

SUBJECT HANDBOOK

2027

mackillop.vic.edu.au

YEAR 9&10



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



YEARS 9&10: 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.

Students in Year 9 & 10 study subjects from the following Learning Areas:

- Religious Education
- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Health and Physical Education
- Outdoor and Environmental Studies
- Humanities
- Languages
- The Arts
- Technologies

Extracurricular programs and activities available to Year 9 & 10 are:

- Thrive (Pastoral Care Program)
- Life Changer program
- ReLink
- Sport: Premier League
- Sport: SACSS
- Performing Arts Experiences
 - Musical production
- Retreats and Reflection Days
- Student Leadership Programs
- Lunchtime Clubs



YEAR 9: CURRICULUM STRUCTURE

A Josephite education emphasizes the formation of the whole person. Our Year 9 and 10 curriculum highlights core learning areas and specialist subjects, enabling students to engage deeply with their learning while sampling the breadth of opportunities offered in the Senior School.

- Students undertake a set of compulsory core subjects
- A diverse elective pool provides choice, flexibility, and opportunities for differentiation

Year 9 - Main

Compulsory Subjects (Core)					Specialist subjects in the following Learning Areas - Semester based
Religious Education	English	Mathematics	Languages <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • French • Italian • Japanese 	Health and Physical Education (Selective)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science • Health and Physical Education • Outdoor and Environmental Studies • Humanities • The Arts • Technologies

Year 9 - SMC

Compulsory Subjects (Core)						
Religion Education/ Humanities	English/ Media	Science/ Technology	Mathematics	Health and Physical Education	Languages <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • French • Italian • Japanese 	Personal Projects

YEAR 10: CURRICULUM STRUCTURE

A Josephite education emphasizes the formation of the whole person. Our Year 9 and 10 curriculum highlights core learning areas and specialist subjects, enabling students to engage deeply with their learning while sampling the breadth of opportunities offered in the Senior School.

- Students undertake a set of compulsory core subjects
- A diverse elective pool provides choice, flexibility, and opportunities for differentiation

Year 10

Compulsory Subjects (Core)					Specialist subjects in the follow Learning Areas
English	Mathematics	Religious Education	Science	Careers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English • Mathematics • Science • Health and Physical Education • Outdoor and Environmental Studies • Humanities • Languages • The Arts • Technologies

Year 10 - Learning for Life Program (LLP)

Compulsory Subjects (Core)								Electives
English	Mathematics	Religious Education	Science	Careers	Advice for Life	Being Enterprising	Work Skills	Choice of 2 electives

YEAR 10: PATHWAYS

PATHWAY 1

Core Subjects	5 x Electives across the year	No VCE (Accelerated)
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This pathway would be most appropriate for students seeking a Year 10 program with standard subjects, focusing on core skills, steady progression, and broad learning.

PATHWAY 2

Core Subjects	4 x Electives across the year	1 x VCE (Accelerated)
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This pathway would be most appropriate for students ready to accelerate one subject, managing increased challenge while maintaining a mostly standard Year 10 program successfully.

PATHWAY 3

Core Subjects	3 x Electives across the year	2 x VCE (Accelerated)
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This pathway would be most appropriate for students seeking greater academic challenge, accelerating two subjects while demonstrating strong organisation, motivation, resilience, and consistent high achievement.

PATHWAY 4

LLP Core Subjects	2 x Electives across the year	No VCE (Accelerated)
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This pathway would be most appropriate for students interested in apprenticeships, TAFE, or vocational learning, focusing on practical skills, workplace readiness, flexible study, and pathways.

YEAR 9: ENHANCED PROGRAM

At MacKillop College, we aim to support every student in achieving their personal best by recognising and developing their individual gifts and talents. We understand that students have different academic needs, and our programs are designed to provide appropriate challenge and support. The Enhanced Programs provide academically capable and motivated students with the opportunity to undertake more challenging coursework and further develop the skills required for future studies.

Year 9 Enhanced English

Provides students with the opportunity to study a wider range of literary texts while developing a deeper understanding of language. Students focus on the mechanics of language in persuasive and text response writing while refining their analytical and communication skills. This subject is designed for students with strong written and oral skills who wish to further challenge themselves and extend their understanding of literature and language. This subject is studied for one semester in place of the Year 9 main campus English course.

Year 9 Enhanced Mathematics

Provides a foundation for advanced mathematical study. The subject prepares students for the challenges of VCE Mathematical Methods and Specialist Mathematics by extending core mathematical concepts and developing problem-solving skills. Students explore enhanced mathematical ideas while strengthening logical reasoning, accuracy, and efficiency. This subject is a full-year course in place of the Year 9 mainstream mathematics program.

Selection Criteria for Year 9 Enhanced Programs

- Achieve a minimum 80% average in Year 8 in the relevant core subject (English or Mathematics)
- Demonstrate strong results in standardised testing, such as PAT
- Gain positive recommendations from teachers
- Maintain 90% attendance (in line with VCE requirements)
- Demonstrate a strong work ethic and commitment to studies
- Meet all College behavioural expectations

YEAR 10: ENHANCED PROGRAM

Year 10 Enhanced English

Year 10 Enhanced English builds on the skills developed in earlier years and consolidates the concepts introduced in Year 9. The subject focuses on the three modes of English- reading, writing, and speaking and listening- in preparation for specialised VCE studies such as Literature or English Language. Students engage with a broader range of texts and complete additional oral and written responses with a stronger emphasis on detailed analysis and communication.

Year 10 Mathematical Methods

Year 10 Methods is designed as an extension of Year 10 General Mathematics for students intending to undertake VCE Mathematical Methods and/or Specialist Mathematics. There is a significant emphasis on algebra, as it is fundamental to future VCE pathways. Students are expected to have a strong understanding of algebraic and numerical skills, including transposing equations and working with fractions without the use of a calculator. Technology, including computers and CAS calculators, is also incorporated into the course to support mathematical exploration and analysis.

Selection Criteria for Year 10 Enhanced English and Methods Programs:

- Achieve a minimum 80% average in Year 9 in the relevant core subject (English/Integrated Studies or Mathematics)
- Demonstrate strong results in standardised testing, such as NAPLAN and PAT
- Achieve strong results in additional General Ability Testing
- Gain positive recommendations from teachers
- Maintain 90% attendance (in line with VCE requirements)
- Demonstrate a strong work ethic and commitment to studies
- Meet all College behavioural expectations

VCE ACCELERATED PROGRAM

VCE Acceleration Program

At MacKillop College, we support students to achieve their best by recognising their individual strengths and talents. The VCE Accelerated Program gives motivated Year 10 students the opportunity to begin their VCE studies early by completing up to two VCE Unit 1 and 2 subjects. This program is designed for students who are ready to manage the academic demands of VCE alongside their Year 10 studies.

Benefits of VCE Acceleration

Completing a VCE subject in Year 10 can help students to:

- Develop strong study habits and time management skills
- Become familiar with VCE-style assessments and exams
- Build confidence and strategies for managing exam pressure
- Complete six VCE subjects by the end of Year 12
- Gain flexibility and the potential to maximise ATAR results

Important Considerations

VCE acceleration is not suitable for all students. Students should understand that:

- VCE studies demand a higher level of academic commitment and independent learning
- The workload is increased and must be balanced with Year 10 studies
- Strong time management and organisational skills are essential
- High standards must be maintained across all areas of study

Continuation of VCE Acceleration in Unit 3 & 4 in Year 11

Students must maintain a minimum average of 70% in their Unit 1 and 2 accelerated VCE subject to continue with Units 3 and 4 in Year 11. Students who do not meet this will be required to repeat the Unit 1/2 again, or to select an alternative 1/2 subject.

Selection Criteria

Successful applicants must meet the criteria listed below:

- Achieve a minimum 80% average in Year 9 English, Integrated Studies (SMC) and the relevant subject
- Demonstrate strong results in standardised testing, such as NAPLAN and PAT
- Achieve strong results in additional General Ability Testing
- Gain positive recommendations from teachers
- Maintain 90% attendance (in line with VCE requirements)
- Demonstrate a strong work ethic and commitment to studies
- Meet all College behavioural expectations
- Fulfil subject-specific requirements, such as completion of prerequisite subjects in year 9 where required.

Conditional placements will be offered to students at the time of subject selections. Students must continue to meet the criteria through the remainder of the year.

Application process

1. Submit an online Expression of Interest (Term 2)
2. Completion additional English and Mathematics testing (Term 2)
3. Receive conditional acceptance into the program (Term 2)
4. Select VCE subject/s during subject selections (Term 2)
5. Maintain strong academic progress for the remainder of the year (including NAPLAN, PAT, etc)

VCE ACCELERATED PROGRAM

VCE Subjects in Year 10

The following VCE subjects are available for higher study. Students are able to study one or two VCE subjects at Year 10.

Before selecting a VCE subject, it is important that students read the unit descriptions for the subject they wish to study. Full descriptions of these units can be found in the Senior Pathways Handbook, which is available on the MacKillop College website.

Students are highly recommended to complete the equivalent Year 9 elective subject if they are considering completing a VCE Accelerated subject.

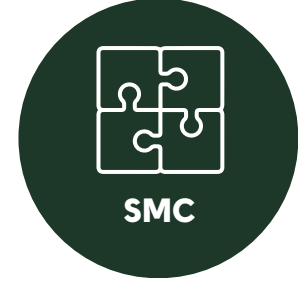
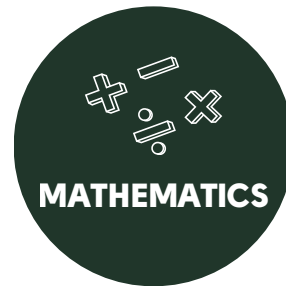
Accounting	Dance*	Geography	Languages - French, Italian, Japanese**	Politics	Theatre Studies
Applied Computing	Drama	General Mathematics	Media	PDT - Textiles	VET - Sport, Aquatics and Recreation
Art Creative Practice*	Economics	Health and Human Development	Modern History	Psychology	VET - Engineering
Biology	Environmental Studies	History - Empires	Outdoor and Environmental Science	Religion and Society	
Business Management	Food Studies	Legal Studies	Physical Education	Texts and Traditions	

