

YEAR 9
COURSE
HANDBOOK

2024



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Year 9 Introduction

Narre Warren South P-12 College's Year 9 Curriculum Program provides students with choice of subjects to suit their individual preferences. The program encourages students to select subjects based on their interests, so to increase their engagement at school.

Students undertake core studies in English, Health and Physical Education, Humanities, Mathematics, Personal Development and Science. Students also select a variety of Semester- based electives where they pursue their areas of interest.

Parents/Guardians are to discuss their child's interests based on what they would like to study over the year.

Students need to choose FOUR electives from any faculty. Students must complete TWO electives each Semester. FUSION, LANGUAGES, ADVANCED SPORT PROGRAM, STEM and VAMM (if selected) must be undertaken for the whole year period. Languages is optional and does not have to be selected.

It is important that students number their choices in order of preference, from 1 being the elective they most want to do to 7, being their least preferred preference.

The College CANNOT guarantee that all students will get their first four choices.

Yours sincerely,

Ian Bowers
Year 7-9 Assistant Principal



Course of Study Outline

Year 9 Mainstream Course Program

English/EAL 5 periods per week	Mathematics 5 periods per week	HPE Core (includes Personal Development) 3 periods per week	Humanities Core 3 periods per week	Science Core 3 periods per week	Semester 1 Elective 1 3 periods per week	Semester 1 Elective 2 3 periods per week
					Semester 2 Elective 3 3 periods per week	Semester 2 Elective 4 3 periods per week

Year 9 Core Subjects

All students will be required to undertake these subjects English or English as an Additional Language

English

Course Description

This course of study aims to further extend and develop student literacy skills. Students will develop greater awareness of the way language varies according to its purpose, audience and context.

Students will construct an increasingly broad range of written and spoken texts and respond critically to a variety of literature and media texts.

English as an Additional Language (EAL)

Course Description

This study aims to enable students to develop critical understanding and control when using Australian English in a variety of situations, ranging from the personal and informal to more public occasions.

Students will be expected to communicate ideas, feelings, observations and information effectively both orally, in writing, and to a range of audiences. This course recognises and values student diversity and encourages self-esteem by enabling students to use the English language confidently and take responsibility for their own language development. Students carry out classroom activities that integrate the skills of reading, writing, speaking, listening and thinking.

Mathematics

Course Description

Mathematics develops students' skills in problem solving, practical mathematics and formal written mathematics. We aim to provide education that allows students to explore the curriculum in depth especially with key topics that are essential for future years of education. The mathematics curriculum is set up in a way that every student can achieve their personal best, where students can work at differing levels.

Students have an opportunity to be placed in advanced classes, based on their scores from Year 8 in combination with teacher recommendations as well as NAPLAN scores from Year 7.

Our Mathematics Curriculum has been developed in line with the current Victorian Curriculum. The aim for essential learning in Year 9 Mathematics is to develop basic and extended mathematical knowledge and skills through the study of the following dimensions:

- Number and Algebra
- Measurement and Geometry
- Statistics and Probability

Furthermore, students develop the following skills:

- Mathematical, ICT and numeracy skills that address individual student pathways.
- Application of mathematical knowledge and skills to investigate, analyse and solve practical problems through problem solving.
- Development good study habits and organisation as well as how to work in a group to achieve a common goal.

Personal Development

Course Description

Throughout Personal Development students will explore the knowledge of rights and responsibilities associated with the increasing independence of young people.

Students will investigate the topics of illicit drugs and sexual health. They will develop clear strategies in implementing harm minimisation approaches to reducing risks associated with drug use and sexual health.

Students will explore personal behaviours and community actions that affect health status, both positively and negatively. They will identify health services and products provided by government and non-government bodies.

Students will participate in a range of incursions and listen to guest speakers. For example, they will participate in a safe partying session run by Ambulance Victoria, learning lifesaving first aid skills such as CPR and how to respond to emergency situations.

Students will develop their skills as a person in the workforce. They will go through a mock job application process, create resumes and undertake a mock interview.

By the end of the year, students will be able to identify and implement strategies to build personal resilience and develop positive mental health.

Physical Education

Course Description

Students will learn and develop greater control and skill in physical activity. They will develop proficiency in a range of high-level movement and manipulative skills whilst devising and employing tactics and strategies to counter tactical challenges.

