



BERKLEY
Normal Middle School EST. 1971
TAKE UP THE CHALLENGE

Year 9 at Berkley

STEAM



Science



Technology



Entrepreneurship



Arts



Maths

What is STEAM?

STEAM is a curriculum based on the idea of educating students in five specific disciplines — science, technology, entrepreneurship, the arts, and mathematics — in an interdisciplinary and applied approach. Rather than teach the five disciplines as separate and discrete subjects, STEAM integrates them into a cohesive learning paradigm based on real-world applications.



Why STEAM?

What separates STEAM from the traditional science and math education is the blended learning environment which shows students how the scientific method can be applied to everyday life. It teaches students computational thinking and focuses on the real world applications of problem solving. At Berkley, we have state of the art facilities and skilled teachers that provides Year 9 students with outstanding hands-on learning experiences that challenge inquisitive minds, fuel innovative thinking and create a culture of teamwork and collaboration.



Elena McCrossan

My Year 9 experience thus far, is one I shall always remember as an iconic year in my lifetime. To have the confidence and courage to host assemblies and speak in front of the whole school is a challenge we all learn to take up in due course.

Camp Aongatete has many challenges in store, but to learn to handle money and finance fundraisers for the Year 9 camp is another challenge and an authentic learning opportunity for us. We also help plan a camp that is within the interests and goals of every peer of the Year 9 class.

As a Year 9 at Berkley, we embrace the benefits of being in a smaller class, in a closer community and learning together in a range of environments. Our learning takes on a different format, where we are offered extended programmes such as welding and specialised technology and PE programmes suited to our needs as Year 9's.

With a teacher like Mrs Dale, who can take advantage of the smaller number of students and support our academic strengths and needs one-on-one, we can enjoy lessons at the right level and have a good laugh in the process.

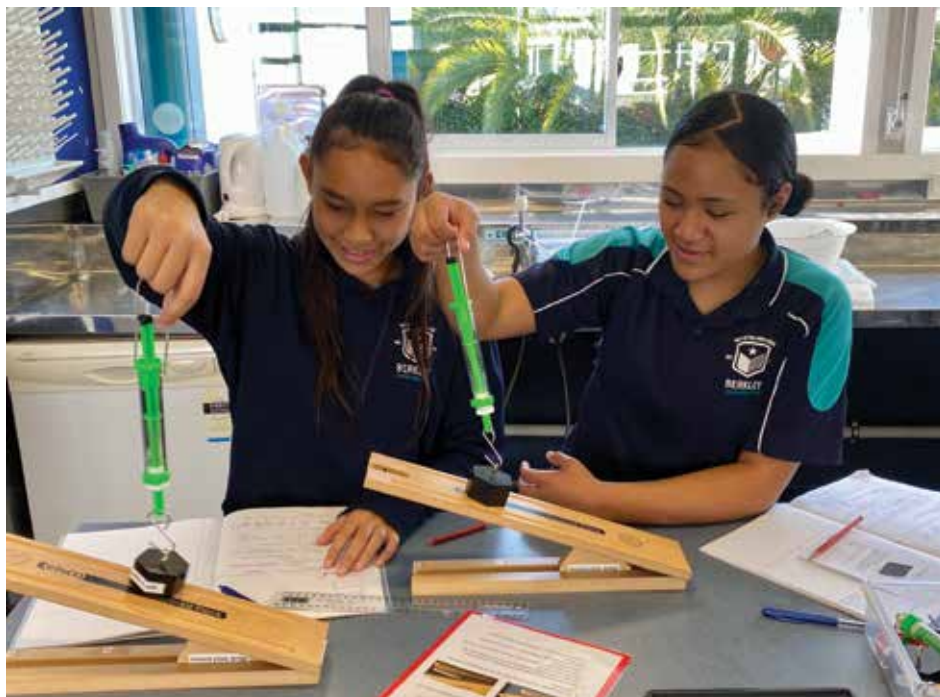
Year 9 is an experience that I feel most Year 7's and 8's would enjoy and look back on with a smile and a sense of achievement. I'm looking forward to what else Berkley has in store for us during the remainder of 2022.



The philosophy of STEAM at Berkley is to provide:

- An engaging interdisciplinary approach for Year 9 students that integrates the areas of science, technology, entrepreneurship, arts and mathematics.
- An inquiry-based approach that helps develop critical thinking, creativity and spur innovation and invention. Students are empowered to take control of their own learning, preparing them to be problem solvers in the real world.
- Innovative and enlightening learning experiences that are transformational for both Year 9 students and educators.





Joshua Williams

Year 9 at Berkley offers a lot of opportunities such as welding, making hangi for the school, hosting assemblies, and organising a Year 9 camp to list a few. You even get your own Berkley Year 9 shirt to wear!

In class, you are extended at your own level, and are trusted to use a chromebook that is assigned only to you for the year. With a smaller class of up to 25 students, you get to know everyone more easily and the class is relaxed and supportive. This allows you to learn better and progress more quickly.

As a Year 9, you are seen as a leader in the school. That means more responsibilities and higher expectations such as speaking in big groups, modelling good types of behaviour, and using time effectively.

This has been an amazing year with a lot of growth already and I would definitely recommend this awesome experience to the current Year 8's at Berkley.



Benefits of being a Year 9 at Berkley:

I will have access to a Chromebook that I will use to support my learning - all Year 9 students will have access to a Chromebook provided by the school.

I will have the opportunity to attend a Year 9 Specialist Camp. The philosophy around the Year 9 camp is to increase students confidence, build leadership, and develop strong connections with their peers. The camp's physical location varies from year to year depending on the groups strengths, needs and passions.

I will develop my Entrepreneurial skills. I will learn the concepts of supply and demand, set a budget, plan and run a business, sell a product for return and learn effective money management skills. All proceeds will go towards the funding of the Year 9 shirt for 2023.

I will be coached and mentored by Berkley staff to develop my leadership skills.

I will learn how to engineer - welding with recycled metal will require creativity and resilience. Students will learn the required skills necessary when working with metal and put their problem solving skills to use as they engineer and test their products against a design brief.

I will have an opportunity to be involved in a specialised Year 9 Arts and Technology programme and extended science programme.

I will experience high quality teaching and learning through STEAM where programmes are specifically tailored to students needs and strengths.





Arbor Day 2022 - Waiwhakareke Natural Heritage Park



Noella Eksteen

There are many benefits of taking up the opportunity to be a Year 9 at Berkley.

As Year 9's, we participate in many extra opportunities such as; welding, swimming at the University pools, Arbor Day planting and other outdoor learning opportunities. We also have a multitude of leadership responsibilities around the school such as hosting assemblies, organising school events and showing visitors around.

Participating in these opportunities has helped us to develop maturity and further our leadership skills. I feel I have grown in confidence and my communication skills have improved dramatically thanks to a supportive environment that lifts people up to achieve their personal goals.

Year 9 is an opening door for so many excellent opportunities, I highly recommend it.



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