

DUNSTAN HIGH SCHOOL



**RAPUHIA TE MĀTAURANGA
HEI TAONGA**

Course Information Year 12

You must select 6 NCEA Level 2 subjects to study in 2027.

ENGLISH

It is highly recommended that you take English in year 12 to enable you to keep your future pathways open. English will assist you in gaining University Entrance literacy (5 credits in reading and 5 credits in writing are required).

12 ENGLISH LITERATURE (12ENL)	
The Year 12 English Literature course opens students up to a broader experience of literature (including drama, novel, poetry, short story, non-fiction and Shakespeare) while also developing their ability to maturely express a point of view. Students should expect to be studying written texts; poetry, short stories and novels.	
COSTS & OUT-OF-CLASS ACTIVITIES: \$10	
Achievement Standards	Maximum credits available: 26
12 UE reading credits available and 18 UE writing credits	

12 ENGLISH (12ENG)	
The course seeks to support students in the development of their English skills and to help students gain the Level 2 Literacy requirements of 5 credits in Reading and 5 credits in Writing at Level 2, the minimum requirement for University Entrance and for a number of other tertiary courses.	
COSTS & OUT-OF-CLASS ACTIVITIES: \$10	
Achievement Standards	Maximum credits available: 22
8 UE reading credits available and 14 UE writing credits	

12 MEDIA STUDIES	
Media Studies combines practical and theory-based topics and is for students who are interested in all aspects of media. We live in an era dominated by information and digital media. Media literacy is crucial. Media Studies helps students to discern credible sources from misinformation, explore the role and function of media in society, and learn the significant influence media has on social and political issues. It also involves writing a script, and creating a media product.	
COSTS & OUT-OF-CLASS ACTIVITIES:	
Achievement Standards	Maximum credits available: 20

No UE reading credits are available with this course but 10 UE writing credits are available

12 ENGLISH COMMUNICATION (12ENC)

This course is for students who did not gain Level 1 Literacy. This course is for students who want an English course that is targeted towards workplace literacy.

In this course, students will focus on developing their literacy skills in order to prepare themselves for the Literacy Reading and Writing exams, alongside workplace literacy. The course also consists of Level 2 internally assessed unit standards. Level 1 English Achievement Standards may also be included, depending on the needs of the students.

COSTS & OUT-OF-CLASS ACTIVITIES: Nil

Unit Standards

This course is not eligible for endorsement

Maximum credits available: 19

ARTS

12 DRAMA

The aims of the course are for students to develop an understanding of themselves and of others. Drama students learn specific performance skills and at the same time are encouraged to work creatively and co-operatively, to respond to and respect the opinions of others, to evaluate and analyse and to look beyond the Dramatic Arts as merely a form of entertainment.

PRE-REQUISITES: Successful completion of Level 1 drama or discussion with Mr Meissel

COSTS & OUT-OF-CLASS ACTIVITIES: Approx \$200 for field trips/theatre visits (essential but not obligatory)

Achievement Standards

Maximum credits available: 26

12 MUSIC

Students will further develop their performance, composition, and general musicianship skills. All Achievement Standards are optional with students tailoring their course to suit their individual strengths and interests. This will be done in consultation with the teacher. We recommend selecting a course consisting of approximately 18 to 22 credits.

PRE-REQUISITES: To be eligible for this course, you must have successfully taken music in Year 11 i.e: gained at least 10 credits, or have experienced at least two years of private music tuition.

COSTS & OUT-OF-CLASS ACTIVITIES: None

Achievement Standards: Yes
*Endorsement is only available to students who opt to sit the External Exam.

Maximum credits available: 31

12 ART PAINTING

Year Twelve Visual Art students will develop their perceptual awareness, their creative imagination, their technical skills and critical faculties through investigation of Artist models and their own identity and environment. Visual, written, graphic, and web-related design and communications skills are needed by all sectors which will be developed and explored in Year 12. Students will strengthen your practical skills, painting and design skills and their cultural awareness and knowledge.

