

SUBJECT HANDBOOK

2027

mackillop.vic.edu.au

YEAR 7&8



Melbourne Archdiocese
Catholic Schools



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PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

Welcome to the Curriculum Handbook for Years 7–12. This handbook is designed to guide students and families through the learning journey at our College and to support thoughtful decisions about subjects, pathways and future aspirations.

At our school, learning is at the heart of everything we do. We are committed to providing a rich, challenging and supportive curriculum that enables every student to grow in knowledge, confidence and character. From the early years of secondary schooling through to the senior pathways of VCE and VCE VM, our programs are designed to nurture curiosity, develop skills for the future, and encourage students to strive for their personal best. Our curriculum reflects both the requirements of the Victorian Curriculum and the diverse interests and talents of our students. Across a broad range of subjects, students are invited to explore new ideas, ask meaningful questions, and develop the critical thinking, creativity and collaboration skills that will serve them well beyond school.

As a Catholic community inspired by the Josephite tradition and the example of Mary MacKillop, we believe education is about more than academic success.

It is about forming young people who are compassionate, resilient and committed to making a positive difference in the world. Our College theme, “I am because we are,” reminds us that learning occurs within a community where each person’s gifts contribute to the growth of all.

Choosing subjects can be an exciting time but also one that requires careful reflection. I encourage students to consider their strengths, interests and future goals, and to seek advice from teachers, learning leaders and families. Together we can ensure that each student’s pathway is purposeful, balanced and aligned with their aspirations.

This handbook provides important information about subjects, expectations and pathways across Years 7–12. I hope it will serve as a helpful guide as students shape their learning journey.

At our College we remain committed to celebrating all life, challenging all people, and dreaming the new day. I wish every student success as they continue to grow in respect, courage and hope through their learning.

Chris Caldwell

Chris Caldwell
Principal

Our Vision Statement

Celebrating all life

Challenging all people

Dreaming the new day

Our Mission Statement

MacKillop is a Catholic college in the Josephite tradition. Inspired by the spirit of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop, we strive to:

- encourage individuals to reach their full potential as life-long learners by providing an innovative, challenging and collaborative learning and teaching environment in a rapidly evolving society
- enhance positive relationships in a supportive community by promoting justice and a sustainable future
- support wellbeing by affirming the intrinsic dignity of each individual, embracing diversity and empowering active citizenship
- foster leadership by empowering and developing all members of the school community
- witness to the presence of God amongst us by celebrating our Catholic heritage as a faith community. In this, we seek to be disciples of Jesus, our model for authentic humanity.

Our Educational Principles

Education in Faith

- All that we do gives witness to the presence of God
- All are invited to respond to God's call to bring hope to our world
- Our Catholic heritage is celebrated in the tradition of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop

Teaching and Learning

- A positive teaching and learning environment is dynamic and adaptive
- Lifelong learners challenge themselves
- Effective teaching is responsive to a rapidly evolving society

School Community

- A sustainable future is the responsibility of all community members
- Diversity, equity and justice form the basis of a supportive community
- Genuine partnerships between students, families, staff and the wider community promote a positive school environment

Student Wellbeing

- Each student is a global citizen called to respond to the challenges of their time
- Affirming the intrinsic dignity of each person is fundamental to student wellbeing
- An environment that models Catholic values enhances student wellbeing

Leadership and Management

- Leadership takes many forms; all are called to leadership
- Leadership encourages, nurtures and supports
- Effective management enables all members to engage fully in their leadership roles

SUBJECT SELECTION TIMELINE

TERM 1

- 1ST April - Subject Handbook and Year Level specific Webinars available

TERM 2

- 30th April - Year 8-10 (2026) Subject Expo
- 1st May - Subject Taster selection opens for Year 8-10 (2026)
- 4th May - Subject Taster selection closes for Year 8-10 (2026)
- 14th May - Accelerated Studies applications open
- 16th June - Year 8-10 (2026) Subject Taster Day
- 17th June - Careers Expo (6pm)
- 22nd June - Year 8-10 (2026) Students submit proposed subject selection

TERM 3

- 14th July - Year 8 (2026) Subject Selection Counselling (online learning Year 8)
- 15th July - Year 9 (2026) Subject Selection Counselling (online learning Year 9)
- 16th July - Year 10 (2026) Subject Selection Counselling (online learning Year 10)
- 17th July - Year 11 (2026) and catch-up Subject Selection Counselling

TERM 4

- 18th November - Unit 1&3 Headstart classes (2027) begin
- 30th November - Year 8-10 Headstart classes (2027) begin



JULIAN TENISON WOODS PROGRAM (JTWP)

Julian Tenison Woods Program (Gifted and Talented Education)

At MacKillop College we are committed to supporting the intellectual and social-emotional needs of gifted, talented and high ability students. The Julian Tenison Woods Program (JTWP) is a school-wide talent development program, which aims to identify students with high ability across many areas of school life and to nurture those abilities by providing opportunities to help them reach their potential.

Our approach reflects contemporary best practice in high-ability education, providing opportunities for extension, acceleration and enrichment. The Enhanced Programs are one important part of this approach, demonstrating how curriculum differentiation and interdisciplinary projects can deepen and extend student learning.

Co-curricular activities

Extracurricular activities such as excursions, competitions and specialised groups or clubs allow students to connect with like-minded peers and participate in experiences which showcase and continue to develop their strengths and interests. These include:

- Inter-school Debating
- Da Vinci Decathlon
- Thriving Minds Philosophy Conference
- WynSpeak Public Speaking Competition
- Australian Mathematics Competition
- A variety of STEM-focused experiences



YEAR 7&8: ENHANCED PROGRAM

Enhanced Year 7 and 8 English and Mathematics classes are a key part of the program. These classes provide targeted opportunities for high ability students to engage with advanced content, develop critical and creative thinking skills and learn at a pace suited to their readiness. Through differentiated teaching and challenging learning experiences, students are supported to deepen their understanding and achieve strong academic growth.

Year 7 and 8 Enhanced English

Enhanced English gives students the opportunity to engage with increasingly complex texts and ideas while reducing the time spent on foundational skills to allow greater focus on analytical, interpretive, and extended writing. Students are supported to refine their voice as writers, think critically and creatively, and develop advanced comprehension and communication skills. Students explore a range of rich and challenging texts, build sophisticated argument skills, and are introduced to creative and analytical processes aligned with the senior English curriculum.

Year 7 and 8 Enhanced Mathematics

Enhanced Mathematics allows students to progress efficiently through key mathematical concepts, creating greater opportunity to engage in complex problem solving, mathematical reasoning, and abstract thinking. As students consolidate core knowledge, increasing emphasis is placed on application, algebraic fluency and the exploration of multiple solution strategies. This approach supports deeper conceptual understanding and prepares students for advanced study, including accelerated pathways and future success in VCE Mathematics.

Please note: Current (2026) Year 7 Telescope students will remain in the program for Year 8 in 2027.

YEAR 7&8: ENHANCED PROGRAM

Selection Criteria for Year 7 Enhanced Programs

Initial identification for the Julian Tenison Woods Program takes place during Grade 6 for entry into Year 7. Information about the program and the entry process is shared with families during the enrolment process. Families enrolling at the College are invited to indicate their interest in having their child participate in the program's entry assessment.

Nominated students attend the College to complete PAT Reading and PAT Mathematics assessments under supervised test conditions. Information considered as part of the identification process includes:

- NAPLAN results submitted during enrolment
- PAT Reading assessment
- PAT Mathematics assessment

Progression in the Year 8 Enhanced Programs

The program is designed to be flexible and responsive across Years 7 and 8. Student progress is carefully monitored throughout Year 7 to ensure appropriate placement and support each semester. Places are reviewed mid-semester with selection based on demonstrated academic progress, learning behaviours, and readiness for extension. Students wishing to join the program in year 8 will be required to apply and sit an entrance test. This approach ensures that placements remain dynamic and responsive to each student's development.

