



**HAMILTON BOYS'  
HIGH SCHOOL**

*Te Kura Tamatāne o Kirikiriroa*

**2024**

**Academic  
Curriculum  
Guide**

**Year 9**

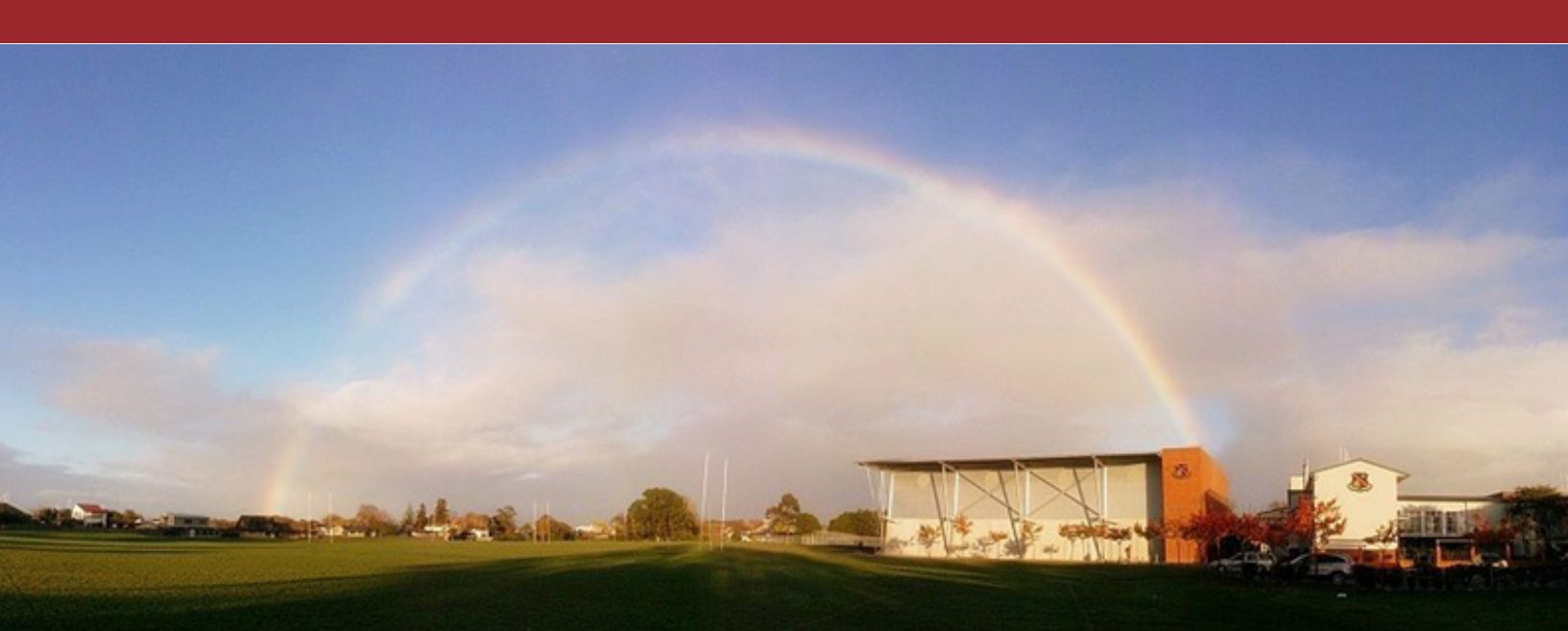
Welcome to Hamilton Boys' High School as a Year 9 student in 2024. One of your first decisions is to choose options from a variety of subjects. This booklet explains what each course covers and should be read BEFORE you select your Year 9 options. The last three pages explain how to make your selections online.