PRE-REQUISITES: Recommended that you have taken Year 11 Art

COSTS & OUT-OF-CLASS ACTIVITIES: \$94 and \$22 for field trips

Achievement Standards:

Maximum credits available: 20 - 24

12 ART PHOTOGRAPHY

Year Twelve Art Photography students will begin to develop their perceptual awareness, their creative imagination, their technical skills and critical faculties through investigation of Artist models and their own identity and environment through Digital manipulation and the Photographic process. Visual, written, graphic and communications skills are desired skills in all sectors which are covered in Year 12 Photography. Students will strengthen their practical and technical skills in photoshop, still photography, design skills and your cultural awareness and knowledge through the achievement standards studied.

PRE-REQUISITES: Recommended that you have taken Year 11 Art

COSTS & OUT-OF-CLASS ACTIVITIES: \$165

Achievement Standards

Maximum credits available: 24

LANGUAGES:

12 FRENCH	
Students will develop the depth of their language through regular practice of listening, speaking, reading and writing. They will discuss a variety of topical issues and may study French film and/or text. Timetabling restraints mean that senior classes are combined. Students will need to be self-motivated and self-regulated but can also expect to benefit from the interaction, revision and extension opportunities this arrangement will provide.	
PRE-REQUISITES: A minimum of 15 L1 French credits	
COSTS & OUT-OF-CLASS ACTIVITIES: French revision text (optional) \$10 - 15 Food costs \$15	
Achievement Standards	Maximum credits available: 24

12 TE AO MAORI	
<i>At the end of the course students will be able to perform a small bracket to the Achievement standard level, develop an understanding of Manaaki, understand and be confident with tikanga for specific events and understand the importance of mānakitanga, Māori world view and starting to demonstrate leadership potential and attitudes. Must be prepared to be a member of the school Kapa Haka roopu.</i>	
PRE-REQUISITES: • Preferred: Prior study in Māori Performing Arts / Te Ao Māori,. • Alternative: If you do not have prior experience but possess a strong passion, dedication, and eagerness to learn, please speak with the teacher—we are happy to consider students who are keen to give it a go!	
COSTS & OUT-OF-CLASS ACTIVITIES: Part contribution towards travel and Kapa Haka costs(practice poi/rakau) to rehearsal at home.	
Achievement Standards and Unit standards available	Maximum credits available: 20 AS (Internal and external) and 20 US
UE Literacy: 6 writing and 12 UE literacy reading credits are available	

If you are interested in studying a language that is not on this list, please email Ms Tipene mtipene@dunstan.school.nz

MATHEMATICS

It is highly recommended that you take Mathematics in Year 12 to enable you to keep your future pathways open.

12 MATHS WITH ALGEBRA (12MAA)	
Students will continue to study algebra, including trigonometry and graphing. This leads into a basic introduction to calculus. Students will also study probability, during which they will be introduced to the normal distribution. In order to be eligible for this course, you MUST have passed the 1.4 Mathematical Reasoning Exam in Year 11. Where does it lead? This course leads on to Year 13 Calculus and Year 13 Statistics. This is an essential course for anyone wanting to study engineering, health sciences, architecture, surveying, finance, or anything related to mathematics or science at university. You must take this course if you wish to study Year 12 Physics.	
COSTS & OUT-OF-CLASS ACTIVITIES: \$30 for workbooks	
Achievement Standards YES	Maximum credits available: 22

12 MATHS WITH STATISTICS (12MAS)	
Students will study statistics and probability, as well as a selection of mathematics based standards. Where does it lead? This course leads on to Year 13 Statistics, or Year 13 Maths and Statistics.	
COSTS & OUT-OF-CLASS ACTIVITIES: \$30 for workbooks	
Achievement Standards YES	Maximum credits available: 16

12 MATHS WITH NUMERACY (12MAN)

This is a Level 2 Mathematics and Statistics course for students who respond better to short term goals and who require a longer time to understand the material.

This course is open to both year 12 and 13 students wishing to further develop their maths skills. During this course, students will study some level 2 Achievement Standards.

This course does not adequately prepare students for a Year 13 Maths course. Please consider if studying 12MAN at year 12 that you will have enough options at Year 13.

