



St Bernard's College

Level 1 2026 Programmes Booklet

We stand on life-giving ground

GUIDANCE FOR COURSE SELECTION 2026

REMEMBER

Some subjects have recommendations that are a guide for you and your whānau so that you can pick subjects that give you the best chance of being successful. If you don't meet the recommendations, don't worry, you can still get into the course.

We want to give you the best chance of being successful. If we are concerned about your choices, we will be in touch to support you.

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| Step 1 | Read the 2026 Programmes Booklet |
| Step 2 | Write down the subjects you are interested in
Write down the subjects you would achieve in
Write down the subjects that can lead you onto career paths you are interested in |
| Step 3 | Talk to your current teachers, Tutor Teacher, Deans and Careers Advisor |
| Step 4 | Find out as much as you can about the subjects you are considering, especially the recommendations |
| Step 5 | Talk to your parents/caregivers about your subject choices |
| Step 6 | Select your subjects for 2026 |
| Step 7 | Make sure you select appropriate subjects
Make sure you select the required number of subjects |

Year 11 – 5 Year 12 – 5 Year 13 – 5
Religious studies (RST) is already picked for you

Do the subjects you have chosen keep career options open to you?
Do the subjects you have chosen allow you to continue on an academic pathway in future years?

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COMPULSORY SUBJECTS

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Religious Studies (11RST)

Year 11/Level 1

DRS: Ms Haley

Course Description

This course contains topics on: Understanding the Gospel Story; Conscience/Morality/Values; The Church's Story. It takes students into a wider world in terms of their Christian responsibilities and awareness of commitment. This course incorporates Health Education and students do one period a week of sports in the RE line.

Leads to: Level 2 Religious Studies

ENGLISH – You must select ONE of the 3 English options

English (11ENG)

Year 11/Level 1

HoD: Mr Clarke

Course Description

This course focuses on developing the reading, writing and literacy skills necessary for effective understanding and communication in the wider community. These skills are taught through the framework of a novel/short text study, a film study and studying unfamiliar texts. There is a balance of internal and external achievement standards, with students being required to write formal essays as their primary assessment.

Leads to: Level 2 English and/or Level 2 Media

Literacy (Senior Foundation Literacy) (11FLT)

Year 11/Level 1

HoD: Mrs Vaughan

Recommendation

Participation is at the discretion of the HoD English in consultation with HoD Learning Support.

Course Description

Students will work to complete one internal English Assessment and two Unit Standards throughout the year. Other work will include writing formal letters and form filling. Students will also work towards acquiring skills to support passing the co-requisite Literacy online tests.

Leads to: Courses requiring basic Literacy, Level 2 Communication English

Media Studies (11MED)

Year 11/Level 1

HoD: Mr Clarke

Course Description

This course focuses on developing the reading, writing and literacy skills necessary for effective understanding and communication in the wider community. These skills are taught primarily through the study of visual texts. There is a balance of internal and external achievement standards, with students being required to show their understanding both formally (academic essays) and through a creative project.

This option can be taken as an alternative to Level 1 English and is subject to sufficient enrolment numbers.

Leads to: Level 2 English and/or Level 2 Media Studies

MATHEMATICS – You must select ONE of the 2 maths options

Mathematics (11MAT)

Year 11/Level 1

HoD: Ms Baker

Course Description

This is an academic course offering 15 credits (2 internal assessments 1.1 and 1.2 and 1 external assessment 1.4) that leads to Level 2 Mathematics.

Leads to: Level 2 Mathematics, Level 2 Mathematics with Statistics, Level 2 Physics, Level 2 Chemistry

Senior Numeracy (11LSN)

Year 11/Level 1

HoD: Ms Baker

TiC: Mr Adip

Recommendations

Participation in the course is for students who are yet to pass the Numeracy co-requisite assessment.

Course Description

Numeracy is the bridge between mathematics and daily life. It includes the knowledge and skills needed to apply mathematics to everyday family and financial matters, learning, work and community tasks, social and leisure activities.

Students will be working to complete a combination of co-requisite Numeracy online tests, financial unit standards and internal Mathematic Achievement standards throughout the year.

