



MIDDLE SCHOOL ELECTIVES 2017

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Aims of the Years 7-9 Elective Program

The elective program in the Middle School aims to:

- Allow students to have a greater choice and variety in subject selection.
- Prepare students for their Senior School elective studies.
- Encourage a progressive development of skills across Key Learning Areas.
- Motivate students and promote resilience.
- Consider student interest when negotiating, developing and implementing units.
- Build into the units rigorous assessment that is task-oriented, relevant, purposeful and connected to real life.
- Encourage students to develop their passions and expertise in particular subjects while at the same time allowing them to take calculated risks, exploring and trying subjects they may not have tried before.

Electives:

What students say:

*“You get to develop your **talents** and do something you enjoy.”*

*“You get to **meet** different people from different year levels.”*

*“You get to **learn** a lot, I really love animations.”*

*“I like the fact that there is a **choice** in what we can do.”*

*“You get to have **opportunities** that you may not normally get.”*

*“Some of the work is really **challenging**.”*

*“They are **creative**, with different ideas.”*

*“The teachers seem to **enjoy** themselves as well.”*

The teaching and learning focus for the Years 7-9 elective program is underpinned by the College’s philosophy of educating hearts, minds and hands.

The elective units are **inquiry-based** with student and teacher questions guiding student learning. An inquiry approach allows students to develop a greater depth and understanding of the topics being explored.

Another feature of the elective program is the idea of **integration** across some key learning areas. For example, an Arts elective may include content and skills from Drama, Music or Visual Arts and Media. Integration allows for a holistic approach to learning where students can develop meaningful links between subject areas.

Some elective lines are vertical across Years 7-9 which means that students can access **Level 1** (novice) **or Level 2** (advanced) electives at any year level.

As a general guideline, students should aim to undertake a wide range of elective subjects before concentrating on specific areas of interest.



Curriculum Structure (Core and Elective Subjects)

In the Middle School, students study core and elective subjects. Year 7 students select one elective per semester (two in total in the year). Year 8 students study two electives per semester (four in total in the year). Year 9 students study three electives per semester (six in total in the year).

Year 7 Core Subjects

Christian Studies

English

Mathematics

Music

Drama

Japanese/German

Health and Physical Education

Science

Studies of the Society and the Environment

Visual Arts

ICLT

Design and Technology Studies

Year 8 and 9 Core Subjects

Christian Studies

English

Mathematics

Japanese/German (Year 8 only)

Health and Physical Education

Science

Studies of the Society and the Environment

In designing the Years 7-9 curriculum, the College has kept two basic principles in mind, *Delay of Specialisation* and a *Balanced Curriculum*.

Delay of Specialisation means that students do not have to make educational decisions that may disadvantage them in course selection or employment opportunities later in life. Students have a chance to do a broader curriculum for longer, thus not shutting them off from certain subjects should they need to study them as a prerequisite for a particular university course or employment pathway. For example, all students at St Andrews study Science to Year 10 in every semester; this gives them adequate background to study any of the Sciences in Years 11 and 12.

While the Core subjects studied in the Middle School ensure that each student is studying a program that develops the core skills, the electives allow students to explore and develop skills in a number of other Key Learning Areas, such as the Arts, Technology, Business Studies and ICLT. This ensures a **Balanced Curriculum**.

To this end, in Years 7-9, all students should aim to study **one** elective from each of the following **Key Learning Areas**:

- Business Studies / ICLT
- The Arts
- Health and Physical Education
- Design and Technology
- Home Economics

In Year 9, students may elect to study a more specific range of electives in preparation for their Senior School studies. Their key focus should be on taking electives that will give them the knowledge and skills required in disciplines they hope to pursue in Year 10 but they may also take other electives to broaden their experiences.

NB: Details regarding preference forms for 2017 will be distributed to all incoming and existing students later in Term 3. The College now uses an online subject preference system.

Guidelines for Students in Choosing Elective Subjects

Some considerations:

- Have I tried one elective from each of the *Key Learning Areas*?
- Have I completed a Level 1 elective before opting for the Level 2 elective in that subject?
- Will my choice of subjects help me reach my post Year 10 and post Year 12 goals?
- If I am doing well in Japanese or German, have I considered continuing in Year 9?
- Have I chosen some subjects that will encourage me to learn new and challenging things?
- Have I considered alternative subjects in case I am not able to study my first few preferences?

