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Middle School Curriculum Overview Years 6 - 9

Introduction to Middle School (Years 6 - 9)

*Reynella East College is committed to support students to become resilient, adaptable and equipped with the knowledge, skills and disposition to continue their education and become personally fulfilled, interdependent, socially responsible young people.*

Middle School Curriculum: Year 6 & 7 Subjects

Year 6 & 7 students at Reynella East College are part of our Middle School. All students complete studies in each of the eight learning areas:

- English: 2 Semesters
- Mathematics: 2 Semesters
- Science: 2 Semesters
- Health and Physical Development: 2 Semesters
- Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS): 2 Semesters
- The Arts: 2 Semesters
- Technology: 2 Semesters
- Language (Japanese): 2 Semesters

Currently we have specialist teachers for Health and Physical Education and the Arts (Dance and Drama).

Middle School Curriculum: Year 8 Subjects

The Arts (Visual and Performing): 2 Semesters
Design and Technology: 2 Semesters
English: 2 Semesters
Health and Physical Education: 2 Semesters
Humanities (History and Geography): 2 Semesters
Language (French, Japanese, German): 1 Semester
Mathematics: 2 Semesters
Science: 2 Semesters

Middle School Curriculum: Year 9 (Compulsory) Subjects

English: 2 Semesters
Humanities (History and Geography): 2 Semesters
Health and Physical Education: 1 Semester
Mathematics: 2 Semesters
Science: 2 Semesters
Design and Technology: 1 Semester
Middle School Curriculum: Year 9 (Choice) Subjects

(Each course listed is a one semester course unless otherwise indicated)

Choice of subjects will only be offered where there are sufficient student numbers to form viable classes.

Arts: 1 Semester
Visual Art, Design (Computer Based), Dance, Drama,
Media Arts (Film Making), Elective Music

Design & Technology: 1 Semester
Advanced Technologies (STEM),
Computing/Creative Industries, Creative Materials Technology,
Digital Design (3D Printing, CAD, Photography), Digital Technology (Robotics/Electronics),
Food and Nutrition, Home Economics (Food and Textiles),
Materials Technology

Health and Physical Education: 1 Semester
Target Sport, Outdoor Education,
Healthy Lifestyle Choices

Language: 2 Semesters
French, Japanese, German

Music: 2 Semesters
Special Music
**Year 6 & 7 Subjects**

**English**  
Subject length: 2 Semesters

**Description:** The English curriculum is built around the three interrelated strands of:
- **Language:** Knowing about the English language  
- **Literature:** understanding, appreciating, responding to, analysing and creating literature  
- **Literacy:** expanding the repertoire of English usage

Students extend their knowledge, understanding and skills in listening, speaking, reading, viewing, and writing. Students participate in the Premier’s Reading Challenge.

Students continue to practice, consolidate and extend what they have learned from previous years. They also extend their understanding of how language works, and learn to transfer this knowledge to different contexts. To achieve this, students develop an understanding of the requirements of different types of texts; they are introduced to increasingly sophisticated analyse of various kinds of literary, popular culture, and everyday texts, and they are given opportunities to engage with the technical aspects of texts, including those of their own choosing – and to explain why they made that choice.

The notion of valuing certain texts as ‘literature’ is introduced. Students learn how such texts can be discussed and analysed in relation to themes, ideas and historical and cultural contexts.

Students engage with a variety of genres and modes. They re-enact, represent and describe texts in order to display their understanding of narrative, theme, purpose, context and argument and to defend their ideas in written and oral modes. Students are given further opportunities to create increasingly sophisticated and multimodal texts in groups and individually.

**Assessment:** Is continual and in accordance with the Australian Curriculum Achievement Standards. Students make presentations and contribute actively to class and group discussions. They are assessed via written tests, observations, assignments and work sheets.

**Mathematics**  
Subject length: 2 Semesters

**Description:** There is a strong focus on improving students’ skills in Mathematics to develop successful lifelong learners.  
Students work mathematically with the following:

**Content strands:**
- Number and Algebra  
- Measurement and Geometry  
- Statistics and Probability

**Proficiency Strands:**
- Understanding  
- Fluency  
- Problem Solving  
- Reasoning
Assessment: Is continual and in accordance with the Australian Curriculum Achievement Standards. Students are assessed via written tests, problem solving tasks, observations, assignments and work sheets.

Science
Subject length: 2 Semesters

Description: The Science curriculum is organised around three interrelated strands and taught throughout the year in sub strands:

- Science Understanding
  - Biological Sciences
  - Chemical Sciences
  - Earth and Space Sciences
  - Physical Sciences
- Science as a Human Endeavour
  - Nature and development of science
  - Use and influence of science:
- Science Inquiry Skills
  - Questioning and predicting
  - Planning and conducting
  - Processing and analysing data and information
  - Evaluating
  - Communicating

Students at REC have the opportunity to further develop their skills and understanding of the Science curriculum by accessing the Primary Science Lab. This provides them with access to equipment normally only available in a secondary school.

Assessment: Is continual and in accordance with the Australian Curriculum Achievement Standards. Students are assessed on both theoretical and practical skills. Assessment includes research work, information reports, Inquiry tasks, Lab work and oral and written responses/presentations.