* Successful portfolio/audition submission

** Must be a native speaker & receive recommendations from language teacher

LEARNING AREAS

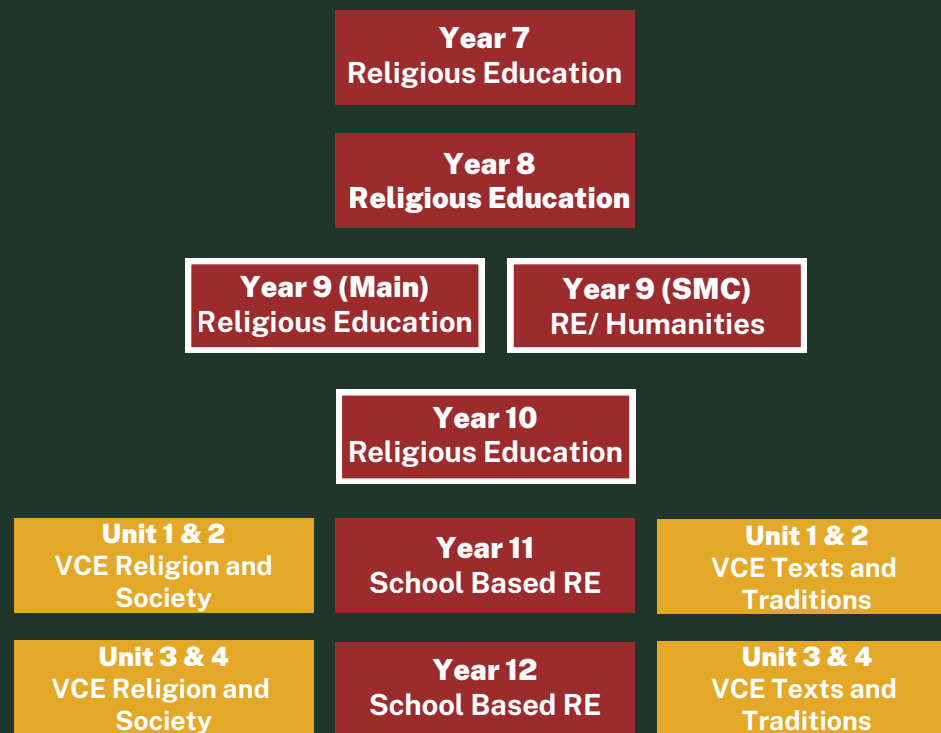
Click on the Learning Area to jump to each section



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 9 (MAIN) RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Subject Description

- Explore our roles in a community of faith called to relate, serve and flourish
- Examine Catholic perspectives on personhood, human dignity and the body as sacred
- Investigate and identify ways in which God is present to us

Assessment Type

- Written Questions
- Creative responses

Recommended Senior Pathway

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

COMPULSORY SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 10 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Subject Description

- Examine and explore the principles of Catholic Social Teaching and the Gospel imperative
- Identify the ways in which we are called to action for justice
- Critically reflect on our role as Stewards of Humanity and of the Earth in a society where multiple worldviews exist

Assessment Type

- Tests
- Written Questions

Recommended Senior Pathway

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

COMPULSORY SUBJECT

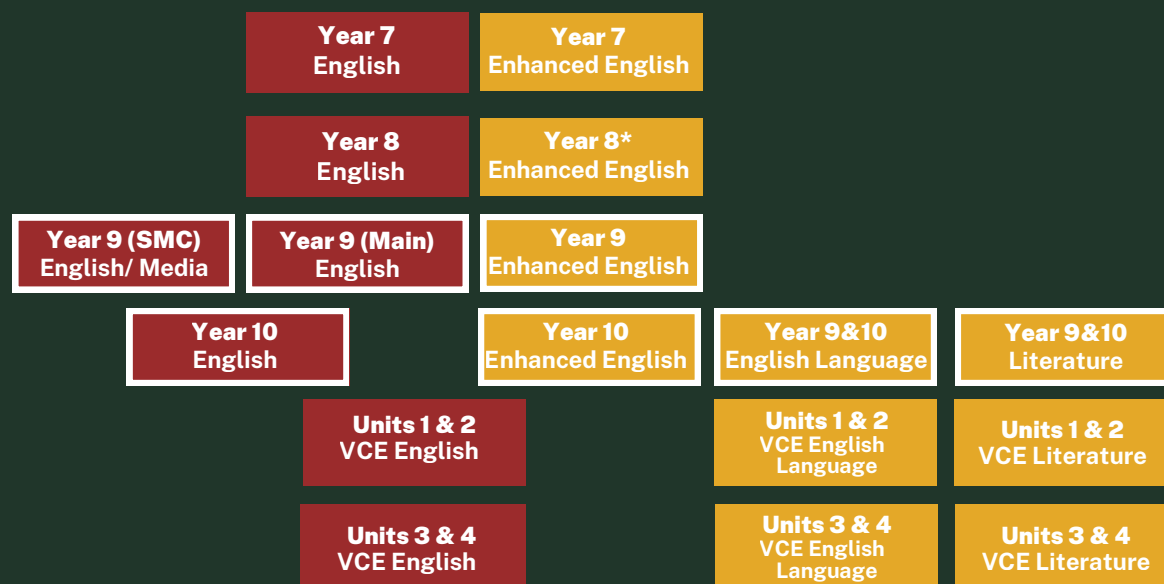
ONE SEMESTER



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 in 2028

YEAR 9

ENGLISH (MAIN)

Subject Description

- Strengthen skills in reading, writing, speaking, listening and critical thinking
- Analyse persuasive texts and media issues, exploring how language shapes opinion and viewpoint
- Study dystopian literature, examining themes, narrative conventions and social commentary
- Explore how language evolves over time and differs across print and digital environments
- Develop and refine analytical and persuasive writing, including speech construction and delivery

Assessment Type

- Text Response Writing
- Film Analysis
- Media Analysis
- Oral Presentation
- Composing Texts Response
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- 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

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 9

ENGLISH: ENHANCED

Subject Description

- Analyse a wider range of literary texts with a detailed focus on language, structure and style
- Develop sophisticated persuasive and analytical writing, with close attention to textual mechanics
- Examine dystopian literature and media issues, exploring symbolism, context and author intent
- Refine oral communication and collaborative discussion skills at an advanced level
- Apply feedback to improve clarity, depth of analysis and written precision

Assessment Type

- Text Response Writing
- Film Analysis
- Media Analysis
- Oral Presentation
- Composing Texts Response
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

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

SELECT ENTRY

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 10 ENGLISH

Subject Description

- Develop advanced skills in reading, writing, speaking, listening and critical thinking
- Analyse complex texts, exploring themes, context, author intent and narrative conventions
- Craft purposeful writing by shaping voice, structure and language for specific audiences
- Evaluate and construct persuasive arguments, analysing how language influences opinion
- Refine oral communication skills in formal and informal contexts, making informed choices about audience engagement

Assessment Type

- Text Response Writing
- Film Analysis
- Media Analysis
- Oral Presentation
- Composing Texts Response
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1-4 English
- Unit 1-4 English Language
- Unit 1-4 Literature

COMPULSORY SUBJECT

WHOLE YEAR

YEAR 10 ENGLISH: ENHANCED

Subject Description

- Consolidate and extend skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening in preparation for VCE
- Analyse a broader range of complex literary texts with greater depth and precision
- Produce extended analytical, persuasive and creative responses with refined control of language
- Develop advanced skills in oral presentation and discussion, demonstrating critical engagement
- Apply detailed feedback to strengthen interpretation, argument and written expression

Assessment Type

- Text Response Writing
- Film Analysis
- Media Analysis
- Oral Presentation
- Composing Texts Response
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1-4 English
- Unit 1-4 English Language
- Unit 1-4 Literature

SELECT ENTRY

WHOLE YEAR

YEAR 9&10

ENGLISH LITERATURE

Subject Description

- Identify and analyse the key elements and conventions of a chosen literary genre
- Interpret and evaluate texts using literary theories and criticism
- Develop personal responses to texts through short writing exercises and critical essays
- Research and present findings on authors, poets and playwrights and other key figures associated within their chosen genre
- Deepen understanding of literature through close reading, creative experimentation and presentations

Assessment Type

- Genre Portfolio
- Analytical Essay
- Critical Review
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1-4 English
- Unit 1-4 Literature

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 9&10

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Subject Description

- Explore the core linguistic subsystems (sounds, words, grammar and meaning) and how they work together in communication
- Investigate how the English language has evolved over time and reflects social, cultural and historical change
- Examine how language expresses identity, culture and belonging in contemporary society
- Analyse slang, neologisms, pidgins, creoles and lingua francas as examples of language adaptation
- Design and evaluate constructed languages (conlangs) to understand how language builds community and fictional worlds

Assessment Type

- Topic Test
- Oral Presentation
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1-4 English Language

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

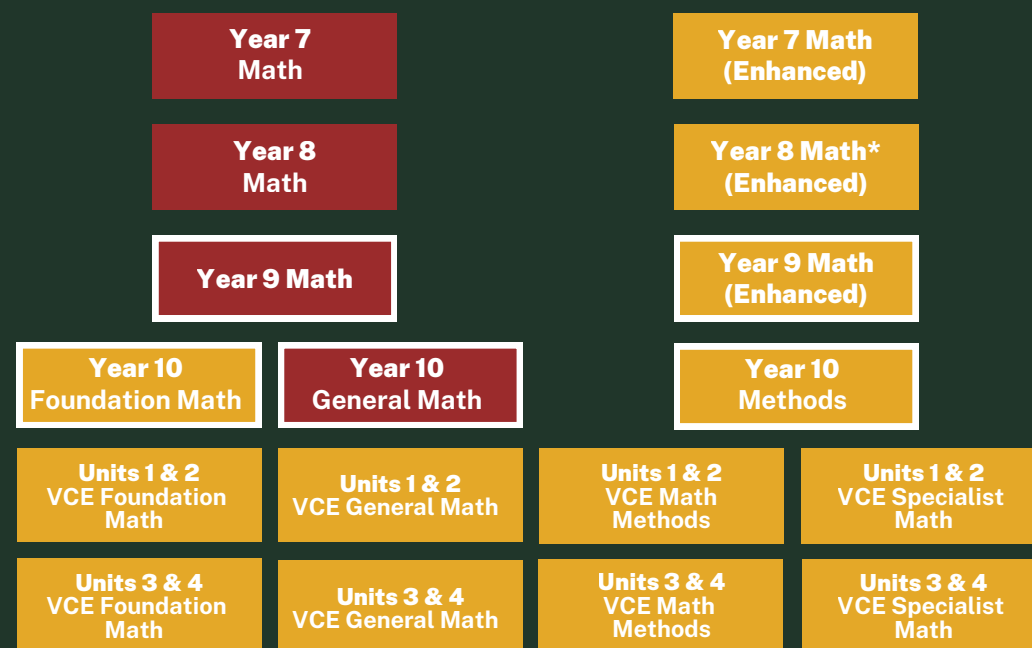
ONE SEMESTER

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 9 (MAIN) MATHEMATICS

Subject Description

- Be introduced to and regularly use the TI-Nspire CAS calculator in all units
- Deepen their understanding of algebra, exploring patterns, equations, and linear relationships in both algebraic and graphical forms
- Geometry extended through the study of parallel lines, congruence, similarity, and scale diagrams
- Apply arithmetic to financial contexts and extend measurement and geometry to composite shapes, volume, and prisms

Assessment Type

- Test
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

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

COMPULSORY SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 9 (SMC) MATHEMATICS

Subject Description

- Be introduced to and regularly use the TI-Nspire CAS calculator in all units.
- Learn Pythagoras' theorem, basic trigonometry, and advanced statistical investigations using real data and a range of displays
- Measurement and probability are extended through the study of 2D and 3D shapes and their application in the real world and complex probability events
- Students are introduced to advanced statistical investigations using real data and a range of displays

