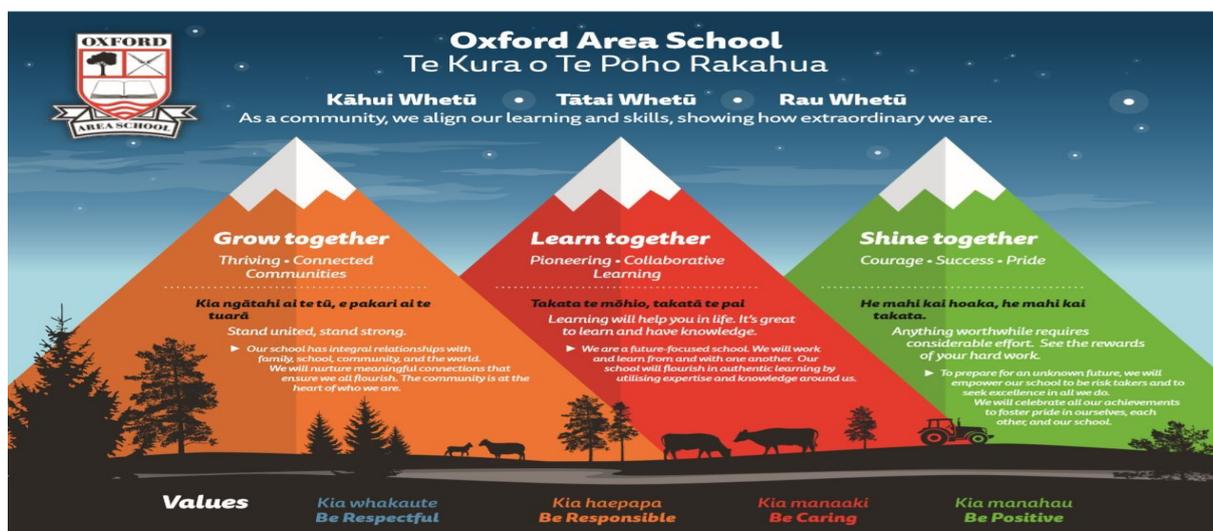


# Oxford Area School

## JUNIOR COURSE BOOK 2020 Semester 1



Information available at the Oxford Area School Office:  
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Website: [www.oxford.school.nz](http://www.oxford.school.nz)



## Using this Book

*Choosing your subjects for semester 1 is important. It needs to be done carefully.*

We suggest that you work through these steps:

- **Step One** Read the course selection section for your options.
- **Step Two** Consider your abilities and interests, as well as the occupations which interest you, to help you make your subject choice.
- **Step Three** With these ideas in mind, read the subject descriptions.
- **Step Four** Seek advice if necessary from your Learning Mentor, or your Dean, and other Staff.
- **Step Five** Discuss possible choices with your parents/caregivers, all the way through these steps.
- **Step Six** After careful thought and discussion, fill in your course selection form.

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# Year 9 and 10 Curriculum 2020

As we move into the third decade of the 21st century, Oxford Area School takes another step forward in our future focussed learning environment with exciting changes for the year 9 and 10 curriculum in the second half of 2020. These changes will mean our students have the opportunity to make choices across the learning areas, develop their core competencies while still ensuring they have a solid grounding in literacy and numeracy.

## What does this mean for me?

For the first semester, Terms 1 and 2, the year 9 and 10 curriculum and timetable will run as it did in 2019.

All students will take the following subjects -

- English
- Mathematics
- Fusion
- Health and Physical Education
- Science

All students will make three option choices from the table below.

## Option Choice Chart

OPTION LINE 1	OPTION LINE 2	OPTION LINE 3
Biotechnology Art 1 Digital Technology - Python Music	Agriculture Drama Food and Nutrition 2 Spanish	Art 3 Digital Technology - Robotics Food and Nutrition 3 Psychology

*All options will be 2 hours per week*

Prior to the second semester students and their whānau will have opportunity to learn more about our new year 9 and 10 curriculum structure so everyone can make informed choices for their next steps. Keep an eye out in our newsletters for more information in 2020.

## Who can help me make a Course Decision?

<b>Careers:</b>	Deans - Miss Christensen, Mr Butler	<b>Performing Arts (Dance, Drama, Music):</b>	Mr Moore
<b>Agriculture:</b>	Mr Burston, Mrs Lovatt	<b>Outdoor Education/Physical Education:</b>	Mrs Don
<b>Art/Photography:</b>	Ms. Davis	<b>Science</b>	Mr Burston
<b>English</b>	Miss West	<b>Social Sciences</b>	Mr Thompson, Mrs Gilpin
<b>Food and Nutrition</b>	Miss Christensen	<b>Spanish</b>	Mr Hines
<b>Health</b>	Mrs Don	<b>Technology</b>	Miss Christensen
<b>Mathematics</b>	Mrs Egerton		
<b>Distance Learning:</b>	Mr. Thompson	<b>NZQA Liaison Teacher:</b>	Mrs Egerton, Mrs Anderson

## Year 9 and Year 10

*All students in 2020 will select 3 options (one from each line) which they will do for the first semester (First 2 Terms).*

# Option Choice Descriptions



## Visual Art

Year 9 and 10 Art is an integrated class with a programme designed to provide for the learning needs of the individual rather than focusing purely on age and ability.

