

WAIUKU COLLEGE

2018 YR10 INITIAL OPTIONS CHOICES

- Please read through the following information.
- Enter your option choices on **MUSAC Edge by Friday 11th August**

YEAR 10 COURSES

In Year 10, all students take the core subjects (English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, and Physical and Health Education). They also choose up to four option subjects. Year 10 students take:

<u>either</u>	2 full year options
<u>or</u>	1 full year option <u>and</u> 2 half year options
<u>or</u>	4 half year options

Full Year Options: Chinese, Spanish, Maori, Music.

Half Year Options: Art, Digital Technology, Food Technology, Design and Visual Communication, Materials Technology, Drama, Cadet School Services Academy, Investigative Geography, Ancient Civilisations.

A brief outline of the option subjects is given below.

HOW ARE YEAR 10 CLASSES ORGANISED?

At the end of Year 9 we take the students' assessment and exam results from English, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies and combine them to give an overall score for the year. The top thirty students are then invited to join the Year 10 Extension Class. Students in the Extension Class study the core subject together, just like students in the other Form Classes. All option classes are mixed ability.

ASSESSMENT

Students complete tests and assessments throughout the year in the core and option subjects. At the end of the year, students will sit exams in the core subjects. We use students' assessment and exam results to help us decide who will join the Year 11 advanced classes in English, Mathematics and Science. The results, along with those from the options subjects, determine if students have gained their Junior Diploma and at what level, i.e. Distinction, Excellence, Merit or Achieved.

IF I WANT TO TAKE A SUBJECT IN YEAR 11 DO I HAVE TO DO IT IN YEAR 10?

The short answer is no. However, some Year 11 subjects, such as Chinese, Spanish and Te Reo Maori, will be easier if you have studied them in Year 10.

MUSAC EDGE

Once students have finalised their option choices they enter them online via the MUSAC Edge student portal. Students are able to access Edge via the school's Moodle page. Students will be briefed on how to do this in time for them to meet the 11th August deadline.

IMPORTANT

We use the students' initial choices to construct the timetable for the next year. Then, in Term 4, we ask the students to confirm their options choices based on next year's timetable. Although we do our very best to create a timetable that enables as many students as possible to take the combination of subjects they want, we cannot guarantee that everyone will be able to do so.

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FULL-YEAR OPTIONS

MUSIC

This course gives students the opportunity to develop their music making skills in preparation for the Level 1 Music courses. Students will gain skills in solo and group performance, learning to read and play music, techniques specific to their instruments, composing skills, style studies and listening. These skills will be developed in and through a range of musical contexts and topics of study. It is essential that students learn an instrument through the school itinerant music scheme or from a private teacher. Home practice is required as there be will opportunities throughout the year to perform in front of an audience.

SPANISH

Spanish is an intensive course covering all the elements of learning that will enable the student to confidently enter NCEA Level 1 after two years. Students are challenged to develop aptitude in speaking, listening to, reading and writing Spanish. They also learn about the customs, history and culture of Spain and Spanish speaking countries.

CHINESE

Chinese is an intensive course which prepares students for NCEA Level 1 in two years and leads to higher study. At this level, students will learn and use familiar expressions and everyday vocabulary to interact in supported situations. Students will gain an understanding of a major Asian culture through both written and oral language.

MAORI

A course extended from Year 9 level and leading on to NCEA Level 1, 2 and 3. Students will need to have a genuine interest in this area and the subject can lead to a wide range of career opportunities, e.g. tourism, nursing and teaching. Aspects of art, culture and both written and oral language will form the basis of the programme.

HALF-YEAR OPTIONS

ART

This half year course builds on the Year 9 course and encompasses a range of activities – drawing, painting, mixed media, printmaking, and is useful for NCEA Level 1 Art. Costs include material fee and art kit - \$27.00.

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY

This half year course introduces students to the key components of Digital Technology. Students will work on projects that encompass design, digital media, coding, 3D Modelling. A wide range of software packages will be used including: Adobe Creative Cloud, Blender, Microsoft Office 365, and Scratch. Some software is free and can be installed on students' laptops at no charge. The other software is available on the school's computers, but can be purchased at a discounted rate through the school.