# *Curriculum Guide Contents*

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<i>Information</i>	<i>Page No</i>
Hamilton Boys' High School	1
Curriculum Overview	2
Academic Curriculum	3
Subject Information	4
Online Course Selection using Google Forms	7
Frequently Asked Questions about Online Course Selection	8

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# *Hamilton Boys' High School*



**“Hamilton Boys’ High School will provide the best academic education for boys in an environment which promotes achievement, personal excellence and a sense of pride in the best traditions of the school. Students will leave Hamilton Boys’ High School successful, confident, positive and enthusiastic in their readiness to make a valuable contribution to society and to fully realise their own potential.”**

Mrs Susan Hassall MA (Hons), Headmaster

Hamilton Boys’ High School has a clear commitment amongst its academic staff on the need for effective single-sex education for boys. As a consequence, the school is actively developing a range of leading-edge learning programmes for boys and young men and offers a wide range of academic and co-curricular activities and opportunities. We ensure that all school activities are conducted in a well-structured environment which supports and extends each boy’s abilities.

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## ***Academic Focus***

Hamilton Boys’ High School will deliver a quality, balanced academic curriculum which aims at excellence, through the maintenance of high standards of delivery and an emphasis on encouraging all students to realise their full scholastic potential.

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## ***Positive Citizenship***

Students take pride in the traditions and values of the school, respect the needs and rights of others and are positive in their contributions to, and participation in, the life of the school in the widest sense.

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## ***Participation and Achievement***

Hamilton Boys’ High School provides opportunities for participation in a wide range of co-curricular activities and, through quality coaching and management, ensures opportunities to compete and succeed at regional and national levels.

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## ***Strong School Spirit***

Hamilton Boys’ High School is founded on core values that blend the values of the past with the challenge of the future, so students develop and grow in a safe, progressive and nourishing environment.

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# Curriculum Overview

	<b>YEAR 9</b>	<b>YEAR 10</b>
<b>ENGLISH (EN)</b>	English English Language Learning Future Thinking Reading	English English Language Learning
<b>HEALTH &amp; PHYSICAL WELL-BEING (HPW)</b>	Elite Sports Health Education Physical Education	Adventure Based Leadership Elite Sports Physical Education
<b>LANGUAGES, ARTS &amp; MUSIC (LAM)</b>	Aotearoa Studies Art Chinese Drama Film & Television German Music Spanish Te Reo Māori	Art Chinese Drama Film & Television German Music Spanish Te Reo Māori
<b>MATHEMATICS (MX)</b>	Mathematics (ALP) Mathematics (ELP) Mathematics (SLP) Mathematics and Science (ILP)	Mathematics (ALP) Mathematics (ELP) Mathematics (SLP) Mathematics and Science (ILP)
<b>SCIENCE (SC)</b>	Horticulture Science	Electronics Horticulture Science
<b>SOCIAL SCIENCES (SS)</b>	Financial Literacy Social Studies	Advanced Commerce Business Economics History/Geography Social Studies
<b>TECHNOLOGY (TEC)</b>	Food Technology Graphics Information Technology Materials Technology Metal Materials Technology Wood	Advanced Information Technology Food Technology Design & Visual Communications Information Technology Materials Technology Metal Materials Technology Wood

# Academic Curriculum

Hamilton Boys' High School recognizes, respects and responds to the educational needs of all students including those with exceptional, different and special needs. All teaching programmes at Hamilton Boys' High School are focused upon the specific learning needs of boys. New students have their strengths and weaknesses assessed through standardized diagnostic testing and profiling data (e.g. from contributing schools and parents enrolment information). This information is carefully analysed and students are placed in classes which offer differentiated programmes which cater for their educational needs, providing work at the relevant speed, depth and complexity.

The following is a basic overview of the three main programmes:

**Advanced Learning Programme:** these classes provide challenge, enrichment, and acceleration for students who enter high school working at a higher level of the national curriculum than their age-appropriate level.

**Enhanced Learning Programme:** these classes comprise students who enter high school working at or near an age-appropriate level when measured against the national curriculum. We call the programme the Enhanced Learning Programme because students in this programme are challenged and supported to make more than one year's progress for each year of learning.

**Supported Learning Programme:** these classes comprise students who enter high school working below what would be considered their age-appropriate level against the national curriculum. These classes are smaller and most will have a teacher aide present in the core subjects. For these students, we are doing our best to "close the gaps" that have emerged in previous years of schooling.

