

Northcote College

Founded 1877



Year 9 Parent Information 2026

Nau mai haere mai, ki te kura tuarua Te Onewanewa o Toitehuatahi.
Welcome to Northcote College.

This booklet is designed to introduce you to Northcote College and the way we do things.

We aim to engage you in a learning focussed partnership. Please stay in touch, respond to our invitations, and contact us if you need support. We are here to help.

We will work hard to help all students hold fast to decent values, enjoy life, accept responsibility, be of benefit to others, and believe in their own ability to learn.

I look forward to getting to know you and recognise it is a privilege to be involved in the lives of our learners.

Vicki Barrie

Tumuaki | Principal

School Motto

The Northcote College motto, originally in Latin, is:

Kia manaaki te tangata | ut prosim aliis | to be of service to others

For Year 9 students, the motto serves as a reminder that they are part of a school where we work cooperatively and to the best of our abilities.

Northcote College Values

Respect for self

Respect for others

Respect for the environment.

We promote positive behaviour for learning and support our students to be kind and inclusive, and to celebrate diversity. We encourage all to be upstanders at school and in society.

Successful Learning for All

Northcote College teachers are committed to student learning. They provide inspiration, guidance, and support to help students learn.

For Year 9 students to get the full benefit of their teachers' help and the most out of lessons, they need to:

- Arrive on time with their equipment and fully charged device ready to learn.
- Focus and work cooperatively in class.
- Pay attention, work hard, and actively participate in lessons.
- Check school emails at least once daily.
- Commit to spending **up to one hour after school each day** to:
 - Complete any unfinished class work.
 - Complete homework tasks and assignments.
 - Organise and review the day's schoolwork.
 - Note any work they don't understand so they can get help.
- Read.

Doing these things will help your child learn to work independently and establish the excellent work habits needed to succeed in the senior school and learning beyond school.

Year 9 Dean

The Year 9 Dean in 2026 is Aoife Cantwell. Ms Cantwell is the first point of contact for parents at the school and can be contacted by email: can@northcote.school.nz

Year 9 Form Classes

Students are placed in a form class. Each form class is named using the form teacher's code which is based on the teacher's last name. Students who are part of the Te Whānau o Te Kāhano are in a vertical form class with whānau class students from other year levels.

It is intended that students stay in the same form class with the same form teacher and with Ms Cantwell as their dean throughout their time at Northcote College.

Year 9 Course Requirements

All Year 9 students:

- study English, Mathematics, Social Studies, Science, Physical Education and Health.
- take an 8-week course in Media Literacy.
- experience The Arts through the subjects of Art/Dance/Drama/Music. They take one subject as a half year option course and two subjects as 8-week courses.
- experience Technology through the subjects of Digital Technology/Fashion & Textiles/Food Technology/Design & Visual Communication (formerly known as Graphics)/Product Design & Technology (formerly known as Hard Materials Technology). They take three subjects as 8-week courses.
- experience a language subject choosing one from:
Te Reo Māori/Chinese/French/Japanese/Spanish/ESOL/ Literacy Support

Peer Support

Each Wednesday of Term 1, Year 13 students who have been trained as Peer Support Leaders spend an hour working with groups of Year 9 students to help them make friends and develop their understanding of the culture of the school, including where to go for help if it is needed. The Peer Support Programme is managed by the Head of Deans, Fleur McGhee. Year 9 and 13 form teachers are also involved.

Restorative Practice

Northcote College promotes the use of restorative conversations. Year 9 students receive training in this method of resolution as part of their Peer Support Programme. In essence, the key restorative steps are Reflect, Repair and Restore. Parents are asked to support and participate in this approach when issues arise.

The Timetable

Northcote College runs a six-day timetable. There are 30 periods over 6 days.

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6
Period 1						
Period 2						
Period 3						
Period 4						
Period 5						

The timetable is based on the days of the six-day cycle not the days of the week.

Class Times

Timetabled classes run for 1 hour each, starting at 9.00am daily, except on Wednesday. On Wednesdays, classes start at 9.30am with the first two lessons slightly shortened. Buses run as usual, and students are welcome to access student areas including the library prior to classes commencing.

Reports

The school formally reports on student achievement at the end of Terms 2 and 4. Reports are emailed to parents/caregivers.