YEARS 7&8: CURRICULUM

MacKillop College's teaching and learning program is guided by the F-10 Victorian Curriculum 2.0, which outlines what every student should learn at each stage of schooling. This curriculum provides a common foundation of knowledge and skills essential for lifelong learning, social development, and active, informed citizenship.

Subjects studied in Years 7 & 8 include:

- Religious Education
- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Health and Physical Education
- Humanities
- Languages
- The Arts
 - Drama
 - Music
 - Art
- Technologies
 - Design Technologies
 - Digital Technologies

Extracurricular programs and activities available to Year 7 & 8 are:

- Thrive (Pastoral Care Program)
- Life Changer (Education program)
- Think you know (Education program)
- Tagged (Education program)
- Our Futures (Education program)
- CTRL your Scroll (Education program)
- Sport: Premier League
- Sport: SACSS
- Performing Arts Experiences
 - Musical production
- Retreats and Reflection Days
- Interstate trips
- Student Leadership Programs
- Lunchtime Clubs including:
 - Wednesday Word (Bible Studies)
 - Chess
 - ZooCrew
 - Anime
 - EcoMack
 - Book Club

YEAR 7&8: CURRICULUM STRUCTURE

A Josephite education emphasises the formation of the whole person. Our Year 7 and 8 curriculum highlights core learning areas and specialist subjects. As a crucial period of transition, Years 7 and 8 blend core studies with semester-based Major Studies, enabling students to engage deeply with their learning while sampling the breadth of opportunities offered in the Senior School.

Year 7

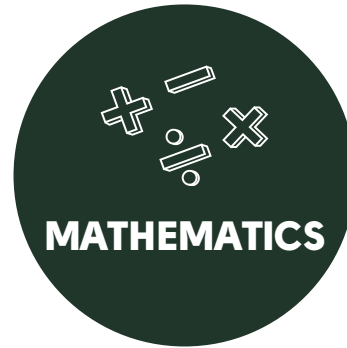
Compulsory Subjects (Core) - Year long							Specialist - Semester based	
Religious Education	English	Mathematics	Science	Humanities	Health and Physical Education	Languages <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • French • Italian • Japanese 	Arts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Music • Art 	Technology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital • Design

Year 8

Compulsory Subjects (Core) - Year long							Specialist - Semester based	
Religious Education	English	Mathematics	Science	Humanities	Health and Physical Education	Languages <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • French • Italian • Japanese 	Arts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Music • Drama 	Technology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital • Design

LEARNING AREAS

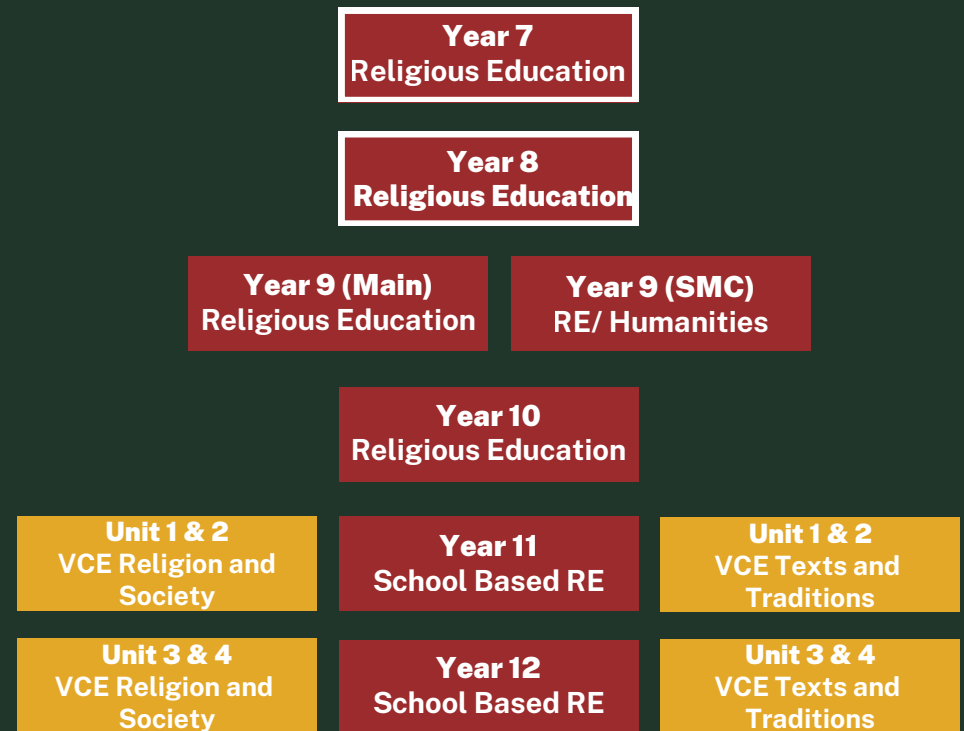
Click on the Learning Area to jump to each section



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

LEARNING FOCUS

The Religious Education pathway encourages and enables students to develop an understanding of faith, ethics and action for justice expressed within scriptural, historical and contemporary contexts. Through inquiry, discussion and reflection, students explore how our Catholic Christian tradition and other religious traditions help to shape identity and the society in which we live; they develop and strengthen their ability to examine sources, analyse perspectives and articulate informed responses.



■ Compulsory subjects

■ Elective subjects

YEAR 7

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Subject Description

- Explore belonging, identity and community within the Catholic tradition and the MacKillop community
- Examine moral decision-making, conscience formation and the role of scripture and Church teachings
- Develop understanding of God, including the Trinity and how God is revealed through history
- Compare religious and scientific perspectives on creation and the origins of the world
- Engage with theological questions through discussion, reflection and ethical reasoning

Assessment Type

- Tests
- Booklets with questions
- Research tasks

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Year 10 Religious Education
- Year 11&12 Religious Education – School Based Units
- Unit 1-4 Religion and Society

COMPULSORY SUBJECT

WHOLE YEAR

YEAR 8

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Subject Description

- Explore the historical, cultural and religious context of Jesus' life and identity
- Examine the purpose and forms of prayer and its role in personal and communal faith
- Investigate poverty and inequality through the teachings of Jesus and Catholic Social Teaching
- Analyse Church teachings on forgiveness and compare them with societal and interfaith perspectives
- Develop ethical reasoning skills through reflection on justice, compassion and social responsibility

Assessment Type

- Tests
- Group presentations
- Booklets with questions
- Research tasks

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Year 10 Religious Education
- Year 11&12 Religious Education – School Based Units
- Unit 1-4 Religion and Society