COSTS & OUT-OF-CLASS ACTIVITIES: \$20 for workbooks

Achievement Standards only
Not eligible for Course Endorsement

Maximum credits available: 15

PHYSICAL EDUCATION:

12 PHYSICAL EDUCATION

This course is made up of a variety of Achievement Standards covering sports science, exercise prescription, sociology, leadership and practical performance. It has a 70% theory: 30% practical weighting. Students will experience a range of activities where they will be applying their theoretical knowledge to practical performance. Most assessments rely on their own practical application during class sessions as evidence for reports. This course requires a high level of literacy/writing skills. This course involves a trip to Dunedin to explore sports science labs and pathways in the sport and recreation industry, for both University and Polytechnic pathways.

PRE-REQUISITES: Students must have achieved at least 2 standards in Level 1 PE.

COSTS & OUT-OF-CLASS ACTIVITIES: Approx \$120 workbook, field trip and practical costs. 1 day off school for trip.

Achievement Standards: Yes

Maximum credits available: 19-21

12 OUTDOOR EDUCATION

The programme is made up of two distinct areas:

Outdoor Pursuits & Adventure: These include:

- bush craft and tramping
- mapwork, navigation, weather
- cycle touring and bicycle maintenance
- snow-caving & cross-country skiing
- rock climbing & abseiling
- challenge ropes course activities
- general risk management

These activities are taken to a higher level than the Year 11 course.

Personal and Social Development:

Opportunities to develop independence, self-confidence, resilience, leadership skills and responsibility are woven into the course. A major goal of the programme is the improvement of self-esteem and self-management and the development of interpersonal skills.

PRE-REQUISITES: Recommended to have taken L1 OUE

COSTS & OUT-OF-CLASS ACTIVITIES: \$650.00 + approx 9 school days missed due to trips

Unit Standards

Maximum credits available: 19

12 SPORT AND RECREATION

This course has an emphasis on Unit Standards. Students will learn about a variety of topics across a 2 year course. The topics may include aspects of sport, recreational activities, wellbeing, leadership, coaching, anatomy and physiology, and communication.

This course will be a 2 year cycle where students have the ability to opt in at year 12 or 13, or both.

Students do not need to have done 12 Sport & Rec to enrol in 13 Sport & Rec.

Standards offered in this course will rotate each year to allow for a bigger scope of practice, best suited to meet learner needs.

COSTS & OUT-OF-CLASS ACTIVITIES: approx \$50 to cover workbooks and activities

Unit Standards

Maximum credits available:16 - 17

SCIENCE:

12 BIOLOGY

This course builds students' understanding of Biology to prepare them for further study and many varied career options. A trip to Tititea in Mt Aspiring National Park to gather required information for internal assessment required.

Where Does It Lead?

Biology is also a Year 13 subject and can be studied further at University as Zoology, Botany, Microbiology, Biochemistry and Applied Science. The study of Biology along with Chemistry and Mathematics leaves a number of career options open. Biology at Level 2 is recommended if students are considering Health Sciences at University.

Out of Class Expectations and Commitments:

2-3 hours of homework each week.

PRE-REQUISITES: For automatic entry into Biology, students must gain at least 15 credits in 11SCF, including passing both external examinations with at least a Merit in Genetics. Admission of students who have not met this requirement is at the discretion of the Science department and will require an interview with one of the Science staff.

COSTS & OUT-OF-CLASS ACTIVITIES: Workbooks \$25 and Field Trip (approx \$240.00)

Achievement Standards

Maximum credits available: 19

12 CHEMISTRY

Students already have a sound base of knowledge and skills in Chemistry from Year 11. This course builds on these skills and increases students' understanding to prepare them for further study. This course is a mixture of practical chemistry skills and the theories that explain chemical interactions.

Where Does It Lead?

The Year 12 Course leads on to Level 3 and to all Chemistry courses in tertiary educational institutions. There are many careers, which directly or indirectly concern Chemistry. Many courses with a Science bias require Chemistry as a prerequisite for entry, such as Engineering and Health Science.

Out of Class Expectations and Commitments

3-4 hours of homework each week.

PRE-REQUISITES: For automatic entry into Chemistry, students must gain at least 15 credits in 11SCF and gain a Merit in the Chemical Reactions assessment and gain at least Achieved in both external exams (Genetics and Physics). Admission of students who have not met this requirement is at the discretion of the Science department and will require an interview with one of the Science staff.