Note:

Sometimes students are unable to study their first preferences for subjects. This may occur because of timetable clashes or because too many students wish to study that subject. Because the elective lines are vertical, it is likely that the student will be able to study the unit desired the following year or semester.

Level 1 First, then Level 2

In order to develop skills in a gradual and sequential way, allowing students to consolidate their learning and practice skills, we would encourage students to take the Level 1 elective in each Key Learning Area before trying the Level 2 elective. Exceptions to this might be students who have a significant amount of prior knowledge and skill in an area e.g. a student may go straight to the Level 2 Music elective if they have been playing an instrument for a number of years.

Selecting a Career and Subjects for Years 11 and 12

Students at the age of 12, 13 and 14 years naturally find it very difficult to know which career they wish to pursue. It is important to realise, therefore, that the curriculum structure allows those crucial decisions to be delayed as long as possible. Our Careers Development Advisor and Director of Learning and Teaching, Mrs Christina Wrigley is available for interviews if parents or students have any queries on this matter.

Although your son or daughter is only in Middle School, some thought should be given to courses which may be studied in Years 10-12. In general, students are able to select a Senior School subject even if the corresponding Middle School subject has not been studied. However, such a situation will increase the workload of that student in Years 10 or 11. The exceptions to this are Japanese or German as language study is best undertaken in a continuous manner.

Pathways Planner – Helping You Choose Electives

To help parents and students to start planning their electives pathways through the Middle School, you will find a Possible Pathways Planner on the following pages. This will not take long to work through but may be very valuable when you need to submit your elective preferences for 2017. Knowing that a particular elective will be a prerequisite for senior subjects, may help you decide on which ones to place at the top of the list.

For further information please contact: Mr Tom Casey, Head of Middle School

tomc@salc.qld.edu.au

Possible Pathways Planner...

What subject areas are the strongest for your child? (Try to limit it to about 3-4)

What are their interests/strengths in other areas of their life? (e.g. sport, music, dancing, Scouts, surf clubs, etc.)

Are there any occupations in which your child has already shown an interest or to which you think they may be well suited?

What qualifications would they need for these occupations? (e.g. apprenticeship, degree, diploma, etc.) If you are unsure, you should see Mrs Wrigley.

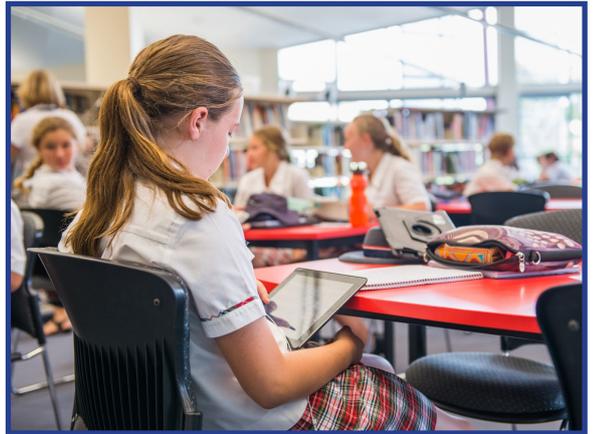
What subjects would they need to study in Years 10-12 if they were to go on and pursue this career path? Again, if you are unsure, you should see Mrs Wrigley. From this it may be possible to choose some elective subjects to ensure this pathway remains open.

BUSINESS STUDIES

Money Smart Kids (Semester 1 or 2 – Years 7-9)

The poorest group of people in Australia are young adults. This course will change how you think about money and the ways you can make it. Students will be introduced to essential life skills – investing money, earning money, saving money and spending money. Online simulations will be played to develop your knowledge and understanding of wealth creation including the ESSI Money financial literacy game and the ASX Stock Market Game. Getting a job is not the only way to earn money. In 'Money Smart Kids' you will learn what it means to be financially literate and to take control of your finances. You will learn how to make sound financial decisions in the future. This course will integrate technology including but not limited to word processing, spreadsheeting, multimedia and app investigations.

Level 1



Going into Business (Semester 1 or 2 – Years 8/9)

Farrah Gray went into business at the age of 6. With over two million small businesses in Australia, going into business is a real option for everyone especially kids. While some people are born entrepreneurs, the rest of us can make ourselves successful business people by developing our entrepreneurial skills and traits. In this course students will explore what it takes to be a successful entrepreneur. Students will start their own businesses. They will learn to develop a business idea, research, plan the business idea, implement marketing and operations to make sales, and to record the finances of the business. Students will be given every opportunity to experience in real life what it means to be entrepreneurial.

