



KAMO HIGH SCHOOL

YEAR 9 INFORMATION

This section includes information specific to Year 9 students in 2010



"A centre of excellence for the changing and varying needs of every student"

Enrolment Interview

We are very pleased that you have decided to attend Kamo High School next year, and want to make the enrolment process as easy and informative as possible. There are three main aims we are striving to meet in the enrolment procedure:

1. Obtain factual information to ensure we have accurate and complete records of our students, which is confidential to the school. Some of the information may be sensitive, and we would like to assure you that it will all be treated with sensitivity.
2. Get to know you and your child to help us meet your particular needs.
3. Answer your questions.

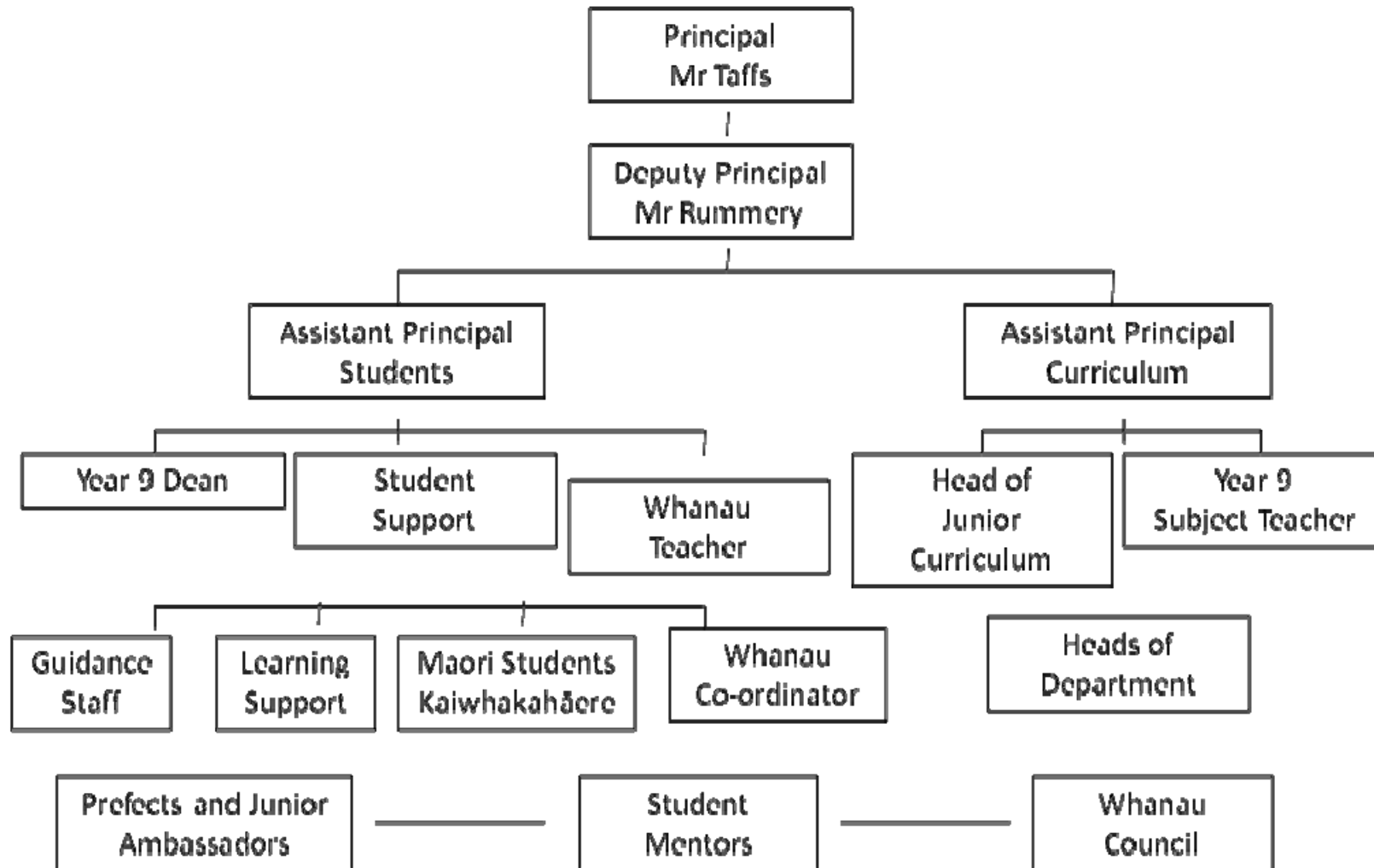
What Will Happen?

