



Year 9 Handbook 2025

Norwood Secondary College

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Introduction

This handbook aims to provide information to students and parents about course selection, policies and processes for successful course selection and study in Year 9. Some information more relevant to Year 10 students is included to enable students in Year 9 an opportunity to plan ahead and be aware of policies and processes relevant to them in 2025.

Cooperation between home and the College is most important in the fostering of sound education and positive outcomes for students. Should parents have any queries or concerns regarding matters of policy and curriculum within the Junior School, they are encouraged to contact the College. Any queries regarding student welfare or progress should also be directed to the Junior School. Staff are readily available as required to discuss any aspect of your child's progress. Attendance at parent/teacher/student interviews and information evenings is encouraged.

2025 Staff

Junior School Principal
Head of Year 9
Year 9 Coordinator
Careers/VET

Mr Nicholas Mammoliti
Mr Adam Given
Ms Meg Kelly
Mr Paul Duncan

*Confirmed Junior School
Staff for 2025 will be
published later in 2024.*

Year 9 Structure

The timetable is organised around a 10-day timetable. The school day will be divided into 5 periods of 1 hour duration.

Core Subjects

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Physical Education
- *Humanities (History and Geography)
- *Healthy Decision Making
- *Out on Your Own

*Semester long subjects - e.g. Students study History in one semester and Geography in the other.

Elective Subjects

The electives units cover the areas of the Arts, Language, Health and Physical Education and Technology. The units are semester long with the exception of French.

The Arts Electives

- Art Practices
- Ceramics
- Contemporary Music
- Drawing the World Around You
- Drama – Principles of Performance
- Media: Digital Dimensions
- Music Technology
- Visual Communication Design

Language Elective

- French (Year long subject)

Health and Physical Education Electives

- Outdoor and Recreation Studies

Technology Elective

- Biotechnology
- Café Bakery
- Games Programming
- Marvellous Meals
- Metal and Silver
- Step into Fashion & Craft
- Wood

Science Elective

- Forensics

English Elective

- Journalism

Year 9 Mentoring Program

All students in their form groups take part in the Mentoring Program. The program runs for 60 minutes each week.

The main focus is on student wellbeing and connectedness to the school, their teachers and their peers. Sessions include goal setting, study skills, resilience, positive psychology, mindfulness, careers and subject planning for Year 10 and beyond. Mentoring aims to provide a positive relationship between students and staff.

Mentors are able to assist students with organisation, time management, developing and setting learning goals and strategies to help improve academic outcomes. As part of the program students will attend year level assemblies and Junior School assemblies. A focus of these assemblies is recognition of student achievement.

City Experience Program – (Approximate costing for this program is between \$130 and \$160)

Year 9 students participate in an active and challenging week long program in the city. Each student participates in a program of activities involving research, city familiarisation, city safety, personal development and skill development. Through independent exploration of the urban environment, students learn vital educational and life skills that both engage and excite them. These tasks allow the students to explore aspects of the city in an independent way.

Year 9 Instrumental Music

Students have the opportunity to learn a variety of instruments at the College including brass, woodwind, percussion, strings, voice, guitar and piano. Students are withdrawn from their regular class, on a rotation basis, for 30 minute music lessons.

Every student learning an instrument (including voice) will join an ensemble which rehearses each week and performs at concerts, assemblies and community events. The Ensembles at Year 9 include: String Ensemble, Concert Band, Chorale, A Cappella, Percussion Ensemble, Jazz Band and Rock Band.

Homework

Homework is a valuable part of schooling. Homework helps students in planning and organising time and develops a habit of independent study and review. The expected amount of homework can vary. At Year 9 it is expected that students spend around 30 – 45 minutes each weeknight, and a further two hours on the weekend completing set tasks.

Homework Club is held twice a week after school. Teachers from a variety of subjects such as English and Mathematics are available to assist students one on one or in small groups. This allows students to complete homework tasks in a supportive environment and access help from teachers as needed.

