

Sacred Heart College, Lower Hutt



NCEA and all that
An information Session
for Students and Parents

Personnel

- Ngaira Sewell- Assistant Principal(with responsibility for Assessment and NZQA liaison)
- Ngaira Sewell- Head of Learning Support
New appointment being made.
- Jeanette Hudson- Careers Advisor

There are several new terms you need to become familiar with:

The New Zealand Qualifications Framework (NZQF)

All standards are registered on the New Zealand Qualifications Framework. This includes Achievement Standards and Unit Standards.

These standards can be used by schools, tertiary institutes, private providers and industry once the provider has met the Quality Management Systems set out by the New Zealand Qualification Authority (NZQA).

National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA)

When a student gains sufficient credits they receive a National Certificate of Educational Achievement. This can be gained over several years.

Record of Achievement (RoA)

Each student has an individual record of all their achievements. This builds up over the years and can be accessed by the student through the NZQA website.

National Qualification Framework

- Instead of performance in a course being assessed just in one examination it is now assessed using several Standards.
- All courses at Sacred Heart College offer **standards** registered on the National Qualifications Framework (NQF)
- Each standard is worth a number of **credits** (2 to 12 credits)
- Courses at this school offer between **16 and 24 credits**.
- These standards can be used to gain National Certificates in Educational Achievement (**NCEA**)
- The standards can also lead to **other certificates** such as: the Certificate in Computing (Levels 1, 2 and 3)
- Vocational Pathways

Unit Standards and Achievement Standards

Unit Standards

- Unit Standards are generally used to assess skills.
- The things being assessed in a standard are all at about the same level of difficulty.
- It is a bit like taking a driving test, either you pass or fail.
- You may be allowed to fix up minor mistakes to pass the standard.
- If you do not pass you will be given another chance to do a second assessment task.

Achievement Standards

- These are graded: Achieved, Merit, Excellence.
- Some Achievement Standards are externally assessed in an Examination at the end of the year.
- Other Achievement Standards are internally assessed by teachers during the year.
- In most subjects the response a student makes to a question could be graded Achieved, Merit or Excellence.

Steps to Achieving Excellence in Science

Students are taught useful phrase
to help them respond to questions

Achieved	Merit	Excellence
<p><u>Describe</u> using: it is like ... initially ... secondly ... following this ... before ... and then ... for example ... (or a labelled diagram)</p>	<p><u>Explain</u> using: and so... because... as well as... due to... as a result... since... therefore... the effect of... consequently ...</p>	<p><u>Discuss & analyse</u> using: in contrast to ... however... both...and... compared to ... alternatively ... if...then... the evidence suggests... similarly...</p>

National Certificate in Educational Achievement (NCEA)

NCEA Level 1

- A minimum of **80 credits** are required.
- These credits can come from **Unit Standards** and/or **Achievement Standards**.
- The 80 credits must include **10 credits in Literacy** and **10 credits in Numeracy**.

Level One Numeracy and Literacy

Literacy

Unit Standards – a package of three literacy unit standards
(total 10 credits – all three required)

Achievement Standards – Specified achievement standards available through a range of subjects

Numeracy

Unit Standards – a package of three numeracy unit standards
(total 10 credits – all three required)

Achievement Standards – Specified achievement standards available through a range of subjects.

The Literacy & Numeracy Achievement Standards are listed on the NZQA website.

Reporting

The results notice will clearly state whether the literacy requirement and the numeracy requirement has been met through the Achievement Standards or the Unit Standards package. This is because the Unit Standards packages are not at the same curriculum level as the Achievement Standards. At Sacred Heart College our goal will be for all students to achieve Literacy or Numeracy through Achievement Standards by the end of Year 12.

NCEA Level 2

- A minimum of **80 credits** are required.
- At least **60** of these credits must be at **level 2**.
- There are **no English or Mathematics requirements**.
- Credits can be re-used for different qualifications.
- A student who has achieved NCEA Level 1 can use 20 of the same credits towards NCEA Level 2.
- In reality Year 12 students only need to get 60 credits at Level 2 during the year to get NCEA Level 2.
- Students coming from overseas would need to get the full 80 credits.

NCEA Level 3

- A minimum of **80 credits** are required
- At least **60** of the credits must be at **level 3**.
- The other 20 credits can come from Level 2 or higher.
- There are **no English or Mathematics requirements**.

Vocational Pathways



Students building their own pathways



Endorsed NCEA Certificates

These endorsed certificates show an overall level of achievement that is easily recognised by tertiary institutes and employers.

These can be achieved over more than one year.

A NCEA Level 2 Certificate endorsed with Excellence from Year 12 is often used as a pre-requisite when applying for University academic scholarships in Year 13.

NCEA Level 1 Endorsed with Merit

50 Merit or Excellence credits at Level 1 or higher

NCEA Level 1 Endorsed with Excellence

50 Excellence credits at Level 1 or higher

NCEA Level 2 Endorsed with Merit

50 Merit or Excellence credits at Level 2 or higher

NCEA Level 2 Endorsed with Excellence

50 Excellence credits at Level 2 or higher

The same pattern occurs at Level 3.

