

St Francis Xavier College

Berwick, Officer and Beaconsfield

Curriculum Information



Berwick and Officer Campuses

Year 7, 8 and 9 2025



Table of Contents

WELCOME	3
----------------	---

CURRICULUM STRUCTURE

Year 7 Curriculum Structure 2025	5
Year 8 Curriculum Structure 2025	6
Year 9 Curriculum Structure 2025	7
Additional Learning Programs 2025	8

YEAR 7 SUBJECTS

Religious Education	10
English	10
Mathematics	11
Science	11
Health and Physical Education	12
Humanities	12
Music	13
Digital Technologies	13

LANGUAGES (Students will select one of the following)

Japanese	14
Spanish	14

ARTS (Students will be allocated one of the following)

Drama	15
Visual Arts	15
Visual Communication Design	16

TECHNOLOGY (Students will be allocated one of the following)

Food Studies	16
Textiles	17
Material Technology	17

YEAR 8 CORE SUBJECTS

Religious Education	19
English	19
Mathematics	20
Advanced Mathematics – Year 8	20
Science	21
Health and Physical Education	21
Humanities	22

LANGUAGES (Students will continue one of the following)

Arabic	22
Japanese	23
Spanish	23

YEAR 9 CORE SUBJECTS

Religious Education	25
English	25
Mathematics	26
Advanced Mathematics – Year 9	26

YEAR 9 CORE SUBJECTS cont.

Curriculum Information – Years 7, 8 and 9 – 2025	
St Francis Xavier College – Berwick and Officer Campuses	

Science	27
Health and Physical Education	27
Humanities	28
Inquiry Based Learning Project	28

YEARS 8 AND 9 ELECTIVE SUBJECTS

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Youth Ministry	30
Cantabile	30

ARTS

Drama	31
Music Performance	31
Visual Arts	32
Visual Communication Design	32

DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

Textiles	33
Food Technology	33
Materials Technology	34

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

Creative Digital Solutions	34
----------------------------	----

YEARS 8 AND 9 EXTENSION ACADEMIES

Application Process	36
Basketball Academy	37
Sport Academy	37
Literature Academy	38
Performing Arts Academy	38
Philosophy Academy	39
Health Sciences Academy	40
STEM Academy	40
Visual Art Academy	41

YEAR 9 ONLY ELECTIVE SUBJECTS

Dance	43
Media Arts	43
Media Arts: 3D Modelling and Animation	44
Systems Technology	44
Horticulture	45
Digital Systems and Networks	45
Robotics	46
Fitness and Training	46
Economics and Business	47
Geography	47
History – Australians at War	48
Arabic	48
Japanese	49
Spanish	49
Into the Galaxy	50

SUBJECT SELECTION TIMELINE 2025 51

Welcome to your study options for Years 7, 8 and 9 in 2025

The College offers students a Catholic education with a focus on offering purposeful and deliberate pathways for all students.

Across Years 7 – 9 students have an opportunity to experience a range of new and interesting subjects and can immerse themselves in the various extra-curricular activities. They will be able to develop personally and better understand themselves as learners.

Students are encouraged to embrace each opportunity as they broaden their experiences and try new things.

The College has a focus on Positive Learning Partnerships between learners, teachers, and the community, and strives to foster a culture of positive education.

Students are supported on their education journey through the College Care Group Program which focusses on:

- Student personal development being known
- Student learning needs and progress being known
- Students feeling a strong sense of connection to the College and their peers
- Students developing the skills of wellbeing through explicit instruction

This document outlines the structure of the curriculum and the study options available for students at each year level.

May you be suitably challenged and engaged throughout your time as a student at the Berwick and Officer Campuses.



Curriculum Structure

Year 7 Curriculum 2025

The Year 7 Curriculum is based on the Victorian F-10 Curriculum.

Students experience the full breadth of the curriculum in Year 7 with some limited choice.

- The Religious Education learning program follows the curriculum structure set by the Diocese of Sale.
- There is a significant focus on literacy and numeracy with additional class time focussed on English and Mathematics.
- Students are allocated classes from a range of introductory subjects from the Arts and Technology Learning Areas to allow them to experience the expectation of subjects in these areas.
- Students study Music for half a year and Digital Technologies for half a year. Students study an instrument and participate in an ensemble as part of Music.
- Students choose a language to study in Year 7, they will continue with this subject in Year 8.
- The Individual Support Program is available for students who require their learning program to be adjusted to support them with literacy intervention or general program support. Numeracy intervention is offered through the mathematics learning program.
- Students participate in Camp in Year 7 to help them with the transition process.

Year 7 Learning Program

Semester 1	Semester 2
Care Group and Wellbeing	Care Group and Wellbeing
Religious Education	Religious Education
English	English
Mathematics	Mathematics
Science	Science
Health and Physical Education	Health and Physical Education
Humanities	Humanities
Language Choice	Language Choice
An Art or Design Technology (allocated)	An Art or Design Technology (allocated)
Music or Digital Technologies	Music or Digital Technologies

Year 8 Curriculum 2025

The Year 8 Curriculum is based on the Victorian F-10 Curriculum.

Students experience a learning program which is broad but allowing for some choice with elective subjects included.

- The Religious Education learning program follows the curriculum structure set by the Diocese of Sale.
- There is a significant focus on literacy and numeracy with additional class time focussed on English and Mathematics.
- Student’s study 4 electives:
 - 1 Arts based elective
 - 1 Design Technology based elective
 - 2 other electives from all options available to Year 8 students
- Extension Academies are available (semester elective) for students who have a high level of interest in a particular area as well as performing above standard. An application process applies for admission into an Extension Academy.
- Year 8’s are offered as electives, those Art and Tech subjects that they didn’t get an opportunity to study in Year 7.
- To meet student needs and offer more choice and flexibility within the learning program some Religious Education and Extension Academy subjects are studied as classes with both Year 8 and Year 9 students included.

Year 8 Learning Program

Semester 1	Semester 2
Care Group and Wellbeing	Care Group and Wellbeing
Religious Education	Religious Education
English	English
Mathematics or Advanced Mathematics	Mathematics or Advanced Mathematics
Science	Science
Health and Physical Education	Health and Physical Education
Humanities	Humanities
Language Choice	Language Choice
Elective 1	Elective 2
Elective 3	Elective 4

Year 9 Curriculum 2025

The Year 9 Curriculum is based on the Victorian F-10 Curriculum.

Students experience a learning program which is broad and allows for a large degree of choice with elective subjects included.

- The Religious Education learning program follows the curriculum structure set by the Diocese of Sale.
- There is a significant focus on literacy and numeracy with additional class time focussed on English and Mathematics.
- The Inquiry and Project Based Learning subject is studied by students for half a year (alternating each semester with the third elective)
- Students study 5 electives:
 - 1 Arts based elective
 - 1 Design Technology based elective
 - 1 Digital Technologies based elective
 - 2 other electives from all options available
- Languages are electives for Year 9. If selected, the language needs to be studied both semesters. It must be the language studied in Year 8. To encourage students to study their language and still have a suitable number of elective subjects, students may negotiate to study one less compulsory subject.
- Extension Academies are available (semester elective) for students who have a high level of interest in a particular area as well as performing above standard. An application process applies for admission into an Extension Academy.
- To meet student needs and offer more choice and flexibility within the learning program some RE and Extension Academy subjects may be studied as classes with both Year 8 and Year 9 students included.

Year 9 Learning Program

Semester 1	Semester 2
Care Group and Wellbeing	Care Group and Wellbeing
Religious Education	Religious Education
English	English
Mathematics or Advanced Mathematics	Mathematics or Advanced Mathematics
Science	Science
Health and Physical Education	Health and Physical Education
Humanities	Humanities
Inquiry and Project Based Learning	Elective 1
Elective 2	Elective 3
Elective 4	Elective 5

Additional Learning Programs 2025

Individual Support Program (ISP)

The individual support program (ISP) is a learning program designed to support students with identified learning needs. The subjects offered within the program are determined by the needs of the current students and is coordinated by the campus Inclusion Support team.

