

Every day, a discovery.

Year 9 Curriculum Handbook

one in the spirit

Year 9 Curriculum Handbook

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The information contained in this publication is correct at the time of printing but may be subject to change.

Students and parents are advised to refer to the school website www.caseygrammar.vic.edu.au for the most recent updates, prior to making subject selections.

Year 9 Overview

Introduction

In Year 9 students undertake the traditional core subjects to strengthen the foundation skills essential to learning. This core is supplemented by a broad range of electives designed to cater for students' changing interests and subject preferences as they transition through the school. By the end of Year 9 many students have discovered their true academic strengths because the elective program has enabled them to explore a range of subjects.

At Year 9 students also participate in the Year 9 Program, a course specifically designed to meet the needs of this particular age group. Students are exposed to a range of opportunities and skills to foster:

- Motivation and engagement
- A positive, productive and strong working relationship with teachers and peers
- A sense of belonging
- Creative and critical thinking skills

The Year 9 Program

Year 9 students are involved in a holistic program which encourages students to take on roles of responsibility in their homes, local communities and within the school gates. Participation in this program is integral to the successful completion of Year 9. The program empowers students to see connections between school life and that of the 'outside world'. The aim is to engage students in the decision-making processes of life. Consequently, over and above their academic studies, the students will be encouraged to focus on school-based service, community service and be challenged to explore life beyond their immediate surroundings.

The Year 9 Program consists of a variety of tasks, activities and units of work. Essentially, the program is used to encourage all students to be 'the best they can be'. Involvement provides the students with opportunities to reinforce and develop essential life skills such as effective time management practices, positive study habits, greater responsibility, increased regard for others and more acute understanding of themselves as a member of a wider community.

Key focus areas:

- City Experience / Northern Territory Lilla Community Service
- Life skills: career prospects, interview skills, how to make phone calls, prepare meals and budgets. 'The Real Game'
- Community and beyond
- Reflecting on learning

Year 9 Overview

Home Study

At Casey Grammar School students are expected to take appropriate responsibility for their learning and this includes a well-managed home study routine.

At each level we encourage students to organise their time around a Study Session of concentrated, uninterrupted application several times a week. In each session students should have a number of things they set themselves to achieve.

Homework may include:

- Assigned homework exercises
- Practising skills
- Reading - as one of the most vital skills for language development and building personal learning skills students are expected to read widely at home
- Independent research
- Preparatory work for class activities
- Reviewing work - students must develop a routine of regular review as tests and exams form a substantial percentage of each term's results.
- Summarising class notes to reflect on learning is crucial for learning success
- Individual inquiry and creative pursuits to build lifelong learning skills

At Secondary School the benefits of homework are well supported by research. The homework areas outlined above show there is never a reason for students to say, "No home study tonight!" Nor is there a reason for students to miss deadlines as the school provides many opportunities for students to catch up during lunch time and after school.

At Casey Grammar we work hard to ensure teachers set effective and achievable homework. Parents need to be aware that sometimes a student who appears to have 'too much' homework might actually be working on material that should have been completed during class time. In such situations a review of the student's learning behaviours will take place in conjunction with the class teacher.

Suggested Home Study Sessions	
Year Level	Study Session
Year 7	10 x 30 minutes
Year 8	14 x 30 minutes
Year 9	12 x 45 minutes
Year 10	14 x 45 minutes
Year 11	15 x 50 minutes
Year 12	21 x 50 minutes

Year 9 Overview

Curriculum Map

Year 9 Breadth Sequence of Schooling		
Core Subjects Compulsory	Electives Semester Based	Specialised Study / Pathways
English	Mathematics Extension <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data Analysis 	Year 9 Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mind and Spirit: community service, leadership and learning Developing Minds for the Future including creating, respectful and ethical minds City Experience Northern Territory Experience Co-curricular Activities Pastoral Care <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Habits of Mind Thinking Tools Values Education Study Skills Teamwork Time Management Personal Health Relationships Research Skills
Mathematics	Humanities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Myths and Legends 	
Humanities	Science Extension <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forensics Genetics, Reactions and the Road 	
Science	Health and Physical Education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Duke of Edinburgh Sports Coaching Health and Exercise Science Lifestyle and Recreation 	
Economics, Civics and Citizenship	Language <ul style="list-style-type: none"> French (two semesters) 	
Health and Physical Education	Performing Arts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drama - Script to Screen Performance Music 	
Religion	Visual Arts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Art Visual Communication and Design (VCD) 	
	Specialist Areas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Product Design and Technology Digital Photography Money Matters Digital Technologies & Analytics ICT Extension Journalism 	

The final subject offerings are subject to sufficient student demand, availability of teaching staff and any resource and timetabling constraints.