Year 9 Enrichment Program

Students in the Enrichment Program are exposed to an enhanced curriculum with the emphasis being on enrichment. They are expected to demonstrate a capacity to excel and be challenged across all academic areas. The program is designed to extend and enrich students through a challenging curriculum which encourages the development of:

- High order thinking skills
- Problem solving abilities
- Deep learning
- Adaptability
- A love of learning

In Year 9, students in the Enrichment class will remain as a group for the core subjects of English, Mathematics, Science and Humanities (History & Geography). They will also be expected to complete the semester length compulsory units of Healthy Decision Making and Out on Your Own, along with all other Year 9 students. Students are encouraged to continue with the study of French.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Interschool Sport

Students have many opportunities to participate in extra-curricular sporting activities. Students participate in House Carnivals for swimming and athletics and also cross-country running. Successful students have the opportunity to represent the school at division, regional and state levels.

The following interschool sports may be offered to students:

- Basketball
- Baseball/Softball
- Badminton
- Cricket
- Hockey
- Football
- Soccer
- Volleyball
- Tennis
- Netball
- Table tennis

Winning teams at the division level go on to compete at regional and then state levels.

Other extra-curricular activities include:

- Interschool Debating
- Science and Mathematics Competitions
- School Choir
- School Production

Assessment and Reporting

Progress reports are completed every 5 weeks with more comprehensive reports at the end of Terms 2 and 4.

VCE IN YEAR 10

(INFORMATION FOR 2025 YEAR 9 STUDENTS TO CONSIDER)

Students in Year 10 have the opportunity to study a VCE Unit 1 and 2 subject as part of their course. This program aims to provide opportunities for these students to:

- Undertake extension work and achieve breadth within their VCE course of study
- Experience the demands of a VCE subject with the view to developing sound and appropriate study and work habits conducive to a high achieving student

Year 10 students interested in undertaking a VCE unit will apply through the normal course selection process as outlined in the Senior School Handbook (available on the College website). However, it is emphasised that this is an extension program and students will be accepted into a VCE unit on the basis of their ability to meet set criteria and the availability of places within the class. (Year 11 students have priority of placement in VCE Units 1 and 2.)

The decision to apply for a VCE unit needs to be taken carefully and only after appropriate processes are followed and appropriate consultation, involving all relevant parties (student, parents, staff, Year Level Coordinators, College Administration, Careers Coordinator, Student Welfare Coordinator) has occurred. Factors to be considered may include high attendance at school, attitude, behaviour, academic results, time management skills, maturity, readiness, past experiences, interests, career and future course needs and work habits.

Selection Criteria

- Recognisable aptitude and satisfactory academic achievement in Year 9 studies
- Commitment to study and excellent work habits
- Demonstrated initiative and ability to work independently
- Satisfactory record of behaviour and participation in school life
- Evidence of student's ability to manage the workload (student has a history of meeting deadlines and acceptable organisational ability)
- Attendance at or above 90%

VCE Subjects Offered at Year 10 in 2025

Accounting
Biology
Business Management
Computing
Creative Art Practice

Drama
Economics
Environmental Science
Food Studies
Geography
Health and Human Development

Legal Studies
Media Studies
History
General Mathematics
Music
Physical Education
Psychology
Product Design Technology (Materials – Wood, Fibres)
Visual Communication Design
VET Sport and Recreation (On-site at Norwood)
VET Courses – Students travel for study

Choosing Year 9 Electives

When choosing the Year 9 electives consider the following:

- What are my educational strengths?
- What subjects am I good at?
- What do I like doing?
- What activities do I enjoy doing?
- What subjects do I like doing?
- What are the areas I need to improve?
- What skills do I need to learn for the future?
- At this moment, what are the types of careers that interest me?

Advice for selection of electives

- *Do not choose electives just because your friends are choosing them*
- *You will not necessarily be in the same classes as a friend who chooses the same elective*
- *The timetable for 2025 is created using student elective selection. Therefore, you cannot change your electives next year except unless there are special circumstances.*

Selection of Elective Units

Students select **6** elective units (3 per semester) from The Arts, Health and PE, Language and Technology areas.

Students are required to select **at least one elective subject** from The Arts subjects and **at least one elective subject from the** Technology subjects.