- The enrolment interview will take approximately fifteen minutes and will be conducted by a member of the Kamo High School teaching staff.
- The details on the completed enrolment form will be confirmed.
- There will be an opportunity for you to discuss your course.
- Students will be asked to talk about their school life:
 - ~ how well they have done in class work
 - ~ strengths and weaknesses
 - ~ future goals, etc
- There will be an opportunity for you to discuss any aspect of the move to Kamo High School about which you are unclear. This could include:
 - ~ uniform
 - ~ buses
 - ~ the school programme
 - ~ school communication
 - ~ extra-curricular opportunities
 - ~ Whanau system
 - ~ any other of the many aspects of school life

Parents – What Should you Bring?

- Every student needs to have at least one legal caregiver present at the enrolment interview in order to complete enrolment at Kamo High School.
- Please bring to the interview:
 - ~ a **copy** of your son/daughter's birth certificate – this will be kept by Kamo High School;
 - ~ a **copy** of the student's latest school report – this will be kept by Kamo High School;
 - ~ the **completed** enrolment form.
- Where the Caregiver is not the legal parent or guardian, a statutory declaration must be presented which indicates the enrolment address is the student's permanent residential address (a copy of this form can be obtained from the school office).
- Caregivers may also make use of this opportunity to discuss confidential matters - but you are also welcome to arrange an interview with a Guidance Counsellor if you feel this is more appropriate.

People Who Can Support Your Child



Year 9 Core Subjects: 2010

English

The course aims to promote literacy and extend students' ability to read, write and speak confidently.

Topics include: reading and reading logs; language skills including punctuation and grammar; literature study comprising autobiography and biography, novel, drama, poetry, short stories and film and television; writing in expressive, poetic and transactional forms; speaking, including participation in debates and speeches; visual language study. Wide reading, technical accuracy and paragraphing are priorities in Year 9.

Health

This course is based on the Health and Physical Education curriculum document. The purpose is to enable students to make informed decisions and act in ways that contribute to their personal well-being, and the well-being of others in society.

The concept of Hauora is central to the course, and through this you will explore your place in the community, the risks, rights and responsibilities students may be faced with during adolescence, and ways in which they can make choices that will have a positive impact on themselves and others.

Mathematics

This course continues to develop the mathematical skills that students need for academic and everyday life, with a strong emphasis on numeracy. Kamo High School is part of the national secondary schools' numeracy project.

Students will have the opportunity to enter the National Bank Competition and the Australian Mathematics Competition.

Topics include: Measurement, Algebra: Patterns and expressions, Statistics: Data collection and analysis, Geometry: Angles and transformations, Number: Numeracy and mathematical language, Problem solving. A write-on homework book is required.

Physical Education

This course is based on the Health and Physical Education curriculum document. Concepts will be explored through the following themes: communication, teamwork, fairplay, assertiveness, social responsibility, co-operation, interpersonal skills, safe practices, goal setting and inclusiveness. These concepts will be delivered and assessed using a combination of practical and theory lessons.

Sports topics include; aquatics, physical health and well-being, hockey, netball, gymnastics, and striking and fielding games. An approach called 'Teaching Games for Understanding' underpins the Year 9 programme.

Science

This is a practical subject where students will learn to solve problems in a scientific way by experimenting. Students work in small groups to carry out investigations and collect results.

In Year 9 we develop scientific investigation skills and study matter, the living world, light and sound, atoms, space, environmental issues, forces, food and lots more besides.

Every student is expected to have a workbook and an exercise book used in class to record experiments as we do them.

Social Studies

This course aims to prepare students to contribute to and participate effectively in the communities in which they live and work. It is a foundation course that develops a wide range of skills required to study effectively in the senior school. Themes explored include Identity, Culture and Organisation; Continuity & Change; The Economic World; Culture and Organisation.

Technology

Students engage in the creative activity of designing and producing a product to meet a need or opportunity. Technology education explores the factors that influence choice, including aesthetics and function, costs and benefits, culture and society. The design process is central to all technology projects. This includes researching, gathering information, exploring choices, synthesising ideas, communication, production and evaluation. Recent projects undertaken include creating food products, clothing products, a web site, producing wooden toys, creating puppets, wearable arts, logo design, pop-up card production and many more!

Year 9 Options

*Students choose at least **TWO** options but may choose **THREE** (or **FOUR**) if two (or four) of their subjects are from the * list*

Art *

Art aims to encourage creativity. The four main areas covered in Art are: learning the practical knowledge of visual art, developing ideas in art, communicating and interpreting meaning in art, understanding art in context.