Year 9

Core Subjects

English

The Year 9 English course continues to build on the domains of Speaking and Listening, Writing, and Reading and Responding.

Students have the opportunity to evaluate and demonstrate understanding in written responses. Students have the opportunity to discuss a range of literary, informative and persuasive texts. Grammar, punctuation, spelling and vocabulary skills are essential components in each unit of work to extend students' understanding of how language works.

Students will explore graphic novels, a 'coming of age' film, and various fiction, non-fiction and media texts. Students learn how these texts can be discussed and analysed in relation to themes, ideas and historical and cultural contexts. They continue to develop their written and oral persuasive skills and practise creative writing.

Units of Study / Topics	Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Graphic novels – including students create a graphic novel• Novel analysis – characters, purpose and themes• Understanding how language is used to persuade• Film study• Thematic studies e.g. teenage issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Text response essay• Oral presentation on an issue• Analysis of persuasive language in media• Creative writing – short story

Year 9

Core Subjects

Mathematics

Year 9 Mathematics continues the shift in mathematics learning to more abstract ideas. Through key activities such as the exploration, recognition and application of patterns, the capacity for abstract thought can be developed and the ways of thinking associated with abstract ideas can be illustrated.

The foundations built in previous levels prepare students for this change. Previously established mathematical ideas can be drawn upon in unfamiliar sequences and combinations to solve non-routine problems and to consequently develop more complex mathematical ideas. However, students of this age also need an understanding of the connections between mathematical concepts and their application in their world as a motivation to learn. This means using contexts directly related to topics of relevance and interest to this age group.

Units of Study / Topics	Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Number and financial mathematics• Solving simultaneous equations• Using Pythagoras' theorem and trigonometry• Linear relations• Measurement• Indices and surds• Geometry• Algebra• Using basic probability and statistics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Topic tests• Assignments• Problem solving

Additional Information

Students undertake a Maths Mate homework program that runs parallel to the conventional course. This program encourages students to constantly improve and consolidate their overall mathematical skills on a weekly basis.

Each student is also assessed on an individual basis for extension or remedial mathematics where necessary and individual learning programs are implemented as required.

Year 9

Core Subjects

Humanities

Geography

At Year 9 students will study two units of study: Biomes and Food Security and Geographies of Interconnections.

Biomes and Food Security focuses on investigating the role of the biotic environment and its role in food and fibre production. Students will investigate the capacity of the world's environments to sustainably feed the projected future population, in the face of competing land uses such as biofuel production and urbanisation.

Geographies of Interconnections focuses on investigating how people, through their choices and actions, are connected to places throughout the world in a wide variety of ways, and how these connections help to make and change places and their environments. The interconnections between people are explored in many ways; for example, through the products people buy and communication technologies.

Throughout these units, students will collect, record and analyse a variety of geographical data and information. They will evaluate it and present their final product in a variety of formats.

Key inquiry questions for Year 9 are:

- What are the causes and consequences of change in places and environments and how can this change be managed?
- What are the future implications of changes to places and environments?
- Why are interconnections and interdependencies important for the future of places and environments?

Units of Study / Topics	Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Biomes and Food Security• Geographies of Interconnections	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Designing web sites• Research assignments• Class tests• Oral presentations• Analysis tasks• Mapping tasks

Year 9

Core Subjects

Humanities

History

The Year 9 History Curriculum provides a study of the history of the modern world from 1750 to 1918. The content provides students with the opportunities to develop their historical understanding through key concepts of: using and identifying relevant evidence, continuity and change, cause and effect, historical significance and chronology.

Students will examine the movements of people throughout the world and how this impacted on the creation and development of nations. They will study the Industrial Revolution in depth and identify how the technological developments of this time impacted on the lives of people. Students will identify how significant economic, social and political ideas influenced the rise of nationalism and led to the outbreak of WW1. They will investigate the events of WW1 and Australia's role in these, as well as the significance of WW1 to Australia and its global relationships.