COMPULSORY SUBJECT

WHOLE YEAR

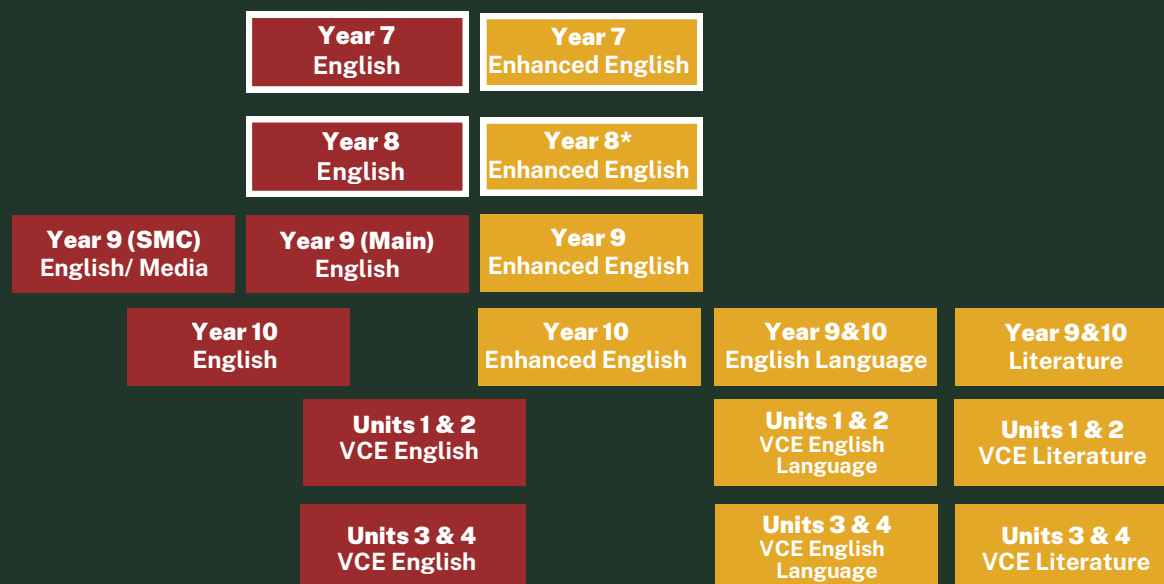


ENGLISH

LEARNING FOCUS

The English pathway enables students to develop their analytical and expressive voice through the study of literary texts, media and language. Through critical engagement with texts and the purposeful crafting of written and spoken responses, students explore how ideas, identities and perspectives are constructed and communicated across diverse contexts.

Students strengthen their ability to interpret meaning, analyse language choices and craft sustained responses for different audiences and purposes. The chart on the right outlines the subject sequence, demonstrating progression from junior studies into specialised VCE units.



 Compulsory subjects

 Elective subjects

*From 2023

YEAR 7

ENGLISH

Subject Description

- Develop skills in persuasive, analytical and creative writing for different purposes and audiences
- Plan, draft and edit writing using appropriate structure, language and tone
- Analyse novels and poetry, exploring themes, characters and author techniques
- Build skills in interpretation, inference and written expression
- Experiment with language and creativity, including the invention and use of new words

Assessment Type

- Oral Presentation
- Article Analysis
- Text Response Writing
- Passage Analysis
- Creative Writing

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Year 9 English/Enhanced English (Select Entry)
- Year 10 English/Enhanced English (Select Entry)
- Year 9&10 English Language
- Year 9&10 Literature
- Unit 1-4 English, English Language, Literature

COMPULSORY SUBJECT

WHOLE YEAR

YEAR 8

ENGLISH

Subject Description

- Develop skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening across print and multimodal texts
- Analyse gothic, historical and film texts, exploring themes, context and author techniques
- Examine how media texts use persuasive techniques to influence audiences
- Plan, draft and edit analytical and creative responses for clarity, structure and impact
- Reflect on how audience, purpose and context shape communication

Assessment Type

- Oral Presentation
- Text Response Writing
- Film Analysis
- Media Analysis
- Creative Writing

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Year 9 English/Enhanced English (Select Entry)
- Year 10 English/Enhanced English (Select Entry)
- Year 9&10 English Language
- Year 9&10 Literature
- Unit 1-4 English, English Language, Literature

COMPULSORY SUBJECT

WHOLE YEAR



YEAR 7

ENGLISH (ENHANCED)

Subject Description

- Engage with increasingly complex texts and ideas while reducing the time spent on foundational skills to allow greater focus on analytical, interpretive, and extended writing
- Think critically and creatively, and develop advanced comprehension and communication skills
- Explore a range of rich and challenging texts, build sophisticated argument skills, and are introduced to creative and analytical processes aligned with the senior English curriculum

Assessment Type

- Oral Presentation
- Article Analysis
- Text Response Writing
- Passage Analysis
- Creative Writing

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Year 8 Enhanced English
- Year 9 Enhanced English
- Year 10 Enhanced English
- Year 9&10 English Language
- Year 9&10 Literature
- Unit 1-4 English, English Language, Literature

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

WHOLE YEAR

YEAR 8

ENGLISH (ENHANCED)

Subject Description

- Engage with increasingly complex texts and ideas while reducing the time spent on foundational skills to allow greater focus on analytical, interpretive, and extended writing
- Think critically and creatively, and develop advanced comprehension and communication skills
- Explore a range of rich and challenging texts, build sophisticated argument skills, and are introduced to creative and analytical processes aligned with the senior English curriculum

Assessment Type

- Oral Presentation
- Text Response Writing
- Film Analysis
- Media Analysis
- Creative Writing

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Year 9 Enhanced English
- Year 10 Enhanced English
- Year 9&10 English Language
- Year 9&10 Literature
- Unit 1-4 English, English Language, Literature

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

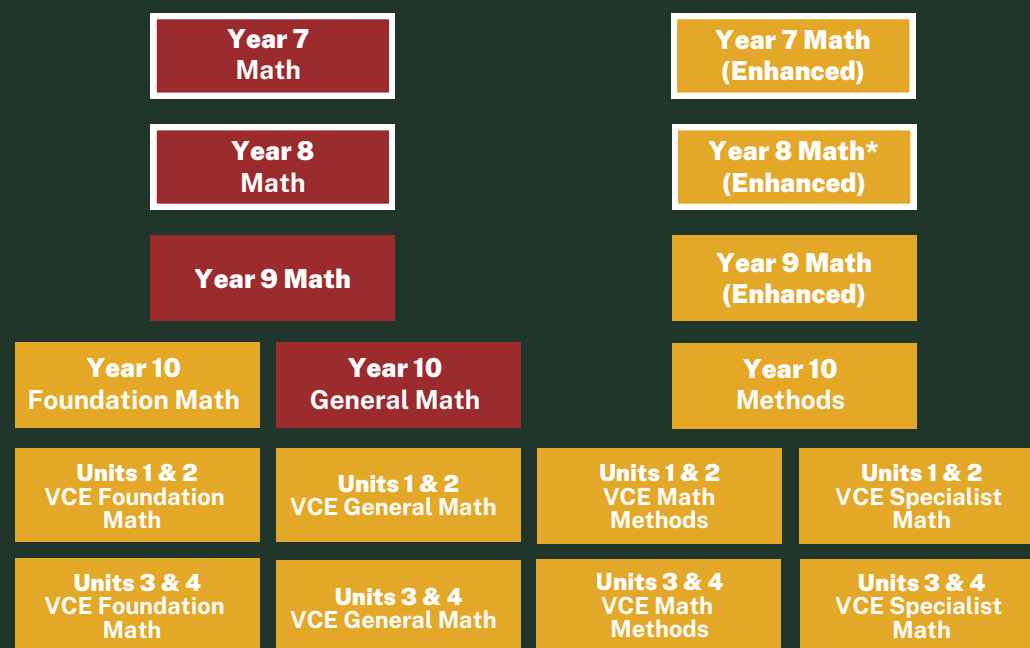
WHOLE YEAR

MATHEMATICS

LEARNING FOCUS

The Mathematics pathway enables students to develop conceptual understanding, logical reasoning and problem-solving skills across a range of mathematical contexts. Through analytical thinking and the application of mathematical processes, students explore patterns, relationships and models that describe real-world phenomena.

Students strengthen their ability to interpret data, justify solutions and apply mathematical reasoning with precision and accuracy. The chart on the right outlines the subject sequence, demonstrating progression from junior studies into specialised VCE Mathematics pathways.