French at Year 9 is optional but students are encouraged to continue their study of French.

Please note, if a student chooses French, students must choose it for 2 semesters. Hence, it will take up 2 elective spaces.

Typical Year 9 Student Program

Core	Core	Core	Core	Core	Core	Elective	Elective	Elective
Semester 1								
Mathematics	English	Science	Geography/ History	Physical Education	Out on Your Own	Art: Ceramics	Media	Outdoor and Recreation Studies
Semester 2								
Mathematics	English	Science	Geography/ History	Physical Education	Healthy Decision Making	Technology: Wood	Games Programming	Biotechnology

Year 9 Subjects by Learning Area, including the Subject Contributions

***Please note that 2025 charges are still to be ratified by College Council.**

Learning Area	Subject		Charge
The Arts	Art Practices	Elective (one unit)	\$40
	Drawing the World Around You	Elective (one unit)	\$10
	Ceramics	Elective (one unit)	\$45
	Visual Communication Design	Elective (one unit)	\$30
	Media: Digital Dimensions	Elective (one unit)	\$40
	Drama	Elective (one unit)	\$10
	Contemporary Music	Elective (one unit)	\$20
	Music Technology	Elective (one unit)	\$40
English	English	Core	Nil
	Journalism	Elective (one unit)	\$30
Health/ PE	Physical Education	Core	\$10
	Outdoor and Recreation Studies	Elective (one unit)	\$570
	Healthy Decision Making	Core (one unit)	Nil
Humanities	History	Core (one unit)	Nil
	Geography	Core (one unit)	Nil
	Out on Your Own	Core (one unit)	Nil
Language	French	Elective (two units)	\$10
Mathematics	Mathematics	Core	Nil
Science	Science	Core	Nil
	Forensics	Elective (one unit)	TBA
Technology	Wood	Elective (one unit)	\$60
	Metal and Silver	Elective (one unit)	\$60
	Marvellous Meals	Elective (one unit)	\$80
	Café Bakery	Elective (one unit)	\$60
	Step into Fashion & Craft	Elective (one unit)	\$30
	Games Programming	Elective (one unit)	\$30
	Biotechnology	Elective (one unit)	\$35

PAYMENT PROCESS FOR 2025

Current Year 8 students are requested to submit their preferred subjects for 2025 by **Friday 16th August 2024**.

Information will be provided to students and families about how to undertake this process.

During Term 4, 2024, families will be notified via Compass of the 2025 contributions, payment dates, instalment options and the date Compass "Billing module" will open for families to be able to make a payment. The Compass

Billing Module has for many families become their preferred means of payment. The College will still, however, accept payments at the General Office.

You would be aware that the State Government provides a substantial amount of the College's funding. This funding allows government schools to offer the standard curriculum requirements, but it is not sufficient to meet all costs incurred to allow us to provide the diverse curriculum offered at NSC. Our vibrant curriculum offers students significant subject and elective choices, hands-on experiences across a broad range of key learning areas, subject-specific equipment and full access to a wide range of materials. Therefore, we rely on your contributions to maintain these quality programs for your child/children. Without your support, some of our programs would need to be significantly altered or reduced.

CORE SUBJECTS

ENGLISH

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In Year 9, English focuses on the ability to speak, listen, read, view and write with confidence, purpose and enjoyment. Students will develop skills in a course that is designed to engage and challenge them.

Areas of Study:

Students will:

- Study a range of texts, including novels, films and media texts. Students will also compare two texts, focusing on ideas, themes and issues.
- Develop an understanding of how to evaluate and respond to different text types.
- Craft their writing skills focusing on the use of language for different audiences and purposes. Students will develop a creative response to a text, exploring how purpose and audience affect the choices they make as writers in planning their own piece.
- Learn to communicate effectively in formal oral presentations and in informal classroom discussions.
- Study issues in the media and analyse how writers build their arguments in order to persuade readers.

ASSESSMENT

Assessment is based on analytical responses to text, oral presentations, issues analysis and a writing folio. An end of semester exam is also undertaken.

Contribution: There is no charge for this subject.