COSTS & OUT-OF-CLASS ACTIVITIES: \$30 Textbook

Achievement Standards

Maximum credits available: 23

12 PHYSICS

Students already have a sound base of knowledge and skills in Physics from Years 9, 10 and 11. This course builds on these skills and increases students' understanding of the physical concepts related to our existence here on Earth.

Where Does It Lead?

The Year 12 Course leads on to Level 3 Physics and to all Physics Courses in Tertiary Education institutions. There are many careers, which are directly or indirectly related to Physics concepts. Some University courses require Physics as a prerequisite for entry, such as Engineering.

Out of Class Expectations and Commitments

3-4 hours of homework a week.

COSTS & OUT-OF-CLASS ACTIVITIES: \$30 SciPad Write-on Notes

PRE-REQUISITES: For automatic entry into Level 2 Physics, students must gain at least 15 credits in 11SCF of which 92047 (the Physics assessment) must be at Merit. Students must be studying 12 Algebra (12MAA) in their Year 12 maths course. Admission of students who have not met this requirement is at the discretion of the Science department.

Achievement Standards

Maximum credits available: 23

12 SCIENCE IN CONTEXT

Students will explore diverse topics such as the scientific method, chemical reactions, biology and physics investigations and will develop critical thinking skills, analytical reasoning, and a curiosity-driven approach to problem-solving. This exposure will prepare students for further studies in specialised fields (for example certain apprenticeships) and also equip them with the scientific literacy necessary for making informed decisions, and actively participating in societal discussions on scientific issues.

Where Does It Lead?

Completing this course with 12 credits would allow students entry into Level 2 Biology, Chemistry or Physics. This course does not lead to a Level 3 Science course.

Out of Class Expectations and Commitments

1-2 hours of homework and revision each week.

COSTS & OUT-OF-CLASS ACTIVITIES:

PRE-REQUISITES: Students could have completed 11SCF or 11SCC for automatic entry into this course. It is recommended they gain a minimum of 10 credits.

Students who have not met this requirement are at the discretion of the Science department and will require an interview with one of the Science staff.

Achievement Standards YES

Maximum credits available: 18

12 SCIENCE FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRIES

This is a course for students who have a desire to work in Primary Industries (Agriculture, Equine, Sports Turf, Horticulture and Wool). As part of the Primary ITO Trades Academy, students will complete a variety of learning and credits may vary. These units may be both practical and theoretical. Ideally, students will complete a work placement in their chosen field. This may be completed on one day of the week or during holidays or weekends. Students should attempt to secure placements but assistance will be given where needed.

Where does it lead?

The aim of this course is to prepare students for employment in the Primary Sector or Year 13 Primary Industries.

COSTS & OUT-OF-CLASS ACTIVITIES: Most students in this course should have a work placement, either one day in a week or during their holidays to enable them to complete practical standards. Travel assistance may be available.

PRE-REQUISITES: Successful completion of the Primary Industries course at Level 1 is preferred, although students who have a genuine interest in the primary sector may pick it up at Year 12. A good work ethic is essential.

This course is not eligible for endorsement
Unit Standards

Maximum credits available: 23

SOCIAL SCIENCES:

12 BUSINESS STUDIES

This course is designed for students interested in real-world business experiences, entrepreneurship, and understanding how businesses operate. Students will engage with hands-on projects, including participating in the Young Enterprise Scheme (YES) to develop practical skills in business planning, marketing, financial management, and customer engagement.

PRE-REQUISITES: At least 10 credits in Year 11 or 12 English.

COSTS & OUT-OF-CLASS ACTIVITIES: \$50 for transport and course costs for the YES day

Achievement Standards: YES

Maximum credits available: 16

12 HISTORY

This course challenges students to think deeply about why events in the past happened and how they continue to shape our world today. Students draw connections between historical events and contemporary issues in New Zealand and globally. Set topics may include: New Zealand's involvement in the Vietnam War, 9/11 and terrorism, Invasion of Parihaka and the Holocaust. Students choose their own topic for the research standard.

PRE-REQUISITES: At least 10 credits in Year 11 or 12 English.

