



Reservoir High School

Middle School Handbook 2027



ontents

- Welcome

- Year 9 Learning Program

- The Arts
- Design & Digital Technologies
- Advance
- Course Application Process

- Year 10 Learning Program

- Accelerated & Enrichment Studies
- Assessment & Reporting - VCE requirements
- Vocational Education & Training
- Course Application Process
- Year 10 Subjects



Welcome to Middle School

Middle School, encompassing Years 9 and 10, is an exciting stage of learning where students begin to develop greater independence and take more ownership of their education. A key feature of this phase is the increased choice, allowing students to explore their interests, strengths, and future pathways in a more personalised way.

While students continue to build strong foundations across core learning areas, they also have the opportunity to select subjects that align with their passions and goals. This balance of structure and flexibility supports students to grow in confidence, engage more deeply with their learning, and prepare for the transition into senior studies.



Principal's Message



AAat Reservoir High School, our Years 9 and 10 program provides an empowering learning environment where every student is known as both a person and a learner. The curriculum offers increasing breadth and depth, allowing students to explore their interests, develop their strengths, and begin shaping their future pathways.

Learning is supported through explicit instruction, inquiry and collaboration, with teaching that is differentiated and responsive to individual needs. Students build independence, self-efficacy and motivation through targeted support and strong assessment practices.

In Year 9, students access a broad range of electives to explore their passions, while in Year 10 they begin to focus their studies in preparation for senior pathways, including VCE, VCE-VM and VET. Comprehensive course counselling ensures informed decision-making.

We provide a safe, inclusive environment that supports wellbeing, builds resilience and fosters connections with the wider community. Through varied learning experiences and pathway opportunities, students are well prepared for future success as confident and capable young adults.

We are incredibly proud of our Years 9 and 10 program, which equips students with the skills, knowledge and attributes to thrive in their senior studies and beyond as resilient, motivated and active global citizens.

Our Values

Respect

Developing an understanding that all individuals are unique and can make valuable contributions to the community



Diversity

Promoting a sense of belonging through collaboration and mutual respect based on the principles of integrity, honesty and trust



Excellence

Empowering all students to achieve and celebrate their personal best within a culture of high expectations



Success

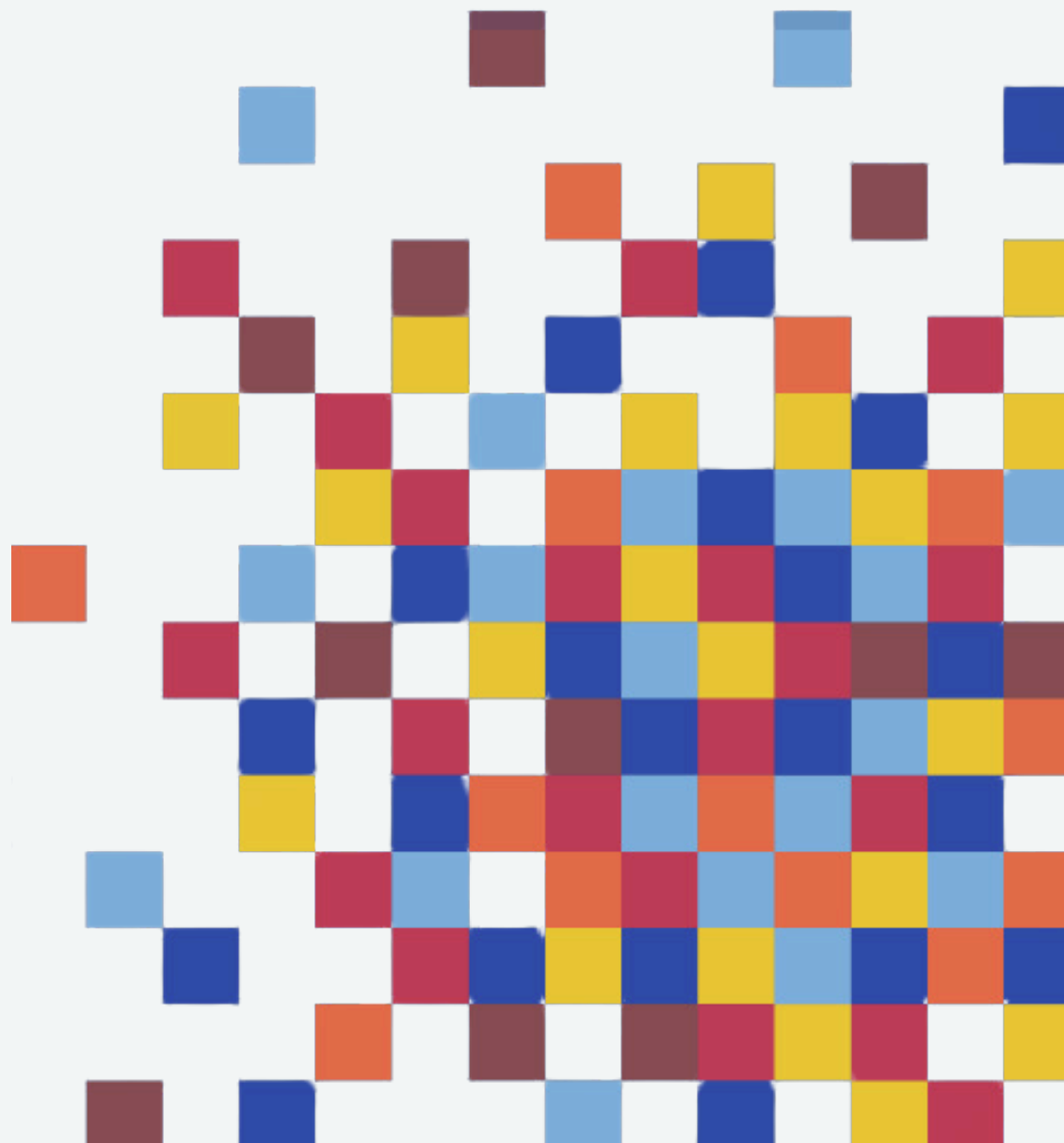
Demonstrating perseverance and hard work to achieve your dreams and goals



Lesson Model

At Reservoir High School, every lesson is designed to support students both academically and personally. Our lesson model provides a consistent and engaging structure across all classes, helping students know what to expect and feel confident in their learning. Lessons include clear explanations, opportunities to practise and apply new skills, support when needed, and time to reflect on learning. This approach helps create positive classrooms where students feel supported, challenged, and encouraged to achieve their best.

You can find the RHS Lesson Model on the following page.





Reservoir High School Lesson Model

INTRODUCTION TO THE LEARNING

My teacher welcomes us, sparking interest, reviewing past material, explaining goals, and outlining the lesson.

I am feeling welcomed, getting interested in new ideas, remembering past lessons, understanding my goals, and following the lesson outline.



Explicit instruction

My teacher simplifies information, breaks skills into steps, checks understanding, shows tasks, and helps if needed.

I am learning step-by-step, checking what I know, viewing worked examples, and practicing new skills.



Intervention

My teacher helps us, gives us feedback, asks questions, revisits skills, and works with groups of students.

I am getting help, receiving feedback, thinking more deeply, and revisiting skills.

Student-focused work time



Application & mastery

My teacher creates fun activities, encourages group work, praises our efforts, helps us set goals, and teaches us to plan and organise tasks.