Level 2 Pre-requisite: Money Smart Kids

DANCE

Dance – The World of Dance (Semester 1 – Years 7-9)

This Dance elective explores the popular dance styles within other countries throughout the world in a range of historical, social and cultural contexts. In this performance based subject, students will study and engage in a variety of styles including Bollywood, Latin-American, Spanish, African Jazz, French CanCan and Indigenous Contemporary Dance. Students will learn to choreograph their own routines through the manipulation of dance components and choreographic devices. The theoretical component of this course will aim to educate students on analysing and evaluating dance works from a diverse range of cultures. Students in this subject will perform at the College's annual Dance Night.

Level 1



Dance Excellence – So You Think You Can Dance? (Semester 2 – Years 7-9)

This Dance unit is based on the popular television series 'So You Think You Can Dance' and is aimed at students who have had prior dance training and experience with performing. Students will engage in a variety of dance styles including Jazz, Contemporary, Lyrical, Hip Hop, Musical Theatre, Ballroom and Jive. Students will also explore the use of choreographic devices and manipulation of movement qualities when creating their own dance sequences. The theoretical component of this course will aim to educate students on analysing and evaluating various dance work in different styles. Students in this elective will perform at the College's annual Dance Night.

Level 2

DRAMA

Year 7 CORE Drama (Rotation)

In this unit, students will develop an understanding of the elements of Drama and fundamentals of acting for the stage. Students will extend this knowledge through the exploration of Indigenous Theatre, with particular focus on Bangarra. Students will create their own scripts based on an Indigenous myth or legend, incorporating techniques studied in class. They will engage in a variety of workshops, rehearsals and performances for both scripted and devised pieces.



Becoming an Actor (Semester 1 – Years 8/9)

This introductory course engages students in a range of workshop and performance experiences that are designed to develop basic stagecraft and approaches to characterisation as well as build confidence in performance. Students will work with both scripted and devised scenes and will leave the elective with a sense of what it is like to be on stage.

Level 1

Drama Extension: Play Production (Semester 2 – Years 8/9)

In this advanced Drama course, students audition, rehearse and present a performance based upon a selected theme. Students are involved in all aspects of the production – from character development, blocking, set and costume design and music.

Level 2

Bright Lights on Broadway – A Journey into Musical Theatre (Semester 2 – Years 7-9)

This advanced elective encourages students to explore a range of techniques across both Music, Dance and Drama within the Music Theatre genre. Students will perform numbers as a class, in small groups and individually. Students will also study a selection of famous musicals, examining their structure, themes and style. Whilst it is not expected that students be experienced singers, dancers or actors – they must be willing to participate in all workshops.

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

Workshop Bonanza (Semester 1 or Semester 2 – Years 7-9)

Students enjoy designing and making various introductory projects. 'Workshop Bonanza' allows students to develop basic design and production skills through the use of different materials and technologies. In introducing these, students learn the correct use of hand and power tools. Students complete unique projects such as picture frames, dog tags and a rubberband-powered vehicle.

Level 1



Girls in the 'shop (Semester 1 – Years 8/9)

Students learn about the design process and present research, analysis and ideation on a proposal poster. Students are introduced to workshop practices with hand tools and basic machinery in dealing with various materials. Students work on design projects tailored for girls; creating a unique jewellery box and candle holder from a limited amount of material.

Level 1: Girls only

Graffix 1.0 (Semester 1) and Graffix 2.0 (Semester 2) – Years 7-9

Students discover the principles of technical and graphical communication. They gain skills and knowledge in sketching as well as using industry standard design programs Autodesk Inventor, Revit, and Adobe Photoshop to achieve results in the three areas of study; Industrial Design, Built Environment and Graphic Design. The skills learnt in this elective are particularly useful when taking on future Design & Technology electives. Graffix 1.0 will focus specifically upon sketching, Graphic Design and Industrial Design while Graffix 2.0 will focus upon sketching, Industrial Design and Built Environment.

Level 1

Santa's Toy Shop (Semester 2 – Years 8/9)

Step into Santa's Workshop and design and build toys with the other elves. Students have the opportunity to use Autodesk Inventor to design a figurine (think LEGO™ man) and print it using 3D printing technology. Students will also engage in designing and manufacturing a children's toy after considering the needs of the audience.

