



RENEW SCHOOL

# OPTIONS BOOKLET

YEAR 11 – YEAR 13

2026

*be transformed by the renewal  
of your mind – Romans 12:2*



Complete your Subject  
Option Choices for 2026

<https://tinyurl.com/renewoptions>



## Mission Statement

---

- To provide for students a sound, basic Christian Education that is loyal to the Bible, Christcentred, promotes those values and standards and recognises that Christian spiritual values permeate all curriculum areas.
- To provide for parents/guardians an alternative choice of school for developing their children to their full potential in God.

## Vision

---

Renew School's core purpose is to disciple and train a generation with a focus to impact society for the Kingdom of God.

In our current strategic plan, this vision statement is summarised as follows:

- Renew School students are creative learners learning to tell God's story through S.T.E.A.M. (Science - Technology - Engineering - Arts - Mathematics).

## Message from Head of Senior School

---

At Renew our students' learning and wellbeing is central to everything we strive to achieve. Our school's senior course programme provides curriculum diversity, challenge, and personalised learning which fosters and supports our emerging adolescent's distinctive learning and personal needs. Our school is very proud to offer an authentic focus on God, in, through, and about everything we do and where every student is encouraged to explore and develop their own personal relationship with Jesus Christ. We aim to develop the 'whole child' through their NCEA years and look forward to them genuinely working on knowing God, growing character, achieving their potential and making a difference.

Mr B Alison

Associate Principal - Secondary

# Subject Selection – Timeline

---

Weekday, ? August 2025	<b>Options Evening</b> Subject Selection ... years ? – ? students (2025) start praying, planning and making subject selection <a href="https://tinyurl.com/renewoptions">https://tinyurl.com/renewoptions</a>
Weekday, ? August 2025	<b>Option Selection complete.</b> All subject selections must be complete by this time. Parent portal will be closed so that the 2025 timetable can be created. December – selection confirmed
December 2025	Option lines produced Accepting / Pending and Declining Phase Current Year 10 students – Subject selection confirmed – Clashes notified Current Year 11 – 12 students – Subject selection status confirmed as PENDING and “SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION” OF NCEA RESULTS IN JANUARY – Clashes notified
January 2026	Results of NZQA qualifications published Current Year 11 – 12 students – Subject selection checked against NCEA RESULTS – Students who have not met pre-requisite requirements will be asked to meet with staff to discuss subject selection before the start of the 2026 academic year

## The ABC Subject Selection Checklist

---

### A – ABILITIES

#### **Reflect on your strengths:**

Consider which subjects you naturally excel at and enjoy. What subjects have you achieved good grades in? What subjects do your teachers say you are good at? Consider what your strengths are (e.g., writing, numbers, practical skills).

#### **Identify your weaknesses:**

Be honest about subjects you find challenging. While it's good to push yourself, avoid choosing subjects you know you will struggle with significantly.

#### **Consider the skills you enjoy using:**

Do you enjoy analytical thinking, creative expression, or hands-on work? Align your choices with your preferred learning style.

## B – BALANCE

### **Explore different subject areas:**

Don't just focus on one area of interest. Consider subjects from different learning areas (e.g., sciences, humanities, arts) to broaden your knowledge and skills.

### **Consider future career pathways:**

Some careers require specific subject combinations. Research potential career paths and ensure your subject choices provide a good foundation. [Careers New Zealand advises](#) you to consider the career implications of your choices.

### **Maintain a mix of subjects:**

While it's important to focus on your strengths, try to maintain a balance of subjects to keep your options open for future study and career choices.

## C – CHOICES

### **Make informed decisions:**

Don't simply choose subjects based on what your friends are doing or what's popular. Take the time to research, seek advice, and understand the implications of your choices.

Check out [www.careers.govt.nz/plan-your-career](http://www.careers.govt.nz/plan-your-career)

### **Seek advice:**

Talk to teachers, careers advisors, and your parents or guardians about your options. They can provide valuable insights and guidance. Check out [www.careers.govt.nz/plan-your-career](http://www.careers.govt.nz/plan-your-career)

## Explore Career Opportunities

---

Careers

<https://www.careers.govt.nz/>

Skill Matcher

<http://www.careers.govt.nz/tools/skill-matcher>

Career Quest

<https://www.careers.govt.nz/tools/careerquest>

Subject matcher

<http://www.careers.govt.nz/tools/subject-matcher>

# Understanding NCEA

---

## GUIDE TO NCEA:

<https://www2.nzqa.govt.nz/assets/About-us/Publications/Resources-and-videos/Guide-to-NCEA/Guide-to-NCEA-English.pdf>

NCEA is an assessment system that requires students to reach a set number of credits at each level in order to achieve the qualification. NCEA Level 2 and Level 3 are 60-credit qualifications and require 60 credits at certificate level or above.