I am doing fun and challenging activities, working in groups, being praised for my efforts, setting goals, and planning my tasks.



My teacher summarises the lesson, reviews key points, asks us what we have learned, and uses an exit ticket to check our understanding.

I am summarising the lesson, reviewing key points, sharing what I've learned, and using an exit ticket to check my understanding.

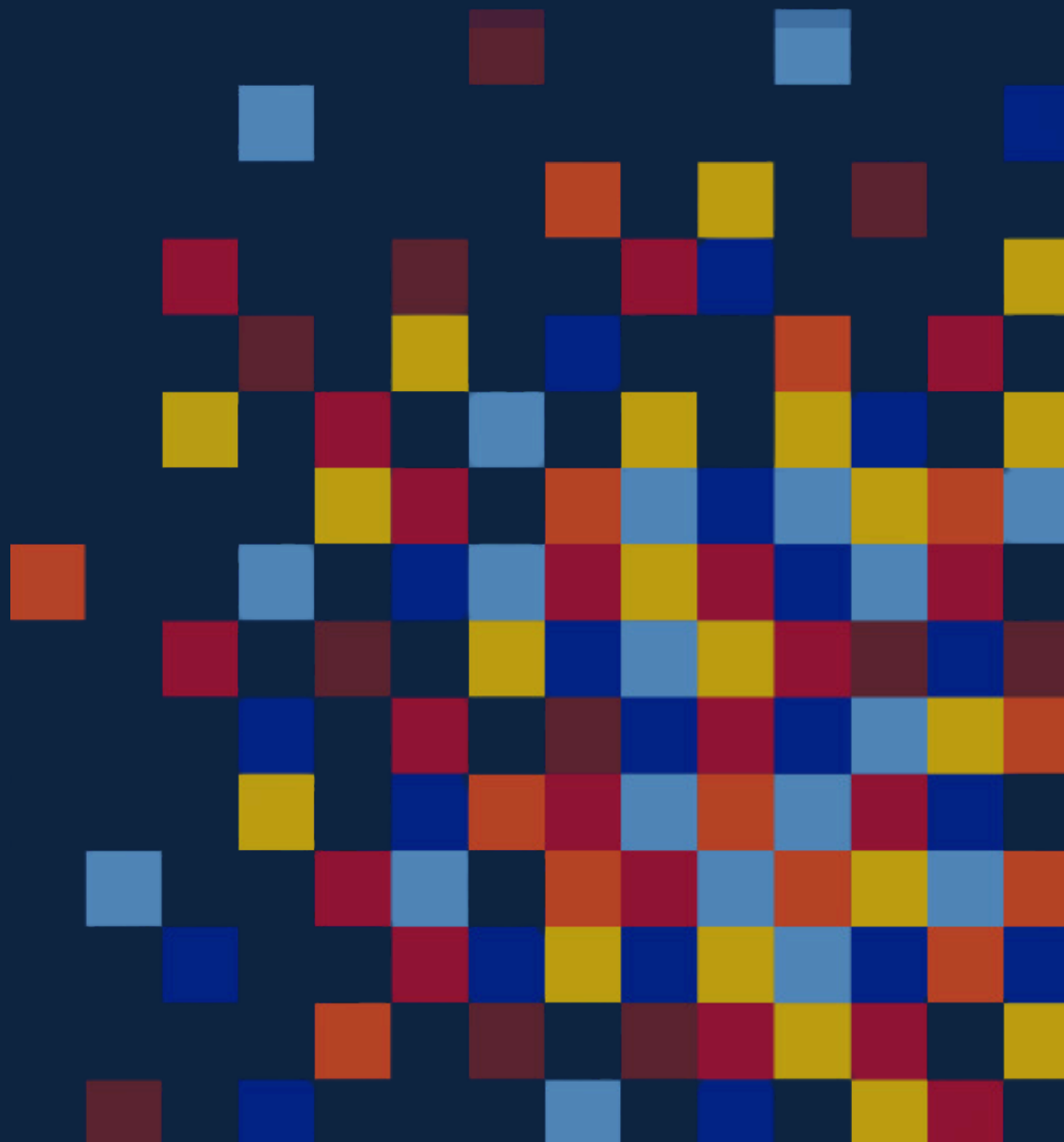
CONSOLIDATION OF THE LEARNING

School Wide Positive Behaviours

School-Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS) helps create a safe, respectful, and positive learning environment by teaching and recognising the behaviours that support success at school. Quick Praise points are giving to students who exhibit Reservoir High School's core values.

	Always	Learning Spaces	Shared Spaces	In the community	Online community
Respect	- We interact in a kind, safe, and fair manner - We acknowledge First Nations and their land on which we learn - We care for our school environment and equipment	- We work together so everyone in the classroom can excel - We are active listeners and positive participants - We follow teacher instructions - We treat others with kindness	- We use an appropriate voice level for the setting we are in - We wait patiently in line when expected - We use spaces for their intended purpose	- We uphold the values when travelling to and from school - We acknowledge the authority of people in our wider communities - We listen attentively to guest speakers and performers	- We are considerate and aware of peoples' privacy - We are thoughtful of others before posting comments or sharing material - We block, delete or report those who behave inappropriately
Excellence & Success	- We participate and try our personal best - We are organised and on time - We wear our uniform correctly and with pride	- We are prepared, ready and willing to learn - We contribute to a calm and orderly learning environment - We are willing to persist and be challenged in order to learn - We acknowledge and celebrate achievements	- We contribute to a calm, tidy and safe environment - We respect people's personal space - We follow school rules and lead by examples	- We represent the school positively and with pride - We value and recognise positive contributions to the community - We are outstanding citizens and demonstrate our school values	- We use online tools to support and extend our learning - We use online resources to produce our own work and acknowledge the source - We attend class with a fully charged computer and keep passwords confidential
Diversity	- We are inclusive, welcoming and kind to all - We accept everyone for who they are	- We all have the right to feel safe where we learn - We accept that everyone learns in different ways	- We are considerate of others' needs - We use inclusive and positive language	- We celebrate diverse groups - We interact with others using kindness and empathy	- We use kind, safe and fair language - We are supportive of different beliefs, culture and identities

Year 9 Learning Program



Year 9 Learning Program

Middle School begins in Year 9, marking an important transition as students enter their first year of increased choice and independence in learning. It is a time where students start to shape their own pathways, exploring new interests and taking greater ownership of their education.

