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# Introduction

**Y**ear 9 marks the beginning of an exciting time in your educational journey. It is a time when you can begin to make choices about what you will study.

This booklet contains a general outline of each of the subjects available in Year 9 at Otago Girls' High School. It is designed to help you and your parents decide which courses you would like to take during your first year at high school. We look forward to working with you on this journey.

At Otago Girls' High School all students in Years 9 and 10 study English, Mathematics, Social Studies, Science and Health & Physical Education. Year 9 students also study one language and it is recommended that you study at least one art and one technology subject.

If you want more information or would like to discuss possible choices or combinations of subjects in more detail please contact Otago Girls' High School - we will be happy to assist you.

The choices you have made will be discussed and confirmed when you come for your interview later in the year.

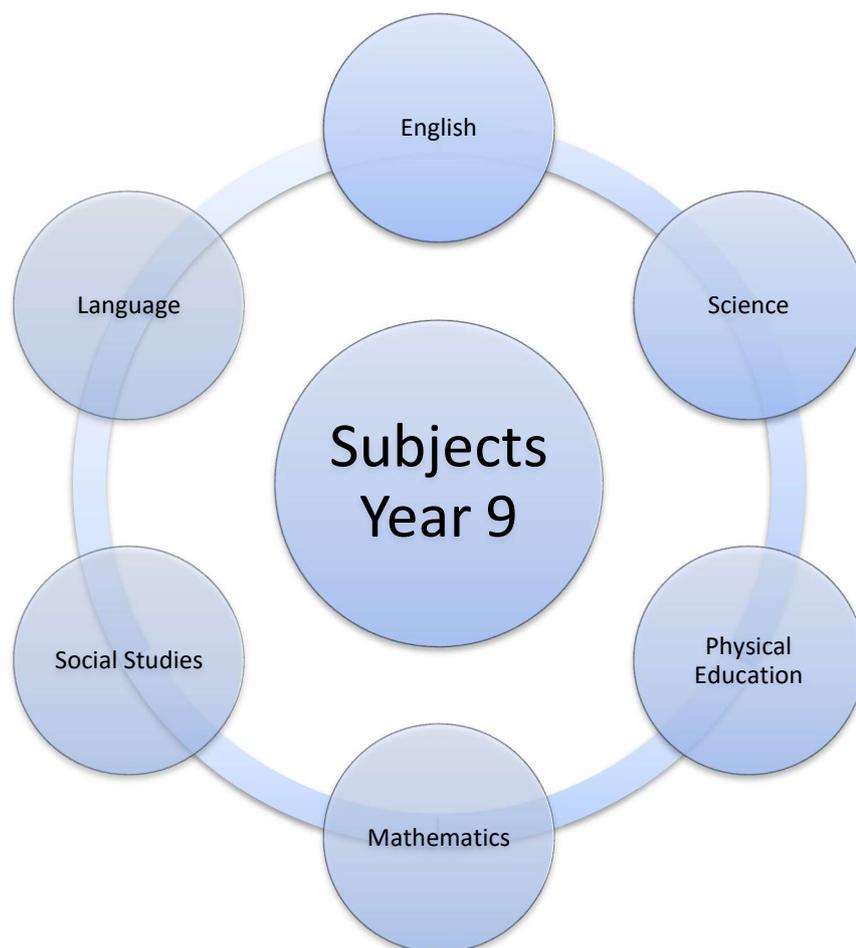
I hope that you find this course information booklet helpful and enjoy selecting an interesting and challenging personal programme of study.