Level 2

Advanced Design & Technology (Semester 1 or Semester 2 – Year 9)

Students use the design knowledge they've gained in previous electives to solve fundamental engineering problems. Laser-cutting technology and 3D printing form elements of this elective. *(Whilst prior experience is desirable, it is not essential for this course.)*

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

There are two Level 1 HPE electives: One designed primarily for boys and one for girls.

Bronzed Aussie (Semester 1 or Semester 2 – Years 7-9)

This is a highly practical subject focusing on student's performance and understanding of a range of Aussie sports, such as, Surfing, AFL, Cricket, Oztag and Fishing. The objective of the program is to develop an appreciation for the sports and activities that have shaped the Australian Culture. In theoretical activities students develop an understanding of the 'Aussie' image as portrayed through sport, role models and the Australian way of life. This unit will address the characteristics and health issues of Australian men. It is envisaged that the students will participate in all physical activities as well as plan and implement personal development sessions to develop their personal interests and fitness.

Level 1: Boys only

Not Just Skin Deep (Semester 1 only – Years 7-9)

The aim of this unit is to address teenage issues that could promote improved health, wellness and understanding of adolescent individuals and groups. At the completion of the course students will have: examined the role that food plays in their daily lives and the interaction of food and disease prevention, participated in a skincare/makeup session with a beautician, evaluated availability of community activities, decided on personal values and attitudes, reflected on decisions about health and wellness in relation to the individual and groups, evaluated the role of stress and self-esteem in building resilience, participated in and studied how relaxation can decrease stress levels, evaluated available teen resources for relevance (websites, magazines, texts and TV programs), and participated in a range of physical activities (Yoga, Pilates, Self Defence, Deep-Water Running, Aqua Aerobics, Surfing and Walking). Students will also plan and implement personal development sessions appropriate to their own focus and needs. Students must be willing and able to add to a safe, supportive class environment, be a team player and be prepared to share ideas, concepts and emotions.

Level 1: Girls only

Sports Development

This elective will be offered on four different occasions in the electives program focusing on four different sports: Netball (Line 1 Sem 2, Years 7, 8 and 9); Soccer (Line 2 Sem 1, Years 8 and 9); Touch (Line 2 Sem 2, Years 8 and 9) and Racquet Sports (Line 3 Semesters 1 and 2 Year 9 Only). These electives are designed for students who have a particular and genuine interest in developing their skills in a specific game. Students should have a strong track record in performance, effort and attitude in HPE classes if they are to meet the challenges and expectations of Sports Development. The purpose of these units is to improve student's skills and fitness to a higher level, better familiarise themselves with the rules of the games, as well as effective offensive and defensive strategies and training techniques. Depending on the sport, students may study for a basic coaching or umpiring and refereeing qualification. They may also learn how to administer, organise and promote a competition in the chosen sport.

Level 2



Totally Textiles (Semester 1 or Semester 2 – Years 7-9)

Have fun being creative with fabrics. Students design, plan, construct and evaluate a major textile project each term. The first project is a pair of shorts or PJ pants and the second project is a cushion. The textile articles are personalised with the student's choice of fabric finishes. The fabric finishes covered in this course are: tie dye, beading, basic machine and hand embroidery and trims e.g. lace, ribbon. An excursion to Spotlight provides students with the opportunity to gain experience in selecting appropriate materials for a sewing project.

Level 1



It's in the Bag (Semester 1 or Semester 2 – Years 7-9)

Students are provided with opportunities to extend their sewing knowledge and skills, and to help save our environment by making reusable bags. Textile properties are investigated and the knowledge gained is applied to select appropriate fabrics for sewing projects. For the major project, an excursion to Spotlight allows students to coordinate fabrics, zippers, buttons, thread and fabric decorations to create original bags designed for a specific purpose and user.

Prerequisite: It is recommended that students selecting this unit have completed Totally Textiles.

Level 2

That's a Wrap (Semester 1 or Semester 2 – Years 7-9)

The focus is healthy eating with the 'Go for 2 and 5' Vegetable Campaign promoted in this unit. Prepare snacks in wraps, cook tasty vegetable parcels, try some international cuisine such as san choy bow, quesadillas and crepes and make some delicious, healthy desserts.