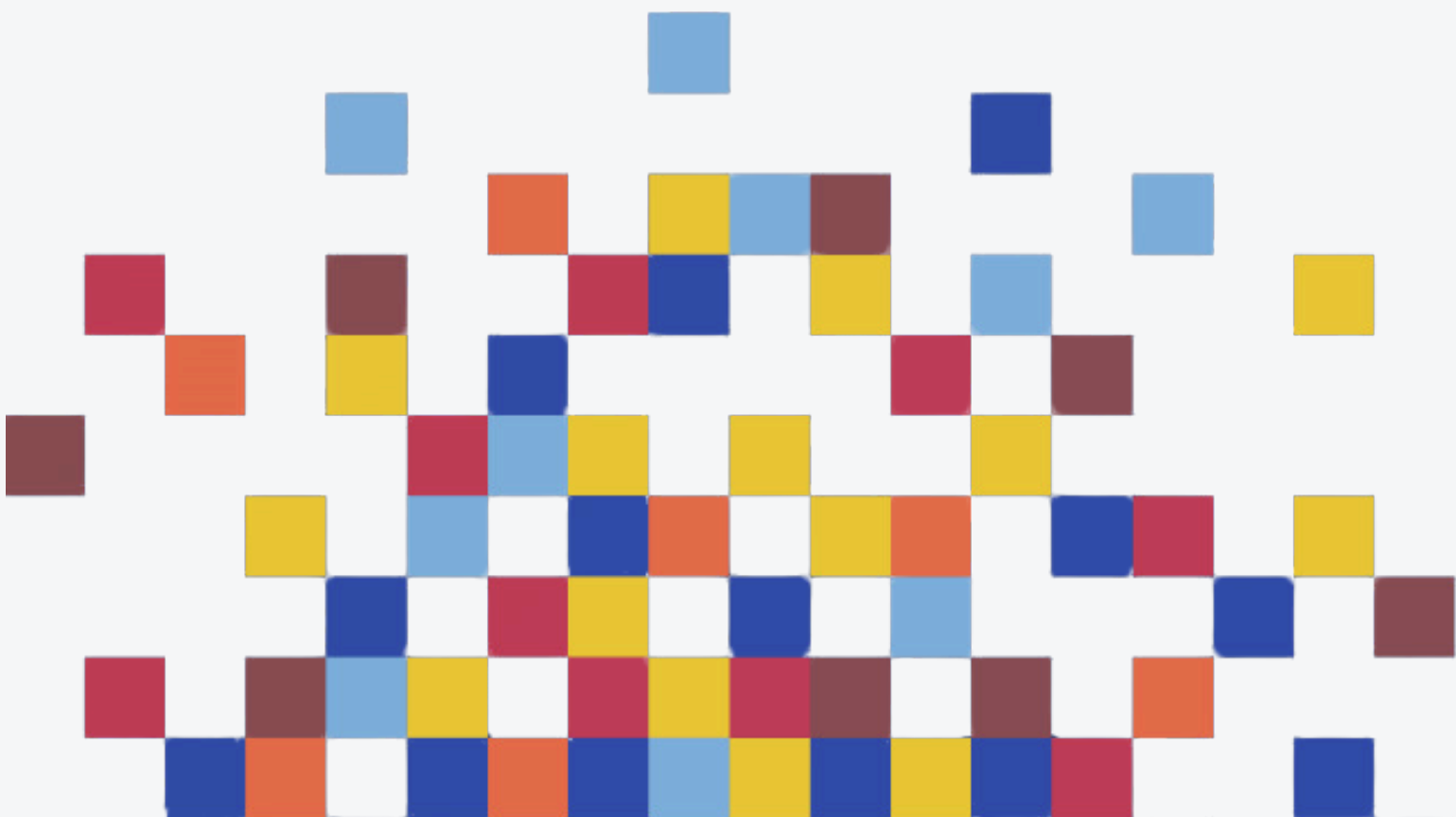
In Year 9, all students undertake a comprehensive Core program, including English/EAL, Humanities, Mathematics, Science, Health & Physical Education, Language, and IMPACT, all studied across the full year. Alongside these essential areas, students broaden their learning through four semester-based electives aligned with the VCE Arts and Design & Digital Technologies pathways.

Students select from two main elective blocks and must choose at least one subject from each:

- **The Arts Block:** Dance, Drama, Art, Music, Media, Visual Communication & Design
- **Technology Block:** Systems Technology & Robotics, Digital Technology (ICT), Product Design, Food Studies, STEM

This structure ensures both breadth and balance, giving students the opportunity to develop creativity, technical skills, and practical knowledge. For those seeking additional challenge and leadership development, students may also apply for the **Advance Leadership Program**, a year-long opportunity that further enriches their middle school experience.

Overall, the Year 9 program provides a supportive yet flexible environment, empowering students to begin taking greater ownership of their learning as they start to prepare for their future pathways.



The Arts

Art

Subject Overview

Art is a vibrant and enjoyable subject that gives students the freedom to explore their creative ideas using various materials and techniques including drawing, painting, ceramics, sculpture, and digital art. Discover captivating topics and themes such as self expression through abstract painting, popular culture and Pop Art, and producing clay sculptures. In this subject, students take charge of their own creative journeys, investigating these themes and documenting their processes in visual diaries before making their final artworks. Each topic delves into the works of renowned artists, offering a glimpse into different perspectives, historical moments, and cultural contexts.

Dance

Subject Overview

In this subject, students choreograph their own dances and refine the art of performance. They learn to combine dance elements, choreographic devices, and forms to communicate unique ideas. Students also rehearse and perform, showcasing their skills and creativity while practicing safe dance techniques. They explore the world of dance to develop technical and expressive skills across various styles and genres. Students analyse professional choreographers and evaluate the impact of dance across different cultures, times, and places. Dance is a dynamic, inspiring subject full of opportunities for students to express their ideas in movement

Drama

Subject Overview

Students gain basic skills in the Performing Arts through exploration of space, mime, movement and improvisation; they will also build up confidence in collaborative work and creative problem solving. Students will role-play, work from and write scripts and interpret both original and established playscripts. They will also study make-up, costumes, set design and construction. Emphasis is on participation and group work. Students go to see professional and/or amateur performances to learn about staging as well as participate in performance making/presentations.



The Arts

Music

Subject Overview

In Year 9 Music Performance, students deepen their understanding of music theory and its applications, expanding on their foundational knowledge. The curriculum features advanced concepts such as notation reading, chord recognition and scale identification aimed at enhancing their theoretical understanding. Students will refine their instrumental skills on their chosen instrument and perform in a class ensemble. Additionally, they will hone their critical listening abilities through interval and chord recognition exercises, analysing various pieces of music, and exploring a variety of music genres.

Visual Communication & Design

Subject Overview

Students are introduced to the concept of professional design. We ask the questions: “what is good design?” and “how can you communicate using a visual language?” Using a design process that involves research, development and artistic methods, students undertake graphic design projects that include book covers, package designs, poster presentations and logos. A range of drawing skills are introduced and enhanced, and students become knowledgeable in the use of computer software to produce various graphic images and designs.

Media

Subject Overview

In Year 9 Media students will engage in both theoretical and practical aspects of media production. Students will study and interpret film posters, focusing on representations, symbolism, and codes and conventions. The study of media artworks from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples will allow students to evaluate how media arts are used to celebrate and challenge perspectives of Australian identity. This task emphasises research to uncover how film posters convey messages and attract audiences. Additionally, students will complete a hands-on project where they will design their own film poster using Adobe Photoshop. They have the option to enhance their designs with original photographs taken with point-and-shoot cameras, allowing for a personalised touch in their digital creations. This course blends analytical skills with creative expression, offering a comprehensive approach to media production and analysis.



Design & Digital Technologies

Design & Technology – Product Design

Subject Overview

Students will learn about product design and how it shapes the world around us. They will learn how to work to a brief, designing and producing useful products that look professional and are functional. Students will gain an appreciation of how the design process works and develop a portfolio of designs and plans that can be used to build unique products. They will learn how to follow procedures, diagrams and safety guidelines and work with a variety of tools and materials, working with new techniques and equipment.

Digital Technologies

Subject Overview

The Digital Technologies curriculum enables students to become confident and creative developers of digital solutions through the application of information systems and specific ways of thinking about problem solving. Students learn about digital design of images and sounds while creating an original game in the Scratch programming language. They investigate a topic and present information using HTML, CSS and JavaScript in the Web Design and Languages unit.

