



**Tauranga
Girls' College**
The School of Choice for Girls

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2022 Year 9 Course and
Subject Information

Reaching Your Potential at Tauranga Girls' College

At Tauranga Girls' College our Year 9 programme is broadly based so that students 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 Device school (BYOD). 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.

At TGC we recognise students for "Being the Best They Can Be", by asking them to track their:

- Curriculum Achievement
- Learning Behaviour
- Attendance

Targets are set for each of the three criteria and students reflect on their achievement at the end of each term.

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.

Students 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 compulsory 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
- Compact curriculums that students can work more in-depth
- Provide enrichment opportunities and reinforce knowledge from home

Designed for Thinking

This is a course where collaboration, creativity, communication and critical thinking are at the heart of learning. In this course you'll focus on future focused skills, learning to learn. Let your passions and curiosities drive you to come up with solutions to problems and challenges. Learn how to use the Design Thinking process to do this.

This is for you if you are a "think outside the box" person, if you're passionate, self-driven or a thinker. If you enjoy learning through exploring and want to be challenged to notice the world around you, this is the course for you.

Choosing gDTM as one of your subject choices equals 2 of your 6 subject choices. This means all year your class have one day together to work through your passion project or problem solving.

Supportive Learning

At TGC support is offered in a number of ways to those students 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. It is designed to raise students to Curriculum Level 4 and above.

Fast Track Mathematics

This option provides support for those students who find Mathematics challenging by teaching the material one or two weeks ahead of their Mathematics class.

Compulsory Subjects

Compulsory 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. The focus will be on reading in particular, with associated writing and literacy skills.

Mathematics

This subject is based on the three learning strands of the New Zealand Mathematics Curriculum where you 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 students to think critically, collaborate with their peers, and be reflective. With a focus on our New Zealand histories, geographical concepts and student inquiry and problem solving, students will gain understanding of different perspectives, sustainability and an understanding of empathy.

Subject Choices

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

Art

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

Athlete Development Programme

This course is designed for young women 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 learn business skills such as entrepreneurship, innovation, financial planning, teamwork and running a business.

Computer Science

Students can build on their existing computer skills and Digital Technology knowledge in new and challenging contexts. We use computational thinking to develop computer games as well as basic robot programs. Students will also learn how to create quality digital outcomes such as websites and Photoshop images.

Dance

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

Design & Visual Communication

The focus is on the creative application of drawing and design knowledge, with the student developing and communicating their own design solutions to given design briefs.

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 second language learners may take in addition to the gENG class. It is designed to assist those second language learners to strengthen their language skills.

Food Technology

A creative course that teaches foundation food preparation skills from a nutrition perspective. Students will also have the opportunity to collaborate with classmates to produce food products while maintaining health and food safety practices.

Foreign Language: Chinese (Mandarin), 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

This is a practical course involving skills of waiata, poi, waiata-a-ringa and dance.

Materials & Product Design

Learners use their practical and creative skills to design and construct works from a variety of materials. They begin to explore a range of techniques using workshop tools and machines. They collaborate with classmates to produce products with their own identity while maintaining responsible health and safety practises in a workshop environment.

Music (2nd half year)

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.

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.

Ngā Toi Māori Art

A variety of practical and theoretical learning experiences in Māori, indigenous and international visual art forms in painting, printmaking, design and sculpture.

Te Reo Māori

Language and culture are covered in each of these subjects which are taught by the communicative approach. Te Reo Māori is available at beginner's level (half year) and at intermediate level (full year course).

Textile & Fashion Design

Textiles Technology is a creative, hands on subject where students build mastery of basic practical skills alongside the soft skills associated with design thinking. Students have the opportunity to work collaboratively by sharing their new and prior knowledge with their peers. This course caters for students new to the subject or those that have been in the Young Designers programme at Tauranga Intermediate School.