The key enquiry questions for Year 9 History are:

- What were the changing features of the movements of people from 1750 to 1918?
- How did new ideas and technological developments contribute to change in this period?
- What was the origin, development, significance and long-term impact of imperialism in this period?
- What was the significance of World War I?

Units of Study / Topics	Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Making of the Modern World: Industrial Revolution; including Australia and Asia during this era• The Modern World and Australia: World War I	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Research assignments• Primary and secondary source analysis• Variety of assessment tasks including: extended writing; role plays; oral presentations; discussions; and multiple choice and short answer test questions• End of semester exam

Year 9

Core Subjects

Science

The Year 9 Science course is designed to provide students with a thorough understanding in the four key areas of Science:

- Biological Science
- Physical Science
- Chemical Science
- Earth and Space Science

Whilst consolidating and extending the skills developed in the junior secondary years, students will use scientific knowledge, curiosity and intuition to test and confirm their understanding. Students are encouraged to integrate their knowledge of scientific processes to create a deeper understanding of Science and its relationship to the world. They are taught to develop questions and hypotheses that can be investigated using a range of inquiry skills and will begin to independently design and improve appropriate methods of investigation including the control and accurate measurement of variables and systematic collection of data. Students will use appropriate scientific language, representations and text types when communicating their findings and ideas for specific purposes. The subject also aims to provide important developmental and preparatory skills to aid the student with the study of Science at a VCE level.

Units of Study / Topics	Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Coordination and Control• Disease• Heat• Electricity• Geological Activity• Chemistry• Environmental Science• Science Inquiry•	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Topic tests• Practical reports / skills• Model building / use• Project / assignment work• End of year theoretical and practical exam

Additional Information

Students will be given the opportunity to take part in various extension activities\excursions including: Forensic Investigations and DNA Science, The Green Gene and access to The University of New South Wales Science In Schools Competition and The National Chemistry Quiz.

Year 9

Core Subjects

Economics, Civics and Citizenship

Economics introduces students to the structure and management of the economy and its resources, the world of work and business and Australia's political and legal systems.

It promotes the development of enterprise skills and attributes, Civics and Citizenship education and an understanding of the values which underpin Australian society.

At Year 9, students studying economics will develop consumer and financial literacy skills, enterprising capabilities, and the ability to make responsible and informed decisions. These skills will allow students to face challenges of the 21st century, to maximise their opportunities for productive and rewarding futures and to make a contribution to the economy. The curriculum will enable students to engage with the economy as business and financially literate citizens locally, nationally, regionally and globally, both now and in the future.

The Civics and Citizenship curriculum is designed to foster students' commitment to national values of democracy, equity and justice. This curriculum will develop students' appreciation of Australia's diversity and, overall, "what it means to be a citizen". It explores ways in which students participate in Australia's civic life and make a positive contribution as local and global citizens.

Units of Study / Topics	Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Our place Australian economy• The world of work• The Australian political system• The Australian legal system	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ASX share market game• Company research assignment• Drafting a resume• Creating a political party• Text response essay

Year 9

Core Subjects

Health and Physical Education

Physical Education at Year 9 aims to develop students' confidence in using more specialised movement skills and complex movement strategies within a range of movement environments. Whilst doing this, students will seek ways to evaluate and refine the quality of their own performance, including developing their use of more complex movement strategies and tactics. The course also aims to increase students' motivation to become active, as well as maintain a level of fitness that allows them to participate in many types of physical activities and ultimately maintain a healthy lifestyle.

They will also experience different roles that contribute to successful participation in physical activity by actively participating in a SEPEP unit (Sport Education in Physical Education Programs) and displaying appropriate sporting conduct by implementing fair play and good sporting behaviours. Students will analyse how physical activity and sport participation can influence an individual's identities and explore the role participation plays in shaping cultures. The curriculum also provides opportunities for students to refine and consolidate the personal and social skills necessary to demonstrate leadership and collaboration in a range of physical activities.

Units of Study / Topics	Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Challenge and adventure activities• Games and sports• Lifelong physical activities• Rhythmic and expressive movement activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Active participation in class activities• Use of appropriate motor skills and tactics• Personal fitness goal evaluation and fitness testing• Health assignments

Additional Information

Because of the school's firm belief in the importance of physical activity, students must participate in this subject. They will not be excused from this subject without a signed note from their parents which explains the nature of their illness. If a physical problem persists, the school will request a doctor's certificate. For many injuries, there is often a modified activity that students will be able to participate in to ensure they are gaining something meaningful from their time in the subject.

