

Curriculum Change and Review

Over the course of the last few years we have worked at consulting the community over a range of curriculum areas. We are currently working toward new curriculum delivery structures for 2019.

Our commitment to continual improvement has us consistently looking for better ways to engage and educate young people. Currently, Mr Knapton and Heads of Faculty are engaged in discussing and unpacking proposals for a range curriculum changes in a more connected and authentic way.

We believe that these new and innovative approaches are consistent with educational research and best practice and will help address the shortcomings identified as part of the NCEA review. Staff have spent time visiting schools to see new practices in action and are enthused by what they have seen.

There is much work yet to do and in early Term 3 a meeting for parents will give an overview of proposed changes.

In the meantime staff are developing ideas for new programs through time created by an **early** closure on the Monday of the first week back AND a Teacher Only Day on the Monday of Week Three in Term 3.

To enable us to work uninterrupted on this project the BOT have approved an early closure on the first day of Term 3, **Monday 23rd July** and a Staff Only Day on **Monday 6th August**. On 23rd July students will be released at lunchtime allowing the staff to work on this project from 2.00 pm - 5.00 pm. There will be no timetabled period 5 classes but students can remain at school and have supervised study.

Once we have developed a more detailed vision of the proposed changes we will communicate this at the Term 3 community meeting.

In the interim, the school is developing a webpage for parents to help understand the proposed changes as they stand and the philosophical underpinnings of this work.

NCEA REVIEW - 28 May - 16 September

The Ministry of Education is looking at ways to strengthen NCEA that will benefit our young people, rangatahi and other learners. But they need your help to make it happen.

The future of the National Certificates of Educational Achievement (NCEA) belongs to all New Zealanders. It is our major school leaving qualification. It's flexibility and inclusiveness means it works for a diverse range of students with a range of needs. We know that we can make it even better.

Over the next few months, the MOE aims to talk with lots of New Zealanders, from a range of backgrounds, to discuss their experiences with NCEA - the challenges, the successes and what we can do better in the future.

The Minister of Education has identified six big opportunities for change:

- 1. Creating space at NCEA Level 1 for powerful learning**
NCEA Level 1 should give all New Zealanders the opportunity to become lifelong learners and develop the vital capabilities and attitudes needed for their future. To achieve this we could make NCEA Level 1 a 40 credit qualification with two components - 20 credits focused on literacy and numeracy, and 20 credits from a project.
- 2. Strengthen literacy and numeracy**
Students, employers and tertiary providers can be confident that students who have achieved an NCEA qualification have the levels of literacy and numeracy needed to be successful in life. This includes digital, civic and financial literacy.
- 3. Ensuring NCEA Levels 2 and 3 support good connections beyond schooling**
Young people's learning beyond the classroom - through self-directed projects, extracurricular activities, community work, or employment, could be encouraged and recognised through NCEA. Levels 2 and 3 could include credits from a 'pathways opportunity' such as a research or community project, progress towards an out-of-school qualification, work placement or industry training.
- 4. Making it easier for teachers, schools and kura to refocus on learning**
We want to focus on quality teaching and learning and less on achieving as many credits as possible. Shifts in resourcing and support, moderation, quality assurance and accountability could make it easier for teachers to deliver a range of coherent courses drawn from across the curriculum. This would strengthen teaching practice, while reducing workload and stress.
- 5. Ensuring the Record of Achievement tells us about learners' capabilities**
The Record of Achievement should include better information about students' capabilities and extracurricular interests. Family, employers or tertiary providers would be able to see clear information on a diverse range of achievements.
- 6. Dismantling barriers to NCEA**
NCEA should allow all students to achieve their full potential. Fairer assessment conditions, removing NCEA entry fees, and providing more teaching materials are some of the opportunities that could make NCEA more accessible for New Zealand students and teachers.

Find out more here

Check out the NCEA Toolbox: conversation.education.govt.nz/NCEA

The website provides more information on the review and a selection of fact sheets, templates, presentations and videos to help New Zealanders from all backgrounds to understand and participate in conversations on the future of NCEA.

If you have any questions email: NCEA.Review@education.govt.nz