



BREAM BAY COLLEGE

CURRICULUM GUIDE

Te Rerenga Kōtuku, 2025

Empowering Learners with Mana



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Welcome

We are a proud community focused school serving the stunning Bream Bay rohe.

Our school culture reflects the unique history of our region, connecting the first people of our area, Patuharakeke, the first modern immigrants from Scotland and the many other cultures that are now part of the fabric of our region.

As a college we aspire to reflect our MANA values:

- Manaakitanga (hosting)
- Awhi (supporting each other)
- Ngākaunui (being curious)
- Aroha (working with positivity)

Bream Bay College students are empowered to take an active role in the life of the school and their learning. We do this through involvement in one of the student councils, our student mentors' group and through the opportunities to engage in authentic contexts through our focus on deep learning.

In the Junior School, a supportive learning environment is created for Year 7 and 8 students through the Homeroom system. Students have a dedicated teacher for key subjects, building community and continuity in their classroom.

As students progress into Year 9 and 10, they are introduced to greater flexibility and choice in their educational journey. Year 9 and 10 students still have a Core Class but they are taught by specialist subject teachers for each subject, moving around the school throughout the day.

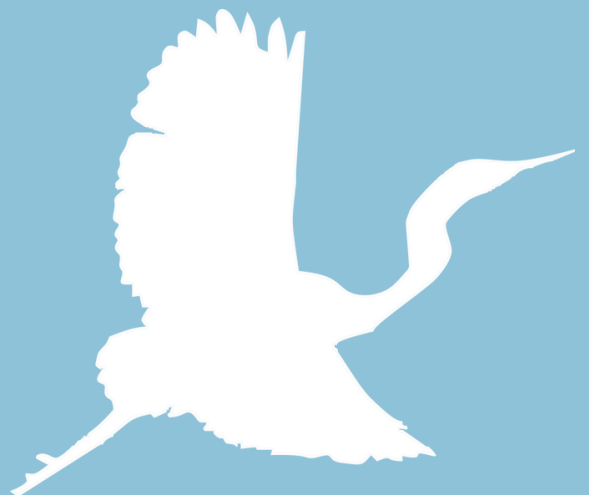
Year 11-13 students work towards the National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA). Students choose their subjects for the following year through our online system. An electronic link is emailed directly to each student, enabling them to make their selections in consultation with their whānau.



Bilingual Homeroom

"Te Kōtuku Rerenga Tahi" - the white heron's single flight is rare, special and unique. In Te Rerenga Kōtuku, our goal is to nurture students into becoming successful learners who are confident in themselves and their abilities. We want them to communicate effectively within te ao Māori, maintain a healthy balance of mind, body, and spirit, and feel secure in their identity and sense of belonging.

Our students will gain the skills and knowledge needed to actively participate in Māori society and beyond. We honour and respect the cultural identity and heritage of our students and their families, recognising that the school, home, hapū, iwi, and community must work together consistently to ensure our students succeed. We strive to incorporate local knowledge and contexts into their learning to make it more meaningful and relevant to them.



Homeroom Subjects

Pāngarau *Maths*

Students deepen their understanding of key mathematical concepts such as fractions, decimals, geometry, and basic algebra. They engage in problem-solving activities, learn to apply mathematical reasoning in real-world contexts, and develop skills in data interpretation and logical thinking. We develop and practice the use of reo specific to Pāngarau in Te Rerenga Kōtuku.

Te Reo Matatini *English*

Students focus on enhancing their reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. They explore various text types, learn to analyse and interpret information, and practice crafting persuasive and creative writing, with an emphasis on developing clear communication and critical thinking abilities. In Te Rerenga Kōtuku we aim to base our literature in Te Ao Māori stories and authors, sharing the stories of our tupuna to influence the future story tellers in our rangatahi. We encourage the use of learning context specific reo through kupu hou and rerenga in Te Rerenga Kōtuku.

Tikanga-ā-iwi *Social Studies*

Students explore topics related to history, geography, and society, with a focus on New Zealand's cultural heritage and global connections. They develop skills in research, critical thinking, and analysis, while examining how people, places, and events shape communities and influence social change. We in Te Rerenga Kōtuku look at the past, present and ever changing future of Tangata Māori, where we came from, where we stand now and how we should move into the future.

Haoura *Health*

Te Rerenga Kōtuku uses Te Whare Tapa Whā as the framework on which we build our Hauora program. It focuses on te taha whānau, te taha tinana, te taha wairua, te taha hinengaro. They explore topics such as nutrition, relationships, resilience, puberty, and personal safety, while developing skills to make informed decisions and maintain a balanced and healthy lifestyle.



