



Wakatipu
HIGH SCHOOL

Course Option Selection

YEAR 10 – 2027

Introduction

Welcome to Course Option Selection

At Wakatipu High School, we believe in delivering Aotearoa New Zealand's best all-round education – one that supports every student to learn, grow, and thrive in ways that are uniquely their own.

Central to everything we do is our Ākonga Profile. This framework reflects our holistic approach to education, encompassing the values of excellence, respect, responsibility, resilience, and inclusion; future-focused qualifications and pathways; capabilities for lifelong learning; and the development of the whole person; self, social, and active citizen.

Your course choices are one important part of that journey.





Wakatipu
HIGH SCHOOL

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Choosing Your Subjects

Year 10:

Year 10 is an important year. It is the final year before you begin working towards formal qualifications, and the choices you make now can set you up well for what comes next. That makes this more than just picking subjects you enjoy, though that matters too. It is worth thinking carefully about where you are heading.

In Year 11, you will begin the Foundation Award, the first stage of the new qualification system. Different subjects will help set you up for different pathways depending on what you choose to study. If you already have a sense of what interests you, whether that is sciences, arts, languages, technology, or something else, use that to guide your choices. Selecting subjects in Year 10 that align with where you want to go in Year 11 gives you a head start, both in content knowledge and in the habits of study those subjects require.

If you are not yet sure what direction you want to take, that is completely fine and you are not alone. In that case, the best approach is to keep your options open by maintaining a broad base across different learning areas. Avoid narrowing too early. A student who has experienced a range of subjects is better placed to make confident decisions when it counts.

Your compulsory subjects, English, Mathematics, Science, Social Science, and Health & Physical Education, form the foundation of your Year 10 programme. Beyond these, you will make choices across Arts, Technology, Languages, and a free choice option. Think of these not just as classes to fill your timetable, but as an opportunity to explore, build skills, and figure out what genuinely engages you.

Talk to your whānau, your teachers, and your Kaiārahi. Come along to the Course Option Afternoon on Tuesday 28 July, and the Kaiārahi Progress & Option Selection Meetings on Tuesday 4 August. Make your choices with intention.

Qualifications Pathway

New Qualifications

Students are the first cohort in the new qualification system currently being designed and rolled out. There will be information evenings explaining the details of these qualifications as students get closer to sitting them.

Year 11 — Foundation Award (2028)

NCEA Level 1 is removed and replaced with a Foundation Award based on the literacy and numeracy strands of the English and Maths curricula. Students will sit formal NZQA-run exams for literacy and numeracy, along with school-based assessments (including exams) for all of their subjects.

Year 12 — New Zealand Certificate in Education, NZCE (2029)

NCEA Level 2 is replaced by the New Zealand Certificate in Education. Students must sit a minimum of five subjects and must pass at least three, and must have gained the Foundation Award (or co-requisite assessments during the transition phase — see the Literacy and Numeracy Corequisites section). Subjects will be assessed on an A+ – E scale, with C as the passing grade. Each subject will be assessed through three or four tasks, some completed during the year and some as end-of-year exams.

Year 13 — New Zealand Advanced Certificate in Education, NZACE (2030)

Level 3 is replaced by the New Zealand Advanced Certificate in Education, with the same five-subject, three-pass requirement structure as the NZCE. Students must also have gained the Foundation Award (or co-requisite assessments during the transition phase).

University Entrance requirements have not yet been announced.

Literacy and Numeracy Requirements

For both the existing and new qualification systems, there is a mandatory requirement to pass assessments in Literacy (reading and writing) and Numeracy. These are compulsory — no qualification at any level can be achieved without meeting this requirement. It is important that you sit and pass these assessments to ensure you leave school with every qualification you are entitled to.

During the current transition to new qualifications, there are two ways of meeting the Literacy and Numeracy requirement:

- > The existing Co-requisite Assessments (Reading, Writing, and Numeracy) — sat in Year 10
- > The new Foundation Award — sat in Year 11

During Year 10 in 2027, all students will sit the co-requisite assessments. These are held across two windows each year: the first in Term 2, with Writing, Numeracy, and Reading each on separate days. If you are unsuccessful, there is a second opportunity later in Term 3.

In Year 11 (2028), students will have the opportunity to resit the co-requisite assessments if needed, as well as sit the new Foundation Award. The Foundation Award assessments are set at a higher curriculum level than the co-requisite assessments, and offer an additional pathway to meeting the requirement.

On completion of the NZCE (the Year 12 qualification) and the NZACE (the Year 13 qualification), the method by which a student met their Literacy and Numeracy requirement will be recorded on their Record of Achievement.

Cambridge IGCSE Pathway

At Wakatipu High School, our vision is to deliver Aotearoa New Zealand's best all-round education. Central to that is making sure every student has the opportunity to be genuinely challenged and to reach their full potential. For some of you, the Cambridge IGCSE pathway is how we plan to do that.

IGCSE stands for International General Certificate of Secondary Education, a qualification developed by Cambridge Assessment International Education and recognised by universities and employers worldwide. It is currently offered by over 50 schools in New Zealand and has a strong track record of preparing students for advanced academic study. At WHS, we are offering IGCSE in three subjects: English, Mathematics, and Science on a trial basis in 2027 for a restricted number of Year 10s and continuing into 2028 when those students are in Year 11.

