Choosing your school subjects for 2026

from Year 12 to Year 13

If you're in Year 12 and moving into Year 13 next year, you'll be starting to think about the subjects you want to study in 2026.

• WHEN do I choose?

Course selection opens in Week 3, Term 3

• HOW do I choose?

You will receive an email with a link to a digital form to fill in

• WHAT do I choose?

There are no compulsory subjects at Year 13. Most students study FIVE subjects from the list shown here (you'll be asked to rank your top 7 choices in case a course is full or not on at the right time for you).

Sometimes, students in Year 13 study subjects that are at Level 1 or at Level 2 - depending on their needs and the qualification they are aiming to achieve. Talk this over with your Whānau Group Kaiako or Manutaki if you think a straight Level 3 course might not be the right fit.

What to do now?

Start thinking! Talk it over with your family and your Whānau Group Kaiako. Get in touch with the teachers in charge of different subjects. Have a look at the Course Book on the Hillmorton website (it is in the process of being updated for 2026). You can also talk to Mr Nixon, our Careers Advisor, about the subjects you need for different career and study pathways when you leave school.



LEARNING AREA	SUBJECT	IMPORTANT DETAILS
Art	Art	
	Dance	
	Drama	
	Music	
	Photography and Design	
Culture/Identity	Te Poutama (Te Ao Māori Studies)	These courses include students in Year 9 to Year 13 and cover skills from a range of Learning Areas, through a Māori or Pasifika Iens
	TAPA (Pacific Studies)	
English	English Literature	
	Media Studies	
	English Language	English Language is only for students who do not have English as their first language
Health and Physical Education	Health Education	
	Outdoor Education	
	Physical Education	
	Leadership in the Outdoors	
	Growing Coaches	
Languages Mathematics	Japanese	
	Spanish	
	Te Reo Māori	
	Mathematics	
	Mathematics and Statistics	
	Mathematics with Calculus	
Science	Astronomy	
	Biology	
	Chemistry	
	Physics	
	Psychology	
Social Science	Classics	
	Geography	
	History	
	Social Studies	
	Tourism	
	Accounting	
	Business Studies	
	Economics	
Technology	Automotive Engineering	
	Design and Visual Communication	
	Digital Skills	
	Digital Technology	
	Food and Nutrition	
	Hospitality	
	Technology - Engineering	
	Technology - Wood	
	Textiles Technology	
Transition	Directions Future Options	
Dual Enrolment	Attending courses at a tertiary provider f	
	attending regular classes at Hillmorton of Ruscoe for more information.	on the other 3 or 4 days. See Ms
	Supported Learning: This option is for students who may need some specialised support. Talk to your whānau group teacher or Manutaki.	