MATHEMATICS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Through the study of Mathematics, students will gain the skills and knowledge to confidently and competently deal with the mathematics and problem solving of daily life. They will also begin the transition from students with a basic mathematical knowledge into students with analytical and abstract problem solving skills.

Areas of study:

These will include:

- Number (number patterns, operations with number, surds and indices, financial mathematics)
- Algebra (expansion and factorisation of algebraic terms, linear equations and graphs, transposition and substitution)
- Probability (calculating probabilities of chance events using tree diagrams and arrays)
- Statistics (analysing and representing data using measures of centre and spread, frequency tables and graphs)
- Measurement ('Pythagoras' theorem and trigonometry, area and volume)
- Geometry (similar and congruent triangles, angles in polygons, shapes)
- Reasoning and Strategies (problem solving and projects)

ASSESSMENT

Topic tests after each chapter, bookwork, assignments and projects. An end of semester exam is also undertaken.

Contribution: There is no charge for this subject

SCIENCE

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

In Year 9 Science, students will acquire and use scientific skills and concepts. They will develop their ability to interpret and communicate scientific ideas effectively to appreciate the role of Science in a social and highly technological society. Students will build on their understanding of the scientific method through practical work and explore the role of Science and scientists in the community to help them make informed decisions about future career pathways.

Areas of study:

- Biological Sciences: Microbiology and Disease; Co-ordination and Control of Human Body Systems
- Chemical Sciences: Forensic Science; Chemical Reactions; Atomic Structure and Radioactivity
- Physical Sciences: Heat Transfer and Electrical Circuits; Energy Transmission
- Earth and Space Sciences: Global Systems; The Carbon Cycle
- Science as a Human Endeavour: Scientific Theories and Models; The Scientific Method

ASSESSMENT:

- Topic tests
- Practical work/Practical reports
- Assignments/Projects
- End of semester examination

Contribution: There is no charge for this subject

HISTORY

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Students examine the origins of the Industrial Revolution and the impact this revolution had on the world, including the settlement of Australia. The course then explores life in 19th century Australia, immigration and the lead up to federation in 1901. Finally, students study many aspects of World War One (1914 – 1918). Areas of study will include causes of the war, Australia's involvement, weapons and technology, major battles and impact on the home front.

Areas of study:

- Industrial Revolution
- Australian Federation and White Australia Policy
- World War One

ASSESSMENT

- Research task on Industrial Revolution
- Extended response on Federation and White Australia Policy
- Visual Analysis on World War One
- End of semester exam of 60 minutes

Contribution: There is no charge for this subject

GEOGRAPHY

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In Biomes and Food Security, students examine the importance of biomes and food security. They also investigate the causes and solutions to food insecurity. In Geographies of Interconnections students focus on investigating how people perceive and connect to places. They explore the connectedness of the world through trade, technology and tourism. Students will develop a variety of geographical and spatial skills, including identifying, analysing and interpreting geographical data and information. Students will undertake fieldwork investigations.

Areas of study:

- Unit 1: Biomes and Food Security
- Unit 2: Geography of Interconnections

ASSESSMENT

- Fieldwork report
- Case studies
- Structured questions.
- End of semester exam of 60 minutes

Note that fieldwork is a compulsory component of Geography.

Contribution: There is no charge for this subject

OUT ON YOUR OWN

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This unit has a focus on Work and Work Futures and Consumer and Financial Literacy.

For Work and Work Futures, students will:

- Learn how to prepare a resume
- Write a cover letter
- Develop skills to handle an interview

For Consumer and Financial literacy, students will:

- Develop a basic understanding of how banks work
- Acquire skills to select the best savings account
- Develop an understanding of taxation
- Develop an understanding of credit cards and strategies to manage and avoid debt
- Be able to differentiate between simple and compound interest
- Participate in the ESS1 money game where they will learn to make financial decisions in a simulated environment
- Explore the four areas of commerce such as accounting, business management, economics and legal studies

ASSESSMENT

Assessment is based on research tasks, tests and class work.