STEM

Subject Overview

Students will continue to develop their understanding of the Engineering Design Process through a series of activities that will allow them to develop their skills in Design, Robotics, 3D printing and Computer Aided Design (CAD) Programs. Students will be asked to use their critical and creative thinking skills to design an item that they will research, develop, test and present to a Shark Tank panel of teachers for “funding”.



Design & Digital Technologies

Food Technology

Subject Overview

In this course, students explore and analyse traditional and contemporary methods of food preparation from a variety of cultures, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander methods. They explore the influences on eating in Australia, reflecting on the past and tracing the influences on food consumption and choices since the earliest days of the colony. Students investigate and make judgements on how the principles of food safety, presentation and sensory perceptions influence the creation of food solutions. Students prepare and present foods using a range of techniques to ensure optimum nutrient content, flavour, texture and visual appeal.

Systems & Technology and Robotics

Subject Overview

Students with an interest in STEM, robotics, programming and/or engineering can continue learning about electromechanical devices in this elective. Students design and build working robots using the MicroBit platform. They assemble and test electronic circuits involving resistors, sensors, diodes, LEDs, batteries, breadboards and motors. They continue learning programming fundamentals in the block-based code that controls the BBC MicroBit.



Advance

A personal development, leadership and community involvement course.

This subject, which runs for both semesters in Year 9, aims to develop students' abilities to operate as part of the community.

It focuses on:

- Personal skills including initiative, responsibility and public speaking
- The ability to work as part of a group and leadership.
- Contributing to the community including volunteering

Within this course, students will develop skills using a range of contexts for example:

- The Duke of Edinburgh Award – Bronze.
- CPR and First Aid Course.
- Community Service using the Latrobe Retirement Village and various RHS community activities.
- Group challenges and projects.
- Hiking.
- Leadership development activities.
- A camp and excursions during the year that support the Duke of Edinburgh Award.)



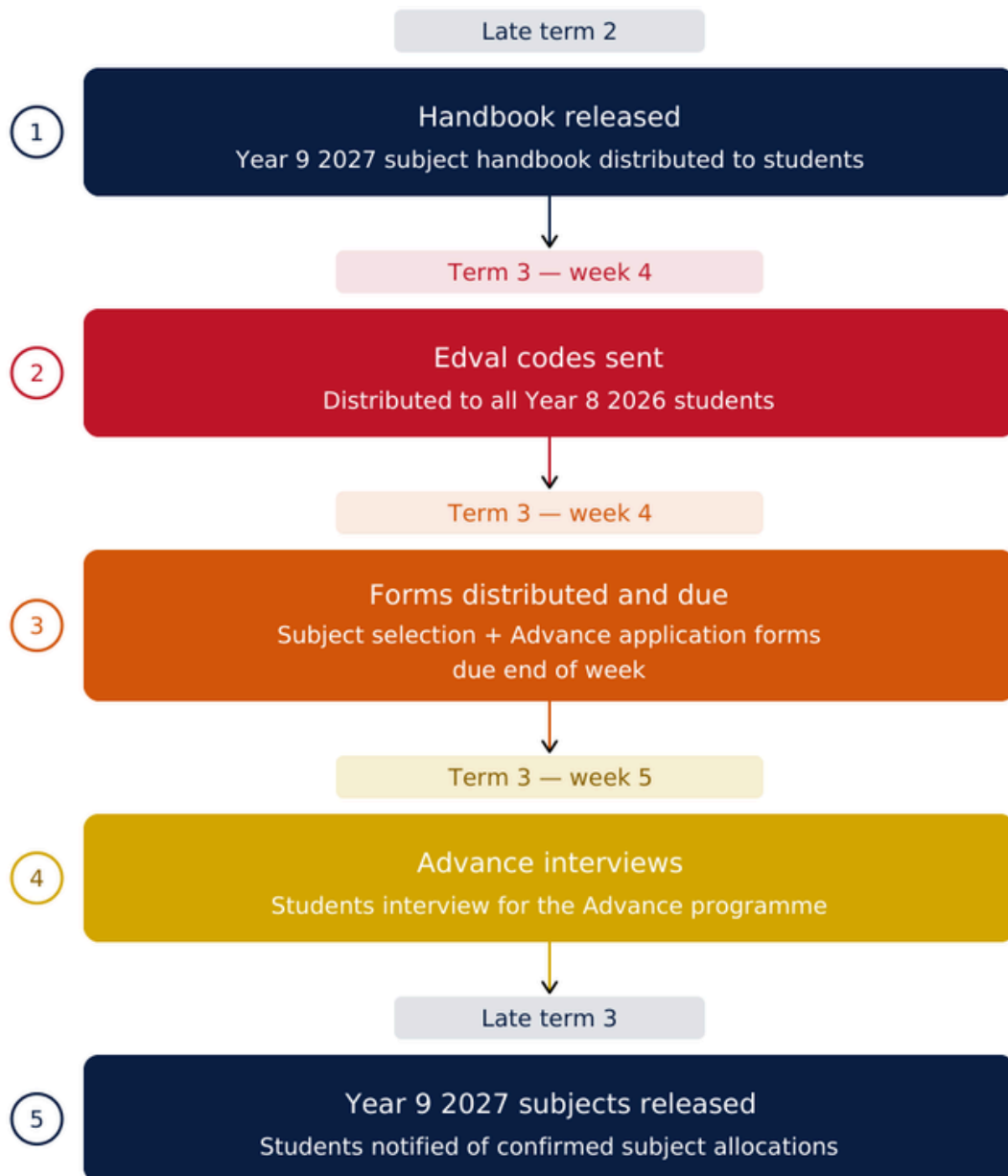
Note: There are limited places for this subject. Students will need to complete a written application via Microsoft Forms that will be posted on compass/ Year 8 team. There may need to be an interview required as part of the application process. Each class receives a presentation during Impact, which will explain the Advance program.

1. This subject requires students to pay \$220, which is an upfront fee to register and complete the Duke of Edinburgh journey, which is compulsory for students.
2. There will also be additional, compulsory participation and charges to attend camp and excursions as part of the requirements to complete the Duke of Edinburgh certificate / journey. These additional charges will need to be paid throughout the year via compass, which will be approximately \$400. If eligible for CSEF this can be used.

NB: Please be aware of these compulsory costings and expectations before selecting this full year elective.

