to simple questions, karakia, waiata with a major focus on Maori traditions and learning Te Reo Maori.

Equipment: 1 x 2B5 exercise book, coloured pencils, highlighter (optional)

Topic name	Assessment Dates	Selected for JCEA
Tikanga Maori	Term 1/3	Yes
Purakau (legends associated with marae carving)	Term 2/4	Yes
Ringawera (roles on the marae)	Term 2/4	Yes

Year 9 Music

Music is part of the option programme in Year 9. The course runs for one semester (two terms) and assessments are at Curriculum Level 4. Students will explore a wide range of topics. The course is designed to allow students the chance to develop skills on the recorder, guitar and keyboard. They learn about the elements of music and the development of film music and popular music, as well as developing knowledge of basic music theory concepts. Students intending to study Music beyond Year 9 are encouraged to be learning an instrument (including voice), either through the Group Itinerant Music Scheme at school or privately. Please see HoD Music to discuss further.

Equipment: 1 x 1B5 exercise book, 1 x document wallet

Topic name	Assessment Dates	Selected for JCEA
Elements of music and film music study	Term 1	Yes
Instrumental skills - recorder, keyboard and guitar	Term 1/2	Yes
Music theory	Term 2	No
History of popular music study	Term 2	Yes

Year 9 Spanish

Year 9 Spanish introduces four topics that contribute toward Junior Certificate of Educational Achievement (JCEA). The course runs for one semester in Year 9 and assessments are at curriculum Levels 1-2. This programme is made up of three internal assessment tasks. The four topics give students the opportunity to learn basic words and phrases in Spanish and communicate about themselves and their immediate environment. The topics are: Introducing Myself; School; Family and Pets; Describing Myself and Others.

Topic name	Assessment Dates	Selected for JCEA
Cultural project	Term 1/3	No
Understanding Spoken Spanish - Listening	Term 1/3	Yes
Understanding Written Spanish - Reading	Term 1/3	Yes
Speaking in Spanish	Term 2/4	Yes
Writing in Spanish	Term 2/4	No

Year 9 Sport

Year 9 Sport has a heavy emphasis on practical participation;] however some theory will be involved to enrich student learning. Topics covered are based on Active Participation, Adventure Based Learning & Team Building and Exercise and the Body. These will be completed through a combination of demonstrations, as well as student/peer/teacher judgements. As with Year 9 Physical Education & Health, assessments are at Curriculum Level 4. Course contribution: None Equipment: Active wear for all practical lessons, sports shoes are recommended but optional. Pens or pencils for theory lessons

Topic name	Assessment Dates	Selected for JCEA
Active Participation	By Semester end	Yes
Adventure Based Learning and Team Building	By Semester end	No
Exercise and the body	By Semester end	Yes
Leadership	By Semester end	Yes

Year 9 Textiles & Design Technology

In this course we will explore contemporary and traditional use of fibres and textiles. You will learn the fundamentals of Mahi Raranga (flax weaving), textile product design and construction. If you are a “maker” with an interest in the design process who wants to learn skills and practical, textile related, techniques you can apply creatively to your own projects; you will enjoy this course which can be carried through to NCEA Technology Level 3.

Course contribution: \$50 Equipment: A4 Visual diary, glue stick, coloured pencils or felt tip pens.

Topic name	Assessment Dates	Selected for JCEA
Mahi Raranga (NZ Flax Weaving)	Term 1/3	Yes
Skills & Knowledge: Textile related techniques	Term 1/3	Yes
Design & Construction: Products with purpose	Term 2/4	Yes

Year 9 Visual Arts

This is a one semester (two terms) course covering a variety of different projects based on improving observational drawing techniques and skills. This is in preparation, and is recommended, for Year 10 Art which leads to NCEA level 1 and carries through to Level 3, and entry into the creative arts at tertiary level.

Course contribution: \$20 take home materials Equipment: 2 x 2B pencils, 1 x A3 drawing envelope
All materials will be provided by the Art Department through the course contribution

Topic name	Assessment Dates	Selected for JCEA
Observational Drawing	Term 1/3	Yes
Printmaking	Term 1/3	Yes
Sculpture	Term 2/4	No
Painting	Term 2/4	Yes

(Subject to change)