Health and Physical Education (Health & PE)
Subject Length: 2 Semesters

Description: We have a strong focus on Sports participation at REC. Our state of the art facilities include:

- Full sized Australian Rules Football oval
- Full sized rugby field
- State of the art Gymnasium with full sized basketball court and weights room
- 4 outdoor Tennis courts
- Synthetic turf cricket pitch

Fitness skills and healthy lifestyles are developed through a range of activities which vary from ‘team activities’ to more ‘individual pursuits. Students learn how to take positive action to enhance their own and others' health, safety and wellbeing.
The Year 6/7 program is linked to the secondary specialty sports of:
- Soccer
- Rugby
- Australian Rules Football
- Netball
- Volleyball

Our out of school hours sports include teams in AFL, Netball, Volleyball and Cricket. Participation in SAPSASA sporting events is encouraged and supported. These include:

Knockout SAPSASA
- Boys and girls cricket
- Boys football
- Girls netball

District SAPSASA
- Athletics carnival
- Swimming
- Cross country
- Volleyball
- Badminton

Students are required to participate in all PE lessons. If unable to participate due to a medical reason, a note from a parent/carer must be provided.

The curriculum is organised into two content strands:
- Personal, social and community health
  - Being healthy, safe and active
  - Communicating and interacting for health and wellbeing
  - Contributing to healthy and active communities
- Movement and physical activity
  - Moving our body
  - Understanding movement
  - Learning through movement

Focus areas:
- Alcohol and other drugs
- Food and nutrition
- Health benefits of physical activity
- Mental health and wellbeing
- Relationships and sexuality
- Safety
- Challenge and adventure activities
- Games and sports
- Lifelong physical activities
- Rhythmic and expressive activities

Assessment: Is based on participation, skill improvement, effort, group skills, written assignments and tests.
Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS)
Subject length: 2 Semesters

Description: The humanities and social sciences are the study of human behaviour and interaction in social, cultural, environmental, economic and political contexts. The humanities and social sciences have a historical and contemporary focus, from personal to global contexts, and consider challenges for the future.

In the Australian Curriculum, the Humanities and Social Sciences learning area comprises four subjects:
- History
- Geography
- Economics and Business
- Civics and Citizenship

Through studying humanities and social sciences, students will develop the ability to question, think critically, solve problems, communicate effectively, make decisions and adapt to change. Thinking about and responding to issues requires an understanding of the key historical, geographical, political, economic and societal factors involved, and how these different factors interrelate.

The humanities and social science subjects provide a broad understanding of the world in which we live, and how people can participate as active and informed citizens with high-level skills needed for the 21st century.

Assessment: Is continual and in accordance with the Australian Curriculum Achievement Standards. Assessment in this learning area is based on oral presentations, group work, inquiry tasks, written responses and research assignments.

The Arts
Subject Length: 2 Semesters

Description: The Arts comprises five subjects:

- **Dance**
  In Dance, students use the body to communicate and express meaning through purposeful movement. Dance practice integrates choreography, performance, and appreciation of and responses to dance and dance making. Our specialist dance teacher provides lessons in a state of the art dance space.

- **Drama**
  In Drama, students explore and depict real and fictional worlds through use of body language, gesture and space to make meaning as performers and audience. They create, rehearse, perform and respond to drama. Our specialist drama teacher provides lessons in our dance studio.

- **Media Arts**
  In Media Arts, students use communications technologies to creatively explore, make and interpret stories about people, ideas and the world around them. They engage their senses, imagination and intellect through media artworks that respond to diverse cultural, social and organisational influences on communications practices today.
• **Music**
  In Music, students listen to, compose and perform music from a diverse range of styles, traditions and contexts. They create, shape and share sounds in time and space and critically analyse music. Music practice is aurally based and focuses on acquiring and using knowledge, understanding and skills about music and musicians.

• **Visual Arts**
  In Visual Arts, students experience and explore the concepts of artists, artworks, world and audience. Students learn in, through and about visual arts practices, including the fields of art, craft and design. Students develop practical skills and critical thinking which inform their work as artists and audience.

**Assessment:** Is based on participation, skill improvement, effort and written assignments.

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**Design and Technology**

*Subject length: 2 Semesters*

**Description:** Technologies includes two distinct but related subjects:

- Design and Technologies, in which students use design thinking and technologies to generate and produce designed solutions for authentic needs and opportunities
- Digital Technologies, in which students use computational thinking and information systems to define, design and implement digital solutions.

Knowledge, understanding and skills in each subject are presented through two related strands:

- Knowledge and understanding
- Processes and production skills

At REC we have an expectation that students learn to use ICT effectively and appropriately. They access, create and communicate information and ideas, solve problems and work collaboratively using ICT in all learning areas at school and in their lives beyond school. They are connected learners. All students have access to laptops stored and charged in trolleys.

**Assessment:** Is continual and in accordance with the Australian Curriculum Achievement Standards. Students are assessed on practical and written assignments, design tasks, oral presentations, the ability to work safely and accurately, problem solving and their ability to follow instructions.

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**Languages (Japanese)**

*Course length: 2 Semesters*

**Description:** Learning in this subject focuses on communication (listening, speaking, reading and writing) and on understanding language and culture. Students have a high level of input into designing and assessing their learning. Topics such as food, family, transport, animals, the calendar, as well as common verbs and adjectives are covered. Students have the opportunity to view and interact with authentic Japanese texts and artefacts in order to develop cultural understanding and competence.
Assessment: Is in accordance with the Australian Curriculum, and will be reported to parents. Students are assessed on cultural activities, communication and their understanding of the language via a range of written and oral tests. Students may continue with Japanese in Year 8, although French and German are also offered.