These subjects are studied as an alternative to another subject in consultation with the Inclusion Support Team leadership of the College. Subjects that may be on offer include:

- ISP – Literacy Skills (Years 8 and 9)
- ISP – Literacy Program (Years 8 and 9)
- ISP – Life Skills (Years 8 and 9)
- ISP – Adjusted Humanities (Years 8 and 9)
- ISP – Brick Social Skills Therapy (Years 8 and 9)
- ISP – Program Support (Years 7, 8 and 9)
- ISP – Numeracy (through the mathematics program)

Hands on Learning



‘Hands on Learning’ is a program run at both Berwick and Officer Campuses aimed at engaging students at school to help them discover their talents and experience success. This supportive program sees students grow in confidence and increase their sense of connection to school.

Students who participate in the program are released from their normal learning program for 1 day a week. Students are recommended for participation by Heads of House and must go through an application and interview process to be included in the program.

For more information, please contact:

- Berwick – Dennis Krinas dkrinas@sfx.vic.edu.au
- Officer – Michael Palmer mpalmer@sfx.vic.edu.au

To learn more about the philosophy of Hands on Learning visit their website <https://handsonlearning.org.au/>

Year 7

Curriculum

Year 7 Core Studies 2025

Year 7 - Religious Education

Overview

In Year 7 Religious Education, students are welcomed as members of a Catholic community. “I am the way, the truth and the life” (John 14:6) – our college mission calls us to come to know Jesus as the model of discipleship and the way to God. Through a variety of topics, students explore beliefs and traditions of the Catholic faith and its role in the world – past, present, and future. They engage with other religious perspectives and use their own beliefs and ideas to make meaning for themselves.

Units/Topics

- Welcoming & Belonging
- Sacraments of Initiation
- Jesus: Life & Mission
- Charity vs Justice

Types of Assessment

- Folio
- Research Task
- Comparative Reflection
- Group Campaign

Future Directions

Students continue to study Religious Education as a Core Subject in Year 8. They also have the potential to enrol in elective courses: Youth Ministry or Cantabile.

Year 7 – English

Overview

The study of English is central to the learning and development of all young Australians. It helps create confident communicators, imaginative thinkers, and informed citizens. It is through the study of English that individuals learn to analyse, understand, communicate, and build relationships with others and with the world around them. The study of English helps young people develop the knowledge and skills needed for education, training, and the workplace.

In Year 7 English, students study a variety of different text types throughout the two semesters. Students create a range of imaginative, informative, and persuasive writing pieces. These may include narratives, procedures, performances, presentations, and reports. Students are encouraged to read a variety of texts including non-fiction, fantasy, speculative fiction, and historical genres.

Key learning areas in English include the modes of ‘Reading and Viewing,’ ‘Writing,’ and ‘Speaking and Listening,’ as well as the strands of language, literature, and literacy.

Units/Topics

- ‘Identity and Belonging’
- Persuasive Writing
- Text Study
- Media Analysis

Assessment

- Creative Writing
- Oral Presentation
- Analytical Text Response
- Argument Analysis.

Future Directions

Core English Year 8 and 9, Literature Academy.

Year 7 Core Studies 2025

Year 7 - Mathematics

Overview

Year 7 students transition into high school mathematics where they develop and consolidate their numeracy skills in a variety of mathematical concepts from the Victorian Curriculum. Students are given the opportunity to work through Year 7 Mathematics concepts whilst also closing gaps in their learning through differentiated learning modules. Students are provided with many and varied opportunities to become confident, creative, and effective communicators of Mathematics.

Units/Topics

- Number and Algebra
- Measurement and Geometry
- Statistics and Probability

Types of Assessment

- Semester Projects
- Rich Task Investigations
- Unit Tests

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide a sound foundation for students to proceed to Year 8 Mathematics. Students who demonstrate capacity, may be invited into Advanced Mathematics.

Year 7 - Science

Overview

In Year 7 Science, student learning focuses on developing fundamental knowledge and inquiry skills. Students make accurate measurements and control variables in experiments to analyse relationships between system components and explore and explain these relationships using appropriate representations. They make predictions and propose explanations, drawing on evidence to support their views.

Key learning areas in Science include the strands of 'Science Understanding' focusing on Science as Human endeavour and the different disciplines of science and the development of 'Science Inquiry Skills'.

Units/Topics

- Introduction to Science
- Mixtures
- Earth's resources
- Earth in Space
- Classification
- Food chains and food webs
- Forces

Types of Assessment

- Practical Reports
- Topic Tests
- Research Tasks

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide a sound foundation for students to proceed to Year 8 Science.

Year 7 Core Studies 2025

Year 7 - Health and Physical Education

Overview

In Year 7 Health and Physical Education, students are introduced to a variety of activities with the aim of developing basic physical skills such as strength, balance, and hand/eye coordination. The specific outcomes of the program are to develop these basic skills, as well as fitness and positive sportsmanship. Students will participate in a range of sports and activities such as: Netball, T-ball, Soccer, AFL, Minor Games, Volleyball, Cricket, Fitness, Cultural Games and Swimming. Students will also be exposed to several health-related topics and current local, national and world issues in their theory lessons.

Units/Topics

- Bullying
- Respectful Relationships
- Mental Health
- Consent
- Healthy decisions
- Water and Sun Safety

Types of Assessment

- Topic Tests
- Extended Responses
- Research Assessments
- Media Analysis Assessments
- Practical Assessments

Future Directions

Successful completion of Year 7 Health and Physical Education can lead to the Basketball Academy or the Sports Academy classes in Year 8.

Year 7 - Humanities

Overview

Students study a Humanities program that consists of Geography, Economics and Business, Civics and Citizenship, and History. This combination of subjects will challenge students to gain the knowledge and skills necessary to question, understand and contribute to the world in which they live.

Units/Topics

- Geography: Water in the World & Place and Liveability
- Business and Economics: Local Business study & Financial Literacy
- Civics and Citizenship: Australia's Democracy, Citizenship, and National Identity
- History: Ancient Australia, Rome, and China

Assessment

- Inquiry research task
- Fieldwork report
- Oral presentation/class debate
- Source Analysis

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide a sound foundation for students to proceed to Year 8 Humanities and consider a Humanities elective such as the Year 8/9 Philosophy Academy.

Year 7 Core Studies 2025

Year 7 - Arts: Music (Compulsory)

Overview

Students develop skills to create, rehearse and perform music in both a solo and ensemble setting, as well as develop an understanding of the various elements of music and how to manipulate them to create their own compositions. Students develop a vocabulary of music-specific terminology which they can utilise in the analysis and evaluation of various musical performances.

Units/Topics

- Elements of Music
- Analysis of Music
- Music Composition
- Ensemble Skills

Assessment

- Group Performance
- Individual Performance
- Analysis
- Composition

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide a sound foundation to proceed to Year 8 Music.

Year 7 - Digital Technologies (Compulsory)

Overview

In Digital Technologies, students are actively engaged in the processes of analysing problems and opportunities, designing, developing, and evaluating digital solutions, and creating and sharing information that meets a range of current and future needs. Students learn to safely and ethically exploit the capacity of information systems to create digital solutions. These solutions and information are created through the application of computational, design and systems thinking, and technical skills.

Units/Topics

- Networking
- Programming with Micro:bits
- Online safety

Assessment

- Data collection and analysis
- Visual representation of data
- Networks
- Coding
- Computer hardware and digital information

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide a sound foundation for students to proceed to Digital Technologies in Year 8 or 9 or to apply for the STEM Academy.

Year 7 Language Options 2025 – Students choose one

Year 7 - Languages: Japanese

Overview

This subject covers the study of the Japanese language. It focuses on the development of basic vocabulary, sentence patterns and alphabets. Through the study of Japanese language, students develop their skills in oral and aural language, reading and writing. Students also develop their ability to analyse and interpret comprehension tasks relating to themselves and others around them.

