



QUEEN'S HIGH SCHOOL



YEAR 9 SUBJECT GUIDE

SUBJECTS IN YEAR 9

Year 9 Curriculum content:

The subjects that are compulsory in Year 9 and are full year subjects are:

- ◆ English
- ◆ Mathematics
- ◆ Humanities/Social Studies
- ◆ Science
- ◆ Physical Education and Health

All students in Year 9 also complete modules in each of the following Arts, Technology and Language subjects, before choosing which ones to carry on with in Year 10:

THE ARTS

- ◆ Art
- ◆ Dance
- ◆ Drama
- ◆ Music

TECHNOLOGY

- ◆ Fabric Technology
- ◆ Food Technology
- ◆ Digital Technology
- ◆ Design and Visual Communication (Graphics/Design)

LANGUAGES

- ◆ French
- ◆ Te Reo Māori

There are also a number of opportunities for Year 9 students to be involved in the following extension and support programmes:

- ◆ Gifted & Talented Programmes
- ◆ Literacy Skills
- ◆ Student Support & Learning Support
- ◆ Peer Reading
- ◆ Numeracy Support

English

In English we explore language in order to understand the ideas, feelings and experiences of other people as well as our own.

At Queen's, you will learn how to use the English language effectively in order to communicate with others. The Year 9 programme allows students to explore and develop a variety of new skills in a wide range of contexts ranging from Shakespeare to song lyrics.

English in Year 9 covers the following topics:

- ◆ Reading: Inference and analysis, reading for pleasure, research, proof-reading, close reading and exploring language.
- ◆ Writing: Creative writing, expressive writing, formal writing, blogs, journal writing, accuracy and grammar.
- ◆ Speaking: Discussion, group work, impromptu speeches, prepared speeches, debates and dramatic readings.
- ◆ Viewing: Film, documentary, plays, posters, displays, power points and YouTube.
- ◆ Presenting: Stage sets, plays, models, ICT, research and advertisements.



Mathematics

Mathematics involves the exploration and use of patterns and relationships in quantities, space, time and data. Mathematics equips students with effective means for investigating, interpreting, explaining, and making sense of the world in which we live.



By studying Mathematics students develop the ability to think creatively, critically, strategically, and logically.

Mathematics in Year 9 covers the following topics:

- ◆ Numeracy skills
- ◆ Estimation
- ◆ Problem solving and investigation
- ◆ Practical application of Mathematics

Students are given the opportunity to take part in the Numberworks O'Mathalon competition at the Edgar Centre, the Australian Mathematics Competition and the University of Otago Junior Mathematics Competition. Other extension or remedial tasks are provided where necessary and when appropriate.

Humanities / Social Studies

Humanities focuses on helping students find their voice. This is where you learn to think for yourself, and discover what you feel passionate about. We study a wide range of social issues, exploring why and how they can impact us as New Zealanders. Students will investigate ideas, perspectives, places, and resources, and use this knowledge to make responsible decisions as active citizens. Students will also gain skills that will help them become critical thinkers through opinion writing, source analysis, graph interpretation, in-class debates and more.



Humanities in Year 9 covers the following topics:

- ◆ What makes a Queen's Girl?
- ◆ Migration
- ◆ Our Place
- ◆ Ancient Civilisations
- ◆ Government and law
- ◆ Disasters and more



"We like Humanities because it's really interesting to learn about every aspect of the past, present and future world".

- Lara, Jasmine, Ella and Baylee

Science

Science is both a body of knowledge and a process. Science is a way of discovering what's in the universe and how those things work today, how they worked in the past, and how they are likely to work in the future. Scientists are motivated by the thrill of seeing or figuring out something that no one has before.

Science at Queen's is about asking questions, making predictions and trying out solutions for real-life problems. Science is about doing experiments, making models, role-playing processes and deep thinking. It is about working in teams, or working alone. It can answer questions or create more questions. It is a dynamic, practical subject based on a core of knowledge.



Science is ongoing. Science is continually refining and expanding our knowledge of the universe, and as it does, it leads to new questions for future investigation. Science will never be "finished."