## NCEA Co-Requisite (Numeracy & Literacy)

To be awarded any level of NCEA, learners will need to achieve the new 20-credit co-requisite. Credits used towards the co-requisite cannot be used towards the 60-credit NCEA. Essentially, the number of credits required to gain each level of NCEA remains the same, with the literacy and numeracy requirements separated out into a 'one-off' co-requisite. Learners will be able to meet the 20-credit co-requisite through achieving either the new standards in Literacy-Writing, Literacy-Reading, Numeracy, Te Reo Matatini, and Pāngarau or gaining 20 credits from a list of literacy and numeracy-rich standards.

## Achievement Standards

Achievement Standards Achievement standards identify the learning outcomes students must achieve. Some standards will be assessed internally by subject teachers during the year and some will be assessed by external examination at the end of the year. There are four possible grades students can be awarded: Not Achieved, Achieved, Merit or Excellence. Achievement standards are generally worth 2 to 6 credits. There are generally 17-21 credits per course.

## Unit Standards

Unit standards are offered in some courses. In most cases there are only two possible grades students can be awarded, either Achieved or Not Achieved. Unit Standards count towards NCEA. They are all internally assessed.

## Scholarship

Scholarship is externally assessed by performance, portfolio or examination during the NCEA external examination period. Scholarship is designed to test, extend and reward top level students. Students studying scholarship subjects must commit to extra tutorials and significant time spent in self-directed learning out of school hours. Availability of these courses depends on teachers' ability and capacity to offer these courses. Scholarship is not a qualification, but an award. It does not count towards NCEA Level 3 or University Entrance.

## **NCEA Results**

NZQA results are available in January. These include:

- standards the student entered
- credit value of each standard
- whether the standard was internally or externally assessed
- grade achieved
- number of credits gained in each standard

Results are published on the NZQA website for students to view through each student's login. Posted copies of results are available if students request these online prior to the commencement of the external exams.

## **Record of Achievement**

In addition to receiving a Results Notice for each subject and any certificates that have been completed, NZQA also provides students with a Record of Learning. Year 12 and Year 13 students may apply for this through their learner login, which is found on the NZQA website. Simply create an account by entering the student's NSN number. Year 13 students will automatically be issued with a Record of Learning along with their qualification certificate.

## **Certificate Endorsement**

Students are able to achieve NCEA qualifications with Merit or Excellence endorsements.

- Endorsement with Merit requires 50 credits at Merit or Excellence at the same level or higher.
- Endorsement with Excellence requires 50 credits at Excellence at the same level or higher.

Credits gained over more than one year can be used for endorsement.

## **Course Endorsement**

Students are able to achieve Merit or Excellence endorsements in each course.

- Course endorsement with Merit requires 14 credits at Merit or Excellence at the same level or higher. Three or more Merit credits must be gained in internally assessed standards and three or more credits must be gained in externally assessed standards.
- Course endorsement with Excellence requires 14 credits at Excellence at the same level or higher. Three or more Excellence credits must be gained in internally assessed standards and three or more credits must be gained in externally assessed standards.

# University Entrance

---

All universities have a common minimum requirement that students must attain to gain entry to a Bachelor's Degree and this is comprised of the following:

NCEA Level 3, Plus a minimum of:

- Literacy (5 specified reading credits and 5 specified writing credits from Level 2 and/or Level 3)
- Three university approved subjects at Level 3 with at least 14 credits in each

Here is the [link to NZQA approved subjects/standards](#).

Individual universities may impose additional requirements to this standard for entry to a specific course, so it is important that you research the entry criteria for all possible providers carefully.

## University Approved Subjects by Renew School

---

These courses are approved by universities because they contain 14 credits or more that are all from the same domain on the NZQA framework.

