



NEWMAN
CATHOLIC COLLEGE

SMITHFIELD

SUBJECT SELECTION HANDBOOK

YEAR 7 - 9 | 2026

Cor Ad Cor Loquitur

A black and white portrait of St. John Henry Newman, an elderly man with white hair, wearing a clerical collar and a dark jacket. He is shown in profile, looking to the right, with his hand resting near his ear. The background is a solid, dark grey.

“

*A great memory does not make a mind,
any more than a dictionary is a piece of
literature.*

- St John Henry Newman

ABOUT US

INTRODUCTION TO NEWMAN CATHOLIC COLLEGE

OUR VISION

Newman Catholic College is a welcoming and inclusive community and has at its heart an Encounter with the Gospel and a clear Catholic Identity.

Here we:

- Give daily witness to the presence of Christ amongst us,
- Inspire and support others to seek the Truth,
- Support innovative thinkers to teach and learn together.

Together with James Cook University we believe in the power of education to develop people to lead lives of purpose and meaning.

If “we love one another, God remains in us” (1Jn4:12) ... so ... “let all that we do be done in love” (1Cor16:14)

OUR MISSION

As fully participating members of our Catholic College Community we will:

- Give witness to the presence of Christ amongst us.
- Be open to a personal encounter with Christ.
- Engage in prayer and worship to experience the sacred mystery of God’s presence.
- Appreciate the centrality of the Eucharist to our Catholic story.
- Celebrate the First Nations peoples who continue to enrich our Newman Catholic College story.



- Celebrate and educate the whole person, acknowledging gifts and talents, rights and responsibilities, and culture.
- Strive to remain exemplary, relevant, contemporary, adaptable, future focused and agile enough to respond to future change.
- Share and seek the truth of Christ’s message passionately.
- Value positive relationships including all members of family, parish, and community.
- Teach all to see the beauty and the goodness of creation and of humanity, which always retains the imprint of the Creator.
- Acknowledge and promote the wellbeing of all within the community.
- Embrace our responsibility to serve others.
- Foster meaningful and respectful relationships with the James Cook University community and the wider Smithfield and Cairns communities.

PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the next phase of your learning journey. The staff at Newman Catholic College wish you every success in the courses you choose. Choose wisely, taking into consideration the things you enjoy studying and where your talents lie. This is the best formula for success. There are aspects of your timetable that are compulsory, but electives are an opportunity to excel in the areas of your choice.

When students come to our College, we make a commitment to provide them with the opportunities and support to achieve not only excellent academic progress, but also fundamental life skills such as effective listening, creativity and problem solving. The attitude and atmosphere of our College is one which always strives to achieve quality learning and never settles for anything less. As our students take up their leadership roles, seats in our classroom, or when they are honing their skills in the sporting fields and/or the performing arts stages, it is exactly this attitude that we aim to inspire in all our students with everything that they do.

I sincerely thank parents as their child's first educator, for starting this foundation work with their children. We intend to further develop these characteristics, and attitudes that help young learners to manage their time, get along with others, think critically, problem solve, and behave in an ethical manner. These essential abilities are known as transferable skills (Appleby, 2001), they can be developed in one environment and then transferred to future environments (eg. college, university, and the workplace) providing a platform for future success.

Following on from this, it is our aim to develop in our students a lifelong passion for learning and a genuine interest in their environment and the people around them. At Newman this will be done through a curriculum that is forward thinking, innovative, digital and design focused. It is strategic in its intent. We wish all students success. Enjoy the amazing subject selection that comes to you as a gift from our dedicated and talented staff in this handbook.



Dr Lauretta Graham
Principal



DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

Dear Students and Families

I would like to extend a warm welcome to all the new families who are joining the Newman Catholic College community in 2026. As a new College, we are building the foundation and shaping our way and it's exciting to now have a Year 10 cohort. This handbook contains information about the electives that we will be offering your child in 2026. In addition to the electives offered, all students complete a core program that includes Maths, English, Science, History, HPE and Religious Education.

You may note that we offer a variety of electives that are a little bit different from traditional subject areas. I would like to thank the amazing staff at Newman for taking the time to build the unique resources, partnerships and activities from scratch whilst navigating the Australian Curriculum and other legislative or regulatory demands that add significant complexities to offering these types of subjects.

In Years 7 and 8, students have the opportunity to explore a broad range of subjects before focusing on more specific areas. Please review the information in this handbook carefully noting the elective rules and key dates regarding the selection process. In Year 9, students have greater flexibility in choosing their electives, with minimal restrictions, allowing them to explore any available subject. However, these choices become important as Year 9 and 10 subjects often influence the selection for Years 11 and 12.

Learner mentors play a key role in supporting and tracking student progress and interests throughout their elective programs. They are well equipped to provide guidance on subject selections, ensuring that students are making informed choices based on their performance and aspirations. For more detailed career counselling advice, please feel free to contact me directly.

Thank you again for all your support with subject selections and for any enquiries or feedback regarding subjects and the subject selection process, please do not hesitate to contact me at ncc.dpacademicstudies@cns.catholic.edu.au



Mr Wilbur Donovan
Deputy Principal





ELECTIVE RULES

SELECTION RULES

This section outlines the selection rules for choosing electives, which are essential for compliance with federal legislation. The symbols in the handbook help students identify subjects in the Arts and Technologies categories.



When you see this **Arts** symbol in the handbook, it indicates that the subject belongs to the Arts category, such as Music Performance, Visual Arts, and Dance.



When you see this **Tech** symbol in the handbook, it indicates that the subject belongs to the Technologies category, such as Food Technologies and Engineering Materials.



When you see this **Arts/Tech** symbol in the handbook, it indicates that the subject belongs to both the Arts & Technologies, such as Interactive Multimedia Development.

YEAR 7

- 1 Across Terms 1, 2, 3, and 4, students must select at least **three subjects** from both the Arts and Technologies.
- 2 All students are required to study at least one Semester (two Terms) of a Language, choosing from Italian, French, Japanese, or Chinese. This Language study must be completed either in Terms 1 and 2 or in Terms 3 and 4.
- 3 Students are required to select Compulsory Music for one term, but they will continue learning and playing their allocated instrument for the entire semester. This will be counted as one Arts subject.

YEAR 8

- 1 Across Semester 1 and 2, students must select at least **two subjects** from both the Arts and Technologies.

YEAR 9

- 1 In Year 9, there are no elective rules, allowing you to choose any subjects you wish to study.

Please ensure that all elective rules are adhered to when making any selections



SUBJECT CHOICES

Please select one subject from each line for each term for Year 7, in accordance with elective rules.

YEAR 7 | T1

Line A

- Aerospace
- Food Technologies
- Web Design & Development
- Compulsory Music
- Visual Arts
- Japanese
- Italian
- Health Science
- Creative Writing

Line B

- Fashion
- Robotics
- Compulsory Music
- Drama
- Media Arts
- Chinese
- French
- Legal Studies
- Outdoor Education

Line C

- Engineering Materials
- 3D Printing & Manufacturing
- STEM Excellence
- Interactive Multimedia Development
- Music Performance
- Dance
- Marine Science
- Financial Mathematics
- Outdoor Education

YEAR 7 | T2

Line A

- Aerospace
- Fashion
- Robotics
- Compulsory Music
- Visual Arts
- Japanese
- Italian
- Health Science
- Creative Writing

Line B

- Food Technologies
- Web Design & Development
- Compulsory Music
- Drama
- Media Arts
- Chinese
- French
- Legal Studies
- Outdoor Education

Line C

- Engineering Materials
- 3D Printing & Manufacturing
- STEM Excellence
- Interactive Multimedia Development
- Music Performance
- Dance
- Marine Science
- Financial Maths
- Outdoor Education

YEAR 7 | T3

Line A

- Aerospace
- Food Technologies
- Web Design & Development
- Compulsory Music
- Visual Arts
- Japanese
- Italian
- Health Science
- Creative Writing

Line B

- Fashion
- Robotics
- Compulsory Music
- Drama
- Media Arts
- Chinese
- French
- Legal Studies
- Intro to Outdoor Education

Line C

- Engineering Materials
- 3D Printing & Manufacturing
- STEM Excellence
- Interactive Multimedia Development
- Music Performance
- Dance
- Marine Science
- Financial Mathematics
- Outdoor Ed | Mountain Bliking (Beginner)

YEAR 7 | T4

Line A

- Aerospace
- Fashion
- Robotics
- Compulsory Music
- Visual Arts
- Japanese
- Italian
- Health Science
- Creative Writing

Line B

- Food Technologies
- Web Design & Development
- Compulsory Music
- Drama
- Media Arts
- Chinese
- French
- Legal Studies
- Intro to Outdoor Education

Line C

- Engineering Materials
- 3D Printing & Manufacturing
- STEM Excellence
- Interactive Multimedia Development
- Music Performance
- Dance
- Marine Science
- Financial Mathematics
- Outdoor Ed | Mountain Bliking (Intermediate)

SUBJECT CHOICES

Please select one subject from each line for each Semester for Years 8 & 9

Choose one subject from each of the following lines, in accordance with the elective rules

YEAR 8

Line A

- 3D Printing & Manufacturing
- STEM Excellence
- Web Design & Development
- Visual Arts
- Music Performance
- Japanese
- Italian
- Financial Mathematics
- Geography

Line B

- Engineering Materials
- Aerospace
- Food Technologies
- Interactive Multimedia Development
- Dance
- Music Industry Skills
- Marine Science
- Creative Writing
- Outdoor Education