Year 9

Core Subjects

Religion

In their Religious Education studies, Year 9 students will gain a better understanding of their own values and the positive values that they can see in others. Students will have the opportunity to explore the development of values and individual character.

In Semester 2 students will study Philosophy where we will look at: wisdom; awareness; beauty; how to become more grounded and confident; steps to overcome the limiting effects of negative emotions.

Units of Study / Topics	Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Values• Philosophy	<p>Students will be expected to complete an assessment task for each unit studied.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Oral presentation• Philosophical analysis• Writing tasks• Research report

Year 9

Electives

Mathematics

Data Analysis

Data is everywhere. It exists in every magazine, newspaper and billboard advertisement. The aim of this elective is to explore where and how data is obtained. We will look at the need for data and real life applications with case studies of where it is used effectively in society.

Some of these uses include marketing, sales, research, and product development. Some real world analysis tools will also be covered and introduced. This will include forecasting, trend analysis and patterns, predominantly through the use of technology.

Units of Study / Topics	Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data in the real world• Data applications in marketing, sales, research and product development• Ratios• Predicting trends• Time series	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assignments and problem solving tasks• Group work and analysis of data using tools such as spreadsheets, graphing packages and other relevant technology

Year 9

Electives

Humanities

Myths and Legends

The course is divided into two parts:

- Ancient myths and legends including those from Greece, Rome, Egypt, Norse, Celtic and Aztec beliefs
- Medieval myths and legends including those from medieval times and more recent times

The course further develops History based concepts and skills, in particular focusing on Historical sources as evidence and Historical significance of individuals and events.

Units of Study / Topics	Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ancient myths and legends• Modern myths and legends	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Research assignment• Oral presentation• Class activities

Year 9 Electives

Science Forensics

This one semester elective is designed to allow students to gain an understanding of the work of a forensic scientist and examine the many different career paths available in this area. It will also encourage students to develop the skills to interpret forensic evidence and infer which subjects are guilty of mock crimes and to gather evidence from mock crime scenes.

Whilst studying the key areas above, students will undertake the development of their observation and analytical skills. Students are encouraged to use their inquiry skills to develop hypotheses and independently and in group scenarios apply problem solving skills to solve crime scenes.

Units of Study / Topics	Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The history of forensics and how techniques and evidence analysis have improved• Different types of forensic scientists and the role of their specific profession• Collection and analysis of evidence from crime scenes• Test cases, past case analysis, crime scene evaluation and case solving techniques	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Practical reports and skills• Project and assignment work

Year 9 Electives

Science

Genetics, Reactions and the Road

This one semester elective is designed to provide students with a comprehensive base of scientific knowledge and skill to take with them into their VCE studies. It is advised that students wishing to undertake Science at the VCE level choose this subject to improve their preparation.

Whilst studying the key areas above, students will develop topic specific areas of skill and practical ability. Their analytical skills in relation to chemical experiments will be fostered and developed, whilst aiming to improve their ability to deduce, examine, hypothesize, investigate and conclude when conducting practical work. Students will be encouraged to relate their studies to 'everyday' reactions and tasks that can be found in society or at home.

Units of Study / Topics	Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introductory genetics• Dominant and recessive inheritance and pedigree analysis• DNA structure and function, and extraction techniques• Everyday reactions• The road	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Practical reports and skills• Project and assignment work

Year 9

Electives

Health and Physical Education Duke of Edinburgh

Students have the opportunity to earn the Duke of Edinburgh's Award in this elective. The program is a nationally recognised award which aims to "Give young people of all abilities the opportunity to volunteer in their communities, develop their skills, join in physical activity, and embark on adventurous journeys".

The core values of the award are: courage, community, innovation and integrity

Units of Study / Topics	Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Orienteering• First Aid• Map reading and navigation• Survival skills• Outdoor cooking / camp craft	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Practical participation• Written journals and reflections• First Aid theory• First Aid practical

Year 9

Electives

Health and Physical Education Sports Coaching

Students will develop specific coaching skills and strategies as they teach students in Years 3-6 in a variety of activities including; athletics, Australian rules football, basketball, hockey, soccer, netball, cricket, tennis and volleyball. They will be responsible for coaching teams during the Primary Lightning Premiership competitions and may be required to help umpire some of the games if confident.

