

the edge innovation programme

Edgewater College



***“We cannot always build the future for our youth.
But we can build our youth for the future.”***

Franklin Roosevelt

2025/2026



The 'Exponential Age' and 21st Century Learning

Drones, driverless cars, smart phones and digital clothing were all considered science fiction in recent memory and yet today they exist and are changing the way we learn, interact with others and work. Texting by thought alone is predicted to be available in the next 5-10 years. Machines now do much of the work that was previously done by people.

Our students are entering a different world to that of their parents and teachers with new job and learning opportunities. These opportunities need students that can think deeply about issues, solve problems creatively, communicate clearly in a variety of media, learn ever-evolving technologies, and deal with multiple sources of information.

The rapid changes in our world require students to be flexible, to take the initiative and lead when appropriate, to collaborate with others and to create new and useful products and processes.



The EDGE innovation programme @ Edgewater College

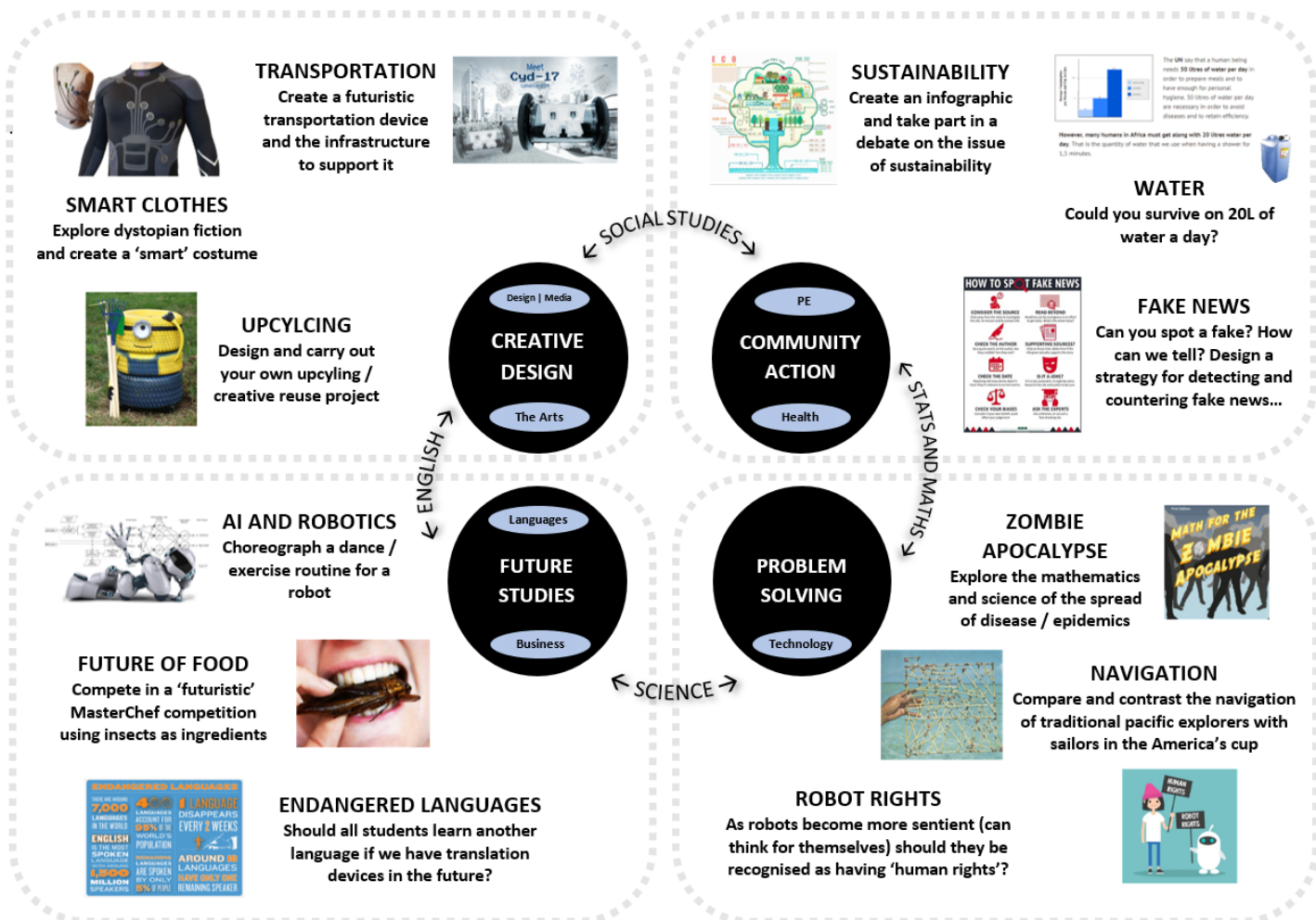
This is an exciting initiative at Edgewater College for students who wish to be involved in an innovative curriculum based on developing learners, leaders and change-makers who use knowledge meaningfully across English, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies, as well as in the Arts, Technology, Health and PE and Languages. The Edge programme is designed to focus on the following future focused capabilities:

FUTURE FOCUSED CAPABILITIES		
Character	<i>Building resilience, confidence and initiative with a focus on learning to learn and a growth mindset. Having a strong sense of self-determination / leadership.</i>	Rangatiratanga
Citizenship	<i>Being a global citizen, understanding diverse viewpoints and ways of thinking, including leadership, service and guardianship.</i>	Kaitiakitanga
Communication	<i>Speaking, listening, writing and reading skills in a variety of contexts as well as using digital resources to tell stories / share knowledge.</i>	Kōreroreo
Creativity	<i>Creating, designing and innovating using flexible, original, perceptive and / or integrated ways of thinking.</i>	Auahatanga
Critical thinking	<i>Seeking and solving problems, and modelling situations that require critical and analytical thinking. Having a spirit of inquiry, questioning, examining and justifying.</i>	Māramatanga
Collaboration	<i>Building relationships, establishing links and making connections with others. Working and learning in teams and groups to learn with and from others.</i>	Whaka-whanaungatanga

New courses to engage and inspire

Students in the EDGE Programme will take four 'new' EDGE courses instead of the traditional core subjects of English, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. The EDGE courses include the same curriculum content as for the traditional core subjects; however, the content is organised into the following areas: Creative Design, Community Action, Problem Solving and Future Studies.

The diagram below shows the core subject areas from the New Zealand Curriculum and how they would be incorporated into the four EDGE courses, along with some possible topics that may form part of each course.



Graduate profile

EDGE Programme graduates will be passionate life-long learners who:

- Make a difference
- Look to the future
- Find and solve problems
- Imagine, design and create
- Take responsible risks
- Are change leaders
- Collaborate with shared purpose
- Communicate effectively
- Innovate and disrupt
- Meaningfully use exponential technologies



Passionate teachers working together with passionate learners

Teachers have been selected from a range of learning areas to form our EDGE teaching team. They have been selected for their abilities to integrate learning and inspire all learners to achieve. They will work in teams to teach each of the four EDGE courses and ensure that all learners are engaged in meaningful learning.

How does this link to the NCEA?

This course is specifically designed to support the types of thinking required to attain Excellence in the NCEA: Creative, Critical, Perceptive and Integrated thinking. Students will cover the same material as those in the mainstream and so will be able to select from the full range of NCEA Level 1 subjects in Year 11. The EDGE Programme is designed to support strong levels of literacy and numeracy and lead into subject specialisation in Years 11-13.

Assessment

Students will be assessed against the same curriculum objectives as those in mainstream courses. The way they are assessed may be different with a focus on innovative ways of demonstrating learning. All students will maintain an e-portfolio of evidence as part of the four EDGE courses.

Is this a gifted and talented programme?

This programme is designed for learners of all abilities. Any students with a passion for learning in an innovative learning environment are welcome to apply for entry (see "Is the EDGE programme for me?" below).

What about option subjects?

Students will spend 15 hours a week in the four EDGE Courses. For the remainder of the time they will be in mixed option subjects (from the technology, arts, languages, and business subject areas) as well as PE and Health classes to cover the remainder of the curriculum.

Use of technology

It is strongly recommended that students in the EDGE programme have a digital device to enhance their learning. Innovative use of technology is a key feature of the EDGE Programme. If students are unable to bring their own device then one will be provided.

Is the EDGE programme for me?

- I have an interest in the future and futuristic thinking
- I am interested in making a difference in my community
- I like learning things in different or unique ways
- I like problem solving and finding new problems to solve
- I like working collaboratively with others
- I would like to choose the topics that I study
- I enjoy challenging my thinking
- I like inventing new things or processes
- I am interested in being an entrepreneur
- I enjoy thinking outside the box

Further information...

There are limited spaces available for this programme in 2025. If you wish to be considered for entry, please indicate this as part of your enrolment application. For questions not covered by this brochure please contact one of the leaders of the EDGE Innovation Team:

Faye Booker f.booker@edgewater.school.nz

Michael Clyne m.clyne@edgewater.school.nz

Angela McCamish a.mccamish@edgewater.school.nz

