



MĀRUAWAI
COLLEGE

Year 9

Subject Information

📍 SENIOR CAMPUS

No Reward Without Effort

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Welcome to Year 9

This year, you'll take part in an engaging learning programme, designed to grow your skills, spark your curiosity, and help you thrive across all areas of school life.

You will study:

English - Develop your confidence in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. You'll explore a variety of texts, express your own ideas creatively, and strengthen your literacy skills through engaging projects and class discussions.

Health and Physical Education - Discover how to look after your physical, mental, and social wellbeing. You'll take part in a variety of physical activities, sports, and health topics that build teamwork, resilience, and self-awareness.

Mathematics - Learn how to solve real-world problems, use mathematical thinking, and strengthen your numeracy skills. You'll explore topics like number, algebra, geometry, and statistics, all while developing strategies you can use in everyday life.

Science - Get hands-on with experiments, investigations, and fun group challenges. You'll explore how the natural world works through topics like biology, chemistry, physics, and planet Earth, while building your curiosity and confidence as a young scientist.

Social Studies - Explore people, places, cultures, and how societies work. A key focus will be Aotearoa New Zealand Histories, where you'll learn about local stories, Te Tiriti o Waitangi, and how our past shapes who we are today. You'll also build skills in critical thinking, inquiry, and understanding perspectives.

Option Subjects - You can select 4 option subjects (and 1 back-up). These are outlined in the following pages of this booklet.

Throughout the year, there is a strong focus on literacy and numeracy to support your learning across all subjects. You'll also develop key competencies like self-management, collaboration, and creative thinking, skills that will help you succeed in school and in life.

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

Year 9 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 Communication
- Music
- Performing Arts
- Technology Fabric
- Technology Food
- Technology Metal
- Technology Wood
- Robotics and Engineering
- Te Reo Māori
- Visual Art

Our Prospectus/Enrolments:

maruawai.school.nz/enrolments

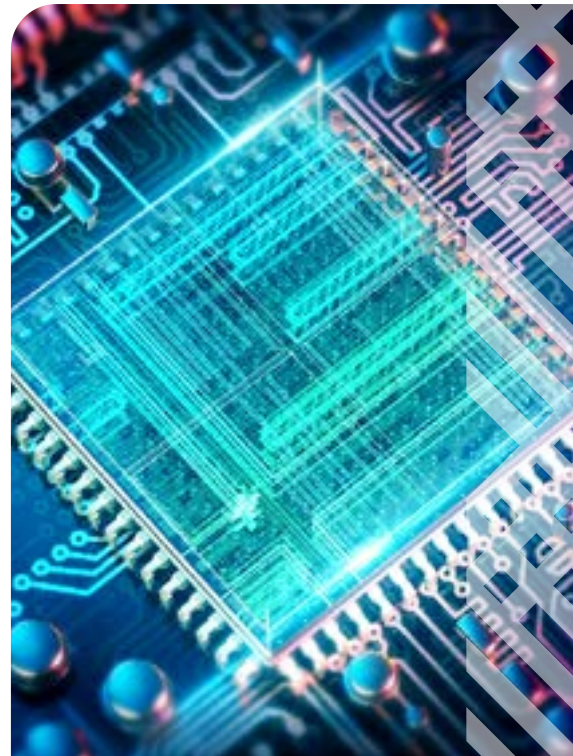


Agriculture

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 subject. Agriculture at Māruawai College is well regarded, we are proud of our agricultural connection and history.

Digital Technology

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

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. This will prepare you for more advanced studies in related technology-based courses.





Music

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 stage 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.

Performing Arts

Welcome to Year 9 Performing Arts – a fun, creative course where you'll get to explore drama, dance, and music all in one. Whether you've performed before or you're just curious to give it a go, this is your chance to step out of your comfort zone and try something new in a supportive and energetic environment.

Throughout the course, you'll work with others on a range of practical projects from short drama scenes and movement pieces to simple music-making and group performances. You'll learn how to express yourself, build confidence, and develop key performance skills, all while having fun and discovering what you enjoy most.

Each class is different – sometimes you'll be up on your feet performing, other times you'll be working together to create something original, and every now and then you'll reflect on what worked and what you'd like to improve. Your teacher will be there to guide and support you along the way.

By the end of the course, you'll have grown as a performer, team member, and creative thinker, and hopefully will have discovered a love for the performing arts that will stay with you.



Technology Food

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 Fabric

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

Welcome to Year 9 Metal Technology – a hands-on course where you'll learn how to work with metal and create things you can be proud of. You don't need any experience to start – just a willingness to give it a go and learn some practical skills along the way.

In this course, you'll get to cut, shape, and join different types of metal using a range of tools and techniques. You'll work on projects that are both useful and creative – from simple, practical items to designs with your own personal flair. Along the way, you'll learn how to work safely in the workshop and gain confidence using metalworking tools.

Each class is a chance to build something new and develop your skills step by step. You'll be supported to solve problems, think like a designer, and bring your ideas to life through real-world making.

By the end of the course, you'll have a solid foundation in metalwork, a few impressive projects to show for it, and the confidence to take on more advanced challenges in the future.



Technology Wood

In the Year 9 Wood Technology class, you will 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.



Te Reo Māori

Nau mai ki te akoranga Te Reo Māori mō te Tau 9, he haerenga hei whakapakari i tō reo, kia tū tangata ai koe i te ao Māori.

Welcome to the Year 9 Te Reo Māori course, a journey to strengthen your language so you can stand confidently in the Māori world.

In Year 9 Te Reo Māori, you will set forth on an exciting journey into the heart of Māori language and culture. You will learn about 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 celebrate and connect with Māori heritage through language.



Robotics and Engineering

Are you ready to bring your imagination to life with moving machines and intelligent robots? In this exciting 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!



Visual Art

Welcome to Year 9 Visual Art – a dynamic and hands-on course where creativity, exploration, and expression are at the heart of everything you do. Throughout the year, you'll experiment with a range of materials and techniques, including drawing, painting, sculpture, and mixed media. You'll be encouraged to try new approaches, take creative risks, and develop your own unique visual style.

This course is designed to help you grow as both a maker and a thinker. You'll build your technical skills while also learning to reflect on your own work and the work of others. You'll explore a variety of artists, styles, and cultural perspectives, gaining insight into how art communicates ideas and responds to the world.

The Senior Campus Art room provides a calm, welcoming, and well-equipped environment where you can receive guidance and feedback from your teachers, develop your skills and build confidence in your work.

Whether you're new to visual art or already experienced, we offer the space and support to develop your artistic possibilities in 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 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
- 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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