■ Compulsory subjects

■ Elective subjects

*From 2023

YEAR 7

MATHEMATICS

Subject Description

- Bridges primary school learning with the more abstract mathematics of later years.
- The course consolidates prior knowledge while developing problem-solving, reasoning, and abstract thinking skills
- Students extend their understanding of numbers, including negative numbers, squares, cubes, fractions, decimals, and percentages
- Mathematical concepts are applied to real-world contexts such as probability, data collection, analysis, and display
- Students investigate measurement, geometry, and algebra to model and solve a range of mathematical problems
- All students are expected to have and use a scientific calculator throughout the course

Assessment Type

- Test

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Year 8 Math
- Year 9 Math (General or Enhanced)
- Year 10 Math (General or Methods)
- Unit 1&2 Math (General, Methods, Specialist)
- Unit 3&4 Math (General, Methods, Specialist)

COMPULSORY SUBJECT

WHOLE YEAR

YEAR 8

MATHEMATICS

Subject Description

- Builds accuracy and efficiency in selecting and applying mathematical procedures
- Students strengthen problem-solving skills through modelling, investigation, reasoning, and working in unfamiliar contexts
- Number knowledge is extended to include integers, indices, and financial applications of fractions, decimals, and percentages
- Algebraic thinking develops through constructing, solving, and interpreting equations and linear relationships
- Geometry and measurement are expanded to include congruence, similarity, volume, and unit conversions
- Students deepen their understanding of data and probability through summary statistics, outliers, and probability representations, using a scientific calculator throughout the course

Assessment Type

- Test

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Year 9 Math (General or Enhanced)
- Year 10 Math (General or Methods)
- Unit 1&2 Math (General, Methods, Specialist)
- Unit 3&4 Math (General, Methods, Specialist)

COMPULSORY SUBJECT

WHOLE YEAR

YEAR 7

MATHEMATICS (ENHANCED)

Subject Description

- Allows students to progress efficiently through key mathematical concepts, creating greater opportunity to engage in complex problem solving, mathematical reasoning, and abstract thinking
- Consolidate core knowledge, increased emphasis is placed on application, algebraic fluency and the exploration of multiple solution strategies
- Deeper conceptual understanding and preparation for advanced study, including accelerated pathways and future success in VCE Mathematics

Assessment Type

- Test

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Year 8 Math
- Year 9 Math (Enhanced)
- Year 10 Math (Methods)
- Unit 1&2 Math (Methods, Specialist)
- Unit 3&4 Math (Methods, Specialist)

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

WHOLE YEAR

YEAR 8

MATHEMATICS (ENHANCED)

Subject Description

- Allows students to progress efficiently through key mathematical concepts, creating greater opportunity to engage in complex problem solving, mathematical reasoning, and abstract thinking
- Consolidate core knowledge, increased emphasis is placed on application, algebraic fluency and the exploration of multiple solution strategies
- Deeper conceptual understanding and preparation for advanced study, including accelerated pathways and future success in VCE Mathematics

Assessment Type

- Test

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Year 9 Math (Enhanced)
- Year 10 Math (Methods)
- Unit 1&2 Math (Methods, Specialist)
- Unit 3&4 Math (Methods, Specialist)

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

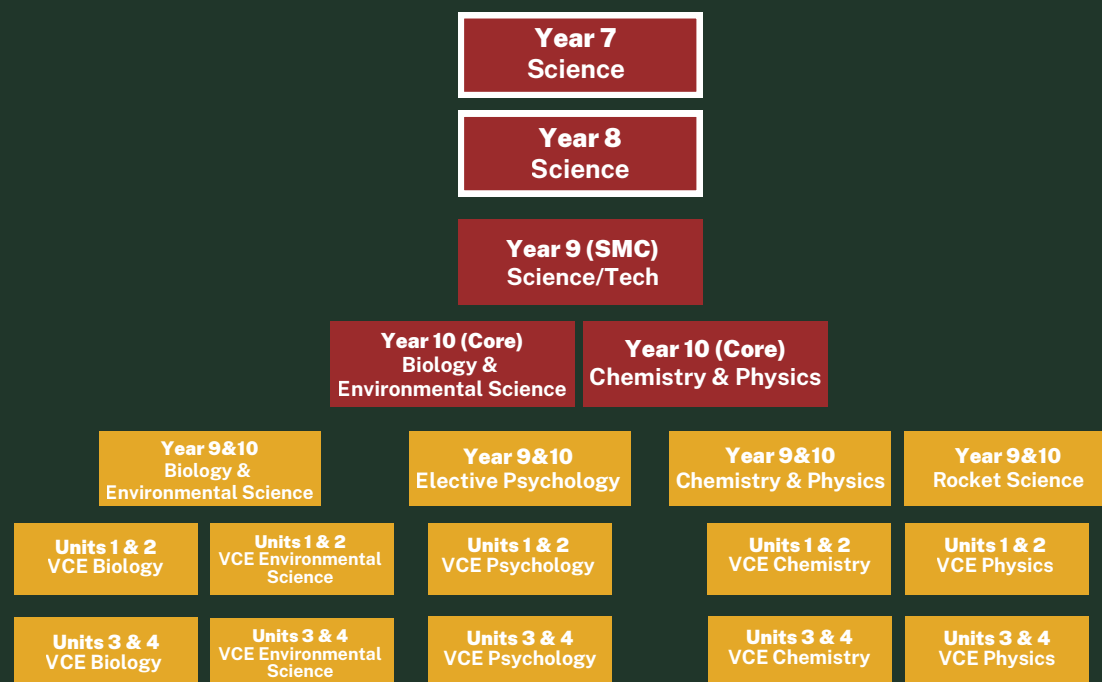
WHOLE YEAR

SCIENCE

LEARNING FOCUS

The Science pathway enables students to develop scientific understanding, inquiry skills and evidence-based reasoning across a range of disciplines. Through investigation, experimentation and analysis, students explore how scientific knowledge explains natural phenomena and informs real-world decisions.

Students strengthen their ability to design investigations, interpret data and evaluate scientific claims with accuracy and critical insight. The chart on the right outlines the subject sequence, demonstrating progression from junior studies into specialised VCE Science pathways.



■ Compulsory subjects

■ Elective subjects

YEAR 7 SCIENCE

Subject Description

- Be introduced to scientific inquiry skills through hands-on investigations and practical activities
- Explore forces, including gravity and friction, and their influence in the motion of objects
- Investigate Earth and space sciences, and the interactions between the sun, Earth and moon
- Determine how living and non-living organisms are categorised, and how species are classified in ecosystems
- Use understandings of the particle theory and properties of matter, to classify substances and separate substances based on their composition

Assessment Type

- Test
- Data Analysis
- Scientific Investigation

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Year 9&10 Biological & Environmental Science
- Year 9&10 Chemistry & Physics
- Year 9&10 Rocket Science
- Year 9&10 Elective Psychology
- Unit 1-4 Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Physics, Psychology

COMPULSORY SUBJECT

WHOLE YEAR

YEAR 8 SCIENCE

Subject Description

- Refine and develop scientific inquiry skills through practical investigations and use of technology
- Investigate how chemical and physical changes can be used to determine how elements and compounds interact in chemical reactions
- Explore energy transfers and transformations in relation to household and electrical energies
- Describe the structure and function of cells and how organisms are organised
- Study the Earth as a dynamic planet, including the rock cycle, tectonic activity, and the impacts of humans using scientific evidence

Assessment Type

- Test
- Data Analysis
- Scientific Investigation
- Case Study

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Year 9&10 Biological & Environmental Science
- Year 9&10 Chemistry & Physics
- Year 9&10 Rocket Science
- Year 9&10 Elective Psychology
- Unit 1-4 Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Physics, Psychology