This is based at Level 4 and Level 5 of the curriculum.

Leads to: Level 1 Mathematics, Level 2 Practical Mathematics

SCIENCE – You must select ONE of the 2 Science options

Applied Science (11ASC)

Year 11/Level 1

HoD: Mr Andic

Course Description

Year 11 Applied Science is designed as an alternative pathway for students who are still building their confidence in Science, Maths and English. It will help students who are still struggling with literacy and numeracy to work through simple and practical science topics.

Please note this course is not suitable for students who are enrolled in English and Mathematics, and are looking to progress into senior Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Leads to: Level 2 Earth and Space Science

Science (11SCI)

Year 11/Level 1

HoD: Mr Andic

Course Description

Year 11 Science expands on the topics learnt in Year 9 and 10 Science. The subject is designed for the majority of Year 11 students, who have some confidence in literacy and numeracy. It is essential for anyone intending to pursue a career in the Science/Technology field and is required by those students wishing to take Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Earth and Space Science at Level 2. The topics covered in Year 11 Science are Genetics, Chemistry and Physics.

Leads to: Level 2 Biology, Level 2 Chemistry, Level 2 Physics, Level 2 Earth and Space Science.

OPTIONAL SUBJECTS

ARTS

Drama (11DRA)

Year 11/Level 1

HoD: Mr Palamo

Recommendation

Open entry, but Year 10 Drama achieved or better is suggested

Course Description

The programme emphasizes the core skills of the theatre arts, including improvisation techniques, body control, voice, mime, learning of lines, creation of character, projection of ideas and emotions and preparation and acting of scenes from plays. You will perform in published scripts and in your own created work. There will be in-class workshops, practical assessments of performances and involvement in lessons. You will need to have good attendance, self-management and be reliable due to the collaborative nature of much of the work in this course.

Leads to: Level 2 Drama

Music (11MUS)

Year 11/Level 1

Hod: Mr Palamo

TiC: Mr Hoyes

Recommendation

It is expected that students will have had instrumental tuition for 2 years prior to starting this course. If you would like to choose this subject but have not had this tuition, please see Mr Hoyes.

Course Description

Students in this course present solo and group performances and compose music as they work towards Achievement standards. Additional and optional standards include those of sound technology, score reading and music study.

Leads to: Level 2 Music

Te Ao Haka (11TAH)

Year 11/Level 1

HOD: Mr Palamo

TiC: Whaea Onekawa-Watson

Note: \$100 for Noho Marae

Recommendation

Achieved level in Year 10 Māori Performing Arts is suggested, or alternatively at the TiC's discretion.

Course Description

Te Ao Haka offers students a dynamic entry into Māori culture through the performing arts. This subject immerses students in traditional and evolving Māori practices, connecting them with family, marae, iwi and hapū. Through Te Ao Haka, students explore culture, language and identity while developing interpretive and communicative skills in Te Reo Māori. The course emphasizes performance, allowing students to refine their skills, express themselves creatively and understand their role in preserving and advancing Māori art forms. Engaging with Te Ao Haka helps students appreciate their cultural heritage and contribute positively to Māori traditions.

Leads to: Level 2 Te Ao Haka

Visual Art (11ART)

Year 11/Level 1

Hod: Mr Palamo

TiC: Miss Jennings

Note: Students require an art stationary pack which may be purchased from the college if required - \$60.00est

Recommendation

Achieved or better overall average in Year 10 Art is suggested.

Course Description

A general Visual Art media course that covers in depth practice in drawing, painting, printmaking, design, sculpture and photography. Students will also continue their learning about established practice of renowned NZ and International Artists. With teacher guidance, students will develop their artworks in a direction unique to themselves and enjoy the rewarding experience of completing a large external assessment portfolio of work.

Leads to: Level 2 Visual Art

COMMERCE

Commerce (11COM)

Year 11/Level 1

HoD: Mr Housden

TiC: Mr Kleinjan

Recommendation

Majority of topic grades in Year 10 Mathematics Achievement or higher is suggested. Literacy co-requisites in both reading and writing is also suggested.

