



Rangi Ruru
Girls' School

Year 8 Social Studies Programme of Learning 2025

He tangata, he tangata, he tangata.

It is the people, it is the people, it is the people.



Welcome to Year 8 Social Studies at Rangī Ruru Girls' School.

Social Studies encourages ākongā to observe, wonder and be curious about people, places, and society, and to take an interest and engage in social issues and ideas. They will develop understanding, knowledge, and skills concerning social, cultural, economic, and political processes. This enables them to contribute to and participate in society as critically informed, ethical, and empathetic citizens with a concern for the well-being of communities and a commitment to a fair society for all.

Students will build on skills and knowledge acquired in Year 7 and add timelines, knowledge of primary and secondary sources, perspectives, and paragraph writing to their Social Studies skill set. Students learning will predominantly be documented in their Social Studies books and course material can be found online in a Team and OneNote folder.

In Social Studies students will demonstrate the Rangī Values and **Rangī Graduate Dispositions**



Whakaute Respect – showing respect to your teachers and other class members by listening, being **compassionate and understanding other people's viewpoints and experiences.**



Aroha – encouraging other students, being kind, **developing empathy and being respectful towards others.**



Rikarika Endeavour – doing your best, seeking advice, effective communication, managing yourself and your device, and being a being **resilient and flexible** learner, being reflective and **understanding your strengths and areas for growth.**



Ngaana Enthusiasm – being **positive, curious about the world and its people,** being openminded to new ideas and activities.



Manaakitanga Generosity of Spirit – helping your teacher and helping others, **responding positively to challenges and new situations.**



Tika Integrity – completing class work and homework, being honest about your understanding and always presenting your own work, showing **resilience and persevering when things get tough, standing strong to your values and beliefs.**

What will be covered in Social Studies this year?

Our Year 8 Social Studies course is designed to help students understand the six Big Ideas of the refreshed curriculum:

- Māori history is the foundational and continuous history of Aotearoa New Zealand.
- Colonisation and settlement have been central to Aotearoa New Zealand's histories for the past 200 years.
- People's lived experiences have been shaped by the use and misuse of power.
- People hold different perspectives on the world depending on their values, traditions, and experiences.
- People participate in communities by acting on their beliefs and through the roles they hold.
- Interactions change societies and environments. These Big Ideas will be incorporated into each unit with the contexts of culture and identity, government and organisation, place and environment and economic activity.

Year 8	
Term One	<p><i>Geography and Mapping Skills</i>- Students will recap their learning from Year 7 on Continents and Oceans and the Equator. They will learn what makes an effective social Studies map using FACKTS. Students will learn what a sketch map is and create their own. They will learn how to use directions on a map. There will be a focus on New Zealand/ Aotearoa where students will be able to identify cities and places, rivers and lakes using both the English and Te Reo names.</p> <p>Students will learn about Polynesian Migration to New Zealand, life in NZ pre-European, and the arrival of Europeans and <i>Treaty of Waitangi/Te Tiriti o Waitangi</i>. Students will create an online timeline.</p> <p><i>Changing World</i>- Students will learn about Victorian times in Britain, The Industrial Revolution, and Women's role in Society during that time.</p>
Term Two	<p><i>Suffrage</i>-Students will learn about Maori women's role in society pre-European and the changing status of women in Aotearoa after European settlement. Students will gain an understanding of the events leading up to the signing of the Suffrage petition in Aotearoa – examining who held the power and the differing motivations and perspectives at the time. They will learn about New Zealand's significance in the world regarding suffrage. Students will take part in an interview with an older woman of voting age.</p>
Term Three	<p><i>Taonga -Place and Object</i>. Students will learn about Maori Life pre-European looking at artefacts as evidence. Students will learn about places and objects of significance through naming, connection to place and land. They will learn the significance of Taonga by examining primary and secondary sources.</p> <p><i>Students will study Goldie paintings of early Maori and consider ethical decisions about who owns these Taonga.</i></p>
Term Four	<p><i>Te Awa</i>- Students will learn about the importance of water to Maori with an emphasis on Rivers. They will learn several rivers in New Zealand and be able to locate them on a map. They will study the documentary "I am the River" and identify the different perspectives and how these changed over time. They will learn about how people's connections to places, resources and environments can generate co-operation or lead to disputes over rights and responsibilities.</p>

Assessment will be a mixture of inquiry-based learning, short tests, and social action. This will be outlined to students at the start of each unit. We will complete a weekly current events quiz.

