

St Peter's offers students the option of two pathways. The National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA) or, as an accredited IB World School, the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma.

Both qualifications are excellent and are internationally recognised.



Which pathway will you choose ?



**St Peter's
Cambridge**
NEW ZEALAND

During Year 11, all St Peter's students undertake NCEA Level 1 qualifications.



An overview of NCEA

The National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA) is the national qualification for senior secondary school students in New Zealand. The internal and external examinations are held by the New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA).

Courses challenge students of all abilities, in all learning areas. Students are offered huge flexibility in their course programming and this is the pathway that most will select.

Students are recognised for outstanding achievement in individual standards, over a whole course and at each NCEA certificate level.

NCEA is recognised by employers and used by universities, both in New Zealand and internationally.

Students who take the NCEA pathway at St Peter's can choose from 20-30 subject options (depending on their year level); opening them up to multiple learning opportunities and an infinite number of career choices.

Our pass rates for NCEA Levels 1, 2 and 3 are at 95% or above, with many of our students achieving outstanding Merit and Excellence endorsement rates.

Recent St Peter's graduates are attending a range of universities including Auckland and Otago Universities in New Zealand and Princeton and Stanford Universities in the United States of America.

At Year 12, students choose to either continue with NCEA or begin the two-year IB Diploma course.



An overview of IB

The International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma is a highly respected international qualification with a holistic education philosophy designed to produce internationally-minded global citizens.

Run for over 50 years, across more than 150 countries, the IB Diploma offers students a challenging, enriching, integrated programme.

A two-year course (offered to Years 12 and 13), the IB Diploma ensures that students pursue a wellrounded education by selecting subjects across six curriculum areas. It is suitable for students of average to above average ability.

St Peter's has offered IB for the past 10 years and is the only school in the Central North Island to offer the IB Diploma. Our average student results have been consistently above the world average at between 31 and 35 (the world average being 29-30).

In 2017, our average student result was 34. over half of this group scored 33 or higher (the current entry score for Biomedicine at Auckland University).

Three St Peter's students were invited to the Top Scholars' Award Ceremony to receive their IB Diplomas, one scored 44 out of a possible 45 points. This student was shortlisted for the prestigious Girdlers' Scholarship to study at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge University.



Why the NCEA pathway?

The NCEA pathway is equally good for academic or non-academic students. It is a forward-thinking approach to education because of its flexible structures and assessment, which allows students to demonstrate skills and knowledge through authentic learning contexts.

Understanding NCEA

At each Level of the qualification (Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3), students are assessed on the learning attained in their selection of courses.

Achievement Standards

Individual NCEA courses are subdivided into standards, some of which are assessed internally (and moderated externally) during the academic

year and some externally through the NZQA national examinations at the end of the year.

Each successful assessment earns credits that contribute to a certificate at Level 1, Level 2 or Level 3. Most subjects offer between 16 and 20 credits.

NCEA acknowledges different achievement levels. Students can gain Merit or Excellence endorsements in individual NCEA courses to recognise and acknowledge outstanding individual course achievement. An endorsement of Excellence or Merit, at the certificate level, recognises and acknowledges outstanding achievement over a range of courses undertaken by the student.

A quick comparison of each pathway:

	NCEA	IB Diploma
Assessment Type	Internals throughout the current year External at the end of the current year	Internal assessment throughout the course External Examinations at the end of two years
Course choices	Huge variety of courses	7 courses must be studied
Compulsory Courses	Yes	Yes
Duration of Study	Each level takes one year	Two-year course of study
Level of Achievement	Achieved, Merit, Excellence Possible level certificate and individual course endorsement Students must gain 80 credits (60 from Level 1) plus 20 from any Level, including literacy and numeracy. Level 1 Students must gain 60 credits at Level 2 or above, plus 20 credits from any Level. Level 1 literacy and numeracy must also be met. Level 2 Students must gain 60 credits at Level 3 or above, plus 20 credits from Level 2 or above. Level 1 literacy and numeracy must also be met. Level 3	Courses are graded from 1 to 7 3 possible bonus points come from the Extended Essay and Theory of Knowledge Students must gain at least 24 points out of a possible 45 to pass, with 12 points at the Higher Level
International Study Option	Yes	Yes
Cost	Free Domestic Students Free Domestic Student entry in scholarship courses \$383.30 International Student \$102.20 International Student entry per scholarship course	\$800 per year
Recognition of Achievement Level	Grading of standards at Achieved, Merit or Excellence Courses endorsed at Merit or Excellence NCEA Certificate levels endorsed at Merit or Excellence	IB Diploma awarded, or Certificates of Achievement in individual subjects scoring 4 or higher
In the event of illness or tragic event	Derived Grade Process applies	Derived Grade Process applies
Assessment Opportunities	One reassessment and/or resubmission may be available per standard in the same year of study, where practicable and appropriate	Two reassessment opportunities (to re-sit subjects) in May and November the following year Internally assessed work can be carried forward or re-done
University Entrance Qualification	Yes	Yes

Why the IB Diploma pathway?

The IB mission statement: “To develop internationally minded people who recognise their common humanity and shared responsibility for the planet for the purpose of creating a better and more peaceful world.”

Understanding IB

IB provides a well-rounded education, which emphasises global mindedness and experiential learning. Academic excellence is coupled with personal development in areas such as research, philosophy and social awareness.