Assessment Type

- Test
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

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

COMPULSORY SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 9 (MAIN & SMC) MATH: ENHANCED

Subject Description

- The subject is studied for the entire year, replacing the standard Year 9 Math course.
- Develop advanced problem-solving skills, efficiency, and confidence with complex mathematical concepts and use of the TI-Nspire CAS calculator
- Strong numerical skills are assumed, including fluency with fractions, percentages, equations, tables, and graphs
- Algebra is a major focus, including transposing equations, simplifying expressions, and linking equations to both linear and non-linear graphs
- Students are introduced to trigonometric graphs and the unit circle identifying similarity features and exact values of the trigonometric circular function values

Assessment Type

- Test
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

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

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

WHOLE YEAR

YEAR 10

MATH: FOUNDATION

Subject Description

- Focus on applying mathematics to everyday life, including personal, workplace, and community contexts
- Use a range of mathematical skills and procedures to solve practical, real-world problems
- Develop investigation skills such as formulation, exploration, planning, and communication to support informed decision-making
- Integrate a variety of technologies to explore, represent, and communicate mathematical ideas
- Study key areas including number skills, algebra, statistics, probability, geometry, financial mathematics, and measurement, and are expected to have a scientific calculator

Assessment Type

- Test
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1&2 Math (Foundation, General)
- Unit 3&4 Math (Foundation, General)

**COMPULSORY SUBJECT
(CHOOSE FROM 3 OPTIONS)**

WHOLE YEAR

YEAR 10

MATH: GENERAL

Subject Description

- Study a broad range of mathematical topics with increasing complexity across the year.
- Mathematical skills and concepts are integrated with technology to support learning and problem-solving
- Develop their ability to communicate mathematical ideas clearly and accurately, using an expanded mathematical vocabulary
- Emphasise applying mathematics to real-world and future pathway contexts.
- Use a TI-Nspire CAS calculator throughout the course

Assessment Type

- Test
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1-2 Math (General)
- Unit 3-4 Math (General)

**COMPULSORY SUBJECT
(CHOOSE FROM 3 OPTIONS)**

WHOLE YEAR

YEAR 10

MATH: METHODS

Subject Description

- The course is designed for students who enjoy challenge and are willing to commit to a strong work ethic
- There is a strong emphasis on algebraic and numerical fluency, including transposing equations and working without a calculator when required
- Review and extend prior learning in linear relationships, measurement, geometry, and probability
- New and advanced concepts are introduced, including quadratic, exponential, and logarithmic functions, their equations, and graphs
- Entry is via application and teacher recommendation, and all students are expected to use a TI-Nspire CAS calculator

Assessment Type

- Test
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1&2 Math (Methods, Specialist)
- Unit 3&4 Math (Methods, Specialist)

**COMPULSORY SUBJECT
(CHOOSE FROM 3 OPTIONS)**

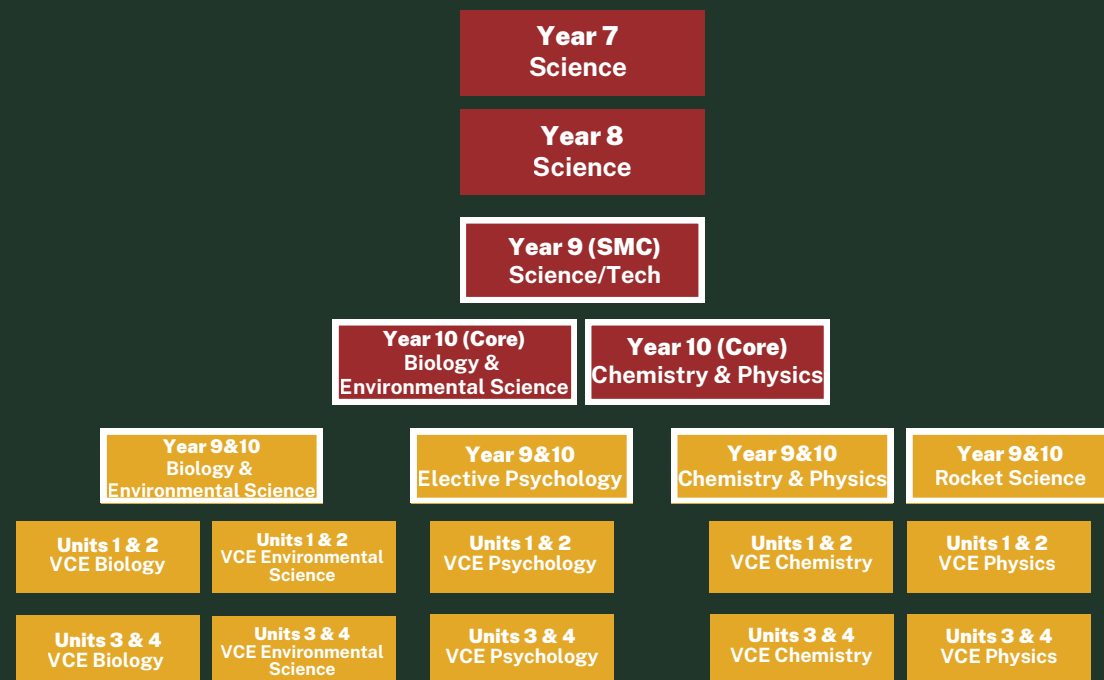
WHOLE YEAR

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 9&10

BIOLOGY & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Subject Description

- Build on scientific inquiry skills through experiments, fieldwork and investigations
- Explore genes, DNA and inheritance and their significance in natural selection and evolution
- Examine biodiversity, population dynamics, and how scientific knowledge is used to understand and respond to human impacts on ecosystems

Assessment Type

- Test
- Data Analysis
- Case Study
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1-4 Biology
- Unit 1-4 Environmental Science

COMPULSORY SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

YEAR 9&10

CHEMISTRY & PHYSICS

Subject Description

- Build on scientific inquiry skills through practical investigations and experimental design
- Investigate the organisation of elements in the periodic table and their relative reactivity
- Explore evidence and representations for types of chemical reactions and the way in which bonds are broken and formed to rearrange atoms
- Use quantitative data to analyse the relationship between motion, forces and energy

Assessment Type

- Data Analysis
- Scientific Investigation
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1-4 Chemistry
- Unit 1-4 Physics

COMPULSORY SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

ELECTIVE SUBJECT



YEAR 9&10 ELECTIVE PSYCHOLOGY

Subject Description

- Explore contemporary psychological approaches, including positive psychology
- Examine brain structure and function and strategies to enhance learning and memory
- Investigate human behaviour and mental processes, including forensic psychology
- Develop understanding of ethical issues in psychological research and practice
- Build research and inquiry skills, including experimental design and interpretation of findings

Assessment Type

- Test
- Scientific Poster
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1-4 Psychology

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 9&10 ROCKET SCIENCE

Subject Description

- Explore the role of science in decision making, problem solving and society
- Investigate engineering principles and systems thinking through design and innovation of rocketry, satellites and telescopes
- Explore astronomy, cosmology and space exploration, including human exploration of the solar system
- Compare modern scientific theories with Indigenous Australian perspectives on the Universe
- Discuss the ethics involved in space flight, space junk, and the environmental impacts of rockets

Assessment Type

- Test
- Scientific Investigation
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1-4 Physics
- Unit 1-4 Environmental Science

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

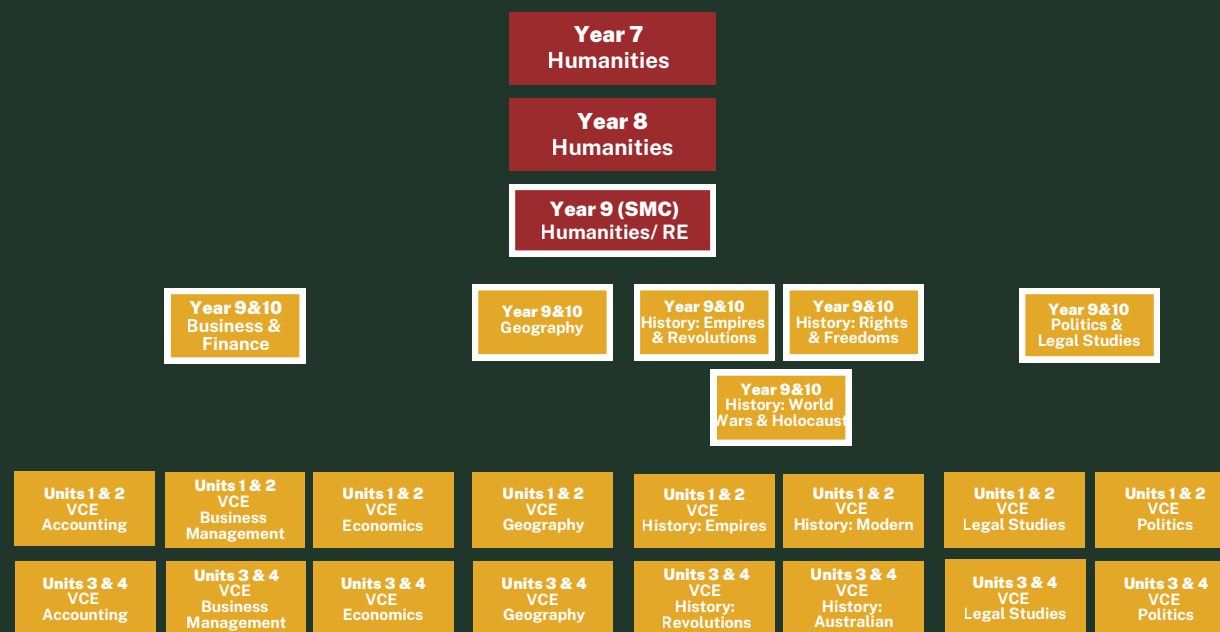


HUMANITIES

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 9&10 BUSINESS & FINANCE

Subject Description

- Explore how businesses operate and how entrepreneurs start and run businesses
- Investigate how businesses make decisions to meet customer needs and succeed in the market
- Understand key economic ideas such as scarcity, choice and opportunity cost
- Examine how Australia's economy works and how economic factors affect people's living standards
- Learn simple accounting skills to record and track money in a business

Assessment Type

- Tests
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1-4 Accounting
- Unit 1-4 Business Management
- Unit 1-4 Economics

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 9&10 GEOGRAPHY

Subject Description

- Explore global connections between people, places and environments
- Investigate how the movement of goods, services, people and ideas shapes the way we live
- Examine human wellbeing and inequality at local, national and global scales
- Analyse the impacts of globalisation and technology on communities and places
- Evaluate responses to geographical challenges, including reducing inequality and improving access to resources

Assessment Type

- Case study
- Field Report
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1-4 Geography

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 9&10 POLITICS & LEGAL STUDIES