English as an Additional Language or Dialect (EALD)
EALD is designed for students for whom English is an additional language or dialect. Students work in small ability groups with a senior teacher. They extend their knowledge, understanding and skills in listening, reading, viewing, speaking, writing and creating. Students engage with a variety of texts for enjoyment. They listen to, read, view, interpret, evaluate and present a range of spoken, written and multimodal texts. These include newspapers, magazines and digital texts, early adolescent novels, non-fiction, poetry and dramatic performances. Students develop their understanding of how texts, including media texts, are influenced by context, purpose and audience. Grammar, punctuation, tense, sentence structure and oral language skills are explicitly taught. Students participate in the Premier’s Reading Challenge.
Year 8 (Choice) Subjects

Arts
In year 8 students study two of the following Arts programs:

- **Dance**
  Subject Length: 1 Semester

*Description:* The Dance programs develop the knowledge and skills required for a dancer. Dance genres include contemporary dance, jazz, hip hop and world dance culture. Students compose their own dance in small group choreographic tasks and they also learn a whole class routine. Digital technologies are used for developing performance elements and exploring dance on film. Performance opportunities are available throughout the year at assemblies, Open Days, special events and the whole school production.

*Assessment:* The program is 70% practical and 30% theory.

- **Drama**
  Subject Length: 1 Semester

*Description:* The Drama programs develop the knowledge and skills required for an actor or back stage technician. Drama genres include improvised theatre and various theatre innovations including historical perspectives and contemporary practice with digital technologies. Students create their own dramatic presentations throughout the semester. Performance opportunities are available throughout the year at assemblies, Open Days, special events and the whole school production.

*Assessment:* The program is 70% practical and 30% theory.

- **Media-Arts**
  Subject Length: 1 Semester

*Description:* The Media-Arts Program has a focus on film making and delivers the knowledge and skills required for a film maker. Students learn how to script, storyboard, use a video camera, and incorporate film elements such as costume / make-up / props design / lighting / sound and editing techniques for film making. Students create their own short films in various genres. Presentation opportunities are available throughout the year at assemblies, Open Days, special events and the whole school production.

*Assessment:* The program is 70% practical and 30% theory.
• **Music**  
  *Subject Length: 1 Semester*

**Description:** The Music program develops the knowledge and skills required for a musician. Students may choose an instrument or voice as their focus for individual and practical ensemble work. Students learn the fundamental concepts of music theory, digital composition and historical perspectives throughout the semester. Basic practical skills on keyboard, guitar and drums are also studied. Performance opportunities are available throughout the year at assemblies, Open Days, special events and the whole school production.

**Assessment:** The program is 70% practical and 30% theory.

*(Students who wish to receive weekly instrumental or voice lessons through the Instrumental Music Program must choose Music in year 8)*

• **Visual Art**  
  *Subject Length: 1 Semester*

**Description:** In Visual Art students learn the knowledge and skills required for the developing artist. The program includes drawing, painting, design, clay and craft. Students develop their skills by refining their work from backup work to the creation of final products. Presentations of student artwork are available throughout the year in student exhibitions at Open Days and special events.

**Assessment:** The program is 70% practical and 30% theory.

**Language**

**In year 8 students study one of the following Language programs:**

• **French** *(Languages)*  
  *Subject Length: 1 Semester*

**Description:** Appropriate for students with or without prior experience in a language. This course is based on three strands: Understanding Language, Culture and Communication. Student knowledge is expanded linguistically, socially and culturally. Students learn and consolidate basic French language such as greetings, asking and answering simple questions about personal details, basic adjectives, numbers, family and school. Students also learn about the French-speaking world and have the opportunity to interact with students in France.

**Assessment:** This subject is in accordance with the Australian Curriculum outcomes. Students are assessed on communication and their understanding of the language through a range of written and spoken assessment tasks. Successful completion of Year 8 French will enable students to study French at Year 9.
• **Japanese** (Languages)
  Subject Length: 1 Semester

Description: Appropriate for students with or without prior experience in a language. This course is based on three strands: Understanding Language, Culture and Communication. Student knowledge is expanded linguistically, socially and culturally. Students learn and consolidate basic Japanese language such as greetings, asking and answering simple questions about personal details, basic adjectives, numbers, transportation, basic sentence construction and characters, including Hiragana and an introduction to Katakana and basic Kanji.

Assessment: This subject is in accordance with the Australian Curriculum outcomes. Students are assessed on communication and their understanding of the language through a range of written and spoken assessment tasks. Successful completion of Year 8 Japanese will enable students to study Japanese at Year 9.

• **German** (Languages)
  Subject Length: 1 Semester

Description: Appropriate for students with or without prior experience in a language. This course is based on three strands: Understanding Language, Culture and Communication. Student knowledge is expanded linguistically, socially and culturally. Students learn and consolidate basic German language such as greetings, asking and answering simple questions about personal details, basic adjectives, numbers, family, pets, school and time. They will be introduced to German food, culture and film.

Assessment: This subject is in accordance with the Australian Curriculum outcomes. Students are assessed on cultural activities, communication and their understanding of the language through a range of written and oral assessment tasks. Successful completion of Year 8 German will enable students to study German at Year 9.
Design and Technology

In year 8 students study all of the following Design and Technology programs:

**Design and Technology A : 1 Semester**

- **Computing**

  **Description:** Students will learn how to use features and functions of Microsoft Word, Powerpoint, Excel & Publisher to enhance assignments both in Technology subjects and across the rest of the school curriculum.