COSTS & OUT-OF-CLASS ACTIVITIES:

Achievement Standards: YES

Maximum credits available: 18

UE Literacy: 18 Reading and 4 Writing

12 GEOGRAPHY

Geography at Level Two focuses on different settings around the globe and how these environments impact on the way people live and interact with them. Studies could include looking at: The spatial pattern of crime in Chicago, examining a global pattern and what the significance of the global pattern is for people, completing geographic research and examining a NZ geographic issue. This course may also look at studying a large natural environment.

PRE-REQUISITES: Preference that a student has taken L1 Geography

COSTS & OUT-OF-CLASS ACTIVITIES:

Achievement Standards

Maximum credits available:

12 TOURISM AND TRAVEL

This Level 2 unit standard course is designed to provide an overview of the Tourism Industry. It introduces students to careers in the Tourism Industry and the skills and knowledge they will need. Even though there is some instruction, students will be expected to manage their own time and work independently. Those students who enjoy learning about Geography and History and have an interest in New Zealand will enjoy the work covered.

Tourism is a good course for those students wanting to develop their literacy and numeracy skills at their own pace. It also works well for students who are taking subjects that take them away from school, as they can complete work at their own pace. This course does require students to be self-motivated, and there is a requirement to complete at least 14 credits.

The units provided are delivered by the New Zealand School of Tourism and have costs associated with materials, including the course booklets, assessments and moderation by the Tourism ITop[O]. The qualification leads on to a Level 3 course, in Year 13 and Levels 4 – 7, provided by Polytechnics, private providers and industry providers.

COSTS & OUT-OF-CLASS ACTIVITIES:

Unit Standards

This course is not eligible for university entrance or for endorsement

Maximum credits available:

12 FINANCIAL CAPABILITIES

Students today have greater access to credit than any other generation. From an early age, they get sucked into cycles of bad debt that can hold them back.

This course will provide students with the knowledge and skills to help them make good decisions at each stage of life and to arrive at retirement in good financial shape.

Students will leave this course confident about what money is and how to make it work for them.

COSTS & OUT-OF-CLASS ACTIVITIES: None

Unit Standards

This course is not eligible for university entrance or for endorsement

Maximum credits available: 15

TECHNOLOGY:

12 FOOD AND NUTRITION

Level 2 Food and Nutrition is a research-based course that explores the relationship between food, nutrition, health, and well-being in New Zealand society. Students investigate contemporary nutrition issues, analyse the food needs of different groups, evaluate sustainable food-related practices, and examine health promotion strategies that address nutritional needs. Through research, critical analysis, and report writing, students develop the skills to interpret evidence, evaluate different perspectives, and communicate well-supported conclusions. This course provides an excellent foundation for Level 3 Food and Nutrition.

PRE-REQUISITES: Recommended that students have taken L1 FNT and passed the external

COSTS & OUT-OF-CLASS ACTIVITIES: \$190.00

Unit Standards and Achievement Standards

Maximum credits available: 16

12 DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY

This NCEA Level 2 course shifts focus from minor technical exercises toward managing a project where students design, build, and rigorously test a highly complex digital outcome.

The practical component of 12DTG frequently centres around Advanced Video Game Design & Development (using industry-standard engines like Unity and coding in C#), Web/Software Development, or advanced Design outcomes. Project Management tools, such as Trello, assist students in guiding themselves to a high-end outcome.

PRE-REQUISITES: Students are expected to have completed DTG previously. Entry may be restricted, but students who have done well in DVC and/or Art are considered.

COSTS & OUT-OF-CLASS ACTIVITIES: \$10

Achievement Standards

Maximum credits available: 16

12 DESIGN AND VISUAL COMMUNICATION

Year 12 Design and Visual Communication (DVC) focuses on developing advanced skills in spatial and product design through creative thinking, problem-solving, and visual communication. Spatial design explores the creation of spaces for people, considering how they move, interact, and experience their environment. Product design focuses on designing innovative solutions for people, places, and animals, with an emphasis on understanding user needs and wants.

Throughout this course, students will build on their design knowledge and practical skills in areas such as architecture, interior design, exhibition/display, industrial design, and technological design. Students will investigate design problems, generate creative solutions, and communicate ideas using a range of visual communication techniques, including sketching, rendering, technical drawing, and modelling. The course also encourages students to think critically about the social, cultural, and environmental factors that influence design, while developing independent and innovative design solutions.

