



Academic Preparation Programme



Takapuna
Grammar School



The Academic Preparation Programme at Takapuna Grammar School is a one semester (two term) course designed to help students transition into studying in New Zealand.

Students study in small groups and will experience the teaching and learning style typical in New Zealand secondary schools. Students will develop skills and build up a learning knowledge base enabling them to achieve success in the New Zealand education system, whilst enjoying the many opportunities Takapuna Grammar School offers for International Students.

The Programme provides an entry pathway for further study in mainstream education including National Certificate of Education (NCEA) and International Baccalaureate (IB).

Students will learn:

- to learn in English
- to work independently and in groups
- to ask questions, research and form personal opinions
- to support others in the classroom to learn
- about New Zealand culture and adapting to life in New Zealand

Completion of this programme will enhance students' level of achievement in future studies by providing them with experience, familiarisation of equipment and vocabulary skills for specific subjects they may be considering taking.

Academic Preparation Programme Subjects:

English - Close reading of non-fiction texts, literary appreciation, NZ language and literature, transactional and creative writing, visual literacy, individual and interactive speaking and independent research skills

Mathematics - Algebra and Graphing. Calculus, Statistics and Trigonometry with a strong focus on key terms

Science - Biology, Chemistry and Physics with a focus on scientific language, individual and group experimentation and research

Social Sciences - Aspects of History and Geography with some focus on appreciating and understanding New Zealand culture and lifestyle including New Zealand's bi-cultural nature.

Economics and Enterprise - Enterprise and Financial Literacy and Economics

Assessment:

Students will complete individual and group assignments and tasks for each subject.

Assessment is standard based and grades reflect student achievement:

A – Achieved

M – Merit

E – Achieved with Excellence

N/A – Not Achieved

Students will have the opportunity to achieve some Level One NCEA credits which can be carried over into mainstream courses.

Support:

Students are supported by:

- The Academic Preparation Programme teachers
- Staff in the Student Services Centre
- The Korean or Chinese Counsellors and other International Department staff



“This programme was excellent preparation for the IB Diploma Course because it improved my reading, writing and spoken English skills. The programme opened my mind to different teaching styles than I was used to in China. It certainly developed my thinking skills, which has been essential for the subjects I am studying this year.”

ZHANG Yuxuan is a Chinese student studying International Baccalaureate Level 1 at Takapuna Grammar School

“I really enjoyed the programme because we got to do activities outside of the classroom, like visiting Auckland Zoo. The research project that followed helped me build my independent study skills. This has been really useful for NCEA History this year.”

LEE Ji Yeon is a South Korean student studying NCEA Level 2 at Takapuna Grammar School