There will also be some theory that is related to specific coaching principles and techniques that they can implement and consolidate in their practical coaching sessions.

Units of Study / Topics	Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Coaching philosophy• Communication• Planning sessions• Group management techniques• Feedback and sports psychology• Fitness training	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ability to design lessons that focus on the key skills for their designated sport• Ability to teach skills and strategies used in a range of sports and games• Ability to take on a leadership role

Year 9

Electives

Health and Physical Education

Health and Exercise Science

In this elective, students will learn about a variety of topics in a mixture of both practical and theoretical lessons. They will learn how to create their own sport specific fitness training program to enhance their performance. In doing so, they will cover all of the components of fitness, perform a variety of fitness tests, participate in an assortment of different training methods and seek to enhance their fitness levels through developing and completing a basic training program.

Aside from learning their basic anatomical terms, students will also study how the musculoskeletal system helps with movement and posture and how the cardiorespiratory systems changes and adapts in response to exercise. They will also explore the way sports technology is evolving and how this technology can help athletes improve their performance. Students will look into legal and illegal substances that athletes have taken to improve their performance and discuss why they may do this. Finally, they will learn about the importance of nutrition for general health, but also for optimum functioning of the human body, including in a sporting context.

Units of Study / Topics	Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sport training programs including fitness components, fitness testing, training methods and designing your own individualised sport training program• Musculoskeletal system• Cardiorespiratory system• Somatotyping and sports technology• Ways of enhancing sport performance• Nutrition	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participation in practical activities• Research assignments and tests• Evaluation of your sports training program

Year 9

Electives

Health and Physical Education Lifestyle and Recreation

Lifestyle and Recreation aims to develop the knowledge, understanding and skills each student needs to adopt an active and health-promoting lifestyle. Students will build upon their learning from Health and Physical Education in Years 7 and 8 and will participate in a wide variety of recreational activities, which promote encouragement of adopting an active lifestyle.

By engaging in a range of different physical activities, many of which could be maintained throughout their lifespan, Lifestyle and Recreation seeks to make a positive contribution to the holistic health of students. Students will also develop knowledge and understanding of the factors that influence participation in physical activity and the benefits of maintaining an active lifestyle all throughout the lifespan.

Units of Study / Topics	Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Practical activities, for example; beach volleyball, cycling, dance, yoga, cross fit, outdoor cooking, surfing, lawn bowls and several more• Theory will consist of surveying the local community for leisure activities and making recommendations to improve a person's lifestyle of various age brackets	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participation in the range of lifestyle and recreation activities• Written activity evaluations

Year 9 Electives

Language French

In learning a Language Other Than English students develop communication skills and knowledge, and come to understand social, historical, familial and other aspects of the specific language and culture of the speakers of the language they are studying. Language learning contributes to the development of inter-culturally aware citizens.

The course is structured around the knowledge, understandings and skills required to communicate in French, to be aware of language as a system and to gain cultural insights. Course content is centred on themes relating to everyday language use, covering topics relevant to the students' own language needs.

Year 9 and Year 10 French are pre-requisites for students wishing to study French in VCE.

A cultural and linguistic tour to New Caledonia is offered to students in alternating years.

Units of Study / Topics	Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Making weekend plans• Holidays, camping and festivals• Describing the weather• Wellbeing, sickness and health advice• Going shopping• Taking public transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regular tests of speaking, listening, reading and writing to monitor student progress and thus influence style and pace of teaching• Oral presentations including role-plays• Participation in group and individual activities• French poetry competition

Home Study

Students are expected to complete regular homework in French, including vocabulary revision on a nightly basis. Students should also maintain summary notes, particularly as there is a stronger focus on grammar (verb conjugation, tenses, adjectival agreement etc) than in previous years.

Regular written homework will also be set by the teacher, and students are encouraged to access recommended websites to increase their understanding of the French language and awareness of French culture.

Year 9

Electives

Performing Arts

Drama – Script to Screen

This elective allows students to explore and develop their characterisation and acting skills by creating their very own television program and movie. They will look at a variety of performance and acting styles, and film and television genres before scripting, filming and editing their own works. In doing so, students will learn about camera angles, filming, and editing techniques. They will also increase their dramatic vocabulary.