  **Assessment:** Is in accordance with the Australian Curriculum, and will be reported to parents. Assessment is based on design, practical skills and knowledge and understanding. The program is 70% practical and 30% theory

- **Foods**

  **Description:** Students will have the opportunity to learn a range of food related skills including safety to develop their knowledge of using technology to design and prepare healthy and nutritious foods.

  **Assessment:** Is in accordance with the Australian Curriculum, and will be reported to parents. Assessment is based on design, practical skills and knowledge and understanding. The program is 50% practical and 50% theory

- **Textiles**

  **Description:** Students will learn a range of stitches to be used in creating textile projects both by hand and machine sewing. They will use these skills to produce a selection of small textiles projects.

  **Assessment:** Is in accordance with the Australian Curriculum, and will be reported to parents. Assessment is based on design, practical skills and knowledge and understanding. The program is 50% practical and 50% theory
Design and Technology B : 1 Semester

- **Electronics**

  **Description:** Students will learn the function of a range of electrical components and will use this knowledge to compose circuits using Circuit Wizard and pre-test their work on screen. Students will learn how to solder safely and correctly to construct a simple circuit.

  **Assessment:** Is in accordance with the Australian Curriculum, and will be reported to parents. Assessment is based on design, practical skills and knowledge and understanding. The program is 70% practical and 30% theory

- **Metalwork**

  **Description:** Students will learn to work safely in the workshop with a range of hand, power tools and machinery. Students will be given a range of tasks to complete that will introduce them to a broad and varied range of skills and techniques.

  **Assessment:** Is in accordance with the Australian Curriculum, and will be reported to parents. Assessment is based on design, practical skills and knowledge and understanding. The program is 70% practical and 30% theory

- **Woodwork**

  **Description:** Students will learn to work safely in the workshop with a range of hand tools and machinery. Students will be given woodwork tasks which allow them to practice their techniques and improve accuracy and finish of their work.

  **Assessment:** Is in accordance with the Australian Curriculum, and will be reported to parents. Assessment is based on design, practical skills and knowledge and understanding. The program is 70% practical and 30% theory

**English**

Subject Length: 2 Semesters

**Description:** Students engage in the study of a broad range of texts including literature, media texts and everyday texts including consideration of their purpose, context and audience. They respond to these texts in various forms, demonstrating their knowledge and understanding in written, spoken, visual and multimedia modes. Students also independently select their own prose texts for reading and response. They build further upon their literacy skills by engaging in a broad range of language programs designed to cater for students with a wide range of language abilities. Students are engaged in producing well-crafted written and oral texts for a variety of purposes that have been planned, conferenced, drafted and edited before submission. Students also incorporate the use of new technologies in the construction of texts.
Assessment: By way of text response, text production, literature and media studies, critical reading and literacy activities, brief and extended learning tasks, group and individual learning and language skills programs designed to cater for students of mixed abilities.

Learning programs and assessment in English are based upon the Australian Curriculum English statement.

Health and Physical Education

Subject Length: 2 Semesters

Description: This course enables students to enhance their own health, well-being, physical activity and participation in a range of contexts. Students will study a range of health topics including drugs & alcohol, the benefits of physical activity, relationships and sexual health. Students will participate in various sporting disciplines, including minor games as well as challenge and adventure activities. Practical topics include basketball, soccer, netball, athletics, fitness, volleyball and other mainstream sports.

Students are expected to change into their College PE uniform before each PE lesson. They are required to participate in all activities and if they are unable to participate due to a medical problem, a note from home must be provided.

Assessment: Is in accordance with the Australian National Curriculum, and will be reported to parents. Assessment is based on participation in group tasks, skill improvement, effort (in both practical and theoretical contexts) and written assignments.

Students undertake theory topics including Relationships and Sexual Health, the Benefits of Fitness as well as Investigations into Drugs and Alcohol.

Humanities

- History (History and Social Sciences)
  Subject Length: 1 Semester

Description: This one semester course will be delivering the Australian History Curriculum. There is an Overview (The Ancient to the Modern World) introducing students to historical concepts and skills, and inquiry based learning.

This introduction will be followed by three in-depth studies. These include:
1. The Western & Islamic World. Either - The Vikings, Renaissance Italy, Medieval Europe or The Ottoman Empire,
2. The Asia–Pacific World. Either - The Khmer Empire, Japan under the Shoguns or Polynesian Expansion,

Assessment: Is in accordance with the Australian Curriculum, and will be reported to parents. Students are assessed on their research, note taking, inquiry work, oral skills, class contributions, written responses (including essays) and ICT skills such as Power Point presentations. Students work both individually and in groups to gather information and develop research projects.
Geography (Geography and Social Sciences)
Subject Length: 1 Semester

Description: This one semester course will be delivering the Australian Geography Curriculum. There are two units (Landforms & Landscapes and Reshaping the Nation) introducing students to geographical concepts and skills and inquiry based learning.

These include:
1. Landforms & Landscapes draws on the concepts of change, environment, scale and sustainability to investigate key geomorphological processes and their resulting landforms, geomorphological hazards and soils, threats posed by human activities and proposed future use of environments in Australia, a country in the Asia region, and a country from elsewhere in the world as appropriate.