Students will increase skills in planning, observation and analysis. This will allow the students to develop and evaluate ways of refining their own techniques and performance while also assisting and enhancing the performance of others. Students will participate in peer teaching or coaching situations with a focus on skill development and improvement.

Students will also learn to set personal physical activity and fitness goals, develop their own fitness program and evaluate its success. The students will learn and use training methods to improve their fitness level and participate in sports, games, recreational and leisure activities that maintain regular participation in moderate to vigorous physical activity. During the theory component of the class (1 period per fortnight) students will investigate different components of fitness and training methods; how various body systems work as well as biomechanics and nutrition. Students will be assessed on participation, attendance, uniform, skill development, sportsmanship and the various theory components.

Science

Course Description

During this course, students will further develop their skills in using a scientific approach to understand the world around them. Students will use models to explain the structure and properties of elements and the periodic table, classify chemical reactions, describe the relationship of force and motion and explore cell biology and genetics. Students will use technical equipment, design investigations, make observations and analyse results. Assessment and coursework will be according to Victorian Curriculum: Science Understanding and Science Inquiry Skills.

Humanities

Course Description

In Humanities students will study 1 term each of the following 4 Humanities subjects over the course of the year – Geography, Economics, History and Civics and Citizenship. This will enable students to take any of the Humanities options available to them in Year 11.

The areas of focus include:

- The Geography of Human Wellbeing
- Climate Change
- Sustainable Energy
- Globalisation
- The Changing Nature of the World.
- The Battle for Kokoda
- The Bombing of Darwin
- The Civil Rights Movement in Australia
- Referendums to Change Australia's Constitution

Year 9 Electives

A variety of electives consisting of one or more courses of study (unit teams) are offered to students to ensure they have access to a range of Discipline Domains. All electives are outlined, enabling students to choose courses of study based on their interests.

These elective courses of study run for a semester. Students will be required to complete 8 electives over the academic year. Availability of student courses of study choice may alter to some extent due to timetabling and student numbers.

The course of study electives are based on a philosophy of authentic experiential learning where students are engaged in curriculum that develops skills and knowledge consistent with the appropriate standard levels in each Domain, within a meaningful and purposeful context.





PERFORMING ARTS

Fusion Dance and Drama (Year Elective)

Drama students will be developing, filming, editing - and of course, acting - in a short film of their own original concept, for submission to a professional film festival. Learn the skills involved in creating a concept, writing a screenplay, developing plot and character, sets, costume, make up, cinematography, stillness, set, What Agents and Casting Directors look for, Learning how to do a self-tape for professional auditions, Learn make up skills for theatre/film - including how to create your own severed finger.

Bouffon Stanislavski, Clowning, Study a wide array Circus workshops and skills, hula hooping, Steezy street dancing, combines street dance styles with technical development, research and learn the styles of your favourite choreographers, learn the specific requirements of dancing for film compared to live performance, further Afro-fusion workshops with industry specialists to build on the work done in Year 8, developing confidence and skills in creating original choreography, variety of incursions with dancers from various dance styles, from Contemporary, to Latin, to Street, etc

Learn about the skills required for Cabaret, Broadway, Vaudeville, Musical Theatre, workshopping an original solo routine in your chosen style to performance level, learn some theory about the skeletal and muscular systems through dance anatomy work.

Curriculum Contribution - \$100

Fusion Music (Year Elective)

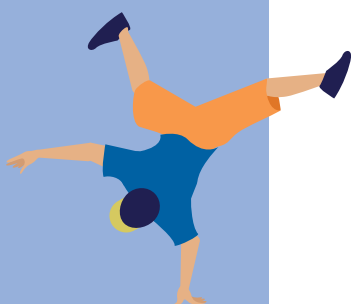
Fusion Music involves dedicated music students developing their instrumental and musicianship skills through regular rehearsal, performance and instrumental lessons. The course involves an advanced modern band program with the ensembles to compete in 'Battle of the Bands' and other music competitions. Students will also develop their ensemble skills through a Jazz Band and Big Band ensemble program. FUSION Music students will also have extensive recording and live performance opportunities. All students in this program receive a weekly private instrumental music lesson, timetabled throughout the week, on the instrument of their choice.