Line C

- Food Technologies
- Robotics
- Fashion
- Drama
- Media Arts
- Chinese
- French
- Health Science
- Legal Studies

YEAR 9

Line A

- Aerospace
- Fashion
- Interactive Multimedia Development
- Dance
- Music Industry Skills
- Earth & Environmental Science
- Economics & Business
- Legal Studies
- Sports Excellence

Line B

- Engineering Materials
- Web Design & Development
- Food Technologies
- Drama
- Visual Arts
- Japanese
- Italian
- Geography
- Health Science
- Outdoor Education

Line C

- STEM Excellence
- 3D Printing & Manufacturing
- Robotics
- Media Arts
- Music Performance
- French
- Marine Science
- Financial Mathematics
- Sports Excellence




THE PROCESS

TIMEFRAMES AND SELECTION ROUNDS

PRESELECTION	10 November 2025: Subject selection handbook sent out to families
	17 November 2025: Login details sent to students & families
SELECTION ROUND 1	21 November 2025: Selection round 1 opens at 6.00pm
	25 November 2025: Selection round 1 closes at 6.00pm
	26 November 2025: Subjects with the least selections are cut
SELECTION ROUND 2	28 November 2025: Selection round 2 opens at 6.00pm
	02 December 2025: Selection round 2 closes at 6.00pm
	02 December 2025: Students without selections are allocated

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AEROSPACE

Elective offered in Year 7, 8 & 9



WHY STUDY AEROSPACE?

The Aerospace elective introduces students to the Aerospace Industry, covering the fundamentals of aeronautics, operations, and safety management. Using systems thinking and problem-solving approaches, students learn to analyse complex systems and tackle real-world aerospace challenges. The subject builds key skills such as creative problem solving, decision making, and teamwork, while also focusing on the long-term impact of technological solutions. By fostering adaptability and essential 21st-century skills, this course prepares students for further study and careers in Aerospace and related fields.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

This elective covers the fundamentals of Aerospace, including principles of flight and aerodynamics, as well as the history and advancements of the Aerospace Industry. Students gain insights into aircraft maintenance, navigation, air traffic control, and the roles of Aerospace professionals. Systems thinking is used to analyse Aerospace components and identify patterns, while problem-solving skills are applied to real-world challenges through practical projects.

Critical and creative thinking are also developed as students evaluate Aerospace technologies and propose innovative solutions. This course provides a strong foundation for future studies and careers in the Aerospace field.

COURSE OVERVIEW:

CURRICULUM TOPICS		ACADEMIC PERIOD
Year 7	Aviation Fundamentals	<i>The Year 7 Elective is run on a Term-by-Term basis</i>
Year 8	Aviation Operations	<i>The Year 8 Elective is run on a Semester basis</i>
Year 9	Aerodynamics	<i>The Year 9 Elective is run on a Semester basis</i>

HOMEWORK AND STUDY EXPECTATIONS:

This elective is mainly practical but includes some theory. Most work is done in class, with unfinished tasks completed as homework. Hands-on learning is emphasised and supported by relevant theoretical concepts.

LINKS TO SENIOR YEARS

Year 11 & 12: QCAA General Aerospace VET Cert III in Aviation (Remote Pilot).

ADDITIONAL COST PER STUDENT: NIL



CHINESE

Elective offered in Year 7 & 8

WHY STUDY CHINESE?

Choosing Chinese offers students the chance to learn one of the world's oldest and most spoken languages. Following the Australian Curriculum, students develop essential skills in Mandarin—speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Alongside language learning, they explore Chinese culture, history, and customs, gaining valuable global perspectives. The subject provides a structured progression, building a strong language foundation and cultural awareness. Mastering Chinese opens future opportunities in fields like international business, diplomacy, and tourism, making it a strategic choice for students in today's interconnected world.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Chinese provides a structured progression in both language and cultural understanding. Students initially focus on basic Mandarin pronunciation, simple greetings, self-introductions, and foundational Chinese characters. They also explore cultural aspects like traditional festivals. They will then learn to expand their skills by describing daily activities, asking questions about family and preferences, and learning more Chinese characters. Cultural topics such as cuisine and holidays are also explored. In future years, students will engage in more complex tasks, such as discussing future plans, expressing opinions, and describing school life, leading to a project that combines language skills with cultural knowledge.

COURSE OVERVIEW:

	CURRICULUM TOPICS	ACADEMIC PERIOD
Year 7	Greetings & self-introductions Foundational Chinese characters	<i>The Year 7 Elective is run on a Semester basis</i>
Year 8	Family, preferences & daily activities	<i>The Year 8 Elective is run on a Yearly basis</i>

HOMEWORK AND STUDY EXPECTATIONS:

Students are required to revise the lesson content after each lesson and are encouraged to extend their readings in their own time. Homework will be given when necessary.

LINKS TO SENIOR YEARS

General Subject - Chinese

VET Subject - Certificate II & III in Applied Language (Chinese)

ADDITIONAL COST PER STUDENT: NIL





COMPULSORY MUSIC

Elective offered in Year 7 Only



WHY STUDY COMPULSORY MUSIC?

Music as an art form offers a powerful means of creative and emotional expression. Learning to play a musical instrument enhances memory and cognition (Romeiser et al., 2021) and develops traits such as conscientiousness, openness, and ambition (Hille & Schuppe, 2015). It improves fluid intelligence and fine motor skills in children with special needs (Rose et al., 2018), as well as reading and comprehension skills (Piro & Ortiz, 2009), and boosts speech perception and aural ability (MacCutcheon et al., 2020). Additionally, the skills of creativity, discipline, logic, problem-solving, and communication are cultivated through instrument learning.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

The Compulsory Music Elective in Year 7 provides students with a comprehensive musical education over a single semester. Each student will be allocated an instrument to learn, choosing from string, woodwind, brass, or orchestral percussion.

The program encompasses performance, composition, and musicology, enabling students to express themselves through singing, playing, recording, and notating music. This performance-oriented course will expose students to a variety of repertoire suitable for their instrument, ensuring a well-rounded and enriching musical experience.

COURSE OVERVIEW:

CURRICULUM TOPICS		ACADEMIC PERIOD
Year 7	Introduction to learning your allocated instrument	<i>The Year 7 Elective is studied for one term, but students will learn and play their allocated instrument for the entire Semester</i>
	Performance in an Arts Evening (Term 2 or 4)	
	Writing a Music Composition	

HOMEWORK AND STUDY EXPECTATIONS:

This elective is designed to be an equal mix of practical & theoretical components. Students are assigned homework related to their ongoing classwork and assessments.

LINKS TO SENIOR YEARS

Music aligns with QCAA Year 11 & 12 General Music ATAR subject.

ADDITIONAL COST PER STUDENT: *Possible incidental costs may apply depending on instrument allocation.*



CREATIVE WRITING

Elective offered in Year 7 & 8

WHY STUDY CREATIVE WRITING?

In choosing to study Creative Writing, students will enhance their imaginative landscapes by exploring various modes of fiction, non-fiction, and hybrid storytelling. As narratives evolve rapidly, they will study different genres and mediums in oral, written, and visual formats, fostering empathy and understanding while creating their own unique worlds. This includes short stories, poetry, film, and various non-fiction text types. The elective will deepen students' understanding of how language shapes meaning and evokes emotional responses. Creative writing develops literacy skills such as narrative structure, syntax awareness, vocabulary use, and effective figurative devices. Overall, Creative Writing encourages artistic expression, reflection, and opportunities to showcase student work to peers and the broader College community.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Students engage with a variety of texts for enjoyment. They listen to, read, view, interpret, evaluate and perform a range of spoken, written and multimodal texts in which the primary purpose is aesthetic, as well as texts designed to inform and persuade. These texts include media sources such as newspapers, magazines, and digital content, as well as early adolescent novels, non-fiction, poetry, and dramatic performances.

Students learn how texts, including media, are influenced by context, purpose, and audience. They create written and multimodal texts for various purposes, expressing and expanding ideas with evidence while using structured formats to organise and link their thoughts. Additionally, they employ language features, including literary devices and multimodal elements, to enhance their writing.

COURSE OVERVIEW:

	CURRICULUM TOPICS	ACADEMIC PERIOD
Year 7	Who Am I Unit Students engage with a variety of biographical and autobiographical texts	<i>The Year 7 Elective is run on a Term-by-Term basis</i>
Year 8	Murder Mystery Unit <i>The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time</i> by Mark Haddon <i>Enola Holmes</i> by Harry Bradbeer	<i>The Year 8 Elective is run on a Semester basis</i>

HOMEWORK AND STUDY EXPECTATIONS:

This elective is designed to be an equal mix of practical & theoretical components. Students are assigned homework related to their ongoing classwork and assessments.

LINKS TO SENIOR YEARS

By choosing Creative Writing, students continue to develop their writing skills for Senior English.

ADDITIONAL COST PER STUDENT: NIL



DANCE

Elective offered in Year 7, 8 & 9



WHY STUDY DANCE?

Dance at Newman Catholic College is a wonderful opportunity for all students, regardless of their prior dance experience, to participate in a fun, inclusive, and challenging physical activity. It aims to promote a sense of self-worth, foster confidence, and provide a positive environment for students to engage in physical fitness, creative expression, critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Students will employ technical and expressive skills to enhance communication of ideas, perspectives and/or meaning when performing dance for audiences; specifically through the styles of Musical Theatre, Ballet and Contemporary Dance. Choreography assessment will require students to select and manipulate the elements of dance, choreographic devices and/or structure to communicate a choreographic intention or viewpoint.