### ~~Business Studies~~

Biology	Calculus	Chemistry	?
<del>Dance</del>	<del>Design and Visual Communications</del>	<del>Technology</del>	<del>Digital Technology</del>
<del>Earth and Space Science</del>	<del>Economics</del>	<del>English</del>	<del>Geography</del>
<del>Hard Materials</del>	<del>History</del>	<del>???</del>	
Drama	Technology	History	Media Studies
Music	Physical Education	Physics	Chinese??
Statistics	Visual Art – Design	Visual Art – Painting	

Renew School offers the following courses that contain Level 3 credits, so they contribute toward Level 3 NCEA, but they cannot be counted as one of the three University approved subjects: • ~~???~~Tourism • Hospitality • Adventure Based Leadership? • Gateway

# NCEA Pathway Planner

Faculty	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13
Arts	Drama	Drama	Drama (Start 2026)	<i>Drama (2027)</i>	<i>Drama (2028)</i>
	Music	Music	Music	Music	Music
	Visual Art	Visual Art	Visual Art	Visual Art	Visual Art
Creative Industries				Design & Visual Communication (Pre-requisite Year 11 Visual Art)	Design & Visual Communication
				Media Studies (2026)	Media Studies (2027)
	Technology (Compulsory)	Technology (Compulsory)	Technology (Start 2026)	Technology (2027)	Technology (2028)
	Toi Māori	Toi Māori			
English	English (Compulsory)	English (Compulsory)	English (Compulsory)	English (Compulsory)	English Written Language
					English Visual/Oral Language
Health & Physical Education	Health and Physical Education	Health and Physical Education	Physical Education	Physical Education	Physical Education
Languages	Chinese	Chinese	Chinese	<i>Chinese</i>	Chinese
	Te Reo	Te Reo	Te Reo (2026)	<i>Te Reo (2027)</i>	<i>Te Reo (2028)</i>
	Language Study through Te Kura				
Mathematics	Mathematics	Mathematics	Mathematics	Statistics	Statistics
				Mathematics with Calculus	Calculus



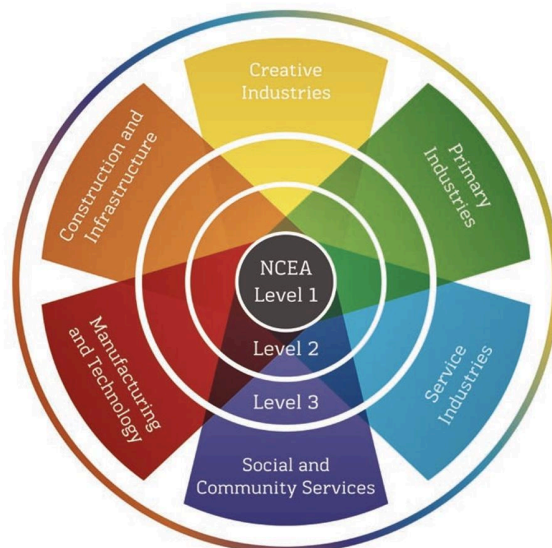
Science	Science	Science	Science	Biology	Biology
				Chemistry	Chemistry
				Physics	Physics
Bible & Social Studies	Bible Social Studies	Bible Social Studies	Bible	Bible	Bible
			Geography (Start 2026)	<i>Geography (2027)</i>	<i>Geography (2028)</i>
			History	History	History
	Market Day Business	Market Day Business	Business Studies (Start 2026)	<i>Business Studies (2027)</i>	<i>Business Studies (2028)</i>



# Six Vocational Pathways

Figure 1: The Vocational Pathways Rosette

What are Vocational Pathways? Vocational Pathways provide structured ways for students to achieve National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA). The pathways identify a range of Achievement Standards and Unit Standards that prepare students for ongoing education and/or employment in the industry of their choice. There are six colour-coded Vocational Pathways: Primary Industries, Services Industries, Social and Community Services, Manufacturing and Technology, Construction and Infrastructure, and Creative Industries (see Figure 1).



