



AOTE A COLLEGE

Course Outline 2026



Course title:	Year 9 Space Science and Us
Year level(s):	Year 9
Course Code:	9SSU

Goals

The goals of this course are:

- An understanding of the importance of science and how it is useful in the world around us
- An interest and engagement in science
- A knowledge of chemistry, biology and physics words.
- An understanding how things work

Assessment

The Solar System

- Learning task 1- Week 4
- Learning task 2- Week 9

Physics and Beyond

- Learning task 1- Week 3
- Learning task 2- Week 8

Topic and Assessment outline (in teaching order)

Topic	Content	Assessment Type	Teaching Time
The Solar System	Intro to the universe, Big Bang, and our solar system.	Formative (Learning task 1)	4 weeks
	Planets in our solar system, research project on celestial objects.	Summative (Learning task 2)	5 weeks
Physics and Beyond	Life in space.	Formative (Learning task 1)	3 weeks
	Investigation through physics, practical investigation with rockets.	Summative (Learning task 2)	6-7 weeks

Topic Timeline 2026

	Term 1	Term 2
Week 1	February 3- 6: Solar system <i>02/02 Course Confirmation Day and Year 9 Powhiri</i> <i>Waitangi observed- no school 06/02</i>	April 20-24: Physics and beyond
Week 2	February 9- 13	April 27- May 1 <i>Anzac Day observed- no school 27/04</i>
Week 3	February 16- 20	May 4- 8 Learning task 1
Week 4	February 23- 27 Learning task 1	May 11- 15
Week 5	March 2- 6	May 18- 22
Week 6	March 9- 13	May 25- 29 <i>29/05 Teacher Only Day</i>
Week 7	March 16- 20	June 1- 5 <i>King's Birthday observed- no school 01/06</i>

Week 8	March 23- 27	June 8- 12
Week 9	March 30- April 3 <i>Good Friday- no school 03/04</i> <i>Term 1 holidays 04/04-19/04</i>	June 15- 19
Week 10		June 22- 26 Learning task 2
Week11		June 29- July 03 <i>Term 2 holidays 04/06-19/06</i>