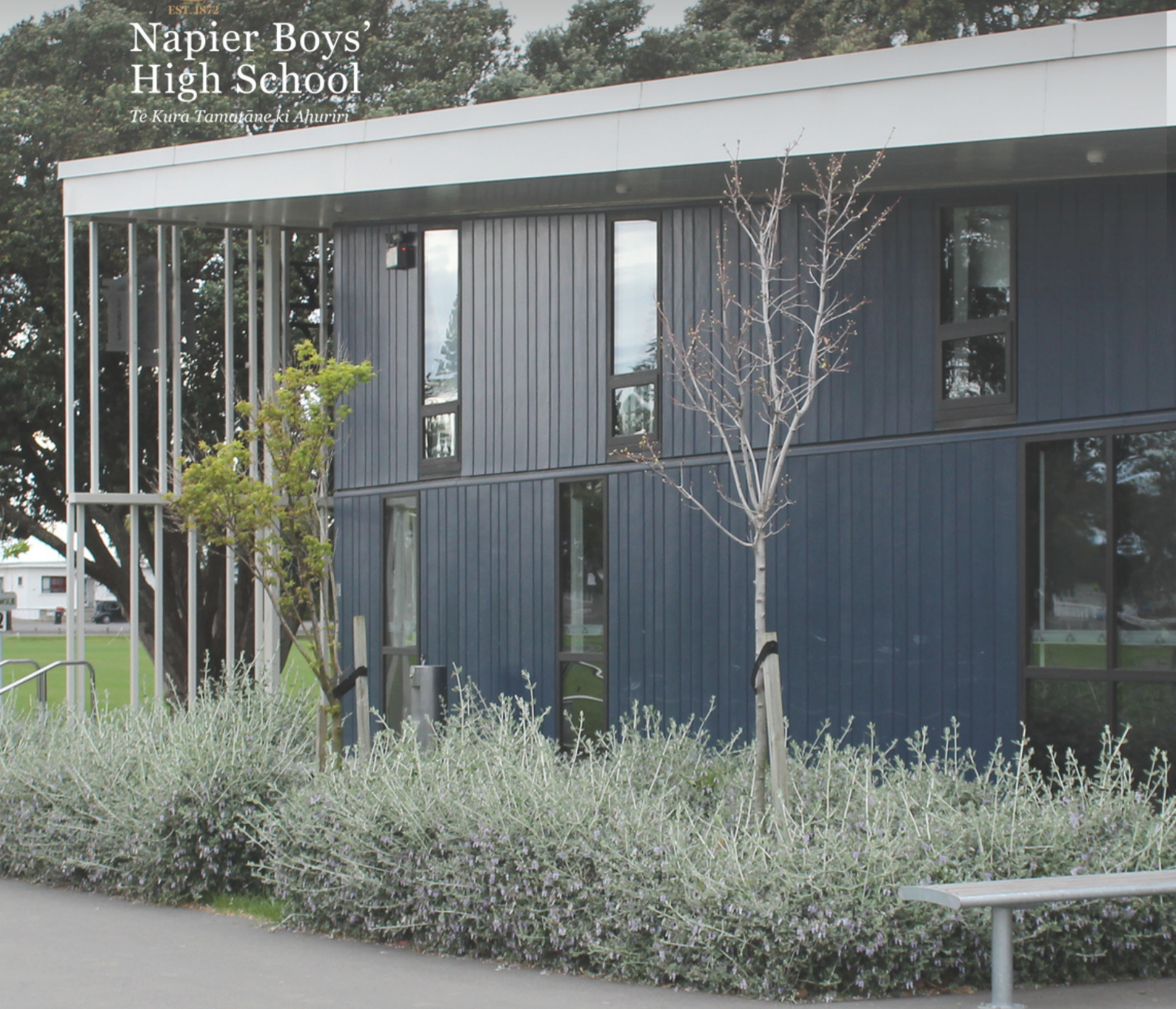




Napier Boys'
High School

Te Kura Tamaitane ki Ahuriri



YEAR 9

2026 COURSE SELECTION GUIDE

Napier Boys' High School

A very warm Hawke's Bay welcome to Napier Boys' High School. For more than 150 years, Napier Boys' High School has served the wider Hawke's Bay community, educating generations of its young men. At Napier Boys' High School, we believe in creating opportunities for our young men, both inside and outside the classroom, allowing them to truly find themselves and their passions. Ensuring our young men are academically successful is a priority. Success opens doors, increases opportunities, and paves the way towards a bright future.