Units/Topics

- Unit 1- Greetings
- Unit 2- Classroom instructions and numbers
- Unit 3- Nationality

Assessment

- Written Task: Manga reflection task
- Translating Task: Celebrity Introduction
- Speaking Task: Self-Introduction

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide a sound foundation for students to proceed to Year 8 Japanese.

Year 7 - Languages: Spanish

Overview

Spanish is spoken by approximately 500 million people across the world. Spanish is a Romance language, derived from Latin, and so has many connections with English. Knowledge of Spanish can facilitate the learning of other languages from the Romance family, such as Italian, French, Portuguese, and Catalan. In Year 7, students are introduced to the foundations of Spanish language. They learn to greet others and develop their confidence in holding introductory conversations. Students begin to understand and apply the rules of Spanish grammar, spelling, and pronunciation. They are introduced to key grammar concepts such as gender/number agreement and word order.

Units/Topics

- My Life and Hobbies
- My School
- My Family and Friends
- My City

Assessments

- Class Presentation
- Writing Task
- Role Play Task
- Investigation Task

Future directions

Satisfactory completion of Year 7 Spanish gives students a sound foundation to proceed to Year 8 Spanish.

Year 7 Arts Options 2025 – Students allocated one

Year 7 - Arts: Drama

Overview

This course introduces students to Drama and the fundamental skills required for the creation and presentation of performances. Students will develop their collaborative skills, working in groups to devise and perform original or scripted works, focusing on expressive skills, performance skills and character development. Students will view professional works and develop their literacy skills in the process of analysing, evaluating and describing the performances.

Units/Topics

- Skills and Terminology
- Mime
- Radio Plays

Assessment Tasks

- Performance
- Drama Folio
- Analysis task

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide a sound foundation for students to proceed to Year 8 Drama.

Year 7 - Arts: Visual Arts

Overview

In Year 7 Visual Art, students explore and develop a variety of artistic skills and practices. Students complete several small workshops using a variety of Art materials and methods. Students document their work using a visual diary and annotations. Students reflect upon their own artwork and the work of professional artists. Artists and practices of influence include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and Asia.

Units/Topics

Workshops may vary from the following:

- Painting
- Drawing
- Printmaking
- Mixed media
- Sculpture
- Art theory
- Art history

Assessment

- Drawing Skills
- Painting Skills (watercolour)
- Theory Component

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide a sound foundation for students to proceed to Year 8 or 9 Visual Art.

Year 7 Technology Options 2025 – Students allocated one

Year 7 - Arts: Visual Communication Design

Overview

In Year 7 Visual Communication Design, students develop skills in designing products, spaces and graphics that are beautiful, useful, and inspired by real life designers in the field. Students learn about the Design Elements and Principles through practice and analysis of the designs of others.

Units/Topics

- Design Elements and Principles
- Graphic / Environmental / Industrial Design
- Typography
- Colour Theory

Assessment

- Graphic Design – Food truck/Logo
- Technical Drawing – One-point Perspective
- Digital Design – Adobe Dimension / Photoshop

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide a sound foundation for students to proceed with Year 8 or 9 Visual Communication Design.

Year 7 Technology Options 2025 – Students allocated one

Year 7 - Design Technology: Food Studies

Overview

Food studies introduces students to the life skills specific to the preparation and production of food products based upon the healthy eating food models recommended by the Australian Government. Students develop a sense of pride, satisfaction and enjoyment from their ability to create food products.

Units/Topics

- Safety and hygiene
- Food production
- Following recipes
- The design process

Assessment Tasks

Production Skills: opportunities to build and consolidate core skills over a variety of recipes

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide a sound foundation for students to proceed to Year 8 Food Studies.

Year 7 Technology Options 2025 – Students allocated one

Year 7 - Design Technology: Textiles

Overview

Textiles teaches students design and fabric construction skills. By following the design process, students apply their newly learned hand and machine sewing skills in a creative manner to produce a textile item. Students will complete theory components to familiarise them with textiles terminology and an understanding of how textiles are used in everyday living situations.

Units/Topic

- Hand sewing skills
- Machine sewing skills
- Investigation, research and design skills
- Analysis of textiles products
- Textiles terminology
- Selection and safe use of equipment

Assessment

- Design Solution: Project incorporating hand and machine sewing skills
- *OnGuard* Safety Modules
- Textiles Theory

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide a sound foundation for students to proceed to Design Technology: Textiles in Year 8 or 9.

Year 7 - Design Technology: Materials Technology

Overview

In this subject, students will learn about working safely in a workshop with different tools, be introduced to the design process and use these skills to create a product out of materials such as wood and plastics. Students learn about safe workshop practices and the safe use of a range of hand tools and powered machinery. This understanding is reinforced through the successful completion of various safety exercises, tests, and production tasks.

Students are introduced to the design process and work within the constraint of a design brief to develop two and three-dimensional designs. Students follow a logical sequence of production processes and learn to manufacture a product with hand tools and powered machinery. They are also expected to analyse and evaluate their finished products for performance, function, and appearance.

Units/Topics

- Workshop induction and safety
- Design brief basics
- Woodworking practical skills
- Intro to systems

Assessment

- Online safety certification using OnGuard
- Practical building project: Pencil box or Brain-break
- Design Folio
- Mood Light Project

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide a sound foundation for students to proceed to Design Technology: Materials Technology in Year 8 or 9 or System Technology at Year 8 or 9.

Year 8

Curriculum

Year 8 Core Studies 2025

Year 8 Religious Education *

Overview:

In Year 8 Religious Education, students will explore and articulate the colleges Catholic Identity through the lenses of our school mission, patron Saints and community. Students will deepen their understanding of the topics of healing, relationships, and the environment, inspired by the Catholic tradition, multiple faith perspectives and the influence of wider society. Students will form their own meaning of topics explored, engaging in a classroom of dialogue and encounter.

Topics:

- Our Catholic Identity
- Reconciliation
- The Holy Trinity
- Stewardship

Types of Assessment:

- Research Presentation
- Folio
- Creative Response
- Ecology Project

Future Directions:

Students continue to study Religious Education as a Core Subject in Year 9. They also have the potential to enrol in elective courses: Youth Ministry or Cantabile.

***Students may apply to do the elective options of Cantabile or Youth Ministry in place of Core RE.**

Year 8 - English

Overview

In Year 8 English, students communicate with a range of audiences through many contexts. They look at the Australian Story and how they fit in. Students study a range of Literary texts. These texts explore themes of interpersonal relationships and ethical dilemmas within real-world and fictional settings and represent a variety of perspectives. Students will also study how to create persuasive texts as well as analyse how others persuade.

Units/Topics

- Australian Story
- Persuasive Writing/Oral Presentations
- Text Response – The Outsiders
- Language/Media Analysis

Assessment

- Text Response
- Oral Presentation
- Creative Response
- Language/Media Analysis

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide a sound foundation for students to proceed to Year 9 English.

Year 8 Core Studies 2025

Year 8 - Mathematics

Overview

Year 8 students continue to develop and consolidate their numeracy skills in a variety of mathematical concepts from the Victorian Curriculum. Students are given the opportunity to work through Year 8 Mathematics concepts whilst also closing gaps in their learning through differentiated learning modules. Students are provided with many and varied opportunities to become confident, creative, and effective communicators of Mathematics.

Units/Topics

Number and Algebra
Measurement and Geometry
Statistics and Probability

Types of Assessment

Average Growth Rate
Semester Projects
Rich Task Investigations
Fortnightly Tests

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide a sound foundation for students to proceed to Year 9 Mathematics.

Years 8 - Advanced Mathematics *

Overview

Year 8 students who are working above standard are invited by the College to participate in the Advanced Mathematics course. Students are given the opportunity to accelerate through the mathematics curriculum through the completion of mathematical modules, collaborative problem-solving tasks, and discovery projects. Students are provided with many and varied opportunities to become confident, creative, and effective communicators of Mathematics.