So why are we offering it? Not every student is best served by the same learning experience, and some of you are ready for something deeper. IGCSE courses go further into content and ideas than the standard curriculum — concepts typically not covered until later years at high school may be explored here. The courses are academically demanding and assessed primarily through examinations at the end of Year 11, using the internationally recognised A* to G grading scale. This is a different kind of challenge from what you may be used to, and a genuinely rewarding one.

This is an integrated pathway, which means IGCSE content is woven together with the New Zealand Curriculum, including essential Mātauranga Māori components. You are not stepping outside a New Zealand education, you are experiencing a different version of it. You will sit the literacy and numeracy co-requisite tests with all other Year 10 students.

Who should apply? This pathway is open to students with a genuine passion for English, Mathematics, and/or Science — students who are curious, willing to work hard, and comfortable with exam-based assessment. Passion, attitude, and engagement matter more than being the top student in the class right now. You can apply for one, two, or all three subjects.

It is worth being clear about what this involves. IGCSE is a two-year commitment, running from Year 10 through to the end of Year 11. You will be expected to attend consistently, keep up with homework and independent study, and contribute actively in class. There are also costs to be aware of: exam fees are approximately \$180 per subject, payable in 2028, along with some course material costs that your teachers will outline.

If you are the kind of person who wants to go further, think more deeply, and set yourself up strongly for the last two years of high school, this pathway is worth serious consideration. It is not for everyone, but for the right student, it is an excellent opportunity to reach for your heights.

Entry is by application. If you are interested, we encourage you to talk with your teachers and whānau, and to attend the information evening where you can ask questions and find out more. There will be a section where you can express interest when you complete your overall option selection.

Timetable and Requirements

Our school operates on a two-week timetable, from Day 1 to Day 10. Each subject has a total of 7.5 hours of class time over this 10-day period. On top of subject time, Ako time is for 1 hour every Monday and Friday.

An important part of the WHS timetable is our Kaiārahi (learning advisor) model. Kaiārahi connect with students and their families from the day they enter the WHS community, regularly meeting with students during Ako time as part of their Ako Group. Kaiārahi support students to set aspirational goals, and help track, monitor and mentor students with their learning, progress and achievement.

QUESTION	ANSWER
How long is the timetable?	The timetable repeats its cycle every two-weeks (Monday to Friday, and the following Monday-Friday).
How do the weeks work?	'Week 1' is Day 1-Day 5 on our school calendar. 'Week 2' is Day 6-Day 10. 'Week 3' returns to Day 1-Day 5
How long is a semester?	A semester lasts for half the year, and is made up of two-terms. A term lasts for ten weeks. 4 Terms = two semesters = 1 School Year.
How does the Kaiārahi system work?	Our five houses (Arthur, Duncan, Fox, Hay and Mackenzie) are divided into Ako Groups of around 20 students, each led by Kaiārahi, which meet three times per week during Ako Time. Kaiārahi are teachers at WHS who carry the additional responsibility of acting in the Kaiārahi role.

Requirements

The key philosophies behind Wakatipu High School's junior student timetable are student choice, a broad education, and a strong foundation in literacy and numeracy. Student choice is a key driver as it supports greater engagement and achievement for students. We also believe that it is very important for junior students to experience the full breadth of the NZ Curriculum and its eight Learning Areas, while also having the opportunity to choose subjects that allow them to explore their passions. As students move to the senior school, they become more specialised in their chosen subjects and pathway. In addition, the timetable supports students to be able to multi-level study if that is appropriate for their learning.

Enrichment Options

Most of our options follow the New Zealand Curriculum. We also offer enrichment options — these sit outside the New Zealand Curriculum and allow students to explore more specific areas of interest. Enrichment options can only be selected as a 'free choice' option.