Project based learning will play a huge role in students creative process, along with the use of technology such as dance for film. Students should expect to submit a range of theoretical tasks such as extended analytical essays and exams. When responding to Dance, students will analyse and evaluate the elements of dance, choreographic devices, genre or style-specific techniques, production elements, and/or technical and expressive skills in response to a focus question.



COURSE OVERVIEW:

CURRICULUM TOPICS		ACADEMIC PERIOD
Year 7	Musical Theatre montage of dance scenes	<i>The Year 7 Elective is available on a Term-by-Term basis. Students can choose to select it more than once, opting for it each term throughout the year if they wish</i>
Year 8	Contemporary Dance analysis of danceworks and performance of stylistic features	<i>The Year 8 Elective is run on a Semester basis. Students can choose to select it more than once, allowing them to take it for the entire year if they wish</i>
Year 9	An introduction to Hip Hop including top rocks and freezes	<i>The Year 9 Elective is run on a Semester basis. Students can choose to select it more than once, allowing them to take it for the entire year if they wish</i>

HOMEWORK AND STUDY EXPECTATIONS:

This elective is designed to be an equal mix of practical & theoretical components. Students are assigned homework related to their ongoing classwork and assessments.

LINKS TO SENIOR YEARS

Aligns with QCAA Year 11 & 12 General Dance ATAR subject.

ADDITIONAL COST PER STUDENT: *Additional costs may include uniform, costumes, shoes, performance/excursion fees, workshops,*

DRAMA

Elective offered in Year 7, 8 & 9



WHY STUDY DRAMA?

Studying Drama offers a multitude of benefits by fostering personal development, self-expression, confidence, and empathy. Drama enhances communication skills, both verbal and non-verbal, and encourages creativity and imaginative thinking. Students develop emotional intelligence and critical thinking as they analyse scripts, characters, and performances. Cultural awareness is expanded through exploring diverse theatrical traditions.

Drama also cultivates performance skills such as voice projection, physical expression, and collaboration. It empowers students to express themselves and tell meaningful stories while nurturing teamwork and respect for others. Regardless of future career paths, drama education provides valuable tools for personal growth, communication, creativity, and critical thinking that are applicable in various contexts.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Students foster a sense of inquiry and empathy by exploring the diversity of Drama across various cultures and historical contexts. They combine elements of devised and scripted drama to investigate and develop issues, ideas, and themes, while also creating roles and characters that reflect the situation, dramatic forms, and performance styles to express status, relationships, and intentions.



COURSE OVERVIEW:

CURRICULUM TOPICS		ACADEMIC PERIOD
Year 7	Elements of drama, emphasising performance, creativity	<i>The Year 7 Elective is available on a Term-by-Term basis. Students can choose to select it more than once, opting for it each term throughout the year if they wish</i>
	Collaboration through practical activities	
Year 8	Elements, staging, set and costume design, script writing, & performance, Exploring the history of Drama	<i>The Year 8 Elective is run on a Semester basis. Students can choose to select it more than once, allowing them to take it for the entire year if they wish</i>
Year 9	Musical Theatre, emphasising acting, voice, and movement Explores Shakespearean comedies, with a focus on performance techniques and interpretation	<i>The Year 9 Elective is run on a Semester basis. Students can choose to select it more than once, allowing them to take it for the entire year if they wish</i>

HOMEWORK AND STUDY EXPECTATIONS:

This elective is predominately a practical subject. Students are assigned homework related to their ongoing classwork and assessments.

LINKS TO SENIOR YEARS

Aligns with QCAA Year 11 & 12 General Drama ATAR subject

ADDITIONAL COST PER STUDENT: *Additional costs may include costumes, CPAC performance/excursion fees, workshops,*

A group of students in red and yellow shirts and hats are standing in a forest. One student in a yellow shirt is giving a thumbs up.

EARTH & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Elective offered in Year 9 only

WHY STUDY EARTH & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE?

Choosing Earth & Environmental Science as an elective offers students a unique opportunity to explore the intricate systems that sustain our planet. This course provides essential knowledge about the Earth's processes, environmental challenges, and sustainable practices while also fostering critical thinking skills. By studying topics such as climate change, natural hazards, mineral resource management, and ecosystem dynamics, students enhance their scientific literacy, equipping them to effectively address real-world issues.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Students will explore the carbon cycle, focusing on processes like combustion, photosynthesis, and respiration and their interactions with Earth's geosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere, and atmosphere. They will investigate the greenhouse effect, the role of carbon dioxide in supporting life, and conduct field investigations to evaluate carbon sequestration in ecosystems by measuring tree biomass and soil depth.

The course will also cover how First Nations Australians reduce greenhouse gas emissions through traditional fire management practices. Students will study tectonic activity, the formation of geological features at plate boundaries, and the evidence supporting plate tectonics, assessing the impact of tectonic events on human populations and related engineering solutions. Additionally, they will connect the stability of the Australian continent to its tectonic history.

COURSE OVERVIEW:

CURRICULUM TOPICS		ACADEMIC PERIOD
Year 9	Climate change & natural disasters	<i>The Year 9 Elective is run on a Semester basis</i>
	Exploring the geological history of the local area	
	Introduction to mineralogy and geomorphology	

HOMEWORK AND STUDY EXPECTATIONS:

This elective is predominately a theoretical subject. Students are assigned homework related to their ongoing classwork and assessments.

LINKS TO SENIOR YEARS

Year 10 Earth & Environmental Science
ATAR Chemistry, ATAR Physics, ATAR Biology, ATAR Earth & Environmental Science.

ADDITIONAL COST PER STUDENT: NIL





ECONOMICS & BUSINESS

Elective offered in Year 9 only

WHY STUDY ECONOMICS & BUSINESS?

Economics & Business elective focuses on understanding economic decision-making and global markets. It aims to deepen students' understanding of the role of Australia's financial sector, the interdependence of participants in the global market, trade reasons and patterns with Asia, competitive advantage in business, and the management of consumer and financial risks.

This is a progression from the Business unit studied in the Year 8 Legal Studies elective and is more comprehensive, leading towards senior Economics & Business studies.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Students will explore the pivotal role of Australia's financial sector and its impact on economic decisions for individuals, businesses, and global markets. They will understand the interdependence of consumers, businesses, the financial sector, and government in economic decision-making while uncovering the motives behind Australia's international trade, especially its patterns with Asia.

The course will highlight strategies businesses use to maintain a competitive advantage and the important role of entrepreneurs. Participants will learn to manage consumer and financial risks effectively, investigate contemporary economic and business issues, analyse data, interpret information, predict impacts, make informed decisions using cost-benefit analysis, and articulate arguments based on economic concepts and research findings.

COURSE OVERVIEW:

CURRICULUM TOPICS		ACADEMIC PERIOD
Year 9	Managing Financial Risks, Rewards & International Trade & Interdependence	<i>The Year 9 Elective is run on a Semester basis</i>

HOMEWORK AND STUDY EXPECTATIONS:

This elective is designed to be an equal mix of practical & theoretical components. Students are assigned homework related to their ongoing classwork and assessments.

LINKS TO SENIOR YEARS

Year 10 Economics & Business

Studying Economics & Business provides a solid pathway into studying Accounting, Business, Economics and Tourism in the senior years.

ADDITIONAL COST PER STUDENT: NIL





ENGINEERING MATERIALS

Elective offered in Year 7, 8 & 9



WHY STUDY ENGINEERING MATERIALS?

Studying Engineering Materials offers several compelling benefits for students. Firstly, it fosters critical thinking and problem-solving skills, encouraging analytical thinking, creative solutions, and logical reasoning. Secondly, it provides hands-on experience in designing and constructing objects, enhancing practical skills and spatial awareness.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

By working with materials, students gain a deeper understanding of their properties, applications, and environmental impact. This knowledge equips them to make informed choices about sustainable practices and materials selection in future projects. Overall, studying Engineering Materials empowers students with valuable skills, practical knowledge, and a solid foundation for future academic and professional pursuits in their educational journeys.



COURSE OVERVIEW:

	CURRICULUM TOPICS	ACADEMIC PERIOD
Year 7	Engineering Principles	<i>The Year 7 Elective is run on a Term-by-Term basis</i>
Year 8	Material Crafting	<i>The Year 8 Elective is run on a Semester basis</i>
Year 9	Timber Crafting	<i>The Year 9 Elective is run on a Semester basis</i>

HOMEWORK AND STUDY EXPECTATIONS:

This elective is predominately a practical subject. Students are assigned homework related to their ongoing classwork and assessments.

LINKS TO SENIOR YEARS

Studying Engineering Materials helps students develop a strong foundation and passion for senior subjects such as Engineering, Aerospace, and Design. The core skills acquired include critical thinking, problem-solving, creativity, spatial awareness, teamwork, and practical skills.

ADDITIONAL COST PER STUDENT: *NIL*

FASHION

Elective offered in Year 7, 8 & 9



WHY STUDY FASHION?

Studying Fashion offers numerous benefits for students. Firstly, it nurtures creativity and self-expression, allowing them to explore their artistic abilities and develop unique design skills. Through hands-on activities like sewing, patternmaking, and fabric manipulation, students enhance their problem-solving and critical thinking abilities. Fashion also fosters practical skills such as sewing techniques and garment construction, enabling students to create functional and wearable items.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Studying Textiles promotes an understanding of sustainable practices, encouraging students to consider the environmental impact of their choices in the fashion industry. Additionally, it cultivates an appreciation for cultural diversity, as students explore the rich history and traditions of textile art from various cultures worldwide.



