



Tauranga
Girls'
College



Year 9 Course & Subject Information

Empowering
learners
to make a
positive impact

Reaching Your Potential at Tauranga Girls' College

At Tauranga Girls' College our Year 9 programme is broadly based so that ākonga/learners have the opportunity to experience a wide range of subjects and have the potential to discover new talents. The College is a Bring Your Own Chromebook school (BYOC). Students use digital technologies as a platform to enhance their learning. There are eight areas of learning to be studied.

All Year 9 students study 25 periods per week.

Extension Programme

This programme caters for the academic needs of students in Years 9 and 10 who have shown academic ability and talent on entering TGC.

Ākonga who are selected into the extension classes are able to progress in an environment which will challenge individuals to reach their potential. The curriculum in core subjects has been designed to extend and engage students to achieve at an Excellence level.

The aim of the extension classes is to:

- Encourage students to become independent and cooperative learners
- Provide enrichment opportunities and reinforce knowledge from home

Supportive Learning

At TGC support is offered in a number of ways to those ākonga with additional education needs. This may include literacy and/or numeracy support, development of individual learning programmes and support with learning strategies specific to the individual students. Two classes offered to support students learning needs are:

English Support

This course is an opportunity for students who need to improve their literacy ability and will cover their reading and writing skills, spelling and vocabulary.

Fast Track Mathematics

This option provides support for those students who find Mathematics challenging by teaching the material one week ahead of their Mathematics class and where needed, providing additional time for students to practice Mathematical skills.

Core Subjects

Core subjects align with the New Zealand Curriculum. Students study the following:

English

This subject develops thinking and literacy capacity, using reading, writing, speaking and visual analysis while exploring human nature and the world around us, in both the creation and interpretation of texts.

Mathematics

This subject is based on the three learning strands of the New Zealand Mathematics Curriculum where students will learn to think critically and communicate through logic and reasoning.

Physical Education and Health

This subject is based on the four learning strands of Personal Health and Physical Development, Motor Skill Development, Relationships with other people, Healthy Communities and Environments.

Science

In Science, students explore how both the natural physical world and science itself work so that they can participate as critical, informed, and responsible citizens in a society in which science plays a significant role.

Social Studies

Social Studies will challenge our students to think critically, collaborate with their peers, and be reflective. We explore human, social and economic behaviour in different cultures and environments at different times, including Te Tiriti o Waitangi, with a focus on empathy and perspective.

Te Ao Māori (half year course)

This course is designed to build and grow a foundation of Mātauranga Māori – Māori knowledge. We explore uara (values), tuakiritanga (identity), a place-based curriculum about Tauranga Moana, Māori tikanga (methods) and hauora (health). This is a half year course.

Technology

Embark on an exciting, creative, and hands-on journey through technology with our new comprehensive one-year course. Utilising design thinking, students will explore and tackle local problems, generating and testing innovative ideas along the way. This course covers a range of technology subjects, including Food Technology and Nutrition, Product Design in Hard Materials and Textiles, Computer Science, and Digital & Visual Communications. Additionally, Digital Citizenship is integrated into the curriculum to ensure a well-rounded educational experience.

Subject Choices

The variety of subjects offered provides an opportunity for students to try new things and experience a number of different subjects. Good careers advice is to keep subjects as broad as possible. **It is highly advised** to select subjects from a variety of areas of the curriculum. ***Please select three half year subjects from the following list:***

Art

This course is designed to give ākonga the opportunity to develop their creative thinking and artistic skills. Ākonga generate their own ideas within a generic theme. Artwork is created in the following fields, painting, printmaking and sculpture.

Athlete Development Programme

This course is designed for students who wish to develop further as an athlete. They **must** be involved in regular physical activity eg dance, martial arts, sport. This course will cover the following topics: fitness, skill analysis & development, goal setting, injury prevention and nutritional inquiry.

Business Enterprise

Students will work collaboratively to learn financial literacy and business skills in a variety of areas such as entrepreneurship, innovation, financial planning, teamwork and carrying out a business.

Dance

Students will work collaboratively to learn and create dance in response to a range of stimuli to communicate ideas. Students will think critically to explore and analyse their work and the work of others.

Drama

Students will use imagination, creativity and critical thinking to communicate ideas, stories and characters in performance. Working collaboratively, they use the techniques, elements and technologies of Drama to devise their own performances, develop performance skills, and reflect on their work.

English Language (ESOL)

This is an optional subject which English as a second language learners may take in addition to the 9ENG class. It is designed to assist those second language learners to strengthen their language skills. Students will be selected to go into this class.

Foreign Language: Chinese (Mandarin)

Learning a foreign language develops your thinking. You learn about other cultures and how to communicate with your peers in another language. You have the opportunity to participate in the Multicultural Festival and Chinese traditional festival celebrations in Tauranga.

Foreign Language: French

Learning a foreign language develops your thinking. You learn about other cultures and how to communicate with your peers in another language.

Māori Performing Arts

For beginning students this is a practical course involving skills of waiata, poi, waiata-a-ringa, mahinga rakau, ukulele and guitar. This is a half year course.

Ngā Toi Māori Art

This course is designed to give ākonga the opportunity to develop their creative thinking and artistic skills within a toi Māori context. Artwork is created in the following fields, painting, printmaking and sculpture.

Rookie Rock Stars (Musicianship)

For **beginning** students who will learn to play the guitar, bass guitar, keyboard and drums and work collaboratively to prepare songs to perform in a group. They will also use computer programmes to create music to accompany film images.

Studio to Stage (Music)

For students with **previous** experience in music, who will extend their existing skills by learning to create music through composition and performance and communicate their ideas through notated music.

Te Reo Māori

An introductory course for beginners of Te Reo Māori. This course includes use of correct pronunciation, vocabulary development, basic sentence structures and waiata. Students will learn through listening, reading, writing, speaking and singing in Te Reo.

This is a half year course.

Te Reo Rangatira

Te Reo Rangatira is designed to meet the needs of students who have some knowledge of Te Reo Māori and Te Ao Māori. It is not for beginners, this is an intermediate course of Te Reo Māori.

This is a full year course.