Subject Description

- Explore Australia's political system and how change occurs in a democracy
- Examine the influence of political parties, media, interest groups and individuals
- Compare Australia's system of government with one in the Asian region
- Examine the Australian Constitution and Human Rights and link to United Nations
- Understand and distinguish Criminal and Civil Law within the Justice System
- Explain the Legal foundation and the Role of Parliament and the Courts
- Study the Australian legal system, including courts and the High Court

Assessment Type

- Structured questions
- Cartoon presentation
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1-4 Legal Studies
- Unit 1-4 Politics

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 9&10

HISTORY: EMPIRES & REVOLUTIONS

Subject Description

- Investigate the rise and expansion of the Russian empire
- Examine the American Revolution and its challenge to imperial rule
- Analyse how political power, social structures and economic systems sustained and challenged empires
- Explore how revolutionary ideas and movements reshaped authority and global power
- Evaluate the impact of revolutions on concepts of liberty, equality and democracy

Assessment Type

- Evaluation of Sources
- Extended Response
- Historical Inquiry
- Essay
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1-2 Empires
- Unit 3-4 Revolutions

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 9&10

HISTORY: RIGHTS & FREEDOMS

Subject Description

- Examine civil and human rights movements in Australia and globally
- Investigate the impact of colonisation, Federation and exclusion on First Nations Australians
- Analyse how individuals, movements and protests have challenged discrimination and injustice
- Explore the influence of global rights movements on Australia's struggle for equality
- Evaluate how migration, protest and conflict have shaped contemporary rights and freedoms

Assessment Type

- Evaluation of Sources
- Extended Response
- Historical Inquiry
- Essay
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1-2 Modern History
- Unit 3-4 Australian History

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 9&10

HISTORY: WORLD WARS & THE HOLOCAUST

Subject Description

- Examine the legacy of World War I, including the Treaty of Versailles and the failure of the League of Nations
- Investigate the causes of World War II, including totalitarianism, militarism and global inaction
- Analyse World War II in Europe, with a focus on the Holocaust and its human impact
- Explore World War II in the Pacific, including Pearl Harbor and Australia's wartime experiences
- Evaluate how the war shaped Australia's military identity and its role in global conflict

Assessment Type

- Evaluation of Sources
- Extended Response
- Historical Inquiry
- Essay
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1-2 Modern History
- Unit 3-4 Australian History

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

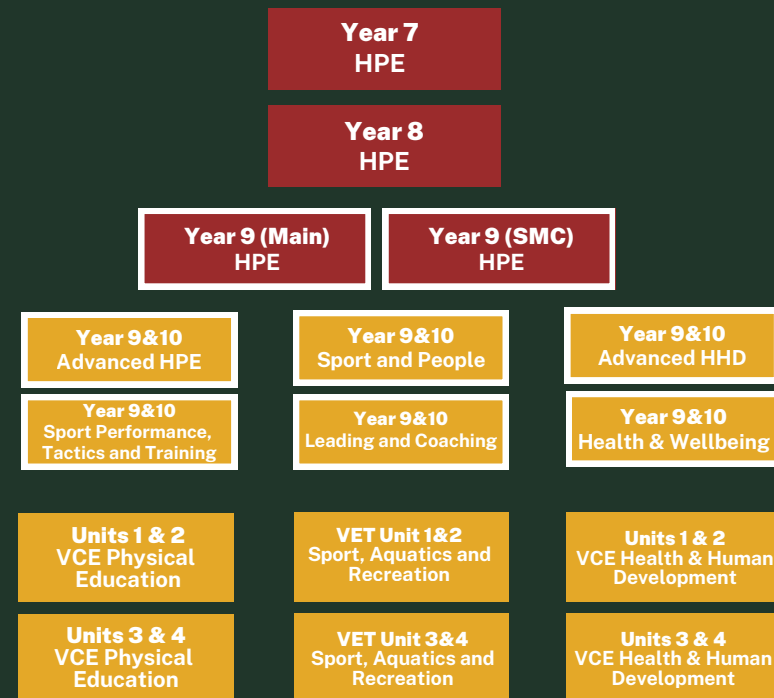
ONE SEMESTER

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 9

HPE (MAIN)

In the semester that Year 9 students are based on Main campus, one of their three elective subjects must be selected from the Health and Physical Education (HPE) group. This ensures students meet Victorian Curriculum requirements for Physical Education.

Students can choose from four HPE subjects offered within this group:

- Year 9&10 Sport Performance, Tactics and Training
- Year 9&10 Health, Wellbeing and Fitness
- Year 9&10 Sport and People
- Year 9&10 Leading and Coaching

COMPULSORY SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 9

HPE (SMC)

Subject Description

- Engage in activities that promote fitness, teamwork, social connection, recreation, and healthy competition
- Mental health and wellbeing, including: building positive and respectful relationships, developing self-awareness, resilience, and confidence
- Learn strategies to manage stress, make informed decisions, build empathy, communication skills, and personal responsibility
- Boxing, fitness training, dance, rock climbing, and self-defence
- Develop confidence and movement skills, cooperation and teamwork

Assessment Type

- Research tasks
- Case study
- Scenarios
- Practical application
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Year 9&10 Advanced HPE
- Year 9&10 Health and Wellbeing
- Year 9&10 Sport and People
- Year 9&10 Leading and Coaching
- Year 9&10 Advanced HHD

COMPULSORY SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER



YEAR 9&10 LEADING & COACHING

Subject Description

- Develop the theory and practical skills required for effective leadership and coaching in sport
- Participate in hands-on experiences such as junior sports coaching, refereeing, sport organisation and SEPEP roles
- Explore leadership and coaching styles, communication skills, sports psychology and group management strategies
- Learn how to plan, organise and deliver training sessions and sports programs
- Examine the role, responsibilities, legal and ethical considerations of coaches and referees in theory classes
- Reflect on teamwork, leadership roles and coaching pathways, including challenges and career opportunities in sport

Assessment Type

- Assessment Tasks
- Practical application
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1-4 Physical Education
- VCE VET Sport, Aquatics and Recreation

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 9&10 SPORT & PEOPLE

Subject Description

- Extend practical skills and understanding across a wide range of sports, supporting preparation for VCE studies
- Participate in diverse physical activities (striking and fielding, invasion, net/ wall games)
- Explore socio-cultural issues in sport such as participation, sportsmanship, gender equity, sponsorship and performance-enhancing drugs
- Investigate the history of Australian sport and the influence of culture on sporting participation and identity
- Theoretical learning includes technology, biomechanics and technique, and how these impact sporting performance
- Reflect on practical experiences and apply theory by designing and presenting minor fitness or sporting games

Assessment Type

- Assessment Tasks
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1-4 Health and Human Development

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 9&10 SPORT PERFORMANCE, TACTICS AND TRAINING

Subject Description

- Provide opportunities to develop advanced skills, tactical knowledge, and performance understanding across a variety of football-based invasion games
- Explore how athletes participate, perform, analyse and improve within competitive and recreational sporting environments
- Cover AFL, Soccer, Touch Football, Gaelic Football, NFL/Gridiron in practical sport units
- Focus on tactical awareness, performance analysis, injury prevention, and implementing pre-rehabilitation and mobility practices to support athletic development in theory based learning

Assessment Type

- Practical performance
- Tactical decision-making
- Performance analysis tasks
- Pre-rehab routine design
- Theory tasks (tests/ reflections)
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1-4 Physical Education
- VCE VET Sport, Aquatics and Recreation

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 9&10

HEALTH, WELLBEING & FITNESS

Subject Description

- Physical activities linked to lifestyle choices and lifelong participation.
- Participate in practical activities including fitness and resistance training, aerobic conditioning, relaxation techniques, fitness testing and self-defence
- Cover nutrition, fitness components, motivation, lifestyle choices, self-esteem and identity in theory units
- Encourage reflection on personal preferences, motivation and continued participation beyond school
- Develop skills in planning fitness programs, understanding nutritional guidelines and monitoring their health and activity levels

Assessment Type

- Assessment Tasks
- Practical application
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1-4 Health and Human Development

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 9&10

ADVANCED HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Subject Description

- Extend students' understanding of body systems and supports preparation for aspects of VCE Physical Education studies
- Practical activities are closely linked to theory, using exercise programs and monitoring tools to explore body systems in action
- Investigate musculoskeletal and cardiorespiratory systems and the acute responses to exercise and the reasons these physiological changes occur
- Explore food fuels, energy systems, training methods, training principles and fitness components
- Develop an understanding of biomechanics and its impact on movement and sporting performance

Assessment Type

- Practical application
- Tests
- Theoretical tasks
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1-4 Physical Education

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 9&10

ADVANCED HEALTH & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Subject Description

- Provide a strong foundation for students intending to study VCE Health and Human Development
- Explore different perspectives of health and wellbeing across population groups, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
- Examine how health status is measured using indicators and the factors that influence health outcomes.
- Develop an understanding of nutrition, including required nutrients, food sources, and the effects of under- and over-consumption.
- Learn health promotion strategies and the factors that enable or prevent healthy choices are analysed
- Investigate human development across the lifespan and the characteristics of healthy and respectful relationships

Assessment Type

- Assessment Tasks
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1-4 Health and Human Development

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

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 9 FRENCH

Subject Description

- Strengthen reading, writing, listening and speaking skills through interactive language tasks
- Communicate about school life, food, towns and holidays using appropriate vocabulary and structures
- Compare French and Australian culture to deepen intercultural understanding
- Plan, describe and reflect on travel experiences in French-speaking contexts
- Expand knowledge of the French-speaking world while building confidence in real-world communication

Assessment Type

- Listening Test
- Reading Test
- Speaking Tasks
- Writing Tasks
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

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

COMPULSORY SUBJEC

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 9 ITALIAN

Subject Description

- Strengthen reading, writing, listening and speaking skills through interactive language tasks
- Communicate about fashion, daily routines, home life and weekend activities using appropriate vocabulary and structures
- Compare Italian and Australian culture to deepen intercultural understanding
- Discuss leisure, wellbeing and lifestyle within authentic Italian contexts
- Expand knowledge of the Italian-speaking world while building confidence in real-world communication

Assessment Type

- Listening Test
- Reading Test
- Speaking Tasks
- Writing Tasks
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

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

COMPULSORY SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 9 JAPANESE

Subject Description

- Strengthen reading, writing, listening and speaking skills through interactive language tasks
- Communicate about school life, shopping, housing and physical appearance using appropriate vocabulary and structures
- Compare Japanese and Australian culture to deepen intercultural understanding
- Design creative projects using authentic language and cultural understanding
- Expand knowledge of the Japanese-speaking world while building confidence in real-world communication

Assessment Type

- Listening comprehension
- Letter writing
- Speaking - Role play and oral presentation
- Reading comprehension
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

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

COMPULSORY SUBJECT

WHOLE YEAR

YEAR 10 FRENCH (SEMESTER 1)