Level 1

Snack Attack (Semester 1 or Semester 2 – Years 8/9)

With so many choices how do we choose the right snack? Be introduced to nutrition and investigate the importance of eating health-promoting foods, analyse your personal snacking habits and make informed decisions about the snacks you eat. Develop practical cookery skills by producing a variety of healthy snacks. Muffins, tacos, pizzas, smoothies, burgers, wraps plus some of your own creations.

Level 2

Eggstravaganza (Semester 2 – Year 9)

What do biscuits, cakes, nasi goreng, frittatas, soufflés, quiches and pancakes have in common? – EGGS! Explore cooking with eggs and develop practical cookery skills. Investigate how food safety standards protect consumers and apply this knowledge to develop a Food Safety Plan for the preparation of food items for sale. Students selecting this unit must have completed either 'That's A Wrap' or 'Snack Attack'.

Level 2 – Only offered in Year 9



INFORMATION COMMUNICATION LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES

Software Development and Web Design (Semester 1 or Semester 2 – Years 7-9)

This course encourages students to use technologies to create animations, interactive games, and produce successful websites. Students will gain experience in the design, development and evaluation of programs. Animation software will be used to solve and meet particular needs. Students will explore the rules for good web design and will create their own website, which will feature the work that they have developed throughout the course. This course is a good start for students who wish to choose Information Technology Systems (ITS) in their Senior years. ITS is a practical discipline which prepares students to meet the rapid changes in Information Technology (IT), and to respond to emerging technologies and trends. Students involve the use of technologies by which they manipulate and share information in its various forms – text, graphics, sound and video – and the range of devices used to perform these functions. Students will create web-based information that meets specific needs; consider social differences and ethical dilemmas when managing collaborative online projects. They will apply practices to protect identity and the security and integrity of personal data.

Level 1

Electronics (Semester 1 – Years 8/9)

This elective seeks to develop functional 'end products' as a result of student work in programming using open-source software. Students will learn fundamental algorithmic systems in order to create workable solutions to problems. Students will learn how to solder and assemble electronic kits. This is a good start for students who wish to study Information Technology Systems (ITS) in their Senior years. Learning challenges that foster curiosity, confidence, persistence, innovation, creativity, respect and cooperation is encouraged.

Roboshop (Semester 2 – Years 8/9)

This elective will encourage students to develop and apply technical knowledge, processes and computational-thinking skills, including algorithmic logic and abstraction, to transform data into a variety of real-world products. Students will utilise Lego™ hardware and software in the creative design of projects. Students are encouraged to investigate and consider the social and ethical implications of new technologies when making decisions about adopting them.

Level 2



Information Technology Systems (Semester 1 or Semester 2 – Year 9)

This elective aims at providing those students interested in Information Communication Learning Technologies with an opportunity to extend their knowledge of coding and programming. It will provide a pathway for those students who seek to investigate opportunities within the world of the information technologies.

Level 2

LOTE

Studying a language in Senior School may result in easier access to University. A number of Queensland Universities, including the University of Queensland and Griffith University are giving extra credit to students who study and pass a second language. More details regarding this can be found on participating university websites or by contacting the Director of Teaching and Learning, Mrs Christina Wrigley.

It is worth noting that choosing a language is considered a year-long choice in Year 9.

German

This elective allows students to be immersed in the German language through real-life contexts and conversational activities. Students will learn how to suggest and negotiate plans with friends, describe rooms of their house, furniture and household chores. Students will learn how to discuss their home town, places to go, what to do and how to get there. Students will also have fun learning how to describe traditional festival clothing.

This elective includes a scavenger hunt at Robina Town Centre, where students will use their German knowledge to decipher clues. **Students who choose this elective are also eligible to participate in the biennial Study Tour to Germany!**

Speaking, reading, writing and listening skills will be developed and students are assessed in all core skills. There is a focus on the development and understanding of German language patterns and this will allow students the opportunity to consider continuing their German experience in Senior School.

Japanese

Cool Japan (Semester 1)

This elective is a continuation of the Years 7 and 8 Japanese course honing student's reading, writing, speaking and listening skills in real-life and life-like activities. The use of interactive online tools and real-life learning via Skype, cooking and incursions/excursions will feature in this elective. Learn about the diverse blend of modern and traditional aspects of Japanese culture. Appreciate everyday life in Japan from getting to know others, making arrangements, shopping and more. Students who wish to acquire a marketable skill for the workforce, enjoy learning about other cultures and relish an intellectual challenge should consider this elective. This elective is essential for students wishing to continue their studies of Japanese in the Senior School and those wishing to participate in the next Study Tour to Japan in 2018.

