MĀRUAWAI
COLLEGE

Year 10
Subject Information

SENIOR CAMPUS

No Reward Without Effort

Contents

Welcome to Year 10

This year, you'll build on the foundations from Year 9 with a learning programme designed to extend your thinking, deepen your skills, and prepare you for the challenges ahead. You'll be encouraged to take more ownership of your learning, think critically, and explore new ideas with confidence.

You will study:

English – Strengthen your skills in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. You'll explore a wide range of texts, express your ideas creatively and persuasively, and engage in discussions that develop your confidence and communication skills.

Health and Physical Education – Focus on your wellbeing—physical, mental, and social. Through a range of sports, activities, and health topics, you'll learn strategies for staying healthy, managing challenges, and building strong relationships and teamwork.

Mathematics – Tackle more complex problems using logical reasoning and mathematical strategies. You'll deepen your understanding of number, algebra, geometry, and statistics while applying maths to real-world situations.

Science – Explore the world through hands-on experiments, investigations, and scientific thinking. You'll study key areas like biology, chemistry, physics, and Earth science, gaining skills in inquiry, analysis, and evidence-based reasoning.

Social Studies – Examine people, cultures, systems, and histories—especially those of Aotearoa New Zealand. You'll explore Te Tiriti o Waitangi, investigate local and global issues, and learn to think critically about the past and present to shape a better future.

Option Subjects – You'll choose four option subjects (plus one backup) from a wide range offered. These allow you to explore your interests, develop new skills, and get a taste of future pathways.

Throughout the year, there is a strong focus on literacy and numeracy to support success across all subjects. You'll also continue to develop key competencies like self-management, collaboration, critical thinking, and creativity—skills that will help you thrive both at school and beyond.

Get ready for a year of growth, discovery, and challenge!

Year 10 courses

Compulsory subjects

The following subjects are compulsory. All students are required to take these subjects.

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

Option subjects

The following subjects are optional:

- Agriculture
- Digital Technology
- Design and Visual Information
- Drama
- LEGO and Robotics
- Music
- Technology Fabric
- Technology Food
- Technology Metal
- Technology Wood
- Te Reo Māori
- Visual Art

Our Prospectus/Enrolments:

maruawai.school.nz/enrolments

Selecting your subject options on Helix

1. You will choose your options online, by either using a web browser to login to **Helix**, or by using the **Helix SMS App** on your phone.
2. Login with your student school email address at **https://student.helixsms.co.nz/** using your EDGE password.
3. Make sure the Year Level is **2025.**
4. Choose your subjects.

Agriculture

COURSE OUTLINE

This course offers a detailed introduction to the world of farming, with a focus on the main types of farms and the activities that keep them running. Students will explore both plant and animal production, with particular emphasis on traditional livestock farming. Topics include animal health and nutrition, pasture management, soil quality, crop selection, and the environmental and economic factors that influence successful farming.

Through a mix of theory and practical learning, students will gain an understanding of what makes a farm productive, sustainable, and profitable. Regular hands-on work in the school's tunnel-house and garden allows students to grow and care for plants, apply propagation techniques, and observe seasonal cycles in action.

Whether students come from a rural background or are new to agriculture, this course builds a strong foundation in farming knowledge and skills. It is an excellent stepping stone for those considering Year 11 Agriculture and future studies in the primary industries.

WHERE DOES IT LEAD?

NCEA Level 1 Agriculture; NCEA Trades Academy

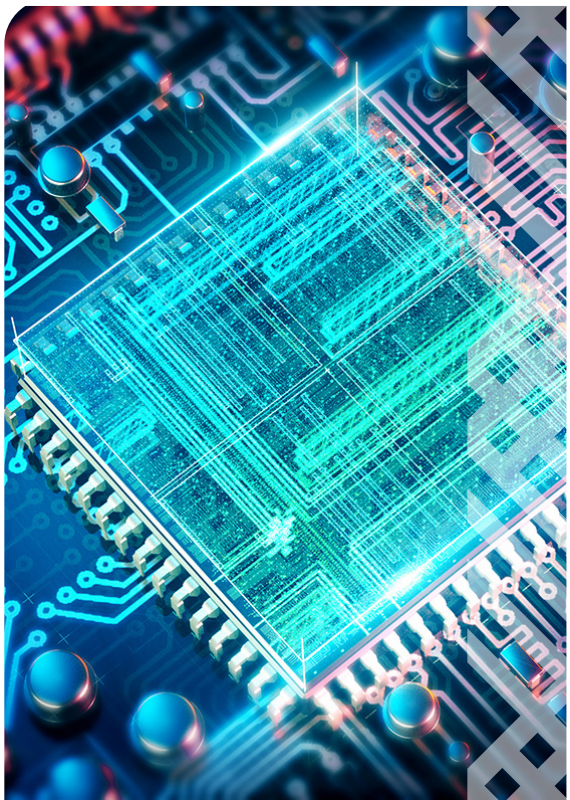
Digital Technology

COURSE OUTLINE

Year 10 Digital Technology builds further on students' prior learning and improves their skills across many areas of design and producing digital outcomes. It also prepares students for senior Digital Technology.