COMPULSORY SUBJECT

WHOLE YEAR

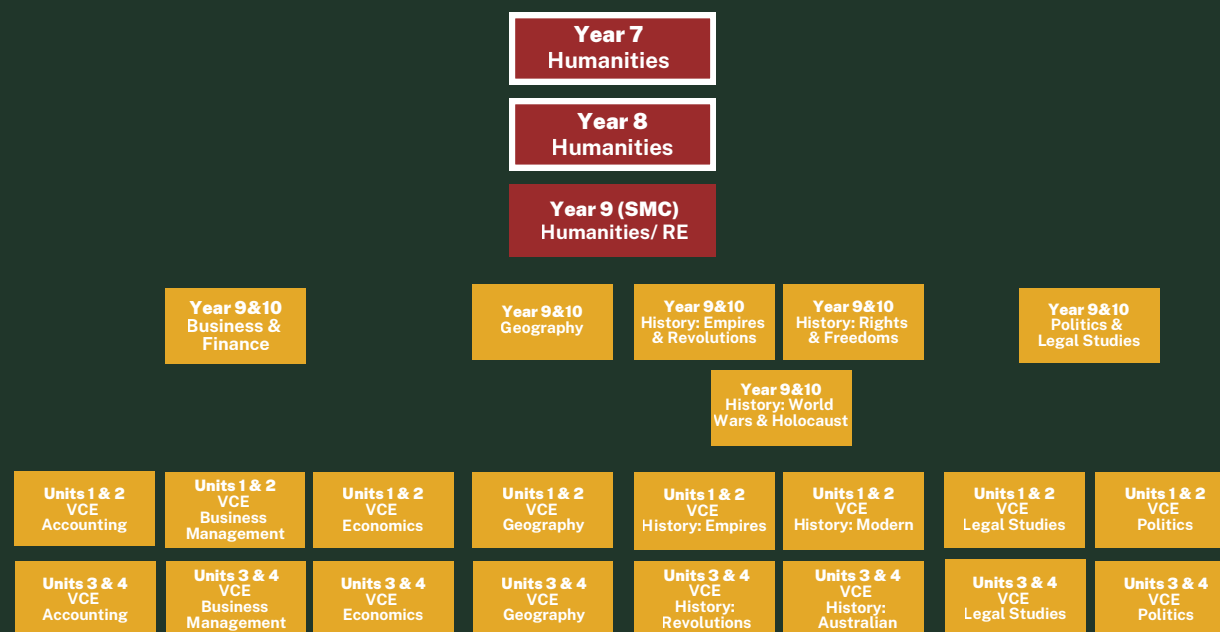


HUMANITIES

LEARNING FOCUS

The Humanities pathway enables students to develop a deep understanding of societies, systems and global contexts across history, geography, economics and civics. Through critical inquiry and analysis of sources, students explore how historical, political and economic forces shape the world around them.

Students strengthen their ability to interpret evidence, construct reasoned arguments and evaluate perspectives with clarity and insight. The chart on the right outlines the subject sequence, demonstrating progression from junior studies into specialised VCE Humanities pathways.



■ Compulsory subjects

■ Elective subjects

YEAR 7

HUMANITIES

Subject Description

- Introduce History, Geography, and Economics & Business through an integrated course
- Explore Prehistory and Ancient Civilisations, including cultural identity
- Investigate connections between people, places and environments
- Explore the use and allocation of world resources in physical and economic contexts
- Develop understanding of entrepreneurship and economic concepts such as supply and demand

Assessment Type

- Evaluation of sources
- Historical writing
- Development of a Business Plan
- Analysis of Geographic Data
- Multimedia Presentation

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Year 9&10 Business and Finance
- Year 9&10 Politics & Legal Studies
- Year 9&10 Geography
- Year 9&10 History (multiple options)
- Unit 1-4 Accounting, Business Management, Economic, Geography, History, Legal Studies, Politics

COMPULSORY SUBJECT

WHOLE YEAR

YEAR 8

HUMANITIES

Subject Description

- Study History, Geography, and Civics and Citizenship
- Explore the Medieval period and the Mongol Empire
- Examine urbanisation and sustainability in large modern cities
- Investigate law, government, and citizens' rights and responsibilities in Australia
- Develop research, collaboration and inquiry skills using learning technologies

Assessment Type

- Evaluation of sources
- Historical writing
- Geography field work report
- Test
- Case study analysis

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Year 9&10 Business and Finance
- Year 9&10 Politics & Legal Studies
- Year 9&10 Geography
- Year 9&10 History (multiple options)
- Unit 1-4 Accounting, Business Management, Economic, Geography, History, Legal Studies, Politics

COMPULSORY SUBJECT

WHOLE YEAR

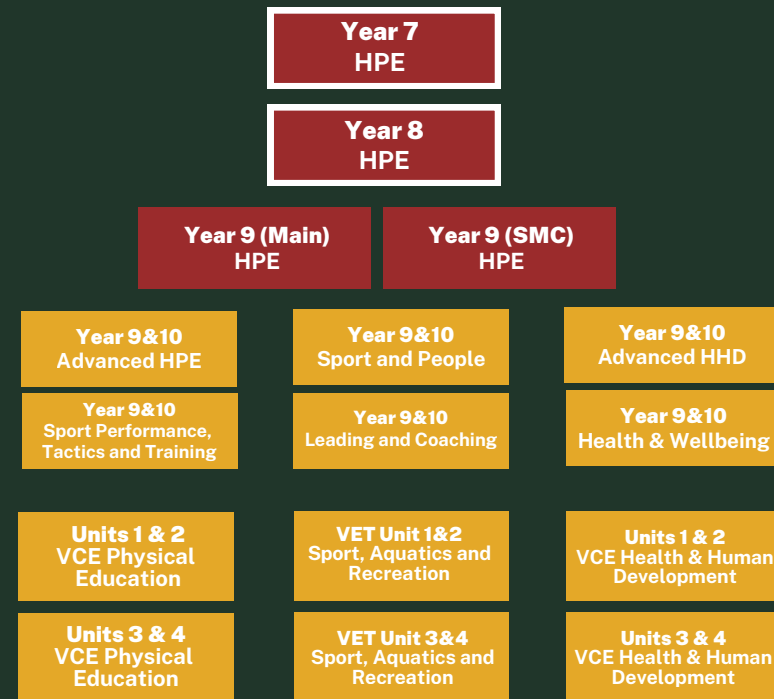


HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

LEARNING FOCUS

The Health and Physical Education pathway enables students to develop knowledge of health, wellbeing and physical performance across personal and community contexts. Through inquiry, movement and analysis, students explore how biological, psychological and social factors influence participation and wellbeing.

Students strengthen their ability to evaluate strategies, apply theoretical knowledge and make informed decisions about health and physical activity. The chart on the right outlines the subject sequence, demonstrating progression from junior studies into specialised VCE Health and Physical Education pathways.



■ Compulsory subjects

■ Elective subjects

YEAR 7

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Subject Description

- Develop movement competence and are encouraged to build habits that support lifelong participation in physical activity.
- Include a range of physical pursuits such as athletics, bike education, games, gymnastics and team sports in practical units
- Focus on healthy lifestyle choices, fitness, growth and development, and managing transitions and relationships in theory lessons
- Explore safety and wellbeing, including bike, sun and water safety, fitness improvement and understanding how exercise affects the body

Assessment Type

- Fitness Testing
- Presentation
- Practical application
- Theoretical tasks

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Year 9&10 Health and Physical Education Electives (5 options)
- Unit 1-4 Physical Education
- Unit 1-4 Health and Human Development

COMPULSORY SUBJECT

WHOLE YEAR

YEAR 8

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Subject Description

- Focus on harm minimisation (alcohol, vaping and drugs), respectful relationships, body systems and fitness in theory units
- Develop an understanding of how exercise affects the body, including fitness improvement and musculoskeletal function
- Include a wide range of physical pursuits such as team sports, invasion games, dance and bike education in practical units

Assessment Type

- Presentation
- Test
- Theoretical tasks
- Fitness Testing

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Year 9&10 Advanced Sport Science
- Year 9&10 Health, Wellbeing and Fitness
- Year 9&10 Advanced Health and Human Development
- Year 9&10 Leading and Coaching
- Year 9&10 Sport and People
- Unit 1-4 Physical Education
- Unit 1-4 Health and Human Development

COMPULSORY SUBJECT

WHOLE YEAR



LANGUAGES

LEARNING FOCUS

The Languages pathway enables students to develop linguistic proficiency and intercultural understanding through sustained communication and cultural exploration.

Through spoken interaction, written expression and interpretation of authentic texts, students explore how language reflects identity and cultural perspective.

