



# NPGHS NEWSLETTER

August 2024

## Tēnā koutou kātoa

Term 3 is always an exciting and busy time with Winter Tournament Week, Big Sing, and school exams for those completing NCEA. We also start looking towards next year with university enrolments, careers conversations, subject selection, and welcoming the next cohort of new students to NPGHS. Our Open Afternoon was a great success with students and whānau commenting on the range of activities showcased and the positive interactions with student tour guides and staff. Of course, the learning in the classroom continues through this time too, and I hope that every student has something they are looking forward to this term.

There has been a lot of attention on Numeracy and Literacy recently and it plays a part in the classroom learning, exams, and activities mentioned earlier. Our ability to use language to communicate and understand ideas and to use numbers to solve problems, contributes to our enjoyment and success in so many areas of school, work and life. In a secondary school context, students need strong numeracy and literacy skills to achieve the compulsory corequisites for their NCEA qualification and to make sense of their learning in all subjects. For most students, the NCEA journey begins in Year 11 with Level 1, although the corequisites can be achieved earlier than this. The way students gain these corequisites is by achieving three Common Assessment Activities (CAAs) - Literacy Reading, Literacy Writing, and Numeracy. A transitional arrangement, gaining numeracy and literacy from a specific set of subject based standards, is available until the end of 2025. The CAAs will be the path most students use to achieve the numeracy and literacy requirements.

The first opportunity in 2024 to sit the CAAs was in May, and we received the results back from NZQA at the beginning of this month. 75% of students in Year 11 have already met all the requirements for the corequisites, and a further 12% have achieved one or two of the CAAs. We are very pleased for these students and acknowledge the skill and expertise of their teachers alongside the hard work of the students. We continue to support those who are still working to achieve the requirements, and we admire their determination to reach this goal. Students have another opportunity in September to sit

the CAAs and can attempt them as many times as required to achieve the corequisite.

Numeracy and literacy skills are developing well before Year 11, and we know the efforts our primary school colleagues make in this area. We work with students and families to help every student make progress at secondary school by offering additional Year 9 and 10 numeracy and literacy classes. We also have a compulsory corequisite course in Year 11. All Year 11 students take this course unless they have passed the CAAs and gained the corequisite early in Year 9 or 10. Currently, 31% of Y10 students have achieved the requirements early. We are optimistic that number will increase when we receive the September assessment results in January 2025.

Those of you with students in Year 9 and 10 will have received reports showing progress against curriculum levels as measured through e-asTTle. At this early stage, it appears that students who are working at curriculum level 5 have a very good chance of passing the CAAs. We are working very hard to lift students to this level, particularly those who have entered Year 9 with lower-than-expected achievement against the curriculum. This is very much a team effort between the student, teachers and whānau/families, and we are very appreciative of your ongoing support in encouraging attendance and a positive attitude towards learning and progress.

You will possibly hear a range of views about the merits of the CAAs or the teaching of numeracy and literacy. Our focus is on supporting students to make progress throughout their time at school and to achieve the corequisites and the highest level of NCEA that they can reach. We are committed to supporting students and if you have any questions about numeracy or literacy, please contact [Stella Bond](#) (Deputy Principal), [Gill McNeil](#) (Head of English) or [Jonathan Faulkner](#) (Head of Maths).

Ngā mihi mahana  
Jacqui Brown  
Principal





# Consultation on delivery of the Health Curriculum

As required by the Education and Training Act 2020, parent consultation took place on the delivery of the health curriculum. This was an online consultation, which took place from 6 to 16 June. Thank you to all those who took the time to respond and provide feedback. The Board considered this information at the meeting on 5 August and accepted the reviewed statement and learning programme. You can find the Statement on the delivery of the Health Curriculum [here](#) and the Health Learning programmes 2024 [here](#).

## Responses

- 103 out of 122 responses were 'I agree with the delivery statement' (84.4%)
- 15 out of 122 responses were 'I partly agree with the delivery statement' (12.3%)
- 4 out of 122 responses were 'I don't agree with the delivery statement' (3.3%)
- 95 out of 122 responses were 'I agree with the learning programme' (77.9%)
- 24 out of 122 responses were 'I partly agree with the learning programme' (19.7%)
- 2 out of 122 responses were 'I don't agree with the learning programme' (1.6%), and one response was blank (0.8%)

Comments related to the teaching of sexuality/gender were the most common point raised (23 times) by those who answered 'partly agree' or 'do not agree'.

