



INTEGRITY



MANAAKITANGA



EXCELLENCE

COURSE OUTLINE - 2025

Course: <Year 10 Science>	Code: 10SCI	LPF: Stage 2	Contact: Ms Liana Wheeler
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Course information

<Year 10 Science> provides students with the opportunity to explore key ideas in biology, chemistry, physics, and earth/space science through hands-on investigations and real-world contexts. Students develop scientific literacy and critical thinking by engaging in inquiry-based learning, group collaboration, and independent research.

The course prepares students for the challenges of NCEA Level 1 Science and helps them build a solid foundation of scientific knowledge and skills.

→ Goals

- ◆ To deepen understanding of scientific principles and how they apply in everyday life.
- ◆ To develop skills in observation, data collection, experimentation, and analysis.
- ◆ To encourage curiosity and questioning about the natural and physical world.
- ◆ To foster informed decision-making on issues related to health, technology, and the environment.

→ To be successful in this course, you should:

- ◆ Actively participate in experiments, discussions, and group activities.
- ◆ Complete assigned classwork and homework on time.
- ◆ Develop organised notes and use them for revision.
- ◆ Use digital tools (e.g. Education Perfect, Google Classroom) effectively for learning.
- ◆ Seek help when concepts are unclear.
- ◆ Be open to feedback and learn from mistakes.

→ Recommended prior learning

Year 9 Science

→ Assessment in Years 9 - 11

All courses in Years 9 -11 are assessed using the Wellington College Learning Progressions Framework (LPF). There will be ongoing formative assessment, called 'checkpoints'. You will also be evaluated after each phase of learning, and your Learning Progression will be posted on the portal.

See [our school website](#) for more information about assessment and reporting in Years 9 - 11.

→ Resources and equipment required

1B5 Science notebook, stationery (ruler, pens and pencils, glue), Big ideas scipad book 1 and book 2

Assessment

You will be assessed on a range of tasks designed to build your confidence, understanding, and skills in science. These tasks include checkpoints, practical investigations, research assignments, and content-based assessments. Each term focuses on a major theme, and assessment activities will align with this focus.

This course provides an excellent foundation for NCEA Level 1 Science, helping prepare you for future studies in Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Earth & Space Science.

Topic	Content	Assessment Type	Dates
Zealandia	Geology, biodiversity, bird evolution, pest impacts, Māori use of plants, and astronomy (Matariki and constellations)	Checkpoints and Research Assignment	Term 1
Getting Around	Transportation systems, metals and chemical reactivity, motion and forces, aerodynamics, and practical investigations	Checkpoints and Practical Investigation	Term 2
Human Body Systems	Food, digestion, reproduction, genetics, biomechanics, ethical implications of science on society	Checkpoints and Research Assignment	Term 3
Future Challenges	Climate change, electricity and circuits, renewable energy, global issues (e.g. plastic pollution; water scarcity; space junk; sustainability)	Checkpoints and Research Assignment	Term 4

Course Planner 2025

(note this is subject to change)

Term 1

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9	Week 10	Week 11
Introduction to Science		Zealandia Unit - Field trip to Zealandia Sanctuary								

Term 2

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9
Getting Around Unit								

Term 3

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9	Week 10
Human Body Systems									Future Challenges

Term 4

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9
Future Challenges								