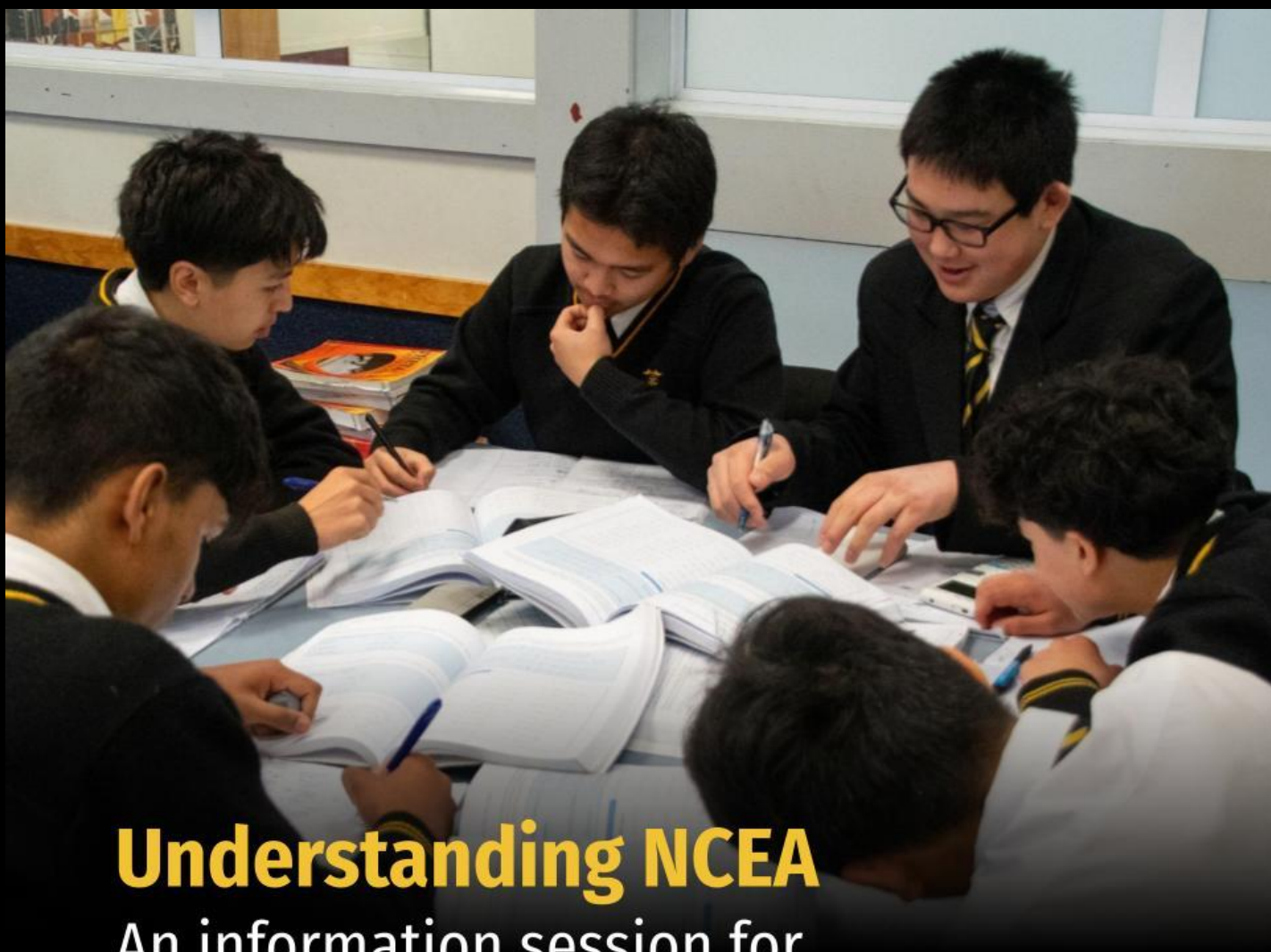




Understanding NCEA

An information session for
parents and whānau

Weds 12 August



TE KĀRETI TAMATĀNE O TE WHANGANUI-A-TARA
WELLINGTON COLLEGE

Founded 1867

Introduction

By the end of this presentation, you should have:

1. A clear understanding of the structure of NCEA
2. Decoded the language and terminology of NCEA
3. An understanding of the coming changes to curriculum and assessment
4. *An understanding of assessment procedures here at WC*
5. *How whānau can support*

Health and safety:

- Toilets are at the back
- Evacuate to the turf if needed - follow a staff member

Strategic Leadership Team (SLT)