Course Endorsements

These were introduced in 2011.

Course endorsements must be achieved in one year.

Course Endorsement with Merit

14 credits at Merit level or above
including 3 credits from internal standards
and 3 credits from external standards

Course Endorsement with Excellence

14 credits at Excellence level
including 3 credits from internal standards
and 3 credits from external standards

Each **course** will be defined by the school offering it
i.e. the 18 to 24 credits attached to a specific course

'New' University Entrance from 2014

- NCEA Level 3.
- 14 credits or more in each of three “approved subjects” (subjects such as French or History)
- Some subjects use standards from several domains. Students taking Sustainable Futures and/or Information Technology have been advised to be very careful when checking how close to gaining University Entrance they are at any stage.

Additional Requirements for University Entrance in 2014 and beyond.

- **Literacy- 10 credits at Level 2 or above**
5 credits from the reading standards and 5 credits from the writing standards.
- **Numeracy -10 credits at Level 1 or above**
Literacy and Numeracy credits are available through a range of subjects.
- This requirement applies to all students including International Students

- Please note UE is the minimum requirement for entry to a university. Universities often add their own requirements on top of this for guaranteed entry into a course. Please check the university website to find out what are the requirements for guaranteed entry into your chosen course of study.

NCEA Approved Subjects for University Entrance

Accounting

Agriculture & Horticulture

Biology

Business Studies

Calculus

Chemistry

Chinese

Classical Studies

Computing

Cook Islands Maori

Dance

Design and Visual
Communication

Digital Technologies

Drama

Economics

English

French

Geography

German

Health Education

History

History of Art

Home Economics

Indonesian

Japanese

Korean

Latin

Media Studies

Music Studies

Painting (Practical Art)

Photography (Practical Art)

Physical Education

Physics

Printmaking (Practical Art)

Religious Studies

Samoan

Science

Sculpture (Practical Art)

Social Studies

Spanish

Statistics

Education for Sustainability

Technology

Te Reo Maori (or Rangatira)

STUDENT GUIDELINES FOR INTERNAL ASSESSMENT OF UNIT AND ACHIEVEMENT STANDARDS

Expectation of Teachers

- A course outline, including an assessment plan, is provided at the start of the year
- Copies of the standards offered will be provided.
- Instructions for assessment of internal standards will be in writing and meet NZQA and school standards.
- Marked work will be checked with students.
- Student work is retained as required by NZQA

Expectation of Students

- Know what is required and when.
- Hand work in on time.
- Attending assessments comes before other commitments.
- The only class time that can be used for internal assessment is the time allocated to the subject
- Test procedures such as no cell-phones must be adhered to. Work submitted for assessment must be entirely your own.
- At the end of the year check, and sign as correct, an individual computer printout of grades to be submitted to NZQA

Appeals Procedures

- Once the grading of work has been explained you will be asked to sign that you understand and accept the grade.
- If you think your grade is not correct fill in a Query of Grade form for your teacher or the Head of Department.
- The teacher or Head of Department will go through you concerns with you.
- If you still feel unfairly treated see Mrs Sewell within 5 school days.
A formal review process will be put in place.

Special Consideration for an Internal Standard

- If you miss an assessment you may not need to apply for Special Consideration. This is only essential if there is only one assessment for the Standard.
- If you need an extension fill in the application form **Special Consideration for an Internal Standard**. Special arrangements can be made:
 - for approved activities such as school sports.
Get ***permission before you go***!
You may be asked to do the assessment before you leave.
 - for sickness. A ***medical certificate*** is required.
 - for a close bereavement. ***Check whether you are eligible for Special Consideration before you go.***
 - difficult personal circumstances.
Some evidence is needed, see Mrs Pigou
- Achieved, Merit or Excellence can only be awarded if there is evidence of the standard reached.

Derived Grade Process for Standards assessed in the External Examinations

If you think you are eligible for derived grades for standards assessed in the external examinations see Mrs Pigou. You will be given a form for you to complete. If you meet requirements the school will provide NZQA with derived grades based on your performance in our school. Please note these grades are often based on school examinations, this means school exams are important. If your teacher gives you your exam paper to have at home for study you may need to bring it back to school if you apply for a derived grade so keep it safe.

Special Needs

Special assessment conditions such as reader/writers or extra time are available for students who are identified as meeting certain criteria. If you have queries about this contact Mrs Sewell.

Useful websites:

You can assess a copy of the calendar for internal assessment on the school website: www.sacredheartcollege.school.nz

NZQA website is: www.nzqa.govt.nz

An award winning website for revision and help for English, Mathematics and Science is: www.studyit.org.nz

Dates to look out for:

February – Talk for Parents on NCEA

March – Candidate information sheets from NZQA

March/April – Parent teacher interviews

June – Candidate information sheets including how to access the web

June – School Reports

July – Fees due to school (payments to Sacred Heart College for \$76.70 (2013))

August – Parent teacher interviews

October – School Record of Progress Report

November – NCEA examinations start