Dear Year 9 Families,

I write today to overview the upcoming Year 9 into 10 Subject Selection Program that will support your child in making the best decisions for the 2026 academic year and beyond.

Subject selection is not just about picking what seems interesting or what friends are doing - it is about making informed decisions based on individual strengths, interests, and goals. It's also an opportunity for students to begin thinking about the areas they may wish to explore more deeply as they move towards VCE.

To help guide students and families through this process, we will be offering a number of supports. The details of these are outlined in the table below:

Year 9 into 10 Subject Selection Program						
Date	Time	Event	Venue	Purpose		
June 2 (Main) June 3	Period 4	Subject Selection Assembly	Moreno Auditorium	To outline the subject selection process, distribute booklets and ensure students are clear about how to make the best		
(SMC)	Period 2		SMC Hall	choices possible.		
June 4&5	All Day	Careers Day and visit to Victoria University	At school and at VU, Footscray Campus	The Careers Day offers students the opportunity to explore possible future pathways and the supports available to make the best decisions. The day at VU offers students an experience of University life. They will have presentations about future options and explore two faculties.		
June 3 (Main) & June 5 (SMC)	2 periods during the day	Vocational Major Pathways Expo	At school	This is an opportunity for students to consider and explore Vocational subjects and pathways. The current VCE VM students will present their pathways choices to the year 9s offering them lots of food for thought!		
June 17	4:00pm	2026 Year 9 & 10 Subject Handbook released on the College website	College website	The Year 9 & 10 Subject Handbook 2026 outlines the structure of Year 10 and also the subjects available for students to choose from. It is a very important Subject Selection resource.		
June 19	9:00am	Subject Taster Sessions selection portal opens	online	The Subject Taster Sessions are a new initiative for 2025 and provide our Year 9 students with the opportunity to find out more information and try out elective subjects they may not have had the chance to, before having to make subject selections. Across the day they will have 6 different Tasters, one each period. It is hoped that this day will support students in making more informed choices about their Year 10 electives.		
June 24	4:00pm	Subject Taster Sessions selection portal closes	online			
June 30	All Day	Subject Taster Sessions	In classrooms			
July 3 During the day	Period 1 – SMC Period 2 - Main	Subject Selection Expo Day	La Merci Building	Each Learning Area will set up a display of students work and materials used in each of the VCE subjects offered. Teachers of each subject and students currently		

July 3 Evening	6:00pm to 8:30pm –	Careers and Senior Pathways Expo	Moreno Auditorium and Tenison Woods Centre	undertaking them will be on hand to answer any questions students might have. This Expo will include the Learning Areas and also Universities, TAFE providers, large local employers. Current Year 9 families are invited to attend to get a head start on researching future pathways.
July 19/20	Over the weekend	Subject Selection Weekend	At home	This is the final weekend prior to the completed Subject Selection Booklets, including the signed selection form, being submitted before Subject Selection Counselling. Families are encouraged to sit down and go through the booklet, discussing the selections your child wishes to make before ensuring everything is complete, including your signatures.
July 21	Homeroo m	Subject Selection Booklets due	Homeroom	On Monday morning during Homeroom all students must submit their fully completed Subject Selection Booklet, including their signed Subject Selection Form.
July 25	Appointm ent will be emailed	Subject Selection Individual Counselling (online)	At Home	July 25 will be an Online Learning Day for Year 9 students. Students will follow the normal school day online, completing work left by their teachers. They will receive a Subject Selection Individual Counselling Appointment via email and must log on and follow the link at that time to be counselled and officially submit their 2026 Subject Selections. Parents are very welcome to join the counselling online.

*Online Learning Day in Support of Subject Selection Individual Counselling

July 25, 2025 will be an Online Learning Day for our Year 9 students. This will support our Year 9 students being provided with an individual opportunity to be counselled about their Subject Selections by a College Leader.

During the 15 minute appointment the leader will discuss the student's selections, including their future pathway, check their selections against their achievements so far and review teacher recommendations, then submit the selections onto the online portal.

If the counselling results in changes to subject selections becoming necessary, our Careers Counsellors will be on hand to assist. Parents will be emailed about any changes prior to these being submitted on the portal, so that you can be involved in follow-up discussions with your child.

The normal school day will be followed during the Online Learning Day. Families will be emailed the time, name of the counsellor and the link for the online Teams Meeting,

prior to the day. Parents are encouraged to join the meeting if possible. If you are not able to be with your child in person simply use the same link to join from work or other location. If you do not receive a link and time by July 22 please email Sandra Camilleri at scamilleri@mackillop.vic.edu.au to ensure you receive it on time.

We strongly encourage families to begin these conversations at home as soon as possible. Ask your child what they enjoy, what challenges them, and what they see themselves doing in the future. Your involvement and guidance are essential in helping them make thoughtful and confident decisions and in setting them up well to continue to make wise choices about their subjects and pathway in the future.

Please pop the relevant dates from the table into your family calendars to ensure no important steps are missed. The 'Parent Guide to Subject Selection' found at the link below may assist you in preparing well. <u>https://studyworkgrow.com/high-school-subject-selection-a-guide-for-parents/</u>

Every blessing,

Nicole Allan