Science in Year 9 covers the following topics:

- I am A Scientist
- My Chemical World
- What Am I Made Of?
- I Am What I Eat
- Zip Zap
- Am I Alive?
- My Planet Earth
- Biotechnology



Physical Education & Health

The aim of PE & Health is to offer a fun and educational programme that promotes maximum participation and inspires lifelong involvement in sport and physical activity.



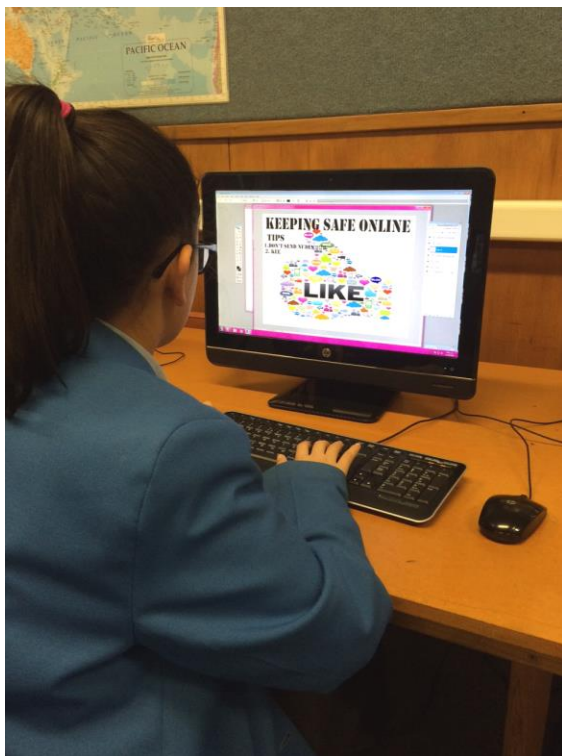
PED & Health in Year 9 covers the following topics:

- ◆ Basketball
- ◆ Soccer
- ◆ Hockey
- ◆ Athletics
- ◆ Small ball skills (cricket, softball)
- ◆ Caring for others – values, beliefs, friendships
- ◆ Caring for yourselves – teen years, puberty, smoking, keeping safe



Digital Technologies

The aim of Digital Technologies is to teach students how to access information, use information and create and communicate information in digital and hardcopy formats.



Digital Technologies in Year 9 covers the following topics:

- ◆ ICT programmes: Word, Excel, Publisher, Power Point, Photoshop, Movie Maker
- ◆ Digital hardware use: Scanner, digital camera, laminator, photocopier
- ◆ Responsible use of digital technologies
- ◆ Efficient text entry
- ◆ Ergonomics : Guidance for safe working practices
- ◆ Display of work
- ◆ Inserting of graphics, resizing, cropping
- ◆ Use of the Quick Keys
- ◆ Web site searches
- ◆ Manipulation of text and images between various computer applications
- ◆ Cybersafety

The skills you will develop in DigiTech will be used within a setting that encourages you to develop your critical, creative and analytical thinking processes.

French

French one of the most widely used world languages. French is spoken in all corners of the world, and there are many French speakers in the South Pacific.



What will French be like?

From the first day, the French room is busy and quite noisy with everyone practising their French.

French in Year 9 covers the following topics:

- ◆ Learn day-to-day conversations in French, e.g. times, dates and numbers, and take part in simple French conversations.
- ◆ Learn to talk in French about yourself, your family, friends and pets, and understand when French people do the same.
- ◆ Acquire first-hand knowledge of French food.
- ◆ Learn about French life in general and Paris in particular.
- ◆ Use ICT to play language games, practise your vocabulary, write essays and research aspects of French culture.



Te Reo Māori

Students from all different backgrounds enjoy learning Te Reo Māori at Queen's regardless of how much exposure they have had to the language prior to coming here. Students learn Te Reo Māori in our school where Teowaina, in a kaupapa Māori environment.

Our Te Reo Māori course fosters each student's ability to understand, speak, read and write Te Reo Māori. It introduces and reinforces a student's understanding of Tikanga Māori, and exposes students to Te Ao Māori (the Māori world).