2. Reshaping the Nation draws on the concepts of change, interconnection, scale, space and sustainability to explore the similarities and differences, advantages and disadvantages in the location, type and features of settlements in geographically large countries including Australia, China and the United States of America.

Assessment: Is in accordance with the Australian Curriculum, and will be reported to parents. Students are assessed on their research, note taking, inquiry work, oral skills, class contributions, written responses (including essays) and ICT skills such as Power Point presentations. Students work both individually and in groups to gather information and develop research projects.

Complementing the year 8 History / Geography curriculum are Civics and Citizenship and Business and Enterprise. Topics include government and democracy, laws and citizens, citizenship, diversity and identity, resource allocation and making choices.

Mathematics
Subject Length: 2 Semesters

Description: Students will be following the three strands as laid out in the Australian Curriculum of Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry and Statistics and Probability. Emphasis is given to developing fluency skills through understanding, problem solving and reasoning abilities.

Content: The course will continue to develop student skills in number and place value, financial mathematics, real numbers, algebra, measurement, geometric reasoning, chance and data representation and interpretation. Where possible, real life examples and problem solving skills will be used.

Assessment: Assessment in this subject includes testing, assignments and folio tasks and is in accordance with the Australian Curriculum.

Science
Subject Length: 2 Semesters

Description: The Science curriculum, as described by the Australian National Curriculum, is organised around three interrelated strands, Science understanding, Science inquiry skills and Science as a human endeavour. This is taught throughout the year in the sub strands, Biological Sciences, Chemical Sciences, Earth and Space Sciences and Physical Sciences. These include topics that cover cells and body systems,
the states of matter, physical and chemical changes, energy transfer and transformations and rocks and minerals. Much time and effort is put into teaching and encouraging safe practical techniques, scientific method and creative thinking.

**Assessment:** Students are assessed on both theoretical and practical skills and assessment includes research work, practical reports, written and oral exercises and tests. Assessment in this subject is in line with the Australian Curriculum Achievement standards.
Year 9 (Choice) Subjects

Arts

Students can choose one or more semester length Arts programs. The Special Music program is a full year program.

- **Dance**
  Subject Length: 1 Semester

  **Description:** The Dance programs develop the knowledge and skills required for a dancer. Dance genres include contemporary dance, jazz, hip hop and world dance culture. Students compose their own dance in small group choreographic tasks and they also learn whole class routines. Digital technologies are used for developing performance elements and exploring dance on film. Performance opportunities are available throughout the year at assemblies, Open Days, special events and the whole school production.

  **Assessment:** The program is 70% practical and 30% theory. Year 9 Dance is highly recommended as a pre-requisite for year 10 Dance and the Creative Arts – Dance programs in year 11 and 12.

- **Design (Computer Based)**
  Subject Length: 1 Semester

  **Description:** In Design, students develop the knowledge and skills needed for the developing digital design artist. The program includes digital design using computer software. Students develop their skills by refining their work from backup work to the creation of final products. Presentations of student design are available throughout the year in student Exhibitions at Open Days and special events.

  **Assessment:** The program is 70% practical and 30% theory. Design in year 9 is highly recommended as a pre-requisite for Design in years 10, 11 and 12.

- **Drama**
  Subject Length: 1 Semester

  The Drama program further develops the knowledge and skills required for an actor or back stage technician. Drama genres include improvised theatre and various theatre innovations including historical perspectives and contemporary practice with digital technologies. Students create their own dramatic presentations throughout the semester. Performance opportunities are available throughout the year at assemblies, Open Days, special events and the whole school production.

  **Assessment:** The program is 70% practical and 30% theory. Year 9 Drama is highly recommended as a pre-requisite for year 10 Drama, the year 10 Specialist Drama program and Drama in years 11 and 12.
Media-Arts
Subject Length: 1 Semester

Description: The Media-Arts Program has a focus on film making and further delivers the knowledge and skills required for a film maker. Students learn how to script, storyboard, use a video camera, and incorporate film elements such as costume / make-up / props design / lighting / sound and editing techniques for film making. Students create their own short films in various genres including animation. Presentation opportunities are available throughout the year at assemblies, Open Days, special events and the whole school production.

Assessment: The program is 70% practical and 30% theory. Year 9 Media-Arts is highly recommended as a pre-requisite for year 10 Media-Arts and Media Studies in year 11 and 12.

Elective-Music
Subject Length: 1 Semester

Description: The Music program further develops the knowledge and skills required for a musician. Students may choose an instrument or voice as their focus for individual and practical ensemble work. Students continue to learn the fundamental concepts of music theory, digital composition and historical perspectives throughout the semester. Practical activities are extended on keyboard, guitar and drums or student-chosen instruments. Performance opportunities are available throughout the year at assemblies, Open Days, special events and the whole school production.

Assessment: The program is 70% practical and 30% theory.

Visual Arts
Subject Length: 1 Semester

Description: In Visual Art, students learn the knowledge and skills required for the developing artist. The program includes drawing, painting, clay and craft. Students develop their skills by refining their work from backup work to the creation of final products. Presentations of student artwork are available throughout the year in student Exhibitions at Open Days and special events.

Assessment: The program is 70% practical and 30% theory. Visual Art in year 9 is highly recommended as a pre-requisite for Visual Art in years 10, 11 and 12.