Contribution: There is no charge for this subject

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

COURSE DESCRIPTON:

The subject of Physical Education allows students to further develop their motor skills across a wide range of sports and physical activities. Some of which include netball, volleyball, basketball, AFL and soccer, as well as introducing lawn bowls, korfbal, touch rugby and lacrosse.

There is a strong emphasis on game play and students will gain a thorough understanding of strategies, tactics and the importance of teamwork within each sporting unit. Students will have the opportunity to take on a variety of leadership positions within a team, whilst participating in a round robin tournament held over the last two weeks of each semester. Students will be given the opportunity to further enhance their team skills in a variety of roles including coaching and umpiring during this competition.

ASSESSMENT

- Active participation in class activities
- Progression with their motor skill ability in individual and game situations
- Completion of written work on a major assessment task each term

Contribution: There is no charge for this subject

HEALTHY DECISION MAKING

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This unit examines the complexities of adolescence and explores numerous young people's health issues. Students are informed how to make healthy decisions via various harm minimisation strategies on topics including teenage issues, cyberbullying, alcohol, illicit drugs, mental health, respectful relationships and sexual health.

ASSESSMENT

Students will complete a variety of assessment tasks throughout the semester, including:

- Investigation into life as a teenager
- Test on alcohol
- Presentation on drugs in society
- Respectful Relationships Case Study

Contribution: There is no charge for this subject

ELECTIVE SUBJECTS

The Arts

VISUAL COMMUNICATION DESIGN

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In Visual Communication & Design, students are introduced to developing skills and practices to effectively communicate ideas and messages. This subject includes the use of design thinking skills, ICT skills and problem solving using the design process. Drawing conventions and the use of design elements and principles are major areas studied. Students will explore a range of materials, media, methods and technologies to plan and make visual communications for specific purposes and audiences. Tasks will delve into investigating, making, analysing and evaluating how a designer generates, develops and presents their design ideas. Original work produced by the students will give them the opportunity to experience the role of a designer and produce posters, package designs, technical drawings and drawings from observation and brands.

ASSESSMENT

- Visual Diary entries and annotations
- Demonstration of the understanding of the design process and drawing conventions
- Finished designs
- Research, reflection and evaluation

Contribution: \$30 for materials and equipment (subject to College Council Ratification)

DRAMA – PRINCIPLES OF PERFORMANCE

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Students will study the elements of performance, continuing on from knowledge and skills developed in Year 7 and Year 8 Drama. They will explore different acting techniques and experiment with a range of processes used for character development. Students will explore and research different theatrical styles from a variety of cultural contexts. Students will learn how dramatic and stagecraft elements enhance a performance and will use various starting points to create their own performances.

ASSESSMENT

- Practical Performance: ongoing teacher assessment of performances, and constant verbal feedback
- Peer Assessment: peer assessment and feedback of skills, ideas and narrative
- Self assessment: constant student reflection and evaluation
- Research Assessment: research and respond to cultural, historical dramatic influences

Contribution: \$10 for materials and equipment (subject to College Council Ratification)

ART PRACTICES

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Students will investigate a variety of art experiences which will further develop their artistic skills and knowledge. They will engage on a journey of discovery, experimentation and problem solving using visual language, techniques, technologies and practices. Some methods explored will include printmaking, painting, collage, photography, drawing and sculpture. Students will analyse and evaluate artwork and discuss the influence of history, culture and society in art practices by studying selected art movements.

ASSESSMENT

- Visual Diary entries
- Sketching, experimentation and planning
- Finished artwork
- Self assessment, reflection and evaluation
- Written analysis and evaluation of artwork, influences, movements and exhibitions

Contribution: \$40 for materials and equipment (subject to College Council Ratification)

DRAWING THE WORLD AROUND YOU

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this subject students are given the opportunity to explore a wide range of drawing techniques and further enhance their existing drawing skills. This subject explores a number of drawing methods and techniques which encourages each student to experiment and learn how to represent everyday objects and communicate their own creative ideas by using drawing. The emphasis will be on learning how drawing can be employed as a useful communication tool, as an art method, as a possible career and a form of art therapy while developing the student's confidence in their drawing skills. Drawing methods such as drawing from observation, contour drawing, cartoons and caricatures, drawing with pen, ink, pastel and charcoal will be explored. Selected areas of art history will be studied to gain an understanding of how drawing has been influenced by different cultures, times and beliefs.