Te Reo Māori in Year 9 covers the following topics:

- ◆ Learn greetings, numbers, colours in Te Reo Māori
- ◆ Learn karakia and waiata/haka
- ◆ Learn about pōwhiri and basic Tikanga Māori
- ◆ Learn about whakapapa and to say your mihi confidently by the end of this course.



“Ko tōku reo tōku ohoo, ko tōku reo tōku māpihi maurea”
My language is my awakening, my language is a window to my soul

Visual Arts

Art seeks to build a working understanding of the principles of visual communication and to enhance students' ability to solve problems with creativity and flair.

Art in Year 9 covers the following topics:

- ◆ Drawing: Realistic drawing using shading.
- ◆ Painting: Garden Plants and Creatures - painting using acrylic and colour mixing.
- ◆ Design: Skateboard/Cellphone design using multi-media, Coastline and Sea Life.
- ◆ Sculpture: Fantasy Faces, designing and decorating clay moulds of faces.
- ◆ Other Media: Scintillating Koru - creating original koru designs inspired by the sea.

At the conclusion of the course, each student mounts her work on a A1 Board and photographs are taken of the whole body of work with each student.

Additional opportunities which may arise are a Gallery visit and a Junior Art Exhibition.



Movement and Dance

This course is based on hip hop, street funk and contemporary dance and is designed to give students an opportunity to explore the elements of movement and dance and develop choreographic and performance skills.



Movement and Dance in Year 9 covers the following topics:

- ◆ Key concepts of dance
- ◆ The elements of dance– what are they?
- ◆ Choreography
- ◆ Performance
- ◆ Dance appreciation



Dance develops creative thought and action, gives opportunities to explore the relationship between feelings, values and expression, develops self-confidence and pride in individual and group work. It also provides opportunity for achievement, success and self-esteem and encourages independence and initiative.

Drama

If you've always loved performing and like putting on shows with your friends, then yes, this is your chance to study to become an actor and work in theatre, TV, or film. If you are shy, Drama will help you to gain confidence, to present yourself well, solve problems creatively and talk easily to others.



Drama in Year 9 covers the following topics:

- ◆ Learn how to use your voice and body movement to create characters, improvise and act out scenes.
- ◆ Attend a play at a theatre in town.
- ◆ Perform a short scene, perhaps by Shakespeare, with costume, stage make-up and lighting, for an audience.
- ◆ Learn about theatre and acting technique.
- ◆ Gain confidence in performance.



Music

In Music you will develop skills in music theory, aural perception and musical analysis with special emphasis placed on creativity and performance.



Music in Year 9 covers the following topics:

- ◆ Elements of Music which covers rhythm, pitch and timbre.
- ◆ World music.
- ◆ Music with found objects (e.g a basketball).
- ◆ Images and cartoons (writing music to cartoon/short movies) and/or putting images to a song.



Music students have the opportunity to be a part of a number of Queen's Music Ensemble Groups e.g. Choir, Orchestra, Chamber Group, Madrigal Group or Jazz Band.

Students also have the opportunity to learn an instrument as part of our itinerant music programme.

Fabric Technology



Fabric Technology is predominately practical based where students are taught aspects of design and problem solving and are encouraged to create their own unique projects to fit in with the given brief.

Fabric Technology in Year 9 covers the following topics:

- ◆ Machine skills, techniques and processes
- ◆ Design process
- ◆ Design and making a prototype article with applied design

The focus is on developing practical skills and confidence in planning and construction of article/garment for individuals.



Food Technology

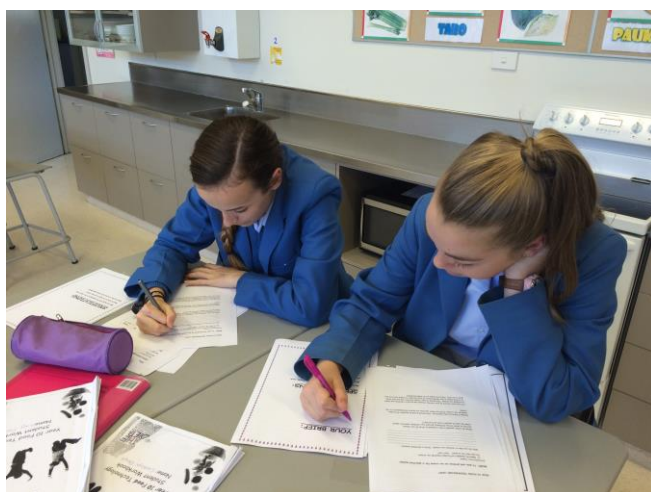
Food Technology involves an understanding of food choices and food processing. Students learn how to apply the design process in the development of a technological solution to meet a given brief. Students will be choosing their own recipes, managing resources and develop relevant and transferable skills to meet human needs.