Achievement and Attainment

Serena Lawrence

Jenna Vreeburg

Luci Lendrum



**We will share these slides
via the newsletter**

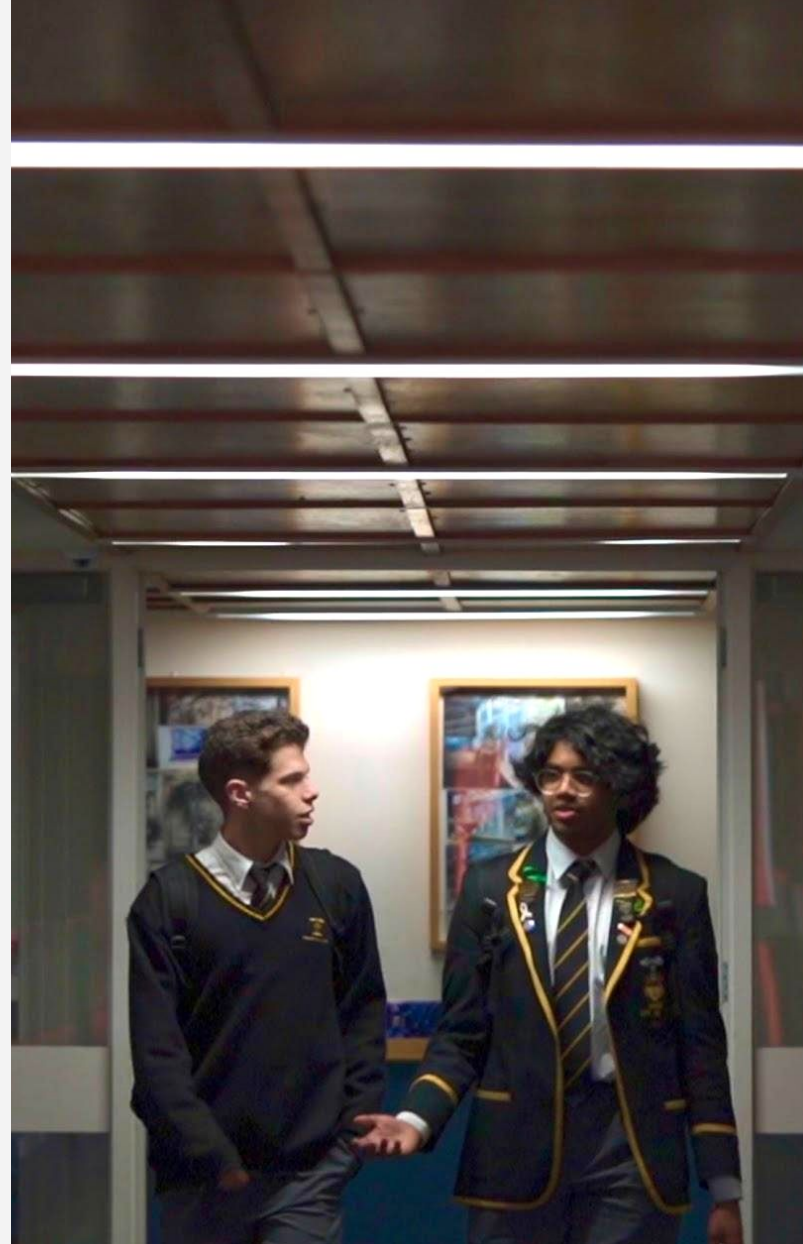
What is NCEA?

NCEA = National Certificate of Educational Achievement

- Administered by NZQA (the New Zealand Qualifications Authority)
- Internationally recognised

There are three levels of NCEA. Typically, students work through Levels 1 - 3 in Years 11 - 13 at secondary school.

The flexibility of NCEA allows us to deliver learning that is personal, engaging and empowering.



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Old vs new

Bursary (7th form) English		
TOPICS	%	TYPE
Close reading	0	Test
Shakespeare	0	Essay
Language of advertising	0	Essay
Novel study	0	Essay
Non Shakespearean drama	0	Essay
ALL OF THEM TOGETHER!	100%	End of year Exam

NCEA Level 3 English at WC		
STANDARDS	CREDITS	TYPE
3.4 Writing portfolio	6	Portfolio of writing (Submitted Term 1)
3.8 Critical texts	4	Report (Submitted Term 2)
3.5 Oral presentation	3	Seminar (Submitted Term 3)
3.1 Written text	4	<i>End of year Exam</i>
3.2 Visual text	4	<i>End of year Exam</i>

= 21 possible credits in English

November, 2023

Old vs new

One exam EG: Bursary, School Cert		NCEA Grades
A 80 - 100%	PASS	E Excellence
B 65 - 79%	PASS	M Merit
C 50 - 64%	PASS	A Achieved
D 30 - 49%	FAIL	N Not Achieved
E 1 - 29%	FAIL	

How Does NCEA Work?

Each year, students study a number of **courses** from different subject areas. E.g. Level 2 Maths

- In each course, skills and knowledge are taught according to **topics**, and assessed against a number of **standards**. For example, a Mathematics standard could be:

*E.g. Use **statistical methods** to make an inference.*

- Schools use a range of **internal** and **external assessments** to measure how well students meet these standards.
- When a student passes a standard, they gain the number of **credits**.
- Students must achieve a certain number of credits to gain an NCEA certificate.