Subject Description

- Strengthen listening, speaking, reading and writing skills through interactive and authentic learning experiences
- Communicate about daily routines and travel using increasingly complex vocabulary and grammatical structures
- Explore contemporary and traditional aspects of French culture and their influence on language use today
- Apply language skills in real-world contexts to build fluency, accuracy and confidence
- Prepare for senior language study by extending cultural understanding and independent communication skills

Assessment Type

- Listening Test
- Reading Test
- Speaking Tasks
- Writing Tasks
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

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

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 10 ITALIAN (SEMESTER 1)

Subject Description

- Strengthen listening, speaking, reading and writing skills through interactive and authentic learning experiences
- Communicate about daily routines and travel using increasingly complex vocabulary and grammatical structures
- Explore contemporary and traditional aspects of Italian culture and their influence on language use today
- Apply language skills in real-world contexts to build fluency, accuracy and confidence
- Prepare for senior language study by extending cultural understanding and independent communication skills

Assessment Type

- Listening Test
- Reading Test
- Speaking Tasks
- Writing Tasks
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

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

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 10 JAPANESE (SEMESTER 1)

Subject Description

- Strengthen listening, speaking, reading and writing skills through interactive and authentic learning experiences
- Communicate about summer holidays and rules in the society using increasingly complex vocabulary and grammatical structures
- Explore contemporary and traditional aspects of Japanese culture and their influence on language use today
- Apply language skills in real-world contexts to build fluency, accuracy and confidence
- Prepare for senior language study by extending cultural understanding and independent communication skills

Assessment Type

- Listening Test
- Reading Test
- Speaking Tasks
- Writing Tasks
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

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

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 10 FRENCH (SEMESTER 2)

Subject Description

- Prepare for VCE French by consolidating advanced listening, speaking, reading and writing skills
- Analyse topics such as sport and youth life in France using more complex language structures
- Investigate contemporary and traditional aspects of French culture and their influence on identity
- Apply language skills confidently in authentic and exam-style contexts
- Build independence and accuracy in preparation for senior VCE language study

Note: Successful completion of Year 10 French (Semester 1) is required before undertaking French (Pre VCE).

Assessment Type

- Listening Test
- Reading Test
- Speaking Tasks
- Writing Tasks
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1-4 French

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 10 ITALIAN (SEMESTER 2)

Subject Description

- Prepare for VCE Italian by consolidating advanced listening, speaking, reading and writing skills
- Analyse topics such as technology, environment and school life in Italy using more complex language structures
- Investigate contemporary and traditional aspects of Italian culture and their influence on the practice of Italian today
- Apply language skills confidently in authentic and exam-style contexts
- Build independence and accuracy in preparation for senior VCE language study

Note: Successful completion of Year 10 Italian (Semester 1) is required before undertaking Italian (Pre VCE).

Assessment Type

- Listening Test
- Reading Test
- Speaking Tasks
- Writing Tasks
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1-4 Italian

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 10 JAPANESE (SEMESTER 2)

Subject Description

- Prepare for VCE Japanese by consolidating advanced listening, speaking, reading and writing skills
- Analyse topics such as cities and part time jobs using more complex language structures
- Investigate contemporary and traditional aspects of Japanese culture and their influence on the practice of Japanese today
- Apply language skills confidently in authentic and exam-style contexts
- Build independence and accuracy in preparation for senior VCE language study

Note: Successful completion of Year 10 Japanese (Semester 1) is required before undertaking Japanese (Pre VCE).

Assessment Type

- Comprehension Test
- Speaking Task
- Writing Task
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1-4 Japanese

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

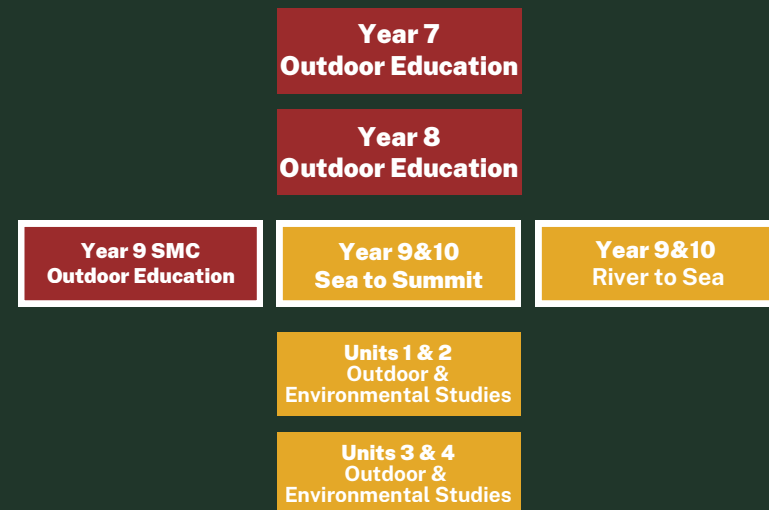
ONE SEMESTER


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 9&10 SEA TO SUMMIT

Subject Description

- Develop leadership, independence and decision-making through wilderness-based activities and remote travel
- Investigate environmental awareness, including human impact on Marine National Parks and sustainable interaction strategies
- Build practical skills in navigation, trip preparation, minimal-impact camping and beach safety
- Examine the role of technology and sustainability in outdoor recreation
- Participate in practical experiences including surfing, snorkelling, bushwalking and rock climbing, linking theory to real-world application

Assessment Type

- Practical (Camp attendance)
- Camp Booklet (completed on Camp)
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1-4 Outdoor and Environmental Studies

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 9&10 RIVER TO SEA

Subject Description

- Build leadership, resilience and teamwork skills through immersive swift water river outdoor experiences
- Develop navigation, trip preparation and risk management skills for remote environments
- Investigate sustainability, endangered species, and the impact of human activity on mountain and river ecosystems
- Explore native and introduced flora and fauna, with a focus on minimal impact practices in a river environment
- Participate in compulsory practical experiences including white-water rafting/kayaking, mountain biking and bushwalking, applying theory to real-world settings

Assessment Type

- Practical (Camp attendance)
- Camp Booklet (completed on Camp)
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1-4 Outdoor and Environmental Studies

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

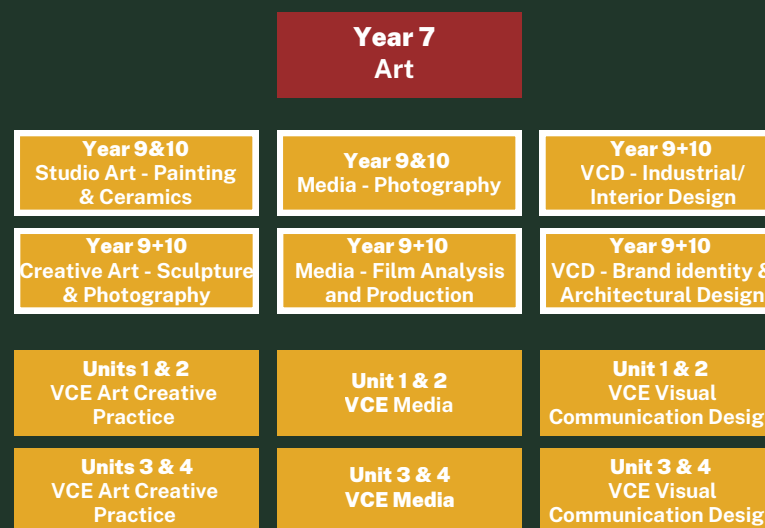


ARTS - CREATIVE

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 9&10 CREATIVE ART: SCULPTURE & PHOTOGRAPHY

Subject Description

- Develop skills across painting, 3D sculpture, printmaking, and digital photography
- Create functional and non-functional forms in 2D and 3D, adapting ideas from various sources
- Explore visual arts techniques and processes to build knowledge and skills
- Use drawing and other media to document and develop ideas in a folio
- Analyse and appreciate artworks from different movements/historical contexts

Assessment Type

- Folio
- Written Assessment/Task
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

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

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 9&10 STUDIO ART: PAINTING & CERAMICS

Subject Description

- Explore a range of art forms, including painting, ceramics, printmaking, and mixed media
- Develop drawing, rendering, and art-making skills using diverse materials and processes
- Document and develop ideas through experimentation and problem-solving
- Analyse artworks from different styles, periods, and cultural contexts
- Create a body of work that demonstrates technical skill and personal expression

Assessment Type

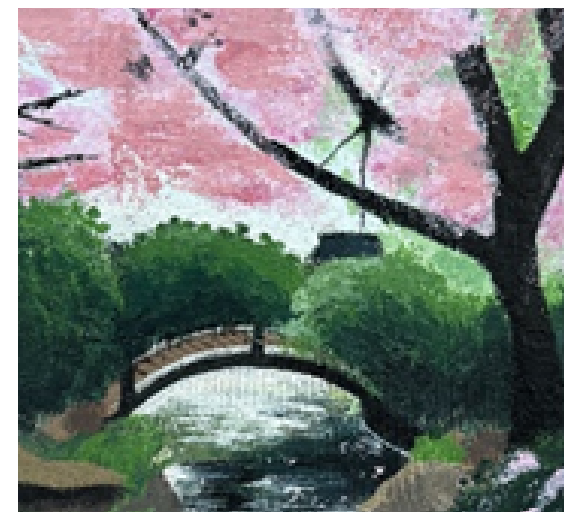
- Folio
- Written Assessment/Task
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

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

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER



YEAR 9&10

MEDIA: FILM ANALYSIS AND PRODUCTION

Subject Description

- Explore film and media through camera, sound, editing, and storytelling techniques
- Analyse a popular movie to understand cinematic techniques and audience impact
- Plan, shoot, and edit an original short film individually and in teams
- Develop creative, technical, and collaborative skills in film production
- Express ideas and tell stories using film as a medium

Assessment Type

- Written Film Analysis
- Film Production
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1-4 Media

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 9&10

MEDIA: PHOTOGRAPHY

Subject Description

- Develop photography skills using DSLR cameras, focusing on composition, lighting, and technical techniques
- Explore the creative and technical aspects of digital image editing using software like Photoshop and InDesign
- Understand the history and cultural impact of photography in communication and media
- Create original, audience-focused media products
- Build visual storytelling, creativity, and media literacy skills

Assessment Type

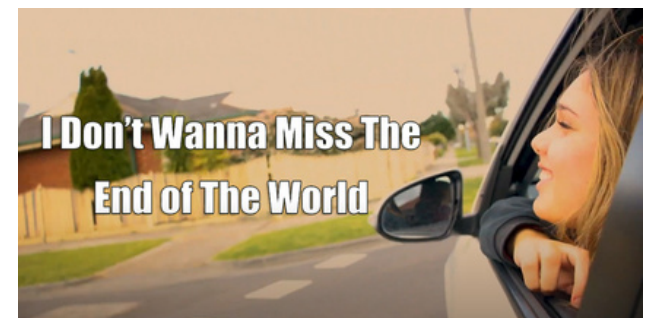
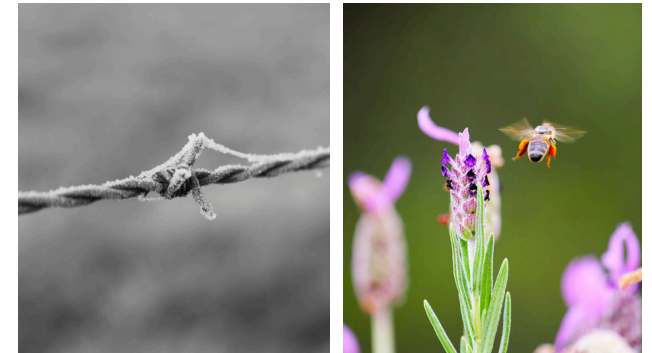
- Portfolio and product
- Photography Analysis
- Multimedia report
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1-4 Media