Parent Portal

Parents can view student notices as well as current attendance and achievement information for their child using the Parent Portal. A unique password will be emailed to you. To access the Parent Portal, go to the top menu bar of the school website.

We encourage you to check that the contact details we have for you are correct through the Parent Portal. It is important that the school has your current contact details, email addresses and mobile phone numbers.

Kindo payments

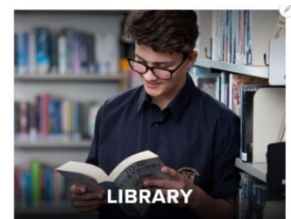
Kindo is our online payments platform. You will be able to take care of all your school payments, purchase event tickets and support fundraisers with flexible online payment options available 24/7. If you already have a myKindo account, you will be able to use the same account. There is a link to Kindo on the top menu bar of our school website.

School Donation

We rely on and are grateful for all donations which ensure that our students have the resources and support they need to achieve academically and have opportunities to participate and thrive in sport, cultural groups, performing arts, leadership and service. Any payment or contribution through myKindo, in full or in an adjusted amount per term to suit your budget, helps us to continue to offer current opportunities and resources for your children. Please pay your donation if you are able. The voluntary donation for 2026 is set at \$395 for one child and \$690 for a family.

Library

The School Library is open daily 8am – 4.30pm for student use. The collection of fiction and non-fiction books is excellent. An online catalogue and request system can be accessed through the school website.



Study Centre / C8

The Study Centre / C8 classroom is open each lunch time. This is the place for students to go if they need to ask a question about how to do a piece of work or how to work out a problem in any subject. A staff member is on duty each day from 12.45 to 1.25pm. Students can stay just a few minutes to ask the question or for half an hour to complete work. Sometimes a student may be referred to the Study Centre/C8 by a subject teacher if homework has not been completed, and this is intended to provide them with a suitable environment and time to complete the set tasks.

Absences and Appointments

All students are expected to attend every school day and to be on time for lessons. For safety reasons, students must not leave the school without permission.

In the event of your child being unable to attend school due to illness, please notify the Attendance Office on the morning of absence. You can email attendance@northcote.school.nz or phone 481 0141 extension 750 giving your child's name, form class and reason for absence. You may also report an absence on Parent Portal

If your child needs to be absent from school for a period of time during the day, please advise the school giving the reason for the absence, the time of departure and estimated time of return to school. You can also give your child a note which they will need to bring to Harakeke|Student Reception, before 9am. Leave passes will be arranged. Any student leaving school must pick up their leave pass prior to leaving the school grounds and then sign in again before returning to class.

Should time away from school be required for reasons other than sickness then a formal letter of request should be addressed to the principal in advance of the absence.

Te Ratonga Hauora | Wellness Centre

Northcote College has at least one Registered Nurse on duty in the Te Ratonga Hauora|Wellness Centre between 9am and 3.30pm daily. Students have access to the Wellness Centre at interval and lunchtime. To go to the nurse during class time between 9am and 2.30pm, students require a note from their teacher. The nurses are available for urgent matters / emergencies between 2.30pm and 3.30pm. For safety reasons, students who become unwell at school must report to the nurse and must not leave school without permission. Parents will be contacted if the student requires further medical assistance or needs to be collected.

School Expectations

The Northcote College expectations are based on respect. The expectations are designed to ensure that an atmosphere of hard work, courtesy and concern for others is maintained. A copy of the Northcote College Code of Expected Behaviour is included at the end of this booklet and is also available on our school website.

2026 School Calendar

A year planner is provided at the end of this document. Please note that it is likely that through the course of the year there will be additional events and activities involving your child, and some scheduled events may change. Please always refer to the blue Announcements box on the school website for updated information, news, and events. You are also encouraged to follow us on social media, links are at the end of this booklet.

Teacher Only Days

There are no timetabled classes on Teacher Only Days. Teachers are involved in professional learning all day. Teacher Only Days are scheduled for Friday 29 May and Friday 13 November 2026.

Uniform Expectations

It is expected that Northcote College students (Year 9 – 12) will wear correct uniform. A copy of the Uniform Guidelines is provided at the end of this document and is also available on our school website. We rely on parents/caregivers to support our expectations.

Extra-curricular Activities

Sport and cultural activities are an important part of the Northcote College experience. A wide range of sporting codes is offered at the college, and there are many opportunities for students to be involved in other areas that interest them e.g. drama/performance, bands, choir, cultural groups, debating and more.