Students strengthen their ability to exchange ideas, interpret meaning and communicate effectively for different audiences and purposes. The chart on the right outlines the subject sequence, demonstrating progression from junior studies into specialised VCE Language pathways.



Year 7 French	Year 7 Italian	Year 7 Japanese
Year 8 French	Year 8 Italian	Year 8 Japanese
Year 9 (Main/SMC) French	Year 9 (Main/SMC) Italian	Year 9 (Main/SMC) Japanese
Year 10 (Sem 1) French	Year 10 (Sem 1) Italian	Year 10 (Sem 1) Japanese
Year 10 (Sem 2) French	Year 10 (Sem 2) Italian	Year 10 (Sem 2) Japanese
Unit 1+2 VCE French	Unit 1+2 VCE Italian	Unit 1+2 VCE Japanese
Unit 3+4 VCE French	Unit 3+4 VCE Italian	Unit 3+4 VCE Japanese

■ Compulsory subjects

■ Elective subjects

YEAR 7 FRENCH

Subject Description

- Build foundational French communication skills through interactive activities such as role plays, games and written tasks
- Exchange personal information and describe family members, animals and body parts
- Strengthen reading, writing, listening and speaking skills using a range of learning technologies
- Explore the Francophone world and examine how language and culture influence one another
- Develop confidence in communicating in French and reflect on the value of language learning

Assessment Type

- Listening Tests
- Reading Tests
- Speaking Tasks
- Writing Tasks

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Year 10 French
- Year 10 French (Pre VCE)
- Unit 1-4 French

COMPULSORY SUBJECT

WHOLE YEAR

YEAR 7 ITALIAN

Subject Description

- Build foundational Italian communication skills through interactive activities such as role plays, games and written tasks
- Exchange personal information and describe family members and animals in Italian
- Strengthen reading, writing, listening and speaking skills using a range of learning technologies
- Explore Italian culture and examine how language and culture influence one another
- Develop confidence in communicating in Italian and reflect on the value of language learning

Assessment Type

- Listening Tests
- Reading Tests
- Speaking Tasks
- Writing Tasks

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Year 10 Italian
- Year 10 Italian (Pre VCE)
- Unit 1-4 Italian

COMPULSORY SUBJECT

WHOLE YEAR

YEAR 7 JAPANESE

Subject Description

- Build foundational Japanese communication skills through interactive activities such as role plays, games and written tasks
- Exchange personal information and describe family members, pets, and food preference in Japanese
- Recognise key features of Japanese language, including scripts and basic sentence structures
- Explore Japanese culture and examine how language and culture influence one another
- Develop confidence in communicating in Japanese and reflect on the value of language learning

Assessment Type

- Listening Tests
- Reading Tests
- Speaking Tasks
- Writing Tasks

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Year 10 Japanese
- Year 10 Japanese (Pre VCE)
- Unit 1-4 Japanese

COMPULSORY SUBJECT

WHOLE YEAR

YEAR 8 FRENCH

Subject Description

- Strengthen French communication skills through interactive reading, writing, speaking and listening tasks
- Discuss holidays, festivals, fashion and hobbies using appropriate vocabulary and structures
- Extend understanding of French-speaking countries and their cultural traditions
- Apply language skills in role plays, presentations and digital learning activities
- Reflect on how language learning enhances intercultural awareness and global communication

Assessment Type

- Listening Tests
- Reading Tests
- Speaking Tasks
- Writing Tasks

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Year 10 French
- Year 10 French (Pre VCE)
- Unit 1-4 French

COMPULSORY SUBJECT

WHOLE YEAR

YEAR 8 ITALIAN

Subject Description

- Strengthen Italian communication skills through interactive reading, writing, speaking and listening tasks
- Discuss pastimes, languages, nationalities, travel and food using appropriate vocabulary and structures
- Extend understanding of Italian culture and everyday life within Italian-speaking communities
- Apply language skills in role plays, presentations and digital learning activities
- Reflect on how language learning enhances intercultural awareness and global communication

Assessment Type

- Listening Tests
- Reading Tests
- Speaking Tasks
- Writing Tasks

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Year 10 Italian
- Year 10 Italian (Pre VCE)
- Unit 1-4 Italian

COMPULSORY SUBJECT

WHOLE YEAR

YEAR 8 JAPANESE

Subject Description

- Strengthen Japanese communication skills through interactive reading, writing, speaking and listening tasks
- Discuss annual events, hobbies, sports, leisure activities and travelling using appropriate vocabulary and structures
- Extend understanding of Japanese culture and everyday life within Japanese-speaking communities
- Apply language skills in role plays, presentations and digital learning activities
- Reflect on how language learning enhances intercultural awareness and global communication

Assessment Type

- Listening Tests
- Reading Tests
- Speaking Tasks
- Writing Tasks

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Year 10 Japanese
- Year 10 Japanese (Pre VCE)
- Unit 1-4 Japanese

COMPULSORY SUBJECT

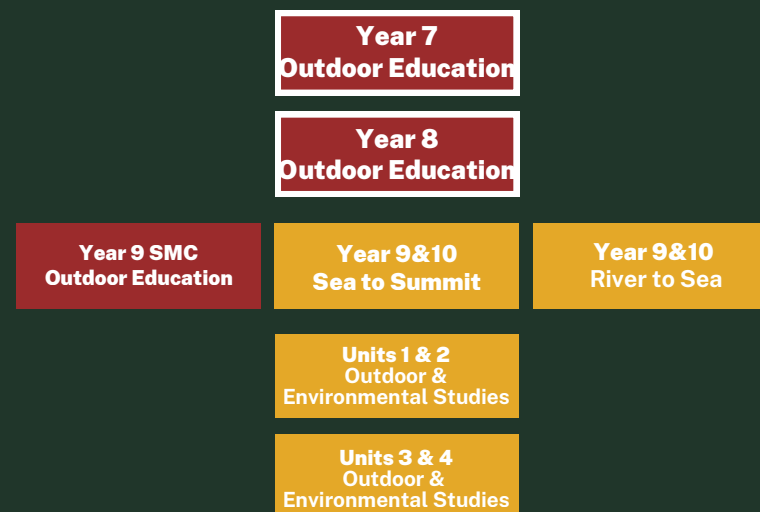
WHOLE YEAR

OUTDOOR EDUCATION

LEARNING FOCUS

The Outdoor Education pathway enables students to develop an understanding of human relationships with natural environments across ecological, historical and social contexts. Through practical experience, investigation and reflection, students explore how outdoor environments are experienced, managed and sustained.

Students strengthen their ability to evaluate environmental impacts, analyse management strategies and apply safe and sustainable practices. The chart on the right outlines the subject sequence, demonstrating progression from junior studies into VCE Outdoor and Environmental Studies.



 Compulsory subjects

 Elective subjects

YEAR 7

OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Subject Description

Outdoor Education provides compulsory, hands-on learning experiences that build resilience, leadership, teamwork and environmental awareness through practical activities in natural environments.

Year 7 – Coastal Camping Experience

- Develop confidence, connection and belonging through a two-day coastal camp including surfing, initiative activities and team challenges
- Build relationships and resilience while transitioning into secondary school in a supportive outdoor environment

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Year 9 Outdoor Education (SMC)
- Year 9&10 Outdoor Education Sea to Summit
- Year 9&10 Outdoor Education River to Sea
- Unit 1-4 Outdoor and Environmental Studies

COMPULSORY CAMP

2 DAYS - 1 NIGHT

YEAR 8

OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Subject Description

Outdoor Education provides compulsory, hands-on learning experiences that build resilience, leadership, teamwork and environmental awareness through practical activities in natural environments.