A continuation of the already exciting Fusion Music program and activities. This is only eligible for students who have completed Fusion Music in year 7 and/or 8. If spots become available we will offer applications.

Elective fee includes resources and music lesson

Dance

Do you love to dance? Come to year 9 Dance to explore a broad range of different dance styles throughout the semester. Have fun exploring a range of different genres through a variety of activities and workshops. Work on developing technique and confidence in class with many opportunities to perform. There is some theoretical component to accompany the course so that students can contextualise their learning. Be the first to experience our brand new state of the art performing arts centre and enjoy exploring dance and dance culture in year 9.



Drama

Want to gain confidence? See live theatre shows? Refine performance skills? Or maybe you're considering studying VCE Drama.

Be one of the first students to utilise P-12's state-of-the-art Performing Arts Centre, where you will create, perform, and analyse your own devised work, done in groups or solo, incorporating inspiration from a range of performance styles, and social, historical, and cultural contexts.

Participate in workshops and incursions, including improvisation and comedy skills from an established stand-up comedian, learn to design and apply stage makeup, and how to work in various aspects of production design.

Attend several professional theatre performances, possibly involving Q&A with cast and creatives, and analyse the creative choices involved in those shows.

Year 9 Media (Film)

Are you the next Spielberg or Michael Bay? This project should be considered by students who are enthusiastic and self-motivated with a passion for film and digital media productions. This elective allows you to work with others to make an array of media products. You learn how to use digital cameras, edit films and images using a range of professional software. Have a go at writing a script, directing and editing films or animations and produce print media such as magazines.

Curriculum Contribution - \$20

Mainstream Music

Students are exposed to practical music and performance opportunities designed to support the development of your musicianship, technique and stagecraft.





VISUAL ARTS

VAMM (Whole year)

The Visual Arts and Multi-media program. A continuation of the already exciting VAMM program and activities. This is only eligible for students who have completed VAMM in year 7 and/or 8. If spots become available we will offer applications.

3D Arts

Students are introduced to a range of 3D art techniques to successfully create sculptures and ceramic art works. Students keep a visual diary to annotate their idea development for art works. Students translate their own ideas, observations and experiences into finished art works using the design process and develop hands-on skills with materials such as clay, stone carving and plaster.

Curriculum Contribution - \$40

Visual Communication Design

In Visual Communication Design students will communicate visually and conceptually for a range of design fields including architectural environments, textiles, objects or graphics and marketing. Students will learn traditional skills to successfully make and use technical drawing, models and digital applications. Students present and evaluate their designs, looking at past design movements and influence on current designs.

Curriculum Contribution - \$50

Drawing, Painting and Printmaking

Science fiction books, T.V. shows and movies provide us with glimpses of what life would be like if certain scientific breakthroughs occurred. In the past, technologies such as mobile phones, CDs and the internet were only science fiction. Today they are part of every-day life and we have new subjects we consider 'science fiction', such as cloning and nano-technology. How much real science is behind these ideas, and how long will it be until they too are part of everyday life?

Students will investigate the science behind the 'science fiction' of genetic modification, cloning, time travel and others of their choice. For each topic, students will decide if not only the technology is possible - but also whether we, as a society, should actually use it, and what impact it would have if we did.

Class Size 25. Curriculum Contribution \$30



Photography

Are you the next Henri Cartier Bresson chasing the decisive moment of a photograph? Or perhaps the next Neil Leifer freezing the fast motion of athletes playing sport? Or possibly you see yourself as the next Bill Henson, creating moody and dark portraits? This elective is designed for students who enjoy working with cameras and can imagine themselves working in the Media or Arts industry in the near future. Students will learn new skills with high quality cameras and industry-specific programs such as Adobe Photoshop. They will learn manual camera setting and how to work with different types of lighting in a studio setting.

Curriculum Contribution - \$50

Urban Art

Students in this elective will study and create the various types of Urban Art that impacts our everyday landscape in both city and rural settings. Graffiti, Stickers Poster Art, Sculptures, Murals, Yarn Bombing and Light Projections will be explored. With a variety of materials and techniques students will be able to create a range of contemporary artworks that have a street edge and could carry positive messages about society, culture or politics. Alternatively they could just be enjoyed for their visual impact and how they can enhance our overall environment.