	INTERNAL		EXTERNAL	4	CREDITS
--	----------	--	----------	---	---------

ENGLISH

3	6	4
	4	4

HISTORY

6	5	5
5		

ART

4	4	12
---	---	----

CHEMISTRY

4	3	4
4	5	

What are standards?

- For each **topic** that a student studies, they will complete the learning and then sit an assessment – the **assessment** is based on a **standard**
- Each standard **describes what** a student needs to know, or what they must be able to achieve, in order to meet the standard
- Each standard has a defined **credit value**. This is based on difficulty, time required to learn master knowledge/skills etc.
- As students study new topics, their teachers will explain **what** will be assessed and **how**. Teachers ensure that students are prepared for assessment.
- Assessments measure what a student **knows** or **can do** against the **criteria** of a standard.

Standards allow students to demonstrate specific skills, often in more **authentic contexts** than an exam.

An example of an English standard is:

Construct and deliver an oral text

An example from Mathematics: ***Apply numeric reasoning in solving problems***

What grades are possible?

The grades that a student can earn depend on the type of standard being assessed.

For **ACHIEVEMENT STANDARDS**, there are four grades:

- **Achieved (A)** for a satisfactory performance
- **Merit (M)** for very good performance
- **Excellence (E)** for outstanding performance
- **Not achieved (N)** if students do not meet the criteria of the standard

- *Each standard has credits attached.*
- *The credit value varies depending on the nature of the standard (from 2 - 12).*
- *A, M, and E are all worth the **same** number of credits.*

For **UNIT STANDARDS** all grades may be available, but *usually* there are just two grades: Achieved or Not Achieved

What does a standard look like?

- **Achieved (A)** for a satisfactory performance
- **Merit (M)** for very good performance
- **Excellence (E)** for outstanding performance
- **Not achieved (N)** if students do not meet the criteria of the standard

A sample history criteria:

<i>Achievement</i>	<i>Achievement with Merit</i>	<i>Achievement with Excellence</i>
<i>Carry out an investigation of an historical event, or place, of significance to New Zealanders.</i>	<i>Carry out an in-depth investigation of an historical event, or place, of significance to New Zealanders.</i>	<i>Carry out a comprehensive investigation of an historical event, or place, of significance to New Zealanders.</i>

The criteria and exemplars are always shared with students, and are publicly available.

How are assessments marked?

Internals

These are standards that are assessed at school and marked by WC teachers, with national moderation. They can be practical and are sometimes completed over extended periods.

Internal = marked at school

Externals

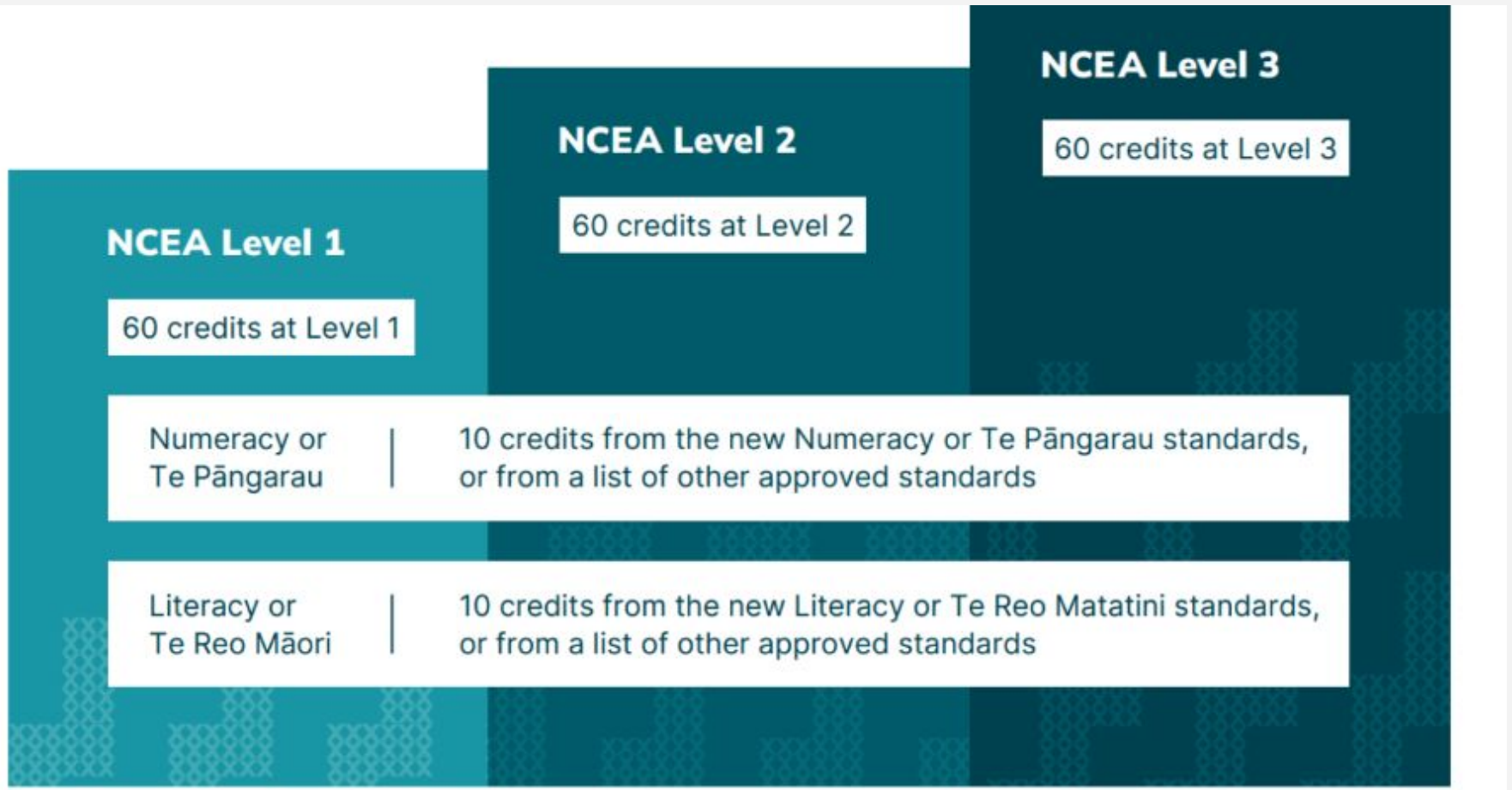
These are standards that are assessed externally such as written examinations and portfolios