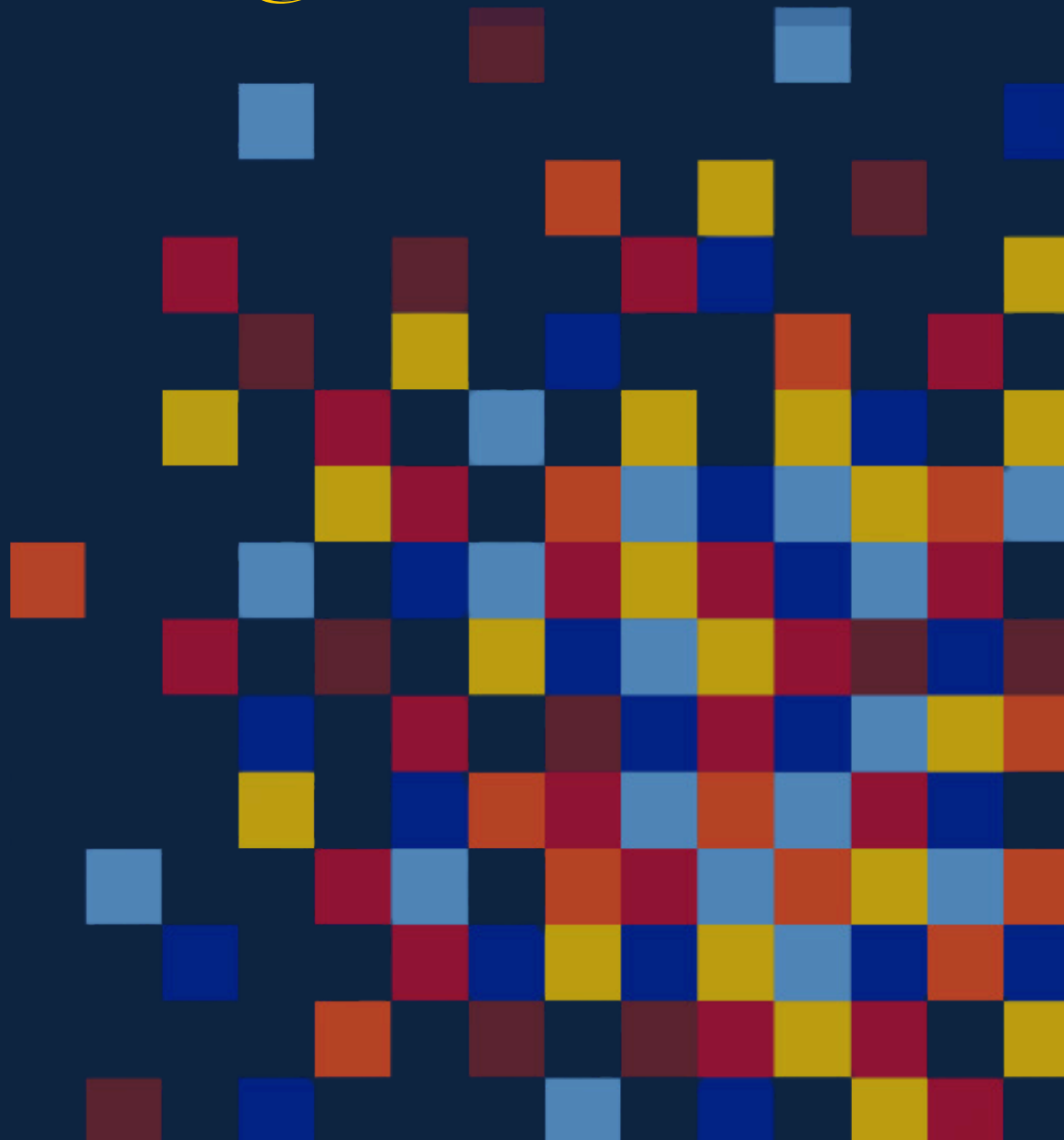
If students complete all the requirements they will qualify and will receive all relevant certificates representing their qualifications including: Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award and First Aid / CPR Certificate.

Course Application Process



Please note: There will be information regarding Parent Payment Contribution and the Campion booklist in Term 4

Year 10 Learning Program



Year 10 Learning Program

Year 10 marks an important transition into the senior years, where students continue to build strong foundation skills while gaining greater choice and flexibility in their learning.

Throughout the year, students undertake a combination of core learning and elective subjects, with increasing opportunities to personalise their program.

In Semester 1, students study the core subjects of English/EAL, Humanities, Mathematics, Science, and Health & Physical Education

In Semester 2, instead of traditional core classes, students begin to specialise within the core domains, selecting subjects in each area based on their interests while maintaining a balanced program.

Across the year, students also complete two semester-based elective subjects from areas including The Arts, Technologies, and Languages, further supporting exploration and skill development.

In addition, all students participate in an IMPACT class, which focuses on developing important capabilities such as critical thinking, collaboration, and personal growth.

This structure supports a smooth transition into senior study by balancing essential knowledge with increasing student choice. It encourages students to take greater ownership of their learning, explore areas of interest, and begin making informed decisions about their future pathways.



English / EAL — continues throughout the full year

SEMESTER 1 — CORE SUBJECTS

Humanities

Mathematics

Science

Health & Physical Education

SEMESTER 2 — ELECTIVE CHOICES

Humanities elective

- History & Geography
- Business Management & Accounting
- Global Politics & Legal Studies

Mathematics elective

- General Maths Preparation
- Maths Methods Preparation

Science elective

- Biology & Psychology
- Chemistry & Physics

Health & PE elective

- Health & Human Development
- Physical Education

Electives — choose 1 per semester

Arts / Technology / Languages

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Visual Communication & Design• Dance• Systems Engineering & Robotics• Chinese | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Art• Music• Food Technology• Italian | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Drama• Digital Technologies• Product Design & Technologies• Outdoor Education |
|--|---|--|

Please note: There will be information regarding Parent Payment Contribution and the Campion booklist in Term 4

Accelerated and Enrichment Studies

High-achieving students who demonstrate strong academic performance, motivation and a willingness to challenge themselves may be offered enriched learning opportunities as they progress through Year 10. These pathways are designed for students who consistently perform at a high level and are ready to engage with more complex and demanding coursework.

Accelerated VCE

Students may choose to apply to accelerate into one VCE Unit 1 and 2 subject; however, entry into VCE is not automatic.

Applicants are required to submit an application to the Ms Purches, providing evidence of their suitability for accelerated study. As part of the process, further course counselling will occur, where applications and school reports are reviewed to ensure students have the capability and readiness to successfully undertake the subject.

Students who are interested in pursuing these opportunities should refer to the Senior School Subject Handbook for detailed information about available pathways and expectations.

Students wishing to participate in enhancement programs will have:

- the maturity and sound work practices to cope with the level of work and pressure
- sound organisational skills
- the recommendation of their teachers
- 'Above' or 'Well Above' the expected level

CHES Programs

Another option for Year 10 students is to undertake an enrichment subject through the Centre for Higher Education Studies (CHES), which was established in 2023 to provide senior secondary students across the state with opportunities for extension, challenge and support in their learning.

CHES offers semester-based electives for high-ability Year 10 students, including

- Research Matters,
- Critical Thinking for Creative Minds,
- Introduction to Algorithmics, and
- LingoLab: Unveiling the Wonders of Real-world Language.

These subjects have no formal prerequisites; however, students are expected to demonstrate strong literacy and/or numeracy skills, as well as a commitment to learning, as parts of the coursework may be self-paced. It is important to note that these enrichment studies are completed in addition to the regular Year 10 program, with classes delivered online after school.

High-achieving and high-ability students should speak with Ms Purches before applying on the CHES website: www.ches.vic.edu.au

Assessment & Reporting - VCE requirements

Reservoir High School sets learning experiences and assessment opportunities that are in accordance with the current accredited VCE study designs. Teachers will base their assessment of a student's ability to achieve the unit outcomes on their performance in Outcome Tasks and School Assessed Coursework (SACs).

Outcome Tasks

Assessment of Outcome Tasks will be Satisfactory (S), or Not Satisfactory (N). Every outcome task must achieve a Satisfactory (S). Each faculty will set a minimum standard that students must achieve in order to demonstrate that they have met the outcome. Classroom observations can also be used to determine a student's ability to meet the outcomes.

