

KingsWay Year 9 Option Subjects for 2027

Student option subject selections need to be completed by Monday, 10 August

Timeline:

- Thursday, 30 July 2026 – Year 9 Option Selections Open
- Monday, 10 August 2026 – Year 9 Option Selections Close
- December 2026 – confirmation of option subjects' placement

Option Subjects:

The following option subjects are offered to Year 9 students in 2027. Students will study four option subjects (two subjects in semester one and two subjects in semester two).

Year 9 option choices are by no means something that should cause you or your child any stress. These choices are not high stakes and do not determine a student's Senior School NCEA pathways.

The approximate cost for each subject is based on the 2026 subject costs. Confirmed 2027 subject costs will be published on the school website before the end of Term 4 this year.

Curriculum Area	Option Subject
Arts	9ART: Art
	9DAN: Dance
	9DRA: Drama
	9MUS: Music
Languages	9SPA: Spanish
Physical Education and Health	9ODP: Outdoor Pursuits
	9PES: Physical Education Studies
Social Sciences	9FUT: Future Focus
Technology	9CTH: Computational Thinking
	9DVC: Design and Visual Communications
	9DGT: Digital Technology
	9HMT: Hard Materials Technology
	9HOS: Hospitality

Contents:

How to Make Subject Selections.....	Page 2
Subject Descriptors	Page 3

How to Make Subject Selections

- Login to the Kamar Parent Portal with **Caregiver** login details - <https://kingsway.school.kiwi/>
- If you do not have your login details, please email notices@kingsway.school.nz.
- In the portal click on the 'Course Selection' tile or 'Course Selection' in the menu bar.
- In the course selection screen, at the bottom of your screen you will see progress bars showing your progress towards the required number of selections. Please select six subjects – when you select a subject there are two buttons – 'Select as Preferred' and 'Select as Reserve'. Please select four preferred subjects and two reserve subjects. If you require more information about a subject, please refer to the relevant section of this Option Subject Handbook.
- **Once six subjects are selected, click 'My Selections'** at the bottom of the screen. You will see a list of the subjects you have selected. Drag your selections into your order of preference. The 3-dots take you to options to swap subjects between the 'Preferred' and 'Reserved' lists and deselect subjects. Once you have finalised your selections, click the **'Save Selections'** button.
- Check that you see two green progress bars with "100%" at the end, this will indicate that you have selected the correct number of subjects.
- You can re-enter the portal and change the subjects selected if needed. Remember to click "Save Selections" again when finished. Course selections can be altered up until close off day on Monday, 10 August.
- If you have successfully logged into the portal, but are experiencing difficulties entering your subject selections, you can email angela.andrew@kingsway.school.nz for assistance.

Note: If your enrolment for starting at KingsWay School in 2027 is confirmed after 10 August 2026, you will receive an email with alternative instructions on how to select your option subjects.

SUBJECT DESCRIPTORS

Arts

9ART – Art

This is a skills-based course where students will be taught a variety of media including drawing and painting. Students will study and take inspiration from other artists' styles. They will learn how the formal elements of Art such as line, tone, colour, and mark making can be used to express their ideas. This is an ideal course for those students who are open to being creative in new ways and are prepared to commit to learning the techniques of art.

Approx. Cost: \$35.00 subject cost + \$33.00 9ART Kit (National Art Supplies)

9DAN – Dance

This course is a highly physical and practical course, which explores a variety of techniques and applications of dance. Students will be given the opportunity to learn and perform many genres such as Contemporary, Jazz, Musical Theatre and explore different cultural dance. They will build upon their knowledge of the dance elements and devices, learning how they can apply them to movement when creating their own choreographies. Students will work in groups often rehearsing, choreographing, and brainstorming ideas in relation to different dance contexts. They will be given many opportunities to perform. No previous dance experience is needed for this course however all students are expected to spend time rehearsing outside of class. Students who have little previous dance experience will likely need additional rehearsal time at home.

Approx. Cost: \$80.00

9DRA – Drama

In this course students will develop the practical skills of performing, creating and analysing drama. They will rehearse and perform a main role in a class performance as well as create and perform their own dramatic work. Students will develop their use and knowledge of dramatic techniques, elements, and conventions. They will apply communication and collaborative skills as they work with others creatively to formulate high-quality works. Students taking this course need to be prepared to work with a variety of people and perform in front of audiences.

Approx. Cost: \$20.00

9MUS – Music

This course focuses on performance, composing music (using music technology), deepening their understanding of music theory and appreciation. As part of the course students will develop their instrumental performance skills and will be given the opportunity to perform individually and as part of a group.

Prerequisites: *For this Year 9 course, students must have some basic skills and experience in playing at least one musical instrument for at least 1 year with a private teacher, this can include singing.*

Please note that Year 9 Music is recommended if students want to take Year 10 Music.

