

Year 11 Environmental Science 2025

Environmental Science is the study of the natural world, its ecosystems, and our interactions with it. This knowledge is particularly important today as we focus more on water biosecurity, sustainability, natural disasters, and global climate change.

If New Zealand is to have a sustainable future, increased understanding of the environment and environmental decisions is essential.

This course will provide you with opportunities in the three important parts of environmental education:

1. Education **IN** the environment
2. Education **ABOUT** the environment
3. Education **FOR** the environment



Aims of the course:

- Develop awareness and sensitivity to the environment and related issues
- Increase knowledge and understanding of the environment and the impact of people on it
- Explore attitudes and values that reflect feelings of concern for the environment
- Develop skills involved in identifying, investigating, and problem solving associated with environmental issues
- Gain a sense of responsibility through participation and action as individuals, or members of groups, whanau, or iwi, in addressing environmental issues.

Course Outline:

This course covers 5 main topics/themes:

- **NZ Ecology and Biodiversity** - Learning about the environment and ecosystems
- **Project Kaitiakitanga** - Conservation efforts in Aotearoa
- **Carbon and the Environment** - What is carbon and why does it matter? How carbon is cycled through the environment and implications for climate change.
- **Power to the People** - How do we generate power? Investigating nuclear power.
- **Wasting Away** - Looking at the waste issue and coming up with solutions.

Course Assessment:

Formative:

- Milestone checks for all investigation and research projects
- Practice questions for checking understanding of key concepts
- Trip Reflection- submitted after a trip to provide evidence of skills and understanding developed on the trip.



Summative:

Title	Usual Mode of Assessment
NZ Native Species and Ecology	Topic test
Project Kaitiakitanga - Conservation	Group project
Carbon and the Environment - Carbon Cycle and Climate Change	Scientific poster or topic test
Power to the People	Report/Letter
Wasting Away	Individual project

Field Trips:

Enhanced Learning Experience Field Trip: One day trip is usually run to support learning in the NZ Ecology and Project Kaitiakitanga units (Auckland Zoo or Tiritiri Matangi) . Date and cost TBC – previous day trips to the Hauraki Gulf Islands have cost approximately \$50 per student (bus and ferry transport). More information will be provided prior to the trips.

Contact:

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