Units/Topics

- Number and Algebra
- Measurement and Geometry
- Statistics and Probability

Types of Assessment

- Average Growth Rate
- Semester Projects
- Rich Task Investigations
- Fortnightly Tests

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide a sound foundation for students to proceed to Year 9 or 10 Advanced Mathematics.

***This subject is studied with Year 9 students of the same ability**

Year 8 Core Studies 2025

Year 8 – Science

Overview

In Year 8 Science, student learning focus is on explaining phenomena involving science and its applications. Students classify different forms of energy, and describe the role of energy in causing change in systems, including the role of heat and kinetic energy in the rock cycle. Students link form and function at a cellular level and explore the organisation and interconnectedness of body systems. Similarly, they explore changes in matter at a particle level, and distinguish between chemical and physical change. Students make accurate measurements and control variables in experiments to analyse relationships between system components and explore and explain these relationships using appropriate representations. They make predictions and propose explanations, drawing on evidence to support their views.

Units/Topics

- Energy – Heat, light and sound
- Physical and chemical change
- Elements and compounds
- Cells
- Body Systems
- Active Earth

Types of Assessment

- Topic Tests
- Practical Investigations and Reports
- Research Tasks

Future Directions

This unit leads to Year 9 Science and can lead to VCE Chemistry, Biology, or Physics.

Year 8 - Health and Physical Education

Overview

In Year 8 Health and Physical Education, students learn how to enhance their health, safety and wellbeing and to contribute to building healthy, safe and active communities. Throughout the course, students are involved in practical and theory-based classes where they learn to understand how our body works, changes and challenges of adolescence, movement skills and patterns, drug education and nutrition.

Unit/Topics

- Drugs and Alcohol
- Mental Health
- Online Safety
- Respectful Relationships
- Changes and Challenges

Assessment

- Topic Tests
- Extended Responses
- Practical Assessment
- Research Assessment
- Case Study Assessments
- Fitness Testing

Future Directions

This unit leads to Year 9 Health and PE and the options of choosing Year 9 Fitness and Training or applying for the Sport Academies.

Year 8 Core Studies 2025

Year 8 - Humanities

Overview

Humanities includes Geography, Business and Economics, History and Civics and Citizenship. Humanities provides a framework for students to examine the complex processes that have shaped the modern world. Students learn to investigate responses to different challenges faced by humans and the environment.

Units/Topics

- **Geography:** Landforms and Landscapes
- **Business and Economics:** Entrepreneurship/Enterprising behaviours
- **Civics and Citizenship:** Democracy and Law in Action
- **History:** The Ancient to the Modern World, Medieval Europe (c.590-c1500)

Assessment

- Research Assessments
- Source Analysis

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide a sound foundation for students to proceed to Year 9 Humanities, Year 9 History, Year 9 Crime and Punishment or Year 9 Business and Economics.

Year 8 Languages 2025 – Students continue one

Year 8 - Languages: Arabic

Overview

Learners understand and use features of the Arabic sound and writing systems and make connections between spoken and written texts. They use appropriate pronunciation and intonation when communicating and interacting in a range of contexts and apply spelling rules when writing in Arabic script. Students use written and spoken Arabic to exchange information about their personal worlds and to express feelings, likes and dislikes.

Units/Topics

- Schools in the Arab world.
- Australia and the Arab world.
- Sports, family members, sentences using **هذه** و **هذا** or schools.

Assessment

- Culture: Students will compare the different ways of reply in the Arab world.
- Reading and Responding: (My family, describing themselves and others)
- Speaking: (Food and Food Pyramid)
- Reading and Responding: (Popular sport in the Arab world)

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide a sound foundation for students to proceed to Year 9 Arabic.

Year 8 Languages 2025 – Students continue one

Year 8 - Languages: Japanese

Overview

This subject covers the study of the Japanese language. It focuses on the development of basic vocabulary, sentences patterns and all three alphabets. A focus on food, animals, hobbies, and entertainment are the key components of Year 8 Japanese class. Through the study of Japanese language students develop their skills in oral and aural language, reading and writing. Students also develop their ability to analyse and interpret comprehension tasks relating to their daily lives.

Units/Topics

- Unit 4-Family
- Unit 5-Animals
- Unit 6-Food
- Unit 7-When is it?
- Unit 8- Hobbies
- Unit 9-Where to? Who with? How will we get there?
- Unit 10-What do you do?
- Unit 11- Let's see a movie
- Unit 12- How was it?

Assessment

- Translating Task- Family and Pets
- Reflection Task- Obento Assessment Task
- Writing Task- Calendar
- Speaking Task- Self- Introduction

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide a sound foundation for students to proceed to Year 9 Japanese.

Year 8 - Languages: Spanish

Overview

Students work both collaboratively and independently in Spanish, using modelled and rehearsed language to express meaning and interact with others. Students build their knowledge of Spanish spelling conventions to pronounce words with increasing accuracy and use intonation to distinguish between statements. Students read, view, and listen to simple texts and reflect on intercultural perspectives when responding to them. They create and present their own texts, applying their knowledge of English grammar to Spanish, making connections with terms such as 'verb', 'adjective', 'noun' and 'agreement' that are used in English learning. They further their understanding concepts such as grammatical gender and verb conjugation, as well as specific Spanish writing conventions, such as inverted question and exclamation marks.

Units/Topics

- My Holidays
- All About Me
- Let's Eat!
- What do we do?

Assessment

- Class Presentation
- Writing Task
- Role Play Task
- Investigation Task

Future directions

After Year 8, languages become an elective option. Satisfactory completion of Year 8 Spanish gives students a sound foundation to proceed to Year 9 Spanish.

Year 9 Curriculum

Year 9 Core Studies 2025

Year 9 Religious Education *

Overview

In Year 9 Religious Education, students will examine their role in wider society and the world. By studying a variety of social justice issues, students will explore how the Catholic Tradition challenges everyone to contribute in a meaningful way. Through the study of Catholic Social Teaching and the social principals of other faiths, students are asked to examine and communicate their own personal decision making and how they hold themselves accountable for their actions today and into the future.

Units/Topics:

- Respectful Relationships
- Global Perspectives
- The Common Good & Solidarity
- Eschatology

Assessment:

- Reflection
- Group Research Presentation
- Extended Response
- Analysis and Creative Response

Future Directions:

Students continue to study Religious Education as a Core Subject in Year 10. They also have the potential to enrol in elective courses: Youth Ministry or Cantabile.

***Students may apply to do the elective options of Cantabile or Youth Ministry in place of Core RE.**

Year 9 - English

Overview

Year 9 English curriculum is built around the three interrelated strands of Language, Literature and Literacy. Together the strands focus on developing students' knowledge, understanding and skills in listening, reading, viewing, speaking, writing and creating. Year 9 English builds on concepts, skills and processes developed in earlier year levels and introduces students to the analysis of how authors use language for different purposes.

Units/Topics

- Thematic Study – Conflict
- Text Study
- Persuasive Language
- Multimodal Study

Assessment

- Creative Response on the theme of conflict
- Analytical Text Response
- Persuasive Writing – Oral Presentation
- Expository Response – Multimodal study

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide a sound foundation for students to proceed into Year 10 English or Year 10 Advanced English.

Year 9 Core Studies 2025

Year 9 - Mathematics

Overview

Year 9 students continue to develop and consolidate their numeracy skills in a variety of mathematical concepts from the Victorian Curriculum. Students are given the opportunity to work through Year 9 Mathematics concepts whilst also closing gaps in their learning through differentiated learning modules. Students are provided with many and varied opportunities to become confident, creative, and effective communicators of Mathematics.

Units/Topics

- Number and Algebra
- Measurement and Geometry
- Statistics and Probability

Types of Assessment

- Semester Projects
- Rich Task Investigations
- Unit Tests

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide a sound foundation for students to proceed to Year 10 Mathematics.