The course involves using software such as Photoshop as a design tool to produce digital media outcomes, designing websites and coding them using HTML and CSS, getting started with animation theory and practice, and learning the processes needed to create and code using "Scratch".

Students will expand their knowledge of how the computer functions, file types, and file organisation. The course will continue the student's path towards becoming competent and creative in the Digital Technology field.



WHERE DOES IT LEAD?

It may continue into NCEA Levels 1-3 Digital Technology.

Design and Visual Communication

COURSE OUTLINE

Year 10 Design and Visual Communication builds on information gained from the Year 9 course and uses the personalised learning method by encouraging students to create solutions which have meaning for them.

The course will introduce a wide range of drawing methods, including: sketching, rendering, modelling, draughting skills, and some computer software applications. Students will develop these skills further by applying them to design problems that will be structured around the following three sections: Architectural and Environmental (Spatial) Design, Technological and Engineering (Product) Design, and one Media Design project. The design process will be used to enhance creativity and problem-solving techniques, in conjunction with core drawing techniques which may be transferred into other subjects throughout the school. This subject supports learning in other technology-based courses.

WHERE DOES IT LEAD?

NCEA Levels 1, 2 and 3. University and Polytechnic courses are available for further study, i.e., Architecture, Surveying, Product Design, Graphics Media Design, Landscape Architect, Construction fields, Engineering, Interior Design, and a range of trades, etc.

Drama

COURSE OUTLINE

Students will practice dramatic forms as they work with the elements of role, time and space, action, tension and focus. They will develop skills in using the techniques of voice, body, movement, and space.

Students will have the opportunity to investigate and perform a variety of theatre forms during this course. We will focus on devising, improvisation, live performance, film creation and script work. Students will incorporate and develop their use of drama techniques, elements, and conventions. The Year 10 Drama course allows students to gather a clear understanding of the work covered in NCEA Drama during their senior year.

WHERE DOES IT LEAD?

Development of confidence, creativity and teamwork. Year 10 Drama leads to NCEA Drama.

LEGO and Robotics

COURSE OUTLINE

Are you ready to bring your imagination to life with moving machines and intelligent robots? In this exciting Year 10 subject, you'll dive into the world of LEGO engineering and robotics, where creativity meets cutting-edge technology.

Design, build, and program your very own robots using LEGO SPIKE Prime. You'll learn how to make your creations move, respond to the world around them, and complete complex challenges—whether it's navigating a maze, lifting objects, or competing in mini robot battles!
This subject is perfect for students who love hands-on learning, problem-solving, and working in teams. You'll also gain real-world skills in coding, engineering, and design thinking—all while having a blast.
Whether you're a future engineer, gamer, or inventor, LEGO & Robotics is your chance to unleash your inner innovator. Get ready to build the future—one brick and line of code at a time!

WHERE DOES IT LEAD?

NCEA Levels 1, 2 and 3 STEM subjects- Science, Hard Technology, Maths.

Music

COURSE OUTLINE

This course is tailored for students who have either completed Year 9 Music, or have a minimum of one year of instrument tuition. Students will review the fundamental aspects of music and delve deeper into the analysis of musical contexts and genres. Throughout the course, students will be able to pursue their chosen instrument(s), dedicated to enhancing their solo and group musicianship skills. Alongside instrument practice, students will learn how to compose music and utilise technology to support their growth. The course will cover the history of New Zealand music and explore the usage of music in films. Musical theory will be taught through engaging song analysis and interactive group activities.

WHERE DOES IT LEAD?

NCEA Levels 1, 2 and 3 Music. This subject can lead to careers and further training in the associated industry – teacher, performer, arranger, and sound engineer.

Technology Fabric

COURSE OUTLINE

Technology Fabric builds on the basic understanding of knowledge and skills gained at Year 9, but it caters for all students, regardless of ability or previous experience, who are interested in this area. There is a focus on the Technology Knowledge and Skills component of the curriculum where students develop practical skills through the designing and construction of a product. Emphasis is given to creativity and individuality as well as accuracy of techniques and processes. Students are encouraged and will be given the opportunity to experiment with materials other than fabric to complete practical outcomes, giving them a solid base that will enhance future learning in this subject.

WHERE DOES IT LEAD?

NCEA Levels 1, 2 and 3 Technology Soft Materials courses. Fashion Industry, Polytechnic and University Design Courses.

Technology Food

COURSE OUTLINE

This course builds on the basic understanding of Food and Nutrition knowledge and skills gained at Year 9. This subject caters for all students regardless of ability and experience, students are most welcome to join without taking Year 9. Students are encouraged to experiment and develop their own food ideas through recipes and dish design. Food Technology requires equal amount of written and practical experiences which targets a future focussed approach to food and dining experiences.

WHERE DOES IT LEAD?

Year 11 Culinary Design and beyond that Year 12 Hospitality.