Food Technology in Year 9 covers the following topics:

- ◆ Safe food handling
- ◆ Developing practical food skills, techniques and processes
- ◆ Problem solving through the design process
- ◆ Nutritional knowledge
- ◆ Informed decisions about choosing food

The focus is on developing practical skills and confidence in planning, preparation and serving of foods for individuals and family groups as part of a healthy diet.



Design & Visual Communication

Design & Visual Communication (DVC) offers a wide range of opportunities to develop Design and Technical problem solving skills. The course comprises a variety of Graphics and Design projects.

The projects will involve some three-dimensional modelling techniques as well as two-dimensional drawing, colouring and rendering skills. The course will also develop abilities in 'problem solving', with pupils required to research information, sketch out ideas, present solutions and evaluate specific design problems. They will also get the opportunity to make some of their designs.

Design & Visual Communication in Year 9 covers the following topics:

- ◆ Freehand sketching
- ◆ Model making
- ◆ Package design
- ◆ Architectural design using Archicad
- ◆ Graphic design using Photoshop
- ◆ Engineering design using ProDESKTOP



Education Outside the Classroom

Students participate in a variety of camps and field trips during their years at Queen's. The range includes but is not limited to:

- ◆ Year 9 "Getting to know you" overnight camp
- ◆ Year 10 end of year camp
- ◆ Field Trips for Art, Geography, Science, Biology, Tourism, Economics, Physical Education/Outdoor Education
- ◆ Outdoor pursuits - Kayaking, Climbing, Abseiling
- ◆ Outdoor Education Environmental Camp, Tramping, Skiing and Climbing Trips
- ◆ Young New Zealanders' Challenge activities
- ◆ 'Get to Go' - Year 9 & Year 10 outdoor challenge



Outdoor Education in Year 9:

- ◆ Midway through Term 1 Year 9 students attend an overnight 'Get to Know You' camp which is led by Year 12 Physical Education students and Year 13 Associates, and supported by Year 9 form teachers and other staff.



Extension Opportunities for Students at Queen's

Our co-ordinator of programmes for the gifted and talented works with students, teachers and parents to ensure that the needs of our very able students are met.

A range of programmes are offered annually and include extension opportunities in creative writing, mathematical problem solving, science, philosophy and ethics.

Philosophy of the Programme at Queen's

We believe that students should enjoy learning and there should always be a light in their eyes and the desire to be challenged. We do not want them to be bored or complacent or to settle for less than their best.

Students can be talented or gifted in one particular area such as Mathematics, Sport or Art or across a number of subjects. Similarly, students may be talented or gifted in less tangible areas such as leadership.