Year 8 – Bushcraft and Environmental Experience

- Extend outdoor skills through a three-day camp including bushcraft, navigation (map and compass), cycling and rainforest bushwalking
- Strengthen leadership, independence and environmental responsibility through conservation activities and team-based challenges

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Year 9 Outdoor Education (SMC)
- Year 9&10 Outdoor Education Sea to Summit
- Year 9&10 Outdoor Education River to Sea
- Unit 1-4 Outdoor and Environmental Studies

COMPULSORY CAMP

3 DAYS - 2 NIGHTS

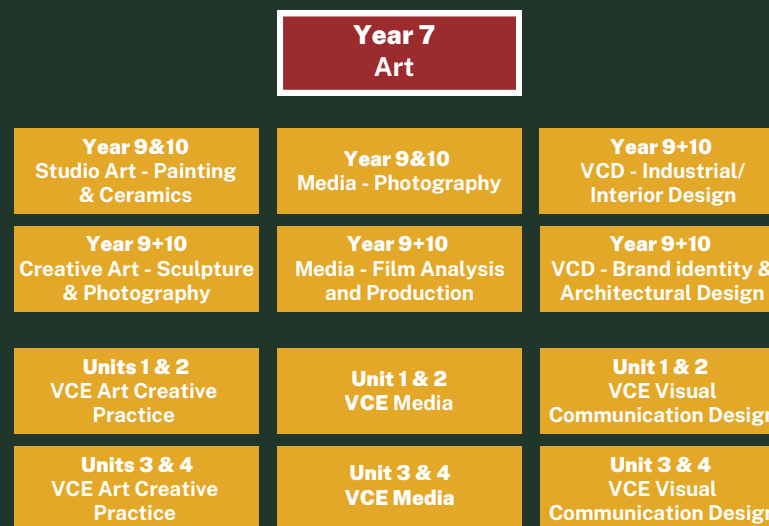


ARTS - CREATIVE

LEARNING FOCUS

The Creative Arts pathway enables students to develop their creative voice and technical skills across art, media, design and performance disciplines. Through practical creation, experimentation and critical analysis, students explore how ideas are generated, refined and communicated to audiences.

Students strengthen their ability to apply creative processes, reflect on artistic choices and evaluate works in diverse contexts. The chart on the right outlines the subject sequence, demonstrating progression from junior studies into specialised VCE Creative Arts pathways.



■ Compulsory subjects

■ Elective subjects

YEAR 7

ART

Subject Description

- Explore how artists use materials, techniques, processes and visual conventions to express ideas
- Experiment with art elements and principles to develop and plan artworks
- Create artworks using drawing, painting, print making and clay.
- Present and reflect on completed artwork
- Respond to and interpret artwork, including their cultural and historical contexts

Assessment Type

- Folio
- Written Assessment/Task

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Year 9&10 Studio Art: Painting and Ceramics
- Year 9&10 Creative Art: Sculpture and Photography
- Unit 1-4 Art Creative Practice



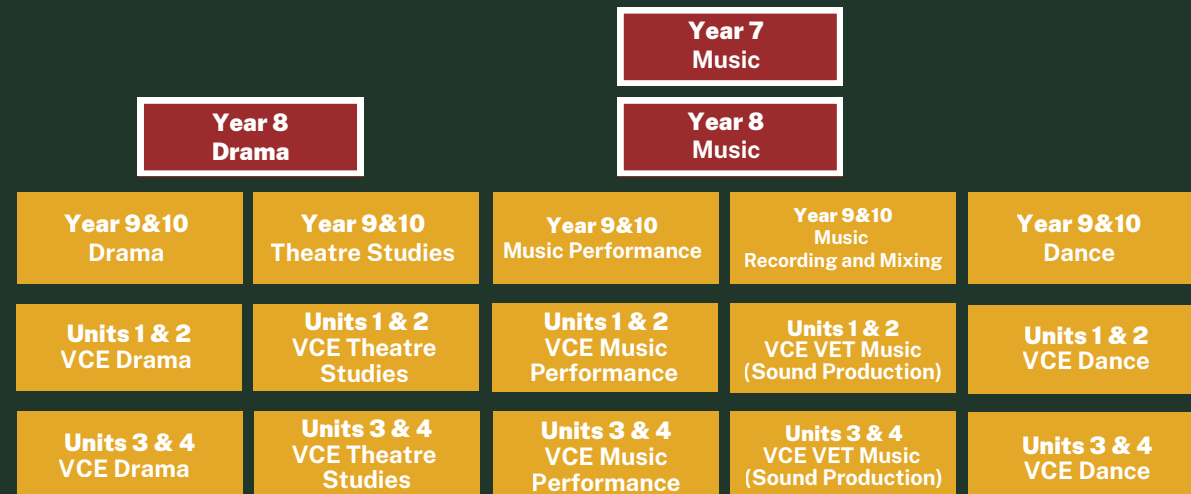
COMPULSORY SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

ARTS - PERFORMING

LEARNING FOCUS

The Performing Arts pathway enables students to develop expressive skills, performance techniques and artistic understanding across drama, dance and music disciplines. Through rehearsal, performance and critical reflection, students explore how meaning is created and communicated to audiences. Students strengthen their ability to interpret scripts and scores, devise original work and evaluate performance using appropriate terminology. The chart on the right outlines the subject sequence, demonstrating progression from junior studies into specialised VCE Performing Arts pathways.



■ Compulsory subjects

■ Elective subjects

YEAR 7 MUSIC

Subject Description

- Explore a broad range of musical styles and genres
- Develop an understanding of orchestral and program music
- Perform music using voice and instruments
- Use music theory concepts to understand and create music
- Respond to and reflect on musical works

Assessment Type

- Theory and Aural Tests
- Practical Task (Group)
- Practical Task (Individual)
- Research Task

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Year 9&10 Music Performance (Repertoire)
- Year 9&10 Music Performance (Contemporary)
- Year 9&10 Recording and Mixing
- Unit 1-4 Music Performance
- VCE VET Music (Sound Production)

COMPULSORY SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 8 MUSIC

Subject Description

- Explore a broad range of contemporary musical styles and genres
- Develop skill in performing with others in a rock band setting
- Perform music using voice and instruments
- Use music theory and aural concepts to understand and create music

Assessment Type

- Theory and Aural Tests
- Practical Task (Individual)
- Practical Task (Group)
- Recording and Mixing Task

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Year 9&10 Music Performance (Repertoire)
- Year 9&10 Music Performance (Contemporary)
- Year 9&10 Recording and Mixing
- Unit 1-4 Music Performance
- VCE VET Music (Sound Production)

COMPULSORY SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 8 DRAMA

Subject Description

- Explore a range of drama styles, genres, and forms
- Develop skills in drama theory and performance
- Use dramatic elements and conventions to create and perform
- Explore the history of theatre and its role in past and present societies
- Build confidence and awareness through making, presenting, and responding to drama

Assessment Type

- Workbook
- Performance
- Written Reflection

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Year 9&10 Drama
- Year 9&10 Theatre Studies
- Unit 1-4 Drama
- Unit 1-4 Theatre Studies