Students select subjects across the following areas: Literature, a second language, Mathematics, the Sciences, Social Sciences and the Arts. There is some flexibility around studying more than one subject in a group by not taking a Group 6 Arts subject. Three subjects are studied at Higher Level (HL) and three at Standard Level (SL).

In addition, the heart of the Diploma lies in its three distinctive core components:



1. All students take a Theory of Knowledge (TOK) class which is designed to equip students to observe, question, assess knowledge and interpret the world around them.
2. As a core aspect of the diploma, Creativity, Activity and Service (CAS) is a co-curricular programme of creative, physically active and service activities. Students choose their own programme according to their interests. CAS is modelled on the work of Kurt Hahn, who created the Duke of Edinburgh Awards. Our students are encouraged to use their CAS activities towards the Duke of Edinburgh Awards.
3. All students write an Extended Essay (EE). Supported by a supervisor, students complete a piece of research in a subject area of interest and write a 4,000-word paper. Many students say that this piece of self-directed research was invaluable for tertiary study.

Assessment

The academic standard for IB is the same worldwide. Internationally appointed examiners and markers assess the students' work and ensure consistency and transparency in marking standards.

IB Diploma subjects are assessed through a combination of coursework and external examinations at the end of the two-year programme.

Each subject is graded from 1 to 7. Students can achieve 3 bonus points with EE and TOK. To achieve the Diploma, students must gain at least 24 points. The maximum number of points possible is 45.



Meet Sophie, NCEA student

Sophie is Head Girl at St Peter's for 2020. She is a role model for all at St Peter's, excelling in sport and academia.

Sophie has been the Athletics Captain from 2018-2020 and has Sporting Colours for both Athletics and Netball. She was awarded her Scholar's Tie and Academic Honours Badge in Year 11.

Why Sophie chose NCEA

"I chose the NCEA pathway as I felt it offered me the opportunity to choose from a wide variety of subjects and gave me the freedom to combine these in a way that suited my direction of study. This has been a big advantage as it has allowed me to branch out into the sciences, which I have discovered a passion for," explained Sophie.

"The NCEA curriculum provides a combination of internal and external assessments, which suits my learning style. Throughout NCEA, I have still stayed heavily involved with extracurricular activities such as athletics, rock climbing, netball, and singing. I enjoy the way NCEA allows me time to pursue these opportunities. My message to students considering the two pathways, is that neither curriculum is superior - it is important to decide what will be right for you."

In Year 13, Sophie is studying Chemistry, Biology, Physics, Calculus and French.



Meet Kieran, NCEA student

An Academic Prefect for 2020, Kieran received the subject prizes for Geography and Mathematics and Statistics in 2019. He also received his Senior Sports Colours for Football.

Kieran is well rounded, excelling in his interest areas of sports, academia and speech and drama.

Why Kieran chose NCEA

"I love the learning style of NCEA because it works for me personally. I wanted the chance to extend myself in all aspects of school life and felt that NCEA was the perfect way for me to push myself within school while also extending me in my co-curricular activities," said Kieran.

"I decided that the NCEA pathway would continue to push me and prepare me well for university and scholarship subjects. I enjoy the holistic year-round education, the collaborative learning and how every lesson is different and exciting. NCEA has also given me the opportunity to continue what I am passionate about inside and outside of the classroom.

In Year 13, Kieran is studying Chemistry, Biology, Mathematics and Statistics, English Literature and Geography.



Meet Umika, IB student

Umika was awarded Academic Excellence in 2016, a Scholar's Tie and Academic Honours Badge in 2018 and the International Baccalaureate Award for Year 12 Geography in 2019.

Why Umika chose the IB Diploma

"Initially, I found IB appealing due to its international perspective and global relevance. Now, after a year of doing it, I am happy with the choice because I am enjoying the independent nature of the work involved with the course. It has expanded my vision, made me think independently, and is a natural extension of my high school learning," explains Umika.

"I've found that IB has challenged my old ways of exploring topics, and it has helped me produce high-quality work. It's a brilliant course to do with my peers and to relate to among friends. I am certain this course has further strengthened my confidence for future endeavours."

Year 13, Umika is studying Higher Level Biology, Chemistry and English, as well as Standard Level Mathematics, French and Geography.



Meet Jamal, IB student

Excelling in the arts, sports and academia, Jamal is Head Boy at St Peter's for 2020.

Jamal was Prep Dux and has since received Junior and Senior Cultural and Sporting Colours, a Cultural Badge and Tie, a Scholar's Tie and Academic Honours Badge.

Why Jamal chose the IB Diploma

"The IB Diploma appealed to me because the course requirements are structured to develop a student into a well-rounded, global-minded, learner. I saw an opportunity to embrace a new and challenging learning style with like-minded peers and individualised teaching and guidance," said Jamal.

"It was important for me to have wide tertiary study options available and I knew the IB structure would ensure I studied a diverse range of subjects which would help keep multiple career paths open."

In Year 13, Jamal is studying Higher Level Biology, Chemistry and Geography, as well as Standard Level Mathematics, English and Spanish.



**St Peter's
Cambridge**
NEW ZEALAND

stpeters.school.nz

**Learning is at the heart of
what we do.**

For more information on
our academic pathways at
St Peter's, see our Academic
area of our website

**If you have any queries please
contact us.**

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SPACE TO THINK