Personal Property

It is important to name all items a student wears or brings to school so that anything misplaced can quickly and easily be returned to the owner. If clothing items or valuables are lost, then the student should visit the Harakeke | Student Reception where items are held. Students are responsible for their personal property. The school is unable to take responsibility for loss or damage.

Phones

It is a requirement that at school, mobile phones will be turned off and in bags between 8.55am and 3.30pm. (Note: 9.25am on Wednesdays). Please refer the Code of Expected Behaviour for the full guidelines around the 'away for the day' policy at Northcote College.

ID Cards

A Student ID card is available for purchase from Harakeke | Student Reception and costs \$8.50. The ID card supports discounts for public transport etc.

Wet Weather

The hall is available for shelter during wet lunchtimes, as are many classrooms, circulation spaces and the library.

Buses

Students are encouraged to use AT Hop Cards on buses. Loading the AT Hop Card with the secondary student concession represents a significant saving. For details go to: www.at.govt.nz

Please ensure AT Hop cards are named to avoid replacement card costs.

School bus timetable information:

<https://at.govt.nz/bus-train-ferry/timetables/school-bus-timetables?school=northcote-college>

Community Business Directory

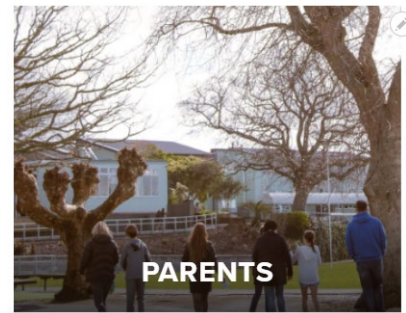
The Northcote College Business Directory offers an opportunity for parents/caregivers with businesses to highlight their connection to Northcote College and promote their services. There is a link at the bottom of the school website. To support businesses within our school community we encourage you to use the directory if you are looking for goods and services.

Resources for Parents

Useful general information and advice for parents of secondary school students can be found on the school website through the 'Parents' window.

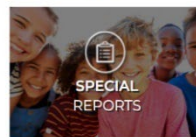
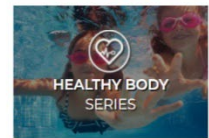
You may also find this website helpful:

<http://parents.education.govt.nz/>



Wellbeing resources

Parents have access to School TV which offers video resources and reports on topical issues. The School TV link is at the bottom of the school website under the heading of Resources.



Staying Safe Online

<https://www.netsafe.org.nz/parenttoolkit/>

www.switchonsafety.co.nz

An Important Message from the Ministry of Education and N4L

If you wish, you can set up the filter on your child's learning device from home. Clear instructions on how to do this can be found at [switchonsafety.co.nz](http://www.switchonsafety.co.nz). The free N4L safety filter blocks websites containing known cyber threats like phishing scams, malicious content and viruses, while also protecting children from content inappropriate for young eyes. Please remember that safety can't be provided by technology alone – it requires a holistic approach. You can find more information, tips and advice to support online safety at www.netsafe.org.nz/parenttoolkit/

Source: Ministry of Education and Network for Learning (N4L)

Code of Expected Behaviour

Northcote College values are Respect for Self / Others / the Environment. Principles of restorative practice are followed and there is an emphasis on positive behaviour for learning.

Attitude to Others

We are courteous and show respect in all our dealings with others.

- Disruptive behaviour will not be tolerated.
- Physical violence, sexual harassment, bullying and/or verbal abuse will not be tolerated.
- Material which is homophobic, racist, sexual, sexist or violent must not be brought to school.

We always represent the school in a positive manner. This means:

- Students will abide by fair play rules when playing sport.
- Northcote College uniform will be worn correctly. (Refer to Uniform Guidelines below)

Attendance

- Students are expected to be at school 5 minutes before the start of the first lesson.
- Students arriving after the start of period 1 are expected to sign in at Harakeke | Student Reception.
- To attend an appointment outside school an appointment card or note from a parent/caregiver is required to obtain an exit slip from Harakeke | Student Reception.
- Students who become unwell during the school day must report to the nurse and must not leave the College without permission. Appropriate arrangements will be made to care for the student or for collection by a parent/caregiver.

Respect for the Environment and Property

A clean, orderly environment is necessary for wellbeing and learning.