Japan: It's Not All Raw Fish! (Semester 2)

This elective follows on from the topics and language functions acquired in Years 7, 8 and Semester 1, Year 9 Japanese. Students will experience Japanese culture in more depth through inquiring into festivals and celebrations and home life. There will be opportunities to 'taste and see' Japanese cuisine, dance, and craft, while also honing and developing more sophisticated written language and sentence structures. Students who wish to acquire a further 'string to their bow' to increase their employability and who love learning about the fascinating and unique aspects of foreign cultures should consider this elective. This elective is essential for students wishing to continue their studies of Japanese in the Senior School and those considering joining the next Study Tour to Japan in 2018.

Level 2 (Year 9 only)



MUSIC

About Music and Life

The attitudes and skills learned through the study of Music benefit us in every part of life, our relationships and work. Students deserve the opportunity to develop and discover their God given talents and abilities in music, appreciate the gifts of others and gain pleasure and satisfaction through participation in music activities.

All students choosing Music electives are strongly encouraged to perform as participants in extra-curricular activities at St Andrews, such as the Concert Band, Jazz Band, Middle School Choir and Choral groups, etc. The expectation is that students enrol in the music electives as a pre-requisite to the Senior Music Program.



Year 7 CORE Music

In Year 7, every student studies Music as a core subject. The Year 7 program is aimed at providing the students with practical, aural and compositional skills to equip them with a basic foundation for the study and appreciation of music.

The course will cover:

- The many instruments of the orchestra
- The elements of music e.g. pitch, duration, volume, timbre, texture, etc
- Piano keyboard skills from beginner to advanced
- Guitar skills from beginner to advanced
- Basic performance skills
- Composing, using some simple computer-based programs

MUSIC ELECTIVES

Music Bootcamp (Semester 1 or Semester 2 – Years 7-9)

In this 'crash course' for beginners students will develop an understanding of the fundamentals of music. While learning to play an instrument such as the keyboard or guitar, students will improve their understanding of reading and writing music. They will perform as a class and in a number of small ensembles. Students will explore a number of software applications used in producing popular music, such as 'Garage Band' or 'Sibelius'. They will compose and record their own songs, saving the final product to 'The Cloud' to share with family and friends.

Level 1

Recording Studio (Semester 1 – Year 9)

This is an integrated elective featuring elements of recorded music, soundtracks, radio plays and soundscapes. Students will learn how to make their own backing tracks from midi files in 'Garage Band'. Included is a study of music video genre, YouTube, filmclips and soundtracks. Students will be involved in practical activities using music software to record and mix music whilst looking at how modern composers use technology to manipulate the fundamental elements of music.

Level 2

Middle School Music Excellence: St Andrews Got Talent (Semester 2 – Year 9)

This advanced performance-based elective affords students the opportunity to pursue one or more of the Arts streams (Music, Dance, Drama, Media) further as part of an integrated subject culminating in a public performance for family and friends. Students are involved in all aspects of production – from design, selection and rehearsal of content, costuming, lighting, and marketing.

Level 2



SCIENCE

Because the Science electives are designed to be accessible to students in either semester, they are both Level 1, meaning students do not have to have done one before selecting the other.

Sport Science (Semester 1 – Years 7-9)

This elective combines aspects of Physical Education, Health and Science. Various sports will be investigated and the way the body is involved will be analysed. Experiments involving physical activities using sporting or scientific equipment will be conducted as well as investigations into sporting equipment technologies and developments.

Level 1



It's A Bug's Life (Semester 2 – Years 7-9)

Students will delve into the life of some of our smaller and often unseen creatures e.g. bacteria, parasites and insects. Microscopy and other biological techniques will be used to understand how these organisms survive and reproduce. Students will study 'the bigger picture' of how bugs contribute to a healthy environment. Students will choose a 'bug' to investigate through extended research or experimental investigation and present their findings in a report.