ASSESSMENT

- Visual Diary entries
- Sketching, experimentation and planning
- Finished artworks
- Analysis and evaluation

Contribution: \$10 for materials and equipment (subject to College Council Ratification)

CONTEMPORARY MUSIC

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This unit is for students who are currently enrolled in lessons (either at Norwood or external to Norwood) for guitar, strings, piano, voice, percussion, woodwind and brass. Students will compose, perform and present musical works. Students will perform 'covers' from 1950s to the present, as well as their own compositions. There will be opportunities for students to explore music technology, using composing software programs. Theory and aural work will be tailored to students' theory background with a focus on Grade 2 or 3 Theory.

ASSESSMENT

- Solo and Group Performances: teacher assessment, verbal and written feedback;
- Aural and Theory: written responses (singing and listening activities);
- Research Task: responses based on 2 solo/group pieces;
- Composition: composition based on a specific style using music software program.

Contribution: \$20 for materials and equipment (subject to College Council Ratification)

MUSIC TECHNOLOGY

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Students will learn to use music software programs such as Garage Band, Muscore, Cubase and Audacity. This will give students access to creating their own songs, creating music for film and recording a live performance. Students will learn about correct placement and use of microphones, recording spaces and placement of player/s in order to achieve the best sound results. Theory and aural work will be tailored to students' theory background with a focus on Grade 2 or 3 Theory.

ASSESSMENT

- Writing a song
- Writing music for a short film clip
- Writing a score for at least four instruments
- Setting up equipment to record live performances
- Music theory exercises
- Research tasks

Contribution: \$40 for materials and equipment (subject to College Council Ratification)

CERAMICS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Students will have the opportunity to explore a range of hand building techniques and skills such as pinch, coil, and slab construction. This will be followed by the production of a folio of finished pieces, which showcase the individuality and creative expression of each student. Works produced will be functional, decorative and sculptural in nature. Students will immerse themselves in investigating different ceramic artists, whilst developing a variety of building processes and techniques.

ASSESSMENT

- Practical assessment: folio of final pieces
- Peer assessment: classroom discussion on construction issues/areas for improvement
- Self assessment: individual reflection on each ceramic piece with problems and solutions recorded for each project

Contribution: \$45 for materials and equipment (subject to College Council Ratification)

MEDIA: DIGITAL DIMENSIONS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Creativity comes in all shapes and forms, and in 'practical performance' students get a chance to try their hand at a big range of the latest technologies and art forms – from comic book designs to photography, theatre performance and a school TV production.

ASSESSMENT

- Practical activities that will enable students to create products in a diverse range of mediums
- Collaborative and individual tasks that require students to take on roles with parallels in art, media and performance industries
- Opportunities to use the latest technologies to create exciting media products
- Teacher, peer and self assessment of collegiate activity and work

Contribution: \$40 for materials and equipment (subject to College Council Ratification)

LANGUAGE ELECTIVE

FRENCH - (Full Year Study - Semester 1 and 2)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Development of the four skills of language acquisition (reading, speaking, writing and understanding) as dictated by the content of selected texts. General content areas will include household chores, parts of the body, French celebrities, French film and daily routines. Students have the opportunity to participate in the prestigious Berthe Mouchette poetry competition, conducted by the Alliance Francaise.

ASSESSMENT

- Listening and spoken tasks
- Role play(s)
- Project work
- Written presentations, letters, stories
- Reading and pronunciation
- Tests (spoken and written)
- Grammar structure and writing skills
- ICT to enhance all of the above

NOTE: If you choose this elective, please make sure that you choose **both** units:

French Semester 1 & French Semester 2

Contribution: \$10 for materials and equipment (subject to College Council Ratification)

ENGLISH ELECTIVE

JOURNALISM

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this subject students will engage with contemporary media sources and explore a variety for journalistic writing styles. Promoting an understanding of form and opportunities for creativity, students will interpret and craft persuasive, investigative and informative responses. Emphasising communication skills, the course includes skill development in ICT, creating Podcasts and considering the stylistic implications of formatting and print media. 'Journalism' will also support students in developing their written expression – particularly regarding appropriate language choices for specific audiences and purposes.