Approx. Cost: \$10.00

Languages

9SPA – Spanish

In this course students learn basic communications skills in Spanish, develop their capacity to learn further languages and explore different world views in relation to their own. Students will learn how to communicate basic information about themselves and others. They will be able to interact in a simple way about themselves, their family, school, leisure activities and food preferences. Aspects of Hispanic culture are integrated into the course. Students will also have the opportunity to visit a Mexican restaurant and connect with students from a Spanish speaking country.

Prerequisites: Please note that Year 9 Spanish is a prerequisite for Year 10 Spanish.

Approx. Cost: \$53.00

Physical Education and Health

9ODP – Outdoor Pursuits

This course is designed to include practical skills and provide opportunities for students who enjoy being physically active outdoors. Students will engage in new experiences that take them outside of their comfort zone. Students will develop their interpersonal skills through engaging in activities that teach and draw on skills not taught in other areas of the curriculum. Students will develop risk assessment and management skills as they learn to be leaders in their outdoor spaces. Trips to some local areas will provide the practical application of what is learnt at school. Be prepared to have fun and be challenged in God's awesome creation.

Approx. Cost: \$152.00

9PES – Physical Education Studies

This course is intended for students with a particular aptitude for sports and who enjoy being physically active. It will include both theoretical and practical components. Students will gain a basic understanding of the musculoskeletal system. Students will engage in creative planning sessions and design a game/sport they can share with the class.

Students will have the opportunity to explore new sporting and recreational activities as well as take part in a variety of mainstream sporting codes. Students will also attend a full day's programme at our local Surfing Academy and Snow Planet.

Approx. Cost: \$138.00

Social Sciences

9FUT – Future Focus

This course focuses on the overarching theme of sustainability while developing students' research, design, and problem-solving skills. Students will design their own off-grid small building, making decisions about solar power, water collection, food supplies, and sustainable resource management. The course offers a future-focused perspective on sustainable living and encourages students to explore innovative solutions to real-world challenges.

Approx. Cost: \$0.00

9CTH – Computational Thinking

It is anticipated that students taking this course would be interested in learning core computer programming (coding) concepts and developing problem-solving/algorithmic thinking skills. Students working collaboratively and individually will experience a variety of software and hardware platforms e.g., VexCode, Python, and robotics. They will use an iterative design process, with the focus being on building our students' skills so they can be innovative creators of digital solutions, moving beyond solely being users and consumers of digital technologies.

Approx. Cost: \$8.00

9DVC – Design and Visual Communication

The Year 9 Design and Visual Communication (DVC) programme is a foundation course. It is intended to provide students with a well-balanced, practically orientated course that enables students to learn the basic process of design in preparation for Year 10 DVC. Students will learn and use the elements of graphic design and drawing in the domain of Technology and apply these skills to their design drawings.

Approx. Cost: \$10.00 subject cost + \$22.00 9DVC Kit (National Art Supplies)

9DGT – Digital Technology

This course is interdisciplinary in its approach, and students will be challenged to draw upon the knowledge and skills that they have developed in other learning areas such as Art, Design, Mathematics, and English to be able to create specific outcomes. Using desktop publishing software, MS Excel, PixlR, TinkerCad and SculptGL, students produce a 3D printed assistive technology device, a brochure featuring infographics and custom images, and a custom printed mousepad. Students are introduced to the technological practice cycle where they analyse a problem, develop a brief, plan, evaluate an outcome, and communicate their ideas using digital dairies. The focus is on building skills so students can be innovative creators of digital solutions, moving beyond solely being users and consumers of digital technologies.

It is anticipated that students taking this course would fit into the following categories:

- Those who enjoy working with computers and want to use every available opportunity to broaden their experience with varying software applications with a view to future development.
- Those who know they are not likely to be taking Digital Technology in Senior School because of an expected focus on other options but want to get up-skilled as much as possible in Year 9.

Approx. Cost: \$13.00

9HMT – Hard Materials Technology

The Year 9 Hard Materials Technology programme follows the New Zealand Curriculum Technology strands. It is designed to introduce foundational skills in wood/metal-working and technological design as a foundation for the Year 10 & 11 courses. Students learn to interpret a design brief, working drawings, and follow step-by-step instructions to complete two projects. Students will have the opportunity to use a variety of hand and machine tools for working with wood and metal, including adding designs to their projects using the laser cutter. This is a well-balanced, problem solving and practically oriented course that develops lifelong skills, confidence, and attention to detail.

Approx. Cost: \$55.00

9HOS – Hospitality

This course helps students build confidence and develop skills in preparing food to share with others. It focuses on learning through hands-on cooking experiences and encourages creativity and care when making food for hospitality.

Pie Making: Students will learn about different types of pastry, such as shortcrust and puff pastry, and how to use them in pie making. They will practise making both sweet and savoury pies. Students will also explore how ingredients work together in pastry making and use this knowledge to design and create their own unique pie.

Baking: Students will develop skills in baking muffins, cupcakes, and biscuits. They will focus on both the taste and the appearance of their baking, learning how to decorate their items attractively. Students will also explore how ingredients like eggs, sugar, and raising agents affect the final baked product. This knowledge will help them improve their results and understand how recipes work.

Approx. Cost: \$110.00