Year 9 - Advanced Mathematics*

Overview

Year 8 students who are working above standard are invited by the College to participate in the Advanced Mathematics course. Students are given the opportunity to accelerate through the mathematics curriculum through the completion of mathematical modules, collaborative problem-solving tasks, and discovery projects. Students are provided with many and varied opportunities to become confident, creative, and effective communicators of Mathematics.

Units/Topics

- Number and Algebra
- Measurement and Geometry
- Statistics and Probability

Types of Assessment

- Semester Projects
- Rich Task Investigations
- Unit Tests

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide a sound foundation for students to proceed to Year 10 Advanced Mathematics.

***This subject is studied with Year 8 students of the same ability**

Year 9 Core Studies 2025

Year 9 - Science

Overview

In Year 9 Science, student learning focus is on explaining phenomena involving science and its applications. Students consider both classic and contemporary science contexts to explain the operation of systems at a range of scales. At a microscopic scale, they consider the atom as a system of protons, electrons, and neutrons. They learn that matter can be rearranged through chemical change and that these changes play an important role in many systems. At a macroscopic scale, they explore ways in which the human body as a system responds to its external environment and investigate the interdependencies between biotic and abiotic components of ecosystems. They develop a more sophisticated view of energy transfer by applying the concept of the conservation of matter in a variety of contexts. Atomic theory is used to understand relationships within the periodic table of elements. Students understand that forces are related by applying physical laws.

Units/Topics

- Non-Contact Forces
- Active Earth
- The Atom
- Chemical Reactions
- Ecosystems
- The Nervous System

Assessment

- Practical Investigations
- Research Tasks
- Tests
- Scientific Inquiry Tasks

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide a sound foundation for students to proceed to Year 10 Science electives.

Year 9 - Health and Physical Education

Overview

In Year 9, Health and Physical Education students will be provided with the knowledge, skills and behaviours to assist them in developing and maintaining their own and others physical, mental, social and emotional health. In the practical setting, consistent activity is promoted to encourage positive and ongoing physical fitness behaviours and habits, as well as the ability to organise and conduct team sport competitions.

Units/Topics

- Respectful Relationships
- Consent
- Managing Risks
- First Aid

Assessment

- Topic Tests
- Extended Responses
- Practical Assessments
- Media Analysis Assessments
- Case Study Assessments
- Fitness Testing

Future Directions

Successful completion of Year 9 Health and Physical Education can lead to Year 10 Physical Education and Fitness, Year 10 Health, Sport Education and Game Skills and the study of VET Sport Coaching for both Netball and AFL.

Year 9 Core Studies 2025

Year 9 - Humanities

Overview

The Humanities course includes four main areas of study: Geography, Business and Economics, History and Civics and Citizenship. The study of Humanities will encourage and challenge students to gain the knowledge and skills necessary to question, understand and contribute to the world in which they live.

Units/Topics

- Geography: Biomes and Food Security
- Business and Economics: Australia and the Global Economy
- History: Industrial Revolution
- Civics and Citizenship: Australia's Political System'

Assessment

- Research Tasks
- Comparative Analysis
- Document Analysis
- Topic Tests

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide a sound foundation for students to proceed to Year 10 History: Australia in the Modern World, Year 10 History: Rights and Freedoms, Year 10 Business and Economics, Year 10 Geography or Year 10 Global Citizenship.

Year 9 - Inquiry Based Learning Project

Overview

Inquiry Based Learning is an opportunity for students to develop 21st century skills in collaborative and supportive environments. All Year 9 students study this subject for one semester. Inquiry Based Learning focuses on the explicit teaching of transferrable skills such as teamwork, communication, creativity and critical thinking. These skills will support success in future employment and community engagement opportunities.

Units/Topics

- Skills Sessions
- Minor Project: Schools
- Major Project: Community

Assessment

- Minor Project
- Major Project

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide a sound foundation for students to proceed to various elective options at Year 10.

Year 8 and 9 Elective Subjects

Students may choose these subjects at Year 8 and/or Year 9

NOTE: SUBJECTS WILL ONLY RUN WHERE THERE ARE SUFFICIENT NUMBERS AND THE SUBJECT CAN BE STAFFED. STUDENTS SHOULD CAREFULLY CHOOSE RESERVE SUBJECTS IN THE EVENT THAT A SUBJECT WILL NOT RUN

Year 8 and 9 Religious Education Elective Options 2025 *

Year 8/9 Youth Ministry

Overview:

In Year 8/9 Youth Ministry, students will explore the Catholic faith through a hands-on approach to leading liturgical celebrations. This subject is an opportunity for students to develop their leadership skills and promote student voice in the faith life of the college. Students will explore recontextualisation and dialogue with our diverse school community to create and implement engaging and meaningful Catholic Identity events. Students in this subject will need to be committed beyond normal class time to help prepare and lead liturgies and events.

Units/Topics

- Servant Leadership
- The Common Good & Solidarity
- Sacramental Church
- Mark's Gospel

Assessment

- Folio
- Analysis and Creative Response
- Campus Ministry
- Leadership in Catholic Identity community events

Future Directions:

Students continue to study Religious Education as a Core Subject They can also apply to continue in Youth Ministry or apply to enrol in Cantabile in the place of Core studies.

Year 8/9 Cantabile

Overview:

In Year 8/9 Cantabile, students will be involved in theory and practical classes, building their knowledge on servant leadership through music ministry in the school and wider community. The concepts studied will be reflected in the hymns prepared for and sung at Campus liturgical celebrations and other events. Emphasis on breathing technique, musicianship and other performance skills will be explored. Being part of Cantabile will mean that students will lead music ministry at a variety of school events, requiring out of hours commitment.

Units/Topics

- Respectful Relationships
- Global Perspectives
- The Common Good & Solidarity
- Eschatology

Assessment

- Reflection
- Group Research Presentation
- Extended Response
- Analysis and Creative Response

Future Directions:

Students continue to study Religious Education as a Core Subject as they progress through the College. They can also apply to continue in Cantabile or apply to enrol in Youth Ministry in the place of Core Studies.

***Students must complete an application process to be considered for either of these elective Religious Education studies. Please ensure you complete the form that will be shared on the Year 7 & 8 Student TEAMS pages to be considered.**

Year 8 and 9 Art Elective Options 2025

Arts: Drama

Overview

This subject covers two key genres in performance, Tragedy and Comedy and focuses on the development of skill learned in Year 7. Through the study of specific forms of Tragedy and Comedy students develop their skills in understanding role, character, and theatrical conventions, while manipulating expressive skills. They research and examine the historical, social, and cultural contexts behind these styles and their impact on performance. Students also develop their ability to analyse dramatic performance, explore meaning and interpretation and evaluate actor ability within their own and other's work.

Units/Topics

- Expressive and Performance Skills
- Tragedy (Ancient Greek or Shakespeare)
- Comedy (Commedia Dell 'Arte or Pantomime and Melodrama)

Assessment

- Performance Analysis
- Major Performance

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide a sound foundation for students to proceed to Year 9 or 10 Drama and Theatre Studies.

Arts: Music Performance

Overview

The Music curriculum aims to build the confidence of our students to be creative, innovative, thoughtful, skilful, and informed musicians. Through active participation, students develop skills to listen, improvise, compose, interpret, perform, and respond with intent and purpose. Students extend their understanding of music as an aural art form by broadening their knowledge and respect for music and music practices across global communities, cultures, and musical traditions.

NB. This subject can be studied both semesters.

Units/Topics

- Music Experimentation
- Music Genres
- Performance skills

Assessment

- Performances
- Analysis Task
- Theory Tests

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide a sound foundation for students to proceed to Music in Year 10.

Year 8 and 9 Art Elective Options 2025

Arts: Visual Arts

Overview

Students learn about the importance and significance of Art throughout history and in the broader context of society. They learn how to develop their ideas independently and collaboratively by research, experimentation, and refinement in a folio. Students learn how to experiment with and apply a variety of materials and techniques to create resolved Artworks that communicate, express and challenge ideas. They reflect on their own Art and that of others by using Arts language and discussing the art elements and principles.