COURSE OVERVIEW:

CURRICULUM TOPICS		ACADEMIC PERIOD
Year 7	Sustainable Textiles	<i>The Year 7 Elective is run on a Term-by-Term basis</i>
Year 8	Textile Design	<i>The Year 8 Elective is run on a Semester basis</i>
Year 9	Sustainable Fashion	<i>The Year 9 Elective is run on a Semester basis</i>

HOMEWORK AND STUDY EXPECTATIONS:

This elective is predominately a practical subject. Students are assigned homework related to their ongoing classwork and assessments.

LINKS TO SENIOR YEARS

Studying Fashion provides a strong foundation for students aiming to advance to senior courses. This knowledge will contribute to more complex projects that incorporate CNC machines, such as laser cutters and 3D printers, in senior studies.

ADDITIONAL COST PER STUDENT: NIL

FINANCIAL MATHEMATICS

Elective offered in Year 7, 8 & 9

WHY STUDY FINANCIAL MATHEMATICS?

Financial Mathematics has a significant role in developing consumer and financial literacy in young people. Mathematics is the foundation of the financial world. Financial Mathematics focuses on applying mathematical formulas and equations to financial problems, market modelling and data analysis. With this strategy, financial professionals can better understand business performance, including profitability and growth potential.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Financial Mathematics entails the assessing and interpretation of various mathematical terms such as graphs, tables, charts, calculations, problem-solving and many more. Industries are also looking for capable and efficient employees who can invest their efforts as well as their skills to make their business successful. Finance is the most imperative part of a business, wanting perfection and efficiency to manage budgets, investments, employee salaries and other products.



COURSE OVERVIEW:

	CURRICULUM TOPICS	ACADEMIC PERIOD
Year 7	Consumer Arithmetic - Money Smart	<i>The Year 7 Elective is run on a Term-by-Term basis</i>
Year 8	Consumer Arithmetic - Earning and Spending	<i>The Year 8 Elective is run on a Semester basis</i>
Year 9	Consumer Arithmetic - Personal Finance	<i>The Year 9 Elective is run on a Semester basis</i>

HOMEWORK AND STUDY EXPECTATIONS:

This elective is predominately a theoretical subject. Students are assigned homework related to their ongoing classwork and assessments.

LINKS TO SENIOR YEARS

As an enrichment subject, Financial Mathematics engages students in applying mathematical knowledge and skills to real-world scenarios. Although it doesn't directly lead to a senior course, the skills and numerical processes developed are beneficial for all levels of senior mathematics.

ADDITIONAL COST PER STUDENT: NIL

FOOD TECHNOLOGIES

Elective offered in Year 7, 8 & 9



WHY STUDY FOOD TECHNOLOGIES?

Food Technologies equips students with essential life skills in food and nutrition, promoting healthier choices in a health-conscious world. It covers balanced diets, food safety, and sustainable practices while fostering creativity through experimentation with flavours and presentation. Students also gain practical skills like meal planning and cooking, encouraging self-reliance. Additionally, it can spark interest in culinary arts and open career paths in the food industry, nutrition, and entrepreneurship, offering a well-rounded education that supports healthy living, creativity, and future opportunities.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

In Food Technologies, you will explore creativity and innovation through experimenting with flavours, textures, and presentation techniques. You will also develop practical skills like meal planning, food preparation, and cooking techniques, empowering you to become more self-reliant in the kitchen. Additionally, studying Food Technologies can spark a passion for culinary arts and open doors to diverse career opportunities in the food industry, catering, nutrition, or entrepreneurship. Overall, this course offers a comprehensive education that promotes healthy living, practical skills, and creativity.



COURSE OVERVIEW:

	CURRICULUM TOPICS	ACADEMIC PERIOD
Year 7	Cooking Basics	<i>The Year 7 Elective is run on a Term-by-Term basis</i>
Year 8	Ethical Cooking	<i>The Year 8 Elective is run on a Semester basis</i>
Year 9	Innovative Cooking	<i>The Year 9 Elective is run on a Semester basis</i>

HOMEWORK AND STUDY EXPECTATIONS:

This elective is predominately a practical subject. Students are assigned homework related to their ongoing classwork and assessments.

LINKS TO SENIOR YEARS

Food Technologies also helps students develop essential practical skills, such as time management, teamwork, problem-solving, and effective communication, which are transferable to senior Food Technology and beyond.

ADDITIONAL COST PER STUDENT: NIL

FRENCH

Elective offered in Year 7, 8 & 9

WHY STUDY FRENCH?

French offers students the chance to engage with one of the world's most spoken and culturally rich languages. Following the Australian Curriculum, students develop key communication skills in speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Learning French also deepens their appreciation of French culture, history, and global impact. The subject provides a structured progression, building a strong foundation in language while promoting cultural awareness and intercultural competence. Mastering French opens future opportunities in international relations, travel, the arts, and global business, making it a valuable and strategic choice in today's multicultural world.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

French language learning builds on prior knowledge and experiences. Students use French to initiate and sustain interactions, sharing their own and others' experiences of the world. They listen, speak, read, and write to communicate with French speakers in local and global contexts through authentic and online events. With support from peers and teachers, students use a variety of resources, including textbooks, audio, video clips, and social media, to create and interpret texts. They also recognise diverse influences on communication and cultural identity, shaping their own behaviours, values, and beliefs.

COURSE OVERVIEW:

CURRICULUM TOPICS		ACADEMIC PERIOD
Year 7	Pronunciation, greetings, & conversational phrases, introducing yourself and your family	<i>The Year 7 Elective is run on a Semester basis</i>
Year 8	School, travelling, food, your home and hobbies	<i>The Year 8 Elective is run on a Yearly basis</i>
Year 9	Friends, family, going out in France, work and holiday	<i>The Year 9 Elective is run on a Yearly basis</i>

HOMEWORK AND STUDY EXPECTATIONS:

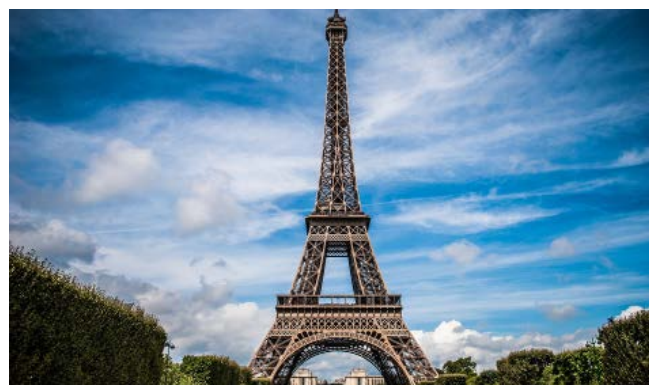
Students are required to revise the lesson content after each lesson and are encouraged to extend their readings in their own time. Homework will be given when necessary.

LINKS TO SENIOR YEARS

General Subject - French

VET Subject - Certificate II & III in Applied Language (French)

ADDITIONAL COST PER STUDENT: NIL



GEOGRAPHY

Elective offered in Year 8 & 9

WHY STUDY GEOGRAPHY?

The Geography elective focuses on exploring the complex interactions between people, places, and environments. This unit aims to develop students' understanding of how human activities and environmental processes influence and shape various locations across the globe. Through a mix of theoretical knowledge and practical application, students will investigate the effects of activities such as urbanisation, agriculture, and industrialisation on natural environments, as well as how environmental conditions impact human behaviour. Students will also learn about the distribution of different biomes, examining factors like climate, geography, and human impact, while discussing the implications for ecosystems and biodiversity. This exploration encourages students to critically analyse geographical issues and recognise the interconnectedness of human and environmental systems, ultimately fostering greater awareness of the importance of sustainable practices in preserving our planet for future generations.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Students explore diverse biomes, their climates, soils, vegetation, and productivity patterns. They investigate human impacts on biomes, focusing on agriculture in Australia and an Asian country, while addressing sustainability challenges. The role of transportation and technology in connecting people, places, and services is examined, along with the environmental impacts. Students also study global trade, the effects of production on places, and strategies for sustainability. Through inquiry, they gather and evaluate data, make predictions, and recommend strategies using geospatial tools, developing strong communication and analytical skills.

COURSE OVERVIEW:

	CURRICULUM TOPICS	ACADEMIC PERIOD
Year 8	Urbanisation Landforms & Landscapes	<i>The Year 8 Elective is run on a Semester basis</i>
Year 9	Biomes & Food Security Geographies of Interconnection	<i>The Year 9 Elective is run on a Semester basis</i>

HOMEWORK AND STUDY EXPECTATIONS:

This elective is predominately a theoretical subject. Students are assigned homework related to their ongoing classwork and assessments.

LINKS TO SENIOR YEARS

This subject articulates directly into the senior subject of Geography.

ADDITIONAL COST PER STUDENT: NIL





HEALTH SCIENCE

Elective offered in Year 7, 8 & 9

WHY STUDY HEALTH SCIENCE?

Exploring the realms of Health Sciences opens up a world of captivating discoveries and opportunities. It's within this field that some of humanity's most crucial breakthroughs have taken place, from the germ theory of disease to state of the art gene therapies. By studying Health Science, students can gain strong foundational knowledge and skills within multiple healthcare fields.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Through this elective, students will develop practical skills, improve their literacy, and delve into various scientific and medical fields like Medicine, Veterinary Science, Medical Laboratory Science, and Sports/Exercise Science. This exposure not only broadens their understanding but also enhances their technical literacy across multiple domains.