**Linda Miller**  
Principal

# YEAR 9 SUBJECTS

The following Subjects will be taken by all students at Year 9 Level



## Languages

All Year 9 students will study one of the following languages. You need to rank your top three choices in order. We will do our best to give you your first or second choice.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chinese (Mandarin) | <input type="checkbox"/> Te Reo Māori                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> German             | <input type="checkbox"/> French   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Japanese           | <input type="checkbox"/> Literacy Boost                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish            | <i>(For students who would benefit from additional literacy support.)</i> |

Each student is asked to choose four half year options (preferably two art and two technology)

## The Arts

- Art
- Dance
- Drama
- Music

## Technology

- Digital Technology
- Food Technology
- Hard Materials Technology
- Textiles Technology

# SUBJECT PATHWAY

## Year 9-11

	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
<b>English</b>	English	English	English
<b>Languages</b>	Chinese ( <i>Mandarin</i> ) French German Japanese Spanish Te Reo Māori	Chinese ( <i>Mandarin</i> ) French German Japanese Spanish Te Reo Māori	Chinese ( <i>Mandarin</i> ) French German Japanese Korean (Distance Ed) Samoan(Distance Ed) Spanish Te Reo Māori Tongan (Distance Ed)
<b>Mathematics</b>	Mathematics	Mathematics	Mathematics
<b>Physical Education and Health</b>	Health and PE	Health and PE	Health and PE Outdoor Education
<b>Sciences</b>	Science	Science	Science
<b>Social Sciences</b>	Social Studies	Social Studies Enterprise	Geography History Economics/Business
<b>Technology</b>	Digital Technology Food Technology Hard Materials Textiles Technology	Digital Technology DVC* Food and Nutrition Hard Materials Textiles Technology	Digital Technology DVC* Food and Nutrition Hard Materials Textiles Technology
<b>Visual and Performing Arts</b>	Art Dance Drama Music	Art Dance Drama Music	Art Dance Drama Music
*DVC - Design and Visual Communication			

# ENGLISH

*Ko te reo te tuakiri  
Ko te reo tōku ahurei  
Ko te reo te ora*

*Language is my identity  
Language is my uniqueness  
Language is life*

In English you will become increasingly skilled and sophisticated speakers and listeners, writers and readers, presenters and viewers, through experiencing many of the areas below.