- This means that students are expected to treat the school environment and school property and the property of others with respect.
- Students are responsible for their personal property. No responsibility is taken by the school for loss or damage.
- Students will not take or use the property of another student without permission.
- Students will bring to class all required materials and equipment.
- Laptops, chromebooks, tablets and headphones are required for learning at school but devices must be switched off and headphones removed when requested by the teacher.

Intellectual Property

- The work submitted for assessment must be original.
- All resources used in an assessment are to be itemised within a reference list or bibliography. (Refer to Northcote College Assessment Policy in Practice)
- To comply with the Copyright Act 1994 students are not to download any files such as music, videos, games or programmes.

Prohibited Items

- Northcote College is a smoke, vape, drug and alcohol free school.
- We strive for a safe environment free of any hazardous and/or potentially dangerous substances and objects. This means:
 - a. Substances or articles that are likely to be harmful (matches, fireworks, offensive weapons, knives etc.) must not be brought to College.
 - b. Smoking, vaping, and the possession of smoking or vaping equipment is forbidden.
 - c. Possession and/or consumption of alcoholic liquor is forbidden.
 - d. Use or possession of any drug (other than for a diagnosed medical condition) is forbidden.
 - e. Permanent markers, chewing gum and aerosol cans are forbidden.

If there is a suspicion that a student has broken any of the above rules the school reserves the right to search personal property in accordance with Ministry of Education search and seizure guidelines.

Mobile Phones

It is a requirement that at school, mobile phones will be turned off and in bags between 8.55am and 3.30pm. (Note: 9.25am on Wednesdays)

The only exceptions to this requirement are when:

- The teacher requires students to use phones for a specific learning activity.
- A student needs a phone to monitor an ongoing medical condition (such as glucose levels). *This will require written approval in advance from the Principal.*
- The phone is required to assist a student with a disability. *This will require written approval in advance from the Principal.*

The Principal may decide that a phone is needed for special circumstances. Special circumstances currently approved by the Principal include:

- Students at Northcote College can pay at the cafe and student reception with their phones.
- Students at Northcote College scan a QR code with their phone if they need to go to the bathroom during class. *Note: The phone is left with the teacher in class.*
- The Principal (or delegated staff member eg. SLT, Guidance Counsellors and Deans) may allow a student to use their cellphone in special circumstances to facilitate contact with a parent/caregiver or another person for a particular purpose.

If a student breaches these mobile phone rules, the phone will be confiscated for the rest of the school day. Confiscated phones will be taken to the main office for parents to collect. The breach will be recorded in KAMAR, our student management system.

The school may require a student to hand their phone into the Harakeke | Student Reception at the beginning of the day and collect it at the end, if they cannot self-manage their phone use. A student who knows they will struggle to meet these requirements may voluntarily hand their phone into to Harakeke | Student Reception at the start of a day and collect at the end of the day.

Communications

A student needing to contact a parent/caregiver can ask to use the phone at Harakeke | Student Reception. If a parent/caregiver needs to contact their child urgently during the day, they should call Student Reception (09 4810141 Ext 724) or the Main Office (09 4810141) or email their child using their school email address.

Camps and School Trips Events and Sport:

In general, the 'Away for the Day' rule will apply to students on school trips and at school camps and will not apply to after school, evening and weekend sport and events. However, decisions about any exceptions to this will be made and communicated on a case by case basis.

Uniform Guidelines

School uniforms are a great way to distinguish students and instil a sense of community and pride in our school. These guidelines have been reviewed after consultation with students, staff, the community, and alongside the [New Zealand Human Rights Commission School Uniform Guidelines](#). Please contact your year level dean if you have concerns about meeting these expectations.

School Uniform Years 9-12

The Northcote College uniform is worn by students in Years 9, 10, 11 and 12.

Correct uniform is to be worn at school, to and from school, and at all school functions.

All uniforms must be tidy, clean and in good repair.

Parents and students may select from the list of Northcote College items below. No other items, including sports team uniform, may be worn with the school uniform. *Uniform items are available from Yarnton's, Birkenhead.*

Short or long sleeve shirt (tailored or plain style)	Navy wool V-neck jersey
Navy school jacket with hood	Navy fleece
Navy Trousers (straight or tailored leg)	Navy skirt – Long or short option
Navy shorts	Navy sarong/tupenu/lava lava
Black shoes (refer below)	Black socks or Black opaque tights
Black belt	Plain navy cap or bucket hat
Items of cultural or religious significance (e.g. hijab, tā moko, ie faitaga)	School beanie

Student Appearance

- Facial hair is to be neatly trimmed.
- T-shirts worn under uniforms are not to be visible.
- Skirt lengths are to be modest.