SACs

School Assessed Coursework (SACs) are the graded assessment items in VCE. These tasks assess a student's level of achievement in accordance with published criteria. They are used to determine the level of performance of student work in each unit.

Conditions for an Outcome Task or SAC:

- Most tasks will allow time for completion during class time.
- Work not submitted/completed by the due date may not be accepted therefore receiving an (N).
- Teachers will set rules for the Outcome Task/SAC. Failure to adhere to these rules, including VCAA requirements, may lead to a penalty, eg: the work may not be accepted for assessment.

If a student misses a SAC , a medical certificate must be obtained within 24 hours of the missed assessment.

If a student receives a (N) for an Outcome Task which is also a SAC, they will be required to re-sit the Outcome Task in order to achieve an 'S' for the unit. The initial grade will remain. If a student receives a (N) for a unit, they will be required to continue in that study and attend all classes. Students who fail to do so may find their enrolment/promotion reviewed and/or recommendations in their other studies discounted.

Students striving for an accelerated VCE study should note:

All class-based coursework is required to be completed in class

This is required to authenticate your skills and knowledge. Teachers must observe your learning progress over the course of the Area of Study (AoS). The best way to do this is to be present for every class, complete every learning task and participate fully in class discussions and activities. Failure to do so will result in an 'N' (not satisfactory) for the subject.

All set homework is required to be completed.

These tasks have been carefully selected by your teachers to ensure you can complete the coursework. Teachers will monitor this to ensure you are on track for an 'S' (satisfactory) in the Area of Study.

Redeeming an 'At Risk'

If you are placed At Risk of receiving an N by your teacher, this means you have not yet received an S and may receive an N for this unit. You need to redeem your result by engaging in the actions your teacher has outlined to demonstrate the key knowledge and skills for the At Risk area of study. It is a student's responsibility to seek understanding about why they are At Risk and what they can do to redeem. Supports are available to all students At Risk, including Homework Club, Wellbeing Support and Senior School staff.

You and your parents/carers must check COMPASS regularly

Your progress will be monitored closely by your teachers and the Middle School team. We will contact you and your parents/carers via COMPASS to inform you of your 'S' or 'N' status. You must act upon the suggestion in the chronicle. School Assessed Coursework (SACs) and School Assessed Tasks (SATs) are requirements to provide summative grades. These are in addition to coursework and homework, and provide you and your teacher with an indication of a 'grade'.

Vocational Education & Training

Vocational Education and Training (VET) allows Year 10 students to combine their general school studies with practical, hands-on learning linked to real workplaces. VET programs give students the opportunity to develop industry skills and gain experience in a specific career area. Many VET courses follow a structured program similar to VCE subjects and are often assessed through competency-based tasks rather than traditional exams.

The aims of VET are:

- To increase the breadth of subject choice and style of delivery.
- To provide students with a nationally recognised vocational qualification.
- To provide pathways into further study.
- To provide preparation for the workforce.

VET FEES

Most courses have minimal costs for material requirements, however, depending on the course, an additional contribution may be requested. See the VET Coordinator for specific information regarding fees.

VET Eligibility

Students are to submit a VET Application form alongside their VCE, VCE-VM or Year 10 course application. Criteria for eligibility includes:

- above 'Below Level' in their Progress reports
- a minimum of 90% attendance
- successful completion of English

All enrolments for external studies (ie. VET providers such as TAFE) must be authorised by the Reservoir High School. Students must not under any circumstances enrol themselves in a study by an external provider without the explicit written authority of Reservoir High School. Therefore, for further information please see the Careers Team.



Course Application Process

Step 1 — Handbook distributed

Students receive the course selection handbook



Step 2 — Subject expo

Students explore subjects on offer



Step 3 — Edval codes given

Students receive codes to enter subject preferences



Step 4 — Parent information evening

Year 9 into 10 transition evening for families



Step 5 — Course counselling day 1

Year 9 students 2026

Students meet with counsellors to discuss subject options



Step 6 — Course counselling day 2

Year 9 students & parents attend

Final subject choices confirmed



Step 7 — Subjects confirmed

Late Term 3 — students notified of their subjects

English

English - Compulsory

Subject Overview

English is a core Year 10 subject that develops essential skills in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Students engage with a variety of texts to strengthen their communication and analytical thinking, while exploring how language features, imagery, and vocabulary shape individual writing style. They learn to develop cohesive arguments that express clear viewpoints and perspectives, and to create a range of texts that convey complex ideas effectively. Through active participation in discussions, students build on others' ideas, justify their opinions, and refine their arguments. The subject encourages creativity, builds cultural understanding, and provides a strong foundation for success in senior English studies.

Assessment Overview

- Analytical Essays
- Persuasive Oral Presentation
- Crafting Texts
- Examination

English as an Additional Language -

Compulsory

Subject Overview

All Year 10 students must study either English or English as an Additional Language (EAL). Students may qualify for EAL if they speak another language at home and have had fewer than seven years of schooling in English. EAL focuses on building confidence and effectiveness in English communication by developing skills in speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Students strengthen their understanding of how language and culture interact, and how language varies according to purpose, form, and audience. The subject also fosters an awareness of multiple languages and the important role language plays in shaping identity, while supporting students to communicate effectively in a range of diverse contexts.

Assessment Overview

- Annotating and Analysing Texts
- Crafting Texts
- Oral Presentation
- Examination



Humanities

Humanities (Core) - Compulsory

Subject Overview

This subject builds on Year 9 Humanities, extending students' learning in History, Geography, and Economics while offering a broad study of the world and its systems. It encourages critical thinking, cultural awareness, and the ability to engage with contemporary social issues and diverse perspectives. Students will investigate the economic and political systems that shape society, explore Australia's role in regional and global contexts, and analyse democratic principles, including what it means to be an active and informed citizen. The course also examines shared human experiences across time and cultures, with a particular focus on understanding the causes and impacts of World War II and the Holocaust.

Assessment Overview

- Historical Inquiry (WWII/The Holocaust)
- Source Analysis
- Analytical Essay
- Examination

Geography & History - Elective

Subject Overview

Geography and History are ideal for students interested in how societies have evolved, the stories of past civilisations, and the forces that shape landscapes and cultures. This subject is particularly rewarding for those curious about the relationship between people and places, as well as the historical events that continue to influence our world today. Students will explore connections between events across different times and locations, analyse perspectives, beliefs, and values, and examine the causes and effects of historical and geographic developments. The course also investigates environmental changes and how places evolve over time, develops skills in constructing evidence-based arguments using historical sources, and explores differences in human wellbeing at global, national, and local levels.

Assessment Overview

- Casework Inquiry
- Source Analysis
- Analytical Essay
- Examination



Legal Studies & Global Politics - Elective

Subject Overview

Legal Studies and Global Politics are ideal for students curious about how laws and policies are created and how they impact society, making this subject well suited to those interested in legal systems, political decision-making, and global issues. Students will evaluate the key features of Australia's political and legal systems, develop an understanding of the principles of justice and the role of Australian courts, including the High Court, and analyse Australia's international legal obligations. The course also investigates the factors that both support and challenge democratic societies, while exploring the ways globalisation influences people and societies around the world.