With the acquired knowledge, students can unravel the intricate mechanisms of life, investigate diseases, and explore potential solutions for improved health. Studying Health Science at this stage sets the stage for future scientific endeavours and opens doors to potential careers in healthcare and research.



COURSE OVERVIEW:

	CURRICULUM TOPICS	ACADEMIC PERIOD
Year 7	Basics of Cellular Biology Introduction to Anatomy & Physiology Microscopy and Dissection Practices	<i>The Year 7 Elective is run on a Term-by-Term basis</i>
Year 8	Cellular Biology, Macromolecules, & Biochemistry Anatomy, Physiology, & Laboratory Measurements in Healthcare Viruses, Pathogenic Diseases, & Local Healthcare Systems	<i>The Year 8 Elective is run on a Semester basis</i>
Year 9	Cellular Biology, Macromolecules, & Genetics History of Medical Science & Healthcare Systems Communicable & Non-communicable Diseases in North Queensland	<i>The Year 9 Elective is run on a Semester basis</i>

HOMEWORK AND STUDY EXPECTATIONS:

This elective is designed to be an equal mix of practical & theoretical components. Students are assigned homework related to their ongoing classwork and assessments.

LINKS TO SENIOR YEARS

Senior Biology and Health.

ADDITIONAL COST PER STUDENT: NIL

INTERACTIVE MULTIMEDIA DEV

Elective offered in Year 7, 8 & 9



WHY STUDY INTERACTIVE MULTIMEDIA DEVELOPMENT?

Digital systems like mobile devices, desktops, and networks are transforming learning, recreation, home life, and work, requiring skills like computational and systems thinking. Interactive Multimedia Development is a multi-disciplinary area within Digital Technologies, combining Computer Science, Media Arts, and Creative Industries to create dynamic products. Mastering multimedia development fosters creativity, collaboration, and informed decision-making. This subject leads to further studies in Computer Science, Media Arts, Animation, and Cybersecurity.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Through the context of interactive multimedia development, students will learn to define and break down real-world problems through design criteria and user stories. They'll implement, modify, and debug programs using control structures and functions in a general-purpose programming language. Students will also evaluate solutions against design criteria, user stories, and their potential future impact. Additionally, they'll efficiently use digital tools to share content online, plan, and manage both individual and collaborative projects. Lastly, students will design and structure media arts works to communicate ideas and perspectives for specific audiences.

This elective fosters creativity and problem-solving while teaching valuable technical skills. By focusing on both artistic and programming abilities, students are encouraged to develop a well-rounded skill set.

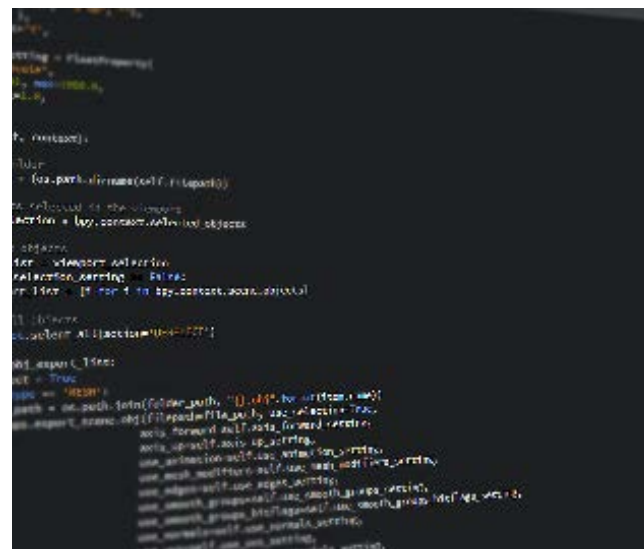
COURSE OVERVIEW:

	CURRICULUM TOPICS	ACADEMIC PERIOD
Year 7	Game Design	<i>The Year 7 Elective is run on a Term-by-Term basis</i>
Year 8	Unity Gaming	<i>The Year 8 Elective is run on a Semester basis</i>
Year 9	Prototyping and Design	<i>The Year 9 Elective is run on a Semester basis</i>

HOMEWORK AND STUDY EXPECTATIONS:

This elective is predominately a theoretical subject. Students are assigned homework related to their ongoing classwork and assessments.

ADDITIONAL COST PER STUDENT: NIL



ITALIAN

Elective offered in Year 7, 8 & 9

WHY STUDY ITALIAN?

Italian offers students a chance to engage with one of Europe's most influential languages and cultures. Aligned with the Australian Curriculum, the subject develops key communication skills in speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Learning Italian not only deepens understanding of Italy's rich heritage but also enhances cognitive abilities like problem-solving and memory. The structured progression ensures students build a strong foundation in language while developing cultural awareness. Mastering Italian opens doors to opportunities in international travel, business, the arts, and hospitality, making it a valuable addition to students' education.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Italian provides a structured progression in language and cultural understanding. Students focus on pronunciation, greetings, and simple conversational phrases, learning to introduce themselves and discuss family life. They also explore Italian culture, including daily life, cuisine, and holidays. Students will then expand their vocabulary, describing people, places, and activities, and begin writing short paragraphs. Cultural topics such as Italian art, music, and regional traditions are introduced. In future years, students will engage in more complex tasks, such as discussing future plans, expressing opinions, and describing school life, leading to a project that combines language skills with cultural knowledge.

COURSE OVERVIEW:

	CURRICULUM TOPICS	ACADEMIC PERIOD
Year 7	Self-introduction, family & pets	<i>The Year 7 Elective is run on a Semester basis</i>
Year 8	Describing people, places, & activities. Food, free time & travelling	<i>The Year 8 Elective is run on a Yearly basis</i>
Year 9	Routine activities, clothes & fashion	<i>The Year 9 Elective is run on a Yearly basis</i>

HOMEWORK AND STUDY EXPECTATIONS:

Students are required to revise the lesson content after each lesson and are encouraged to extend their readings in their own time. Homework will be given when necessary.

LINKS TO SENIOR YEARS

General Subject - Italian

VET Subject - Certificate II & III in Applied Language (Italian)

ADDITIONAL COST PER STUDENT: NIL



JAPANESE

Elective offered in Year 7, 8 & 9

WHY STUDY JAPANESE?

Japanese provides students with the chance to explore one of the world's most unique cultures and languages. Aligned with the Australian Curriculum, this subject develops essential skills in speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Students also delve into Japanese culture, from traditional arts to modern trends, fostering a deeper understanding of global perspectives. The structured progression from Year 7 to Year 9 builds a solid foundation in language while enhancing cultural awareness. Studying Japanese promotes critical thinking, creativity, and social skills, opening doors to future opportunities in international relations, business, tourism, and beyond.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Japanese provides a structured progression in language and cultural understanding. Students focus on basic pronunciation, greetings, self-introductions, and classroom commands while learning hiragana, katakana, and an introduction to kanji. They also explore Japanese social interactions and the significance of bowing. Students will then expand their skills, describing people, places, and preferences, and mastering all 47 hiragana and katakana characters along with common kanji. Cultural comparisons like important dates in Australia and Japan are covered. In future years, students will engage in more complex tasks, such as discussing future plans, expressing opinions, and describing school life, leading to a project that combines language skills with cultural knowledge.

COURSE OVERVIEW:

	CURRICULUM TOPICS	ACADEMIC PERIOD
Year 7	Greetings & self-introductions Families & friends	<i>The Year 7 Elective is run on a Semester basis</i>
Year 8	Dates, holidays & hobbies Daily activities & overseas trip planning	<i>The Year 8 Elective is run on a Yearly basis</i>
Year 9	Home, friends, routine & school life	<i>The Year 9 Elective is run on a Yearly basis</i>

HOMEWORK AND STUDY EXPECTATIONS:

Students are required to revise the lesson content after each lesson and are encouraged to extend their readings in their own time. Homework will be given when necessary.

LINKS TO SENIOR YEARS

General Subject - Japanese

VET Subject - Certificate II & III in Applied Language (Japanese)

ADDITIONAL COST PER STUDENT: NIL



LEGAL STUDIES

Elective offered in Year 7, 8 & 9

WHY STUDY LEGAL STUDIES?

The Legal Studies elective focuses on Australia's democratic system, where students analyse the role of the Australian Constitution, the federal government, and reasons for constitutional change. They explore policy development, legislative processes, and the court system, as well as civic participation and the media's influence on identity and diversity.

Throughout the unit, students develop skills in questioning, researching, and analysing information, evaluating perspectives on political and legal issues, and identifying methods of civic participation. By the end, they will have a solid understanding of Australia's democracy and be empowered as informed citizens, ready to engage meaningfully in civic life and understand their rights and responsibilities.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

In this Legal Studies elective, students will explore the foundational aspects of Australia's political landscape, focusing on the Australian Constitution's role in shaping the federal system, democratic processes, and constitutional change through referendums. They will examine legislative processes related to federal policy and gain insights into the court system, including its structure, jurisdiction, and proceedings.

The course emphasises the roles of courts, judges, lawyers, and juries in trials, particularly regarding the rights of the accused and victims. Students will also study the contributions of individuals, groups, and media in shaping civic life and develop skills in questioning, analysing perspectives, evaluating participation strategies, and presenting arguments using relevant civic knowledge.