## Social & Community Services

Ratonga Pāpori,  
Ratonga Hapori



## Construction & Infrastructure

Te Mahi Hanga me te  
Pūtoi Hanganga



## Manufacturing & Technology

Te Whakanao me te  
Hangarau



## Primary Industries (Food & Fibre)

Ahumahi  
Matua



## Service Industries

Ahumahi  
Ratonga



## Creative Industries

Ahumahi  
Auaha

Community worker Counsellor Teacher Customs officer Engineering officer Fire-fighter Police Nursing DoC worker Paramedic Corrections officer Pilot Welfare specialist Medic Childcare Midwife Plunket Biosecurity Social worker Funeral director	Labourer Builder Electrician Landscape Architect Interior designer Painter Plumber Surveyor Engineer Plasterer Roofers Civil engineer Welder Project manager Forklift operator Demolition Infrastructure Maintenance Telecoms	Architect Baker Butcher Boat builder Electrician Engineer Surveyor Technician Designer Electrician Food technologist Biotechnologist Processing Computer design Logistics Purchaser Defence force IT Robotics Software design	Export & storage Animal care Fruit & veg production Dairy farming Landscape Forestry Heavy vehicle driver Marine farm worker Processing Machine operator Site manager Research worker Scientist Marine engineer Seed technologist Arborist Logistics Deckhand	Bartender Barista Chef/cook Hotel manager Receptionist Waiter/waitress Conference manager Travel agent Administrator Salesperson Flight attendant Customer services Beautician Hairdresser Store manager Personal trainer Event organiser Armed forces Data entry	Actor Artist Art director Musician Singer/Dancer Film maker Photographer Writer/Composer Designer Animation Tech Manager Computer gaming Architecture Advertising Ngā toi & Pasifika practitioner Kaiako Kaiāwhina Director Producer
---	--	--	---	---	--

## Year 11 Courses

In 2026, students in Year 11 will study subject courses designed by Renew School that are in alignment with the New Zealand Curriculum. These courses will provide a coherent pathway to NCEA Level 2 certification in 2027. Renew School students take six subjects in Year 11. Bible, English, Mathematics and Science are compulsory subjects and students choose three other subjects from the options below. In making option choices students must think ahead

- Which pathway: NCEA or **????**
- The course they may wish to follow in Year 13 when they will study five subjects for Level 3 NCEA.
- Requirements for tertiary courses.

### Year 11 Compulsory Subjects

Bible
English
Mathematics
Science

### Year 11 Option Subjects

Business Studies	Drama	Chinese
Geography	Te Reo	History
Music	Physical Education	Technology
Visual Art	* Te Kura	

## Bible (Year 11)

The Y11 Bible course focuses on exploring major biblical themes, understanding the Bible's narrative, and examining its impact and influence in the world. Students will study key beliefs of Christians and develop skills to communicate the message of the Bible.

Pre-Requisite – None

Course Cost – None

Title	Examination, Internal Course Work, NCEA Internal/External
Overview of the Bible – What is it, how do I understand it	Internal Course
Key Beliefs of the Bible	Internal Course
Explain key beliefs within two religious traditions	NCEA L2 Internal

## English (Year 11)

---

Description.

Pre-Requisite

Course Cost if any

Title	Examination, Internal Course Work, NCEA Internal/External

## Mathematics (Year 11)

---

The Year 11 Mathematics course provides an essential foundation in mathematics, equipping students with fundamental Mathematical skills and knowledge. This course covers a range of topics including algebra, graphing, probability and statistics, and is designed to help students develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills that can be applied in everyday life.

*\*The external numeracy standard 32406: Use mathematics and statistics to meet the numeracy demands of a range of situations has been covered in our Year 9 & Year 10 Mathematics Course.*

Title	Examination, Internal Course Work, NCEA Internal/External
Geometry and Co-ordinate Geometry Skills	Examination & STEAM Project
Apply network methods in solving problems (Geometry)	Internal NCEA Assessment
Measurement Skills	Examination & STEAM Project

Algebra Skills	Examination
Apply systems of equations in solving problems (Algebra)	Internal NCEA Assessment
Investigate a situation involving elements of chance using a simulation (Statistics – Probability)	Internal NCEA Assessment
Statistical Investigation	Internal Course Work

# Science (Year 11)

Description.

Pre-Requisite

Course Cost if any

Title	Examination, Internal Course Work, NCEA Internal/External

Option subjects

# Physical Education (Year 11)

Description.

Pre-Requisite

Course Cost if any

Title	Examination, Internal Course
-------	------------------------------

	Work, NCEA Internal/External

# Business Studies (Year 11)

Description.

