

The Facts about NCEA

NCEA in 2024 and 2025

For Level 1 you need:

60 credits at any level (1, 2 or 3)

10 Literacy or Te Reo Matatini credits

10 Numeracy or Te Pāngarau credits.

For Level 2 you need:

60 credits at Level 2 or above

10 Literacy or Te Reo Matatini credits

10 Numeracy or Te Pangarau credits.

For Level 3 you need:

60 credits at Level 3 or above

10 Literacy or Te Reo Matatini credits

10 Numeracy or Te Pāngarau credits.

NCEA Level 2

NCEA Level 2 is achieved by gaining 80 credits, 60 of which need to be at level 2 or above, and 20 at any level. This includes the literacy and numeracy requirements of the qualification.

NCEA level 2 is the most important year to get good grades. Applying for university occurs half way through students' last year of high school. Therefore NCEA level 2 results are used for applying for scholarships, universities and halls of residence. Many employers see NCEA level 2 as a basic requirement for a job applicant, apprentice or trainee. Students interested in a trade or practical pathway can often work towards this and NCEA level 2 while they are at school. Their options can include work experience or courses at a tertiary education provider.

NCEA Certificate Endorsements

When students perform consistently above the Achieved level, their results can be 'endorsed' to reflect that high achievement. Students can achieve an endorsement at the certificate or individual course level.

For an NCEA certificate to be endorsed with Excellence, a student must gain 50 credits at Excellence at the level of the certificate or above. Endorsement awards show on the learner's Record of Achievement.

Certificate endorsement is calculated in January each year on the release of external results.

EXAMPLES

If a student has 50 or more Level 1 credits at Excellence, they may have their Level 1 certificate endorsed with Excellence.

If a student gains 50 credits or more at Merit (or Merit and Excellence) at Level 1, their NCEA Level 1 certificate may be endorsed with Merit.

NCEA Level Two 2024: What does this look like then for each student?

From January 2024, NCEA Level 2 and Level 3 will each require 60 credits at certificate level or above.

Guide to NCEA

FAOS

#1 - How can I support my child? Check with your child. Look at their google documents and exercise books to see what work is being done. Teachers invite caregivers to the class Google Classroom so they can see what work is being done in class & for homework. Parent / teacher / student hui also are a checkpoint opportunity.

#2 - How often should we be checking our logins? Are there specific times of the year we should take particular note of? Logins / your school portal: Signing in to the portal gives you instant information regarding attendance, progress & results. If you are unsure how to access the portal (forgotten your login or for any reason), so you can see this information, please contact the office and Megan Lea will help you immediately. Phone: +64 9 432 8226

#3 - What does NZQA stand for? New Zealand Qualifications Authority - essentially this authority sets all the standards and is the administration for everything that happens for NCEA (National Certificate of Achievement) - the qualification your child is aiming to gain in their Year 11, 12 and 13.

#4 - Are there exams at the end of every term, or just term 4? For Level 1, 2 and 3, there are usually assessments (internals) - usually 1 per term but the exams take place at the end of the year in Term 4. We also run practice exams at the end of Term 3 to give the students a trial run so they have time to be taught how to improve on their grade for the final NCEA exam.

FAOS

#5 - Is NCEA just Achieved & Not Achieved? Do the kids get grades? NCEA Levels 1, 2 & 3 (internals and externals - exams) are graded N, A, M or E. This stands for Not Achieved, Achieved, Merit or Excellence. More capable kids get Merit and Excellence & for some, an Achieved grade is terrific. Each standard - internal or external is marked against criteria. This means, if the student did a Level 1 internal in English; creative writing for example, they would be awarded a grade that represents how well why can show evidence of their learning. Usually an Achieved grade shows they have met the demands of the question / task. A Merit grade indicates the student has shown more thinking in their answers. An Excellence usually shows the student has answered with insight & / or originality & / or perception.

#6 - What happens if my child fails the year? A student's lack of progress or achievement should be signalled throughout the year so that something can be done about it. But, if a student has really struggled, then the student would continue with their studies but with multi-level learning. le If the student was now in Year 12, they may do /repeat Year 11 / Level One subjects alongside their Year 12 / Level 2 subjects. There is nothing wrong with multi-level learning. Plus, at BBC, we have Vocational Pathways as a subject and Gateway - work experiences - that meet the needs of student who is not necessarily following a strictly 'academic' pathway. Our Careers Advisers, whānau teachers, Deans and the Curriculum DP (Sarah Molloy) can help a student find a course that suits their needs and talents.