Design and Technology
Subject Length: 1 Semester

Advanced Technologies, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Design)
Subject Length: 1 Semester

Description: Students must have achieved a grade C or better in both Maths and Science to join this course. The course is focussed on Problem and Inquiry Based Learning where students will apply Science and Mathematical theorems in order to Engineer design solutions to everyday problems. Students will
create prototype solutions to design challenges using a range of outputs including 3D Printing, Robotics, CNC (Computer Numerically Controlled) Machining, and/or hand tools machinery on woods, metals and plastics.

**Assessment:** Is in accordance with the Australian Curriculum, and will be reported to parents.
Assessment is based on design, practical skills and knowledge and understanding. The program is 70% practical and 30% theory

- **Computing/Creative Industries**
  Subject Length: 1 Semester

  **Description:** Create Edit Store Print a Range of Office software - Given a task choose appropriate software to create a solution - Obtain graphics and modify size contrast and colour balance - Combine text and graphics in logo design - Create a basic "Branding" of a new product - Construct a small website to offer the "Branded Product" to the general public world wide - Construct costings with a spreadsheet - Make the website promoting their "Brand" and "responsive" to display on computer / tablet / mobile devices. - create a "game" software application starting with basic pseudocode logic.

  **Assessment:** Is in accordance with the Australian Curriculum, and will be reported to parents.
Assessment is based on design, practical skills and knowledge and understanding. The program is 70% practical and 30% theory.

- **Creative Materials Technology**
  Subject Length: 1 Semester

  **Description:** Students will learn to use a range of hand tools and machinery safely in the workshops to produce creative design solutions in a range of new and recycled materials (wood, metal and plastic.) Students will develop their creative thinking skills in order to arrive at exciting new design solutions with emphasis being placed on accurate hand and machine skills when creating design solutions to ensure a good quality finish on products.

  **Assessment:** Is in accordance with the Australian Curriculum, and will be reported to parents.
Assessment is based on design, practical skills and knowledge and understanding. The program is 70% practical and 30% theory

- **Digital Design - 3D printing, CAD, Photography**
  Subject Length: 1 Semester

  **Description:** Students work collaboratively in classroom and workshop environments. Students will hone their skills and develop their understanding relevant to the area chosen. The skills include introduction to Computer Aided Design (CAD) using Sketchup / Inventor with outputs in 3D printing and CNC machining. Students will also learn how to use Photoshop and digital camera basics. The students will develop a deeper understanding of the design process relevant to their chosen subject.

  **Assessment:** Is in accordance with the Australian Curriculum, and will be reported to parents.
Assessment is based on design, practical skills and knowledge and understanding. The program is 70% practical and 30% theory
- **Digital Technology – Robotics/Electronics**
  Subject Length: 1 Semester

**Description:** Students will engage in a range of activities relating to programming robots and creating exciting electronics projects. In the Electronics component they will design a project to be manufactured using CAD/CAM activities to create a small flashing LED project, that also includes identification and use of common electronic components and introduction to soldering activities. In the Robotics section of the course students will face engineering challenges that must be solved by the physical construction and programming of LEGO robots to complete given challenges.

**Assessment:** Is in accordance with the Australian Curriculum, and will be reported to parents. Assessment is based on design, practical skills and knowledge and understanding. The program is 70% practical and 30% theory

- **Food and Nutrition**
  Subject Length: 1 Semester

**Description:** This course will use the Australian Guide to Healthy Eating to develop the knowledge and skills to enable students to design and prepare healthy food using a variety of techniques from individually sources recipes. Meal planning and food preparation skills are developed through practical experiences each week.

**Assessment:** Is in accordance with the Australian Curriculum, and will be reported to parents. Assessment is based on design, practical skills and knowledge and understanding. The program is 50% practical and 50% theory

- **Home Economics – Food and Textiles**
  Subject Length: 1 Semester

**Description:** Students will build on their practical kitchen skills to design and produce food with the focus on health and nutrition. Computing and research will support the practical work with the creation of power points, brochures and tables illustrating knowledge of diet and adolescent health. Students will create textile projects through their development of sewing skills in year 8. The practical work will be supported with the use of computing and advanced sewing technology to design, make and evaluate the nature and safety of textiles.

**Assessment:** Is in accordance with the Australian Curriculum, and will be reported to parents. Assessment is based on design, practical skills and knowledge and understanding. The program is 50% practical and 50% theory
- **Materials Technology – Wood/Metal**  
  Subject Length: 1 Semester  

**Description:** Students work collaboratively in a safe workshop environment in the area of Wood or Metal work. Students will hone their skills and develop their understanding relevant to the area chosen. The skills include joining methods, hand tools, power tools and the use of equipment used for measuring and marking out. The students will also develop a deeper understanding of the design process relevant to their chosen project.

**Assessment:** Is in accordance with the Australian Curriculum, and will be reported to parents. Assessment is based on design, practical skills and knowledge and understanding. The program is 70% practical and 30% theory.

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**Health and Physical Education**  
Subject Length: 1 Semester

- **Healthy Lifestyle Choices**  
  Subject Length: 1 Semester

**Description:** This course is open to year 9 and 10 students who are not overly keen on team sports. HLC explores fitness and nutrition; weight management and body shape / self-esteem issues. It will provide students with practical solutions to gaining a healthier body and mind through enjoyable, regular exercise that is accessible for all levels.

