



TRINITY CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Year 9 Option Information Booklet for 2026

Dear Parents/Caregivers of current students and new students to the College,

Please read the following and then complete [this google form](#) by Friday 24th October.

COMPULSORY SUBJECTS IN YEAR 9 Integrated Studies

The core subjects of English, Mathematics, Science, Religious Studies, Physical Education, Health, Social Inquiry and some Te Reo Māori will be taught in an integrated manner in 2026.

Students will also choose 4 options to study.

Option Courses in Years 9

Each of the four options is for four hours a fortnight for one semester (two terms).

Students complete four options during the year, two options in Semester 1 (Terms 1 and 2), and the other two in Semester 2 (Terms 3 and 4).

In choosing these options, students and parents are reminded that Year 9 is a time for choice, challenge, and opportunity. Much of the overall learning programme is covered in the seven compulsory core subjects listed above.

We are keen to encourage our students to continue to have as much breadth as possible in their learning. This is a time to experiment with choice. There is no problem with choosing something to try for one semester only.

Students are encouraged to choose some option subjects that may support their leisure interests.

These options do lead to available options at Year 10 if students know what they are already interested in.

Please note that each of these courses is designed to be stand alone, for example students do not have to study one Art course before the other. Some students may wish to study a language, for example French, and this will be via Te Kura (Correspondence School). Please select Te Kura if this is the case.

See the brief outlines of each option subject shown on the next few pages.

Please discuss the following Options with your child and complete [the google form](#) by Friday 24th October 2025.

CHOOSING FOUR OPTIONS FOR 2026

Students must choose a total of four options with *at least one* from the Arts Column *and at least one* from the Technology Column.

Arts

Exploring Portraiture
The Landscape – Identity, Culture
Drama
Musical Theatre
Live Music Performance 2
Music Technology and Production 2
Songwriting, Stage, and Studio

Technology

Gamification
My Digital Future
Product & Spatial Design
Maker Space 2
Soft Toys 2 - Plushie Power
Athleisure
Food Truck Fakeaways
Sports Nutrition & Food Marketing

Other Options

Te Tupuranga- Te Reo Māori 2
Entrepreneurship Edge
Te Kura

Exploring Portraiture

This course provides students with the opportunity to explore Portraiture in Both Realist and Abstract Contexts - This includes:

- Clay modelling – life-size mask
- Painting - the Cubist painting of Picasso. Exploring colour theory and paint application to create a Cubist portrait.
- Print making – wood block monochromatic. Extension work – developing ideas through the etching process.
- Drawing – portraits, features and structure.

The Landscape- A reflection of identity, culture, and place.

In this two-term course, students will explore the theme of landscape through drawing, painting, etching, and woodblock printmaking.

- Term 1/3: Develop drawing and painting skills, experiment with colour and technique, and create a final acrylic landscape painting.
- Term 2/4: Learn printmaking processes, including etching and woodblock printing, and produce a series of landscape prints.

Students will study New Zealand and international artists, and explore how landscapes can reflect identity, culture and place.

Drama

Step into the spotlight and discover the magic of performance! In Year 9 Drama, students will explore every corner of the theatre world — from acting, improvisation, and movement to script work, devising, and stagecraft. Whether you're a born performer or someone who just wants to boost your confidence, this course is all about creativity, teamwork, and having fun! Students will experiment with characters, scenes, and storytelling while learning how to express ideas through voice, body, and imagination. They'll also get hands-on experience with elements of theatre design, including costumes, props, lighting, and sound, to bring their performances to life. Each term offers something new — from hilarious improvisations and dramatic scenes to original group performances. By the end of the course, students will have developed their performance skills, creative thinking, and confidence both on and off the stage. This is the perfect course for anyone who loves to **create, collaborate, and perform!**

Musical Theatre – The Finale

This Music option offers further opportunities to explore experiences involving performance and production of musical theatre. You will master singing, staging, and choreographing a variety of musical theatre songs, exploring different musicals from a wider sociological perspective, and understanding production techniques including lighting, sound, music, costume, and stage sets.

Live Music Performance 2

This option is focused on developing skills in live performance and live sound engineering. This option is suitable for students with an interest in learning or developing their skills on an instrument and forming a band. It involves using instrumental and/or vocal skills and culminating in solo, duo, or group performances of students' own compositions and covers in front of an audience.

Music Technology and Production 2

This option develops skills in computer-based composition and recording. It involves using instrumental and/or vocal skills and building upon existing recording and production skills, including remixing and production techniques, developing compositional skills in producing music using an online Digital Audio Workstation and our in-school studio. No instrumental skills required– but helpful!