COMPULSORY SUBJECT

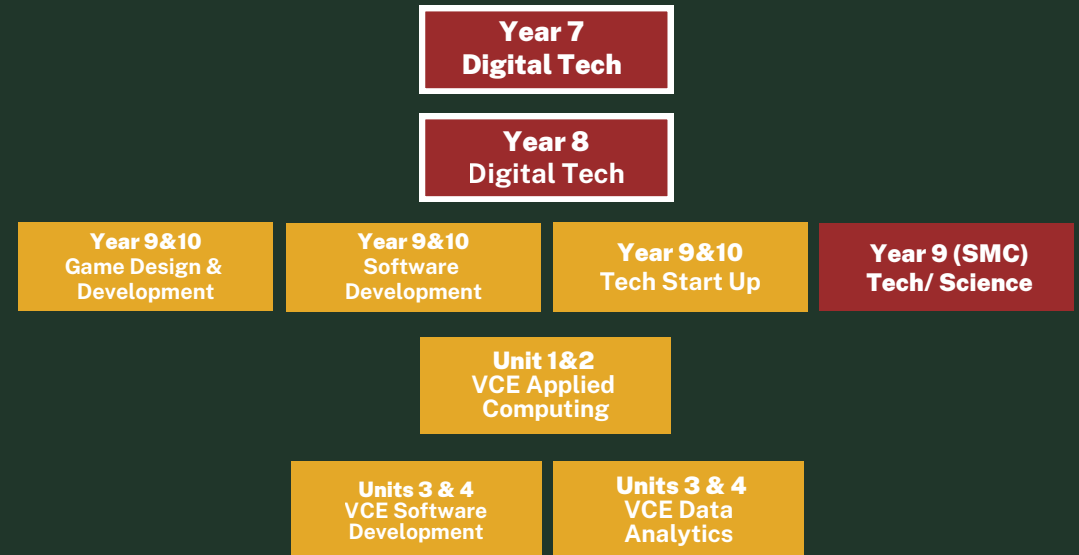
ONE SEMESTER

TECHNOLOGY - DIGITAL

LEARNING FOCUS

The Digital Technologies pathway enables students to develop practical and creative skills in a technology-driven world. Through design, coding and innovation, students explore how digital ideas become interactive games, functional software solutions and real-world products.

Students strengthen their ability to apply computational thinking, collaborate effectively and evaluate digital solutions with ethical and entrepreneurial awareness. The chart on the right outlines the subject sequence, demonstrating progression from junior studies into specialised VCE Digital Technologies pathways.



Compulsory subjects

Elective subjects

YEAR 7

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

Subject Description

- Develop students' confidence and skills in using digital information systems effectively
- Explore the personal, local and global impacts of digital technologies and how digital systems communicate via networks and the Internet
- Provide practical opportunities for creating innovative digital content
- Units include cybersafety, web publishing, and data visualisations & infographics

Assessment Type

- Comic strip
- Folio of work
- Website

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Year 9&10 Game Design Development
- Year 9&10 Tech Start up
- Year 9&10 Software Development
- Unit 1&2 Applied Computing
- Unit 3&4 Data Analytics
- Unit 3&4 Software Development

COMPULSORY SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 8

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

Subject Description

- Explores Artificial Intelligence, providing students with an understanding of AI concepts and applications
- Engage in project-based learning to investigate Hardware and Software, developing practical digital skills
- Algorithms and Programming are studied to build problem-solving and coding abilities
- Emphasis on creating digital content and understanding how digital systems communicate via networks and the Internet

Assessment Type

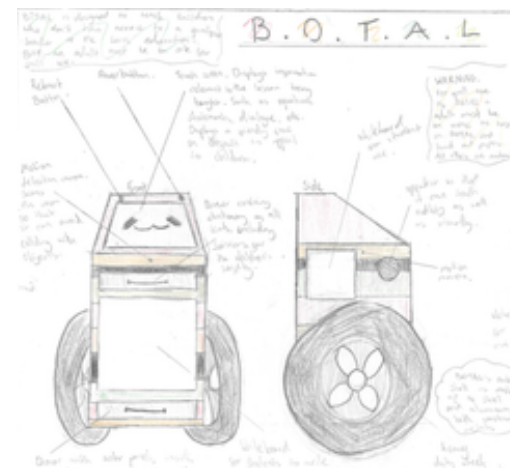
- Test
- Folio of programs
- Production of a prototype

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Year 9&10 Game Design Development
- Year 9&10 Tech Start up
- Year 9&10 Software Development
- Unit 1&2 Applied Computing
- Unit 3&4 Data Analytics
- Unit 3&4 Software Development

COMPULSORY SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

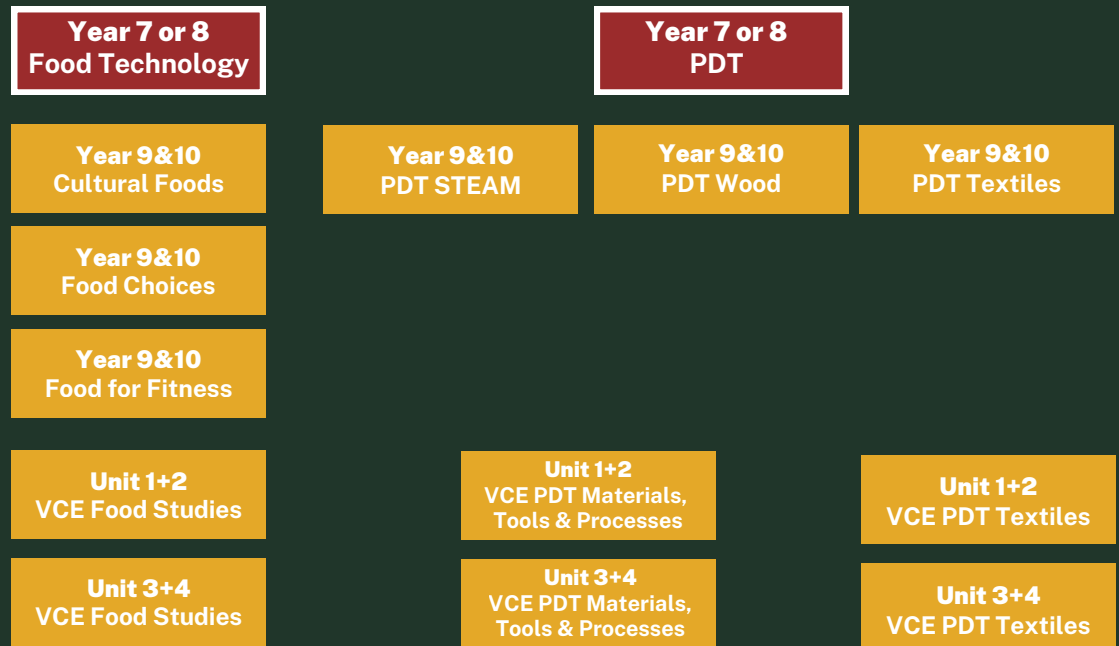


TECHNOLOGY - DESIGN

LEARNING FOCUS

The Design and Technology pathway enables students to develop creative, technical and problem-solving skills across materials, textiles and food technologies. Through investigation, design thinking and practical production, students explore how products and solutions are developed in response to user needs and contemporary challenges.

Students strengthen their ability to apply design processes, manipulate materials and ingredients, and evaluate sustainable and ethical considerations. The chart on the right outlines the subject sequence, demonstrating progression from junior studies into specialised VCE Design and Technology pathways.



■ Compulsory subjects

■ Elective subjects

YEAR 7 OR 8

FOOD TECHNOLOGY

Subject Description

- Learn basic cooking processes and fundamental nutrition knowledge
- Use correct food terminology and follow recipes accurately
- Apply safe kitchen practices, including hygiene and correct use of utensils and appliances
- Conduct and reflect on sensory evaluations to assess food quality
- Explore healthy eating principles, including key food groups such as fruits and vegetables
- Apply the design process to plan and produce a suitable recipe and practical dish

Assessment Type

- Topic Test
- Investigation
- Design Task
- Production
- Evaluations and reflections

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Year 9&10 Cultural Foods
- Year 9&10 Food Choices
- Year 9&10 Food for Fitness
- Unit 1-4 Food Studies

COMPULSORY SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 7 OR 8

PDT

Subject Description

- Develop students' skills in product design and construction to create functional design solutions
- Apply the design process, including investigating, generating, planning, producing and evaluating
- Cardboard is explored as the primary material, focusing on strength, durability, flexibility and sustainability
- Develop practical production skills while demonstrating safe and responsible workshop practices in line with Victorian safety guideline.
- Examine structural integrity, functionality, aesthetics and sustainable design principles

Assessment Type

- Written tasks
- Practical tasks
- Evaluation

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Year 9&10 PDT STEAM
- Unit 1-4 PDT Materials, Tools and Processes

COMPULSORY SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER



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