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## **SUPPORTED LEARNING PROGRAMME (SLP)**

This programme caters for students, identified from our entrance testing and profile information, as requiring additional support with their learning. They are accommodated in our supported learning classes, which have smaller student numbers and a teacher aide in all the core subjects, to allow specific and direct assistance. All strategies implemented (e.g. reading assistance) are based on thorough and proven research and are delivered by well trained professionals. Learning support classes continue in Year 11, 12 and 13 with extra support which can include assistance for those needing special examination conditions (e.g. reader and writer assistance), based upon strict educational criteria, evaluated each year.

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## **ADVANCED LEARNING PROGRAMME (ALP)**

The Advanced Learning Programme (or ALP) is a specialised programme which caters for our most able academic students. These students are identified on entry in Year 9 and placed in this programme which enriches, extends and accelerates their learning. It is a five-year pathway designed to foster academic excellence.

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## **ALP PATHWAY**

<b>Year at School</b>	<b>Year Level</b>	<b>Programme Content</b>
First	9	Students complete an enriched and accelerated programme in the core subjects of English, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies.
Second	10	Students continue with this advanced learning pathway in the core subjects and either complete a specialised 1-year programme or begin a 2-year programme of study towards Cambridge IGCSE (International General Certificate in Secondary Education) examinations.
Third	11	Students attempt IGSCSE examinations in October/November. Students who are chosen for the ALP pathway in specific subjects do not undertake study towards NCEA Level 1 in these subjects.
Fourth	12	Students specialise in their chosen subjects and complete a combined Cambridge AS (Advanced Subsidiary)/ NCEA programme with both AS and Level 2 NCEA examinations taking place in October/November of the same academic year. The exception to this is the specialised science subjects which complete the respective combined courses over 18 months with the AS examinations taking place in May/June of the following year.
Fifth	13	In this final year, students focus on completing Level 3 NCEA with Excellence and attaining NZ Scholarship awards in their chosen subjects.

# Subject Information

## LEARNING AREAS IN YEAR 9

The National Curriculum indicates that, in order to gain a general education, students should undertake study in all Eight Learning Areas – English, Languages, Mathematics, Science, Technology, Social Sciences, the Arts, and Health and Physical Education. To achieve this, all students at Hamilton Boys' High School in Year 9 level study the following:

### Full Year Compulsory Courses:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social Studies
- Physical Education

### One Semester Compulsory Courses:

- Health
- Future Thinking
- Aotearoa Studies

### A selection of five courses from the Optional Semester Courses:

- Art
- Chinese-Mandarin
- Drama
- Elite Sports
- English Language Learning
- Film and Television
- Financial Literacy
- Food Technology
- German
- Graphic Design
- Horticulture
- Information Technology
- Maori
- Music
- Music Advanced
- Spanish
- Technology Metal
- Technology Wood

## CHOOSING YOUR OPTIONAL SEMESTER COURSES IN YEAR 9

In addition to the eight compulsory courses, each Year 9 student needs to choose up to FIVE optional semester courses from different Learning Areas. These provide an introduction to a wide range of subjects, allow students to focus on areas of special interest or strength, and enable students to make considered choices for Year 10. Most of these courses are one semester (term) long, while others (like the languages, Arts Academy and Elite Sports) may last for two semesters. All students need courses that total FIVE semesters.

## OPTIONAL SEMESTER COURSES AVAILABLE IN YEAR 9

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### ART

The Year 9 Art course allows students to experience art-making in the fields of observational drawing, expressive painting, print-making, design and sculpture. Critical appreciation of tradition within the arts allows the student to broaden his understanding of the visual arts and how they fit into today's society.

Parent fee for this course is approximately \$10.00\* GST inclusive; additionally, there is a compulsory art pack that needs to be purchased from the school shop. The cost is approximately \$10.00\* GST inclusive.

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### DRAMA

This course introduces students to the basic skills of performance. It is a practical course that introduces theatre form to students. The theory aspect covers dramatic language, theatre elements and conventions. There is no cost for this course.

