

Year 9 Specialist Learning Areas for 2027

All Year 9 students at Cambridge High School take a selection of specialist learning areas from the Faculties of Technology, Arts and Languages. It is compulsory to take at least ONE Language, ONE Arts and TWO Technologies over the year, along with further optional choices. Some Technologies and Arts subjects may attract an additional cost due to take-home components associated with these courses. More information about this is available from the school.

All students entering Year 9 in the 2027 academic year will select their subjects in September 2026. This information will be emailed to parents and caregivers.



Technology

Design and Visual Communication

This course is about designing products and environments. Students will learn and use a number of visual communication techniques such as free hand sketching, computer aided drawing, rendering and instrumental formal drawings. They will use these techniques to design and make a product which will be manufactured using 3D printing technology.

Digital Technology

This engaging programme introduces students to a range of computer techniques to solve problems creatively. Students will learn basic programming skills and explore the fundamentals of robotics, along with other innovative digital technologies. Through hands-on projects, they will develop critical thinking and problem-solving abilities. The course also fosters creativity and collaboration, encouraging students to work together on various challenges. It's an excellent foundation for those interested in the exciting world of digital technology.

Mechatronics and Control Technologies

Students explore robotics, microprocessor control technology, switches, sensors, basic electronics theory, and coding. Through hands-on activities, they develop technical skills and problem-solving abilities. This engaging programme fosters critical thinking and prepares students for future studies and careers in technology.

Food Technology

This course aims to give students knowledge, skills, equipment and attitudes to produce food products that meet people's needs and desires. The choice of foods is increasing and it is essential that students learn basic skills and gain knowledge to make the most of these choices.

Materials Technology Engineering

This is a project based course where students will use a variety of hard materials and engage in the processes involved in Technology.

Materials Technology Textiles

This course aims to give students the basic skills and knowledge needed to create a product using soft materials. Students will learn a variety of skills and techniques.

Materials Technology Wood/Plastics

This is a project based course where students use a variety of timbers, hard materials and processes involved in Technology. The Course will lay the foundation toward Level One Technology and Level One Carpentry.



Arts

Art

Students will be introduced to the art-making environment and core skills of drawing and media handling. This course aims to develop students' confidence and decision making while experiencing different art forms.

Dance

This course is an introduction to the elements of dance, its vocabulary and choreography. Combined with these technical aspects, it explores different dance styles around the world culminating in the presentation of a group dance.

Drama

Year 9 Drama is an opportunity for students to develop improvisational skills whilst working in a supportive environment. Students work towards a self-devised group performance.

Media Studies

Media Studies is a course for students who are interested in communications media production. It is valuable to students who want to be able to understand the messages that the media deliver to us. Students will explore the language of media, conventions of film and produce their own media product. Media is a versatile subject that can lead to many different career opportunities.

Music

Students develop practical skills on a selected instrument and/or voice while exploring music technology, creating simple original music, and learning the basics of music theory to support future musical growth.

Music Performance

Year 9 Music Performance is a music option for students who are not only passionate about music but show advanced skills on their instrument (including vocals) and want to develop their skills further. They will work towards a music concert for the community. Please note that this course requires an audition prior to acceptance.

Te Ao Haka

Te Ao Haka is an introductory course that provides opportunities for ākonga to engage in the art form of Māori Performing Arts. Through this subject, te reo Māori, tikanga and hītori will also be integral in their learning journey. We are proud to offer this course in 2027 for our community. - Please note that this course is dependent on the quantity of students choosing the subject and the availability of staff. We will need to finalise the staffing arrangements and/or appointments after our ākonga have made their course selections.



Languages

French

Students will study the language and culture of the many French speaking countries of the world. There may be opportunities for travel to New Caledonia and France. Studying French can lead to exchanges and scholarships.

Japanese

Learning Japanese is fun and exciting and leads to career and travel opportunities. Studying Japanese at Cambridge High School may lead to exchanges, trips and scholarships to Japan.

Te Reo Māori

At Cambridge High School we celebrate the Māori culture by offering this great language opportunity. Students have fun as they learn Te Reo and Tikanga and this can lead to great career opportunities within New Zealand.