6 August 2026

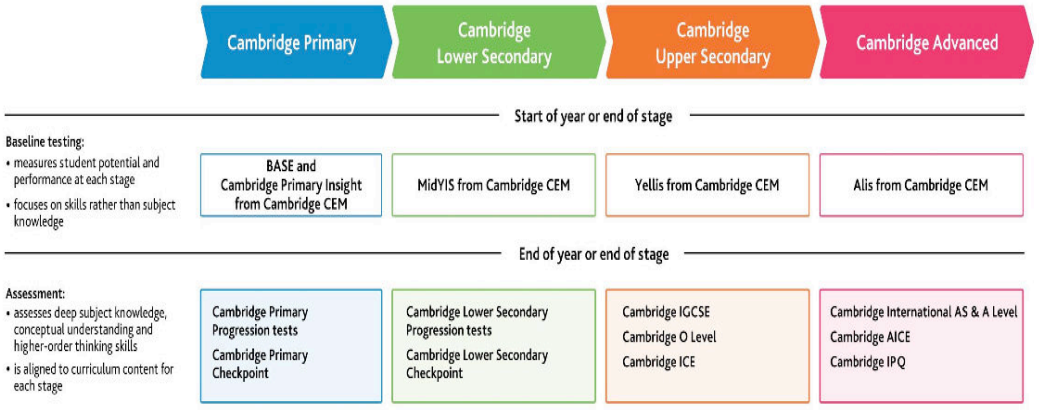
North West College Curriculum Path

Key Information

Information covered below is to assist families in understanding the Cambridge Curriculum pathway and assessments.

Cambridge International Education

The Full Cambridge Assessment Path



At North West College, our year groups sit within this path as follows:

- Y7-9: Cambridge Lower Secondary
- Y10-11: Cambridge Upper Secondary
- Y12-13: Cambridge Advanced

CIE

Our teaching and learning at NWC sits across the Cambridge International Education Assessment Path as follows:

NWC Assessment Schedule

Assessments across each year level

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
Year 7	• Insight-MidYIS • CAT 1	• Mid-year test (May)	• CAT 2	• End-year exam
Year 8	• CAT 1	• Mid-year test (May)	• CAT 2	• End-year exam
Year 9	• CAT 1	• Mid-year test (May)	• CAT 2	• **Lower Sec Checkpoint (Oct)** • Insight-Yellis • End-year exam (possible for some subjects)
Year 10	• CAT 1	• Mid-year exam (May)	• CAT 2	• End-year exam
Year 11	• CAT 1	• Mid-year exam (May)	• Mock exams • CEM-Alis	• **IGCSE**
Year 12	• CAT 1	• Mid-year exam (May)	• Mock exams	• **AS Levels**
Year 13	• CAT 1	• Mid-year exam (May)	• Mock exams	• **AS/A Levels**

Notes:

- Blue entries are externally assessed through Cambridge.
- CAT is a Creative Assessment Task that the subject teacher sets (a creative way to assess knowledge at the end of some units of work).
- In 2026, our current Y9's will not sit the external Checkpoint exams; these will begin externally for the 2027 Y9 cohort.
- Insight Baseline Assessments are a low-stakes online assessment managed through Cambridge. No revision is required and it is recommended that advanced warning of dates are not given. These are a 50 minute digital test (mostly multiple choice) that provide a baseline to teachers at each Cambridge assessment level. They are not subject specific, instead they focus on vocabulary, comprehension, numeracy, and non-verbal skills.
- Most subjects (IGCSE onwards) include more than one externally assessed Component; this may be examination papers and/or written reports. The subject teacher will have shared this with their students.
- https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/ is a very useful website where you can find plenty of further information, including individual subject curriculum details.

University

To qualify for New Zealand University Entrance (UE) using Cambridge International (CAIE) qualifications, you must achieve a minimum of **120 points** on the NZ Cambridge tariff from AS or A Level subjects, secure at least a **D grade** in three approved subjects, and meet specific literacy and numeracy standards.

University Entrance (UE) Requirements

UE requires:

- Numeracy standard: A minimum of grade D in IGCSE Mathematics (NB: any mathematics taken at AS level will also satisfy the numeracy requirement)

- Literacy standard: A minimum grade of E in any AS English courses offered

- General Subject standard: A minimum of 120 points on the NZ CAIE Tariff* table from the best 6 subject units, including a minimum grade of D in at least 3 subjects (at AS or A Level)

NB. Some specific university courses may require a higher rank grade to enter; recommend students check with their chosen University directly.

NZ CAIE Tariff

UCAS Points	A*	A	B	C	D	E
AS Level	N/A	60	50	40	30	20
A Level	140	120	100	80	60	40

North West College Class Structure

Years 7 - 8

Year-level differentiation
ENG, MAT, SCI, GLP
Creative Arts by term
Sport / WPC (Weds)

Years 9 - 11

4 x Academic subjects
2 x Creative subjects (options)
Sport: club/community

Years 12 - 13

Y12: 4 AS, incl. min 1 x Creative Art
Y13: 4 AS and/or A2 Levels, incl. min 1 x CA

CIE Lower Secondary

A blend of the CIE Lower Secondary curriculum and NZC

IGCSE

External exams (+components)
Nov Yr 11
(poss Yr 10)

AS + A2 Levels

External exams / Portfolio
end of Y12 and Y13