Pre-Requisite

Course Cost if any

Title	Examination, Internal Course Work, NCEA Internal/External

# Te Reo Māori (Year 11)

Description.

Pre-Requisite

Course Cost if any

Title	Examination, Internal Course
-------	------------------------------

	Work, NCEA Internal/External

## Technology (Year 11)

---

Technology education at Renew emphasises design thinking, fostering students' ability to be innovative, reflective, and critical. They learn to design new models, products, software, systems, and tools, considering their impact on cultural, ethical, environmental, and economic conditions. This is crucial for navigating a rapidly changing world. At year 11 students will develop skills in a range of Technology projects, this will lead into a specialised area in Year 12 & 13

Pre-Requisite: Y9 or 10 Technology Achievement is recommended but not essential.

Course Cost: TBC based on numbers of students.

Title	Examination, Internal Course Work, NCEA Internal/External
Hard Materials Technology - Wood/metals/plastics	Internal Course
Soft Materials Technology - Fabrics	Internal Course
Digital Technology - EPRO 8, Electronics	Internal Course
Food Technology - Master Chef	Internal Course

## Music (Year 11)

---

Description.

Pre-Requisite

Course Cost if any

Title	Examination, Internal Course Work, NCEA Internal/External

# Drama (Year 11)

Description.

Pre-Requisite

Course Cost if any

Title	Examination, Internal Course Work, NCEA Internal/External

# History (Year 11)

Description.

Pre-Requisite

Course Cost if any

Title	Examination, Internal Course
-------	------------------------------



	Work, NCEA Internal/External

# Visual Art (Year 11)

Description.

Pre-Requisite

Course Cost if any

Title	Examination, Internal Course Work, NCEA Internal/External

# Year 12 Courses

In 2026, students in Year 12 will study subject courses designed by Renew School that are in alignment with the New Zealand Curriculum. These courses will provide a coherent pathway to NCEA Level 3 certification in 2027. Renew School students take six subjects in Year 12. Bible, English and Mathematics are compulsory subjects and students choose three other subjects from the options below. In making option choices students must think ahead

- Which pathway: NCEA or ????
- The course they may wish to follow in Year 13 when they will study five subjects for Level 3 NCEA.
- Requirements for tertiary courses.

Year 12 Compulsory Subjects

Bible
English
Mathematics

Year 12 Option Subjects

Biology	Business Studies	Chemistry
Drama	History	
Music	Physical Education	Physics
Technology		Visual Art

## Bible (Year 12)

---

Description  
Cost if any

This course is a prerequisite for .

	Title	Int/Ext	

## English (Year 12)

---

Description  
Cost if any

This course is a prerequisite for .

	Title	Int/Ext	

## Statistics (Year 12)

---

If you are interested in analysing data and making informed decisions, the Statistics pathway will teach you how to collect and analyse data, make predictions, and understand probability. This course covers a range of topics including conceptual probability and statistics.

This course is a prerequisite for Year 13 Statistics.

	Title	Int/Ext	
91263	Design a Questionnaire	Internal	3
91264	Use statistical methods to make an inference	Internal	4
91265	Conduct an experiment to investigate a situation using statistical methods	Internal	3
91267	Apply probability methods in solving problems	External	4
91266	Evaluate a statistically based report ( <i>optional</i> )	Internal	2

## Mathematics & Calculus (Year 12)

---

If you plan to pursue further studies in mathematics, engineering, or physics, the Calculus pathway will provide you with a solid understanding of the skills and concepts required for differential and integral calculus. This course covers a range of topics including conceptual algebra, graphing and trigonometry.

This course is a prerequisite for Year 13 Calculus..

	Title	Int/Ext	
91259	Apply trigonometric relationships in solving problems	Internal	3
91257	Apply graphical methods in solving problems	Internal	4
91261	Apply algebraic methods in solving problems	External	5
91262	Apply calculus methods in solving problems	External	5

# Physical Education (Year 12)

---

Description

Cost if any

This course is a prerequisite for .

	Title	Int/Ext	

# Biology (Year 12)

---

Description

Cost if any

This course is a prerequisite for .

	Title	Int/Ext	

# Chemistry (Year 12)

---

Description  
Cost if any

This course is a prerequisite for .

	Title	Int/Ext	

## Physics (Year 12)

---

Description  
Cost if any

This course is a prerequisite for .

