



MĀRUAWAI
COLLEGE

Year 9

Connected Curriculum Program

📍 SENIOR CAMPUS

No Reward Without Effort

Foreword

At Māruawai College, our connected curriculum program connects different learning areas to make learning more engaging and relevant.

Research shows that connected learning boosts engagement, critical thinking, problem-solving, and teamwork skills. By applying knowledge to real-world scenarios, students will gain a holistic education that will prepare you for future challenges. The connected curriculum at Māruawai College is designed to make learning more meaningful and effective, but most importantly to help students make progress.

Students will have the opportunity to select learning packages that align with their interests, allowing them to explore every aspect of the curriculum, each consisting of three modules. These are crafted so that key learning areas are covered. We've carefully designed these learning packages to ensure comprehensive curriculum coverage. Our emphasis is to cover curriculum while providing choice. To maximize choice and variety, we will change the learning packages at the midpoint of the year.

Another way of providing student choice is through solos, which are stand-alone areas you might already enjoy or want to explore further. Students will choose 4 solos for the year- 2 for semester 1 and 2 for semester 2. Each semester lasts 2 terms. If a student needs extra numeracy or literacy support, then they will be recommended to take boosts.

At this point we have planned and presented information for learning packages from semester 1, learning packages for semester 2 are currently in the planning phase.

Year 9

Connected Curriculum

Māruawai College



Modules

- The Time Travellers Society
- Vortex
- EcoForce
- Lego Innovators
- Game On!
- Science Fiction

Semester 2 will be selected at a later date.



Solos

These are special interest subjects.

- Agriculture
- Digital Technology
- Design and Visual Communication
- Drama
- Music
- Technology Fabric
- Technology Food
- Science
- Technology Metal
- Technology Wood
- Te Reo Māori
- Visual Art
- Exercise
- Literacy Boost
- Numeracy Boost

Our Prospectus/Enrolments:

maruawai.school.nz/enrolments



Package A

The Time Travellers Society

Connecting Social Studies and English learning areas

Do you love discovering cool cultures, awesome places, and epic world events? If that sounds like a bit of you then you have to choose us! Join us on an adventure where we unlock the thrill of discovering our country and beyond. You'll have a blast showing off what you learn with fun projects like creating podcasts, designing posters, writing creative stories, and so much more. Mixing Social Studies with English is going to be super exciting - come join the fun!

Vortex

Connecting Health and Physical Education and Technology learning areas

Sports and Design! Brace yourself for the most action-packed and creative semester ever. We are going to become masters of both sport and digital media; you'll be creating your own website to show off your athletic skills. This isn't just fun and games, it's a chance to level up. Choose us and score big - don't miss out!

EcoForce

Connecting Science and Mathematics learning areas.

In EcoForce, you'll dive into the science behind your favorite sports, exploring how force, motion, energy, and friction impact performance. Apply math skills like geometry and statistics to analyse and improve athletic techniques, then showcase your discoveries in a creative video presentation. Next, become an eco-explorer! Participate in a citizen science project where you'll collect and study real-world data on species interactions and evolution. Your findings will come to life in a stunning infographic or slideshow, proving that science and math are the ultimate game-changers—on the field and in the wild!

Package B

Lego Innovators

Connecting Mathematics and Technology learning areas

Be prepared for an exciting hands-on learning adventure! We are going to be exploring maths and technology through our Lego education programme. By the end of this semester, you'll not only conquer programming and robotics but also add your own creative twist to your projects. This course gives you so much freedom in what you create, allowing you to build skills that will make a real impact in our tech-driven world. Join us, let's create something amazing together

Game On!

Connecting Social Studies and Health and Physical Education

Would you be interested in a world where sports and leaders collide? Face an exciting semester where we learn important skills from both PE and Social Studies. You'll be able to create your own leadership strategies, tackling challenges from both sports and the world. Learn how to overcome adversity and build resilience, skills that are highly valued in today's world, both in the classroom and out. Choose our course and become a true leader.

Science Fiction

Connecting Science and English learning areas

What do you get when you mix Science and English together? An experience that's truly out of this world! The semester we have planned for you will teach you important skills so that you can put the "fiction" in science. We will be covering space, creating our own stories, learning all about how to experiment and so much more. If you have a passion for writing, breaking new ground, doing hands-on experiments, and want to make the world a better place, look no further.

Solos

- Solos are standalone subjects.
- You may choose solos that interest you, or that you would like to explore more of.
- You need to choose 4 solos and 2 backup solos.
- It may be suggested that you include Numeracy or Literacy Boost in your selection.
- You will attend 2 solos in Semester 1, and the other 2 in Semester 2.



Literacy Boost

A solo that covers primarily the English learning area but will draw on others.

The Year 9 Literacy Boost course aims to spark enthusiasm for reading, writing, and critical thinking by offering a blend of engaging activities and diverse literary genres. You will explore various types of texts, including fiction, non-fiction and poetry, broadening your literary horizons through interactive discussions and debates. In creative writing, you will enhance your storytelling abilities by crafting short stories, poems, and personal narratives, focusing on character development and plot structure. The course also includes collaborative writing workshops where you will refine your editing skills and receive constructive feedback. This dynamic approach fosters a deep appreciation for language and strengthens literacy skills. A big focus is to support you to accelerate your progress in reading and writing.