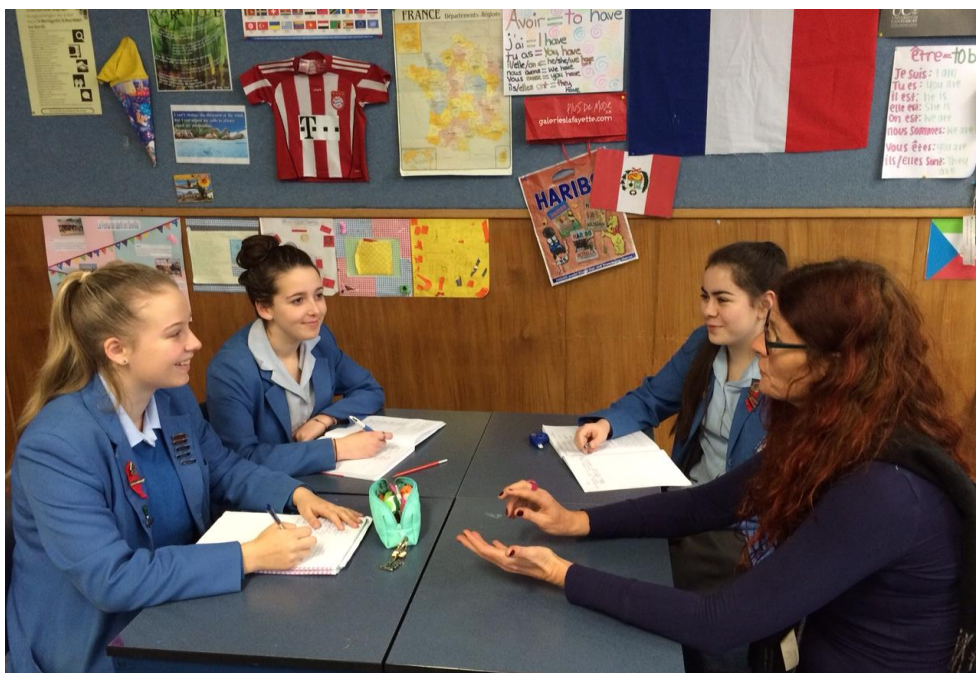
Extension Options

We offer opportunities for students to be withdrawn for a block of time and to join an extension class of fewer than 15 students. Part of the appeal to students being withdrawn is to work in smaller groups with students who have similar levels of ability. Students are also offered the opportunity to be challenged in classrooms with differentiated tasks.

As well, we have core subjects timetabled together in the junior school to allow the best grouping of students for effective learning.

Student Support

Students who need additional support in developing organisational skills or assistance with their learning may be supported in several ways:



- ◆ The Year Level Coordinator will see the student regularly.
- ◆ Another teacher may provide additional in-class support.
- ◆ Reading tutors may work with the student weekly.
- ◆ Senior students may assist in lunch hours and/or in class.
- ◆ Work is provided at the appropriate level for the student within the class so that multi-leveilling within a class meets the individual needs of all students. (Differentiated learning).
- ◆ Classes are organised for ability groupings in some core subjects.
- ◆ From Year 10 onwards courses are offered which provide for students to work in smaller groups, focusing on developing independent work habits, maintaining motivation, teaching them to be effective members of a team and developing positive social skills.
- ◆ Programmes such as Transition Challenge and the Youth Incentive Programme may be offered.
- ◆ A wide range of extra tutorial support is available, including subject-specific tutorials and homework group which is held each Wednesday in the library.

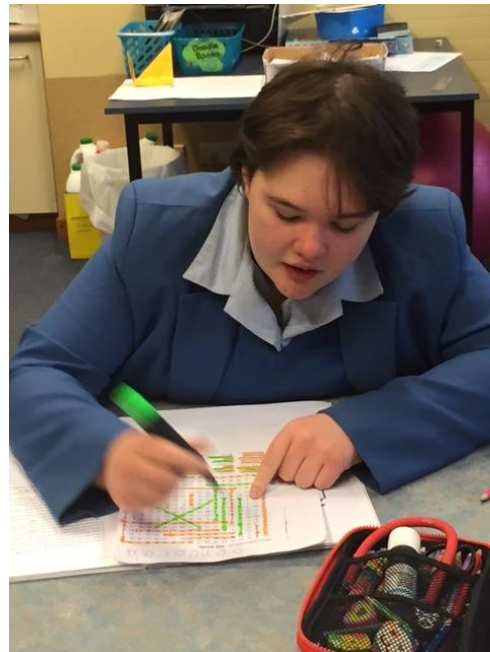
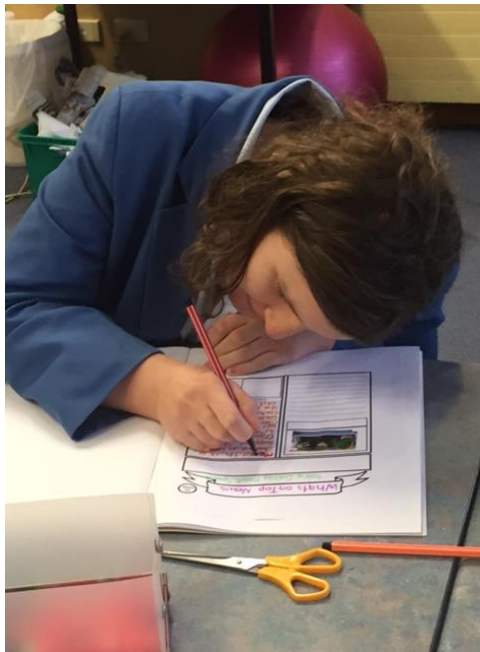
The student's progress will be monitored, goals set and reviewed. Students may be withdrawn individually or in small groups for more intense support.