## Making Meaning and Creating Meaning

### **VIEW**

Posters  
Advertisements  
Films  
Graphic novels

### **WRITE**

Stories  
Letters  
Poems  
Plays  
Reports  
Blogs

### **LISTEN**

Poetry  
Prose  
Plays  
Podcasts

### **PRESENT**

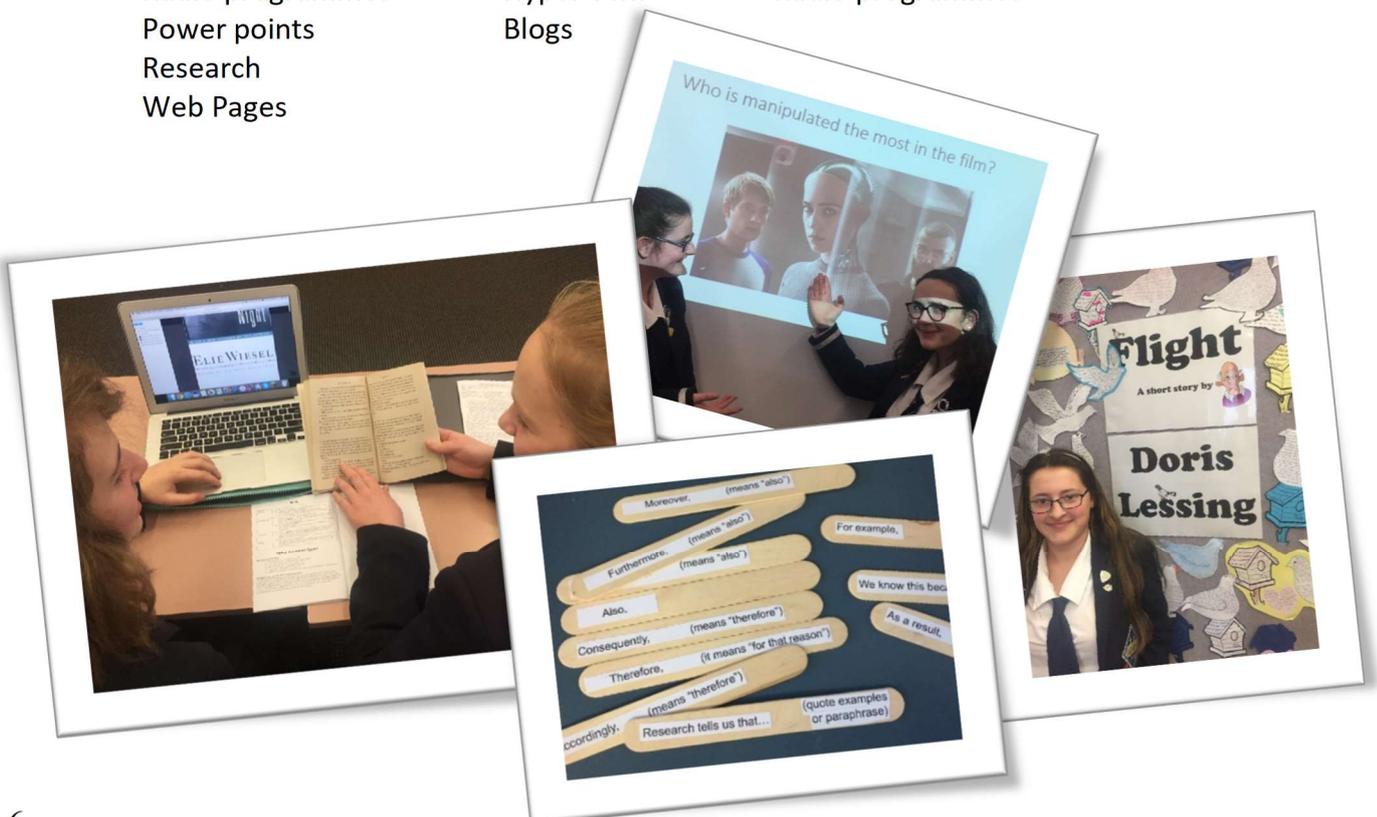
Poetry  
Films  
Posters  
Plays  
Shakespeare  
Radio programmes  
Power points  
Research  
Web Pages

### **READ**

Novels  
Plays  
Short Stories  
Poems  
Non Fiction  
Hyper Text  
Blogs

### **SPEAK**

Debates  
Speeches  
Seminars  
Communication Skills  
Group Work  
Radio programmes



# MATHEMATICS

*Kei hopu tōu ringa ki te aka tāepa  
Engari kia mau ki te aka matua*

*Cling to the main vine,  
not the loose one*

Mathematics is important in many aspects of life. You use mathematics every day and it is also essential for almost all careers. Mathematics will also help you to develop the ability to solve problems and to think logically. Mathematics is compulsory in Year 9.

There are three strands in Mathematics:

Number and Algebra; Geometry and Measurement; Probability and Statistics.

During the year you will investigate many areas of mathematics using computers, books, games and other activities. You will design posters, write your own questions, reports and mathematical stories to help you develop your communication skills. You will apply your knowledge in practical situations and extend your ideas into abstract concepts.



# SCIENCE

*Mā te whakaaro nui e hanga te whare  
Mā te mātauranga e whakaū .*

*Big ideas create the house,  
knowledge maintains it.*

In Junior Science at Otago Girls' High School you will enjoy finding ways to understand the natural and physical world around us as well as the wider universe. Science is packed with hands on practicals, group activities and e-Learning experiences.

Through performing experiments, making observations, solving problems and drawing conclusions you can investigate the Science and Technology aspects of our daily lives.

In Science you can develop your skills and build your knowledge when investigating anything from New Zealand's unique flora, fauna and ecosystems, to the chemical reaction of acids and bases.