Hairstyles

- The expectation is that hair styles and colour are not extreme.
- Long hair must be tied up for Health & Safety reasons in a workshop or laboratory and when wearing the No. 1 uniform.
- Plain navy blue or black headbands may be worn.

Jewellery and Nail Polish

- Students are permitted
 - a watch
 - two small earrings per ear. If hoops, you must not be able to fit more than your little finger through
 - one small nose stud (no other facial piercing is permitted)
- One fine necklace may be worn, with or without a small pendant.
- Nail polish colour must not be extreme.

Footwear

- Plain black (no colour), low heeled, low cut, shoes are required with uniform. No boots, or sports boots are to be worn. Note: plain black socks or black stockings must be worn with black shoes.
- Students may wear plain flat sandals with a back strap, without socks. Black double strap Birkenstock type sandals (with or without a back strap) may be worn. Shoes with a full heel and toe must be worn in any laboratory or workshop.

Sports Uniform

- Physical Education - a change of clothes must be worn for all PE classes. The PE uniform is to be worn by all students Year 9 to 12. Shorts and a T-shirt suitable for the purpose must be worn by Year 13 students participating in PE (refer to Year 13 dress code).
- Students playing sport for Northcote College will wear complete and correct sports uniform.

Formal Dress Uniform (aka No. 1 Uniform – to be worn when representing the school at formal events/occasions)

- School blazer
- School tie
- White shirt with a collar to take a tie (buttoned to the neck)
- Navy blue school skirt, or Navy Sarong / Tupenu / Lava lava, or black dress trousers
- Black socks or black opaque tights
- Black leather dress shoes (clean and polished)

Northcote College Year Planner 2026

	January	February	March	April	May	June
Monday						1 King's Birthday
Tuesday						2 Week 7 5
Wednesday				1 5		3 6
Thursday	1			2 Cross Country Term 1 Ends 6		4 1
Friday	2			3 Good Friday	1 3	5 2
Saturday	3			4	2	6
Sunday	4	1	1	5 Easter Sunday	3	7
Monday	5	2 Term 1 Week 1 Year 9 and PSL 0	2 Week 5 Board Meeting 1	6 Easter Monday	4 Week 3 Board Meeting 4	8 Week 8 Board Meeting 3
Tuesday	6	3 All Students Quad 1 Starts 1	3 Marae Noho (From Mon) 2	7	5 5	9 4
Wednesday	7	4 Prefect Training 2	4 3	8	6 6	10 5
Thursday	8	5 3	5 4	9	7 1	11 6
Friday	9	6 Waitangi Day	6 Trial Evacuation 5	10	8 Trial Evacuation 2	12 1
Saturday	10	7	7	11	9	13
Sunday	11	8	8	12	10	14
Monday	12	9 Week 2 4	9 Week 6 6	13	11 Week 4 3	15 Week 9 Senior Assessment 2
Tuesday	13	10 Year 9 Information 5	10 1	14	12 Year 13 Pathways Day 1 4	16 3
Wednesday	14	11 Pastoral Care Begins 6	11 Year 13 Camp 2	15	13 Year 13 Pathways Day 2 5	17 4
Thursday	15	12 1	12 3	16	14 6	18 5
Friday	16	13 Class and ID Photos 2	13 4	17	15 1	19 6
Saturday	17	14	14	18	16	20
Sunday	18	15	15	19	17	21
Monday	19	16 Week 3 3	16 Week 7 5	20 Term 2 Week 1 1	18 Week 5 CAA's 2	22 Week 10 1
Tuesday	20	17 4	17 6	21 2	19 3	23 Group Photos 2
Wednesday	21	18 5	18 1	22 3	20 4	24 3
Thursday	22	19 P/T/S Meetings 6	19 2	23 4	21 5	25 Sports Photos 4
Friday	23 SLT Meeting	20 1	20 3	24 Staff Vaccinations 5	22 6	26 5
Saturday	24	21	21	25 ANZAC Day	23	27
Sunday	25	22	22	26	24	28
Monday	26 Auck Anniv Day	23 Week 4 2	23 Week 8 4	27 ANZAC Day Holiday	25 Week 6 1	29 Week 11 6
Tuesday	27 New Staff Induction	24 P/T/S Meetings 3	24 5	28 Week 2 6	26 2	30 1
Wednesday	28 All Staff	25 H&S meeting 4	25 BOT Visit & Long Service ackn. 6	29 1	27 3	
Thursday	29 Course Confirmation	26 Catch up ID, Staff, Yr 13 Photo 5	26 1	30 2	28 4	
Friday	30 Course Confirmation	27 Athletics Day 6	27 Swimming Sports 2		29 TOD	
Saturday	31	28	28		30	
Sunday			29		31	
Monday			30 Week 9 3			
Tuesday			31 4			
Wednesday						

