

Why learn a language?

1. To increase global understanding

Without the ability to communicate and understand a culture on its own terms, true access to that culture is barred.

2. To improve employment potential

Knowing languages will open up employment opportunities that you would not have had otherwise. And you will be able to command a greater salary in the workplace.

3. To increase native language ability

Research shows that knowledge of other languages boosts students' understanding of languages in general and enables students to use their native language more effectively.

4. To sharpen cognitive and life skills

5. To improve chances of entry into university.

All languages that can be studied in Level 3 are approved subjects to gain entrance to university. You can also attain literacy and university reading and writing credits in Te Reo Māori.

6. To appreciate international literature, music, and film

A translation of a text can never be fully true to the intent, beauty, style, and uniqueness of its original.

7. To make travel more feasible and enjoyable

8. To expand study abroad options

9. To increase understanding of oneself and one's own culture

"As the traveller who has once been from home is wiser than he who has never left his own doorstep, so a knowledge of one other culture should sharpen our ability to scrutinize more steadily, to appreciate more lovingly, our own." - *Margaret Mead, American anthropologist.*

Te Reo Māori is taught in years 7 and 8 as a full year course in which students learn in the whare wānanga one hour per week and build on their prior knowledge.

In year 9, for a 20 week course Te Reo Māori focuses more on tikanga and the importance of the marae as a focal point for Te Ao Māori.

A full year course is offered in year 10 in which students are starting to gain more confidence in speaking, listening and writing in Te Reo Māori.

NCEA Level 1, 2 and 3 Te Reo Māori courses have literacy; and university reading and writing credits attached to the course.

Māori Performing Arts is a core part of the Māori course and means that students can utilise their skills in a practical manner.

Whakairo, mau rākau and kōwhaiwhai are also practical ways in which students can celebrate their Māoritanga.