Level 1

VISUAL ARTS

Visual Arts courses are designed to assist students in the development of practical and appreciation skills. Students study a range of contemporary and traditional artists and movements and explore a variety of materials, methods, techniques and art forms. Students record their thinking and working practices in a visual diary and collect research and resources to use as inspiration for their resolved pieces. The art elements and principles are studied and applied in practical tasks and analysed in appreciation tasks. Artists and historical movements are explored in art appreciation and are linked to practical tasks.

Students are assessed on their ability to develop and record their thinking and working practices and plan and produce a folio of resolved artworks. Students are assessed on their ability to work cooperatively in the classroom and maintain a safe and functional working space. Students study artists and art movements and are assessed on their understanding of the ideas and concepts that emerge from these investigations using a range of written, verbal and visual tools.

Year 7 Core Art

In Year 7, students are taught skills in practical art whilst experiencing a variety of materials, methods and techniques. They are encouraged to think and work creatively and a number of practical pieces of work are finished individually. Students are introduced to the theory of art and are expected to keep a visual diary for developmental work and notes. Students complete a written research assignment on an artist they have studied.



Welcome to the Artist's Studio (Semester 1 or Semester 2 – Years 7-9)

The study of the Visual Arts at St Andrews begins with the development of key skills through the dimensions of creating and making and exploring and responding. As students progress through the years at St Andrews, the Visual Arts courses allow for students to tailor their creative capacity into the areas they are most passionate about.

In this course, students are introduced to several different media areas, creating experimental and resolved folios within each media area. They are guided through activities to develop skills, and are then given opportunity to create individualised pieces. Students respond to the work of others in both written and electronic ways. They will explore certain major periods of Art, to give them a basic understanding of the concept that "Art is not created in a vacuum".

Level 1

Digitalis (Semester 2 – Years 8/9)

In this intermediate Visual Arts elective, students will focus on the digital side of photography. Be prepared to enter the realm of digital video, film and photography. Got a digital camera that takes three minute movies? Got a series of photographs that would make a great film? This is the course for you. We will be creating digital storyboards, films, photo stills and photographs.

Level 1/2

All Mixed Up! (Semester 1 – Years 8/9)

In this advanced Visual Arts elective, students will be encouraged to experiment with and manipulate the skills, techniques and processes undertaken in 'Welcome to The Artist's Studio'. Media areas will be studied in more depth, providing more skills and a more extended artistic vocabulary and understanding of Art periods and movements. They will also gain a broader understanding of how to talk and write about Art. Students will be able to specialise in their chosen media as part of their final folio. This is a pre-requisite for Year 10 Visual Arts.

Level 2

OTHER ELECTIVES

Let's Count on Getting It Write (Semester 1/2)

This elective is designed to support students in Year 9 who would benefit from additional assistance in literacy and numeracy.

Various aspects of literacy, numeracy, research and note-taking skills are revised and taught and used in a practical way. Students gain confidence and increased competency in applying these skills to their assignment work and classwork. Guidance and support will be available to assist students in all aspects of their school work and learning.

Level: N/A

Infinity and Beyond! (Semester 1 – Years 8/9)

Ever wished that you could study something that you really love but we don't do it at school? This is your opportunity to take complete control of your education and show just how much you can achieve when you are given a chance. In this elective you will be able to nominate an area that you would like to explore, develop an independent study program with a learning facilitator, and then develop a number of items that show what you've learned. These artefacts could be models, pictures, journals, diaries, virtual galleries, 3D mock ups or anything else that shows a deep and well developed understanding of the area you've explored. This is not for the faint hearted though, and students entering this elective will need to be self-directed, motivated and capable of being an independent learner.

Level: N/A

The Write Stuff (Semester 1 – Years 8/9)

This elective will explore the possibilities of language. Through the development of a variety of niche genres (poetry, novella, news articles) students will feel free to extend, express and create within the realm of the written word. This elective would be particularly attractive to those students wishing to improve their extended writing skills.

Me, Media and Myself (Semester 2 – Years 8/9)

This elective explores the possibilities of multimedia platforms to investigate dimensions of design, production and critique. Students will be immersed within the visual literacies to create multimedia projects. Ideal for those students interested in all elements of media.

Full STEAM Ahead (Semester 2 – Years 8/9)

This is an integrated subject between the disciplines of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. Students will engage in a range of practical investigations within the field. Spaghetti-bridge building and load-testing of constructed projects form the first part of the elective and then students examine the implications of building environmentally-friendly and efficient housing.