Assessment Overview

- Multimedia Presentation
- Case Study
- Extended Analytical Response
- Examination

Accounting & Business Management -

Elective

Subject Overview

Accounting and Business Management are ideal for students interested in how businesses operate and how financial decisions are made, making these subjects well suited to those who enjoy working with numbers, analysing data, and applying financial and economic principles to real-world scenarios. Students will investigate differences in economic performance and living standards between countries, identify business and economic trends to analyse patterns and make informed predictions, and explore how innovation helps businesses gain a competitive advantage. They will also develop practical skills in recording financial transactions and producing reports to support effective decision-making.

Assessment Overview

- Research Task
- Oral Presentation
- Extended Written Responses
- Examination

Mathematics

Mathematics (Core) - Compulsory

Subject Overview

This unit provides the foundational skills required for mathematics electives in Semester 2 and is essential for students considering any Mathematics subjects in VCE. It covers key topics including univariate data and statistics, linear relationships, and trigonometry, building the core knowledge and skills needed for further study. Students are expected to have a Ti-Nspire CAS graphical calculator to support their learning and problem-solving.

Assessment Overview

- Problem solving tasks
- Application tasks
- Examinations

General Mathematics Preparation - Elective

Subject Overview

This unit provides students with an introduction to key topics studied in VCE General Mathematics, building essential skills and understanding for future study. It covers areas such as bivariate data and statistics, linear relationships, financial arithmetic, graph theory, and networks, allowing students to explore how mathematical concepts are applied in practical and real-world contexts. Students are expected to have a Ti-Nspire CAS graphical calculator to support their learning and analysis.

Assessment Overview

- Problem solving tasks
- Application tasks
- Examinations

Maths Methods Preparation - Elective

Subject Overview

This unit provides students with an introduction to key topics studied in VCE Mathematical Methods and is recommended for those who wish to keep their future study options open, particularly if considering tertiary pathways where Mathematical Methods is a prerequisite. It covers concepts such as linear systems, non-linear functions and graphs, probability, and further trigonometry, as well as introductory topics in graph theory and networks, supporting the development of analytical and problem-solving skills. Students are expected to have a Ti-Nspire CAS graphical calculator to assist with their learning.

Assessment Overview

- Problem solving tasks
- Application tasks
- Examinations



Science

Science (Core) - Compulsory

Subject Overview

This unit provides students with an insight into the various fields of science, helping them decide which areas they may wish to pursue in VCE. It explores how DNA stores and transmits genetic information across generations, examines different types of chemical bonding (including covalent, ionic, and metallic), and develops skills in reading, writing, and balancing chemical equations. Students will also learn how electrical circuits function and how electricity is produced, as well as investigate the structure of the brain and its role in controlling emotions and behaviour.

Assessment Overview

- Case study analysis
- Practical investigations
- Examinations

Biology & Psychology - Elective

Subject Overview

This unit provides valuable knowledge of key concepts in Biology and Psychology, helping students prepare for VCE studies in these areas. It is particularly recommended for those considering Biology or Psychology in VCE. Students will explore how infectious and non-infectious diseases are caused by different pathogens or agents, and examine how the immune system responds to threats, including the role of vaccinations. The course also introduces psychological concepts by exploring different theories of how learning occurs and investigating the various biological, social, and environmental influences on behaviour.

Assessment Overview

- Case study analysis
- Practical investigations
- Examinations



Chemistry & Physics - Elective

Subject Overview

This unit provides valuable knowledge of key concepts in Chemistry and Physics, helping students prepare for VCE studies in these areas, and is recommended for those considering either subject in VCE. Students will learn how to name chemical compounds and write chemical formulas, as well as develop skills in quantifying chemical reactions using the concept of the mole. The course also introduces fundamental principles of physics, including understanding speed, velocity, and acceleration, and explores Newton's laws of motion to explain how forces influence movement in the physical world.

Assessment Overview

- Case study analysis
- Practical investigations
- Examinations

Health & Physical Education

Physical Education & Health (Core) -

Compulsory

Subject Overview

This unit provides an increased focus on Health and Physical Education theory, offering advanced topics to support VCE preparation alongside practical laboratory investigations. Students will develop skills in locating and using reliable health information to make informed decisions. Throughout the course, they will explore the importance of respectful relationships and strategies to avoid unhealthy ones, as well as learn to recognise and evaluate their emotional responses in different situations. Students will apply their understanding to propose practical solutions to health issues at home, school, and in the community, while also developing and assessing strategies to improve fitness and physical activity within their communities.

Assessment Overview

- Data analysis.
- Practical laboratory.
- Case study.
- Fitness program.
- Examinations

Health & Human Development - Elective

Subject Overview

This subject is designed as a VCE preparation course for Health and Human Development, supporting students in building the key knowledge and skills required for further study. Students will actively engage in discussions and activities, while developing strong research skills to gather and evaluate information from reliable sources and think critically about the information they encounter. The course explores various aspects of health and wellbeing, including the biological, sociocultural, and environmental factors that influence individuals and communities. Students will also examine health in both Australian and global contexts, gaining an understanding of how different conditions and healthcare systems impact health outcomes, while building foundations for future pathways in areas such as healthcare, teaching, and childcare.

Assessment Overview

- Written report.
- Oral presentation
- Structured questions.
- Visual presentation.
- Examinations



Physical Education - Elective

Subject Overview

This subject is designed as a VCE preparation course for Physical Education, helping students build the key knowledge and skills required for further study while encouraging active participation in all practical sessions to deepen their understanding of theoretical concepts. Students will be supported to stay curious by exploring how various factors influence performance and health, and to stay organised by maintaining thorough notes and keeping up with regular revision. The course focuses on how the human body moves and performs during physical activity, including the interaction of muscular, skeletal, and cardiorespiratory systems. Students will also examine the social, cultural, and environmental influences on physical activity and sport, as well as explore the benefits and risks of different methods used to enhance athletic performance. This subject provides a strong foundation for future pathways in areas such as sports and exercise science, physical education teaching, and personal training.

Assessment Overview

- Written report.
- Data analysis.
- Practical laboratory.
- Structured questions.
- Examinations

Outdoor Education - Elective

Subject Overview

This subject is designed as a VCE preparation course for Outdoor and Environmental Studies, encouraging students to actively engage in discussions and activities while developing strong research skills to gather and evaluate information from reliable sources. Outdoor Education offers an exciting opportunity to learn about and experience the natural world, helping students understand the relationship between humans and the environment, the importance of conservation, and how to safely and sustainably enjoy outdoor spaces. The course includes practical experiences through excursions such as hiking, high ropes, and camping skills, as students explore a range of environments from local parks to national parks. This subject also provides a strong foundation for future pathways in areas such as environmental science, park ranging, and research.

Assessment Overview

- Case study.
- Data analysis.
- Research project.
- Logbook written report.
- Examinations

Excursions: \$200.00 (subject to change)

Languages

Chinese - Elective

Subject Overview

Studying Chinese offers insight into a rich cultural heritage while deepening understanding of global history and traditions. It strengthens cognitive skills such as memory and problem-solving, and supports future career pathways in areas such as international business, education, and diplomacy. Through this subject, students gain a unique perspective on language and communication by developing their skills in both spoken and written Chinese to initiate and sustain conversations. They will explore how texts are created for different purposes and audiences, consider the challenges of translation across cultures, and practise sound patterns and tones in spoken Chinese. The course also examines how language and culture influence communication in their own lives and in the lives of others.