Units of Study / Topics	Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Developing characterisation• Narrative• Script writing• Film study• Screen acting techniques• Camera techniques• Genre	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Creation of a television program• Creation of a short film• Film analysis

Year 9

Electives

Performing Arts Performance

This elective provides an opportunity for students to build performance skills while creating a school-based presentation. This presentation will draw on the unique talents of the individuals within the class and will encompass Drama, Music, Dance and Multimedia.

Due to the changing class dynamic and talents, there is the potential for this elective to be different each year. The core elements, Performance, Music and Drama, will provide the framework for the subject.

Units of Study / Topics	Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Developing narrative• Creating drama works based on stimulus material• Interpreting character and story• Producing a showcase	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Short ensemble performance• Short individual performance• In Term 4, students will be expected to attend a presentation evening at which they will showcase their two items (a collaborative piece and an individual) developed throughout the semester

Year 9 Electives

Performing Arts Music

Year 9 Music has a focus on building and developing practical musical skills. Students will interpret, rehearse and perform solo and ensemble repertoire in a range of styles. They will develop aural and theory skills to enhance their performances and expand their knowledge of the elements of music.

Students are expected to have had at least 2 years of experience on musical instrument and be enrolled in instrumental music lessons. A keen willingness to learn performance skills is essential.

Units of Study / Topics	Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Music Analysis• Musicianship• Performance• Composition	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Performances – Group and Solo• Film analysis• Theory and Aural tests• Composition

Year 9 Electives

Visual Arts Art

This course encourages those who are willing to experiment to develop practical skills in traditional art methods alongside contemporary art media. The course will focus on the development of ideas and experimentation.

Develop confidence working with a range of art media that includes, paint, various drawing media alongside digital technology for a creative experience. Use 2D and 3D art techniques; these include drawing, painting, printmaking, digital art and sculpture to complete your own unique artworks.

Units of Study / Topics	Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Drawing from observation• Photomontage, painting and clay sculpture• Analysis / interpretation of surrealist artists• Stencil art and current issues• Printmaking linocuts and etching• Exploration of different media	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Skills and techniques in various drawing and painting mediums• Clay building technique• Printmaking folio• Development of a Studio process• Text response essay• Development of individual ideas• Analysis of artworks• Knowledge of art terms

Year 9

Electives

Visual Arts

Visual Communication and Design (VCD)

Visual Communication and Design is a bridge between an idea and its intended audience. It focuses on the design fields of communication, industrial and environmental. In this course students will extend their understanding of how ideas and information can be presented. They will develop new skills in freehand and instrumental drawing and also learn rendering techniques. Students will be able to use design elements and principles to present visually impacting designs. They will develop the ability to discuss the value of design and appreciate how it is used in the world around them. Students will learn how to use digital media to refine, arrange and create their own personalized designs. They will create designs for a specific audience and purpose.

Units of Study / Topics	Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Exploring media drawing• Design elements and principles• Logo and label design• One point and Two-point perspective• Instrumental drawings• Observational drawing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Media and rendering techniques• Skill and understanding of drawing methods• Knowledge of digital media• Understanding of design process• Visualisation and observational drawings• Instrumental drawing• Analysis of visual communication• Visual diary

Year 9

Electives

Specialist Areas

Product Design and Technology

This unit concentrates on interdisciplinary learning and further exploration of the use of hand tools used in Technology. Students will examine the use of hand power tools and machinery as an expansion of tool usage in the subject. This will lead to more detailed studies of safety in the workroom, in particular safe practices with power tools when working in close proximity. Students will look at complex joining processes.

The second focus will be on further developing and learning skills involved in producing a range of projects. Students will build on skills and knowledge in the area of design development.

The students will examine the origins of materials and their impact on the environment in the transformation from a raw material into a useable processed material. Students use wood, metals, plastic and paper to achieve a range of production outcomes.

The final section of the course involves a detailed self-evaluation which highlights the design process and areas of improvement.

Units of Study / Topics	Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Investigation• Design• Production• Evaluation• Projects such as: beach chair, camp stool, metal dustpan and longboard	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Theory will consist of a design folio containing: research, a design brief, proposal and working drawings, 2D / 3D visualisation drawings and evaluation• The practical component of this unit will consist of a number of small projects

Year 9

Electives

Specialist Areas

Digital Photography

This subject will introduce students to understanding and using a digital SLR camera. They will learn about the history of photography, cameras, lenses, exposure, aperture, shutter speed and ISO.