### Overview

This course introduces Year 9 and 10 students to a broad base of knowledge and skills concerning art practice, which may include Painting, Sculpture, Printmaking, Design, or Photography. A particular emphasis is on drawing processes as a way of generating ideas. In addition, students will be introduced to specific artist models, which will help to inform their own art practice. Visits to galleries and visiting artists will be included where appropriate. Workbook practice is expected to be completed as well as finished art works. Students are required to have basic drawing equipment.

In Year 9 this course will enable students to develop more resolved work within a second field of practice. Research and analysis of established artists will be undertaken as a way of extending their understanding of Art and art making. In Year 10 this course is designed to prepare students for Art in Year 11. They will develop and refine skills and build confidence in their art making ability. Students will also begin extending their original ideas, through more in-depth study of artist models.

### Next Steps

Year 9 – Year 10 Art

Year 10 – NCEA Level 1 Art

**Teacher: Ms. Davis**



## Food and Nutrition

### Overview:

In Food and Nutrition in 2020, you will be given the opportunity to develop new products (through the Technology Curriculum), gain an understanding of what influences or impacts on our food choices, how to safely prepare, cook and serve food, and discuss traditional and current trends around nutrition. You will learn to make informed decisions, be creative and work cooperatively with others. You will cook on a weekly basis and have the opportunity to work both independently and with others to create some tasty treats. Burgers to muffins, sweet and sour pork to granola bars - we will attempt to meet all tastes!

Topics that could be covered: Food Safety, Healthy Fast Food, Budgeting, International Foods, Mood Food (how food can affect our wellbeing), and a whole lot more!

### Next Steps:

Year 9 -> Year 10

Year 10 -> NCEA Level 1 Hospitality

**Contribution:** Some food items may be required for a practical class each week.

**Teacher: Ms Christensen, Mrs Cronin**



## Spanish

*¡Bienvenidos al curso de español de 2020!*

According to the University of Otago: *“An ability to communicate in one or more international language enhances the employment opportunities of New Zealand university graduates, regardless of their career orientation”.*

### So why Spanish?

Well, it is spoken by more than 400 million people across all 5 continents in 22 countries, including Spain, Latin America and the USA, where it is the main second language.

So, proficiency in Spanish is a marketable skill, especially in international commerce, banking, travel, the media, government agencies and teaching.

There is nothing magic about speaking a foreign language. It is just that so few English speakers manage it. If you take Spanish for the rest of your time at this school, you will definitely be well on the road to proficiency.

In 2020 we won't need to start at the beginning. By now everyone is aware of basic Spanish pronunciation, the verbs SER and ESTAR, noun gender, noun-adjective agreement and the four ways of saying “the” in Spanish.

We will build on these, moving onto further study of:

- Verbs and tenses
- More extensive writing
- Pronunciation of vowels, diphthongs and consonants, as well as intonation and stress
- Speaking and listening practice

### Next Steps:

Year 9 -> Year 10 Spanish

Year 10 -> NCEA Level 1 Spanish

Teacher: Mr. Hines



## Drama

### Overview:

So what do we do in Year 9/10 Drama?

In 2020 we are going to be looking at scripts from plays, devising and creating our own script based on a historical event, as well learning and trying out different styles and genres within Drama. We also do lots of games to build your confidence and bond with your fellow actors!

The course provides Year 10 students with the skills needed to take Drama as a level one NCEA subject.

### Next Steps:

Year 9 -> Year 10 Drama

Year 10 -> NCEA Level 1 Drama

Teacher: Mr Moore



## Music

### Overview:

So what do we do in Year 9/10 Music?

We learn about practical and theoretical aspects of Music. In 2020 we will be covering the following: Band Performance, Solo/Duo Performance, Music History, Song Writing, Digital Music, and Music Theory. The course provides year 10 students with the skills needed to take Music as a level one NCEA subject.

Students at Year 10 level will be expected to take instrumental or singing lessons as part of their musical development. These are usually free of charge and are arranged through the school.

**Next Steps:**

Year 9 -> Year 10 Music

Year 10 -> NCEA Level 1 Music

**Teacher:** Mr Moore



## Agriculture

**Overview:**

Agriculture is about the practice of cultivating land, growing of pasture and crops and raising livestock. This course looks at a variety of agricultural systems and includes some practical work and farm visits.

The topics studied include:

- Introduction to agriculture in New Zealand
- Animal production including breeding
- Soils
- Dairy farming
- Dry stock farming
- Pastures
- Farming and the environment

The skills and knowledge learnt in this subject will be useful for further study in agriculture at school and in a variety of careers.