Specialist Subjects

In our intermediate school system, students have the opportunity to benefit from specialised teaching in the subject areas of Physical Education and Science. Throughout the full academic year, ākonga attend these classes with specialist teachers who bring a high level of expertise and passion to their respective subjects.

This model also encourages a well-rounded education, preparing students for future learning and success across a broad range of disciplines.

Physical Education

The Year 7 & 8 Physical Education course is designed to develop a broad range of physical skills and promote lifelong participation in various physical activities. Across eight comprehensive modules, students engage in diverse sports and activities that foster not only physical fitness but also teamwork, discipline, and personal growth.

Core Areas of Focus:

- **Aquatics:** Focus on keystone development and improving water efficiency.
- **Aerobic Fitness:** Study the dynamics of running motion and cardiovascular endurance.
- **Large Ball/Pass:** Engage in major sports such as Basketball, Volleyball, Netball, and Handball.
- **Large Ball/Kick:** Explore major sports including Rugby Union and League, Australian Rules, and Football.
- **Small Ball/Racquet:** Learn skills in Badminton and Tennis.
- **Small Ball/Striking:** Develop techniques in sports like Softball and Hockey.
- **Athletics:** Improve run, jump, and throw skills, with a focus on performance and technique.
- **Outdoor Education:** Build teamwork skills in an outdoor environment.



Science

In Science, students study key scientific concepts as outlined in the New Zealand Curriculum. The course begins with an introduction to the laboratory, covering essential skills in safety, equipment use, and scientific investigation.

Year 7 Core Areas of Focus:

- **Solar System:** Students explore the solar system, examining planets, moons, and other celestial bodies.
- **Particles and Solutions:** Students learn about the building blocks of matter and how substances mix and interact at the molecular level.
- **Living Things:** Focuses on learning about the diversity of life and how different species interact with their environments.
- **Forensics:** Students apply scientific knowledge to solve problems using evidence and analysis.

This course emphasises hands-on, inquiry-based learning to build a solid understanding of the natural world.

Year 8 Core Areas of Focus:

- **Electricity:** Students learn about circuits, current, and how electricity powers our world.
- **Science Fair:** Students apply their understanding through independent research and experimentation, fostering critical thinking and presentation skills.
- **Ecology:** Students explore the relationships between living organisms and their environments, gaining insights into ecosystems and sustainability.
- **Anatomy:** Student learning focuses on the structure and function of the human body, helping students understand how different systems work together to maintain life.
- **Acids and Bases:** Students are introduced to chemical reactions, pH levels, and the properties of different substances.

This course emphasises practical learning and scientific inquiry, encouraging students to think critically and explore the natural world.



Part Year Courses

The rest of the Year 7 & 8 course is made up of classes which become optional classes in Year 9 - these courses enable students to develop their skills in a wide range of curriculum areas and experience possibilities for future careers. These courses run for 10-20 weeks and classes rotate through them throughout the year.

Agriculture & Horticulture

Agricultural and Horticultural Science is introduced as a specialist subject for Year 7 & 8 students, building on the primary school "Garden to Table" programme and leading into the Year 9 Agriculture/Horticulture curriculum. The focus is on sustainable food production and familiarising students with local native plants. This is a 10 week course.

Dance

The Dance course introduces students to the creation of movements and the development of dance ideas. This is a 10 week course.

Visual Art

Students explore and experiment with a range of media and materials to develop ideas in drawing, painting, and either printmaking or sculpture. This is a 10 week course.

Music

This course introduces students to the fundamentals of music through small projects that explore musical elements. Students have the chance to play the ukulele, keyboard, and percussion. Those interested in pursuing music further are encouraged to take itinerant instrument lessons and have access to their chosen instrument at home. This is a 10 week course.

Digital & Materials Technologies

This subject is a combination of Digital Technology and Hard Materials. It is a 20-week course that includes learning about safety in the workshop, 3D printing, laser cutting, woodworking skills, electronics, and design.

Fabric & Food Technologies

This 20-week course offers a unique combination of Soft Materials and Food Technology, providing students with an introduction to practical life skills. Students start by learning essential safety and hygiene practices, crucial for both the kitchen and the sewing room.

They gain foundational skills in sewing, including how to operate a sewing machine, basic stitching techniques, and fabric handling. In the kitchen, students learn basic cooking skills and techniques, such as knife skills, measuring, and following recipes.





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