



Otago Boys' High School

Year 9 Curriculum Guide

Year 9 Subjects

At Otago Boys' High School all Year 9 students study the following compulsory subjects:

- English
- Health
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social Studies
- Physical Education

Along with the compulsory subjects all Year 9 students study 7 option subjects, choosing at least 3 art options and at least 2 technology options. The opportunity for students to lead some of their own learning and to choose options is a feature of our Year 9 and 10 Curriculum. When choosing, parents and students should consider the student's current needs as well as opportunity for experience. A course that supports literacy development is always recommended. More explanation about these choices is available on Open Night (Wed 3rd August) and on enrolment.

Arts

- Art
- Drama
- Business Studies
- French
- German
- Literacy
- Te Reo Māori
- Music

Technology

- Food and Nutrition
- Robotics
- Digital Technologies
- Design & Visual Communication
- Electronics
- Wood
- Metal



English

Junior English aims to foster a love of language, literature and learning in all of our students. We carefully select texts which are relevant and accessible to our boys and also use a range of teaching tools and activities in order to cater for as wide a range of abilities and learning styles as possible. In Year 9 we have English four times a week.

Topics we cover in English:

- Novel Study
- Visual Texts Study
- Short Texts (poetry and short stories)
- Creative and Formal Writing
- Oral Language, including speeches and debates

Mathematics

We study Mathematics four times a week. We try and use context and links to other areas of the curriculum as much as we can, creating engaging and relevant lessons.

Extension and numeracy support are also offered, ensuring that all students' needs are catered for.

Topics we cover in Mathematics:

- Number
- Statistics
- Geometry
- Measurement
- Algebra
- Probability
- Graphing
- Right Angle Triangles

Science

Science lessons are held four times a week and taught in specialised laboratories. Science is explored by experimentation and discussion of the key ideas that make up the world we live in.

Topics we cover in Science:

- Introduction to Science
- Mixing and Separating
- Matter
- Food and Digestion
- Hydrology
- Astronomy
- Ecology
- Botany
- Energy and Waves

Social Studies

Social Studies is taught four times per week. In Social Studies students explore how societies work and how they themselves can participate and take action as critical, informed and responsible citizens.

Topics we cover in Social Studies:

- Identity - who we are and what has shaped us
- People & Disease
- Global Geography
- Antarctica
- Government
- People and the Past

Physical Education

Students participate in Physical Education three times a week. The course involves a lot of different activities with the chance to work as an individual or as part of a team.

Teamwork, communication and self-management are major focuses in lessons.

The PE curriculum is delivered in five areas:

- **Invasion Games:** Touch, Football, Rugby, Hockey, Basketball, AFL, Ultimate Frisbee, Futsal and Ki O Rahi
- **Aquatics:** Swimming, Water Polo, Kayaking
- **Athletics and Fitness:** Athletics, Cross Country, Circuits
- **Net games:** Badminton, Tennis, Volleyball, Table Tennis
- **Striking and fielding games:** Cricket, Softball



Arts Subject Information

You must choose at least 3 from this list.

ART

The aim of the Year 9 Art course is to demonstrate to students the effects of the various elements of art such as line, colour, texture and tone, and have them imaginatively use these while exploring elementary print, paint and drawing media.

DRAMA

During this course students will experience aspects of stagecraft, movement and mime, and the opportunity to express themselves creatively within group activities.

Students are encouraged to step beyond their comfort zones and, during class, regularly perform on stage.

BUSINESS STUDIES

The emphasis is on the individual business and their households. It should enable students to understand how the individual makes economic decisions and equip them with skills needed to manage their limited means. This will allow students to participate more effectively as consumers and workers.

FRENCH

This is an introductory course to the French language and culture, emphasising the four key skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. Students learn how to communicate with other people, how to talk about themselves, their families, where they live and their likes and dislikes. Instruction embraces the extensive processing method using a variety of language chunks which means that students are enabled to start speaking straight away, recycling and embedding the language that is modelled. The course is designed to include a number of engaging elements such as pair and group work, competitive games, some typically cultural celebrations, including a French Food Day, video-based materials and online learning platforms, including some gaming formats. At the end of the 10 week block students will have produced a Google Slide show about themselves in French which they narrate in the target language. In Term 4, boys are able to choose to continue their learning of French by choosing the extension class option.

GERMAN

This is an introductory course to the German language and culture, emphasising the four key skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. Students learn how to communicate with other people, how to talk about themselves, their families, where they live and their likes and dislikes. Instruction embraces the extensive processing method using a variety of language chunks which means that students are enabled to start speaking straight away, recycling and embedding the language that is modelled.