The skills and techniques developed throughout this course include; observational drawing, collage and mixed media, composition, printmaking, colour theory and practice (painting), design (including computer aided-design), 3D (pottery and sculpture) and basic photography skills.

Artists and cultures from historical and contemporary sources, including Maori, will be incorporated.

Ancient Studies *

Students study the origin and spread of “civilisation”. Case studies of “classic” cultures, myths, religious practices and legends are undertaken. Aspects of Ancient languages and the origin of contemporary language is explored. The Aim of this course is to develop a deeper understanding of the foundations of modern civilisation while developing meaningful skills and knowledge required by students, who want to prepare for senior work in the Humanities.

Dance *

The aim of the Year 9 Dance programme is to allow students to explore a range of movement styles and to achieve strong understanding of the foundation of Dance. Students will participate in individual pair and group work. With the right attitude they can gain in confidence and social skills. Hip Hop will not be the focus of this course, although a small portion may be offered.

Drama *

The aim of this course is to prepare students for success in both theory and practical work in Drama. Skills covered include voice work, use of body and space, improvisation, and characterization. Students will begin a study of theatre and drama forms and styles, including Shakespeare. Written work is a part of the course. Students will take part in individual, group and class activities. With the right attitude, students can gain in confidence and social skills.

Drama, Film and Theatre *

The students who take this course will have the opportunity to look at several curriculum areas, with the focus on drama, film and theatre as the main themes. This course is ideal for students who enjoy acting, studying films and plays, and learning about film making. It would benefit those students who work well independently as well as in groups, and those who love to be creative!

English Language: Enrichment*

This Year 9 option class is designed for students who have a real passion for, and exceptional ability in, all forms of literacy. It is organised around units of work, typically two per term, linked to a theme, book or aspect of literacy. The course will integrate new educational technologies wherever appropriate. The aim is to have students contribute to both the planning and development of the unit studies in order to make learning more meaningful and increase ownership of the programme.

French Language

This course caters for students who are beginners or who have studied some French at a previous school. We will be using the 'Tapis Volant' method which includes topics such as: introducing myself, greeting people, talking about myself, family, home, likes and dislikes, learning numbers, dates and colours. The course will concentrate on the listening and speaking skills but writing and reading skills will also be practised. We will also look at different cultural aspects of French speaking countries.

Graphics

This course teaches drawing skills and design process. Students will learn new drawing skills and then apply these skills in a range of stimulating 2D and 3D design briefs. The skills covered will be 2D and 3D Freehand Sketching, Orthographic Projection, 3D Pictorial Drawing, Application of Design Process.

Japanese Language

This course is aimed at students who are beginners or who have studied some Japanese at a previous school. They will develop an appreciation of Japanese language and culture by broadening their knowledge and understanding of how Japanese people act and think. Topics will include: Myself and Friends, Getting Acquainted, The Classroom, Times, Weather, Places In Japan, Out and About. Students will be able to read and recognise and write Hiragana and some selected Kanji script. They will explore Japanese culture and by the end of the course they will be able to hold a basic conversation in Japanese.

Maori Language

This course aims to build a culture of enjoyment and pleasure in learning the Maori language. Students will participate in common and traditional Maori experiences such as: making fried bread, flax weaving, learning waiata (songs) and karakia (prayers). They will also learn a variety of grammatical structures and be exposed to a vocabulary of 500 words which will enable them to participate in a very basic conversation in Maori.

Maori Art *

This course aims to show an understanding in Maori culture, using pattern ideas based on Maori traditional techniques and language. The art work will focus on the students' own identity. They will use a variety of media, using paint, clay and flax.

Music*

The aim of this course is to develop self-esteem and confidence through participation in Music. The four main skill areas are: developing knowledge (history and script); compose, analyse and describe the form and composition of songs; technology (amplifiers, microphones, use of computer software and recognise the difference and workings in sound productions); performance (read guitar chords, tablature, and simple lines of notation, and perform these at a basic level).

Spanish Language

This course caters for students who are beginners or who have studied some Spanish at a previous school. We will be using the 'ASI resources' which include topics such as: introducing myself, greeting people, talking about myself, family, home, likes and dislikes, learning numbers, dates and colours. The course will concentrate on the listening and speaking skills but writing and reading skills will also be practised. We will also look at different cultural aspects of Spanish speaking countries.

*** Students may choose two options which will run for two terms each (one semester), or four options for two terms each which will run for four terms (two semesters), from either:**

- *Ancient Studies*
- *Art (including Art Design)*
- *Dance*
- *Drama*
- *Drama, Film & Theatre*
- *English Language: Enrichment*
- *Maori Art*
- *Music*