	YEAR 10	YEAR 11	YEAR 12	YEAR 13
Arts <i>Ngā Toi</i>	ART2 – Developing Art - Drawing, Painting & Print	11ART – Visual Arts	12ARP –Visual Arts - Painting 12ARD – Visual Arts - Design 12FOT – Visual Arts - Photography & Moving Image	13ARP – Visual Arts - Painting
	ART3 – Developing Art - Digital			13ARD – Visual Arts - Design
	MUS1 – Introduction to Music	11MUS – Music		12MUS – Music
	MUS2 – Exploring Music		13MUS – Music	
	MUS3 – Developing as a Musician			
	DRA1 – Foundation Performance Skills	11DRA – Drama	12DRA – Drama	13DRA – Drama
	DRA2 – Creating Drama for Purpose			
	PROD – Junior Musical Production*			
English <i>Te Reo Pākeha</i>	10ENG1 – English (compulsory)	11ENG – English (compulsory)	12ENG – English	13ENG – English
	10ENG2 – English (compulsory)		12MJC – Media, Journalism & Communications	13MJC – Media, Journalism & Communications
	IGCSE English			
	ELL1 & ELL2 – English for Second Language Learners		ELL – English for Second Language Learners	
Health & Physical Education <i>Hauora</i>	10HPE – Health & Physical Education (compulsory)	11PED – Physical Education	12PED – Physical Education	13PED – Physical Education
	10PED – Developing Physical Education*			
		11HEA – Health Studies	12HEA – Health Education	13HEA – Health Education
			12OED – Outdoor Education	13OED – Outdoor Education
Languages <i>Ngā Reo</i>	FRE1 – Exploring French	11FRE – French	12FRE – French	13FRE – French
	FRE2 – Building French			
	FRE3 – Expanding French			
	JPN1 – Exploring Japanese	11JPN – Japanese	12JPN – Japanese	13JPN – Japanese
	JPN2 – Building Japanese			
	JPN3 – Expanding Japanese			
	AOT – Aotearoa: Te Reo & Tikanga Māori	11MAO – Te Reo Māori	12MAO – Te Reo Māori	13MAO – Te Reo Māori
	MAO1 – Exploring Te Reo Māori			
	MAO2 – Building Te Reo Māori			
	MAO3 – Expanding Te Reo Māori			
	MPA1 – Exploring Te Ao Haka	11MPA – Te Ao Haka		
	MPA2 – Strengthening Te Ao Haka			
	SPA1 – Exploring Spanish	11SPA – Spanish	12SPA – Spanish	13SPA – Spanish
	SPA2 – Building Spanish			
	SPA3 – Expanding Spanish			
Mathematics & Statistics <i>Pāngarau</i>	10MAT1 – Mathematics (compulsory)	11MAT – Mathematics (comp)	12MAT – Mathematics	13MAT – Mathematics
	10MAT2 – Mathematics (compulsory)			
	IGCSE Mathematics		12AMT – Applied Mathematics	13AMT – Applied Mathematics
				13MAS – Statistics & Data Science 13MAC – Further Mathematics
Science <i>Pūtaiao</i>	10SCI1 – Science (compulsory)	11SCE – Science (comp)	12BIO – Biology	13BIO – Biology
	10SCI2 – Science (compulsory)	11SCS – Specialist Science	12CHE – Chemistry	13CHE – Chemistry
	IGCSE Science		12PHX – Physics	13PHX – Physics
			12ESS – Earth & Space Science	13ESS – Earth & Space Science
			12HOR – Horticulture & Agriculture	13HOR – Horticulture & Agriculture
Social Sciences <i>Te ao tangata</i>	10SOC1 – Social Studies (compulsory)	11BEC – Business & Economics	12BUS – Business Studies	13BUS – Business Studies
			12ECO – Economics	13ECO – Economics
		11GEO – Geography	12GEO – Geography	13GEO – Geography
		11HIS – History	12HIS – History	13HIS – History
	10BBN – Entrepreneurship in the Basin*		12TOU – Tourism	13TOU – Tourism
	10CTH – Critical Thinking in the Humanities*		12PSY – Psychology	13PSY – Psychology
Technology <i>Hangarau</i>	10CDT – Computer Science & Digital Technology	11CDT – Computer Science & Digital Technology	12DIT – Digital Technology	13DIT – Digital Technology
			12CSC – Computer Science	13CSC – Computer Science
	SPD – Fundamentals of Spatial & Product Design	11SPD – Spatial & Product Design	12SPD – Spatial & Product Design	13SPD – Spatial & Product Design
	FTK – Fundamentals of Food & Processing Technology	11FTK – Food Technology	12FTK – Food & Processing	
			12HOS – Hospitality	13HOS – Hospitality
	MTK – Fundamentals of Resistant Materials Technology	11MTK – Resistant Materials Technology	12MTK – Resistant Materials Technology	13MTK – Resistant Materials Technology
			12BCO – Building & Construction	13BCO – Building & Construction
	SYS – Systems Thinking & Design*			

Year 10: 12 Semester Options

(six in semester one, six in semester two)

Compulsory

1. 10ENG1 – English
2. 10ENG2 – English
3. 10MAT1 – Mathematics and Statistics
4. 10MAT2 – Mathematics and Statistics
5. 10SCI1 – Science
6. 10SCI2 – Science
7. 10SOC1 – Social Science
8. 10HPE – Health and PE

Notes:

Wakatipu High School offers some support classes aimed at accelerating progress in key areas. If a student is recommended for one of these courses it can either take option 11 (replace a language), or option 12 (free choice).

- Literacy Enhancement
- English for Second Language Learners
- Numeracy Support

The Arts/Technology/Science/Language/Optional could be in either Semester 1 or 2 depending on the timetable structure.

Choice

9. Arts – student to choose one of:

- ART2 – Developing Art – Drawing, Painting and Print
- ART3 – Developing Art – Digital Art
- MUS1 – Introduction to Music
- MUS2 – Exploring Music
- MUS3 – Developing as a Musician
- DRA1 – Foundation Performance Skills
- DRA2 – Creating Drama for Purpose

10. Technology – student to choose one of:

- 10CDT – Computer Science and Digital Technology
- SPD – Fundamentals of Spatial and Product Design
- FTK – Fundamentals of Food and Processing Technology
- MTK – Fundamentals of Resistant Materials Technology

11. Languages – students to choose one of:

Note: We strongly encourage students to continue with their Year 9 language. Students who have a particular pathway or passion may apply to take an alternative option in place of a language.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| ◦ FRE1 – Exploring French | ◦ MAO3 – Expanding Te Reo Māori |
| ◦ FRE2 – Building French | ◦ MPA1 – Exploring Te Ao Haka |
| ◦ FRE3 – Expanding French | ◦ MPA2 – Strengthening Te Ao Haka |
| ◦ JPN1 – Exploring Japanese | ◦ AOT – Aotearoa: Te Reo & Tikanga Māori |
| ◦ JPN2 – Building Japanese | ◦ SPA1 – Exploring Spanish |
| ◦ JPN3 – Expanding Japanese | ◦ SPA2 – Building Spanish |
| ◦ MAO1 – Exploring Te Reo Māori | ◦ SPA3 – Expanding Spanish |
| ◦ MAO2 – Building Te Reo Māori | |

12. Free choice – students to choose one of either:

- Another curriculum option (from the lists in Arts, Technology or Languages)
- Or
- An enrichment option:
 - PROD – Junior Musical Production
 - 10PED – Exploring Physical Education
 - 10BBN – Entrepreneurship in the Basin
 - 10CTH – Critical Thinking in the Humanities
 - SYS – Systems Thinking and Design

The Arts | *Ngā Toi*

Imagination, courage, and craft sit at the heart of the Arts at WHS. Students develop the knowledge and skills to create, interpret, and respond to artistic works with intention and growing technical control. They learn to make purposeful creative choices and to understand how art-forms connect people across cultures, communities, and generations.