**Assessment:** This course is 50% practical (Walking, Muay Thai Kickboxing, Weight Training, Yoga, Thai Chi, Aerobics, Meditation) and 50% theory (Healthy Choice Cookbook, Peer Teaching Assignment, Lifestyle Diseases, Nutrition Essentials).

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- **Outdoor Education**  
  Subject Length: 1 Semester

**Prerequisites:** To successfully complete this course students MUST participate in a three day outdoor journey, involving tent camping. A reasonable level of fitness is also required.

**Description:** Outdoor Education offers students enjoyable challenges in outdoor activities and journeys. Students undertake one practical outdoor activity and one, three day outdoor camping experience during the semester. Students will develop practical skills and knowledge needed for safe, enjoyable and adventurous outdoor travel. Students identify and apply appropriate skills to minimize human impacts on natural environments.

Students will learn skills to live in the outdoors, including how to leave no trace of a visit to natural environments, basic first aid, equipment and clothing selection, risk and safety management, orienteering, tent pitch, campsite selection, menu planning, use of lightweight cookers - and apply these skills on a 3 day outdoor tent camping activity.

**Assessment:** Course work may be assessed through assignments, tests, tasks, and performance checklists. Major practical assessment for this course will take place during the outdoor journey. Course work 40%, Outdoor activity 20%, Outdoor journey 30%, Report 10%
Subject costs: Apply to this course. Exact costs will be finalized once class numbers and current prices are known. Approximate semester cost - $80.

- **Target Sport:**  
  Semester 1: Basketball, Rugby and Netball  
  Semester 2: Soccer, Volleyball and Football

  Subject Length: 1 Semester

**Description:** These courses are in addition to student's compulsory Health and Physical Education lessons. The courses are suitable for students who have high fitness levels, an appropriate work ethic with regard to written and physical work, and they must have a desire to further develop their physical skills and knowledge. Students are expected to change into their College PE uniform before each lesson. Students are also required to participate in all activities. If they are unable to participate due to a medical problem a note from home must be provided.

**Selection Process:** Students nominate to be tested for this subject. Tests include: the ‘Beep Test' (Aerobic capacity), ‘Hand-Eye' coordination testing and a written application. The HPE staff will then select students for the class by considering individual skill, fitness and recommendations from their previous HPE teacher.

**Assessment:** Is in accordance with the Australian National Curriculum and will be reported to parents. Assessment is based on participation in group tasks, skill improvement, effort in both practical and theoretical contexts and written assignments.

**Languages**

- **Japanese**  
  Subject Length: 2 Semesters

**Description:** Prior Japanese knowledge in Year 8 is required. This course is based on three strands: Understanding Language, Culture and Communication. Student knowledge is expanded linguistically, socially and culturally. During the year students cover language structure and culture based on a range of topics including personal interests, seasons, holidays, invitations, school life, shopping, dining and directions. Excursions are organized for students to further experience Japanese culture and they are also encouraged to play an active role in supporting international students from Japan by participating in the buddy program. Successful completion of Year 9 Japanese is a prerequisite for Year 10 Japanese.

**Assessment:** Is in accordance with the Australian Curriculum, and will be reported to parents. Students are assessed on cultural activities, communication (listening, speaking, reading and writing) and their understanding of the language through a range of written and oral assessment tasks.
- **German**
  
  **Subject Length:** 2 Semesters
  
  **Description:** Prior German knowledge in Year 8 is required.
  
  This course is based on three strands: Understanding Language, Culture and Communication. Student knowledge is expanded linguistically, socially and culturally. During the year students cover language structure and culture based on a range of topics covering personal appearance, weather, transport and travel, food, school life and family. Excursions are organized for students to further experience German culture and they are also encouraged to participate in cultural workshops, performances and cooking. They learn present, past and future tenses and extend their knowledge of German film. Successful completion of Year 9 German is a prerequisite for Year 10 German.

  **Assessment:** Is in accordance with the Australian Curriculum, and will be reported to parents. Students are assessed on cultural activities, communication (listening, speaking, reading and writing) and their understanding of the language through a range of written and oral assessment tasks.

- **French**
  
  **Subject Length:** 2 Semesters
  
  **Description:** Prior French knowledge in Year 8 is required.
  
  This course is based on three strands: Understanding Language, Culture and Communication. Student knowledge is expanded linguistically, socially and culturally. During the year students cover language structure and culture based on a range of topics covering personal appearance, ordering food, school life, family, animals, cultural tours and health. Excursions are organized for students to further experience French culture and they are also encouraged to participate in cultural activities. Successful completion of Year 9 French is a prerequisite for Year 10 French.

  **Assessment:** Is in accordance with the Australian Curriculum, and will be reported to parents. Students are assessed on cultural activities, communication (listening, speaking, reading and writing) and their understanding of the language through a range of written and oral assessment tasks.

**Special Music**

**Subject Length:** 2 Semesters

**Description:** The Music program further develops the knowledge and skills required for a musician. Students continue with an instrument or voice as their focus for individual and practical ensemble work. Students further develop their understanding of music theory, digital composition and historical perspectives throughout the year. Performance opportunities are available throughout the year at assemblies, Open Days, special events and the whole school production. Special Music in year 9 is highly recommended as a pre-requisite for year 10 Special Music and further SACE Music studies.