COURSE OVERVIEW:

CURRICULUM TOPICS		ACADEMIC PERIOD
Year 7	Introduction to the Australian Justice System and Parliament	<i>The Year 7 Elective is run on a Term-by-Term basis</i>
Year 8	Business Unit: Australian Markets Legal Unit: Our Role in Politics	<i>The Year 8 Elective is run on a Semester basis</i>
Year 9	Active and Informed Citizenship Legal Evolution in Action	<i>The Year 9 Elective is run on a Semester basis</i>

HOMEWORK AND STUDY EXPECTATIONS:

This elective is predominately a theoretical subject. Students are assigned homework related to their ongoing classwork and assessments.

LINKS TO SENIOR YEARS

Year 10 Legal Studies
QCAA Senior Legal Studies (General)

ADDITIONAL COST PER STUDENT:

(Year 8) – Optional: Civics & Ski Trip (approx. \$3,000)





MARINE SCIENCE

Elective offered in Year 7, 8 & 9

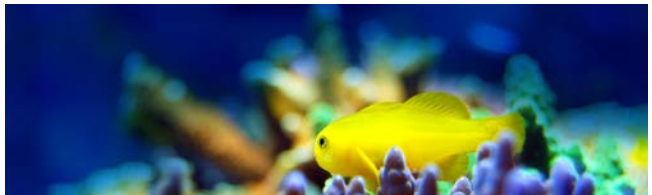
WHY STUDY MARINE SCIENCE?

Our students are fortunate to be located right on the doorstep of planet Earth’s largest living structure - the Great Barrier Reef. They have the unique opportunity to study Marine Science as an elective and witness the reef’s beauty firsthand and develop a deeper appreciation for its ecological significance.

The Year 9 program offers the option to obtain an internationally recognized PADI SCUBA certification, which allows students to explore the underwater world and develop essential diving skills. This certification not only opens up avenues for future diving adventures, but also fosters a sense of responsibility towards marine conservation.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Students will explore the biological and physical processes that occur in marine and freshwater systems. They will develop critical and creative thinking skills, challenging themselves to identify questions and draw evidence-based conclusions using scientific methods. Opportunities will be provided for students to engage in Citizen Science data collection in both our local environment and the Great Barrier Reef. Classification will be studied to help organise the diverse groups of organisms. Students will also examine interactions between organisms, including the impacts of human activities, as represented by food chains and food webs. Additionally, they will learn that ecosystems consist of communities of interdependent organisms and abiotic components, with matter and energy flowing through these systems.



COURSE OVERVIEW:

CURRICULUM TOPICS		ACADEMIC PERIOD
Year 7	Physical properties of the oceans	<i>The Year 7 Elective is run on a Term-by-Term basis</i>
	The science of diving	
	Marine organisms	
Year 8	Marine Ecology & Resource Management	<i>The Year 8 Elective is run on a Semester basis</i>
	Diving Physiology & Advanced Snorkel Skills	
	Boating, Navigation, & Group Project: Seagrass Restoration or Community Fishing Day	
Year 9	Biodiversity	<i>The Year 9 Elective is run on a Semester basis</i>
	Macroinvertebrate Study	
	PADI SCUBA Certification	

HOMEWORK AND STUDY EXPECTATIONS:

This elective is designed to be an equal mix of practical & theoretical components. Students are assigned homework related to their ongoing classwork and assessments.

LINKS TO SENIOR YEARS

ATAR Marine Science, ATAR Biology, Aquatics Practices

ADDITIONAL COST PER STUDENT:

Optional:

*SCUBA Course: All students complete the theory in class and then they have the **option** to complete the practical training at an additional cost with an external provider. Approx \$1200*

Snorkel Course: Pool entry/bus for snorkel course to Smithfield pools and back. \$5 pool entry + Bus fare.

Reef trip optional: This will occur on a weekend Approx \$200

MEDIA ARTS

Elective offered in Year 7, 8 & 9



WHY STUDY MEDIA ARTS?

Media Arts enriches aspiring creatives within a unique platform for students to express their creativity. Students explore diverse media forms, and develop essential skills aligned with today's digital landscape. In this subject, students will learn to produce and share media artworks, ranging from storytelling to persuading audiences. They will gain an in-depth understanding of social, ethical, and regulatory considerations, ensuring responsible and impactful content creation.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Media Arts is a dynamic course that encourages students to explore various media forms, fostering creativity and essential digital skills. The curriculum focuses on producing and distributing media artworks while evaluating their technical and symbolic elements. Students create and share media artworks for different contexts, emphasizing social, ethical, and regulatory considerations for responsible sharing. They develop analytical skills by examining how these elements shape representations and societal beliefs for diverse audiences. By comparing and deconstructing various media forms, such as filmmaking, documentaries, advertising, music videos, posters, and podcasts, students gain insight into media's influence on society.



COURSE OVERVIEW:

CURRICULUM TOPICS		ACADEMIC PERIOD
Year 7	Explores photography, film, storytelling Media literacy.	<i>The Year 7 Elective is run on a Term-by-Term basis</i>
Year 8	Develops skills in photography & filmmaking Visual storytelling.	<i>The Year 8 Elective is run on a Semester basis. Students can choose to select it more than once, allowing them to take it for the entire year if they wish</i>
Year 9	Explores short films & advertising through filmmaking.	<i>The Year 9 Elective is run on a Semester basis. Students can choose to select it more than once, allowing them to take it for the entire year if they wish</i>

HOMEWORK AND STUDY EXPECTATIONS:

This elective is designed to be an equal mix of practical & theoretical components. Students are assigned homework related to their ongoing classwork and assessments.

LINKS TO SENIOR YEARS

Aligns with QCAA Year 11 & 12 General Film, Television & New Media ATAR subject

ADDITIONAL COST PER STUDENT: NIL

** In Year 8 & 9 students have the option to select this subject multiple times throughout the year, enabling them to continue it for the entire year if desired.*

MUSIC INDUSTRY SKILLS

Elective offered in Year 8 & 9



WHY STUDY MUSIC INDUSTRY SKILLS?

Studying Music Industry Skills offers numerous benefits, including skill development, personal expression, teamwork, discipline, and cultural appreciation. This focus on music technology allows students to refine their technical abilities and express themselves creatively. They learn essential skills such as time management while fostering cultural awareness and empathy. Music performance enhances confidence, cognitive abilities, and emotional well-being. By incorporating modern production tools, students gain hands-on experience that prepares them for careers in music production and sound engineering. Overall, this study enriches students' education and equips them with valuable skills for personal and professional pursuits.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

This course introduces students to the basics of digital music production. Students learn about beats, notes, scales, melodies, chords, and basslines through practical activities. They explore making music from found sounds using everyday noises and sampling techniques, create mashups by combining two songs, and develop soundtracks for images or short videos. Throughout the course, students enhance their skills in music organisation, digital composition, and collaboration, accommodating diverse skill levels and backgrounds while encouraging creative expression and growth in music production. The curriculum also ensures students understand fundamental concepts, apply techniques, analyse examples, and reflect on their work.

*** In Year 8 & 9 students have the option to select this subject multiple times throughout the year, enabling them to continue it for the entire year if desired.**

COURSE OVERVIEW:

	CURRICULUM TOPICS	ACADEMIC PERIOD
Year 8	Focuses on developing DJ techniques & music production skills through performance Digital audio workstations, & electronic composition	<i>The Year 8 Elective is run on a semester basis.</i> <i>Students can choose to select it more than once, allowing them to take it for the entire year if they wish</i>
Year 9	Advances abilities in music production Emphasis on songwriting, sound engineering, live performance, & creating original compositions across various genres	<i>The Year 9 Elective is run on a semester basis.</i> <i>Students can choose to select it more than once, allowing them to take it for the entire year if they wish</i>

HOMEWORK AND STUDY EXPECTATIONS:

This elective is predominately a practical subject. Students are assigned homework related to their ongoing classwork and assessments.

LINKS TO SENIOR YEARS

Aligns with QCAA Year 11 & 12 Applied Music in Practice subject.

ADDITIONAL COST PER STUDENT: NIL





MUSIC PERFORMANCE

Elective offered in Year 7, 8 & 9



WHY STUDY MUSIC PERFORMANCE?

Studying Music provides a comprehensive musical education, develops skills, offers performance opportunities, promotes collaboration and teamwork, prepares students for college and careers, enriches cultural understanding, encourages personal growth and expression, offers academic benefits, and fosters lifelong enjoyment of music.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Students develop performance skills through ensemble playing and refine their instrumental or vocal abilities. They explore music theory and composition while utilising music technology for recording and production. The curriculum includes the study of diverse cultures and historical periods, analysing music's features and social significance. Students investigate various styles and genres, examining characteristics and influences, while also exploring music's communicative power. Critical listening skills are honed through analysis of form, structure, instrumentation, and expression. This course combines performance, composition, technology, cultural exploration, and analysis for a well-rounded musical experience.

** Students have the option to select this subject multiple times throughout the year, enabling them to continue it for the entire year if desired.*



COURSE OVERVIEW:

CURRICULUM TOPICS		ACADEMIC PERIOD
Year 7	Builds skills through solo and ensemble performances	<i>The Year 7 Elective is available on a Term-by-Term basis.</i> <i>Students can choose to select it more than once, opting for it each term throughout the year if they wish</i>
	Focusing on musical expression, stagecraft, and practical learning	
Year 8	Course develops skills in solo and group performances	<i>The Year 8 Elective is run on a semester basis.</i> <i>Students can choose to select it more than once, allowing them to take it for the entire year if they wish</i>
	Emphasising musical expression and stagecraft	
Year 9	Enhances proficiency in solo and group performances	<i>The Year 9 Elective is run on a semester basis.</i> <i>Students can choose to select it more than once, allowing them to take it for the entire year if they wish</i>
	Emphasising musical expression, stagecraft, and collaborative creativity	

HOMEWORK AND STUDY EXPECTATIONS:

This elective is designed to be an equal mix of practical & theoretical components. Students are assigned homework related to their ongoing classwork and assessments.

