TRINITY SCHOOLS
RATHKEALE

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ST MATTHEW'S

Year 11 Rathkeale

Years 12 and 13 Rathkeale/St Matthew's Senior College

CURRICULUM BOOKLET 2027

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PLEASE NOTE:

1. Subject requirements for tertiary study vary a great deal between each institution. See Mr Gaffney in the Careers Office for information.
2. For information on availability of Scholarships – **see the individual University websites as there are now too many to include in this booklet.**

Students must ensure that this booklet is kept in a safe place. It will be a guiding document for the 2027 Academic Year.

Section A: Introduction

AIMS:
The aims of the Senior College are to:

- Encourage all students to achieve their full potential in the classroom, on the sports field, and in cultural activities.
- Provide an autonomous course of study suited to individual abilities in preparation for tertiary study and the world of work.
- Create an environment in which young men and women can learn to live together and respect each other as individuals.

THE APPROACH:
The Senior College operates in the following manner:

- There is a natural progression of students to the Senior College from St Matthew's and Rathkeale.
- Applications to enter the Senior College are welcomed from students in schools other than St Matthew's and Rathkeale.
- A carefully planned orientation ensures that all students are familiar with the Rathkeale campus facilities.
- The Senior College is accredited through Rathkeale College and St Matthew's Collegiate to assess Achievement and Unit Standards for NZQA Qualifications.

THE COURSES:
The courses available at Senior College include:

- The possibility of multi-level courses which students may plan where appropriate.
- Specialist courses through outside providers such as UCOL, and U-Skills which cater for individual needs.

All assessment will be by Achievement and/or Unit Standards towards NZQA qualifications.

STUDENT WELFARE:

- Deans have overall responsibility for each year group.
- Students are regarded as young adults who should take full responsibility for their progress and should exercise constructive self-discipline. Staff are always on hand to guide, monitor and encourage.

Section B:- Preliminary Subject Choices

During the next few weeks, you are asked to make a preliminary choice of subjects for the next academic year. This is required to give an approximate number of students interested in each subject allowing a timetable to be constructed. To make this preliminary choice, please read this curriculum booklet carefully, collect subject specific information as needed from the **Subject Information Evening (to be held on the 21st of August),** the Careers office (Mr Gaffney), HOFs and HOSs or from the Rathkeale College website and consider the following points:

- Keep options open for the future by choosing a good balance of subjects.
- Consider taking subjects at different levels to best suit your abilities and needs.
- Remember you are choosing subjects to improve your all-round education, not as a job training exercise.
- Think about any career decisions that you have made.
- Plan the course that you will take or need in Year 13 first, then as well as Year 12 and possibly Year 11.

- Think about your particular strengths.
- Think about the practical commitment in some subject areas that may affect the time you have available for other activities.
- Make sure you are informed about subject costs and other requirements.

The information gained from this preliminary choice of subjects will enable the numbers of students interested in particular subjects to be determined. This information is especially relevant for subjects where small numbers make the running of a class unlikely.

Students choosing subjects across levels will be advised individually to ensure that there is a high probability of success and that academic needs are met.

Rathkeale Year 11 boys
All boys will take English or ESOL, Mathematics, Science and Religious Studies. All boys must also choose three subjects from Agriculture, Commerce, Hard Materials Technology, Health, Drama, Digital Technology, French, Geography, Design and Visual Communication, History, Music, Physical Education, Te Reo Māori and Visual Art.

English, Mathematics and Science classes may be streamed according to ability. There are several different courses offered for these subjects and students will be directed into the most appropriate one after considering their performance in the Year 10 course.

Senior College Year 12 boys and girls
Entry into a full NCEA Level 2 course is not automatic. Students must meet the pre-requisites for any subjects they wish to take (see individual subject sheets on the Rathkeale College website for pre-requisites and later in this booklet). However, pre-requisites for subjects such as Agriculture, B.C.A.T. (Building Construction and Allied Trades Skills) Dance, Design & Visual Communication, Fashion, Food & Nutrition, and Hard Materials Technology do not apply where the subject was not available at Year 11.

Students intending to return for Level 3 study in 2028 must ensure that the Level 2 course chosen in 2027 will lead on to a full Level 3 course.

All students will take English or ESOL and will choose five other subjects. Some students may be entered in a class that assesses Levels 1 and 2 or, a class that is aimed at Level 2 and 3 depending on results in English Level 1 2026. The HOF will decide who is entered in this class.

Students are strongly encouraged to continue with Mathematics. There are two courses available. Students should discuss these courses with their teacher or the HOF, to ensure that they choose the correct course.