The arts are rooted in identity, emotion, and storytelling. Students discover that artistic traditions have been shaped by people from many times, places, and cultures, and that New Zealand's artistic heritage, including Toi Māori and Pacific arts practices, sits alongside and enriches global traditions.

Years 9 and 10: Students create layered, intentional works that respond to cultural, historical, and social contexts. Drama develops students' ability to create and refine dramatic works, applying theatrical forms and conventions to shape meaning and engage audiences. Music develops students' ability to understand and express meaning through sound, working with musical techniques and music technologies to compose and perform. Visual Arts develops students' ability to explore and communicate meaning through visual forms.

	YEAR 10	YEAR 11	YEAR 12	YEAR 13
Arts <i>Ngā Toi</i>	ART2 – Developing Art - Drawing, Painting & Print	11ART – Visual Arts	12ARP – Visual Arts - Painting	13ARP – Visual Arts - Painting
	ART3 – Developing Art - Digital		12ARD – Visual Arts - Design	13ARD – Visual Arts - Design
	MUS1 – Introduction to Music	11MUS – Music	12FOT – Visual Arts - Photography & Moving Image	13FOT – Visual Arts - Photography & Moving Image
	MUS2 – Exploring Music			
	MUS3 – Developing as a Musician			
	DRA1 – Foundation Performance Skills	11DRA – Drama	12MUS – Music	13MUS – Music
	DRA2 – Creating Drama for Purpose			
	PROD – Junior Musical Production*		12DRA – Drama	13DRA – Drama

Students in Year 10 must choose one art option. They may choose a second art as their 'free choice' option.

Visual Arts

ART2 – Developing Art - Drawing, Painting and Print (Year 9 or 10)

Designed for ākonga who want to continue to develop their skills in drawing, painting, and printmaking, with introductions to photography and design. You will refine your technical ability while investigating how artists use symbolism to reflect cultural and social contexts. This exciting environment blends mini-projects with longer developed works, allowing you to establish your own creative style. Afterwards, ākonga can extend their skills in Art 3: Digital Art. Both courses provide the perfect foundation to thrive in our senior Art pathways.

ART3 – Developing Art - Digital (Year 9 or 10)

Designed for ākonga who want to continue to develop character design, animation, stop-motion, and poster design, alongside hands-on sculpture and photography. You will refine digital and traditional drawing techniques while investigating symbolism and cultural significance to create purposeful artworks. This exciting environment allows you to establish your own creative style. This course and Art 2 both provide the perfect foundation to thrive in senior Art pathways.

Music

MUS1 – Introduction to Music (Year 9 or 10)

This course is designed specifically for ākonga new to music, establishing essential theory knowledge and core performance skills. Ākonga select a guided pathway aligned with their interests: either beginner Rock Performance and Song-writing, or beginner Classical / Jazz studies. Throughout the semester, students develop and perform short pieces within a supportive environment alongside their teacher and peers. This course offers an ideal introduction for those with no prior musical experience, providing the foundations necessary to advance into other junior music courses.

MUS2 – Exploring Music (Year 9 or 10)

In this course, ākonga will explore diverse musical traditions, building fluency in performance and composition as they experiment with sound technologies to express their unique creative voice. Ākonga will progress their understanding of music through a programme involving theory, history, performance, and song-writing, using modern music technology to support fresh approaches to music-making. Note: 2+ years of prior instrument learning is necessary.

MUS3 – Developing as a Musician (Year 10 only)

This course builds on technical and musical fluency, challenging ākonga to collaborate and compose original works that reflect their personal interests and worldview. It prepares ākonga for senior music by ensuring they can understand and apply all aspects of the Music Curriculum. The key focus areas include instrumental skills, performance, song-writing, music analysis, and ensemble collaboration.

Drama

DRA1 – Foundation Performance Skills (Year 9 or 10)

In this course, you will use performance, spontaneous improvisation, and storytelling to build confidence and connection. Ākonga will explore character and relationships through script work and devising, while developing practical skills in foundational drama techniques, technologies, and stylised forms like physical theatre and melodrama. This course prepares students for senior Drama but the addition of DRA2 and /or the Junior Musical is also recommended.

DRA2 – Creating Drama for Purpose (Year 9 or 10)

Grounded in the collaborative values of whanaungatanga and manaakitanga, ākonga will explore the world of theatre by diving into written scripts, studying diverse styles, and devising original performances. You will master acting techniques and intentionally integrate production technologies—such as lighting, sound, and costuming—to alter meaning, engage audiences, and challenge social perspectives. This dynamic course prepares students for senior Drama and opens doors to other creative industries.

* Enrichment

PROD – Junior Musical Production (Year 9 or 10)

This high-impact, collaborative enrichment course splits into two pathways; one integrates vocal performance, choreography, and dramatic acting as you work with an ensemble to stage a full-scale musical. You will master the fundamentals of performance and stagecraft. The other develops students' practical experience in creative leadership, communication, and production technologies.