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER



YEAR 9&10

VCD: BRAND IDENTITY & ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN

Subject Description

- Develop solutions to design briefs
- Apply 2D and 3D manual and digital drawing techniques to communicate ideas
- Use the Double Diamond design process and Elements, Principles and Gestalt Principles of Design to solve design problems
- Explore design styles, movements, and the influence of social, cultural, historical, and consider environmental factors
- Document and present design development. And outcomes in an annotated folio with sketches, concepts, and final work

Assessment Type

- Presentations
- Developmental folio
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1-4 Visual Communication Design

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 9&10

VCD: INDUSTRIAL/INTERIOR DESIGN

Subject Description

- Explore the three areas of Visual Communication Design: Messages, Environments, and Objects
- Develop 2D and 3D drawing skills, including perspective and technical drawing methods
- Use rendering techniques and digital tools to communicate design ideas
- Apply the Double Diamond design process to develop and refine solutions
- Use the Elements and Principles of Design in practical tasks
- Document, annotate, and present work in a design folio

Assessment Type

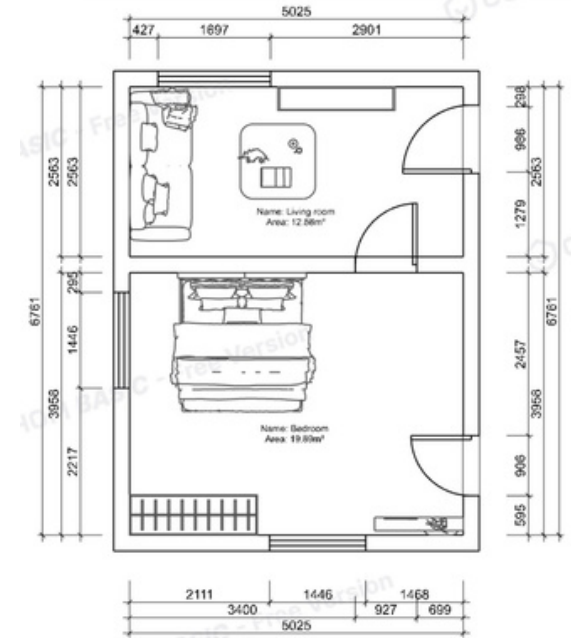
- Folio work
- Manual and digital drawing tasks
- Evaluation and reflection
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1-4 Visual Communication Design

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

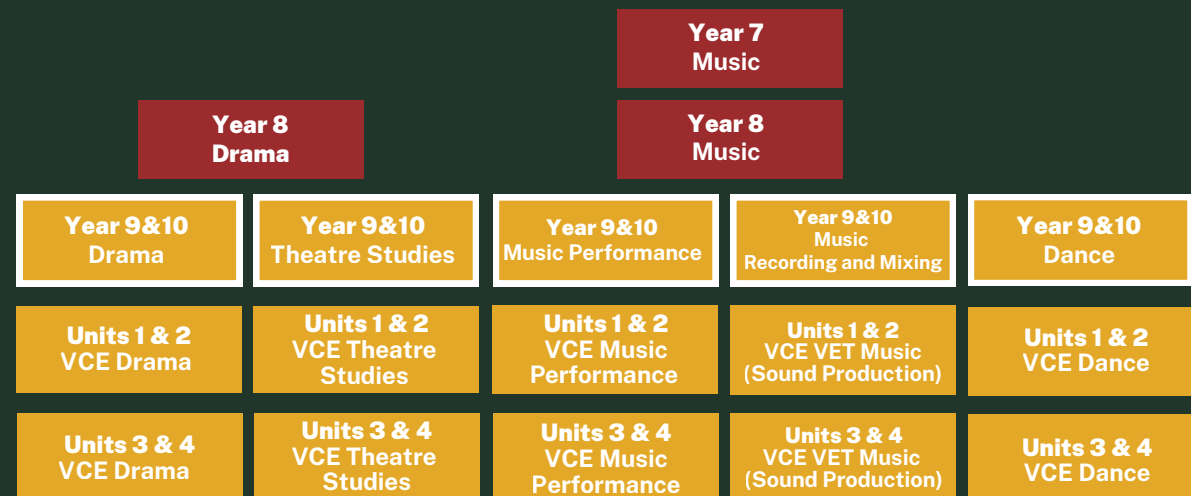


ARTS - PERFORMING

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 9&10

DANCE

Subject Description

- Explore dance through solo and group performance
- Develop technical, expressive, and choreographic skills
- Analyse professional dance works to understand style, intention, and impact
- Research diverse dance styles and cultural influences
- Build knowledge and skills to prepare for senior dance studies (VCE Dance)

Assessment Type

- Performance
- Oral presentation
- Written analysis
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1-4 Dance



ELECTIVE SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 9&10 DRAMA

Subject Description

- Develop skills in acting, scriptwriting, and directing through practical performance
- Collaborate creatively and critically to devise and present drama
- Perform for authentic audiences, including participation in a professional theatre experience
- Analyse and evaluate live theatre performances
- Build confidence, communication, and teamwork skills through drama

Assessment Type

- Devised Ensemble
- Analysing a Professional Production
- Performance and Analysis
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1-4 Drama
- Unit 1-4 Theatre Studies

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 9&10 THEATRE STUDIES

Subject Description

- Explore the production areas of theatre including lighting, sound, set, costume, make-up, props, multimedia and stage management
- Develop an understanding of how design and technical choices shape storytelling and audience experience
- Work collaboratively as part of a production team to plan and present theatrical moments or scenes
- Investigate how theatre practitioners use design, staging and technology to communicate ideas, themes and mood
- Analyse and evaluate live or recorded theatre productions with a focus on production elements

Assessment Type

- Practical design tasks
- Analysis and evaluation
- Production Project
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1-4 Drama
- Unit 1-4 Theatre Studies

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER



YEAR 9&10 MUSIC RECORDING & MIXING

Subject Description

- Develop skills in audio recording and mixing for music and media production
- Create a portfolio of mixed recordings demonstrating technical and creative skills
- Learn about contemporary instruments and their use in recordings
- Gain foundational knowledge of how recording studios and live music venues operate
- Build practical skills for further study or industry pathways

Assessment Type

- Practical task
- Quiz
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- VCE VET Music (Sound Production)

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 9&10 MUSIC PERFORMANCE REPERTOIRE

Subject Description

- For students who enjoy learning and performing notated music
- Include traditional sheet music and other forms of written musical notation
- Focus on developing strong skills on an instrument or voice
- Learn to interpret and follow the composer's musical ideas and intentions
- Develop accuracy, expression, and appropriate musical style
- Listen to a variety of performers/musical styles
- Analyse and reflect on what makes a performance effective

Assessment Type

- Music Theory
- Aural Assessment
- Solo and Group Performance
- Music Analysis and Composition
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

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

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 9&10 MUSIC PERFORMANCE CONTEMPORARY

Subject Description

- For students interested in performing contemporary music styles
- Focus on developing a personal musical voice
- Learn through listening, collaboration, and group rehearsals
- Explore improvisation, composition, rearranging, and embellishment
- Encourage adding personal ideas and expression to performances
- Study and analyse how different performers interpret music
- Learn how songs can be creatively reimaged
- Provide opportunities to compose/perform original music

Assessment Type

- Music Theory and Analysis
- Solo and Group performances
- Composition and Reimagination
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

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

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

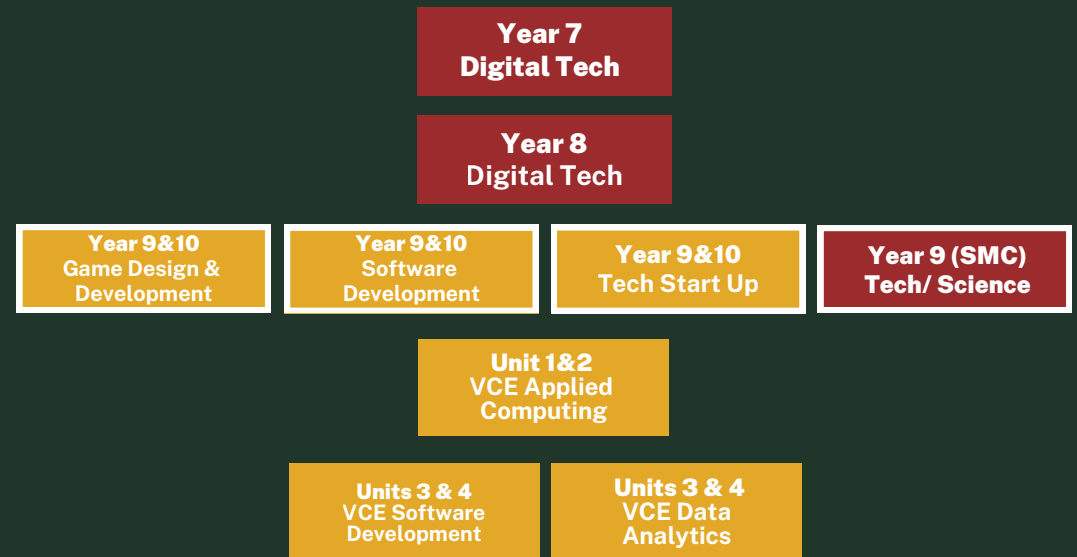
ONE SEMESTER

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 9&10 SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT

Subject Description

- Develop skills in designing and building quality software applications
- Introduce the software design process, including planning and user needs
- Build Python programming skills for data manipulation and user interaction
- Cover testing methods to ensure software works as intended
- Explore key contributors to modern computing
- Examine user experience, functional design, and security in digital systems

Assessment Type

- Software Solutions
- Design Folio
- Multimedia and oral presentations
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1&2 Applied Computing
- Unit 3&4 Data Analytics
- Unit 3&4 Software Development

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 9&10 GAME DESIGN & DEVELOPMENT

Subject Description

- Learn how digital games are designed and built using a block-based programming system, problem-solving and creative thinking
- Explore how online games work, including networks, data, players, and the impacts of gaming on people and society
- Design, create, test, and improve their own multi-level video game using industry-style software tools
- Introduce future gaming technologies and pathways