External = marked out of school

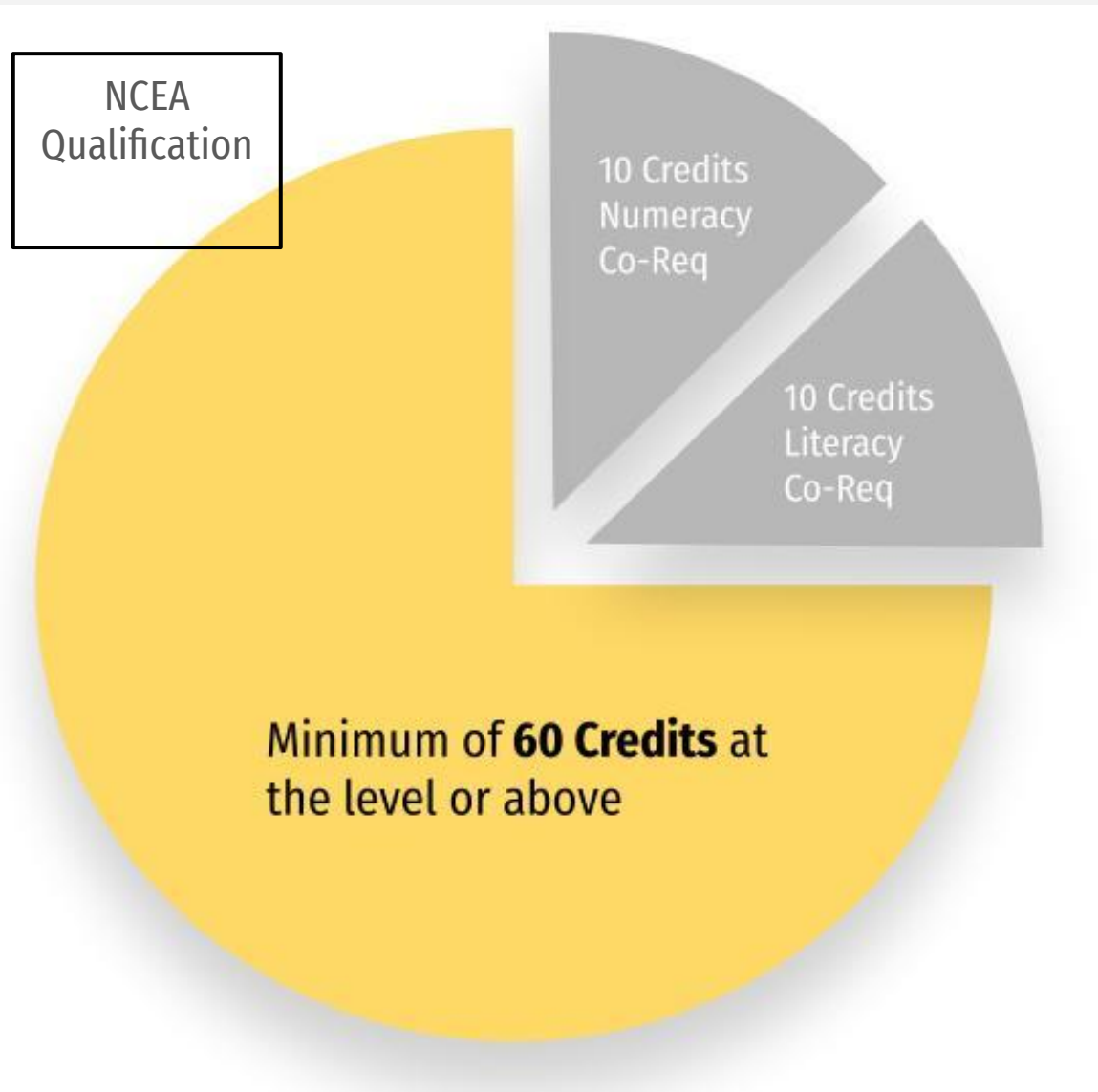
NZQA provides samples (“exemplars”) of the expected level. Every teacher’s marking gets checked, and we have to send samples off to NZQA to ensure fair marking.

