

THE ARTS OPTIONS



VISUAL ARTS

The visual arts develop students' thinking within a range of practices across drawing, sculpture, design, painting, printmaking, photography and moving image.

Students develop visual literacy and an awareness of how things look as they manipulate, transform, extend and communicate complex ideas and concepts using a range of art materials to solve problems.

They are able to view artworks, bringing their own experiences, sharing their responses and making their own interpretations of what they see. They will also investigate the contexts in which artworks are created, used and valued.

An understanding of Māori visual culture is achieved through exploration of Māori contexts. The arts of European, Pasifika, Asian and other cultures add significant dimensions to New Zealand visual culture. Art history may include a study of theories of the arts, architecture and design.

Visual Art, Design, Painting, Photography, Printmaking and Art History, are taught as separate subjects in the Senior College to NCEA Level 3. The college is planning to build a new Visual Arts suite by 2016.

DRAMA

Drama expresses our human experience through a focus on role, action and dramatic tension, played out in time and space.

Students learn to structure these elements and to use dramatic conventions, techniques and technologies to create imagined worlds. Through purposeful play, both individual and collaborative, they discover how to link imagination, thoughts and feelings.

As students work with drama techniques, they learn to use spoken and written language with increasing control and confidence and to communicate effectively using body language, movement and space. As they perform, analyse and respond to different forms of drama and theatre they gain a deeper appreciation of their rich cultural heritage and language and new power to examine attitudes, behaviours and values.

The college has a separate Drama studio and a well equipped auditorium / theatre. Drama can be studied from Year 9 to Year 13 (NCEA Level 3).

MUSIC

Music is a fundamental form of expression, both personal and cultural and through music sounds from natural, acoustic and digital environments, which are used to express ideas.

Value is placed upon the musical heritages of New Zealand's diverse cultures, including traditional and contemporary Māori musical arts. By making, sharing, and responding to music, students contribute to the cultural life of this school, their whānau, peer groups and the community. As they play and listen, they develop knowledge and deeper understandings of music. They draw on cultural practices, histories, theories, structures, technologies and personal experiences.

In music, students work individually and collaboratively to explore the potential of sounds and technologies for creating, interpreting and representing music ideas. As they think about and explore innovative sound and media, students have rich opportunities to further their own creative potential.

Students learn to communicate musically with increasing sophistication, laying a foundation for lifelong enjoyment of and participation in music. Some will go on to take courses in musicology, performance or composition, which may pave the way to music-related employment.

Music can be studied in our well equipped Music Suite from Year 9 to Year 13 (NCEA Level 3).

DANCE

Dance is expressive movement that has intent, purpose and form.

In dance education, students integrate thinking, moving and feeling. They explore and use dance elements, vocabularies, processes and technologies to express personal, group and cultural identities, to convey and interpret artistic ideas and to strengthen social interaction.

Students develop literacy in dance as they learn about, and develop skills in, performing, choreographing and responding to a variety of genres from a range of historical and contemporary contexts. The college has a well equipped specialist dance studio. Dance can be studied from Year 9 to 13 (NCEA Level 3).