Assessment Overview

- Speaking Task
- Listening and Responding Task
- Cultural Investigation
- Examinations

Italian- Elective

Subject Overview

Studying Italian offers insight into Italy's rich cultural, artistic, and historical heritage, deepening students' understanding of Western civilisation while supporting future career pathways in areas such as fashion, design, tourism, and international business. This subject also strengthens cognitive skills and enhances overall language proficiency. Students will develop their ability to use Italian to engage in discussions and express personal thoughts and opinions, while comparing and evaluating ideas across different languages and cultures. They will build skills in interpreting and justifying responses to written and spoken texts, and explore how culture shapes communication, as well as how language reflects cultural values.

Assessment Overview

- Speaking Task
- Listening and Responding Task
- Cultural Investigation
- Examinations

Technology

Digital Technologies - Elective

Subject Overview

Digital Technologies provides students with the opportunity to learn programming languages and create digital solutions to real-world problems, making it an excellent choice for those with an interest in computers and emerging technologies or considering a future career in Information and Communications Technology. In this subject, students will develop computational thinking and programming skills by learning how to break down complex problems, recognise patterns, and design algorithms using tools such as flowcharts and pseudocode. They will also collaborate to design, create, and evaluate simple games, gaining practical experience in teamwork and problem-solving. Additionally, students will build an understanding of networking, including how systems manage, control, and secure the movement and access of data.

Assessment Overview

- 3D Modelling and Printing.
- Python Programming Tasks
- Arduino Project
- Year 10 Examination

Food Technology - Elective

Subject Overview

Food Technology enables students to further develop the knowledge and skills needed to plan and prepare meals in line with the Australian Guide to Healthy Eating. In this subject, students will explore the influences on Australian cuisine and examine the future of food through both practical and theoretical learning. Topics include the study of Australian Indigenous foods, the importance of accurate sensory analysis, and the application of the design process to food production, supporting students to think critically and creatively about food choices and preparation.

Assessment Overview

- Design Brief
- Comparative product analysis
- Year 10 examination



Systems Engineering & Robotics - Elective

Subject Overview

This subject is ideal for students interested in programming and electrotechnology, offering hands-on opportunities to build electronic circuits and programmed devices. Students will explore the role of robots in society, considering both the positive and negative impacts of their use. They will develop foundational programming skills and apply these by using programmable robots to complete a range of game-based challenges. The course also introduces 3D modelling, 3D printing, and laser cutting, alongside an exploration of forces in stationary and moving objects. Students will apply these concepts through the engineering design process to design and build their own robotic solutions.

Assessment Overview

- Portfolio: Analysis and Design
- Portfolio: Development and Evaluation
- Year 10 Examination

Product Design & Technologies - Elective

Subject Overview

Product Design is a Design Technologies subject where students learn to apply the design process to create sustainable and functional items, while gaining an understanding of materials, tools, and design thinking in the physical world. Students will experience the satisfaction of designing and producing their own physical products, while developing knowledge of sustainable materials and the skills required for their use. Throughout the course, they will build a range of practical skills and knowledge to support further study in areas such as product design, building, construction, and makerspaces. Students will plan, create, and complete their own projects, which they are able to take home.

Assessment Overview

- Portfolio
- Practical Tasks
- Year 10 Examination



The Arts

Art - Elective

Subject Overview

Art is a vibrant and enjoyable subject that encourages students to explore their creative ideas through a wide range of materials and techniques while promoting independence, experimentation, and creative thinking. Students will experience a rich and engaging program that includes excursions to galleries and museums, allowing them to immerse themselves in the dynamic world of art and culture. Throughout the course, they will work across diverse artistic mediums such as DSLR photography, drawing, painting, ceramics, spray painting, digital art, and mixed media. They will investigate engaging themes including street art, dreams and nightmares, and personal identity through self-expression, taking ownership of their creative journeys by documenting their ideas and processes in visual diaries before producing final artworks. Each unit also connects to the work of renowned artists, providing insights into different perspectives, historical contexts, and cultural influences.

Assessment Overview

- Folio of artworks
- Visual diary activities
- Year 10 examination

Dance - Elective

Subject Overview

Dance studies provide students with valuable opportunities to enhance their physical fitness, coordination, and creativity while developing cultural understanding, teamwork, and communication skills. This subject also builds confidence and resilience, offering a strong foundation for future artistic pathways. Students will develop a personal movement vocabulary informed by dance styles from different cultures, times, and places, and build an understanding of how the body can be used to communicate ideas through movement. They will extend their technical and expressive skills while learning to perform safely, and will choreograph, rehearse, and perform their own dances, applying both creative and practical skills in a supportive environment.

Assessment Overview

- Written analysis
- Choreography and report
- Learned dance work
- Examination





Visual Communication & Design - Elective

Subject Overview

Visual Communication Design is ideal for students interested in drawing, designing, communicating ideas, and solving design problems. It is particularly suited to those with an interest in areas such as architecture, app design, fashion, or logo creation, offering opportunities to explore both digital and manual image-making techniques. Students will develop creative and innovative ways to communicate ideas and information while applying design thinking to real-world problems. The course builds an understanding of effective design practices, research methods, and design critique, while exploring the four key fields of design: messages, objects, environments, and interactive experiences. Students will also develop an appreciation for the diverse roles of designers and the cultural contexts that shape visual communication design. A laptop that meets the school's recommended specifications is essential to support the use of industry-standard software such as Adobe Illustrator and InDesign.

Assessment Overview

- Development of a folio of design concepts and skills.
- Year 10 examination

Drama - Elective

Subject Overview

Year 10 Drama is ideal for students interested in acting, exploring the history of theatre, and analysing dramatic conventions to create and perform innovative works. Throughout the course, students investigate a range of theatrical styles, write scripts, and interpret original texts, while also viewing, analysing, and evaluating both professional and amateur performances, including participation in performing arts nights. Drama helps students build confidence through collaborative group work, brainstorming, and creative problem-solving. They will engage in both small and large group activities, exploring themes through improvisation, scriptwriting, and performance development. Students learn to communicate meaning through expressive skills such as voice, movement, and gesture, while also developing an understanding of technical theatre elements, including the use of space, character development, and design components such as sets, props, costumes, and lighting.

Assessment Overview

- Written research assignment
- Performance to a selected audience
- Analysis and evaluation
- Year 10 examination



Music - Elective

Subject Overview

Music provides students with an engaging platform to learn an instrument, expand their knowledge of musical repertoire, and develop their performance skills by learning songs they enjoy. Through this subject, students build confidence and musicianship while exploring a variety of musical styles and techniques, supporting both personal expression and collaborative performance.

Assessment Overview

- Performance
- Music Language
- Listening Analysis
- Year 10 examination

Media- Elective

Subject Overview

Media Arts is ideal for students interested in analysing and creating a range of media forms, including film, photography, advertising, and digital media. Students will explore how elements such as structure, character, setting, and genre are used to tell stories and express ideas, while examining how techniques like sound, lighting, time, space, and movement shape meaning and influence audience responses. Throughout the course, students will build on their prior knowledge by developing skills in planning, creating, and analysing media products. They will investigate media from different cultures and time periods, considering how global, social, and cultural influences shape media creations. Students will also learn about the ethical and legal responsibilities involved in using media technologies, gaining a deeper understanding of their role as both creators and consumers of media.

Assessment Overview

- Hands on projects,
- Written reflections,
- Analysis tasks,
- Examination



• DIVERSITY • RESPECT •
EXCELLENCE • SUCCESS •