Assessment Type

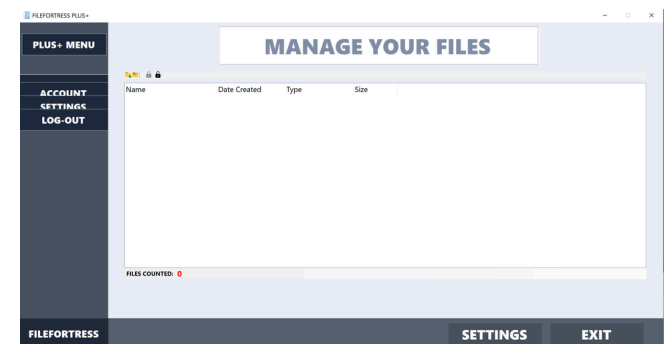
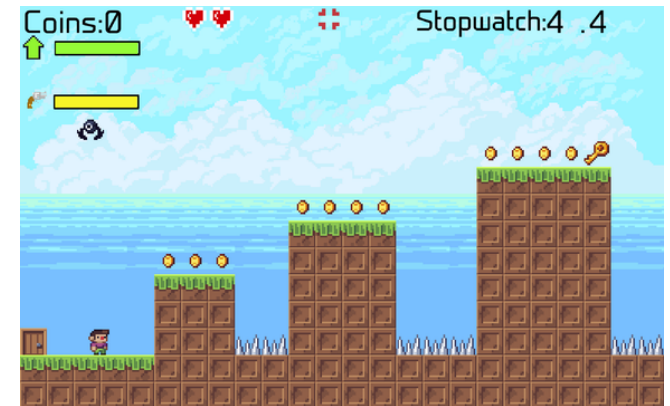
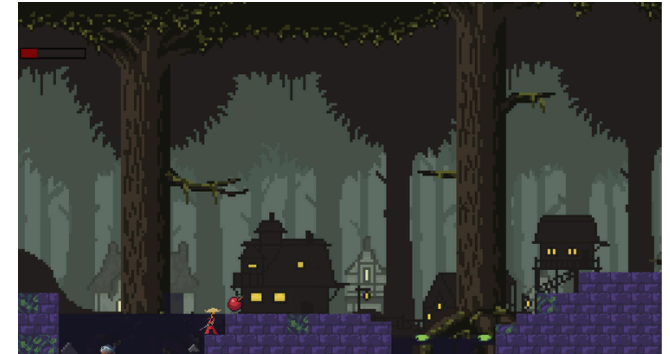
- Short response analysis
- Game design folio
- Practical digital solution
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1&2 Applied Computing
- Unit 3&4 Data Analytics
- Unit 3&4 Software Development

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER



YEAR 9&10 TECH START-UP

Subject Description

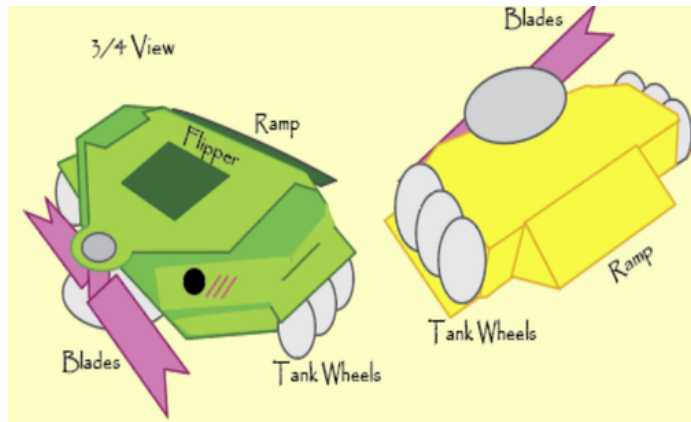
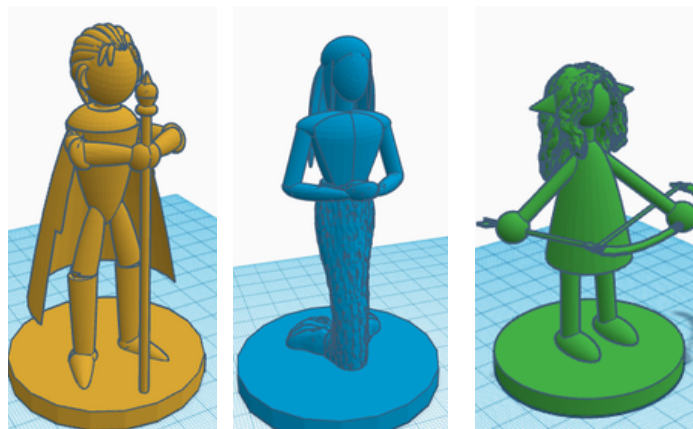
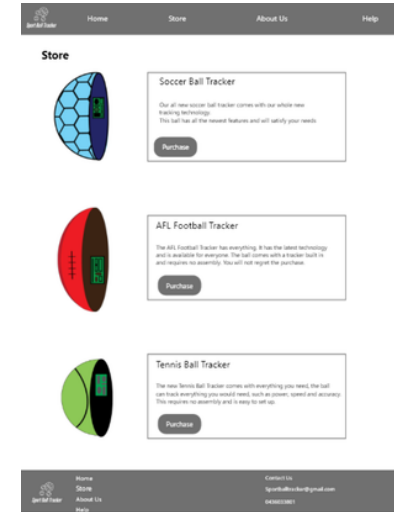
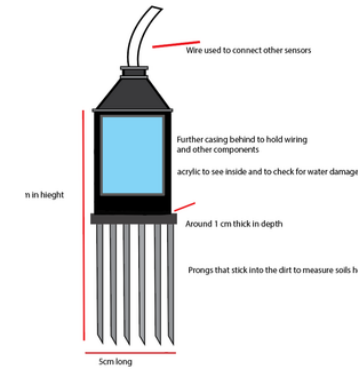
- Develop students' skills to create digital solutions for real-world problems using emerging and existing technologies
- Collect and analyse primary and secondary data to identify opportunities for innovation
- The full problem-solving process—analysis, design, development, and evaluation—is applied to produce a proof of concept, prototype, or product
- Design and develop a prototype and website to inform and promote their innovative solutions
- Explore how data, design processes, and marketing strategies support the development and promotion of new products

Assessment Type

- Data collection and analysis
- Production of proof of concept or prototype
- Website design and development
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1&2 Applied Computing
- Unit 3&4 Data Analytics
- Unit 3&4 Software Development



ELECTIVE SUBJECT

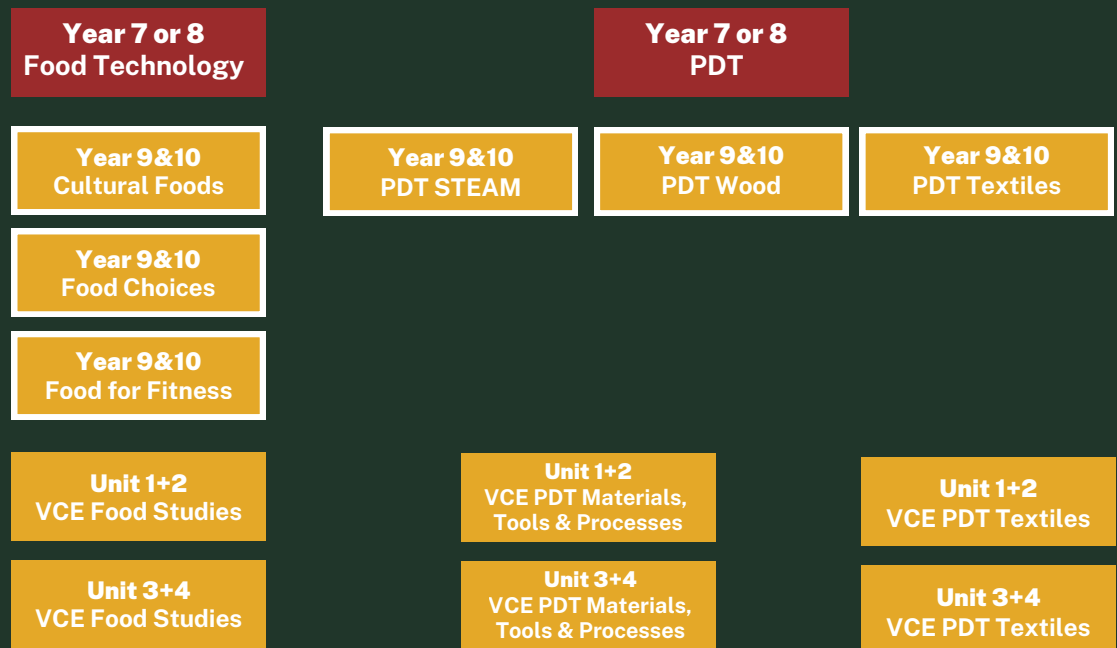
ONE SEMESTER

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 9&10 CULTURAL FOODS

Subject Description

- Explore the history of Australian food, including Indigenous and multicultural ingredients and dishes
- Investigate key foods such as meat, eggs, and grains, and complete practical cooking tasks using these ingredients
- Learn food safety, hygiene, cooking methods, and nutrition in both theory and practical classes
- Examine how migration has influenced modern Australian cuisine and apply this in practical food creation.
- Units studied include Food Basics, Cuisines, Key Foods.
- Learn safe kitchen practices, use of the design process in food creation, and understanding healthy eating guidelines

Assessment Type

- Research, design and produce
- Topic Test
- Product Analysis Task
- Practical Work
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1-4 Food Studies

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 9&10 FOOD CHOICES

Subject Description

- Develop practical and theoretical skills in food preparation, cooking, design briefs, sensory analysis, and product evaluation
- Build on knowledge of food safety, hygiene, nutrition, and meal planning, applying the design process to create meals that meet specific requirements
- Explore the science of food, including digestion, food preservation, and changes in physical and chemical properties during preparation and cooking
- Examine food labelling, marketing, sustainability in food production, and emerging “future foods.”
- Units studied include Food Basics, Food Science, and Food Choices.