Achieving Level 2 and 3 NCEA

Requires 60 credits (from the level OR above) PLUS Literacy and Numeracy



WHAT IS THE NCEA Literacy and Numeracy CO-REQUISITE?



- You must meet requirements in Literacy and Numeracy as part of NCEA
- The Co-Requisite *sits next* to NCEA - **You will only be awarded an NCEA qualification once you have met the co-requisite requirements.** (You can keep banking your credits though!)
- You only need to meet the requirement for the co-requisite once
- Most students meet Co-Requisite Literacy and Numeracy through CAA tests.

NCEA Co-Requisite at WC

- Across Year 9- 11 students prepare for these assessments
- They are sat in exam settings twice a year:
 - Year 10 - Numeracy and Reading
 - Year 11 - Writing
- The assessments are digital and completed using student's laptop & headphones
- Students can re-attempt the CAA tests as many times as they need to
- Wellington College will support and design interventions where students are struggling to achieve
 - Until 2027, students can complete 20 extra credits from selected standards to meet the Literacy and Numeracy Co-Requisite

What is endorsement?

Certificate endorsement

NCEA Level 2 or 3 Endorsed with Merit

- 50+ credits at Merit or higher

NCEA Level 1, 2 or 3 Endorsed with Excellence

- 50+ credits at Excellence

Course endorsement

- **14 or more** credits at Achieved, Merit or Excellence in a subject, and
- At least 3 of these credits from **externally** assessed standards

(Note, this does not apply to Physical Education and Level 3 Visual Art which can gain endorsement entirely through internal standards)

Endorsement is possible in most courses at WC. If not this will be advertised in the course outline.

WHAT IS UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE?

University Entrance is the **highest qualification** you can gain at secondary school under NCEA.

University Entrance (UE) is the **minimum requirement** to gain entry to degree study in New Zealand

If you are aiming for UE, you should think carefully about your subject choices in Y12 and 13. Make sure that you are enrolled in at least **FOUR UE approved subjects** (*in your course selection guide, you can see whether or not courses are UE approved - MOST at WC are*)

NCEA is internationally recognised and can be used if you want admission to an overseas university

WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE?

You must pass **NCEA LEVEL 3** (60 credits at Level 3 or above)

Note- Unit Standard credits DO count towards the Level 3 total

Plus your credit total **MUST** also include:

14 achievement
standard credits
in **one approved
L3 subject**



14 achievement
standard credits
in a **second
approved L3
subject**



14 achievement
standard credits
in a **third
approved L3
subject**



U.E. Literacy:
5 credits in
Reading and 5 in
Writing, from an
approved list of
Level 2 & 3
standards

These credits can be from your 14
approved credits in a UE subject

If your young person wants to go to university and are in 3 or fewer UE subjects, chat to the Dean to make sure they're on track.

But my child will apply to University in the middle of their Y13 year... they won't have finished Level 3!

Level 2 grades are the results that students will send off to apply for halls of residence and for initial acceptance into their chosen course(s).

This acceptance is **provisional** on the student gaining UE (and meeting any other additional requirements specific to that course).

University Entrance is awarded in January.

We highly recommend that all students make an appointment with one of our excellent careers advisers. They can offer a huge amount of support and guidance.



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Derived grade examinations

All NCEA candidates will sit derived grade exams in Term 3. They are sometimes called 'mock exams' or 'school exams'

These exams help in the following ways:

- They help students to understand what they need to focus their study on in preparation for the NCEA examinations
- They provide an opportunity to practise exam conditions
- They provide a 'derived grade' that will be used if they are unable to sit the NCEA examinations.

It is important that students take these exams seriously.



NCEA (end-of-year) examinations

The NCEA external examinations take place in November - December

- They are held here at school
- They are run by NZQA and not by WC teachers
- Some of them are digital, some are handwritten
- Students have a special exam entry slip that they must check for accuracy, and bring to each examination
- There are no catch-ups or resits for missed examinations. If a student misses their exam, they will not be awarded a grade for the standards missed.

*In some cases, when there are extenuating circumstances, students may apply to NZQA for a **derived grade** to be awarded. This can be done by contacting the Principal's Nominee (Deputy Principal Luci Lendrum) on, or as soon as possible after, the day of the exam.*

NCEA students go on study leave a few days before exams. This also applies to Year 11 students in L2 or L3 classes, who can work in the library or off site during these lessons. Year 11 students will have some study leave (for example, the day before an exam), but are expected to continue attending all of their other timetabled classes.