Units/Topics

- Art elements and principles
- Drawing
- Painting
- Colour Theory (8 only)
- Art styles and movements (8 only)
- Composition (9 only)
- Printmaking (9 only)

Assessment

- Drawing conventions (8 only)
- Painting conventions (8 only)
- Still life (9 only)
- Printmaking (9 only)
- Theory and Analysis

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide a sound foundation for students to proceed to Art or VCD in Year 9 or 10.

Arts: Visual Communication Design

Overview

This subject covers the three fields of design: Graphic, Environmental, and Industrial. Students use the design process to work through a variety of assessment tasks and generate creative solutions. They will write a design brief, research existing designs, produce several sketches, experiment with materials, methods and media and create a final solution that meets the needs of the client.

Units/Topics

- Design Elements and Principles
- Communication Design
- Instrumental Drawing
- Design Analysis
- Industrial Design (8 only)
- Environmental Design (9 only)

Assessment

- Isometric Drawing (8 only)
- Design Process: Industrial Design (8 only)
- Floorplan & Elevation Drawing (9 only)
- Design Process: Environmental Design (9 only)

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide a sound foundation for students to proceed to VCD in Year 10.

Year 8 and 9 Technology Elective Options 2025

Design Technology: Textiles

Overview

Textiles supports students to develop skills specific to the planning and production of items constructed of fabric and fibres. Students will investigate and make judgements on how the characteristics and properties of materials, tools and equipment can be combined to create designed solutions. They will be required to create designed solutions based on a need or opportunity. This process involves investigating, generating, producing, evaluating, planning, and managing a textiles project.

Units/Topics

- Design process
- Sewing Safety

Assessment

- Safety: OnGuard Safety Training
- Design Process: Product Portfolio
- Year 8 Design task: Tote bag
- Year 9 Design task: Hoodie

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide a sound foundation for students proceed to Year 10 Textiles and VCE Product Design: Textiles.

Design Technology: Food

Overview

Students learn to work safely and hygienically in the kitchen whilst developing their food preparation skills. As they prepare a variety of food products emphasis is on making good food choices. Students use the Design Process of investigation, design, production, and evaluation to prepare products that address a specific brief.

Units/Topics:

- Kitchen Knowledge
- A Century of Australian Food
- Food Production
- Creating Design Solutions - The Design Process in Food Technology
- Safety and Hygiene Knowledge

Assessment

- Practical food preparation
- Design folio
- Theory tasks

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide a sound foundation for students to proceed Year 10 Food Studies.

Year 8 and 9 Technology Elective Options 2025

Design Technology: Materials Technology

Overview

In this subject, students will learn a range of skills applicable to working with wood and other materials, but also to other areas of design and production. This includes the safe and effective use of hand and power tools, joint making, and surface finishing techniques. Students undertake a project that enables them to develop a range of wood working skills. It also has scope to allow creativity and to extend them further with more challenging variations of the base task.

Units/Topics

- Workshop safety
- Design brief basics
- Woodworking Practical Skills
- Open Design

Assessment

- Online safety certification using OnGuard
- Practical building project
- Design folio project

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide a sound foundation for students to proceed to Product Design Technology.

Digital Technologies: Creative Digital Solutions

Overview

Students explore the interrelated processes and associated skills by which they can create digital solutions. Students engage in the four processes of analysing, designing, developing, and evaluating. The second part of the course allows students to explore the features of web apps and how data may be either exposed, changed, or corrupted by hackers. Students will explore vulnerabilities in web apps.

Units/Topics

- Cyber Security
- Creating Digital Solutions

Assessment

- Adobe Photoshop – folio of image manipulations tasks
- Data Representation and Compression-
Written report on network case study
identifying transmission media
- App Design

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide a sound foundation for students to proceed to future Year 10 Digital Technology options.

Year 8 and 9 Extension Academies

Year 8 & 9 Extension Academy Application Process 2025

Rationale

To provide enrichment and extension opportunities for students with advanced interest, gifts, and talents.

What is an Extension Academy?

An Extension Academy is a semester length subject focussed on a particular interest area.

Students need to apply to be selected to study an Extension Academy subject. A new application is required each year.

Key Selection Criteria

- High level of interest and/or ability in the discipline related to the Academy
- Above Standard results in a previous semester
- Able to meet prerequisite requirements

Extension Academies

- Basketball
- Health Sciences
- Literature
- Performing Arts
- Philosophy
- Sport
- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics)
- Visual Arts

How to apply

An application form will be made available to students via their Year Level TEAMS page and the Daily Bulletin on 7 June 2024.

Note:

Individual Academy subjects will only run in any year where there is sufficient student interest

Year 8 & 9 Extension Academy Options 2025

Extension Academy - Basketball

Overview

Using basketball as a key focus, students will have the opportunity to develop knowledge and skills across all facets of the game. This will include rule knowledge, individual skill development, team concepts as well as gaining a recognized coaching accreditation.

The course is a combination of practical and theoretical tasks

Units/Topics

- Basketball skill development – team/individual
- Basketball coaching
- Basketball rule knowledge

Assessment

- Online modules
- Topic tests
- Practical coaching
- Practical skill demonstrations

Prerequisites:

Students are selected based off both their attitude towards the subject and their basketball abilities.

Extension Academy – Sport (General)

Overview

The aim of the course is to further develop sporting knowledge and skills by developing a deeper understanding of training practices, coaching strategies, tactical awareness, and recovery.

The course provides opportunities for students to explore training methods in a range of areas by building upon prior sporting knowledge and experiences. Students are provided with dedicated time to develop personal fitness, skills, and coaching strategies with a view to improving performance in their individual sporting pursuits

Units/Topics

- Technology in sport and skill analysis
- Advanced fitness testing
- Specific sport inquiry-based learning tasks
- Coaching analysis
- Training principles and recovery

Assessment

- Extended Responses
- Document and Film Analysis
- Research Assessments

Prerequisites:

Students are selected based off both their attitude towards the subject and their sporting abilities.

Year 8 & 9 Extension Academy Options 2025

Extension Academy - Literature

Overview

The aim of the Literature Academy is to allow students the opportunity to complete an in-depth study of a range of texts including myths, legends, fairytales and poetry. The course provides students with necessary text analysis skills to ensure they are able to look for deeper meanings being conveyed by authors. The course also shares links with historical concepts and sources and a study of society, both past and present.

Throughout the course, students will be exposed to a range of text types which will involve reading, viewing and listening to develop their skills in annotation and to continue to explore how literary devices can be used by authors to affect a specific audience. They will explore how particular social and cultural contexts can change a person's perception of a text and how these elements play a role in creating meaning for a reader. Throughout the course, students will compare and contrast texts and discuss why different authors present material in different ways. They will also build their writing skills by developing a folio of written tasks looking at different text types.

Units/Topics

- Myths
- Legends
- Fairytales
- Poetry
- Short Stories
- Short Films

Assessment

- Reflective reading journal
- Folio of written tasks

Prerequisites

Students are selected based off both their attitude towards the subject and their ability to complete work at an above standard level. Students may require their English teacher's recommendation to be considered.

Extension Academy – Performing Arts

Overview

The course provides students the opportunity to develop skills in various areas of Performing Arts. The purpose of this course is to extend upon students' talents and skills. Students work collaboratively to create and present a performance that encompasses skills in Dance, Music and Drama, general performance technology and skill. Key areas of focus include, collaborative skills, Performing Arts technology, Performing Arts as an Industry and presenting group performance. Students develop their own skill within their preferred area of Performing Arts and learn to work with other areas in order to create original performances.

Units/Topics

- Cohesion- learning to work together
- Performing Arts as Industry
- Major Performance

Assessment

- Folio including development of ideas and workshop items
- Major Performance

Prerequisites:

Students are selected based off both their attitude and abilities via an audition process.