They will learn elements of composition, for example: light, focus, blur, position of objects in photo, Rule of Thirds, Leading Lines, camera position, distractions and motion.

Finally they will be introduced to black and white photography, using software to enhance photos, how to prepare for a camera 'shoot' and what makes a 'great' photo.

Students will use the school environment and also their everyday surroundings as subject matter to create unique and visually engaging photos and film. Students will also be introduced to movie making and in groups will create a short 3 minute silent film. They will investigate how music and film have been used in different ways by musicians and film makers. They will choose an appropriate piece of music to go with their film.

Units of Study / Topics	Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Movement and motion/ Macro photography• Composition in photography• Projection photography• Lighting in photography• Camera settings	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Folio - photograph• Understanding of composition• Development of photographic idea• Analysis of photographs• Understanding and technique with camera• Homework tasks and creative thinking

Year 9

Electives

Specialist Areas

Money Matters

This elective is designed to begin developing students' financial literacy skills by investigating topics that will help them operate in Australia's fast-paced consumer society.

The elective will help students begin to develop the skills and understanding required when making important financial decisions in the short-term and long-term with the aim of progressing them on the path of financial independence and success in life

Units of Study / Topics	Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How we can access money in today's society• Credit Cards – their positives and pitfalls• Savings and budgeting• Investment• Scams• Taxation – what you pay and why	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Research tasks with a variety of presentation formats• Digital presentation• Variety of class based tasks

Year 9

Electives

Specialist Areas

Digital Technologies & Analytics

Students apply thinking skills when considering how human interaction with networked systems introduces complexities surrounding access to, and the security and privacy of, data of various types. They learn about the importance of separating content, presentation and behavioural elements for data integrity and maintenance purposes.

Students explore how bias can impact the results and value of data collection methods and they use structured data to analyse, visualise, model and evaluate objects and events. They learn how to develop multilevel abstractions, identify standard elements such as searching and sorting in algorithms, and explore the trade-offs between the simplicity of a model and the faithfulness of its representation.

When analysing problems, students consider the functional and non-functional requirements of a solution by interacting with clients and regularly reviewing processes. They consolidate their algorithmic design skills to incorporate testing and review, and further develop their understanding of the user experience to incorporate a wider variety of user needs. Students progressively become more skilled at identifying the steps involved in planning solutions and developing detailed plans that are mindful of risks and sustainability requirements.

When creating solutions, both individually and collaboratively, and sharing them online, students comply with legal obligations, particularly with respect to the ownership of information. Across the band, students will have had opportunities to analyse problems and design, develop and evaluate a range of digital solutions, such as database-driven websites and artificial intelligence engines and simulations.

Units of Study / Topics	Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Basic HTML• Advanced HTML• Scratch• Gamemaker• Visual Basic• Visual Basic.NET• Adobe Dreamweaver• Expression Web	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Folio based• Extended projects

Year 9

Electives

Specialist Areas

ICT Extension

Coding & Web Design

Game Theory

This elective aims to give students an introduction to the rigours and challenges of computer game design by using Imperative Programming languages such as Visual Basic, Visual Basic.NET and GameMaker.

Some of the concepts that are covered are 3D graphical design techniques such as skin design, animation and collisions, as used by the computer game industry.

Also, it provides an introduction to Information Technology (IT) where IT refers to the process, applications and equipment by which we create, organise, analyse, present and communicate information in a range of formats including text, images and sound. This elective offers the students an introduction to four phases of the technology process: Investigating, Designing, Producing and Evaluating the software and hardware used by programmers throughout society. Students should gain a greater degree of understanding of the types of computer systems they will meet in industry and general society.

Units of Study / Topics	Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Basic HTML• Advanced HTML• Scratch• Gamemaker• Visual Basic• Visual Basic.NET• Adobe Dreamweaver• Expression Web	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Folio based• Extended projects

Year 9 Electives

Specialist Areas Journalism

Journalism is a one semester elective which is designed to help students focus on quality writing, tactics of persuasion in journalism and effective investigations and news reporting.

Students will have the opportunity to explore the language and structure of newspaper articles, current affairs and news programs, online news forums and radio interviews.

Units of Study / Topics

- Quality writing
- The Journalism Project
- Effective Research
- Fake News

Assessment

- Folio of media products and analysis



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Prep to Year 12

Every day, a discovery.