**Assessment:** The program is 70% practical and 30% theory.

(Students who wish to receive weekly instrumental or voice lessons through the Instrumental Music Program, must choose Special Music in year 9 and they must commit to a relevant ensemble such as Concert Band or Choir)
Year 9 (Compulsory) Subjects

**English**
Subject Length: 2 Semesters

*Description:* Students continue their studies of a broad range of literature, media and everyday texts from familiar and increasingly unfamiliar contexts. They respond to these texts in various forms, demonstrating their knowledge and understanding through the production of an expanding range of written and spoken and multi-modal texts. They further develop their literacy and competence in visual and multimedia forms of communication, incorporating new technologies in their joint and individual construction of texts. Students independently select their own prose texts for reading and response. Students further build upon their language and literacy skills, producing well-crafted written and oral texts for a broader variety of purposes that have been planned, conferenced, drafted and edited before submission.

*Assessment:* Is by text response, text production, shared literature and media studies, critical reading and literacy activities, brief and extended learning tasks, group and individual learning and an extended language enrichment skills program.

Learning programs and assessment in English are based upon the Australian Curriculum English statement.

**Health and Physical Education**
Subject Length: 1 Semester

*Description:* This course enables students to enhance their own health, well-being, physical activity and participation in a variety of contexts. Students will study a range of health topics including drugs & alcohol, the benefits of physical activity, relationships and sexual health. Students will also participate in a range of sporting activities such as volleyball, basketball, soccer, touch rugby, athletics, fitness and other mainstream sports. This course will also include minor games and challenge and adventure activities.

This course develops the student's ability to perform and refine specialised movement skills. Students will be exposed to a range of individual and team activities which enhance their skills, including their ability to apply the principles of attack and defence in a range of situations. Students also develop leadership and collaboration skills by working in teams.

Students are expected to change into their College PE uniform before each PE lesson. Students are required to participate in all activities. If they are unable to participate due to a medical problem a note from home must be provided.

*Assessment:* Is based on participation in group tasks, skill improvement and effort in both practical and theoretical contexts as well as written assignments in accordance with the Australian National Curriculum.

Students undertake theory topics including Relationships and Sexual Health, the Benefits of Fitness as well as Investigations into Drugs and Alcohol.
Humanities

- **History** (History and Social Sciences)

  Subject Length: 1 Semester

  Description: This one semester course will be delivering the Australian History Curriculum. There is an Overview (The Making of the Modern World) that continues to expand on the historical concepts, skills and inquiry based learning begun in year 8. Following this introduction will be three in-depth studies.

  These include:
  1. Australia and Asia. Either – Asia and the World or Making a Nation,
  3. World War 1

  Assessment: Assessment is in accordance with the Australian Curriculum and will be reported to parents. Students are assessed on their research, note taking, inquiry work, oral presentations and the development of critical literacy skills, particularly the ability to analyse and consider new information and topics, written responses (including essays) and ICT skills. Students work individually and in groups to gather information and develop research projects. They will be expected to develop their own opinions and express them in a variety of forms including written, oral, and using ICT skills such as Power Point presentations.

- **Geography** (Geography and Social Sciences)

  Subject Length: 1 Semester

  Description: This one semester course will be delivering the Australian Geography Curriculum. There are two units, Biomes and Food Security and Exploring Interconnections. These expand on the geographical concepts, skills and inquiry based learning begun in year 8.

  These include:
  1. Biomes and Food Security draws on the concepts of environment, place, space and sustainability through an investigation of biogeography, agricultural production and associated constraints within Australia, a country from South-East Asia and another country from elsewhere in the world as appropriate.
  2. Exploring Interconnections draws on the concepts of environment, interconnection, place, space, and sustainability to explore the patterns in people's connections to the rest of the world through their purchasing power, use of information and communication technologies and interest in world events, with a focus on Australia, the United States of America and the countries of North-East Asia.

  Assessment: Is in accordance with the Australian Curriculum, and will be reported to parents. Students are assessed on their research, note taking, inquiry work, oral presentations and the development of critical literacy skills, particularly the ability to analyse and consider new information and topics, written responses (including essays) and ICT skills. Students work individually and in groups to gather information and develop research projects. They will be expected to develop their own opinions and express them in a variety of forms including written, oral, and using ICT skills such as Power Point presentations.
Mathematics
Subject Length: 2 Semesters

Description: Students will be following the three strands as outlined in the Australian Curriculum of Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry and Statistics and Probability. Emphasis is given to developing fluency skills, thorough understanding, problem solving and reasoning abilities. The course will develop student skills in the index laws, simple interest, Cartesian plane geometry, area, surface area and volume, scales, Pythagoras theorem and trigonometry, probability and statistics and linear and non-linear equations. Where possible, real life examples and problem solving skills will be used.

Assessment: This subject includes testing, assignments and projects and is in accordance with the Australian Curriculum.

Science
Subject Length: 2 Semesters

Description: The Science curriculum, as described by the Australian National curriculum, is organised around three interrelated strands, Science understanding, Science inquiry skills and Science as a human endeavour. This is taught throughout the year in the sub strands which are Biological Sciences, Chemical Sciences, Earth and Space Sciences, and Physical Sciences. These include topics covering ecology, coordination, chemical reactions, plate tectonics, and the energy transfer and transformations associated with heat, light, sound and electricity. Much time and effort is put into teaching and encouraging safe practical techniques, scientific method and creative thinking.

Assessment: Students are assessed on both theoretical and practical skills and assessment includes research work, practical reports, written and oral exercises and tests. Assessment in this subject is in line with the Australian Curriculum Achievement standards