Year 8 & 9 Extension Academy Options 2025

Extension Academy - Philosophy

Overview

In our modern world, 'critical thinking' is said to be one of the most valuable skills for achieving success in the workforce. Critical thinking is all about analysing, reflecting, and problem solving before acting, rather than just using emotion when decision-making. The aim of the Philosophy Academy is to help develop students' skills in critical thinking, by encouraging them to question the world around them and approach different perspectives. There is an emphasis on developing arguing and debating skills, by examining and critiquing some of the big questions in Philosophy such as "What is truth?" and "What does it mean to be 'good'?". Students completing this subject for the first time participate in the 'A' course, and students completing it for the second time participate in the 'B' course.

Units/Topics (A Course)

- Ancient Greece – mythology and the first philosophers
- The Ancient Greek philosophers: Socrates, Plato and Aristotle
- What is ethics?
- Different perspectives of living a 'good life'
- Moral dilemmas

Types of Assessment

- Speech
- Comparative essay
- Folio task

Units/Topics (B Course)

- The philosophy of religion
- Philosophical arguments for the existence of God
- Why do we have faith?
- The theory of knowledge
- Philosophy and the Scientific Method

Prerequisites

Students are selected based off both their attitude towards the subject and their ability to complete work at an above standard level.

Year 8 & 9 Extension Academy Options 2025

Extension Academy - Health Sciences

Overview

The aim of the course is to further develop knowledge and skills within the health science domain. This includes practical elements from science and physical education, and key analytical skills such as finding and interpreting health data. There are opportunities to be involved in excursions and incursion with outside professionals delivering different programs so that students can expand their knowledge further. The course also shares links with science, physical education, and health.

Units/Topics

- Cell Biology Basics
- Body Systems
- Homeostasis
- Diseases and disease prevention
- Socio-cultural Factors Affecting Health Status
- Healthcare in Australia
- Improving your Health

Assessment

- Practical Report
- Journal
- Scientific Poster
- Group Presentation
- Reflection
- Open Letter to the Government

Prerequisites

Students are selected based off both their attitude towards the subject and their ability to complete work at an above standard level.

Extension Academy - STEM

Overview

The aim of the STEM Academy is to further develop students' inquiry, analytical, collaborative, and planning skills, while also providing opportunities to engage with various technologies. The course offers students the experience of working within small teams to develop solutions to real-world problems, along with skill development in construction, programming and 3D printing. Throughout the course, students will cover advanced concepts studied within science, technology, engineering, art-based, and mathematic subjects. There is a focus on a major project which introduces the challenge to develop a solution relating to a given theme. This includes introducing various technologies available within the College.

Units/Topics

- Engineering Design Process
- Questions and Possibilities
- Reasoning
- Meta-Cognition

Assessment

- Minor Build Project
- Major Research Build Project

Prerequisites

Students are selected based off both their attitude towards the subject and their ability to complete work at an above standard level.

Year 8 & 9 Extension Academy Options 2025

Extension Academy – Visual Arts

Overview

The aim of the Art Extension Academy course is to extend students who have excelled in Visual Art subjects and wish to strengthen and enhance their abilities in this area. In Art Extension Academy, students will engage in a variety of collaborative and independent art-making activities that will promote exploration and reflection. Students will take part in studio workshops to learn new and specialist skills, develop ideas and their own unique art style and create resolved artworks. The course provides students with the opportunity to use specialist materials and to attend excursions that will further their understanding of contemporary and traditional art-making techniques.

Units/Topics

- Media workshops and art-making practices
- Art analysis, history, and criticism
- Themes in Art

Assessment

- Artist statement
- Folio – exploration of ideas and arts practices
- Resolved artworks

Future Directions

Completion of Arts Extension Academy can lead to pathways in Art including VCE Art Creative Practice or VCE Visual Communication and Design at the Beaconsfield Campus.

Year 9 Only

Elective

Subjects

Students may choose these subjects at Year 9

NOTE: SUBJECTS WILL ONLY RUN WHERE THERE ARE SUFFICIENT NUMBERS AND THE SUBJECT CAN BE STAFFED. STUDENTS SHOULD CAREFULLY CHOOSE RESERVE SUBJECTS IN THE EVENT THAT A SUBJECT WILL NOT RUN

Year 9 Only Elective Options 2025

Year 9 Arts: Dance

Overview

This subject covers cultural and social dance and their influence on modern Australian dance styles. Through the study of the history of dance, students develop their skills in performing, analysing, and choreographing dance. Students also develop their knowledge and understanding of the Elements of Dance, Choreographic Devices, Group Structures and Body Actions.

Students analyse choreographers' use of the elements of dance, choreographic devices, and form and production elements to communicate choreographic intent in dances they make, perform and view. They evaluate the impact of dance from different cultures, times, and locations.

Units/Topics

- Safe Dance Practice
- Cultural Dance/ Social Dance (Alternating years)
- Dance Terminology
- Dance Performance
- Choreography

Assessment

- Warm Up Assessments
- Performance of Learnt Work
- Performance of Own Choreography
- Analysis Assessments

Future Directions

This subject can lead to Year 9 or 10 Dance.

Year 9 Arts: Media Arts

Overview

The Media Arts curriculum encompasses the fields of media, art, and design. In Media Arts, students create visual representations that communicate, challenge, and express their own and others' ideas, as both artist and audience. They develop their perceptual and conceptual understandings, critical reasoning, and practical skills through exploring the world through the media arts. Students learn about the role of the artist and designer, their contribution to society, and the significance of the creative industries. Media Arts has the capacity to engage, inspire and enrich the lives of students, encouraging them to develop their creative and intellectual potential.

Units/Topics

- Film
- Photography

Assessment

- Analysis of media artworks
- Production of media artworks

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide additional skills for Media and Arts subjects.

Year 9 Only Elective Options 2025

Year 9 Arts: 3D Modelling and Animation

Overview

Students develop an understanding of 3D modelling and animation techniques through a series of learning modules. Topics studied include understanding 3D primitives, low polygon modelling, lighting, materials properties, rendering, basic animation, simulations, careers, and the history of 3D animation. The subject is designed to build skills in Art, Maths and Technology. Students will be given the opportunity to create objects in a 3D space and print them using a resin printer.

Units/Topics

- 3D Applications
- Modelling in 3D
- Lighting
- Materials
- Animation – Key frame / rigging
- Rendering
- Simulations
- Careers
- The history of animation

Assessment

- Major assessment task: Modelling a low polygon character/environment
- Major assessment task: Animation/simulation
- Minor research project: History/careers in animation and computer graphics

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide additional skills for VCD/Art subjects, Mathematics, and general Technology subjects.

Year 9 Design Technology: Systems Technology

Overview

Students will learn a range of skills applicable to electronics and systems technology as well as other areas of design and production. They will have the opportunity to explore emerging technologies, such as 3D design and printing and its possible uses in systems technology. Students utilise the design process for planning projects. They will also develop their skills in evaluating both finished products and their work practices.

Units/Topics

- Safe and Effective Use of Soldering Iron
- Diagnostics / Troubleshooting Techniques
- Investigation, Analysis and Evaluation
- Understand and Apply Basic Electronics Concepts when Designing and Creating Products

Assessment

- Workshop Safety
- Soldering Iron Task
- 3D modelling and design
- Solar Charged Nightlight

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide a sound foundation for students to Year 10 Systems Technology.

Year 9 Only Elective Options 2025

Year 9 Design Technology: Horticulture

Overview

In this Unit, students investigate many aspects associated with basic horticultural processes. This includes the design, planning and construction of a vegetable garden and all aspects of growing and maintaining vegetable seedlings. Students develop an understanding of environmental factors and climatic conditions that affect plant growth. They investigate different breeds of chickens and their uses and work with the Campus flock.

Units/Topics

- Sow seeds and transplant seedlings
- Maintain a vegetable garden
- Care for poultry
- Correct use and maintenance of an incubator subject to availability.

Assessment

- Seasonal Vegetables Assessment Task
- Care and Maintenance of a Vegetable Garden following OnGuard safety training
- Chickens Assessment Task
- Care of flock

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide a sound foundation for students to care for their own home gardens and to raise poultry and consider Environmental Science in Year 10.

