



For queries, email us at:

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For more information, visit: https://ncea.education.govt.nz

NCEA Change Programme

Strengthening NCEA for our young people





What is NCEA?

The National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA) is the main school leaving qualification in New Zealand. NCEA has three levels - Level 1-3.

What is the NCEA Change Programme?

The NCEA Change Programme is a work programme led by the Ministry of Education to deliver the package of seven changes aimed at strengthening NCEA. The changes were informed by a year-long public engagement in 2018, and confirmed by the Government in February 2020.

We are working with schools, young people, families/whānau and communities to deliver the NCEA changes. The changes will be phased in over the next five years, with new achievement standards at Levels 1, 2 and 3 in place by 2026.



The NCEA Change Programme timeline can be viewed using the web address below or QR code.

https://ncea.education.govt.nz/what-ncea-change-programme

Changes to strengthen NCEA

Make NCEA more accessible - zero

fees, fewer barriers for learners with disabilities and learning support needs, and learners are able to see their culture, identity and language reflected in their learning

Mana örite mö te mätauranga Mäori (equal status for

mātauranga
Māori in
NCEA)

- ensure
mātauranga
Māori is
equitably
valued and
resourced
in NCEA,
broadening
access to
mātauranga

Māori

pathways and

increasing

capability

teacher

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Strengthen literacy and numeracy | te reo matatini me te pāngarau standards and assessments

- ensure students with an NCEA have functional literacy and numeracy skills that will ready them to transition into tertiary education or the workplace



Fewer, large standards

- new achievement standards and resources will be developed to replace all existing achievement standards and ensure that the most significant learning in each subject is credentialled

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Simplify NCEA's structure

- credits can no longer be carried over to the next level. Sixty credits are required to pass each NCEA level along with Te Reo Matatini me te Pāngarau l Literacy and Numeracy corequisite

6

Clearer pathways to further education or

work
- develop a
Vocational
Entrance
Award to
clearly
signal when
a student
is ready to
transition into
higher level
vocational
education and
strengthen
vocational

pathways

through

NCEA

7

Keep NCEA Level 1 optional

- ensure Level 1 provides students with the broad, foundational learning needed to support further study at Levels 2 and 3 where there will be opportunities for greater specialisation