Subject Curriculum and VLN Information

Years 11 - 13



Senior Curriculum

If we cannot offer a subject of choice, or students experience an unresolvable timetable clash between two subjects they are equally passionate about, there is a solution for self-motivated students, the Virtual Learning Network (VLN).

Year 11 Subject Information

Each Year 11 student will undertake a course involving **four** compulsory subjects - English, Maths, Science and PE/ Health. Students also choose an additional **three** subjects as their options, making a total of **seven** subjects for the year.

Option Subjects

Agriculture / Horticulture	Trade Skills	Drama	PE Studies
Social Studies	DVC	Visual Arts	Sport
Geography	Design Technology	Fashion and Textiles Tech	French
History	Digital Technology	Health (Food & Nutrition)	Te Reo Maori
Commerce	Music	Hospitality	STEPS

Year 12 Subject Information

English is the only compulsory subject in Year 12, students choose another **five** subjects.

Subjects

Media Studies	Social Studies	Design Technology	Institute of Sport	Te Reo Maori
Mathematics	Geography	Fashion and Textiles Tech	Music	STEPS
Science	History	Home Economics (Nutrition)	Drama	Gateway
Earth and Space Science	Economics	Hospitality	Painting	Trades Academy
Biology	Accounting	Digital Technology Media	Visual Art - Design	Tourism
Chemistry	DVC	Computer Science / Prog.	Sculpture	
Physics	Trade Skills Wood	PE Studies	Photography	
Agriculture / Horticulture	Trade Skills Metal	Sport	French	

Year 13 Subject Information

Each Year 13 students will choose any **five** subjects to make up their timetable.

Subjects

English	Physics	DVC	Sport	Trades Academy
Media Studies	Ag / Horticulture	Trade Skills	Music	Tourism
Mathematics	Social Studies	Fashion and Textiles Tech.	Drama	STAR
Statistics	Geography	Home Economics (Nutrition)	Painting	French
Calculus	History	Hospitality	Visual Art - Design	Te Reo Maori
Earth and Space Science	Economics	Digital Technology	Sculpture	
Biology	Accounting	Digital Tech (Extension)	Photography	
Chemistry	Classical Studies	PE Studies	Gateway	

Virtual Learning Network (VLN)

If we cannot offer a subject of choice, or students experience an unresolvable timetable clash between two subjects they are equally passionate about, there is a solution for self-motivated students: the Virtual Learning Network (VLN). Check it out online: www.vln.school.nz.

Who will be my teacher?

If you are enrolled in a VLN course, your "eTeacher" will be from another secondary school in New Zealand.

How often will I see my teacher?

You will have an hour long Video Conference (VC), Adobe Connect or Google Hangout class each week, plus three timetabled periods with the assistance of our eDean, completing work provided by your eTeacher. Such work could include using an online web space, or tutorials through Skype or some other web tool.

How will I communicate or get work to and from my teacher?

You will be able to communicate regularly with your eTeacher through a mix of emails, online chats, FaceTime, Skype, texts and so on.

How do I receive work or send work to my eTeacher?

Work may be exchanged using a variety of methods – mail, email, uploading and so on. Your eTeacher will mark your work and send it back the same way.

Your eTeacher may also provide you with some paper-based resources and you may also be able to purchase workbooks and study guides to support your learning.

Do I need access to a computer at home?

You will require access during school time to a computer, or e-device, and the internet so that you can work independently in your online environment/ classroom. If you have the internet at home, that is an added bonus and highly recommended.

What happens if I have another class at that time?

You will have to make up for the lost time (usually 30 minutes a week) by working with your Taradale High School teacher on what you have missed. This is why you need to be self-motivated.

Regular attendance in your online classroom is very important. Taradale High School will try to schedule you in to a VLN class in a free timetable line if at all possible.

Who can apply for an online course?

Any senior student may apply to their Dean, or the VLN Co-ordinator, to be enrolled in an online course if the subject/ course they wish to study is:

- not currently offered at your school
- clashes with a timetabled class
- offered through a tertiary organisation

Students who apply must:

- be self-motivated, well organised and committed to achieving
- have an excellent attendance record
- in some cases, have the necessary pre-requisites for the course (e.g. a pass in externals of a previous NCEA level, have studied a language for at least a year in the junior school)
- have permission from their dean and parents

How do you apply?

- talk to your Dean, or the VLN Co-ordinator for information about classes
- discuss with your parents
- make a time to see the VLN Co-ordinator who will go through the VLN enrolment process