LINKS TO SENIOR YEARS

Aligns with QCAA Year 11 & 12 General Music ATAR subject.

ADDITIONAL COST PER STUDENT: *Additional costs may include uniform, performance/excursion fees, workshops,*

OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Elective offered in Year 7, 8 & 9

WHY STUDY OUTDOOR EDUCATION?

Students engage in adventurous activities to explore themselves and nature, learning valuable lessons for everyday life. They increasingly assess and manage risks in both recreation and daily situations. Through outdoor activities, students gain skills for personal and group well-being, promoting healthy and safe outdoor participation. They learn to prepare for and undertake independent lightweight journeys under adult guidance and supervision, assuming leadership roles in group management. Additionally, students develop an understanding of natural environments by investigating current conservation issues.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

In Outdoor Education, students explore nature and develop essential skills. They learn to manage health and safety risks, assess the impact of respect and empathy on relationships, and propose strategies to challenge biases and promote inclusion. Students refine their movement skills in challenging situations, create effective strategies, and demonstrate leadership and collaboration. They adapt skills from past experiences for new challenges and reflect on inquiries to propose actions for contemporary geographical issues, considering environmental, economic, political, and social factors.

COURSE OVERVIEW:

CURRICULUM TOPICS		ACADEMIC PERIOD
Year 7	Camping Skills Navigation	<i>The Year 7 Elective is run on a Term-by-Term basis</i>
Year 8	Lightweight Camping & Hiking Orienteering	<i>The Year 8 Elective is run on a Semester basis</i>
Year 9	First Aid & Surf Lifesaving Community Outdoor Ed	<i>The Year 9 Elective is run on a Semester basis</i>

HOMEWORK AND STUDY EXPECTATIONS:

This elective is predominately a practical subject. Students are assigned homework related to their ongoing classwork and assessments.

LINKS TO SENIOR YEARS

Sport & Recreation - Applied

ADDITIONAL COST PER STUDENT

Year 8 & Year 9 - \$100 Excursion fees



Proud to support

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S
INTERNATIONAL AWARD

AUSTRALIA - QLD



DUKE OF EDINBURGH

Extracurricular

DUKE OF ED - BRIDGE & BRONZE AWARD

Newman Catholic College is proud to offer The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award to our students. The Award is an internationally recognised program that acknowledges the diverse activities and skills which participants are committed to. During their time achieving the Award, a student will develop new skills and interests; meet new friends while strengthening current friendships and be rewarded for their efforts. Students are able to use both extracurricular school activities and club or personal pursuits in the community towards their Award. This program is an extracurricular activity that students complete outside normal class lesson time.

Although the Award means different things to different people, one big advantage is that it is immediately recognisable and highly regarded by companies, educational institutions and many other organisations around the world. The 'Duke of Ed' Award demonstrates a well-rounded and committed individual who is diligent, confident and reliable; all traits that can be difficult to project onto a resume. Most of all, the Award is designed to be fun and fulfilling and Newman Catholic College is keen to ensure this is the case.

Students who take part in the Award must complete four areas: Service, Physical Recreation, Skill and Adventurous Journey. All participants are supported by a network of adult Award Leaders, Assessors and Supervisors. Students self-manage their Award through an Online Record Book. The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award includes three levels: Bronze, Silver, and Gold, each progressively more challenging. In Year 9 students are eligible to start the Bronze Award. In Year 7 & 8 students are eligible to start the Bridge Award.

The Bridge Award - Level 1 - Requirements

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S
INTERNATIONAL AWARD

SERVICE

To develop and encourage a sense of community spirit and responsibility to others

5 hours

PHYSICAL RECREATION

To encourage participation in physical recreation and improvement in physical fitness and performance

6 hours or more over at least 2 weeks

SKILL

To encourage the development of personal interests and practical skills.

2 months

ADVENTUROUS JOURNEY

To encourage a spirit of adventure or discovery.

4 hours of travel over 1 day.

Bronze (from 14 years of age)

Voluntary Service - three months

Skills - three months

Physical Recreation - three months

Plus undertake an extra three months in one of the above sections

Adventurous Journey - two days and one night

COST PER STUDENT

The cost of the Bridge Award is \$70 & the Bronze Award is \$186.25 to register. Participating in the Adventurous Journey Expeditions will incur a further cost to cover transport, camping fees and other items including first aid, navigation and communication equipment.

For more information, please visit The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award website at <https://dukeofed.com.au/>

OED MOUNTAIN BIKING

Elective offered in Year 7 only. Beginner (T3) & Intermediate Levels (T4) offered

WHY STUDY OED MOUNTAIN BIKING?

OED Mountain Biking provides students with practical learning experiences in natural environments beyond the classroom. It fosters an appreciation for outdoor activities and the natural world while supporting personal health, well-being, and an adventurous spirit. Students engage in mountain bike riding, utilising trails at school and nearby parks, with a strong emphasis on safety and skill development through progressive training and theoretical concepts. The program incorporates cross-disciplinary elements, such as Aboriginal perspectives on land, conservation, and sustainability, offering direct contact with nature that encourages lifelong enjoyment of outdoor activities.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

In Mountain Biking, students will learn to analyse, refine, and transfer movement skills across various situations. They will design and demonstrate how movement strategies can be adjusted to improve outcomes and propose effective movement strategies for different contexts. Additionally, students will practise leadership, collaboration, and group decision-making in a range of physical activities. They will plan and implement strategies to enhance their own and others' health, safety, relationships, and well-being while participating in physical activities that utilise community spaces and outdoor settings, evaluating strategies to encourage increased use of these areas.

Beginner mountain biking students do not need any prior experience, as the school provides bikes for them. **Intermediate mountain biking students** will require previous experience before enrolling in the program.

COURSE OVERVIEW:

CURRICULUM TOPICS		ACADEMIC PERIOD
Year 7	Beginner Mountain Biking Basic skills & trail etiquette (Term 3)	The Year 7 Elective is run in Term 3 & Term 4 only
	Intermediate Mountain Biking - Advanced skills in a controlled and safe environment (Term 4)	

HOMEWORK AND STUDY EXPECTATIONS:

This elective is predominately a practical subject.

ADDITIONAL COST PER STUDENT: \$100 per student applies for Mountain Bike Hire and maintenance.



3D PRINTING & MANUFACTURING

Elective offered in Year 7, 8 & 9



WHY STUDY 3D PRINTING & MANUFACTURING?

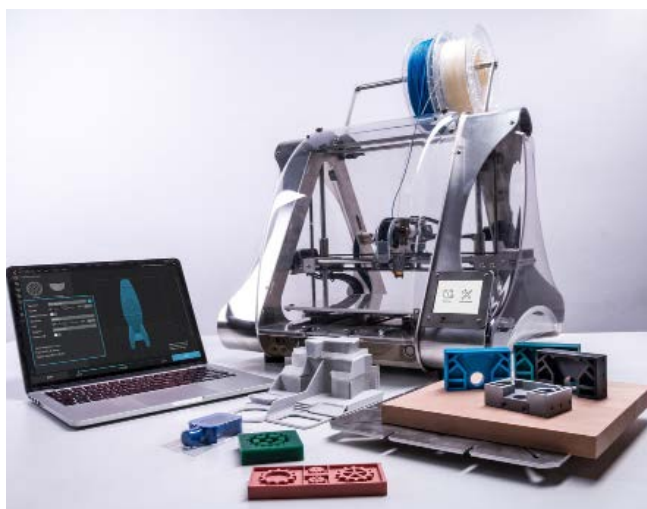
Studying 3D Design & Manufacturing offers numerous benefits to students. It nurtures creativity and critical thinking by providing hands-on experience in designing and bringing ideas to life.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Through this subject, students can explore innovative solutions to real-world problems, fostering their problem-solving skills. Moreover, 3D Design & Manufacturing introduces students to modern technology, such as computer-aided design (CAD) software and 3D printers, which are becoming increasingly prevalent in various industries.

Additionally, the subject encourages collaboration and teamwork, as students often work in groups to conceptualise, design, and manufacture their projects.

Overall, studying 3D Design & Manufacturing empowers Year 9 students with creativity, technical skills, and a solid foundation for future opportunities in the ever-evolving world of design and technology.



COURSE OVERVIEW:

CURRICULUM TOPICS		ACADEMIC PERIOD
Year 7	3D Modelling	<i>The Year 7 Elective is run on a Term-by-Term basis</i>
Year 8	Design Process	<i>The Year 8 Elective is run on a Semester basis</i>
Year 9	Digital Modelling	<i>The Year 9 Elective is run on a Semester basis</i>

HOMEWORK AND STUDY EXPECTATIONS:

This elective is predominately a practical subject. Students are assigned homework related to their ongoing classwork and assessments.

LINKS TO SENIOR YEARS

By gaining proficiency in the design process, CAD and 3D printing, students will develop highly sought-after technical skills that can open doors to future careers in fields like engineering, product design, and architecture. For Senior subjects such as Design & Engineering, 3D Design & Manufacturing will lay the foundational skills to help the student proceed successfully.

ADDITIONAL COST PER STUDENT: NIL



ROBOTICS

Elective offered in Year 7, 8 & 9



WHY STUDY ROBOTICS?