Learning Support Department

Our programmes offer students who have ORRS funding a programme to complement mainstream classes by offering small groups for students with special needs for whom participation in regular classes is not suitable.

Subjects vary from year to year depending on student need and student interest. Courses can be offered from the following:

- ◆ Literacy
- ◆ Numeracy
- ◆ Social Communication
- ◆ Music
- ◆ Computing
- ◆ Shop and Cook
- ◆ SPEC Modules



Skills developed

The Key Competencies of Managing Self, Participating and Contributing, Thinking, Using Language, Symbols and Text, and Relating to Others are central to all courses.

Assessment

SPEC Certification (South Pacific Educational Courses) Module Certificates awarded for completion of each module following SPEC guidelines.

Possible SPEC module choices are in the areas of:

Life Skills, Vocational, Environmental, Leisure, Sensory Experience.

Other Opportunities Offered at Queen's

At Queen's High School we believe you benefit from being involved in school-based activities outside the classroom. We offer you a very wide range of sporting, cultural, performance and service opportunities.

Sport:

Athletics	Ice Hockey	Skiing
Aerobics	Karate	Smallbore Shooting
Badminton	Lawn Bowls	Soccer
Basketball	Mountain Biking	Softball
Cross Country	Netball	Squash
Cricket	Orienteering	Swimming
Cycling	Road Running	Tennis
Equestrian	Rock Climbing	Touch Rugby
Futsal	Rowing	Triathlon
Hockey	Rugby	Volleyball

Performance and Culture:

Art Exhibitions	Jazz Band (with King's High School)
Chamber Music Groups	Musical (with King's High School)
Choir	Orchestra
Dance	Stage Challenge
Debating	Kapa Haka
'Queens of the Pacific' (Pacifika)	Wearable Arts Festival
'Te Kimi Matauranga' (Kapa Haka)	Public speaking and Debating
Vocarmony (Madrigals)	Drama

Opportunities to meet and give service to others, and to be challenged:

Amnesty International	Interact
Christian Group	Student Librarians
Cultural / Historical trips (<i>Nationally and Internationally</i>)	Outward Bound
Environmental Group	Spirit of Adventure
Exchanges with schools in Japan, France and Germany	Students Against Dangerous Driving (SADD)
Health Committee	Student Council, Arts Council & Sports Council
Young New Zealanders' Challenge	Volunteer Group
Book Group	Makerspace



Queen's High School Uniform

Blazer	Year 9 – 12: Mid blue (compulsory) Year 13: optional banding on sleeves
Skirt	Anderson tartan pleated kilt (below knee).
Shirt	Winter – Long sleeve plain white shirt, with top button Summer – Short sleeve plain white shirt, with top button
Tie	Year 9 – 12: Navy blue plain tie Year 13: Navy blue plain tie, embroidered with school crest
Jersey	Woollen mid blue, v-neck jersey. (School crest)
Vest	Woollen mid blue (optional)
Socks	White ankle socks (<u>must</u> cover ankles). or Black knee high socks or tights.
Shoes	Black hard leather lace-up shoes (conventional school shoe style)
Jacket	Plain black waterproof jacket over blazer (optional – to be worn outdoors only)
Scarf	Black or Red or Queen's High School Anderson tartan (optional Term 2 & 3 only).

Details of the uniform regulations are in the Parent Handbook