Technology Metal

COURSE OUTLINE

This course is aimed at problem solving and creating functional practical projects. Students will develop a wide range of skills to give them a good preparation towards the senior levels of this subject. Students are encouraged to explore and use a range of materials, with the main material being metal. A design and make approach is the foundation for this course along with a focus on skill development. Students will complete planning for practice and brief development work, which supports further Technological study in following years. We endeavour to develop an understanding of where products come from, how they are produced and ultimately what happens to them when they meet their end of life.

WHERE DOES IT LEAD?

NCEA Levels 1, 2 and 3 Technology courses, the Construction or Engineering industry, for example, plumbing, welding, fitting and turning, diesel mechanic, motorcycle mechanic and Polytechnic and University Technology/Design courses.

Technology Wood

COURSE OUTLINE

This course is aimed at problem solving and creating functional practical solutions. There is a focus on Technology Literacy, including planning for practice and brief development work, which supports further Technological study in following years students will develop a wide range of skills to give them a good skill base for the senior levels. A mixture of materials such as natural timber, manufactured boards, metal and plastics may be used, with the main material being wood. The students will usually complete two or three design and make projects that give them the opportunity to discover different joining methods and characteristics of the materials they are using. The design and make approach is the foundation for this course and sets the standard for NCEA Level 1 and above.

WHERE DOES IT LEAD?

NCEA Levels 1, 2 and 3 Technology courses, the Construction or Engineering industry or Polytechnic and University Technology/Design courses.

Te Reo Māori

COURSE OUTLINE

Year 10 te reo Māori expands on the sentence structures and vocabulary available for students to use when communicating in te reo Māori. Students will learn and use a variety of sentence structures including active sentences, asking "*when did, when will, and how will"* and answering these questions. Agent emphatic sentence structures are also covered. Students will do a research assessment as well as whakarongo, tuhinga, kōrero and pānui.

WHERE DOES IT LEAD?

Year 11 Māori (either Unit Standards or Achievement Standards). There are future career opportunities in Media, Interpreting, Journalism, Teaching, Tourism in New Zealand, Politics.

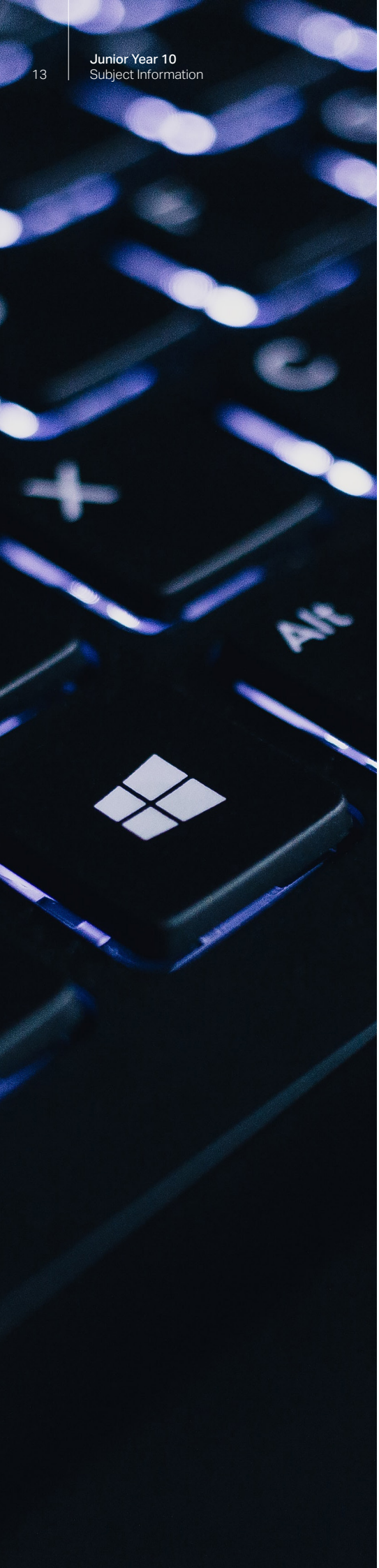
Visual Art

COURSE OUTLINE

Students will be encouraged to explore elements and principles of the Visual Arts using a variety of techniques, tools, materials, processes, and procedures. Students will use imagination, observation, and will experiment with a range of media in painting, printmaking and photography. The course is designed to develop skills and techniques in preparation for NCEA Level 1. The course is experimental in its approach and the students are encouraged and supported in learning new techniques and art processes. Opportunities to work in collaboration and within the community are offered in conjunction with the East Gore Arts Centre. Any student interested in taking Visual Art at NCEA Level 1 would benefit hugely from taking this Year 10 course first.

WHERE DOES IT LEAD?

NCEA Level 1 Visual Art



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 our students.

Students at all year levels will use devices in class for their learning. In the same way that students 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 device. If you cannot afford a device at this time, please contact the school to talk about how we can help provide your child with their own device.

DEVICE SPECIFICATIONS

- Windows 11
- 8GB of RAM minimum
- Core 5/Ryzen 5 recommended
- 256GB SSD storage minimum
- Laptop case or cover recommended
- Damage protection/contents insurance recommended

GENERAL ENQUIRIES

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