



Sacred Heart Certificate – Year 11 Programme

Question and Answers

1. Why is Sacred Heart College making this change?

The Ministry of Education have resigned the structure and content of NCEA Level 1 from 2024 onwards which reduces teaching time and is lacking in rigour. An increasing number of schools are choosing not to offer NCEA Level 1, and we believe Sacred Heart College can offer an alternative course of study that better meets the needs of our Year 11 students. In our professional view the newly developed Sacred Heart Certificate will prepare students for the demands of NCEA Level 2 and subsequent years of study.

2. What are the benefits of the Year 11 Sacred Heart Certificate course?

We believe there are many advantages, with the main one being the increased teaching time and change to the number and structure of internal and external assessments. Moving the focus from assessment to learning will allow us to better prepare students with the knowledge and skills required for Year 12 and future career pathways.

3. As a state-integrated school, does Sacred Heart College have to offer NCEA Level 1?

No. NCEA is a very flexible system and many schools have already chosen not to offer Level 1. NCEA Levels 2 and 3 provide our 'exit' qualifications and will be offered as full NCEA programmes. An increasing number of schools have already taken a similar approach to offering their own programme at Year 11.

4. How will students gain numeracy and literacy requirements for NCEA and University Entrance?

All Year 11 students will complete the Numeracy and Literacy co-requisite package of 20 credits.

5. Will the same subjects be offered in the Year 11 programme?

The current wide range of subjects will continue to be offered, giving students the opportunity to select a programme that prepares them well for Years 12 and 13. Subjects are outlined in the Curriculum Handbook available for view on our website and circulated to students and parents each year.

6. How will students be assessed in the Year 11 programme?

Each portion of the course will be assessed as a percentage, using an assessment mark scheme. This will then be calculated as a portion. These course portions are then accumulated (summed) over the course to give a percentage mark for the course. This is then used to create a grade for the course.

7. What certificate or qualification will students get at the end of Year 11?

Students will be eligible to receive a Sacred Heart Certificate containing the subject percentage mark and grade. In addition, students' achievement in Literacy and Numeracy will also be displayed on the Certificate.

8. What if my child leaves or moves schools at the end of Year 11 or mid-year?

Students who intend to leave at the end of Year 11 will have had the opportunity to gain the Literacy and Numeracy co-requisite package. They will receive a formal school report / transcript detailing their academic achievements in all subjects.

9. How will entry into Level 2 courses be determined?

Entry into Level 2 courses will be determined by a students' results in Year 11 and will be used to decide whether they meet entry prerequisites for Level 2 courses - as per the current system.

10. Does this mean students will not gain NCEA Level 1?

Students will be able to achieve Level 1, but not until they are in Year 12. To get Level 1, students need the Literacy and Numeracy package, and 60 credits at Level 1 or higher (Level 2). It is likely students will gain Level 1 and Level 2 at the same time.