Songwriting, Stage, and Studio

This course is aimed at musicians and vocalists with some experience (feels confident on their instrument/voice) who want to get writing songs as a band or duo, get on stage locally and nationally through competitions like RockQuest and Play It Strange, and learn to use the recording studio to record their songs ready for release. Suitable for songwriters, singers, and all instrumentalists. Perfect for students who already have the beginnings of a band who want time to create music.

Gamification

Games are used for both education and entertainment, and wherever they are used, they are fun! In this course you will be studying computer games. You will look at popular games, good game design, and common game types. After that, using your new knowledge of what games are all about, you will design and create your own computer game using apps and code.

My Digital Future

There are three areas of study in this course.

1 Mechatronics. (Robotics and Electronics: Putting it all together). Robots, cars, drones and more are all mechatronic. They move (mechanical) and have electronics to make them go. You will make your own mechatronic projects.

2 Media Studies: Wonderful websites and making marvellous movies for my feed. Digital Media is about how things look on the screen. Websites and movies are how we communicate today. You will learn how to make a good webpage for screen or phone, and make a short movie.

3 Programming: Coding for the future. This is how we get the job done and control what is around us. In this course you will learn how to code, and where it is used.

Maker Space 2

This course is based in the Technology workshop. Students will develop their skills in using tools and manipulating materials. They will be designing and constructing a range of projects around storing and securing personal items.

Product and Spatial Design

Designing Products and Spaces. This course will further develop skills gained in years 7-8 in computer-aided design (CAD), 3D printing, and model-making skills. There will be 2 parts to the course, one term Architecture and one term Product Design.

Soft Toys 2 - Plushie Power

Ready to take your soft toy skills further? Design and create your own on-trend, Squishmallow-style plushie in this advanced course. You'll focus on turning your concept into a unique pattern and mastering a professional finish. Experiment with techniques like appliqué and embroidery to decorate your creation, making a high-quality, custom soft toy.

Athleisure

Design and create your own crew neck sweatshirt in this hands-on course, adding cool features like a customised logo, sleeve frills or elbow patches. You'll master essential skills using the sewing machine, overlocker and cricut machine while learning how to read a commercial pattern to create your design. Combine technical skill with your personal style to construct a high-quality, unique garment.

Food Truck Fakeaways

The course focuses on exploring how to create healthier, home-cooked versions of takeaway favourites ("fakeaways"). The final project involves designing a complete food truck business, combining food preparation, recipe modification, and entrepreneurial skills.

Sports Nutrition & Food Marketing

The course looks at the science of nutrition with practical cooking lessons that teach students how to create quick, healthy, and delicious meals and snacks to fuel an active lifestyle. Students will become savvy consumers who can critically analyse the marketing messages and food labels they encounter every day.

Entrepreneurship Edge - Building tomorrow's success

Are you a budding entrepreneur? Would you like to learn how to run a successful business? Are you interested in saving for the future? Do you care about the environment? If the answer is "yes" to any of these questions, then this course is for you! It provides your gateway to unleashing your entrepreneurial spirit and mastering essential financial skills. Dive into the fundamentals of budgeting, saving, and investing and discover how to navigate the financial landscape confidently. You'll explore the art of turning ideas into successful ventures through engaging lessons, hands-on activities, guest speakers, field trips, and real-world digital simulations.

With this course, you will learn about entrepreneurship and money and experience it firsthand. You'll learn to turn your ideas into real business plans and apply your skills in a fun, real-life business experience. You will find out how networking can help you and your business. Get ready to discover new skills, make friends, and set yourself up for success in the world of entrepreneurship!

Te Tupuranga - Te Reo Māori 2

This course follows on from Te Whakatōtanga. The focus for this course is learning to write and speak Te reo Māori (Māori language) to Level 2-3 and exploring ngā tikanga Māori (Māori customs). Students will improve their skills and knowledge in: kōrero (speaking), tuhituhi (writing), pānui (reading) and whakarongo (listening).

Ngā Kaupapa Ako (learning Topics)

He Rā Whakanui: (A celebration). Communicating about likes, wants, communicating about shopping for kai, price, quantity - numbers, organising a class shared kai linked to a relevant event such as Matariki celebration, Te Wiki o te Reo Māori.

Māu te korero! (You can talk!): Describing friends and whānau, describing objects. We will also explore some kīwaha (informal sayings), how to complement, tease and exclaim to your friends in conversation. In a small group you will make a short te Reo Māori skit.

Reo Ōkawa (Formal language) for mihi mai, mihi atu (acknowledging people), waiata tautoko

Te Kura

Te Kura or Correspondence school may be able to support Language learning in Spanish, French, German or, Japanese. Students will be in a supervised space and the work will be provided remotely by Te Kura. However, they must be able to work independently and have a good work ethic to ensure success.