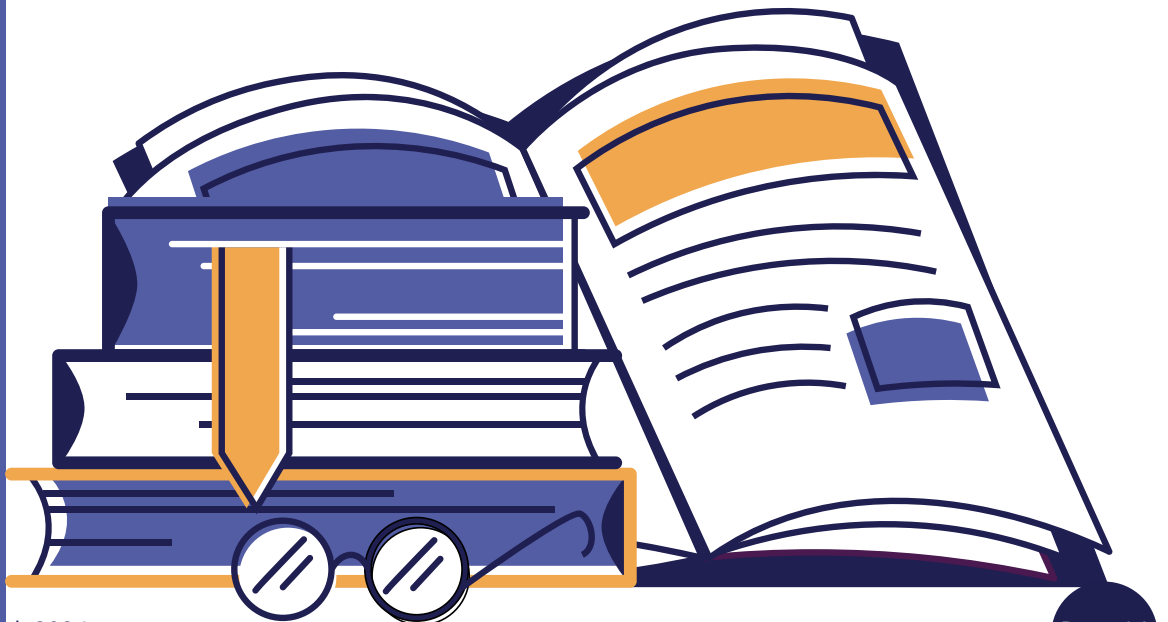
Curriculum Contribution \$30



ENGLISH & EAL

Supernatural Literature

Students in this unit build their critical and creative thinking skills via textual analysis. Students are exposed to a variety of gothic and supernatural literature, students will make connections to self and world to understand how authors comment and convey meaning via written text. Students will understand the purpose of literature from conception to publication. Students will then create their own written pieces of literature that provide commentary on milestones within their own lives.





HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

ASP Sports Science Semester 1 and 2

Year 9 Advance Sport Program Sport Science Semester 1 will provide an excellent introduction to topics and content covered in Unit 1 and Unit 2 VCE Physical Education. Students will cover the topics: "The Human Body in Motion" and "Physical Activity, Sport and Society" through a combination of theoretical and practical applications. A continuation of the already exciting Advanced Sport Program and activities. This is only eligible for students who have completed ASP program in year 7 and/or 8. If spots become available we will offer applications.

Elective fee includes resource booklet.

Excursions will have an individual cost.

Curriculum Contribution \$95 per semester

Get Active Girls

'Get Active Girls' is an elective that will improve fitness, flexibility, self-esteem, coordination, team work and body image for girls. Students will recognise community fitness opportunities and take part in practical activities such as individual challenges, group activities, yoga, pilates, weight training and fitness.

As well as practical activities, students will improve their knowledge of how their body functions optimally through a healthy lifestyle. They will develop relaxation techniques for recovery and stress management.

Students will also look at females in the media, elite athletes, stereotypes, body image and the positive effects of exercise.

This elective is for girls who enjoy getting active, who like to explore new challenges and develop their fitness.

Elective fee includes resource booklet.