A robot is a physical device programmed by humans to follow a set of instructions with high precision. Here are four reasons to choose robotics: Robotics is one of the fastest-growing industries in science and technology, projected to expand significantly over the next 20 years. It encompasses multiple areas of expertise, including electrical engineering, mechanical engineering, computer science, psychology, and data science, providing a fun foundation for each of these fields. Robotics also develops essential skills such as complex problem-solving, creative thinking, teamwork, and the ability to learn quickly. Additionally, robotics is influencing various industries, from assisting in surgeries and drone technologies in agriculture to military applications, manufacturing, and food preparation.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Robotics is a subject that combines digital technologies, mathematics, and design. Students will learn the fundamentals of coding, which can be applied in fields such as game development, web development, and App development. They will also discover how to use data from various sensors to make decisions and how to physically build a robot for specific tasks or purposes. The course will explore the applications and implications of drone technologies, along with topics in artificial intelligence, data science, computer vision, and the Internet of Things (IoT).



COURSE OVERVIEW:

	CURRICULUM TOPICS	ACADEMIC PERIOD
Year 7	Programming Basics	<i>The Year 7 Elective is run on a Term-by-Term basis</i>
Year 8	Assistive Technology	<i>The Year 8 Elective is run on a Semester basis</i>
Year 9	Problem Solving Robotics	<i>The Year 9 Elective is run on a Semester basis</i>

HOMEWORK AND STUDY EXPECTATIONS:

This elective is designed to be an equal mix of practical & theoretical components. Students are assigned homework related to their ongoing classwork and assessments.

LINKS TO SENIOR YEARS

Robotics serves as a crucial foundation for students interested in pursuing senior Robotics. It provides fundamental knowledge and skills that can be built upon in subsequent years, contributing to the growth of technical skills, problem-solving abilities, teamwork and collaboration, and conceptual understanding.

ADDITIONAL COST PER STUDENT: NIL

SPORTS EXCELLENCE

Elective offered in Year 9 in Semester One Only

WHY STUDY SPORTS EXCELLENCE?

A training, coaching and development program for students looking to improve personal athletic performance. Students who select Sports Excellence will be expected to participate in the Newman Sports Academies and Interschool Sporting Competitions. Students will be introduced to functional fitness, injury prevention, strength and conditioning including resistance training and various types of training programmes. Weekly training sessions and modified fitness games will be conducted by experienced HPE staff. Students will participate in school and Interschool competitions including local gala days with the aim of participating in State and National School Title competitions in the future. This subject requires students to complete an online application process.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

In the Sports Excellence program, students will analyse, adapt, and refine their movement skills in challenging situations to enhance performance. They will create and refine strategies to achieve successful outcomes in various movement contexts. The program promotes participation in physical activities that foster health and social benefits, enabling students to design and evaluate strategies for themselves and others. Students will also develop personalised plans to improve or maintain their physical activity levels for better fitness and wellbeing. Ethical behaviour and fair play will be emphasised, encouraging reflection on their impact on physical activity outcomes. Additionally, students will devise, implement, and refine decision-making strategies that showcase leadership and collaboration skills while participating in activities designed to enhance their health and fitness.

COURSE OVERVIEW:

CURRICULUM TOPICS		ACADEMIC PERIOD
Year 9	Introduction to training programs Muscles and movement Coaching, teamwork and leadership in sport	<i>The Year 9 Elective is run in Semester One Only</i>

HOMEWORK AND STUDY EXPECTATIONS:

This elective is predominately a practical subject. Students are assigned homework related to their ongoing classwork and assessments.

LINKS TO SENIOR YEARS

Sports and Recreation Syllabus - Applied, Health and Physical Education Senior Syllabus - General, and Certificate III in Fitness - VET.

ADDITIONAL COST PER STUDENT: NIL



STEM EXCELLENCE

Elective offered in Year 7, 8 & 9 by Application to Mr Donovan



WHY STUDY STEM EXCELLENCE?

STEM Excellence is the integration of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. Designed for High Potential Learners in these subject areas, students undergo a series of projects and problem solving that extends, enriches and engages students in the STEM fields.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Developed by Mr Donovan in collaboration with a multidisciplinary team including psychologists and experts in gifted learning, STEM Excellence doesn't seek to just improve student content knowledge, but also develop the following attributes in our high potential learners:

- Critical Thinking skills including resilience to solving complex problems.
- Creativity and Innovation.
- Collaboration and Teamwork.
- Ability to gain new technical skillsets and apply them in unfamiliar contexts.
- Solve problems in inter-disciplinary fields (which better reflect real life).
- Use metacognitive and neuroscientific strategies to build resilience, manage wellbeing and improve learning.

Depending on partnership availability, students may undertake extension or enrichment projects in various fields, including Computer Science, Astrophysics, Electronic Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Neuroscience, Medicine, Cybersecurity, Statistics, Actuarial Science, Operations Research, Software/Game/App Development, Artificial Intelligence, Quantum Physics, and Architecture.

COURSE OVERVIEW:

CURRICULUM TOPICS		ACADEMIC PERIOD
Year 7	Beginner problem solving	<i>The Year 7 Elective is run on a Term-by-Term basis</i>
Year 8	Topics may include: Astronomy Engineering Forensic Science Web Development	<i>The Year 8 Elective is run on a Semester basis. Students may choose this elective for the entire year.</i>
Year 9	Topics may include: Biotechnology Nutritional Science Architecture Mechatronic Engineering	<i>The Year 9 Elective is run on a Semester basis. Students may choose this elective for the entire year.</i>

ADDITIONAL COST PER STUDENT

\$20 for the Term in Year 7

\$50 per Semester in Year 8 & 9



VISUAL ARTS

Elective offered in Year 7, 8 & 9

WHY STUDY VISUAL ARTS?

Visual Arts encompasses the fields of art, craft, and design. In these areas, students create visual representations that communicate, challenge, and express their own ideas and those of others, exploring the concept of “Human-made: Buildings and Interiors” through painting and mixed media.

Through Visual Arts, students utilize their knowledge, understanding, and skills to make and respond to artworks that convey meaning related to personal and global perspectives, as well as intrinsic and extrinsic worlds. The subject engages students in a journey of discovery, experimentation, and problem-solving that is relevant to visual perception and visual language.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Students will learn to experiment with Visual Arts conventions and techniques, including the exploration of methods used by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists to represent a theme, concept, or idea in their artwork. They will develop ways to enhance their intentions as artists through the exploration of how materials, techniques, technologies, and processes are utilised by artists. Students will practise techniques and processes to improve the representation of ideas in their art-making and present artwork that demonstrates consideration of how the display enhances the artist’s intention to an audience.



COURSE OVERVIEW:

CURRICULUM TOPICS		ACADEMIC PERIOD
Year 7	Explores foundational skills in drawing techniques	<i>The Year 7 Elective is run on a Term-by-Term basis</i>
Year 8	Focuses on creating imaginative dragons and exploring Australian artworks	<i>The Year 8 Elective is run on a semester basis. Students can choose to select it more than once, allowing them to take it for the entire year if they wish</i>
Year 9	Explores vibrant Pop Art and creative ceramic techniques	<i>The Year 9 Elective is run on a semester basis. Students can choose to select it more than once, allowing them to take it for the entire year if they wish</i>

HOMEWORK AND STUDY EXPECTATIONS:

This elective is designed to be an equal mix of practical & theoretical components. Students are assigned homework related to their ongoing classwork and assessments.

LINKS TO SENIOR YEARS

Aligns with QCAA Year 11 & 12 General Visual Art ATAR subject

ADDITIONAL COST PER STUDENT: *Additional costs may include incidental items and materials for Visual Arts projects.*

*** In Year 8 & 9 students have the option to select this subject multiple times throughout the year, enabling them to continue it for the entire year if desired.**

WEB DESIGN & DEVELOPMENT

Elective offered in Year 7, 8 & 9



WHY STUDY WEB DESIGN & DEVELOPMENT?

Selecting Web Design & Development equips students with essential digital skills for creating and managing innovative solutions. Students will develop and modify digital content, solve complex problems, and evaluate solutions based on user needs. They will work with databases, design algorithms using object-oriented programming, and cover critical topics such as data management, cybersecurity, and privacy.

The course also explores advanced digital tools for interactive content and involves planning and managing projects using agile methodologies. This subject prepares students for future studies in web design, software development, and IT, and provides skills applicable to various tech-driven careers.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

The Web Design and Development subject equips students with a comprehensive skill set, focusing on creating digital solutions for real-world problems and effectively breaking down complex issues. Throughout the course, students will learn to design algorithms, manage databases, and develop secure, interactive web content. They will explore key concepts in data security and cybersecurity threats, ensuring they can protect digital solutions from vulnerabilities. In addition, students will gain experience managing agile projects, applying privacy principles, and creating user-friendly interfaces that enhance the overall user experience. By consistently evaluating digital solutions based on user feedback, students will refine their work, ensuring that the final product meets both technical standards and user needs.

COURSE OVERVIEW:

CURRICULUM TOPICS		ACADEMIC PERIOD
Year 7	Website Creation	The Year 7 Elective is run on a Term-by-Term basis
Year 8	Interactive UI	The Year 8 Elective is run on a Semester basis
Year 9	Data Driven Websites	The Year 9 Elective is run on a Semester basis

HOMEWORK AND STUDY EXPECTATIONS:

This elective is designed to be an equal mix of practical & theoretical components. Students are assigned homework related to their ongoing classwork and assessments.

ADDITIONAL COST PER STUDENT: NIL







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