**Next Steps:**

NCEA Level 1 Agriculture

NCEA Level 1 Geography

NCEA Level 1 Science

**Teacher:** Mrs. Lovatt, Miss Legg



## Digital Technology - Python Game Development

**Overview:**

Learn the basics of object-oriented programming to develop simple 2D games in python that animates a simple choose-your-own-adventure version of a traditional myth or legend.

By the end of this teaching and learning programme, students will be able to:

- research to find ideas and user preferences from existing games
- research programming techniques that will assist them in creating their own game
- iteratively develop and test code for their own game in the chosen computer language
- investigate sorting and searching algorithms
- competently design and evaluate good human computer interfaces.

**Next Steps:**

NCEA Level 1 Digital Technologies/Computing

**Teacher:** Mr Thomson



## Digital Technology - Robotics

### Overview:

Learn a range of key Computer Science concepts through interacting with programmable robotics.

By the end of this teaching and learning programme, students will be able to:

- understand how processors are comprised of simple circuits
- programme with loops and conditional statements
- apply conditionals that utilize sensors, comparators
- read and interpret simple programs involving movement, lights, sounds, and loops.

### Next Steps:

NCEA Level 1 Digital Technologies/Computing

Teacher: Mr Thomson



## Psychology

### Overview:

Psychology is the study of human behaviour and the mind.

In 2020, you will have the opportunity to explore the human brain and sensory system and work out how to trick yourself. We will use simple experiments to investigate common psychological methods used in advertising, social media and other things in our world. Depending on student voice we may explore other aspects of developmental (child), cognitive (thinking) and social psychology.

### Next Steps:

NCEA Level 1 Science, Social Sciences

NCEA Level 2 Psychology

Contribution: NIL

Teacher: Ms Varcoe



## Biotechnology

### Overview:

Biotechnology has been used for thousands of years to produce food and drink for humans.

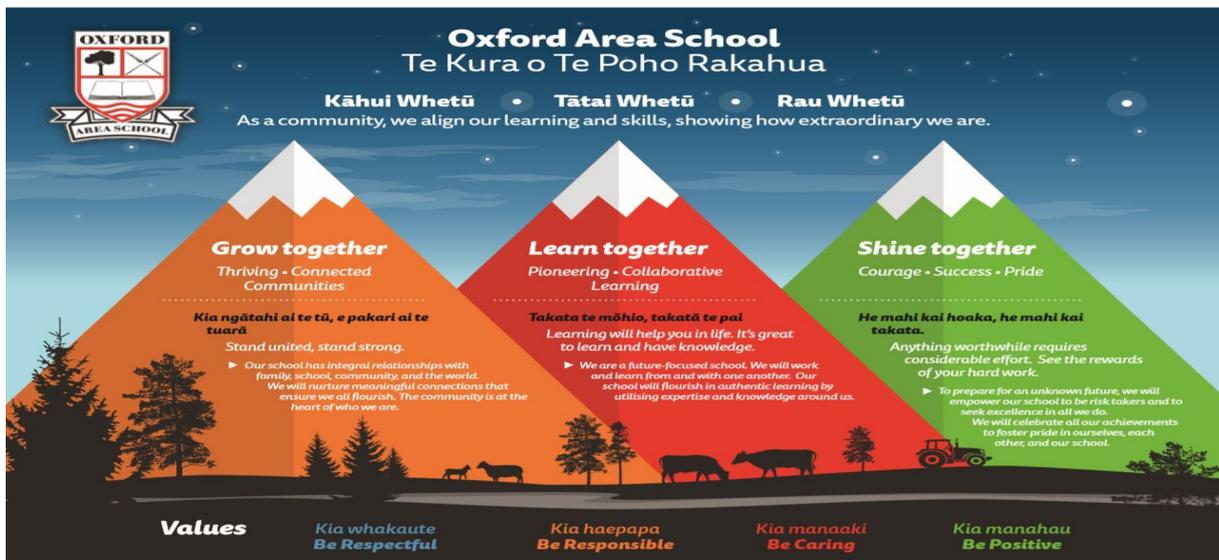
in 2020 we will explore the world of microbes and how we can best manipulate their conditions to our advantage. This course will combine scientific investigation processes with hands-on production of food and beverages such as cheese, yoghurt and kombucha.

### Next Steps:

NCEA Level 1 Science, Food and Nutrition

Contribution: Some ingredients and suitable containers will be required to take products home.

Teacher: Ms Varcoe



Name:

Year:

Learning Mentor:

Please circle option(s) you wish to do below:

Year 9 and Year 10: Please select 1 choice from each Option Line.

OPTION LINE 1	OPTION LINE 2	OPTION LINE 3
Biotechnology	Agriculture	Art 3
Art 1	Drama	Digital Tech - Robotics
Digital Technology - Python	Food and Nutrition 2	Food and Nutrition 3
Music	Spanish	Psychology

Please Return to Oxford Area School office by:

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2019

Signed by Student:

Signed by Parent/Caregiver: