



**TAURANGA
BOYS' COLLEGE**

Best for Boys | Tama Tū Tama Ora

**YEAR 9
CLASS and OPTION
INFORMATION**

2026

Year 9 Classes

All Year 9 students will learn in mixed-ability core classes (except Accelerate and Learning Support classes). All option classes are also mixed-ability classes. Year 9 students have 4 periods per week of core subjects: English, Health & PE, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies. They will also have two option subjects for 5 periods each week and they do 2 options per term (8 in total for the year).

When you enrol, please choose:

- At least 2 options from The Arts
- At least 1 option from Learning Languages
- At least 2 options from Technology
- Another 3 options from any of the learning areas
- 1 backup option from any learning area

Inquiry Learning Classes (2)

Inquiry Learning is a 2-year student-centred programme, separate from mainstream learning, that blends the curriculum through student-led projects called inquiries. The programme is led by two teachers who cover all the core curriculum using 'Universal Design Learning' principles to cater for a wide range of learning styles and needs. Learning is advanced through having a choice in topics of study and assessment, as well as teachers who adapt their teaching to the student. The programme is further enhanced by real-world experiences like guest speakers, external trips and participation in day-long workshop-style challenges ranging from business to engineering and innovation. Students who finish the programme become self-motivated learners who have strong skills in critical thinking, collaboration, communication, creativity and problem solving. Can you please indicate on the online enrolment form if you are interested in being in an inquiry class. <https://www.tbc.school.nz/about/our-programmes/inquiry-learning>

Te Whānau-a-Aronui Class (1)

Te Whānau-a-Aronui is a supportive learning environment embracing Te Reo Māori, Tikanga Māori and the college's ethos and principles in striving for excellence. All students in Aronui will be required to study Te Reo Māori, English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies and Health and Physical Education. Boys are also encouraged to select Māori Performing Arts and Whakairo (Māori carving) as option subjects. Aronui students will have eight option subjects, the same as every Year 9 student. Anyone can apply to enrol in Aronui, however, it should be noted that acceptance is a privilege. There are high expectations relating to te reo and tikanga Māori, learning attitude, effort, achievement, attendance, behaviour, commitment and whānau support. Please indicate on the online enrolment form if you are interested in being in the Aronui class. <https://www.tbc.school.nz/about/our-programmes/aronui>

Accelerate Programme Classes (2)

The Tauranga Boys' College Accelerate Programme provides an academic platform from which students can advance their learning in key subjects at an accelerated rate. Selection and continued involvement is dependent on academic success. Selection takes into consideration Year 8 achievement levels and results and our entrance test results. The final selection is made by the Year 9 Academic and Accelerate Tutors. Students need to display the characteristics considered fundamental to success in an accelerated environment, including motivation, determination, initiative, and time management.

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) - All Students

All students are expected to bring a learning device to school. A device is an important part of a student's toolkit, giving him access to resources and enabling him to extend, communicate and share his learning. **The recommended device is a Chromebook laptop. However, you may choose another device, provided it can hold its charge for up to six hours, and connect to the internet. It must also have the latest version of Google Chrome installed. Please note - a cellphone is not a permitted learning device.** Alongside online platforms, there is still a place for books, paper and pens, so some stationery will still be required. <https://www.tbc.school.nz/about/our-programmes/byod>

THE ARTS OPTIONS - Students choose at least TWO of these

ART

Code: **9ART**

This is a practical option that is designed to improve and encourage creativity and skills in drawing, painting, and printmaking. Students produce original works in a variety of different media.

DESIGN

Code: **9DES**

A digital-based option combining Photoshop, photography, and drawing to produce electronic images.

DRAMA

Code: **9DRA**

Students will work together cooperatively in groups to devise, develop and present a variety of dramas in front of their classmates.

FILM MAKING

Code: **9FIL**

Students will learn how basic films are structured and apply that knowledge to a classic Hollywood Blockbuster. Using basic cinematography techniques, students use the latest technology to create their own films.

