



South Pacific Educational Courses (SPEC) for Supported Learners

The South Pacific Educational Courses (SPEC) programme offers a 'future-focused' personalised learning programme for supported learners, who are functioning academically at New Zealand Curriculum (NZC) Levels 1-3 and require an alternative approach to learning.

The programme develops key competencies (as outlined in the NZC document), such as self-management skills, communicating & relating with others, thinking & problem-solving skills – along with functional literacy and numeracy skills required for day-to-day living. Learning goals are written to meet the learning needs and level of the student, and students learn to plan and self-manage by breaking learning activities and tasks down into small steps.

The NZQA-approved programme guidelines and workbooks are provided by an independent education provider (<http://spec.org.nz/>), and delivered at Tauranga Girls' College in a small-group setting with the oversight of a qualified teacher. Planned learning activities and tasks are supervised and supported by Inclusive Learning Assistants (ILA). Modules are selected on the basis of student interest and engagement, with a range of both individual and small-group learning activities on offer.

The outcomes are either a SPEC Certificate or a New Zealand Certificate in Skills for Living for Supported Learners (Level 1, NZC).

Each student works towards an appropriate certificate or qualification, based on their learning needs and level of academic ability. Parents/caregivers will be notified of the specific qualification towards which their daughter will be working.