NZ Scholarship

Scholarship is assessed in a separate external assessment at the end of the year. It is open to any student, but is usually sat in Year 12 or 13.

It offers students the opportunity to “demonstrate high-level critical thinking...to synthesise and apply knowledge, skills, understanding and ideas to complex situations.”

- Scholarship preparation sessions at WC usually occur outside of timetabled lessons
- They are open to any student to attend
- Successful students receive \$500 per scholarship, with additional monetary rewards for top students



Special assessment conditions

Support is available for students who have additional learning needs when sitting **timed assessments**.

This can take the form of computer use, a reader/writer, rest breaks, separate accommodation, and extra time.

If you have questions about this, contact Learning Support
senco@wc.school.nz



Where do I find assessment information?

There are a number of sources of information:

1. The [assessment guidelines](#) on the school website. This includes information about reconsiderations, extensions, and withdrawals.
2. Course outlines provided by subject teachers. This will include key dates for assessment and any assessment rules students need to follow.

These are also linked on the website under course information.

3. The [NZQA website](#). This includes:
 - Assessment schedules
 - Exemplars
 - The NZQA [exam timetable](#)



Impact of curriculum changes

Many whānau will be aware that there are changes being made to curriculum and assessment.

There are **no changes** to the school timetable or subject options for 2027. For our students, the most important goal right now is to keep working hard and building great study habits. Please encourage your child to act on teacher feedback to strengthen their foundational skills, as the routines they build now will set them up for future success.

Preparing for the New Qualification Framework

Our current Year 9 cohort will be the first year group to transition into New Zealand's new senior qualification system.

- **The Timeline:**
 - **Year 11 (2028):** The Foundational Award
 - **Year 12 (2029):** The New Zealand Certificate of Education (NZCE)
 - **Year 13 (2030):** The New Zealand Advanced Certificate of Education (NZACE)
- **Compulsory Subjects:** From 2028, English, Maths, and Science will be mandatory nationwide in Year 11. Because this has always been our policy at WC, our students will not experience any disruptions to their usual subject planning.
- **Exam Preparation:** The new qualifications will place a heavier emphasis on external exams. To ensure your child feels confident and prepared, we will be increasing our focus on explicit exam strategies and formal assessment preparation over the coming years.
- **Academic Foundations:** Early indications show that the content in some new senior subjects will be more academically demanding. Developing a solid foundation now is more important than ever.

A New Focus on Literacy and Numeracy

To achieve their senior certificates (NZCE and NZACE) in the future, students must first pass the **Foundational Award** in Year 11. This award is based directly on the Year 11 English and Maths curriculums. This replaces the Literacy and Numeracy CoRequisite CAA.

If your child is currently in Year 9 and has gaps in their literacy or numeracy skills, we strongly encourage them to take advantage of school support and extension opportunities. The progress they make during Year 10 will boost their confidence and success once they hit senior school.

<https://tahurangi.education.govt.nz/senior-secondary-quals-finalised>

Assessment Procedures

Students need to be aware of our policies and processes for:

- Extensions
- Reconsiderations
- Breaches of the rules
- Absences and non-submissions

Assessment Procedures

ABSENCES AND NON-SUBMISSIONS

- Missing a deadline or absence from an assessment will result in no credit being awarded for that standard.
- If you have already been given an adequate opportunity to achieve the standard, a Not Achieved grade will be awarded.

However, if circumstances causing lateness/absence have been discussed with the appropriate HOD, are deemed legitimate, and supported by a doctor's certificate in the case of illness, the following outcomes may be possible:

- provide a specified time extension to submit work for assessment (e.g. an assignment)
- schedule the assessment at another agreed time
- provide a further assessment opportunity
- use relevant standard-specific evidence to award a grade
- no credit awarded.

ASSESSMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Most internal standards have **one assessment opportunity** each year.
- A small number of standards may offer a **re-assessment** (a different task, offered to all students).
- **Resubmissions** may be offered for minor errors only, to gain **Achieved** (not Merit or Excellence), and only once per standard.

Assessment Procedures

EXTENSIONS

- Extensions must be applied for **before the due date** using the school form and approved by the HOD.
- Family holidays are not a valid reason.
- Be wary as extensions can sometimes compound issues later on.

RECONSIDERATION OF RESULTS

- Students can request a reconsideration within **5 days** of receiving their grade.
- They speak with the teacher first, then follow the school appeal process if needed.



Assessment Procedures

BREACHES OF THE RULES

- All submitted work must be the student's own, and the onus is on the student to prove authenticity.
- Students should keep drafts and planning, and use tools such as Google Docs to show evidence of their work. Where work is completed out of class, they will be required to meet checkpoints.
- Use of GenAI tools must be explicitly allowed by the teacher, and acknowledged by the student.

Any suspected breach is reviewed by the HOD and the DP Achievement and Attainment.