## **Science helps you to develop:**

- Thinking skills
- Communication skills
- Analytical skills
- Problem Solving skills
- Investigative skills

In Junior Science, there are also extension opportunities to enter investigation projects in the Otago Science Fair and to compete in the Australasian Science Quiz.

## ***What will we learn about in Year 9?***

- Matter and Atoms
- Life Processes of Animals and Plants
- Cells and Reproduction
- Astronomy
- Forces
- Energy – light, sound and heat



# SOCIAL STUDIES

*He aha te mea nui o te ao?  
He tangata, he tangata, he tangata*

*What is the most important thing in the world?  
It is the people, it is the people, it is the people*

Social Studies is about how societies work and how you can participate in your community as an active and responsible citizen.

In Social Studies you will look at social issues that relate to identity, culture, and organisation, and learn to take positive action.

You will investigate how individuals, communities, and societies respond to change.

Through the process of **Social inquiry** you will have the opportunity to:

- Ask questions, find and communicate information
- Investigate different viewpoints and values
- Identify solutions and make decisions about social action.

The four central Social Studies themes are:

Social Organisation and Culture	Place and Environment	The Changing World	The Economic World
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## **Year 9 Topics**

- Who are we? Identity
- Civic, Citizenship and Political Literacy
- Environment and Sustainability
- Global Development



# HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

*He oranga ngākau, he pikinga waiora*

*Positive feelings in your heart  
will enhance your self-worth.*

In Health and Physical Education, you will learn in, through, and about movement. You will understand, appreciate and move your bodies, relate positively to others and demonstrate constructive attitudes and values. You will engage in play, games, sport, exercise, recreation and adventure in a diverse range of physical and social environments. Physical Education will encourage you to engage in movement experiences that promote and support the development of your physical and social skills.

## Topics Covered in Year 9 Physical Education

We cover movement related topics such as Fitness, Gymnastics, Multicultural games, Volleyball, Basketball, Aquatics, Turbo Touch and Badminton.

We also cover health related topics such as Nutrition, Smoking, Alcohol and Well-being.

This is an exciting, fun and active subject that you will love!



# LANGUAGES

*Ko tōu reo, ko tōku reo,  
te tuakiri tangata.  
Thei uriuri, tihei nakonako.*

*Your voice and my voice  
Are expressions of identity  
May our descendants live on and our  
hopes be fulfilled.*

## Chinese (Mandarin)

### Why learn Mandarin?

Come and have fun learning Mandarin; experience one of the world's oldest living languages with more speakers in the world than any other language! Learning Mandarin is becoming increasingly important for New Zealanders because of the economic and cultural ties this country is developing with the Chinese-speaking world.

### What will we learn?

#### Language:

- Greet, farewell and thank people
- Introduce oneself and others
- Classroom instructions
- Use numbers 1-100
- Talk about family and animals
- School and classroom

#### Culture:

- Greeting customs
- Symbolic animals in Chinese culture
- Numbers: Do they mean anything?

### What opportunities are there?

Mandarin is a language with increasing popularity at tertiary level. It could open doors to a wide variety of exciting career opportunities. Learning experiences include:

- A visit to the Chinese garden
- Chinese food: nutritious and delicious
- Learning to do Chinese calligraphy
- Language and Culture Immersion days
- "Chinese Bridge" proficiency competition