'Journalism' will provide students with an opportunity to write about relevant matters that interest them, as well as supporting the development of key skills necessary for senior English courses (including VCE and VM).

ASSESSMENT:

- Researching and creating an informative report
- Developing a persuasive opinion piece or Editorial
- Conducting an interview of a 'significant person' and producing a Podcast

Contribution: \$30 for materials and equipment (subject to College Council Ratification)

HEALTH and PHYSICAL EDUCATION ELECTIVES

OUTDOOR and RECREATION STUDIES

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

In this unit students will develop the skills required to plan and participate safely in outdoor and recreation activities. Students will study a range of activities which include:

- A variety of excursions/camps
- Bush walking and camping skills
- Beach and water safety skills
- Cathedral Wilderness Camp (three days overnight hiking camp)
- Lorne Surf Camp
- Snorkeling (Semester 1) or Cross country skiing (Semester 2)
- Rock climbing
- Bike education and touring

Students will also participate in a variety of incursions during school time including bush craft, archery, initiative games, first aid, survival, menu planning and camp cooking skills.

This unit will enable students to:

- Develop skills for safe and meaningful involvement in the outdoors
- Understand and have an appreciation of the environment
- Work effectively as an individual and as a group member
- Experience a wide view of nature and understand the scope of outdoor and recreation activities
- Develop and display leadership skills

ASSESSMENT

- Two major written reports based on the two camps
- Class worksheets
- Written reports from topics such as hypothermia, alpine areas, national parks, minimal impact skills, bike education
- Participation in outdoor activities
- Participation in teamwork and initiative games

Please note: students are unable to complete both Outdoor and Recreation Studies and Advance.

Contribution: \$570 for camps and excursions (subject to College Council Ratification)

TECHNOLOGY ELECTIVES

WOOD

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Students will build on their knowledge from Year 7 and Year 8 in Materials Technology. Students will design, manufacture and evaluate a range of products using different types of wood. Students will investigate the environmental issues associated with using a semi renewable material such as timber.

ASSESSMENT

- Design portfolios and written tasks
- Evaluation and assessment of the design and production of a product

Contribution: \$60 for materials and equipment (subject to College Council Ratification)

METAL and SILVER

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Students will build on their knowledge from Year 7 and Year 8 in Materials Technology. Students will complete projects using the materials of Metal and Silver with elements of design, creativity and production. Students investigate, design, produce, analyse and evaluate their projects.

ASSESSMENT

- Design portfolios and written tasks
- Evaluation and assessment of the design and production of a product

Contribution: \$60 for materials and equipment (subject to College Council Ratification)

GAMEMAKING & MICROPROGRAMMING

Making and micro programming provides students with an introduction to automated systems and robotics via the BBC micro:bit. The bulk of the course involves solving logic puzzles and using the BBC micro:bit to create a reaction time sensor, coin flipper, magic button trick, rock paper scissors game, wearable technology (pedometer) and others. The logic behind safe railway crossings and autonomous cars is investigated. The skills learned are then put to use creating a final project. The micro:bit must be bought by each student at cost of approx. \$30. (It is used again the following year in Year 10, where electronics is introduced, along with simple robotics.) Later in this course students use the GameMaker development environment to create some simple two-dimensional games. Students investigate, design, produce, analyse and evaluate their projects.

ASSESSMENT ^[1]_[SEP]

- Design portfolios and written tasks ^[1]_[SEP]
- Evaluation and assessment of the design and production of a product ^[1]_[SEP]

Contribution: \$30 for materials and equipment (subject to College Council Ratification)

BIOTECHNOLOGY

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Biotechnology is an exciting field in Science that aims to explore the natural world in pursuit of inspiration for scientific innovation. In this unit, students will explore advances in the field of biotechnology, including historical advances in agriculture and animal domestication, modern gene research and genetic engineering, and biomimicry, the process of emulating solutions that exist in nature. Students will work in teams to plan and develop solutions to real-world problems by exploring aspects of the natural world.