Senior College Year 13 Boys and Girls

Entry into NCEA Level 3 is not automatic. Students must have gained NCEA Level 2 to be admitted to a full Level 3 course.

Students must also meet the pre-requisites for any subjects they wish to take (see individual subject sheets on the Rathkeale College website for pre-requisites).

All students will choose 5 subjects which may be at a variety of Levels. No subjects are compulsory, but students are encouraged to take at least one language rich subject.

Transition, Gateway, PITA and STAR Courses
Gateway courses are fully funded Employment based courses requiring students to work and study to complete industry-based Unit Standards which are fully supervised. These enable students to experience working in an employment situation which may indeed lead to further education or employment in their chosen career.

Agriculture/Horticulture/Equine PITA courses are available through a local Tertiary provider. Courses are fully supervised and provide the opportunity to complete standards toward Levels 1 to 3. These are fully funded.

STAR Courses are usually provided in Polytechnics and UCOL locally. These are usually fully funded, though some costs may be incurred for external exams. It is also possible for students to complete extension courses through University and other Tertiary providers.

NB: Students will be admitted to these programmes only after discussion with Senior College Deans and parents have taken place.

Section C: Costs Involved in the Senior College

There are a number of costs involved in studying subjects and in gaining qualifications at the senior level. These fall into three categories:

1. NZQA Imposed Costs:

Fees for Levels 1, 2 and 3 NCEA and New Zealand Scholarship examinations have been abolished for NZ domestic students and are now free.
Foreign Fee-Paying students are charge $383.30 by the Ministry of Education for NCEA and $102.20 for each Scholarship examination.

In the past, the scholarship fees have been paid by school if a reasonable attempt is made by the student.

2.COST FOR MATERIALS OR REQUIRED PERSONAL EQUIPMENT:

All subjects require materials such as a laptop, pens, pencils, calculator, paper, folders, etc. Some subjects require other materials, e.g. Art, Food Technology, Hard Materials Technology, Design and Visual Communication. Costs for these will be advised in the course information given to students and will be disbursed. Other subjects have major costs because they require specialist equipment, e.g. Photography requires a camera. Geography, Biology, Agriculture, Agribusiness, Physical/Outdoor Education and possibly other subjects have field trips that are a compulsory part of the course. Costs of these will vary depending on accommodation, distance travelled, length of stay etc.

Details regarding arrangements and costs for these activities will be communicated to parents in advance and approval of involvement will be required.

Write-on course notes and other take home components will be charged.

Please ensure you are familiar with subject costs and if you have any queries please contact the Head of Faculty to clarify the situation.

3.COSTS FOR OPTIONAL EQUIPMENT OR ACTIVITY:

Some subjects have optional activities or books. It is not necessary for the student to take up these options; therefore, the costs involved in these are not necessarily incurred. A trip to Wellington to see a play would be an option for a Senior class if a Wellington group were staging a play of the type being studied.

Equipment for Outdoor Education is necessary - students cannot go up in the mountains without the necessary boots, warm weatherproof clothing, packs and sleeping bags. However, some of this equipment can be borrowed from friends or hired and even if it has to be purchased it is not necessary to have the latest designer clothing - the ability of the clothing to keep the wearer warm and dry is the only pre-requisite! In some cases, equipment and clothing can be purchased through the school to gain bulk buying discounts. In this case payment is required at the time of ordering.

You will be advised of these and other course costs. They will be disbursed unless alternative arrangements are made in advance.

Section D: Information on National Qualifications

Students are promoted from Year 11 – 13 based on age. Students in Years 11 – 13 may take subjects at any NZQA level, subject to meeting appropriate standards and pre-requisites. Students in Year 11 and 12 will usually choose six subjects. Students in Year 13 will normally study five subjects but may choose to study a sixth subject after consultation.

National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA) Level 1, 2, and 3

Students will be assessed against Achievement Standards and possibly Unit Standards in some cases. Some of these standards are internally assessed by the school during the year. Some standards are externally assessed by an examination or portfolio at the end of the school year.

NCEA Literacy & Numeracy Requirements

The literacy and numeracy requirement for NCEA at all levels is 10 credits of literacy and 10 credits of numeracy at level 1 or higher. This option is a package of two Assessment standards (10 credits) for literacy and one standard (10 credits) for numeracy.

UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE (MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE)

NCEA level 3, including:

- 42 Credits at Level 3 or above, made up of 14 credits each, in three approved subjects.
- 10 Credits in Literacy at Level 2 or above (5 credits in reading and 5 credits in writing)
- 10 Credits in Numeracy at Level 1 or above

Literacy
5 credits in Reading and 5 credits in Writing at Level 2 or 3 must be achieved to gain University Entrance.
Subjects that contribute to UE Literacy are:

Subject	Level 2	Level 3
Agriculture		√
Agribusiness *		√
Biology *		√
Business Studies *		√
Chemistry *		√
Classical Studies*	√	√
Digital Technology *		√
Drama *	√	√
Economics *	√	√
English/ESOL	√	√
Geography *	√	√
Health *		√
History *	√	√
History of Art *		√
Food & Nutrition *	√	√
Mathematics *		√
Music *		√
Physical Education *		√
Physics *		√
Te Reo Māori	√	√
Visual Arts *		√

*Only a few standards count towards University Entrance literacy

Students are advised to check carefully with the Deans or Deputy Principal to ensure that they have UE Literacy catered for in their Course selections.

The approved subject list includes each of the following subjects which are currently part of our curriculum:

Agriculture, Biology, Business Studies, Chemistry, Classical Studies, Digital Technology, Design (Practical Art), Drama, Economics, English, French, Geography, Design and Visual Communication, Health, History, History of Art, Maths - Calculus, Maths - Statistics, Music Studies, Painting, Photography, Physical Education, Physics, Technology (Hard and Soft Materials) Te Reo Māori. Students should be aware that Universities have introduced a grading system to rank students for entry to courses. Each University has a slightly different system and students should make themselves familiar with the requirements of their University of choice.

NZQA SCHOLARSHIP

This is a separate exam for most level 3 subjects (except Visual Art, Design and Visual Communication and Materials Technology, where portfolios are assessed) in which entries are based on an individual subject basis. There are monetary rewards for gaining scholarship in individual subjects and across several subjects. The number of scholarships available depends on the number of students entering a particular subject at NCEA Level 3. Students are advised individually about scholarship entry.

Section E: RATHKEALE & SENIOR COLLEGE POLICY ON INTERNAL ASSESSMENT

General
It is essential that work submitted for assessment really is the student's own work.

If a student is found to have submitted work, which is not, his/her own or that cannot be verified as his/her own, then a Not Achieved grade will be given for the assessment.

If a student knowingly allows work to be copied by another student and submitted for assessment, then a Not Achieved grade will be given to both students.

If a teacher suspects that work is not authentic, the student will be referred to the Principal's Nominee for further investigation. The results of the investigation will be reported in writing to the student and parent(s) / caregiver(s).

Acknowledgement and Recording of Assessment Results
Students are required to sign the subject teacher's record sheet or the actual assessment at the time that work is returned to acknowledge and accept the results that are recorded. [The exception is in the case of an appeal - see later note]

Students will be provided with a printout of their personal results that are held on the school computer system. This printout is to be signed and returned to the subject teacher as an acknowledgement that the data held is accurate.

Appeals
Students have a right to appeal if:
- they believe an assessment has not been fair, valid or consistent.
- they believe that they have unfairly been denied a re-assessment opportunity.
- there is an alleged moderation or marking inconsistency.
- they believe they have been wrongly accused of an authenticity breach.

Students should appeal to the subject teacher in the first instance. The problem will usually be resolved at this point.

If the student is not satisfied with the response from the subject teacher, then the student should
1. Leave the work with the subject teacher.
2. Leave the results notice unsigned.
3. See the Principal's Nominee within five school days to fill in a form to request an appeal.

The Principal's Nominee will investigate the appeal and if necessary, seek expertise from another teacher of the subject under appeal. The student and parent(s)/caregiver(s) will be informed in writing of the results of the appeal. The decision is final.

Missed Assessment
1. A due date for each assessment will be given well in advance. If a student is in danger of missing a deadline for legitimate reasons, an extension should be negotiated **in advance**. Subject teachers will discuss extensions with the Principal's Nominee to ensure consistency. If adequate opportunity has been provided for students to complete a task the request is likely to be declined. A grade of Not Achieved will be given if the student fails to hand in the work.

Legitimate reasons may include, but are not limited to, sports, cultural or academic involvement, illness or personal / family crisis. In all cases appropriate documentation must be provided. The Principal's Nominee will be responsible for determining whether or not a reason is legitimate.

2. A student who is absent on the day of a summative assessment and has a legitimate reason will, if practicable, be given an assessment opportunity as soon as possible on his/her return to school. Teachers may be able to award a grade from existing standard specific evidence.

3. If a student believes that his/her performance in an assessed activity has been impaired because of illness, bereavement, trauma or other unforeseen circumstance then they may apply for an extension or further assessment opportunity.

In all cases students must provide a note from a parent, doctor or their Dean and **complete a Missed Assessment application form within five school days of the original deadline** for a further assessment opportunity or an extension.