Year 9 Digital Technologies: Digital Systems and Networks

Overview

Computational thinking, a problem-solving methodology lies at the heart of this course and the Digital Technologies curriculum. Students develop real world computer science-based skills. Activities may include a module-based course coding, in HTML/CSS, and a project which involves collecting and analysing data to produce information and developing a website based on a relevant topic. Students apply computational thinking as a problem-solving methodology during these activities in their classes.

Units/Topics

- Programming
- Algorithms
- Networks

Assessment

- Research Project – data collection, security, and presentation of findings
- Programming Folio – a sequence of activities designed to extend students logic and programming skills in HTML/CSS

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide a sound foundation for students to proceed to Year 10 Digital Technology options.

Year 9 Only Elective Options 2025

Year 9 Digital Technologies: Robotics

Overview

The VEX Robotics Course provides students with exciting, open-ended robotics and research project challenges that enhance their Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) skills through hands-on, student-centred learning. There is a large emphasis in this elective on collaboration and problem solving, rather than oppositional competition. Students will design, build and program robots in collaborative teams in order to complete a series of engineering or systems-based challenges. Students will learn to program a range of functions using a progression from block-based programming through to Python.

Unit/Topics

- Programming in a virtual environment
- Use and programming of sensors
- Computer programming for axis of motion
- The programming solutions to tasks arising from the Gameplay element based on the Vex IQ Challenge

Assessment

- Programming and constructing for movement, sensing and materials handling
- Solutions to the Vex IQ 2025 Design challenge

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide a sound foundation for students to proceed to Year 10 Digital Technology options.

Year 9 – Health and PE: Fitness and Training

Overview

In this subject, students explore the functions of the human body, including the cardiovascular system, respiratory system, muscular system, and the skeletal system. Students will also study the energy systems of the human body. Students will also discover the benefits of leading an active lifestyle. They will create an individualised training program incorporating their chosen components of fitness and training methods. Students will learn about key principles of training and how to apply them to their physical training plans. Students will learn how to adapt their training programs to increase fitness levels and training performance.

Units/Topics

- Body systems
- Energy systems
- Training Methods
- Training Principles
- Fitness Components

Assessment

- Summative –Topic Test
- Summative –Research Task
- Research Assessments

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide the foundation for further study in Year 10 in subjects such as Physical Education and VET Sport Coaching.

Year 9 Only Elective Options 2025

Year 9 – Humanities: Economics and Business

Overview

The Economics and Business curriculum explores the ways in which individuals, families, the community, workers, businesses and governments make decisions in relation to the allocation of resources. It enables students to understand the process of economic and business decision-making at the personal, local, national and global levels and the effects of these decisions on themselves and others, now and in the future.

Units/Topics

- Consumer and financial literacy
- The business environment
- Enterprising behaviours and capabilities
- Work and work futures

Assessment

- Budgeting and Saving Case Study
- Small Business Entrepreneurial Portfolio

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide the foundation for further study in Year 10 in subjects such as Business & Economics or VCE Business Management.

Year 9 – Humanities: Geography

Overview

This subject covers the two main topics of Food Production in Australia and Global Tourism.

The Food Production unit looks at the history and future of food production in Australia with a focus on areas such as the Murray Darling Basin region and the impacts food production has on Australia's water resources and the environment in general. Innovations in farming techniques and technology are also explored to improve food security into the future.

The Global Tourism unit looks at where people travel and why. Population travel trends are investigated, and distinctions are made between recreational, cultural and leisure travel along with the impact tourism has on both people and places.

Units/topics:

- Global tourism
- Food production

Assessment

- Case Study
- Research Task
- Field Work
- Mapping tasks

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide a sound foundation for students to proceed to Year 10 Geography, VCE Geography and VCE Environmental Science.

Year 9 Only Elective Options 2025

Year 9 – Humanities: Australians at War

Overview

This unit aims to develop students' understanding of Australia's role in the first global conflict: World War I (1914-1918). It focuses on understanding the impact of the war on Australian society and identity, as well as examining the role that Australians had in determining the outcome of key battles during the war (such as Gallipoli and the Western Front). In doing so, students will be able to construct arguments about the emergence of a unique Australian voice and identity on the global stage through analysis of historical sources.

Units/Topics

- Factors leading to World War I:
- Enlistment and the Australian drive for recruitment
- The Conscription Debate
- Events of World War I
- The Treaty of Versailles, the Post-War World and Commemoration

Assessment

- Topic tests
- Document Study
- Fieldwork
- Research task
- Source Analysis
- Fieldwork

Future Directions

Completion of this subject can lead to further study in Year 10 Humanities: History – Australia in the Modern World and VCE History.

Year 9 – Languages: Arabic

Overview

Learners understand and use features of the Arabic sound and writing systems and make connections between spoken and written texts. They use appropriate pronunciation and intonation when communicating and interacting in a range of contexts and apply spelling rules when writing in Arabic script. They explore Arabic syntax and linguistic structures and begin to use metalanguage by identifying grammatical terms.

Units/Topics

- Food
- Traditions and routines
- Animals

Assessment Tasks

- Culture: Students will explain some of the Arabic food and eating routines and traditions.
- Speaking: (Food and Food Pyramid)
- Writing: favourite animal and describing it
- Reading and Responding: how to take care of animals

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide a sound foundation for students to proceed to Year 10 Arabic.

Year 9 Only Elective Options 2025

Year 9 – Languages: Japanese

Overview

This subject covers the study of the Japanese language. It focuses on the development of vocabulary, sentences structures and more detailed Kanji. A focus on daily life, school and family are the key components of Year 9 Japanese classes. Through the study of Japanese language students develop their skills in oral and aural language, reading and writing. Students also develop their ability to analyse and interpret comprehension tasks relating to their daily lives.

Units/Topics

- Time
- Locations
- School
- Seasons
- Counters
- Describing people

Assessment

- Speaking/Listening/Reading/Writing- Daily Routines
- Speaking/Listening/Reading/Writing- Locations
- Listening- Seasonal Activities
- Translating- Calendar Dates

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this subject will provide a sound foundation for students to proceed to Year 10 Japanese

Year 9 – Languages: Spanish

Overview

The aim of the course is for students to become more fluent and accurate in both spoken and written language production. In this course students gain more control of grammatical and textual elements. At this level, students continue to develop their understanding of the relationship between language, culture and identity.

Units/Topics

- Describing what you have done and what you plan to do
- Expressing opinions and providing advice
- Comparing the past to the present
- Using instructional language

Assessments

- Role Play
- Presentations
- Demonstrations

Future Directions

Satisfactory completion of this unit will give students confidence to approach a variety of grammar tenses and communication purposes for Year 10.

Year 9 Only Elective Options 2025

Year 9 – Science: Into the Galaxy

Overview

This course will allow students to further develop their knowledge within the earth and space science domain, as well as having links to physical and chemical science. There will be an emphasis on the use of scientific inquiry and research skills as students explore various aspects of space. Students will also learn about the human endeavours that lead to our current understanding of the universe and how this has changed over time. There will be the opportunity for students to be involved in practical activities and excursions to foster a deeper understanding of the content.

Units/Topics

- Rocket Science
- Humans in Space
- The Universe

Assessments

- Practical Reports
- Design Tasks
- Research Tasks

Future Directions

The practical investigation and science inquiry skills covered in this subject will provide a good foundation for students to proceed to study Year 10 Science.

Subject Selection Timeline for 2025

Year 7 2025

Parents will be contacted by email in July or on enrolment if later in relation to selecting a language for study in 2025.

Year 8 and 9 2025

- Week 7: Parent Information Presentation link sent to families
- Week 7: Student Assemblies – Berwick/Officer Campus
- 7 June: 'Select My Subjects' website opens for elective preference entering
- 7 June: Application forms for Extension Academies published for students
- 21 June: Application forms for Extension Academies due
- 19 July: Electives are due to be entered on 'Select My Subjects' website
- 19 July: Academy Application outcomes communicated to students