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# Subject Information

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## **ELITE SPORTS**

The Year 9 Elite Sport programme allows talented sportsmen and athletes the opportunity to improve themselves further in the sporting arena. The course consists of practical components including regular fitness testing and assessment, fitness training (including speed, strength and agility sessions) and sports specific training. Theory lessons will cover sports nutrition, injury prevention, self analysis techniques, goal setting and mental toughness. In order to be considered for inclusion in this course, students must complete the Elite Sports application form as part of the enrolment process. Parent fee for this course is approximately \$63.50\* GST inclusive (which includes the cost of the Elite Sport T-shirt).

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## **ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNING**

This class provides extra help for students whose first language is not English and who are developing their English language knowledge. The course covers reading, writing, speaking and listening. The specialist teacher will help students settle into school routines and provide assistance in understanding the language of assignments in all subject areas. Parent fee for this course is approximately \$30.00\* GST inclusive (Language Perfect).

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## **FILM AND TELEVISION**

This course teaches students fundamental production and postproduction skills. Students will complete a moving image project while learning about shot composition, sequencing and editing video and audio elements throughout this option. The skills learnt in this course are the foundation for more complex projects aiming to prepare students for the Film and Television industry. The school provides all cameras for shooting and iMacs for editing.

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## **FINANCIAL LITERACY**

Financial literacy is a core life skill for participating in modern society. Our young people are growing up in an increasingly complex world where they will need to take charge of their own financial future. This course in Financial Literacy will help you to develop the skills needed to manage your personal resources. Topics in the nine-week course include Personal budgeting, Income and spending, and Kiwisaver. Young adults stand a far greater chance of leading an abundant life of security with some elementary financial capability skills.

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## **FOOD TECHNOLOGY**

This course covers both the theoretical and practical introduction to producing, preparing and presenting food. The major focus for all practical lessons is around preparing food that is safe to eat. Theory lessons focus on basic nutrition and the technology cycle. Parent fee for this course is approximately \$50.00\* GST inclusive.

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## **GRAPHIC DESIGN**

This course teaches students fundamental freehand and instrumental drawing skills. Students will complete a mixture of set drawings and creative drawings throughout this option. The skills learnt in this course are the foundation for senior design where students are involved in C.A.D and 3-D printing of design solutions. Parent fee for this course is approximately \$11.50\* GST inclusive; additionally, there is a Graphics stationery pack that needs to be purchased from the school shop. The cost is approximately \$30.00\* GST inclusive.

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## **HORTICULTURE**

Horticulture in Year 9 applies the theory of basic plant processes in the practical setting of the school's Horticulture Unit. Each boy establishes and maintains a small vegetable garden and explores plant propagation techniques. New Zealand native plants, in relation to Horticulture and to the wider indigenous environment will be covered along with introductory landscaping. Parent contribution for this course is approximately \$20.00\* GST inclusive.

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## **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

This course is designed to introduce students to the school network of computers and covers fundamental ideas on hardware components and operating systems. It also has a focus on document design and touch-typing skills, which will prove helpful across all subject areas. Commonly used programs for creating documents are covered as well as exploring basic programming concepts and some of the new web technologies that have recently emerged.

# Subject Information

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## LANGUAGES

All languages are offered as either an introductory, one semester course or a two-semester course.

In the **introductory course** students will learn the basics of communicating in another language and gain some knowledge of the culture, traditions and heritage of speakers of that language.

### Languages offered:

- **Chinese-Mandarin** Parent fee: approximately \$30.00\* GST inclusive
- **Pasifika Language and Culture:** This course is aimed at students who would like to learn about the various Pacific Island cultures. We will learn basic Pacific language skills, dance, and songs. This course will be interactive, and students will also get an opportunity to cook some traditional Polynesian food. Course fee \$12.00\* GST inclusive
- **German Parent** fee: approximately \$30.00\* GST inclusive
- **Maori**
- **Spanish Parent** fee: approximately \$30.00\* GST inclusive

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## MUSIC

This course is designed for the student who has an interest in music but no formal training. It covers the elements of music, instruments, and teaches basic practical guitar skills.