Students will also have the opportunity to explore the issues of sustainability and climate change, with a solutions-based focus within the school and the local community.

This elective will run in our new STEM Centre Maker Space, and training will be provided for the proper use of the new equipment.

ASSESSMENT

- Annotated research
- Annotated log books including self-reflection
- Design portfolios
- Peer assessment
- Product presentation to teachers, community members and businesses

Contribution: \$35 for materials and equipment (subject to College Council Ratification)

MARVELLOUS MEALS

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Students plan, prepare and present a variety of delicious meals that meet the nutritional, budgetary and social needs of individuals and families. Productions focus on daily meals and highlight the importance of convenient, nutritious breakfasts, healthy and creative lunches and wholesome family dinners that include dessert. A range of foods, preparation processes and equipment will be used, including grilling, baking, frying and microwaving. Design scenarios on breakfast, lunch and dinner will enable the development of skills in investigating, generating ideas, collaborating, managing, producing and evaluating.

ASSESSMENT

Folio and Production work including:

- Breakfast Challenge and production folio
- Burger Challenge task
- Mystery Box task (if time permitting)
- Production of a range of meals, including: breakfasts, brunches, lunches, dinners, entrees, main meals and desserts

Contribution: \$80 for materials and equipment (subject to College Council Ratification)

CAFÉ BAKERY

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Students will produce bakery/café style sweet and savoury food items. A variety of cakes, pastries, slices and biscuits are generated using a range of processes such as creaming, beating, rubbing in and melt and mix. Design scenarios on create a muffin, fill the cookie canister and participation in the decorated cupcake competition enable the development of skills of investigating, generating creative solutions, producing and evaluating bakery and café products.

ASSESSMENT

Folio and Production work, including:

- Design a Muffin task
- Creative Cup Cakes folio task
- Design a Gingerbread House
- Pop Up Café team event
- Production of a range of cakes, pastries, breads, slices and biscuits

Contribution: \$60 for materials and equipment (subject to College Council Ratification)

STEP INTO FASHION AND CRAFT

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Students will be introduced to fashion design garment construction. Basic sewing skills are extended, and new skills introduced including sewing techniques for woven and stretch fabrics, and the use of the overlocker. Students will also become familiar with commercial pattern reading. Design scenarios will enable the development of skills in investigating, designing, producing and evaluating.

ASSESSMENT

Folio and Production work, including:

- Construction of a folded bag
- Street wear/ leisure wear, including boxer shorts and hoodie production
- Fashion drawing

Special projects are undertaken throughout the course at an additional cost to the student.

Contribution: \$30 for materials and equipment (subject to College Council Ratification)

SCIENCE ELECTIVE

FORENSICS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Students will learn the importance of using good scientific techniques to collect evidence from crime scenes. They will be introduced to DNA technology and how to prepare, analyse and report on findings. Students will gain a greater appreciation of the concepts of Justice and Ethics and how they are important considerations when conducting field work. Students will learn to appreciate the need for Forensic Science and techniques to collect and analyse evidence.

Through a focus on practical science and inquiry skills, as well as scientific ways of observing, questioning and thinking, students will learn how to gather various pieces of evidence to come to a calculated conclusion. Students will match blood and hair samples, identify and take fingerprints, evaluate handwriting and autopsy results, go through witness testimonials and learn how to identify deception in people and use logic to put everything together.

Students will learn and practise the skills of a forensic scientist. These include:

- Problem-solving
- Looking for clues, making inferences
- Blood splatter
- Gunshot residue
- Chromatography
- Fingerprinting
- DNA analysis and comparison
- Reliability of eyewitness accounts
- Mock crime scene
- Fabric analysis
- Microscopy
- Historical Forensics
- Ethics and Justice.

ASSESSMENT

- Practical Tasks
- Research Assessments
- Case Studies
- Student Presentations.

Contribution: TBA – As this is a new subject in 2025, cost still to be determined. Price will be updated as soon as possible.