July	August	September	October	November	December	
						Monday
		1 Tournament Week cont.	6		1	5 Tuesday
1 Matariki Hautapu	2	2	1		2	6 Wednesday
2	3	3	2		3	1 Thursday
3 Term 2 Ends	4	4 Mid Term Break	2		4 NCEA Exams End Leavers' Event	2 Friday
4	1	5	3		5	Saturday
5	2	6	4	1	6	Sunday
6	3 Week 3 Board Meeting	7 Week 8 CAA's Board Meeting	5	2 Week 4 Board Meeting	7 Week 9 Board Meeting	3 Monday
7	4	8	6	3	8 Peer Support Training Mo/Tu	4 Tuesday
8	5	9	7	4 Seniors Leave	9	5 Wednesday
9	6	10	8	5 Senior Prizegiving	10	6 Thursday
10 Matariki	7 Trial Evacuation	11	9	6	11	1 Friday
11	8	12	10	7	12	Saturday
12	9	13	11	8	13	Sunday
13	10 Week 4	14 Week 9 Senior Exams	12 Term 4 Week 1	9 Week 5	14 Week 10	2 Monday
14	11	15	13	10 NCEA Exams Begin	15 Year 10 Prizegiving	3 Tuesday
15	12	16	14 Welcome to NC 2027	11	16 Year 9 Prizegiving Term 4 Ends	4 Wednesday
16	13 P/T/S Meetings	17	15	12	17	Thursday
17	14	18	16 Trial Evacuation	13 TOD	18	Friday
18	15	19	17	14	19	Saturday
19	16	20	18	15	20	Sunday
20 Term 3 Week 1	17 Week 5	21 Week 10	19 Week 2 Year 9 Camp 1	16 Week 6 Jnr Assment Week	21	Monday
21	18 P/T/S Meetings	22	20	17	22	Tuesday
22	19	23	21	18	23	Wednesday
23	20	24	22	19	24	Thursday
24	21	25 Term 3 Ends	23	20 Year 8 Visit	25	Friday
25 Open Day	22 School Ball - Prelim book	26	24	21	26	Saturday
26	23	27	25	22	27	Sunday
27 Week 2	24 Week 6	28	26 Labour Day	23 Week 7 Year 9 Camp 2	28	Monday
28 Year 12 Pathways Day 1	25	29	27 Week 3 Whānau Prizegiving	24	29	Tuesday
29 Year 12 Pathways Day 2	26	30	28 Film Evening	25	30	Wednesday
30	27		29 Sports Prizegiving	26	31	Thursday
31	28		30	27		Friday
	29		31	28		Saturday
	30			29		Sunday
	31 Week 7 Tournament			30 Week 8		Monday
						Tuesday
						Wednesday

Northcote College School Contacts

Main Office:	Phone: 481 0141	
	Email: office@northcote.school.nz	
Attendance Office:	Phone: 481 0141 ext 750	
	Email: attendance@northcote.school.nz	
Direct Dial Deans	481 0148 ext 813	
Principal	Vicki Barrie	
Deputy Principals	Kate Meade	<i>Teaching & Learning, Assessment</i>
	Charles Wallace	<i>Pathways</i>
	Natasha Muschamp	<i>Student Wellbeing</i>
	Alex Plummer	<i>Education Outside the Classroom</i>
Year 9 Dean	Aoife Cantwell	

2026 Term Dates

Term 1

3 February – 2 April

Term 2

20 April – 3 July

Term 3

20 July – 25 September

Term 4

12 October – 16 December

www.northcote.school.nz

<https://facebook.com/northcotecollege>

<https://instagram.com/northcotecollege>