English | *Te Reo Pākeha*

Language is how we make sense of the world, and English at WHS gives students the tools to use it with purpose, clarity, and confidence. Students engage with English as a discipline of language, literature, and communication, learning to read critically, write with craft, and speak and listen with intent. Texts are created by people from many times, places, and perspectives. New Zealand's bicultural and multicultural literary heritage offers a rich and distinctive voice within global literary traditions.

Years 9 and 10: Students build their disciplinary knowledge across two strands. Text Studies develops students' ability to engage with complex ideas across a wide range of literary and non-fiction texts, examining how texts reflect historical, cultural, and social contexts. Language Studies strengthens students' fluency and control in creating texts across written, oral, visual, and digital modes, learning to critically evaluate how digital and media texts are constructed and how they position their audiences.

Years 11 to 13: Students deepen their understanding of language and literature, studying English or Media Studies, Journalism and Communications. These skills support pathways into careers in journalism, law, education, the creative arts, and public life.

	YEAR 10	YEAR 11	YEAR 12	YEAR 13
English <i>Te Reo Pākeha</i>	10ENG1 – English (compulsory)	11ENG – English (compulsory)	12ENG – English	13ENG – English
	10ENG2 – English (compulsory)		12MJC – Media, Journalism & Communications	13MJC – Media, Journalism & Communications
	IGCSE English			
	ELL1 & ELL2 – English for Second Language Learners		ELL – English for Second Language Learners	

Students in Year 10 have two compulsory semesters of English (a full year). These are already preselected.

Health and Physical Education

Hauora

Knowing how to look after yourself and others is one of the most important things a young person can learn. Health and Physical Education at WHS gives students the knowledge and skills to understand, manage, and advocate for their own wellbeing and the wellbeing of those around them. Students learn to make informed decisions, move with skill and confidence, and participate actively in their communities. Wellbeing is shaped by the relationships, environments, and cultures we live within — diverse perspectives, including te ao Māori concepts such as hauora, offer meaningful ways of understanding what it means to live well.

Years 9 and 10: Students build deeper knowledge about how bodies change and how health decisions influence physical, emotional, and social wellbeing. They develop understanding of topics such as nutrition, substance use, sexual health, and media influence. Movement instruction becomes more specialised, with students applying skills across different physical activities and learning how training and preparation affect performance.

Years 11 to 13: Students deepen their understanding and begin to specialise in Health Education, Physical Education, or Outdoor Education. These skills support pathways into careers in sport and recreation, nursing, medicine, counselling, education, and public health.

	YEAR 10	YEAR 11	YEAR 12	YEAR 13
Health & Physical Education Hauora	10HPE – Health & Physical Education (compulsory)	11PED – Physical Education	12PED – Physical Education	13PED – Physical Education
	10PED – Developing Physical Education*			
		11HEA – Health Studies	12HEA – Health Education	13HEA – Health Education
			12OED – Outdoor Education	13OED – Outdoor Education

Students in Year 10 have one compulsory semester of Health and Physical Education. This is already preselected. They may choose 10PED as their 'free choice' option.

* Enrichment

10PED – Developing Physical Education (Year 10)

For The Love of Movement: This course is designed to further challenge active and motivated young people by engaging them in a range of learning activities and opportunities centred around; practical movement, teamwork, leadership and the role of sport in our world. This a future focused course looking at possible pathways for those with a love of movement.

Languages | Ngā Reo

Every language opens a new way of seeing the world. Learning Languages at WHS builds the linguistic and cultural knowledge needed to communicate with growing confidence and purpose. By learning an additional language, students gain new perspectives on their own identity and develop the inter-cultural understanding to engage with the diverse cultures of Aotearoa and the wider world.

Years 9 and 10: Students develop knowledge and skills across two strands. Linguistic Knowledge focuses on how the target language works—building vocabulary, refining pronunciation, and developing accuracy across written and oral modes. Cultural and Sociolinguistic Knowledge explores the cultural contexts, values, beliefs, and social norms of the communities whose language they are studying.

Years 11 to 13: Students deepen their proficiency and cultural understanding in French, Spanish, Japanese, or Te Reo Māori. They develop a sophisticated understanding of how language reflects and shapes culture and identity. These skills support pathways into careers in international business, diplomacy, education, tourism, and the health sector.

	YEAR 10	YEAR 11	YEAR 12	YEAR 13
Languages Ngā Reo	FRE1 – Exploring French	11FRE – French	12FRE – French	13FRE – French
	FRE2 – Building French			
	FRE3 – Expanding French			
	JPN1 – Exploring Japanese	11JPN – Japanese	12JPN – Japanese	13JPN – Japanese
	JPN2 – Building Japanese			
	JPN3 – Expanding Japanese			
	AOT – Aotearoa: Te Reo & Tikanga Māori	11MAO – Te Reo Māori	12MAO – Te Reo Māori	13MAO – Te Reo Māori
	MAO1 – Exploring Te Reo Māori			
	MAO2 – Building Te Reo Māori			
	MAO3 – Expanding Te Reo Māori			
	MPA1 – Exploring Te Ao Haka	11MPA – Te Ao Haka		
	MPA2 – Strengthening Te Ao Haka			
	SPA1 – Exploring Spanish	11SPA – Spanish	12SPA – Spanish	13SPA – Spanish
	SPA2 – Building Spanish			
	SPA3 – Expanding Spanish			

Students in Year 10 are strongly encouraged to continue with the language they studied in Year 9. A second language can still be taken as a 'free choice' option. Note: We strongly encourage students to continue with their Year 9 language. Students who have a particular pathway or passion may apply to take an alternative option in place of a language.