# LANGUAGES

## French

### Why learn French?

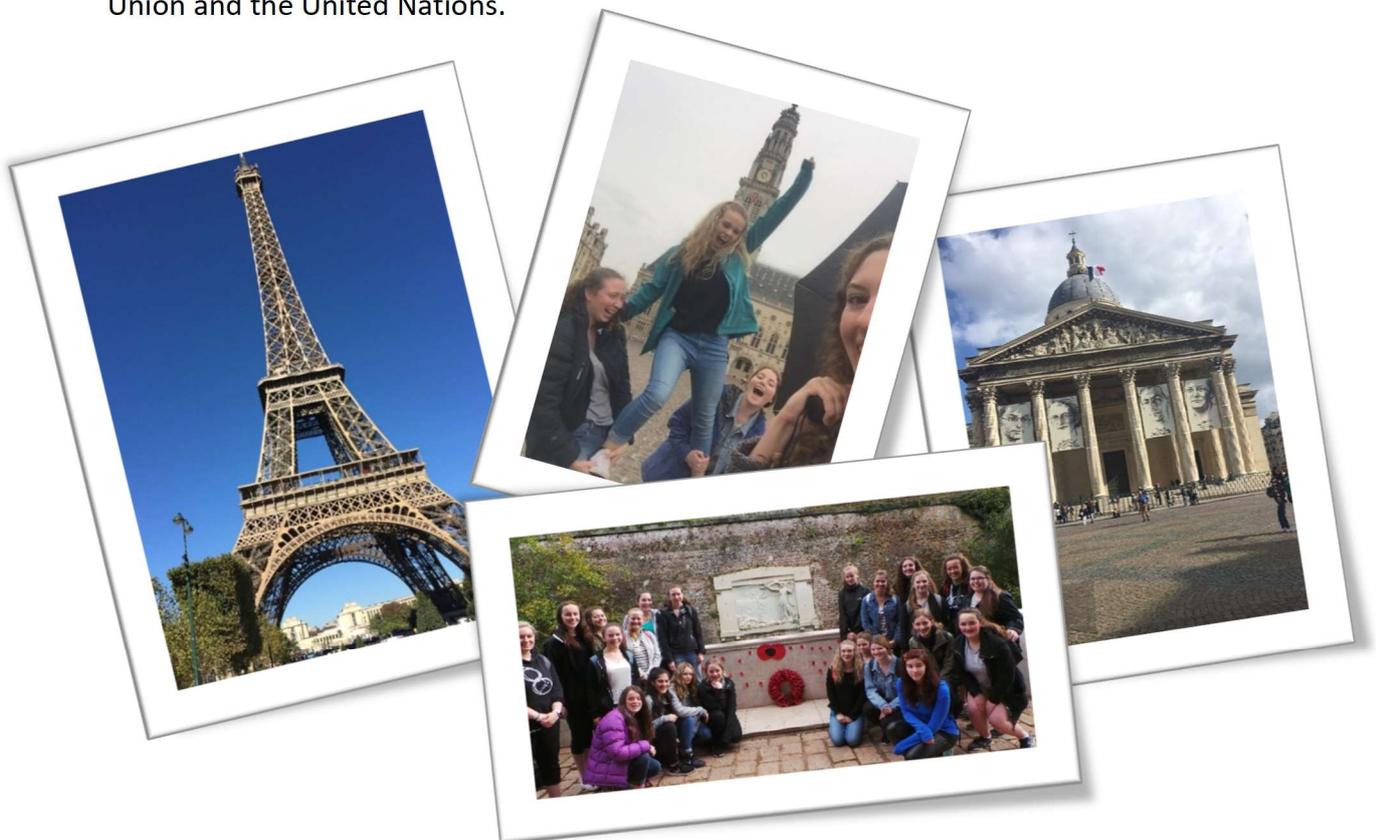
The world is becoming a smaller place and being able to communicate in another language is becoming more and more important. French is spoken in more than 50 countries around the world! Learning a second language improves your knowledge of English.

### What will we learn?

- How to introduce ourselves
- How to count to 100
- How to talk about our family and pets
- About countries and nationalities
- Some French songs
- All about France and the French culture!

### What opportunities are there?

- Try French Food
- Exchanges to France at the end of Year 12
- A lot of Year 13 French students go on to take some papers at university – or even go to university in France!
- Speaking French is a useful skill to have for any job as it makes it a point of difference on your CV and French is one of the official languages of the European Union and the United Nations.