	Title	Int/Ext	

## History (Year 12)

---

Description  
Cost if any

This course is a prerequisite for .

	Title	Int/Ext	
--	-------	---------	--


# Music (Year 12)

Description

Cost if any

This course is a prerequisite for .

	Title	Int/Ext	

# Visual Art (Year 12)

Description

Cost if any

This course is a prerequisite for .

	Title	Int/Ext	

# Year 13 Courses

In 2026, students in Year 13 will study subject courses designed by Renew School that are in alignment with the New Zealand Curriculum. These courses will provide a coherent pathway to NCEA Level 3 certification in 2027. Renew School students take six subjects in Year 13. Bible is a compulsory subject and students choose five other subjects from the options below. In making option choices students must think ahead

- Which pathway: NCEA or ????
- The course they may wish to follow in Year 13 when they will study five subjects for Level 3 NCEA.
- Requirements for tertiary courses.

Year 13 Compulsory Subjects

Bible
English
Mathematics

Year 13 Option Subjects

Biology	Business Studies	Chemistry
Drama	History	
Music	Physical Education	Physics
Technology	Te Kura Courses	Visual Art

## Bible (Year 13)

---

Description  
Cost if any

This course is a prerequisite for .

	Title	Int/Ext	

## English (Year 13)

---

Description  
Cost if any

This course is a prerequisite for .

	Title	Int/Ext	

## Calculus (Year 13)

---

This course prepares students for further studies involving Mathematics. The course builds on foundational concepts of calculus introduced at Level 2. It aims to provide students with a deeper understanding of calculus principles and techniques, focusing on advanced differentiation, integration, trigonometry, conic sections, and complex algebra. There are two internally assessed standards and three externally assessed standards. This subject does not offer any credits for University Entrance Literacy. Prerequisites: 12 achieved credits at Level 2 Calculus. Students who have not met these prerequisites can apply to the HOF for discretionary entry into this course. University Approved: Yes

	Title	Int/Ext	
91257	Apply graphical methods in solving problems	Internal	4
91258	Apply sequences and series in solving problems	Internal	2
91578	Apply differentiation methods in solving problems	External	6
91579	Apply integration methods in solving problems	External	6
91261	Apply algebraic methods in solving problems (Optional)	External	*4

## Statistics (Year 13)

---

This course allows students to fulfil the requirements for a university approved subject in either Level 3 Statistics or in Level 3 Mathematics. It is designed to deepen students’ understanding of statistical concepts and develop their statistical literacy. The course focuses on advanced statistical techniques, data analysis and interpretation. There are three internally assessed reports on time series analysis, inferences, and



bivariate data and one standard on probability in the course which allows students to gain subject endorsement. This subject does not offer any credits for University Entrance Literacy. Prerequisites: 12 achieved credits at Level 2 Calculus or Level 2 Statistics. Students who have not met these prerequisites can apply to the HOF for discretionary entry into this course.

Cost if any

This course is a prerequisite for .

	Title	Int/Ext	
91580	Investigate time series data	Internal	4
91581	Investigate bivariate measurement data	Internal	4
91582	Use statistical methods to make a formal inference	Internal	4
91583	Conduct an experiment to investigate a situation using experimental design principles	Internal	4
91584	Evaluate statistically based reports (Optional)	External	4

Option Subjects

## Biology (Year 13)

---

Description

Cost if any

This course is a prerequisite for .

	Title	Int/Ext	

## Chemistry (Year 13)

---

Description

Cost if any

This course is a prerequisite for .

	Title	Int/Ext	

## Physics (Year 13)

---

Description

Cost if any

This course is a prerequisite for .

	Title	Int/Ext	

## History (Year 13)

---

Description

Cost if any

This course is a prerequisite for .

	Title	Int/Ext	
--	-------	---------	--


## Music (Year 13)

Description

Cost if any

This course is a prerequisite for .

	Title	Int/Ext	

## Visual Art (Year 13)

Description

Cost if any

This course is a prerequisite for .

	Title	Int/Ext	

## Te Kura (Year 13)

Te Kura offers a range of distance learning courses in the event we are not able to offer a subject at Year 13 level in a particular area of interest such as a language like Spanish. Please contact Bruce Alison or Aimee Harris if you want to take a Te Kura option subject.