Assessment Type

- Research, design and produce
- Topic Test
- Product Analysis Task
- Practical Work
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1-4 Food Studies

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 9&10 FOOD FOR FITNESS

Subject Description

- Focus on nutrition for active individuals, including athletes and teenagers, and how food timing and selection support performance
- Explore key nutrients, prebiotics and probiotics, and their impact on gut health, physical health, and mental wellbeing
- Examine current food fads, restrictive diets, and compares them against The Australian Guide to Healthy Eating
- Develop skills to assess and interpret food and nutrition information, distinguishing fact from fiction
- Units studied include Nutrition for Athletes, Food Hacks (Iron and Gut Health), and Assessing Food Fads and Diets

Assessment Type

- Research, design and produce
- Product Analysis Task
- Practical Work
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1-4 Food Studies

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 9&10 PDT STEAM

Subject Description

- Explore advanced tools and techniques in product, industrial, and environmental design
- Investigate innovative and sustainable materials and processes
- Use the double diamond design process to respond to real-world design briefs
- Focus on sustainability, ethical design, and global responsibility
- Develop skills in prototyping, technical drawing, CAD, and modelling
- Build critical and creative thinking about the impact of design on people and the planet

Assessment Type

- Research report
- Practical tasks
- Test
- Portfolio
- Production
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1-4 Visual Communication Design
- Unit 1-4 PDT: Materials, Tools and Processes
- VCE VET Systems Engineering

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 9&10 PDT TEXTILES

Subject Description

- Investigate local and international fashion designers, with a focus on ethical and sustainable practices
- Develop a folio of research and design ideas that leads to a final garment for production
- Build skills in basic garment construction, learning to follow commercial patterns and use appropriate tools and equipment
- Create a creative and functional garment that meets end user needs, including considerations of style and colour through research, sketching and design processes

Assessment Type

- Research
- Production
- Design folio
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- Unit 1-4 PDT: Textiles

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 9&10 PDT WOOD

Subject Description

- Build on junior woodworking skills and introduces the safe use of hand and static power tools
- Apply the full technology process (investigation, design, production, evaluation)
- Learn advanced joinery, furniture design, and construction techniques
- Explore ethical and sustainable practices in material selection and design
- Design functional, client-focused products while applying safe, effective construction methods

Assessment Type

- Safety Test
- Step Ladder and Booklet Task
- Coffee Table and Booklet Task
- Bar Stool and Booklet
- Examination

Recommended Senior Pathway

- UI-4 PDT: Materials, Tools and Processes

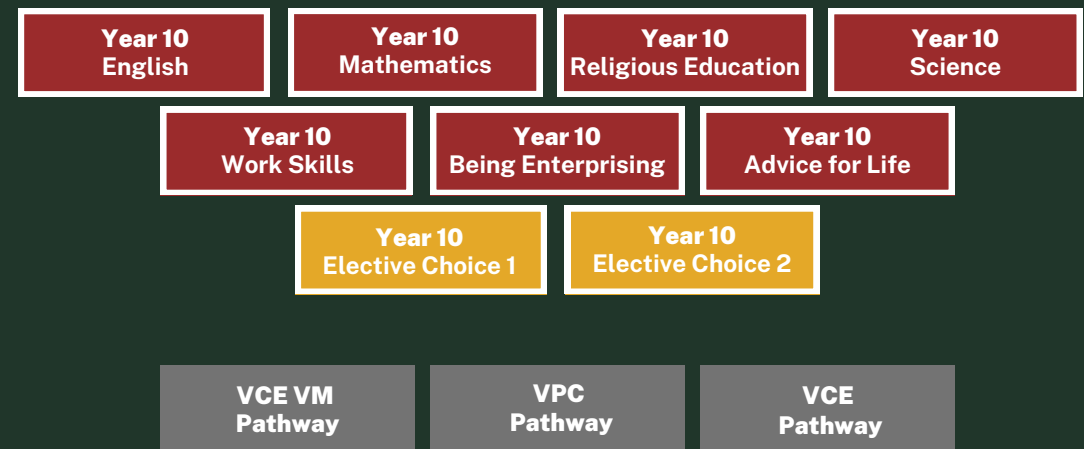
ELECTIVE SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

LEARNING FOR LIFE PROGRAM (LLP)

LEARNING FOCUS

The Learning for Life Program (LLP) at MacKillop provides an applied learning alternative for students exploring pathways beyond Year 10, such as VCE, VCE Vocational Major, or further vocational training. It is designed to boost self-esteem, engagement, and retention by linking learning to practical school, community, and workforce experiences. The program exposes students to future training and vocational pathways, helping them make informed choices within specific industry sectors. It develops employability skills, workplace readiness, and communication across a variety of settings, while also teaching students to identify Occupational Health & Safety issues. Additionally, LLP fosters lifelong learning, social-emotional resilience, mentoring, and social connectedness.



■ Compulsory subjects

■ Elective subjects

YEAR 10

ADVICE FOR LIFE

Subject Description

- Equip students with skills and knowledge to achieve personal, educational, and vocational goals
- Develop positive relationships, self-awareness, and self-management strategies to succeed in real-world and simulated scenarios
- Emphasise conflict resolution, project coordination, and practical experiences that foster strengths, interests, and attitudes
- Promote social responsibility, community connectedness, civic awareness, and volunteering
- Build enterprising, business, and transferable work skills to support lifelong learning and personal goal achievement
- The curriculum uses applied, project-based approaches tailored to individual learning styles, grounded in youth development principles

Assessment Tasks

- Portfolio
- Project or program participation
- Awards from recognised programs
- Self-assessment inventories
- Evidence of information and communications technology, including Internet usage
- Teacher observation and/or checklists

LLP CORE SUBJECT

WHOLE YEAR

YEAR 10

BEING ENTERPRISING

Subject Description

- Develop business skills, innovation, and enterprise capabilities for personal, educational, and professional contexts
- Build transferable skills such as effective communication, adaptability, initiative, problem-solving, and role-taking.
- Fosters leadership, teamwork, and proactive, autonomous work practices
- Develop entrepreneurship through structured learning, business projects, and workplace activities
- Emphasise lifelong learning and the application of enterprise skills in real-world challenges
- Units focus on project-based learning to strengthen management, leadership, and problem-solving abilities

Assessment Tasks

- Portfolio
- Project or program participation
- Awards from recognised programs
- Self-assessment inventories
- Evidence of information and communications technology, including Internet usage
- Teacher observation and/or checklists

LLP CORE SUBJECT

WHOLE YEAR

YEAR 10

WORK SKILLS

Subject Description

- Develops employability skills, including leadership, teamwork, communication, self-management, initiative, and problem-solving
- Gain practical experiences such as work experience, TAFE visits, and certifications (e.g., First Aid, Construction Induction Card)
- Nurture students' strengths, interests, knowledge, and attitudes through real-world, practical learning
- Promote social responsibility, community connectedness, self-confidence, and civic participation
- Explore the world of work, understanding job opportunities, career pathways, and transferable skills
- The curriculum emphasises youth development principles, supporting personal goal achievement and business awareness

Assessment Tasks

- Portfolio
- Project or program participation
- Awards from recognised programs
- Self-assessment inventories
- Evidence of information and communications technology, including Internet usage
- Teacher observation and/or checklists

LLP CORE SUBJECT

WHOLE YEAR

YEAR 9 PROGRAM - ST MARY'S CAMPUS

St Mary's Campus represents a pivotal stage in a student's academic and personal journey — where independence, intellectual challenge, and real-world learning come together to shape confident, capable, and future-ready learners.

From 2026, St Mary's Campus will deliver a revitalised, academically rigorous Year 9 program in a brand new, state-of-the-art facility. Located in the Werribee Market Garden Precinct — a major contributor to Melbourne's food supply and a centre for sustainable agriculture — the campus offers a powerful setting for learning that connects classroom knowledge to the real world.

Students will spend six months immersed in a carefully designed program that blends rich experiential learning with high academic expectations. As part of the College's renewal phase, the St Mary's curriculum is being redeveloped to prioritise deep knowledge acquisition, skill development, and preparation for future pathways. This includes the introduction of formal examinations across key subject areas.

In addition to core and integrated studies, the program makes full use of its unique location, with experiential learning, fieldwork, and partnerships with local industries and organisations. These include agricultural businesses, conservation sites, and research centres that help students explore real-world challenges and opportunities. Two major off-campus experiences also form part of the program and support students' personal growth:

- Goulburn River Camp offers a chance to build resilience, independence, and teamwork in an outdoor setting
- City Experience gives students the opportunity to engage with Melbourne's civic, cultural, and historic landscape, developing confidence and curiosity in an urban environment



YEAR 9 PROGRAM - SMC: OUTDOOR EDUCATION

MacKillop College offers students the opportunity to learn through what they do, what they encounter and what they discover through a practical Outdoor Educational experience in a natural environment.

Our Outdoor and Environmental Studies program provides students with an opportunity to develop skills and knowledge in the following areas:

- Conservation and sustainability
- Experiencing safe journeys in nature
- Community spirit
- Leadership and self-reliance
- Problem-solving skills

Outdoor Education in Year 9 forms an integral part of the overall St. Mary's experience directly linking the outdoor educational experience to the integrated curriculum.

Subject Description

- Develop skills in conservation, sustainability, leadership, self-reliance and problem-solving through experiential outdoor learning
- Participate in a self-sufficient canoe expedition along the Goulburn[MRI] River
- Build practical skills in canoeing, river navigation, bush cooking and minimal-impact camping
- Strengthen community spirit and teamwork while connecting outdoor learning to the SMC curriculum
- Grow in independence and environmental awareness through immersive, compulsory outdoor experiences

Assessment type

- Practical (Camp attendance)
- Camp booklet (completed on Camp)
- Exam

Recommended Senior Pathway

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



YEAR 9 (SMC)

ENGLISH/ MEDIA

Subject Description

- Explore how identity and voice are shaped through literature, media and personal experience
- Analyse how language, structure and media techniques influence audience interpretation
- Create written and multimodal texts that express a clear perspective for a specific audience
- Examine how context (social, cultural and historical) impacts meaning and representation
- Develop critical thinking, collaboration and communication skills through integrated English and Media tasks

Assessment Type

- Reflective Written Response
- Reflective Commentary
- Film Creation
- Film Analysis
- Examination

COMPULSORY SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 9 (SMC)

HUMANITIES/ RE

Subject Description

- Link industrialisation, colonisation, biomes and food security to Catholic Social Teaching
- Analyse who benefited or was harmed, and why, through a justice-and-mercy lens
- Understand how biomes and human systems shape communities, biodiversity and sustainability
- Use sources, maps and data to explain cause-and-effect and change over time
- Communicate evidence-based ethical judgements in written and multimodal tasks

Assessment Type

- Test
- Summary Assignment
- Field Trip Report
- Examination

COMPULSORY SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 9 (SMC) SCIENCE/ TECH

Subject Description

- Model and explain carbon movement through Earth systems using scientific concepts and evidence
- Compare energy systems (renewable and non-renewable) for impact and sustainability
- Collect and interpret data sets to identify patterns, trends and anomalies
- Create clear data visualisations and digital products to communicate findings to an audience
- Apply digital and scientific thinking to propose and justify solutions to real-world problems

Assessment Type

- Test
- Digital Solution Production
- Practical Report
- Fieldwork
- Examination

COMPULSORY SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

YEAR 9 (SMC) PERSONAL PROJECTS

Subject Description

- Explore the metacognition cycle and how it improves learning and performance
- Understand how to collect and use evidence of growth to adapt strategies over time
- Know how to research, plan, implement and evaluate a social justice project, and communicate outcomes using claim–evidence–reflection
- Recognise how values, identity, emotions and social influences shape behaviour, motivation and responses to challenge
- Know how effective goal-setting works and why small habits are more reliable than vague intentions

Assessment Type

- Personal Portfolio
- Reflection
- Project Proposal and Analysis

COMPULSORY SUBJECT

ONE SEMESTER

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