Course Description

This course covers a range of topics that touch on the world of economics, the way businesses run and some accounting practices. It has a mix of internal and external achievement standards. It includes sections on financial decision making, how businesses set prices for products and also how sectors of the economy work together to achieve interdependence.

Leads to: Level 2 Commerce

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

Digital Technologies (11DTC)

Year 11/Level 1

HoD: Mr Housden

Recommendations

Open entry first year

Course Description

This course is designed for those students who intend to pursue a career in a computer-related field or for students with an interest in technology and/or software development. This course covers spreadsheets, graphical design, web design and fundamentals of programming.

For students who do not have a background in DTC, an alternative study programme is available.

Leads to: Level 2 Digital Technologies

LANGUAGES

English for Speakers of Other Languages (11ESL)

Year 11/Level 1

HoD: Mrs Corcoran

TiC: Ms Kwok

Recommendation

English is NOT the first language of learners, another language is spoken at home. Participation will be confirmed after consultation with HoD Learning Support.

Course Description

This course is designed for those students who need assistance with English because they speak another language/s at home or are new to Aotearoa/New Zealand. Flexibility around the actual modules taught will be available to students according to their needs. Assessment is NCEA approved but does not apply to endorsements. Important gains are increased vocabulary, greater confidence in speaking, improved reading comprehension and support for other subjects studied. Typical credits available for speaking, listening and reading portfolios.

Leads to: Courses requiring basic literacy

Japanese (11JPN)

Year 11/Level 1

HoD: Mrs Corcoran

Recommendation

Achieved in majority of Year 10 Japanese assessments is suggested.

Course Description

This course builds on learning in Year 10 Japanese. The units are contextually based covering topics such as shopping and restaurants, travel and directions, health, school, daily routines, describing people, places and things.

Leads to: Level 2 Japanese

Samoan (11SMA)

Year 11/Level 1

HoD: Mrs Corcoran

Recommendation

Year 10 Samoan or a proven fluency in Samoan is suggested.

Course Description

This course builds on learning in Year 10 Samoan. The units are contextually based on covering familiar topics in the everyday lives of students.

The running of this course is numbers dependent.

Leads to: Level 2 Samoan

Te Reo Māori (11MAO)

Year 11/Level 1

HOD: Mrs Corcoran

TiC: Whaea Whareaitu

Recommendation

Achieved in majority of Year 10 Te Reo Māori assessments is suggested.

Course Description

Te Reo Māori is essential for understanding the Māori world and offers a foundation for bilingualism and biculturalism. By learning Te Reo Māori, students develop communicative skills and cultural knowledge, enabling accurate and fluent expression with cultural integrity. The course fosters creative and critical thinking, inspiring life long learning of Te Reo Māori. Alongside tikanga Māori, students will strengthen their identity, enhancing their ability to build meaningful relationships with others and the environment. Students will develop their cultural confidence and contribute to the revitalization of Māori language and culture in their communities.

Leads to: Level 2 Te Reo Māori

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical Education (11PED)

Year 11/Level 1

Hod: Mr Hewson

Note

\$180.00 optional extra-curricular trip
Must supply and wear active clothing

Recommendation

A positive attitude to Physical Education in Year 10 is suggested. Completion of Year 9SPA and Year 10SPA would be beneficial.

Course Description

This new level one course focuses on sport performance and what it takes to become a well-rounded athlete. The course will cover: Team Building Strategies – Kotahitanga, Goal Setting, Training, Influences on Movement – Te Ao Māori, Biomechanics, Well-Being, Skill Performance and Analysis.

Leads to: Level 2 Physical Education and Level 2 sports Studies

SOCIAL SCIENCES

Geography (11GEO)

Year 11/Level 1

HoD: Mr West

Recommendation:

Open Entry

Course Description

Level 1 Geography will investigate a variety of geographic issues and environments on both a local and international scale. Contexts include the natural and cultural impact of earthquakes, geographic issues in the Pacific and the perspectives of people and groups on case studies such as traffic flows and resources use. Key skills such as mapping, interpreting graphs and applying key geographic concepts to case studies will also be explored.