A variety of highlights in the Health programme were given, with the breadth and/or range of topics noted by 25 respondents, and 17 noting their appreciation of the way the concept of wellbeing was explored through ideas such as self-awareness, resilience and Hauora.

## Summary

While there are a range of views represented in the responses, there is clear majority support for the draft statement on the delivery of the health curriculum and learning programme. We have ascertained that there is a proportion of the school community that has concerns about the teaching of relationships and sexuality, while most parents would like this taught as they agree with the draft statement and the learning programme. We have considered the feedback received and determined, in broad terms, the health education needs of students at the school are met by the statement on the delivery of the health curriculum.

As a result of feedback received, we have reviewed the statement for readability and added English translations for Te Reo Māori words.



## Jake Bailey – Resilience & Leadership

New Plymouth Girls' High School is hosting an event with Jake Bailey. He will present on the power of resilience and evidence-based tools to enable us to most effectively overcome the challenges we all face in life.

### Free Community Event

When: Tuesday 20th August  
5.30pm - 6.30pm  
Where: New Plymouth Girls' High School



RSVP via QR code above

More info:  
<https://www.jakebailey.co.nz>



## Pick up & Drop off

In the interests of safety, please do not drive on to the school grounds for pick up or drop off. You are welcome to use the dedicated 'drop off zone' beside the courts but please do not drive onto the school site or into any carparks, including the space beside the Art rooms on the corner near the pou.

If you are visiting for a meeting with a staff member, there are dedicated visitor parks outside the Main Office and in front of the Hall.

Thank you to the vast majority of parents who help us to keep the school site safe for all.

## Student Cars

A reminder that student cars are not permitted on the school grounds. Students who have parental permission to drive to school must park on the surrounding streets and can only access their cars when they have existing permission to leave the school grounds. Students cannot visit their cars during the day. For safety reasons, students are not permitted to take passengers in their cars during the school day unless they have express permission via our 'Education outside the classroom' process.

## Student Successes

The students in our school continue to amaze us every day with their successes. In last Friday's assembly Jacqui Brown spoke about the way that success can look different for everyone. For you and your whānau, success might mean being a good person and looking for ways to grow and learn. It might mean setting goals and striving to achieve them, or the ability to learn, adapt, persevere or having the courage to step out of your comfort zones and embrace new challenges.

Success can be about the impact we have on others, building strong relationships, contributing to our communities, and making a positive difference in the lives of those around us. Success can also be academic achievement, sporting titles and achieving your goals in the visual and performing arts.

Student successes are often shared through facebook ([www.facebook.com/npghs](http://www.facebook.com/npghs)) so please take a look there for some visible successes. If you have a student success you would like to share, please contact the Principal's PA, Wendy-Ann Edmonds on [wedmonds@npghs.school.nz](mailto:wedmonds@npghs.school.nz).

## 2024 DATES

### TERM 3

22 July - 27 September

### TERM 4

14 October - 16 December

Mon 28 October - Labour Day

Mon 11 November - Teacher only Day

## 2025 DATES

### TERM 1

3 February - 11 April

*Monday 3 February  
8.40am - 3.20pm, Year 9 & 13, and  
new students in Y10,11,12.*

*Tuesday 4 February  
8.40am - 3.20pm All students*

### TERM 2

28 April - 27 June

### TERM 3

14 July - 19 September

### TERM 4

6 October - 12 December

## CONTACT US

Phone 06 7573899

### RECEPTION

[reception@npghs.school.nz](mailto:reception@npghs.school.nz)

### ABSENTEE

[attendance@npghs.school.nz](mailto:attendance@npghs.school.nz)

### ENROLMENTS

[enrolments@npghs.school.nz](mailto:enrolments@npghs.school.nz)

### BOARDING

[hostelenquiries@npghs.school.nz](mailto:hostelenquiries@npghs.school.nz)

## FOLLOW US

### WEBSITE

[www.npghs.school.nz](http://www.npghs.school.nz)

### FACEBOOK

[www.facebook.com/npghs](http://www.facebook.com/npghs)

### INSTAGRAM

[Npgirlshighschool](https://www.instagram.com/Npgirlshighschool)

### SCHOOLBRIDGE

'SchoolBridge' on your app store