Tracking progress on the Portal

Home Calendar Notices Enrolment at WC Details ▾ School Life ▾ Careers ▾ **Results** Absence Report Contact Us

NZQA Qualifications Achievements

Year Achievement

NCEA Summary
Results
All Results
Reports

NCEA Qualification (80 credits required)			i
Numeracy Co-Requisite (10 credits)	NZQA (2023)	10 credits	✓
Literacy Co-Requisite (10 credits)	NZQA (2023)	10 credits	✓
Working Towards Level (60 credits)	Level Three	0 credits	✗
Highest Awarded Attainment Level	Level Two	NZQA (2024)	✓

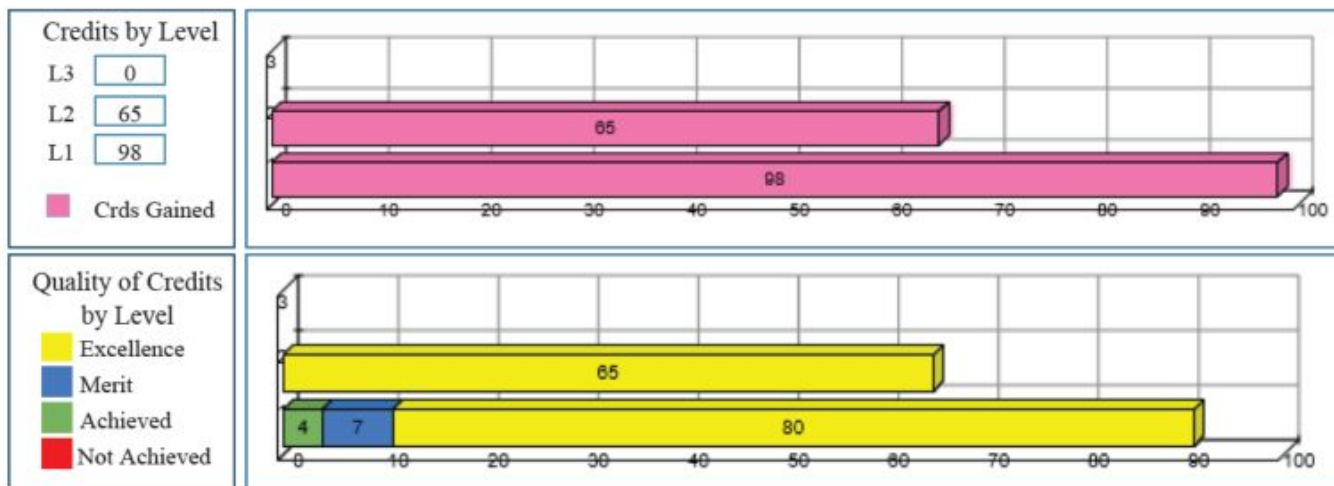
UE Literacy (10 credits required)			i
Read (5 credits)	0		✓
Write (5 credits)	12		✓
Read or Write	8		
NZQA	2024		✓



Reports

	12JRB	Attendance: 70%
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OVERALL NCEA PROGRESS



Do I have LI NCEA

Do I have L2 NCEA

Do I have L3 NCEA

Do I have Numeracy

Do I have Level 1 Literacy

Do I have UE Literacy

For NCEA L2 and 3 you need 60 credits at that level (and you must also have Level 1 Literacy and Numeracy).
To achieve UE (University Entrance) Literacy, students need 5 Reading and 5 Writing credits from approved standards at Level 2 and above.

Subject Credits (Current Year)

Note credits might be at Level 1, 2 or 3

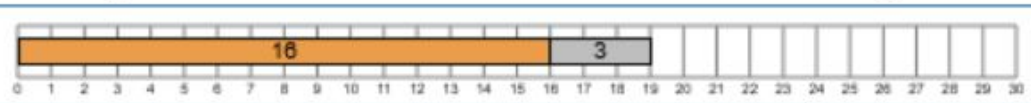
Digital Technology Science / Hangarau Mr O Meszaros

o.meszaros@wc.school.nz

Earned

Still to sit

Potential Total



0 Not Achieved 0 Achieved 0 Merit 0 Excellence 16 Internal Credits yet to sit 3 External Credits yet to sit

Ready to Learn	Engaged and focused in class	Required Work is complete	Understands the learning material	OVERALL PROGRESS	Subject Attendance
Mostly	Mostly	Mostly	Mostly	Meeting	66%

CHECK AND REFLECT

achievement and attainment

Have you gained your NUMERACY co-req (via CAA or alt. stds)? Yes

Have you gained your LITERACY co-req (via CAA or alt. stds)? No

Have you gained UE LITERACY (5 x L2 Reading + 5 x L2 Writing credits)? No

Note: UE Lit does not need to be obtained until the end of Year 13 / L3

Progress towards PASSING NCEA Level 2	credit count
Update the totals in the YELLOW cells each time you receive a new report or assessment result.	
Total credits passed (A / M / E)	13
Total credits failed (NA)	2
Total credits yet to be assessed	81

DO NOT edit GREY cells. They will automatically update when amending the info in yellow cells.