Leads to: Level 2 Geography

History (11HIS)

Year 11/Level 1

HoD: Mr West

Recommendation

Open Entry

Course Description

History is about power – individuals and groups seeking their own power and taking it away from others. Historians examine events from the past that create change and the perspectives of people at the time that shape our views today. In Level 1 History, we will ask questions such as: What can we learn from stories of the past? Why do we decide that some people in History are more significant than others? How have different groups responded to intolerance and discrimination in History? Students will look at different historical case studies from both New Zealand and World History, such as the Dawn Raids, the 6 o'clock swill, Apartheid and the Springbok Tours. Key skills include examining primary sources, analysing a historical event or figure of their choice and writing as a historian.

Leads to: Level 2 History

TECHNOLOGY

Design and Visual Communication (11DVC)

Year 11/Level 1

HoD: Mr Cassidy

TiC: Ms Hatton

Note: Students require a graphics stationary pack which can be purchased from the college - \$40.00

Recommendation

Achievement in Year 10 DVC is suggested. Students wishing to take it for the first time should meet with the teacher.

Course Description

There are four achievement standards to be successfully completed in the year through a variety of tasks. Emphasis is placed on problem solving, innovation, technical competency, design and presentation. Students will be presented design briefs which they will have to solve. The course explores many different ways and mediums to help students realise their design ideas, including Adobe suite and other digital presentation software.

Leads to: Level 2 Design and Visual Communication

Technology Construction (11TCC)

Year 11/Level 1

HoD: Mr Cassidy

Recommendation

Commitment to the subject in Year 10 is suggested. Talk with the HoD if you did not take this subject in Year 10.

Course Description

A Unit Standard Course offering Industry supported standards of work. This is a practical/theory course that will suit students who have displayed good practical skills at Year 10. This course offers BCITO Construction units – each internally assessed with a theory and practical component. Unit Standard credits carry the same value as NCEA credits. Further details obtainable from HoD Technology.

Leads to: Level 2 Technology Construction

Technology Hospitality and Catering (11HSP)

Year 11/Level 1

HoD: Mr Cassidy

TiC: Mr Connell-Smith

Recommendation

Commitment to the subject in Year 10 is suggested. Talk with Hod if you did not take this subject in Year 10.

Course Description

This course provides a useful background for many careers in the Hospitality Industry. Students will learn through theory lessons, activities and practical assessments. They will further develop their knowledge and understanding about food via theory assessments. Topics include, food safety, hot finger foods, stocks, sauces, soups, preparing eggs, cheese and meat dishes. Students learn to prepare these as per industry requirements using safe hygiene practices.

Leads to: Level 2 Technology Hospitality and Catering

VOCATIONAL PATHWAYS

The Vocational Pathways provide a framework for students to see how learning and achievement is valued in the workplace by aligning learning to skills needed. They also suggest the types of study options and job opportunities available.

Use the Vocational Pathways to plan your studies.

The Vocational Pathways offer lots of choice across industries

Use the online Profile Builder to explore study options and start building your Vocational Pathways at:

www.youthguarantee.net.nz/start-your-journey-now/

For Careers advice and tips visit

www.careers.govt.nz

You can also access this information by visiting the school portal

Log into the school student portal:

(<http://portal.sbc.school.nz>)

Select - Pathways

Then - Year Level

Then either - Construction and Infrastructure
Creative Industries
Manufacturing and Technology
Primary Industries
Service Industries
Social and Community Services



On each of the six sector tabs are the various Vocational Pathways currently available.