COSTS & OUT-OF-CLASS ACTIVITIES: \$25

PRE-REQUISITES: Students are expected to have completed DVC in Years 9 or 10, and Year 11

Achievement Standards:

Maximum credits available: 16

12 TECHNOLOGY WOOD

Students will gain Level 2 Skill Standard credits. These have A, M, and E grades, which will develop their creative and practical skills with a focus on producing quality wood projects. Wood will be the main material used, but the skills taught will easily transfer to other areas/industries. A range of Unit Standards is available that caters to students' abilities and aptitudes.

Where Does It Lead?

Careers in the construction and fabrication industries, e.g. Carpentry, Joinery, Cabinet Maker, Plumbing, Automotive and Engineering, and/or further tertiary or university study in the Engineering, Surveying or design fields.

Standards may change to suit the needs of the learner.

PRE-REQUISITES: Recommended that students have taken Level 1 TEW so they have the skills to be successful.

COSTS & OUT-OF-CLASS ACTIVITIES: \$190.00

Skill Standards

Maximum credits available: 27

VOCATIONAL OPTIONS:

TRADES ACADEMY: (Unit Standards Only)

Trades Academy also known as “Polytech” and “OSTC (Otago Secondary Tertiary College)” is where students attend Level 2 and 3 vocational training courses by attending the Cromwell Polytechnic Campus each week. Please note - Hospitality is held at Dunstan High School but is still a full day a week course.

Courses that were offered in 2026 were:

- Level 2 Hospitality
- Level 2 BCATS (Building)
- Level 2 Automotive Engineering
- Level 2 Beauty Therapy
- Level 3 Automotive Engineering
- Level 3 Beauty Therapy
- Level 3 Sports Turf Management

Level 2 courses - students are off site for one full school day

Level 3 courses - students are off site for one or two full school days per week.

Students must take ownership for catching up on missed school work on other days of the week. They have timetabled class time to do this.

Selection into OSTC courses is made by OSTC staff (not Dunstan High School), however, the school will provide both learning and behaviour evidence to demonstrate an ability to cope with Level 2 and 3 standards.

VOCATIONAL PATHWAY PROGRAMME: (previously known as Independent Living)
(Unit Standards Only)

This course is for Year 12 students who wish to develop their knowledge, skills and experience about the world of work.

If a student studies this course in Year 12, they must successfully complete the set work, in an appropriate timeframe, in order to be eligible for Year 13 Gateway. They must also be able to demonstrate that they are trustworthy and respectful, so as to be able to be placed on a worksite.

Costs for this course are variable and are likely to include: transport, equipment, PPE, course costs (First Aid, Health and Safety etc).

BREENS TRADEBASE: (Unit Standards Only)

Breen TradeBase is a training initiative where students build a real house, develop real trade skills on a real Breen controlled worksite. This course is for Year 12 and 13 students who wish to develop their knowledge, skills and experience in the Building Industry. It is a practical course, 2 days a week and a timetabled line, when students are at school, so that they can complete their BCITO theory work to support their developing building skills.

The aim of this course is to gain between 30-40 Level 3 BCITO credits and to build employability skills for the workplace. This course is limited entry and is designed to be studied in the students' final year at school.

Year 12 Selection Sheet for 2027 courses:

Name: _____

You must select 8 subjects in total of which you will study 6 next year.

Please number your subject choices based on your preference order:

ARTS	Drama		Science	Biology	
	Music			Chemistry	
	Art Painting			Physics	
	Art Photography			Science in Context	
English	English Literature			Science Primary Industries	
	English		Social Sciences	Business Studies	
	English Communications			History	
	Media Studies			Geography	
Languages	French			Financial Capabilities	
	Maori			Tourism and Travel	
Mathematics	Maths with Algebra		Technology	Food and Nutrition	
	Maths with Statistics			Design and Visual Communication	
	Maths with Numeracy			Digital Technology	
PE	Physical Education			Technology Wood	
	Outdoor Education		Vocational	Trades Academy (OSTC)	
	Sport and Rec			Vocational Pathways Programme	
				Breens TradeBase	

