

Middle School

Academic Curriculum

Our Secondary School students in Years 7-9, progressively adapt to a more sophisticated and rigorous academic programme, with the three-year International Cambridge Secondary 1 Checkpoint Curriculum covering English, Mathematics and Science.

At the end of Year 7 and Year 8, the students sit Secondary 1 Progression Tests. At the end of Year 9 our students sit the International Checkpoint Secondary 1 Examination. The following year in Year 10 they are ready for the academic challenge of the Cambridge International Examinations. They are also well-prepared with the appropriate personal skills and a positive attitude, to take them forward with confidence to our Senior School.

Students each have a home room, where they can store their books and equipment in personal cubbies. They also have a home class teacher, who monitors their academic progress and takes care of their social and emotional welfare.



Parent communication with each student's home class teacher is welcomed on an informal basis, by email, verbally, by phone, or by writing regularly in the school diary.

The school diary is a very useful self-management tool for our students and an excellent way for parents and teachers to communicate on a regular basis. We expect the students to bring their dairies to school every day and write all their homework in the diary. The dairies must be signed each week by both parent and form teacher. The diary also contains school organisation information and the school rules.

Each student is timetabled into different classrooms for each one-hour period, with specialist subject teachers. The students also have the added advantage of our specialist facilities which include a Science Laboratory, Music Room, Drama Suite, Practical Art Room, Enterprise Centre, Library, Computer Suites and Gymnasium, all equipped with excellent resources.



Core Curriculum

English
Mathematics
Science

} International
Cambridge Curriculum

Social Studies (people, places, current events and history)

Fitness (strength, agility, aerobic fitness)

Physical Education (sporting code skills development in a variety of sports)

Enterprise Education (skills, attitudes, practical business and entrepreneurial experience opportunities)

ICT (practical computer skills and presentations)

Art (creating a variety of media)

Music (theory and practical)

Drama (writing and performance)

Graphics & Design (Year 9)

Outdoor Education (including camps, hiking, water-sports)

A second language (French, German, Mandarin)

Special Options Block Courses (including cooking, outdoor adventure)

Study Skills (thinking skills, goal setting)

We support our students by encouraging them to practise the seven key personal skills on a daily basis:

- 1 Have a positive attitude to life and to all that you do. Attitude is everything.
- 2 Strive for your own individual best effort in all endeavours.
- 3 Be persistent. Focus and effort lead to success.
- 4 Be consistent. It is the daily commitment to doing the best that you can, that gets results.
- 5 Manage your time effectively.
- 6 Plan, prioritise and set goals. Evaluate your progress.
- 7 Celebrate your successes. Be proud of your achievements.

We particularly monitor time-management and organisational skills, as this is crucial to success. Our students need to be prepared with books and equipment for their timetabled moves from one class to another, write homework and assignment tasks clearly into their diaries and plan out their time for completion. Self-motivation, persistence and independence are important attributes to develop during this time. We also have a student goal-setting programme, which enhances personal growth and achievement throughout each year.

We wish our students well during these formative years; and we look forward to being an important part of their lives as they mature from children into young adults.

Activities & Opportunities

There are a great variety of opportunities for our Year 7-9 students to develop capability and confidence through active involvement in the life of their school and their community.

They develop effective skills in communication, enterprise and entrepreneurship, social responsibility and self-management; and they enjoy being involved in the following activities:

Learning Framework



Academic

- ICAS English, Science and Mathematics national competitions
- Inter-School debating
- Formal speech competitions
- Mathematics – National Bank Problem Solving Competition, MATHEX, Otago Problem Solving Challenge, World of Maths hands-on day
- School, regional and national competitions in enterprise, reading, poetry, graphics and design
- Science and Technology Fair (school, regional and national)
- Chess Club
- Class trips (Enterprise, Social Studies, Science)
- Literature Quiz

Leadership

- Inspirational Speakers (scientists, business people, leaders)
- Representing Springbank School at community events
- Sports Leadership
- Attitude and personal development seminars
- Life Education Trust (health & well-being)
- Young Leaders Seminar (local and national)
- Events Management (Market Day, Enterprise initiatives, charity fundraisers, sports events)
- Student goal setting programme



Activities & Opportunities

Community

- Community Contribution (fundraising for charities such as Westpac Rescue Helicopter, Daffodil Day, Canteen)
- Community Enterprise Projects
- National BP Community Enterprise Project
- ASB Community Projects
- Middle School formal dinner and dance

Enterprise

- Business Enterprise – Market Day (students run own businesses producing products and services)
- Enterprise Week (first-hand community business experience, business visits and business speakers)
- National BP Innovative Product Competition (consistent national winners)
- School Enterprise competitions, trophies and initiatives (\$2 and \$5 challenge)
- Maggi Intermediate School's Kitchen Showdown

Creative Arts

- Stage Challenge (regional Performing Arts Competition – drama, music, dance and visual art)
- Ugly Shakespeare Performance
- Dance Club
- School Drama and Musical Production
- Recycled Fashion Show
- Musical Performance at special events
- Springbank Art Exhibitions
- Talent Show
- Itinerant Music Tuition (instrumental and vocal)
- Attendance at nationally acclaimed shows and performances

Sport & Outdoor

- Education outside the classroom (school camps, outdoor pursuits, class trips and research investigations)
- Tennis Academy – Professional Coaching
- Fitness Programme
- Inter-School sports competitions and tournaments (including badminton, athletics, cross country, swimming, rippa rugby, hockey, netball, soccer, sailing, equestrian and basketball)
- BMX and Mountain Biking track
- Multi-Sport Club
- Sailing Challenge
- OPC Get 2 Go Multisport Challenge
- End of year Big Day Out