Listed in each of the tabs are links to possible career options this pathways provides

COURSE STRUCTURE FOR 2026

YEAR 11	YEAR 12	YEAR 13
RELIGIOUS STUDIES	RELIGIOUS STUDIES ↳ Health	RELIGIOUS STUDIES
ARTS ↳ Drama ↳ Music ↳ Te Ao Haka ↳ Visual Art	↳ Drama ↳ Music ↳ Te Ao Haka ↳ Visual Art	↳ Drama ↳ Music ↳ Visual Art
CAREERS	↳ Pathways	↳ Pathways
COMMERCE ↳ Commerce	↳ Commerce	↳ Economics
DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY ↳ Digital Technologies	↳ Digital Technologies	↳ Digital Technologies
ENGLISH ↳ English ↳ Literacy ↳ Media Studies	↳ English ↳ Communication Skills ↳ Media Studies	↳ English ↳ Media Studies
LANGUAGES ↳ English for speakers of another Language ↳ Japanese ↳ Samoan ↳ Te Reo Māori	↳ English for speakers of another Language ↳ Japanese ↳ Samoan ↳ Te Reo Māori	↳ English for speakers of another Language ↳ Japanese ↳ Samoan ↳ Te Reo Māori
MATHEMATICS ↳ Mathematics ↳ Numeracy	↳ Mathematics ↳ Mathematics with statistics ↳ Practical Mathematics ↳ Senior Numeracy	↳ Mathematics ↳ Mathematics with Statistics ↳ Mathematics with Calculus ↳ Senior Numeracy
PHYSICAL EDUCATION ↳ Physical Education	↳ Physical Education ↳ Sport Studies	↳ Physical Education ↳ Sports Studies
SCIENCE ↳ Applied Science ↳ Science	↳ Earth and Space Science ↳ Biology ↳ Chemistry ↳ Physics	↳ General Science ↳ Biology ↳ Chemistry ↳ Physics
SOCIAL SCIENCES ↳ Geography ↳ History	↳ Geography ↳ History ↳ Humanities	↳ Geography ↳ History ↳ Humanities
TECHNOLOGY ↳ Construction ↳ Design & Visual Communication ↳ Hospitality & Catering	↳ Construction ↳ Design & Visual Communication ↳ Hospitality & Catering	↳ Construction ↳ Design & Visual Communication ↳ Hospitality & Catering

SUBJECT PLANNING SHEET

Use the space below to plan the subjects you wish to take in Years 11 to 13.
Be mindful of the following

- subject recommendations
- your future aspirations - the courses / tertiary institutions you wish to attend when you leave St Bernard's College.

You should refer to information provided in this book, such as Qualifications Pathways and Choosing a Course of Study, information in National Qualifications such as National Certificates, as well as relevant career information available from your subject teacher, or Mrs Bull.

Year 11	RE	ENGLISH/MEDIA /LITERACY	MATHS/ NUMERACY	SCIENCE/ APPLIED SCIENCE		
Year 12	RE					
Year 13	RE					
Tertiary						

Where I need to go to obtain more information.

①	
②	
③	
④	
⑤	

Careers listed with subjects are just a sample, for more ideas go to
www.youthguarantee.net.nz/vocational-pathways

NATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

- **To be awarded NCEA Level 1**, students must achieve 60 credits at level 1 or above. Students must also achieve the literacy and numeracy co-requisite.
- **To be awarded NCEA Level 2**, student must achieve 60 credits, at level 2 or above. The NCEA Level 1 literacy and numeracy requirement must be met to gain NCEA Level 2.
- **To be awarded NCEA Level 3**, student must achieve 60 credits, which must be at level 3 or above. The NCEA Level 1 literacy and numeracy requirement must be met to gain NCEA Level 3.

Certificate and Course Endorsement – to qualify for a certificate endorsement with Excellence for NCEA, students require 50 credits at Excellence level. An endorsement with Merit requires 50 credits at Merit (or Merit and Excellence). Course endorsement at Achieved, Merit and Excellence level is also possible. To qualify for either of these, a student must gain 14 credits or more at the level of the endorsement. This must include a minimum of 3 internally assessed credits and 3 externally assessed credits. However, Physical Education, Religious Studies and Level 3 Visual Arts course endorsements can be gained without external standards.

Entrance to New Zealand Universities Requirements:

- NCEA Level 3
- Three approved subjects – minimum 14 credits in each
- **Literacy** – 5 reading and 5 writing credits Level 2 or above
- **Numeracy** – 10 credits Level 1