You can select this course, but there will be some who will be recommended to do this solo.

Numeracy Boost

A Solo that covers primarily the Mathematics learning area but will draw on others.

In the Year 9 Numeracy Boost course, you will dive into an engaging mathematical adventure that strengthens your foundational skills. You will tackle real-world problems through hands-on activities that cover key concepts such as number sense, data interpretation, and practical math applications. Beyond core mathematics, the course integrates elements from other subjects to show how math connects with everyday life. With a focus on enhancing problem-solving abilities and applying math in various contexts, you will become well-prepared for future studies and essential life skills. This dynamic approach ensures learning is interactive, relevant, and deeply rooted in real-world scenarios. The purpose of this solo is to accelerate numeracy skills.

You can select this course, but there will be some who will be recommended to do this solo.

Te Reo Māori

A solo that covers the Languages learning area

In Year 9 Te Reo Māori, you will embark on an exciting journey into the heart of Māori language and culture. You will dive into essential sentence structures and vibrant vocabulary, building a solid foundation for confident communication. Through engaging activities, you will master basic sentence patterns, learning how to ask and answer questions about “what,” “who,” and “where.” You’ll explore active sentences and key phrases, gaining practical skills for everyday conversations. The course is packed with interactive exercises that enhance listening (whakarongo), writing (tuhinga), speaking (kōrero), and reading (pānui) skills. A highlight of the course is delving into Māori culture and language, learning whatever you are interested in. By the end, you will be able to confidently navigate fundamental Te Reo Māori, readying you to to celebrate and connect with Māori heritage through language.





Agriculture

A solo based on the Science learning area and other curriculum areas.

The Year 9 Agriculture course provides you with a foundational understanding of farming practices and the agricultural industry. Through hands-on activities and real-world applications, you will explore key topics such as crop and livestock management and farming techniques. The course emphasises practical skills in planting, maintaining, and harvesting crops, as well as caring for animals. You will also learn innovative practices that will prepare you for future careers in the field. Whether you are from a farming background or if you just have an interest in Agriculture, this will be a worthwhile Solo. Agriculture at Māruawai College is well regarded, we are proud of our agricultural connection and history.

Inquiry Extension

A solo that draws on multiple learning areas, based on student choice

Unleash your curiosity with the Passion Project —a thrilling opportunity to dive deep into what truly excites you! This course is all about exploring a topic of your choice, letting your interests guide your learning journey. You'll embark on an inquiry-based adventure, conducting independent research, and applying your creativity and critical thinking skills to develop a unique project that showcases your passions. Whether you're fascinated by space, fashion, technology, or environmental issues, the Passion Project empowers you to take charge of your learning. You will have the freedom to design, create, and present a project that reflects your individuality and talents. With support and guidance, you'll transform your ideas into a compelling exploration, culminating in a presentation that highlights your achievements.

This is a solo you can choose, or your teacher or caregiver may recommend this as a way to extend your learning.

Exercise

A solo based on the Health and Physical Education learning area

In the Year 9 Exercise course, you will enjoy movement and fitness, stepping out of the classroom and into a world of action! This course is packed with diverse sports and dynamic activities designed to boost fitness, enhance coordination, and build teamwork skills. You will dive into exciting workouts, from team sports and fitness challenges to adventure-based exercises. You'll discover the thrill of staying active while setting and achieving personal fitness goals. Each class is a blend of high-energy fun and practical learning, emphasizing the vital role of regular exercise for overall health and well-being. By the end of the course, you will have not only improved your physical abilities but also will have developed a lifelong passion for staying active and embracing a healthy lifestyle.



Performing Arts

A solo based on *The Arts learning area*

In this course, you will dive headfirst into the exhilarating realms of drama, dance, and music. This course is a thrilling blend of creativity and performance, where you will unleash your imagination through dynamic techniques and expressive storytelling. You will collaborate on electrifying projects and performances, honing your stage presence and artistic skills while receiving inspiring feedback. From dramatic scenes and energetic dance routines to vibrant musical compositions, you will experience the full spectrum of performing arts. Each class is a new adventure, pushing boundaries and building confidence as you explore and create. By the end of the course, you will have transformed into a versatile performer, equipped with a deeper passion and appreciation for the performing arts.



Music

A solo that covers The Arts learning areas

In the Year 9 Music course, you will embark on a musical journey where you will hone your instrumental or vocal talents through solo and group performances. You'll dive into a rich variety of genres and styles, from traditional to contemporary rock and pop. You will discover new ways to interpret and express music, and learn about the music you're interested in and love to listen to. You will build your confidence and presence, while collaborating closely with peers. This immersive course not only sharpens your musical skills but also inspires you to perform with passion and flair, helping you to become a confident, versatile musician ready to captivate any audience.