French

FRE1 – Exploring French (Year 9 or 10)

Explore the cultures and traditions of the French-speaking world while learning to communicate in everyday situations. This course covers basic speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills. It provides a strong foundation for Year 10 and starts the pathway toward senior French studies.

FRE2 – Building French (Year 9 or 10)

Build on your existing skills to communicate with greater fluency about hobbies, food, cooking, future plans, and personal opinions. Through interactive games, music, and collaborative projects, you will deepen your language skills and prepare for senior French.

FRE3 – Expanding French (Year 10)

Develop the skills to use French independently. Learn to navigate travel, shopping, making plans, and solving problems while deepening your cultural understanding. This course prepares you for senior French and future international opportunities.

Japanese

JPN1 – Exploring Japanese (Year 9 or 10)

Dive into Japanese culture by learning Hiragana, basic Kanji, and how the language reflects respect and identity. You will learn pronunciation, simple sentences, and useful phrases to introduce yourself, describe family and pets, and understand cultural festivals.

JPN2 – Building Japanese (Year 9 or 10)

Learn to describe your daily life, routines, and interests with more independence. This course covers practical skills like ordering at a restaurant, exploring social traditions, and expanding your knowledge of Hiragana, Katakana, and Kanji.

JPN3 – Expanding Japanese (Year 10)

Develop spontaneous communication skills to navigate travel, food, and seasonal life in Japan. Students will create an itinerary for a dream trip while consolidating their knowledge of Hiragana, Katakana, and Kanji.

Te Reo Māori

AOT – Aotearoa: Te Reo & Tikanga Māori (Year 9 or 10)

A hands-on exploration of the stories, customs, history, and deep connections of Aotearoa. Students engage with contemporary issues and build meaningful connections to people, place, culture, and community through Te Reo and Tikanga Māori.

MAO1 – Exploring Te Reo Māori (Year 9 or 10)

Explore the richness of te ao Māori, including language, culture, and traditions, while learning to communicate in real-life contexts. From your first words and simple conversations to building confidence in speaking, listening, reading, and writing, you will develop meaningful connections with the language and your identity in a supportive, low-stakes environment. This course provides a strong foundation for Year 10 Te Reo Māori.

MAO2 – Building te reo Māori (Year 9 or 10)

Learn to share your own stories, express opinions, and interact spontaneously. Through waiata, games, and collaborative tasks, you will use te reo Māori in authentic contexts, strengthen your understanding of te ao Māori, and prepare for senior studies.

MAO3 – Expanding te reo Māori (Year 9 or 10)

Level up your language skills to navigate formal interactions and real-world contexts. This course builds independence and fluency, strengthens your connection to te ao Māori, and prepares you for senior Te Reo Māori.

Te Ao Haka

MPA1 – Exploring Te Ao Haka (Year 9 or 10)

Discover culture and identity through haka, waiata, movement, and storytelling. Students explore te reo Māori, tikanga Māori, and local narratives while building leadership and a sense of belonging. This course is the first step toward senior Te Reo Māori or Te Ao Haka.

MPA2 – Strengthening Te Ao Haka (Year 9 or 10)

Deepen your understanding of Māori performing arts, language, and culture. Explore the connections between whakapapa, community, and performance while developing advanced leadership and performance skills. This provides a foundation for senior Te Reo Māori or Te Ao Haka.

Spanish

SPA1 – Exploring Spanish (Year 9 or 10)

Learn to talk about yourself, your family, and your surroundings while exploring the traditions of the Spanish-speaking world. This course establishes a solid base for Year 10 Spanish and serves as the gateway to senior studies.

SPA2 – Building Spanish (Year 9 or 10)

Grow your ability to talk about your family, pets, school, sports, and future goals. Through role plays and cultural exploration, you will use Spanish in practical ways to prepare for senior studies.

SPA3 – Expanding Spanish (Year 9 or 10)

Develop the fluency to sustain natural conversations and handle real-world scenarios like travel, dining, and shopping. This course explores how people live across Spanish-speaking countries and sets you up for senior Spanish.

Mathematics and Statistics *Pāngarau*

Pattern, logic, and precision are the foundations of Mathematics and Statistics at WHS. Students develop the ability to explore, reason, and solve problems with confidence across the domains of number, algebra, geometry, measurement, and statistics. They engage with mathematics as both a precise and creative discipline, learning to recognise patterns, generalise relationships, and express ideas using mathematical language. Mathematical knowledge has been built by people from many times, places, and cultures — including te ao Māori perspectives on number, pattern, and measurement.

Years 9 and 10: Students develop and apply mathematical thinking across a broad range of concepts and contexts. They use proportional reasoning, generalise patterns in tables, equations, and graphs, and extend their knowledge of area, perimeter, and volume. Students use data visualisations to investigate patterns and variation, and apply their understanding to situations involving chance.

Years 11 to 13: Students deepen their mathematical and statistical understanding and begin to specialise in Mathematics, Statistics, or both. They work with increasingly abstract concepts, apply mathematical models to real-world situations, and develop the statistical literacy to evaluate evidence and make informed decisions. These skills support pathways into engineering, data science, finance, health, and environmental management.