MĀORI PERFORMING ARTS

Code: **9MPA**

Students will have the opportunity to learn key aspects of traditional Māori warfare (Mau Rakau) including how to strike and block using taiaha, how to perform wero to visitors and the tikanga and kawa associated with both of these topics. Students will also learn some karakia, waiata (songs) and haka (war dance) from Tauranga Moana.

MUSIC

Code: **9MUS**

An introduction to music with a focus on playing instruments, creating music, using instruments and recording technology to create and present original projects. This course is suitable for the beginner to the experienced musician.

LEARNING LANGUAGES OPTIONS - Students choose at least ONE of these

JAPANESE

Code: **9JPN**

In this course, students are introduced to the ancient language and culture of Japan, one of New Zealand's most significant trading partners. Students will learn to talk about themselves in simple terms and try their hand at writing Japanese characters.

READING

Code: **9RDG**

An option that helps to both develop and support improved reading and comprehension skills.

SPANISH

Code: **9SPA**

In this course, students are introduced to the Spanish language and culture. A national language in 21 countries and a second language in a further 22 countries, Spanish is recognised as an official language of the United Nations and European Union. Students will learn how to talk about themselves and their families at a basic level.

TE REO MĀORI

Code: **9MAO**

In this taster course in Te Reo Māori students will learn new words, basic sentence structure, correct pronunciation and even a new haka. The class trip to Mauao is always a highlight of the course where students learn about Tauranga Moana and its many stories.

TECHNOLOGY OPTIONS - Students choose at least TWO of these

CARVING - BONE or WOOD

Code: **9CAB or 9CAR**

Bone Carving teaches basic carving skills leading up to designing and making necklace ornaments, custom forms, and fishhooks. Wood Carving teaches wood carving skills starting with a range of surface patterns leading up to one or more of the following projects - a decorative nameplate, a patu, a waka taonga, or a display piece.

Take Home Materials: \$20

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY

Code: **9DGT**

This option uses Minecraft, Makecode, and Python to teach the basics of programming. Students learn to analyse and solve problems. They create simple, fun games and become more confident computer users.

DESIGN AND VISUAL COMMUNICATION (DVC)

Code: **9DVC**

An introduction to Graphic Communication. Students will start to gain the necessary drawing skills and knowledge used in areas like architecture, media, advertising, engineering, technology and computer-aided drawing (CAD).

FOOD TECHNOLOGY

Code: **9FTC**

This option involves a combination of theoretical and practical lessons. This course has a strong focus on developing practical skills and encouraging students to be creative when cooking. The need for good basic hygiene and safety practices is also emphasised.

Take Home Materials: \$40

INDUSTRY TRADES

Code: **9ITR**

Students will undertake an industry-focused course that teaches skills through the completion of practical projects in a workshop environment. The skills gained will assist them to be more successful in trade-related courses and provide a starting point in a pathway to industry and the trades.

Take Home Materials: \$20

PRODUCT TECHNOLOGY

Code: **9PTC**

In this option students learn how to create innovative products and use new technologies such as CAD, 3D Printing and Laser Cutting to design, develop, print and test their own personalized 3D printed bluetooth speaker.

Take Home Materials: \$40

OTHER OPTIONS

AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL SCIENCE

Code: **9AGH**

Introduction to New Zealand commercial livestock, crops and plants. Students will learn about why healthy soils matter. Students will also grow and harvest their own kai.

Take Home Materials \$10

ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Code: **9ADP**

The vision for this option is to provide boys with movement competency skills that enable them to reach their sporting potential.

Specialist Coaching: \$100

BUSINESS STUDIES

Code: **9BUS**

A practical hands-on course where students learn about the skills needed to become a successful risk-taker (entrepreneur) and run their own business. They are also introduced to some fundamental financial literacy through a personal budgeting topic.

PHILOSOPHY

Code: **9PHI**

This course looks at discussing issues such as friendship, violence, humour, good and bad. The students decide what will be discussed and develop thinking skills, which are very applicable to all subjects.

Take-Home Materials - Some options have indicative material costs associated with them, relating to take-home items that students keep, which will be added to accounts next year. These are additional to the normal curriculum resource materials covered by the College and requested Parent Contributions.