Course Fees: \$10.00

FOOD TECHNOLOGY

This option is a must for any student interested in food and all that this encompasses. If you are interested in working in the hospitality industry, becoming a chef, owning your own restaurant or café, learning more about food and nutrition, developing new products and gaining some important life skills, this is the option for you. A range of interesting topics are covered including nutrition, international foods, food safety and hygiene and product design and development. Students will have the chance to complete a Level 1 Unit Standard in baking which can earn them 3 credits toward NCEA next year. This subject gives a good grounding for Year 11 Home Economics.

Materials fee is \$60.00

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DESIGN AND VISUAL COMMUNICATION (Formerly Known As Graphics)

This is a concentrated course teaching the use of graphics and formal drawing skills including plane and solid geometry, engineering drawing, architectural drawings and visual communication skills. The course includes project design and basic working drawings produced using problem solving skills taught through the use of the Design Process. It provides a good grounding for the Level 1 NCEA Design and Visual Communication (Graphics) course.

Materials Fee: \$10.00

MATERIALS TECHNOLOGY

This course has a strong emphasis on practical work. It suits those students with a vocational interest in engineering, building or woodwork. Students will carry out 'design and make' tasks, the first set around a boat theme. In the second, students will make a wooden tray. The nature of this course is similar to a traditional woodwork course and to the NCEA Level 1 Unit Standards course. A Level 1 Achievement Standard may be offered as part of the course, giving students the chance to earn NCEA credits.

Materials Fee: \$30.

DRAMA

In this course students will be able to link their own imaginations, thoughts and feelings with drama practice and history in many different ways. They gain knowledge about theatre, theatre forms, and drama's contribution to social and cultural commentary. They learn drama techniques which contribute to their assessments, all of which are performed in front of a live audience. Some Level 1 NCEA Achievement Standards are offered in this course. Students are required to attend at least one live performance at an approximate cost of \$30.

YEAR 10 SERVICE ACADEMY CADETSHIP.

This is a concentrated, experience based, learning programme that teaches students the life skills they would benefit from to be successful in school. The programme includes practical and theory lessons in relation to;

- 1) Goal setting.
- 2) Learning to learn.
- 3) Time management.
- 4) Self-management.
- 5) Hauora (wellbeing).

This programme is traditionally thought of as only for students who want to get into the NZDF but for a student to gain a position on the cadetship this does not necessarily have to be the case. The only criteria for a student to be accepted on to the programme is;

- 1) Physically able to complete all activities.
- 2) Have a positive attitude towards the programme.
- 3) Be deemed to be fit (by the Director) to complete the programme.

The programme is run and governed by highly skilled staff of the High Wire Charitable Trust.

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INVESTIGATIVE GEOGRAPHY

This half year course introduces students to learning about the natural and cultural environments in our local landscape. Global Issues will be investigated such as the geography of disease, population problems and megacities. Navigation skills will be a key focus with an introduction to using GPS and GIS technology. Field work, practical work and assessment will be completed in collaborative learning groups. This course will help any students wishing to take Level 1 Geography.

CLASSICAL CIVILISATIONS

This half year course will offer students the opportunity to study the cultures of some of the world's ancient civilisations. These include the Ancient Chinese, the Ancient Greeks, the Ancient Romans and the Ancient Egyptians. These civilisations provide some of the most interesting opportunities for students to explore and learn about ancient cultures. Assessment will be completed in collaborative learning groups. This course will help any students wishing to take Level 1 History.

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In addition to entering your choices in MUSAC Edge please complete this form and return it to your Form Class teacher on, or before Friday 11th August. We will ask you to confirm your option choices in Term 4. Don't forget to enter your choices on MUSAC Edge too.

LAST NAME: _____ FIRST NAME: _____ FORM CLASS: 9 _____

POSSIBLE FUTURE PATHWAYS

What plans, if any, do you have for when you leave school?

INITIAL OPTION CHOICES FOR 2017

Choose:

- Either 2 full-year options;
- Or 1 full-year option and 2 half-year options;
- Or 4 half-year options.

Circle your choices from the lists below and enter them on *MUSAC Edge*:

FULL YEAR OPTIONS	HALF YEAR OPTIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Music• Spanish• Chinese• Te Reo Maori	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Art• Digital Technology• Food Technology• Design and Visual Communication• Materials Technology• Drama• Cadet Schools Service Academy• Investigative Geography• Ancient Civilisations

MUSAC Edge

We have successfully entered our son's/daughter's option choices onto MUSAC Edge **YES** / **NO**

SIGNATURES

Student: _____

Parent(s)/Caregiver(s): _____