# LANGUAGES

## German

### Why learn German?

German is a useful skill to have for **any** job. In the global world, German is one of the most important languages for travel, science, journalism, all the arts, filmmaking, economics (Germany has the world's **fourth** largest economy) and much more. German is as important as English in Eastern Europe and is one of the major official languages of the European Union. German is the second language closest to English and has many things in common with English. German is fun!

### What will we learn?

In the Year 9 German course you will learn the basics and much more. You will be able to talk about:

- yourself
- school in Germany
- your family (including pets and siblings)
- your free-time
- life at home
- your home town and what you can do there.

Answer questions like “What is a currywurst?” and “How fast can I really drive on the Autobahn?”

### What opportunities are there?

- Every year many of our Year 12 class go on a two month exchange to Germany, living with a German host family. The guest sister then comes to Dunedin in the first Term of Year 13.
- A lot of our Year 13 German students go on to take some German papers at university and some even study in Germany full-time (where the fees are free for foreign students!)
- The German government has a working-holiday programme for a year so you can combine your OE to the UK with a year in Germany too, giving you three years away instead of just two.
- There are three German scholarship competitions for a free trip to Germany in Year 12.



# LANGUAGES

## Japanese

### Why learn Japanese?

Japanese is a unique and exciting language and culture. Learning a language is special. It opens your eyes to different cultures, allows you to appreciate your own language and expands your world. Japan is the world's second largest economy and has strong trading links with New Zealand. A degree in Japanese can lead to careers in government, diplomacy, teaching, banking, multinational companies, translating and more.

### What do we do?

We have fun learning how to communicate in Japanese through games, songs, gestures, acting, drawing and more. You will learn to write the script of hiragana, talk about yourself and explore the amazing Japanese culture.

### Topics:

- Me, myself and I
- In the classroom
- Let's Count
- My Family and Pets
- Japanese Food
- My hobbies

### Where can Japanese take you?

Otago Girls' has strong links with Japan. There are so many ways you can travel to Japan!

- Year exchange to Osaka
- Six month exchange to Bunkyo Women's High School in Tokyo
- 10 week summer exchange to Yasuda Girls' High School in Hiroshima
- Three week Educational school Japan Trip.
- Hosting Students from Japan



# LANGUAGES

## Spanish

### Why study Spanish?

Being able to communicate in another language is becoming more and more important as New Zealand creates more international links. Over 400 million people in the world speak Spanish as their first language. It is the official language in 21 countries; throughout Europe, the Americas and Africa, and is spoken widely in many more.

### In Year 9 you will:

- Learn how to greet and farewell each other
- Learn how to introduce yourself and your family
- Learn to count to 100
- Learn how to talk about school
- Sing lots of Spanish songs
- Taste Spanish food
- Tell the time in Spanish
- Learn some Spanish dances

### Where can Spanish take you?

- Spanish exchanges to South/Central America and Spain in the senior school
- Senior school trip to Argentina
- You can study Spanish at university, as a major, minor or part of another degree
- Work overseas in a Spanish speaking country



# LANGUAGES

## Te Reo Māori

### Why learn te reo Māori?

- It is our own living language and belongs to everyone
- It is beautiful, fun and exciting
- It makes you feel proud of who you are
- It can take you places and give you amazing experiences.
- It is of great advantage to your career, both here and overseas
- Learning te reo increases your brainpower!

### What will you do?

- speak in Māori from the very first lesson, recite karakia, pepeha and mihi
- learn to communicate about family connections, marae, school and home, describe friends, hobbies and pets, learn about Kāi Tahu
- celebrate and compete in special events – Matariki, Polyfest, Manu Kōrero, Mana Pounamu, Hautoka, Te Wiki o te reo Māori
- cook kai, sing waiata, play games, weave flax, make artworks, film stories

### Where will you go?

- join our combined OGHS/OBHS kapa haka, compete and gain NCEA credits
- go on visits and trips, attend hui, noho marae, see plays and performances, at local, regional and national level, with overseas possibilities in the future
- attend Science Wānanga and Hui Reo
- take leadership roles such as Kāhui Kōrero Māori Student Council
- study for Scholarship or te Reo Rangatira for fluent speakers
- have contact with university tutors and lecturers
- study te reo Māori or Māori Performing Arts at university
- have the advantage in any career
- stand strong in your own identity at home and overseas



# THE ARTS

*Te toi whakairo  
ka ihiihi ka wehiwehi  
ka aweaewe te ao katoa*

*Artistic excellence makes  
the world sit up in wonder*

## Art

### Content for half year option

Student learning in this half year option includes advanced drawing skills, proportion of the portrait, colour theory, specific painting techniques and one form of printmaking.

### Why choose it?

Art is all about exploring personal interests and ideas and expressing ourselves which makes it an engaging and fun subject to study. Taking Art will prepare you for further study in a wide range of interesting, creative and rewarding careers.

### Why is it important?

Today's employers are looking for innovative thinkers. Art encourages us to solve problems creatively and gives us an edge in the modern job market. Art also enhances our perception and trains us to be more observant and aware of our increasingly visual culture and the impact it has on our lives.



# THE ARTS

## Dance

Creative thinking skills are developed through dance, as well as learning the value of discipline, commitment and work ethic.

All in all, dance is a great way to build invaluable social skills. Much more importantly however, it is an opportunity to teach students the importance of being part of something larger than themselves. Dancers learn to take turns, to share attention, and to cooperate with others as they work within a group.

Dance is an important part of our human history. It allows us to creatively express ourselves, express our cultures, tell a story, socially interact, and to entertain.

### **Dance in Year 9 is a mainly practical, half year course**

In Year 9, you get the opportunity to work collaboratively with other members of the class to choreograph two dances:

- Group dance
- Duet dance

You will learn genres of dance for your performance assessments:

- Jazz
- Contemporary

You will complete a research assignment on the history of Jazz or Contemporary dance. There is a written exam at the end of the course which involves:

- Using the elements of dance to describe dance pictures and performances.
- Demonstrating an understanding of the history and characteristics of specific dance styles.



# THE ARTS

## Drama

Drama is an opportunity to work collaboratively and creatively while developing your confidence.

You will get the chance to develop your skills at improvisation, perform scripted acting roles on the stage, learn about theatre throughout history, and create your own plays in small groups.

Drama is a great way to express your ideas and get to know more about yourself and others. It enables you to experience life from other perspectives and gives you opportunities to work with a range of people.



# THE ARTS

## Music

Students are introduced to using instruments and singing, composing, music literacy, listening, music appreciation and technology by working individually and collaboratively. Advanced music students are also mentored for higher level skills. Year 9 leads on to Year 10 Music and NCEA Music and beyond, including tertiary.

Students are expected to take part in the extracurricular music opportunities as part of the course, including singing in one of the school choirs, performing in the orchestra or Jazz ensemble, or performing in a contemporary rock or pop ensemble.

Students will use Soundtrap, Garageband, Sibelius and Musescore to compose and arrange original compositions.

To proceed to Year 10 Music students must pass this course or otherwise be able to prove an acceptable standard of musicianship to music staff.



# TECHNOLOGY

*I orea te tuatara ka puta ki waho*

*A problem is solved by continuing to  
find solutions*

## Digital Technology

Digital Technology in society is evolving at a rapid rate, and having the confidence and skill to be able to adapt to this ever changing world is crucial. The demand for young people who are digitally literate is ever increasing. Digital literacy is ***much*** more than knowing how to access Facebook and Twitter. In Digital Technology we follow the technology process to develop a solid base of knowledge along with marketable and useful skills. This is a fun and creative course of work.

**In Digital Technology we will do the following:**

- **Computational Thinking**
  - Writing algorithms to solve real world problems
  - Programming and robotics
- **Designing and Developing Digital Outcomes**
  - Selecting and using software to create digital outcomes
  - Exploring how computers work and can be used to increase human capability



# TECHNOLOGY

## Food Technology

### Why Choose Food Technology?

Discover the delights of food by exploring recipes, preparing food, tasting and evaluating food through the use of the technology cycle.

### Content

#### By the end of the module you will have:

- Developed a love and understanding of food
- Learn the techniques involved in food preparation and cookery
- Developed cookery skills
- Investigated basic nutrition
- Explored food presentation
- Expanded on your food knowledge
- Gained confidence in designing and/or modifying recipes, using the technology process



# TECHNOLOGY

## Hard Materials Technology

By choosing this course you will develop a wide range of skills in designing and making. We have high expectations for quality and creativity, and if you enjoy designing and making things, this would be a good option for you.

### What do we do?

- Design, develop and plan projects. Taking them from concept to reality.
- Make your own projects from a variety of material such as wood, metal, plastic, bone, stone and shell.
- Learn to use tools accurately and safely, produce high quality products and make things of which you can be proud.



# TECHNOLOGY

## Textiles Technology

### Why should you choose Textiles?

In Textiles you will learn to problem solve as well as think critically and creatively. You will gain a range of practical skills, including applied design methods which are a great foundation for this subject. Students are given the opportunity to design and produce unique and innovative sleepwear for a target market (teenagers).



### What do you do in Year 9 half year option?

You will follow the technology process to: research, design, gather and use feedback, carry out basic construction and applied design techniques and make a final garment to fit yourself (pyjamas); all while learning what technology is about.

### What skills will you learn in Year 9?

Knowledge about:

- Fabric properties
- What makes good design
- Pattern and instruction reading
- Safety
- How the sewing machine works
- Applied design techniques such as applique, screen printing and tie dying
- Construction processes



# Sport at Otago Girls' High School

*There are lots of really GREAT reasons to play sport at Otago Girls' High School.*

## **Some Facts:**

- Over 30 different sports to choose from. There is something for everyone.
- Research shows that participation in sport increases achievement levels (MOE Report, 2013)

## **Student Voice:**

"Sport has been a big part of my time at OGHS, not only have I made great memories and friends, it has taught me the importance of resilience, determination and always giving 100%. This has not only been important on the sports field but also a success in the classroom as well." Gemma Millar

"I enjoy sport at OGHS because it helps you create long term friendships between girls from different classes and year levels. Playing sport at OGHS also gives you many opportunities to go on tournaments all over the country." Jennifer Marsh



# Special Programmes

A range of additional programmes support the learning needs of individual students.

## **Literacy Support**

Tutors come into the school on a voluntary basis to assist students enhancing literacy skills across all curriculum areas.

This involves students in one or more of the following:

- Peer tutoring – working 1:1 with specifically trained Year 13 students
- Individual tuition with a literacy specialist
- Participation in the Curriculum Reading Programme
- You can also choose the Literacy Boost option for language

## **Numeracy Support**

This involves students in one or more of the following:

- Individual Tuition with a numeracy specialist
- Peer Tutoring – working 1:1 with specifically trained Year 13 students
- Lunchtime Maths Tutorials

If you have special learning requirements please encourage your parents/guardians to make an appointment to meet our Assistant Dean Wellbeing, Mrs Porter, or the teacher in charge of Learning Support, Mrs Millar.

## **Gifted and Talented**

Many opportunities exist where students can extend their talents and learning abilities. The school has close links with Otago University and other providers.

We also run a range of our own extension programmes such as Writers Week, Language Immersion Week, Science Fair Club and Mathematics Extension Club.

Students also enter ICAS examinations,  
Xtra Spelling & Social Studies Quizzes  
and various English, Science and  
Mathematics competitions.