	YEAR 10	YEAR 11	YEAR 12	YEAR 13
Mathematics & Statistics <i>Pāngarau</i>	10MAT1 – Mathematics (compulsory)	11MAT – Mathematics (comp)	12MAT – Mathematics	13MAT – Mathematics
	10MAT2 – Mathematics (compulsory)			
	IGCSE Mathematics		12AMT – Applied Mathematics	13AMT – Applied Mathematics
				13MAS – Statistics & Data Science 13MAC – Further Mathematics

Students in Year 10 have two compulsory semesters of Mathematics and Statistics (a full year). These are already preselected.

Science | *Pūtaiao*

Questions drive everything in Science at WHS. Students develop the knowledge and skills to understand, explain, and explore the physical and biological world, learning to observe systematically, ask testable questions, design investigations, analyse data, and communicate findings. Science is a human endeavour built on collaboration, creativity, and discovery. Students learn that diverse perspectives, including te ao Māori, can enrich scientific thinking and practice.

Years 9 and 10: Students apply their scientific knowledge to increasingly complex ideas across two strands. Physical Science develops students' understanding of matter, energy, forces, motion, and Earth and space systems. Biological Science focuses on how living systems function and change — including genetic and environmental influences on traits, immune responses, and human impacts on ecosystems. Students also engage in independent scientific inquiry, using evidence to critique claims and construct scientific arguments.

Years 11 to 13: Students deepen their core science knowledge and begin to specialise in Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Earth and Space Science, or Agricultural and Horticultural Science. They carry out practical investigations, collect and analyse data, and apply scientific models to real-world issues including sustainability and environmental change. These skills support a wide range of pathways across the sciences and beyond.

	YEAR 10	YEAR 11	YEAR 12	YEAR 13
Science <i>Pūtaiao</i>	10SCI1 – Science (compulsory)	11SCE – Science (comp)	12BIO – Biology	13BIO – Biology
	10SCI2 – Science (compulsory)	11SCS – Specialist Science	12CHE – Chemistry	13CHE – Chemistry
	IGCSE Science		12PHX – Physics	13PHX – Physics
			12ESS – Earth & Space Science	13ESS – Earth & Space Science
			12HOR – Horticulture & Agriculture	13HOR – Horticulture & Agriculture

Students in Year 10 have two compulsory semesters of Science (a full year). These are already preselected.

Social Sciences | *Te ao tangata*

Understanding the world and your place within it is what Social Sciences at WHS is all about. Students engage with social sciences as a discipline of inquiry, learning to ask searching questions, analyse evidence, and think critically about the forces that shape human experience across time and place. New Zealand's bicultural foundations, including the constitutional significance of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, are central to understanding who we are as a nation.

Years 9 and 10: Students deepen their understanding of how places change and how societies function, with a focus on New Zealand's place in a globalised world. They explore political ideologies, governance systems, and human rights frameworks, engaging with concepts such as sovereignty, inequality, ethics, and power. Students develop strong social sciences practices including analysing data and sources, evaluating competing perspectives, and constructing evidence-based arguments.

Years 11 to 13: Students deepen their understanding of people, places, and societies and begin to specialise in History, Geography, Economics, Business Studies, or Psychology. They conduct in-depth inquiries and apply social sciences thinking to real-world issues including environmental change, economic inequality, and political conflict. These skills support pathways into law, politics, journalism, education, and public service.

	YEAR 10	YEAR 11	YEAR 12	YEAR 13
Social Sciences <i>Te ao tangata</i>	10SOC1 – Social Studies (compulsory)	11BEC – Business & Economics	12BUS – Business Studies	13BUS – Business Studies
			12ECO – Economics	13ECO – Economics
		11GEO – Geography	12GEO – Geography	13GEO – Geography
		11HIS – History	12HIS – History	13HIS – History
	10BBN – Entrepreneurship in the Basin*		12TOU – Tourism	13TOU – Tourism
	10CTH – Critical Thinking in the Humanities*		12PSY – Psychology	13PSY – Psychology

Students in Year 10 have one compulsory semester of Social Sciences. This is already preselected. They may choose a second Social Science as their 'free choice' option.

* Enrichment

10ENB – Entrepreneurship in the basin (Year 10)

This multi-disciplinary enrichment programme connects with the local entrepreneurial spirit of the basin; building on the creative and innovative skills in solving the problems of present and future Queenstown. This course studies the geographical and historical significance of Queenstown, as well as the people that shaped this place. Students will examine entrepreneurship, and gain perspectives from community stakeholders. This course will explore how businesses participate in our community; integrating concepts of sustainability and innovation. This junior enrichment prepares students well for senior Social Science courses.

10CTH – Critical Thinking in the Humanities (Year 10)

This enrichment course sharpens students' intellectual rigour through questioning and critiquing the information given at face value by challenging underlying assumptions and synthesising abstract ideas into reasoned conclusions. Students will be provided with opportunities to complete in-depth analysis of social issues past and present, using critical thinking skills. This extension class pushes students to question, debate, analyse, and reason. Contexts can be interchangeable based on student interest. Critical thinking skills are the priority in this course, however possible topics may include: crime and punishment, and conflict and war. This junior enrichment prepares students well for senior Social Science courses.

Technology | *Hangarau*

Designing solutions that make a real difference in the world is the driving force behind Technology at WHS. Students develop the knowledge and skills to design, create, and critically evaluate outcomes with intention, learning to think creatively, work through complexity, and develop solutions that are ethical, sustainable, and fit for context. Technological practice has been shaped by the values, cultures, and needs of the societies that create and use it — including te ao Māori perspectives that enrich how we understand the impact of technological outcomes.