Further Assessment Opportunities
Students may be offered a single further assessment opportunity for each internally assessed standard. This will only be available if it is manageable in terms of practical issues, manageability, cost and if it does not compromise the integrity of the work being assessed. The availability, or not, of a further assessment opportunity will be signalled in the Course Outline of each subject.

Special Assessment Conditions
Students may be given special assessment conditions such as (but not limited to) reader/writer, extra time, use of a computer. The guidelines used will be those that apply for external assessment. Please note that some standards, such as those requiring accuracy would not be considered for writer assistance. Students entering the College at Year 9 are assessed and recommendations are put forward concerning reader/writer assistance. Parents should contact the College if they have evidence that such assistance has been recommended.

Digital Storage of Assessment Material
Students have full responsibility to store and safe guard their own work at all times. The use of cloud-based storage, OneNote, Teams etc, is strongly encouraged. In the event of assessment material being irretrievable from hard drives etc it will be treated as not being submitted and will receive an NA grade.

Section F: SUBJECT CHOICE & CAREERS

The subjects you choose to study as you progress throughout college will have a major influence on the tertiary courses and/or career options you may pursue in the future. It is important to give serious thought to your future career path beyond college and that you choose subjects which are realistic, appropriate, and advantageous.

Many students find making choices about their future difficult. However, there are a number of tools within the college that can assist in making informed choices, and all students are advised to make full use of the assistance available.

Careers Central **www.careercentral.school.nz** Senior students are encouraged to use Careers Central. There are modules for students to complete to help guide career choices.

Careers New Zealand **www.careers.govt.nz** This is an extremely useful website with access to extensive careers and course information with links to national and international sites. There are in-depth job profiles, funding and training information, industry overviews, labour market research and statistics. Almost all tertiary institutions have their own websites and the internet

A fully stocked and accessible **Careers Office**. Information is kept up to date and is easily accessed. There is a wide variety of information including: apprenticeship pamphlets, prospectus, course and institution brochures, books outlining the options in various categories and levels of training and magazines.

In School opportunities. Liaison advisors from Tertiary institutions visit and there are organised trips to Career Expos and Open Days. Opportunities to extend student knowledge about careers exists throughout the year for years 11, 12 and 13 as well as in the Years 9 and 10 Career sessions and events held during the year.

A Careers page on the Rathkeale website is updated to keep students informed of upcoming events and opportunities. All year 12 and 13 students should make a point of viewing this information. https://rathkeale.school.nz/careers/

A Careers Advisor is readily available for consultation both by appointment and informally. The advisor has additional resources to assist those students who are undecided or who require more information and guidance about future tertiary options.
Please contact mpg@rathkeale.school.nz

Current career research suggests that today's school leavers will change the course of their CAREERS (not Jobs) at least four times throughout their working lives, and that most will be involved in continuing education at least at some point. In addition, it is acknowledged that many of the jobs of the future are changing and/or are "still being invented". Transferable skills are therefore most important. Where students are uncertain as to which career path they wish to pursue, the best course of action is to develop and extend existing strengths and interests.

Subjects Offered

St Matthew's NZQA L1	Rathkeale NZQA L1	Senior College NZQA L2	Senior College NZQA L3
English or ESOL		English or ESOL	English or ESOL
Mathematics		Mathematics 201 Mathematics 202	Calculus Statistics
Applied Science Science	Science	Biology Chemistry Physics	Biology Chemistry Physics
Agriculture (tbc)	Agriculture	Agriculture Agribusiness	Agriculture Agribusiness
Classics		Classics	Classics
Commerce		Business Studies Economics	Business Studies Economics
	Design & Visual Communication	Design & Visual Communication	Design & Visual Communication
Digital Technology		Digital Technology	Digital Technology
Drama		Drama	Drama
Dance		Dance	Dance
French		French	French
	Te Reo Māori	Te Reo Māori	
Geography		Geography	Geography
History		History	History
Music		Music	Music
Physical Education		Physical Education Health	Physical Education Health
Technology (Hard Materials, Fashion, Food)		Technology (Hard Materials) Technology (Fashion) B.C.A.T. Food and Nutrition Hospitality	Technology (Hard Materials) Technology (Fashion) B.C.A.T. Food and Nutrition Hospitality
		Tourism	Tourism
		Vocational Pathways	Vocational Pathways
Visual Art		Visual Art – Painting Visual Art – Photography Visual Art – Design	Visual Art – Painting Visual Art – Photography Visual Art – Design

KEY:

→ Pre-requisite course

⇢ Advantage course