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## MUSIC (Advanced)

This course is aimed at students who may have had previous music experience. It covers composition and technology elements not taught in the general course. The course has a practical approach and gives students a clearer idea of what it is to be a musician and student of music.

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## TECHNOLOGY METAL

In this practical course, students learn how to use a variety of tools and machinery in a safe manner, in the metal workshop. Each student will construct a model off-road buggy using aluminium and plastic.

Parent fee for this course is approximately \$69.00\* GST inclusive.

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## TECHNOLOGY WOOD

In this practical course, students learn how to use a variety of tools and machinery in a safe manner, in the wood workshop. During the course, each student will construct a model Land Rover.

Parent fee for this course is approximately \$65.00\* GST inclusive.

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**The optional semester courses offer Year 9 students the opportunity to experience a diverse range of subject areas. As such, students will make a selection of subjects from each of the three curriculum areas:**

- **Arts,**
- **Languages and**
- **Technology**

**Within these curriculum areas you will find a wide range of options that will expose students to different skills and learning opportunities. This will assist them in making sound subject choices in Year 10 and beyond.**



# Online Course Selection using Google Forms

All Year 9 option courses are selected online. Please click on the link and complete the form.

## Selecting Options

Year 9 Students take eight option subjects - students choose five and three are compulsory.

The compulsory options are: Aotearoa Studies, Future Thinking and Health. You do not select these.

Students take two options each semester and there are four semesters in the year (of ten weeks duration).

**Options choices: Each Year 9 student must choose one Art option (Section A), one Language option (Section B), and one Technology option (Section C), and then select any two additional options from Sections A – D (Section F).**

**Please note** - students are asked to select TWO alternative options as backups from Columns A – D and indicate these options in Section F – Backup Choices.

In addition, if you have completed an application for the Arts Academy or the Elite Sport programme, please select the appropriate field. This is in addition to the five selections above. If you have not applied for either of those, click NO.

Please make sure you have considered each of the options by reading the information provided in this guide on each of the courses. Every student **must** take at least one option from the Arts, Languages and Technology subjects; making a selection from Section A - C will ensure this.

## Elite Sports Programme

Please only select this option if you have completed an Elite Sport application with your original enrolment application. Please note that entry into this course **requires selection**. You will receive information regarding try-outs once your application has been received by the school. Successful applicants will be included in the programme and need to be aware that this will take the place of two of their options. **If students do not want to be considered for this programme, click NO.**

**Please note** - If your application is successful, participation in this programme will replace TWO options you have chosen.

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## Alternate Courses

Students also select two backup courses in case one of their preferred options is not available due to popularity or timetable clashes. (These must be different to the previously selected options.)

**Please read the FAQs following this section before contacting the school.**

# ***Frequently Asked Questions about Online Course Selection***

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## **1. Can we do the selection process on paper forms?**

Yes. Paper forms can be collected from the school reception desk and must be returned to reception upon completion by the due date (1/11/2023). However, online is our preferred method.

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## **2. We are unsure which course to select.**

Year 9 is about experiencing a range of courses and having a go at subjects that students may never have tried. Select subjects with this in mind.

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## **3. We have decided on some courses, but not all. Can we do it in parts?**

Yes. Just keep selecting save at the bottom of the screen each time. However, all courses need to be selected by the due date (1/11/2023).

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## **4. Why do we select two backup courses?**

Occasionally, a course that a student selects is too popular for all students to be accommodated or it may not work due to timetable clashes. In these situations, we resort to the backup courses.

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## **5. When will we know what subjects are confirmed?**

When your son receives his timetable at the beginning of school next year.

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## **6. Are the fees for the option subjects compulsory?**

Yes, as a parent/caregiver, you agree to my son being placed in any of the above subjects he has selected. You also agree to pay all associated course costs for all of the subjects he has chosen. You also need to understand that the course fees in the Curriculum Guide are approximate and may deviate slightly.

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## **7. Who should I contact if have any further questions about option selections?**

### **Christelle Cloete**

Junior Curriculum Co-ordinator

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