The course is designed to include a number of engaging elements such as pair and group work, competitive games, some typically cultural celebrations, including a German Food Day, video-based materials and online learning platforms, including some gaming formats. At the end of the 10 week block students will have produced a Google Slide show about themselves in German which they narrate in the target language. In Term 4, boys are able to choose to continue their learning of German by choosing the extension class option.

LITERACY

This option gives students the opportunity to improve and widen their reading and comprehension skills. There is also the opportunity to further develop a student's writing skills. This option is an extension programme designed for able readers. It is NOT a reading recovery programme.

TE REO MĀORI

An introductory course in Te Reo Māori (language) and Tikanga Māori (customs). Students will learn basic sentence structure, mihi (introduction), pepeha (personal acknowledgment of who you are and where you come from), pronunciation and basic conversation. The students will also be introduced to Māori history, Māori mythology, Marae protocol, Māori art, Waiata and Haka. Student will also develop their skills in Ki o Rahi (traditional game). By the end of this course students should feel comfortable in a Māori environment and have a knowledge of Tikanga Māori.

MUSIC

The option includes an introduction to basic elements and theory of Music through film music and Composition. Students study the use of MIDI keyboard/computer composition software, the language and appreciation of music, singing, and individual performance. There are also opportunities for participating in Music performance groups and learning to play a musical instrument through the Itinerant Music Teacher Programme. Most instruments are available for hire through the school.



Technology Subject Information

You must choose at least 2 from this list.

FOOD AND NUTRITION

The emphasis in Year 9 is to develop skills and food knowledge to empower healthy food choices. Students will incorporate aspects of nutrition and food safety to design and implement a food plan for a teenager.

ROBOTICS

Students will work together in teams to learn how to code a Lego Spike Prime SpyKee robot and complete a series of challenges. The Green City Challenge will be the key focus of this course, enriching students understanding of basic computational thinking principles. Students will compete against one another to complete as many of the challenges as possible, enhancing their team work and critical skills.

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY

This course offers the chance to ignite a passion for digital technologies, and lead students into a rewarding and fulfilling future and further studies. The course is designed to equip students with a wide range of basic skills: photo editing, spreadsheets, design, and programming. Students will learn how to code their own game and become confident creators of digital technologies.

DESIGN & VISUAL COMMUNICATIONS

This subject explores the methods of communication using drawn information. Skills such as sketching, colouring, rendering, instrumental drawing and model making are learnt as the student solves simple design problems and presents the results in an appropriate manner.

ELECTRONICS

Students will investigate and learn about components of circuits. They will then use the engineering design process to plan, build, and market an electronic device that is of use in everyday life.

WOOD

Students gain knowledge of the qualities and suitability of wood and other materials as well as design and problem solving. Health and Safety work practices are also emphasised.

METAL

Students investigate the use of metal and other materials as well as design and problem solving. Health and Safety work practices are also emphasised.

Language Extension Option

Students will have the opportunity to study an extension course in a language. These are in term four and students will be surveyed towards the end of term three to ascertain interest in this option. They should take this second level if they are considering doing a language in Year 10.

High Performance Sport Options

Year 9 and 10 students can choose to be part of the High Performance Sports programmes. This involves elite mentoring/coaching for selected students in the following codes:

- Basketball
- Cricket
- Football
- Rugby
- Tennis

Rugby, Football, and Basketball are available as a one term module in Year 10.



Cultural Activities

Orchestra – combined with Otago Girls' High School

Chamber Orchestra

Music Groups

- Rock Band
- Jazz Band

Choirs

- Combined choir with OGHS
- Boys' Choir

Itinerant Music Lessons

- Woodwind
- Brass
- Strings
- Piano
- Guitar
- Drums
- Vocal tuition

Drama

Theatre Sports

Debating

Chess

Kapa Haka

Mau Rākau

Pacific Island Group

School Production

- Performance
- Lighting
- Sound
- Set design
- Backstage and front of house



Sporting Opportunities

Otago Boys' High offers plenty of sporting opportunity.....

- Athletics
- Badminton
- Basketball
- Clay Target
- Cricket
- Cross Country
- Curling
- Cycling
- Football
- Futsal
- Golf
- Handball
- Hockey
- Ice Hockey
- Mountain Biking
- Orienteering
- Rowing
- Rugby
- Smallbore
- Softball
- Squash
- Surfing / Surf Lifesaving
- Swimming
- Tennis
- Touch Rugby
- Triathlon/Duathlon
- Volleyball
- Waterpolo
- Sailing





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