Current pass rate: 86.7%

POSSIBLE credit total: 94

ESTIMATED credit total: 83

University Entrance requirements (for those completing Level 3):

Need NCEA Level 3 certificate (60 x L3 credits plus Num and Lit co-requisite)

Need UE literacy (5 x L2 Reading + 5 x L2 Writing credits)

Need 14 or more credits in 3 Achievement Standard based subjects

Progress towards gaining a certificate ENDORSEMENT	credit count	How many more do you think you'll get this year?	anticipated credit total
Total credits gained at Achieved (A)	5	21	26
Total credits gained at Merit (M)	8	30	38
Total credits gained at Excellence (E)	0	30	30

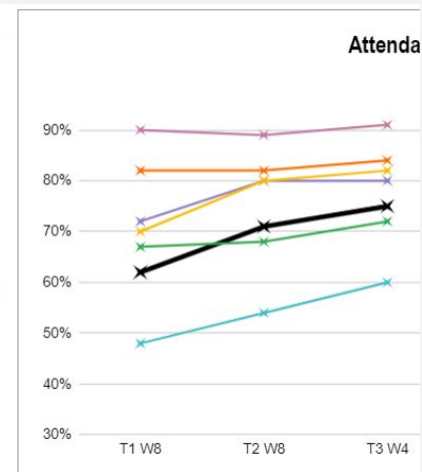
Need 50 credits...	current count	needed	anticipated
MERIT endorsement (M or E credits)	8	42	68
EXCELLENCE endorsement (E credits)	0	50	30

Maths with Calculus

Standard Number	Standard Title / Topic	Credits	Int / Ext	Deadline approx.	Grade awarded	Credits gained	TOTAL CREDITS	Notes:
91259	Apply trigonometric relationships in solving problems	3	Internal	Term 1 - Week 5	M	3	3	Use this box to jot down any helpful reminders or goals you have for this particular subject
91256	Apply coordinate geometry methods in solving problems	2	Internal	Term 1 - Week 11				
91269	Apply systems of equations in solving problems	2	Internal	Term 2 - Week 7				
91261	Apply algebraic methods in solving problems	4	External	Term 4				
91262	Apply calculus methods in solving problems	5	External	Term 4				
91267	Apply probability methods in solving problems	4	External	Term 4				

Subject Attendance Rate						
	T1 W8	T2 W8	T3 W4	T3 W10	T4 W7	
OVERALL ATTENDANCE	62%	71%	75%			
Art	72%	80%	80%			
Biology	70%	80%	82%			
DVC	67%	68%	72%			
English	82%	82%	84%			
Maths	48%	54%	60%			
Science	90%	89%	91%			
Average IN-CLASS rate:	75%	Concerning				

Attendance Rate	KEY
Excellent	95%
Good	90%
Room for Improvement	85%
Concerning	75%
Very Concerning	<75

Student
Check and
Reflect

How can whānau support?

- Help with planning, deadlines, and time management
 - Assessment deadlines are available in subject course booklets, and on Google Classroom
 - The exam timetable is available on the NZQA website
 - You can sign up to receive your child's Google Classroom Guardian Summary
- Provide a quiet, distraction-free space for study and revision
- Keep lines of communication open - tutor teachers can help with course selection, class teachers with assessment information
- Support regular attendance - every lesson counts!
- Help your young person keep track of the credits they need for their chosen pathway
 - Senior students receive NCEA progress reports every 5-6 weeks.
 - You can also access attendance and results in the parent portal. If you need assistance logging on, please contact the office.



What support is available at WC?

What does success look like?

Creating a safe and engaging learning environment

Setting high expectations

Reporting attendance and achievement accurately

Tracking achievement & designing interventions

Communicating regularly

- **Subject Teacher**- Can help clarify the course and assessment expectations, and due dates
- **Subject HOD** - Can help with assessment procedures
- **Tutor Teacher** - Can check in with subject teachers, help students track credits and achievement
- **Deans** - Wellbeing / pastoral support
- **Pacific/Māori Mentor Support** – Debbie Tiatia, Piri Weepu
- **Peer tutors** - contact the academic prefects or Monique Webster
- **Career Planning** - HOD Careers and Pathways - Hamish Davidson, Sharron Morgan
 - Subscribe to www.wc.careerwise.school to receive updates and information
- **Mental Health/Personal Issues** - Guidance Counsellors - Lyndon Coppin / Jane Gray / Geoff Charles
- **Learning Support** – Deb Marshall, SENCOS
- **Achievement & Attainment / Teaching & Learning DPs and APs:**
 - Luci Lendrum (Derived grade applications, exam clashes)
 - Serena Lawrence and Jenna Vreeburg (tracking attainment, UE Literacy, Co-Requisite Progress)



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Looking for more info?

<https://www.nzqa.govt.nz/ncea/understanding-ncea/how-ncea-works/>

<https://www.moneyhub.co.nz/resources-for-ncea-students.html>

<https://www.nzqa.govt.nz/ncea/understanding-ncea/ncea-and-the-whanau/ncea-and-the-whanau-online/>



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—

Ngā mihi Mā te wā



Please stay if you have questions / pātai

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