Visual Art

A solo based on The Arts learning area

In this engaging Year 9 visual arts class, you will explore diverse artistic techniques and media, fostering creativity, and developing your unique style with hands-on projects and interactive discussions. You will gain insights into art history and contemporary practices, enhancing your technical skills and artistic confidence. This course aims to nurture your creative expression and critical appreciation of visual arts. Our Senior Campus Art room is very well set up and provides a relaxing creative space, where you can develop your art skills, learn new skills and get feedback and guidance from your teacher.



Technology Food

A solo that covers the Technology learning area

In the Year 9 Food Technology course, you will embark on a flavourful journey through the art of cooking and food innovation. In this dynamic course, you will dive into a world of taste as you master essential cooking techniques and explore a variety of recipes. Through hands-on projects and interactive lessons, you'll learn to create delicious dishes. You will experiment with unique ingredients, develop your palate, and refine your presentation skills. Alongside practical cooking, you'll delve into food science and nutrition, discovering how to craft meals that are both tasty and healthy. With opportunities to participate in exciting cooking challenges and collaborate on culinary projects, you will gain confidence in the kitchen and a deep appreciation for the culinary arts.



Technology Fabrics

A solo covering the Technology learning area.

This course invites you into the exciting world of textiles and garment construction, where creativity meets practicality. You will start by exploring different types of fabrics, from natural fibres like cotton and wool to synthetics like polyester and nylon, gaining insight into how fabric properties like texture and durability influence design. The course then dives into essential textile techniques, including hand-stitching, machine sewing, and the basics of pattern making, equipping you with the skills to create and alter simple garments. Design principles such as colour, pattern, and texture are introduced to inspire creativity, culminating in hands-on projects where you will design and construct your own clothing or accessories. By the end of the course, you will have a strong foundation in textile arts, ready to bring your fashion ideas to life.



Technology Metal

A solo that covers the Technology learning area

In the Year 9 Metal Technology course, you will embark on an exhilarating journey into the world of metalworking. You will dive into practical skills, mastering the art of cutting, shaping, and joining metals with a range of powerful tools and techniques. This hands-on course combines safety with creativity, guiding you through exciting projects that blend functionality with artistic flair. From crafting sleek, modern designs to building practical metal items, you will develop precision and ingenuity in every project. You will learn to transform raw metal into stunning creations, honing your skills in design and craftsmanship. Each class is a dynamic mix of innovation and technique, empowering you to create unique, real-world metalwork pieces while building confidence and expertise in the metalworking field.

Technology Wood

A solo that covers the Technology learning area

In the Year 9 Wood Technology class, you will dive into a thrilling hands-on experience where you'll master the art of woodworking. You will also learn about essential tools and techniques, allowing you to transform raw timber into functional and imaginative creations. From precision measuring and cutting to intricate assembling, you'll build practical skills that bring your designs to life. You will explore various wood types, understanding their unique properties and how to work with them. This course is packed with exciting projects that challenge you to solve problems creatively, fostering both craftsmanship and innovation. Each class is an opportunity to create something unique, equipping you with valuable skills and a deep appreciation for the craft of woodworking.



Digital Technology

A solo based on the Technology learning area

In the Year 9 Digital Technology class, you will embark on an exciting journey through the world of coding, digital design, and computer systems. You will dive into hands-on projects and interactive lessons that make learning fun and impactful. You also get to unleash your creativity by building apps, designing digital graphics, and solving real-world problems with technology. As you master essential skills in software development and problem-solving, You will also explore how technology shapes our world and drives innovation. This dynamic course ignites curiosity and prepares you to harness the power of technology to make a difference in your life and future career.



Design and Visual Communication

A solo that covers the Technology learning area

Year 9 Design and Visual Communication introduces you to the fundamentals of design through a variety of drawing methods and creative problem-solving activities. The course covers essential skills such as sketching, rendering, and basic draughting, while also introducing you to computer software applications used in design. You will then apply these skills to tackle design challenges in three key areas: Architectural and Environmental (Spatial) Design, Technological and Engineering (Product) Design, and Media Design. The focus is on using the design process to spark creativity and develop problem-solving abilities that can be applied across other subjects. By the end of the course, you will have a solid foundation in design and visual communication, preparing you for more advanced studies in related technology-based courses.



21st Century Learning and BYOD

USING TECHNOLOGY TO ENHANCE AND ENABLE LEARNING

At Māruawai College we believe in allowing students to become connected learners for life. ICT allows greater collaboration, personalised delivery of curriculum, and many other opportunities to enhance teaching and learning for students.

Students at all year levels will use devices in class for your learning. In the same way that students will come to school and attend lessons in a classroom, with a teacher in front of them, we also use an online platform called Microsoft Teams for day-to-day activities. This is our online forum for communication, administration, making pastoral connections and learning.

PURCHASING A DEVICE

We want all students to have access to their own devices. If you cannot afford a device at this time, please contact the school to talk about how we can help provide your student with their own device.

DEVICE SPECIFICATIONS

- Windows 11 (preferred operating system) or 10
- 8GB of RAM minimum
- 128GB SSD storage minimum, 256GB recommended
- A minimum of 6-hour battery life
- Laptop case or cover recommended
- Damage protection/contents insurance recommended



GENERAL ENQUIRIES

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