Our committed staff specialise in working within a boys' school. They understand what makes boys tick and adapt their practice and delivery to meet those needs. Many of the staff are also involved in the diverse co-curricular programme that makes Napier Boys' High School unique.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask. This is a significant decision, and we are here to help you make the right one. We look forward to working alongside you to develop your young man into the best version of himself that he can be.



Simon Coe
Headmaster

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Introduction

The intention of the Year 9 curriculum is to offer a broad range of subjects. In this way, our Year 9 students experience a variety of courses and open up potential pathways

Compulsory Courses

Year 9 students study the following compulsory full-year courses:

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

Compulsory Modules

Year 9 students study the following compulsory 6-week modules:

- Tikanga
- Computing



Me tika te mahi, kia mataara

“Do Right, Fear Nothing”

Justum Perficito Nihil Timeto

Option Courses

Year 9 students choose a total of **FIVE** option courses. The goal is to allow the students to broaden their experiences and opportunities. Each Option course runs for a trimester.

- Students must choose one option from Set A and one from Set B, and then three further options from any of Set A, B, or C.
- Students can only choose two Technology subjects from Set B.
- Students wishing to be involved in the Athlete Development Programme will need to complete the online application - available Term 4.

Set A

Art
Drama
Māori Studies
Music
Spanish
Japanese

Set B

Food Technology
Technology - Combined Materials
Technology - Engineering
Technology - Woodwork

Set C

Agriculture / Horticulture
Business Studies
Digital Technology
Graphics - DVC
Media Studies

9ADP – Year 9 Athlete Development Programme

Applications available Term 4

Course Content

This is a high-performance programme aimed at developing athletes to reach the top of their respective sports. The programme philosophy matches the schools, that students must be committed to their academic studies as their main priority. A strong work ethic is critical to both academic and sporting success.

Students involved in the programme will have 4 hours per 6-day cycle in the Athlete Development Programme. The programme will replace one of their chosen Year 9 option Subjects.

Selection involves a thorough and objective process, conducted by a group of qualified staff. Applications will be discussed and further research into students' abilities/attitudes will be carried out, where necessary. Selection is not limited to pure sporting ability; the students must display academic effort and focus in all areas of school life.

9AGR – Year 9 Agriculture / Horticulture

Course Content

Students are introduced to the subject and study the following units:

- Apple orcharding
- Sheep breeds and uses
- Cattle breeds and uses
- Deer
- A coverage of agriculture and horticulture practices
- Practical skills

The following class trips support these units:

- An animal handling day at a local farm
- Growing Vegetables at the school tunnel house



9ART – Year 9 Art

Course Content

The course is an introduction to the visual arts in which students develop their practical knowledge and ideas, learn to interpret and gain an understanding of artwork and experiment with new materials.

Topics includes:

- Character design – developing characters and creatures of a hybrid nature, experimenting with animation clay and recycled materials
- Drawing and Printing – a focus on ‘line’ elements and pattern making
- Painting – colour mixing, painting techniques and developing composition.

This subject offers different pathways and options as students discover their strengths and move into Year 10 -13.

9BUS – Year 9 Business Studies

Course Content

Students will develop an understanding of their place in an ever changing economic world.

Topics:

- Unit 1 – Introduction to Economics
- Unit 2 – Production and Resources
- Unit 3 – Entrepreneurship



9DIT – Year 9 Digital Technology

Course Content

Students who have completed this course in previous years have thoroughly enjoyed the hands-on, creative content and found it an exciting introduction to the world of digital technologies. This year, the learning experience is enhanced through gamified learning, where students can earn 100 Experience Points (XP) by completing fun, challenge-based mini-projects. The XP system encourages engagement; rewards progress and adds an extra layer of motivation to the learning journey.

Topics:

- Discover the basics of coding using block-based tools and beginner-friendly text coding
- Create simple websites and explore how digital content is structured and displayed online.
- Experiment with digital design tools, including image editing, animation, and layout.
- Interact with hardware and learn how computers work behind the scenes.
- Develop your game logic and storytelling, blending creativity with technology to build interactive experiences.

With an emphasis on exploration, creativity, and play, this course is ideal for students who enjoy creating, experimenting, and discovering how digital tools shape the world around us.

9DRA – Year 9 Drama

Course Content

An introduction to drama skills such as voice, movement, roleplay, and storytelling. Students build confidence and creativity through games, group work, and short performances.

9FTEC – Year 9 Food Technology

Course Content

Students will have the opportunity to learn practical cooking skills and gain an understanding of basic nutrition designed to encourage sensible food buying and eating.

The course offers a range of technology skills and allows students to take ownership of the food design process while exploring teenage breakfasts and pizzas.