Years 9 and 10: Students develop a more specialised understanding of how to design and create complex outcomes. They apply established knowledge to develop solutions that meet authentic needs, and bring concepts to life through practical making and informed decision-making. In Year 10, students work with increasing complexity, engaging in research, prototyping, and refinement for authentic real-world contexts, and begin to shape their identities as designers and creators.

Years 11 to 13: Students deepen their technological knowledge and practice and begin to specialise in Processing Technologies (Resistant Materials or Food), Digital Technologies, Computer Science, or Spatial and Product Design. They engage with complex design challenges, conduct in-depth investigations, and apply specialist knowledge to develop sophisticated outcomes. These skills support pathways into engineering, architecture, software development, product design, and the trades.

	YEAR 10	YEAR 11	YEAR 12	YEAR 13
Technology Hangarau	10CDT – Computer Science & Digital Technology	11CDT – Computer Science & Digital Technology	12DIT – Digital Technology	13DIT – Digital Technology
			12CSC – Computer Science	13CSC – Computer Science
	SPD – Fundamentals of Spatial & Product Design	11SPD – Spatial & Product Design	12SPD – Spatial & Product Design	13SPD – Spatial & Product Design
	FTK – Fundamentals of Food & Processing Technology	11FTK – Food Technology	12FTK – Food & Processing	
			12HOS – Hospitality	13HOS – Hospitality
	MTK – Fundamentals of Resistant Materials Technology	11MTK – Resistant Materials Technology	12MTK – Resistant Materials Technology	13MTK – Resistant Materials Technology
			12BCO – Building & Construction	13BCO – Building & Construction
	SYS – Systems Thinking & Design*			

Students in Year 10 must choose one technology option. They may choose a second Technology as their 'free choice' option.

10CDT – Computer Science and Digital Technology (Year 10)

Students will learn how computers work, how computers store and manage data, and how to program computers to solve problems. Students will move from passive consumers of digital technology, to active developers of digital outcomes. Completing this course directly prepares you for senior Digital Technology and Computer Science options, and opens pathways to careers in software engineering, game development, cybersecurity, IT, and data analytics.

SPD – Fundamentals of Spatial and Product Design (Year 9 or 10)

Students will learn the fundamentals of design skills to create product and architectural designs, considering the needs of stakeholders. Students will explore design thinking, the design process, drawing skills, and learn Computer-Aided Design (CAD). This course leads directly into senior Spatial and Product Design courses, and supports future career paths in architecture, product design, and engineering.

Processing Technology (Year 9 or 10)

Students will create fit for purpose food outcomes; using safe, sustainable, nutritionally and culturally sound practices that meet brief requirements. Includes theory and practical components. This establishes the groundwork for senior Food Technology or Hospitality courses, paving the way for careers in health and nutrition, dietetics, food science, food technology, and the broader hospitality industry.

MTK – Fundamentals of Resistant Materials Technology (Year 9 or 10)

Through a blend of theoretical learning and hands-on practice, students will design and build a wood-based product while testing and evaluating various materials, tools, and techniques. This course leads into senior Resistant Materials Technology options, establishing a solid pathway toward product design, industrial design, engineering and the building trades.

FTK – Fundamentals of Food and

*** Enrichment**

SYS – Systems Thinking and Design (Year 9 or 10)

Students in this course will use systems thinking to investigate how technological components interact with each other. They will reverse engineer existing systems, design incremental improvements and create new designs using these techniques. This analytical foundation supports progression into senior STEM courses, opening doors to careers in systems engineering, robotics, and mechatronics.

Next Steps

Submit Your Choices

After reviewing available courses, please complete the form to select your options prior to **Monday, 10 August 2026**. This selection form will be emailed to students at the start of Term 3.

If you are having trouble deciding on your options for 2027, students and their parents/caregivers are invited to make an appointment with a member of Senior Leadership Team to discuss course options for 2027 and beyond. Appointments are available at a range of times, from 22-31 July. Please see our website to book: [wakatipu.school.nz/bookings](https://www.wakatipu.school.nz/bookings)

Important Note: Option selections are used to build the school timetable. While every effort is made to provide students with their top preferences, final course availability is subject to staffing and class sizes.

We look forward to supporting you as you take this next step.

Key Dates

Tues 28 July 2026	Course Option Afternoon
Tues 04 Aug 2026	Kaiārahi Progress & Option Selection Meetings
Mon 10 Aug 2026	2027 Course selection due

Term Dates 2027

TERM 1:	Thursday 28 January to Friday 09 April
TERM 2:	Tuesday 27 April to Friday 02 July
TERM 3:	Monday 19 July to Friday 24 September
TERM 4:	Monday 11 October to Thursday 09 December

Useful Links

Enrolment
- [wakatipu.school.nz/enrolment](https://www.wakatipu.school.nz/enrolment)

About Us
- [wakatipu.school.nz/our-school](https://www.wakatipu.school.nz/our-school)

School Contacts
- [wakatipu.school.nz/our-staff](https://www.wakatipu.school.nz/our-staff)

Attending WHS
- [wakatipu.school.nz/buses](https://www.wakatipu.school.nz/buses)
- [wakatipu.school.nz/uniform](https://www.wakatipu.school.nz/uniform)
- [wakatipu.school.nz/byod](https://www.wakatipu.school.nz/byod)
- [wakatipu.school.nz/stationery](https://www.wakatipu.school.nz/stationery)
- [wakatipu.school.nz/lockers](https://www.wakatipu.school.nz/lockers)

Financial Support
- [wakatipu.school.nz/awhina](https://www.wakatipu.school.nz/awhina)