9GRA – Year 9 Graphics – Design and Visual Communication

Course Content

The course focuses on establishing basic visual communication skills.

These skills include:

- Sketching and rendering in two and three dimensions
- Exploring our design heritage and decoding design features
- Evaluating design and using the knowledge to produce design ideas



9JAP – Year 9 Japanese

Course Content

Japanese is a major Asian language spoken by over 120,000,000 people. Students will learn the writing system of Japan which includes Kanji (Chinese Characters) thus giving students an insight into the written Chinese language as well.

The programme for Year 9 includes learning of vocabulary relating to Introductions, Family Life, Weather and Seasons, Times, and Dates. Students will also be introduced to some of the basic business principles of the Japanese as well as their art, customs, and culture. Students will learn how to introduce themselves in Japanese.

9MAO – Year 9 Māori Studies

Course Content

This is an introductory Te Reo Māori programme catered for all learners covering many cultural contexts, such as marae, kāinga, kura, hākinakina, Whānau, numbers, colours, and local pūrākau. This also develops their reading and listening comprehension skills as well as writing and speaking skills.

In addition, students will get the opportunity to learn about Māori Performing Arts, Tikanga and whakairo.



9MED – Year 9 Media Studies

Course Content

Media Studies focuses on the idea of mass communication through various forms of media. The first few weeks will have a literacy focus, where the boys will analyse various trends through Spotify and explain the key components that contribute to successful media.

The second stage of the course entails the production of a podcast. Boys will construct a script, use editing software and assume various roles within their group to create the podcast.

Media Studies is also offered at Year 10, where the students will begin to use video cameras and more advanced editing software.

9MUS – Year 9 Music

Course Content

Students taking this course will begin to develop music skills. Where there is space, students can begin free lessons on a range of instruments. The young men are also encouraged to participate in wide variety of extracurricular music groups, such as: School Band, Pipe Band, Choir, Barbershop, Rock or Chamber groups, and the Production.

The main components of the course are:

- Sound editing
- Instrument skills
- Music theory and history

Students will develop understanding through a range of activities including creating and editing sounds for short film clips, instrument skills on Guitar, Piano and Singing, as well as improve their listening and music theory knowledge.

9SPA – Year 9 Spanish

Course Content

If New Zealand is to participate successfully in trade, technology, tourism, education, diplomacy, environmental issues, cultural exchanges, and humanitarian roles and responsibilities, we will need people who are fluent in certain languages. Spanish is particularly significant for New Zealand because of important economic and cultural ties we are developing with Spain, Latin America, and the rest of the Spanish speaking world.

Students will be introduced to the Spanish language and culture with a variety of activities involving listening, speaking, reading and writing.

There will be a variety of topics including:

- Me and My Family
- The classroom
- Friends and Relationships
- Spanish Food
- Spanish Film.

9DCT – Year 9 Technology - Combined Materials

Course Content

This course aims to develop students understanding of basic technological practices and technological knowledge. This includes hand tool, power tool, design and plan reading skills. Students work with a range of material including but not limited to: timber, metals, electronics and plastics.

This course begins to equip students to participate in society as informed citizens and gives them access to technology related careers. Theory topics include health and safety, hand tool and power tool recognition.

9DTE – Year 9 Technology - Engineering

Course Content

This course is an introduction to practical metal working skills, and reading and understanding working drawings. Skills include: marking out, cutting, folding, riveting, lathe work, gas welding and workshop safety.

9DTW – Year 9 Technology - Woodwork

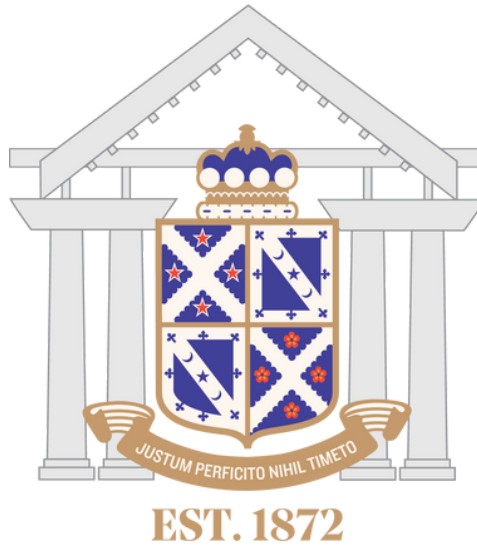
Course Content

This course is an introduction to hand tools skills as related to the workshop. These include marking out, cutting, planning, chiselling, finishing of timber, use of electric drill press, bandsaw and portable power tools such as sanders and drills. Safety and basic design skills are included.



ME TIKA TE MAHI, KIA MATAARA





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