Curriculum Contribution \$20

Health

During this elective students will extend their learning about Human Development across the lifespan. This will include broad ranging topics such as; dimensions of health, major cause of illnesses, injury and death in Australia, nutrition and the benefits of physical activity. They will investigate the role of nutrition on energy and health issues and will have the opportunity to experience healthy cooking sessions. To successfully complete this elective, students will be required to maintain an accurate workbook and complete assessment tasks within each unit. Guest speakers and excursions may be a part of this elective to enhance student learning and knowledge.

Elective fee includes materials for cooking sessions. Excursions/

Incursions will have an additional cost.

Curriculum Contribution \$20

Mountains to the Sea

Over the duration of the course, students will participate in both theory and practical classes where they will develop knowledge and understanding of some of the key skills used in outdoor adventurous activities. The study design relates directly to the activities conducted through the elective and will prepare the students to participate in the activities safely and successfully. The program will culminate in the planning, preparing and undertaking of an excursion to one of Victoria's outdoor and adventure centres, where students can attend a week-long adventure experience. The activities listed below are examples of some of the activities the students may have the opportunity to participate in: bushwalking, camping, caving, water sledding, high ropes course, mountain biking, orienteering, indoor rock climbing, surfing, initiative tasks, leadership challenges, paddle boarding, wind surfing to name a few. Please note that the students will have opportunity to participate in many of these, but excursions conducted will be a selection of varied activities in conjunction with safety, weather conditions and costs incurred.

*** PLEASE NOTE ***

Due to the nature of this subject and the activities offered within it, Narre Warren South P-12 College will follow very strict instructor to student ratios, which comply with the Education Department's Adventure Activity Standards. It is important to note that the curriculum contribution for the semester length course is \$370. This can be paid in instalments upon negotiation with the College. However, if this charge is not paid your child will not be able to participate in planned activities.

Curriculum Contribution - \$370

Move It

This subject is a combination of both theory and practical based classes. Students build on their knowledge of the human body, fitness principles, skill analysis, teaching and umpiring in theoretical classes. They are then given an opportunity to consolidate their learning through participation in various physical activities. These include exercise, recreational excursions and participation in team sports.

Elective fee includes resource booklet.

Excursions will have an individual cost.

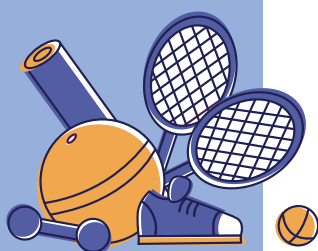
Curriculum Contribution \$20

Sports Science

Year 9 Sport Science Semester 1 will provide an excellent introduction to topics and content covered in Units 1 and 2 VCE Physical Education. Students will cover the topics: "The Human Body in Motion" and "Physical Activity, Sport and Society" through a combination of theoretical and practical applications. This subject provides an excellent pathway for students who have completed the PTS program at Year 7 and Year 8 or for new students with aspirations to complete VCE Physical Education.

Elective fee includes resource booklet. Excursions will have an individual cost.

Curriculum Contribution \$95





HUMANITIES

The Law and You

- Are you passionate about becoming a lawyer?
- Do you love arguing?
- Are you an advocate for human rights?
- Do you want to learn how to deal with a legal problem?
- Are you considering becoming a police officer or politician?

If some of these things interest you, then this is the elective for you!

The Law and You elective will teach you everything you need to know about your human rights and the laws that affect you. You will engage in projects, debates with peers, mock-trials, observing real life court cases and educational law games.

Excursions will have an individual cost.

Origins of Australia

- Do you want to know how Australia came to be?
- Are you interested in why England and other nations conquered or invaded the world?
- Do you want to know why Australians are often referred to as 'convicts'?
- Are you curious as to why our country has become so multicultural?
- Are you interested in the complex truth about what happened between Indigenous Australians and the British First Fleet?

If so, Origins of Australia is the elective for you!

Students will analyse how the iconic Industrial Revolution in Europe led to the creation of the Australia that we know today. Students see from the perspectives of the different convicted criminals who were shipped to the 'end of the earth'; Australia. Students will understand the cause and effects of Australia's colonisation on the First Nation's people and how we came to be one of the most multicultural countries in the world.



LANGUAGES

Japanese

Learning Japanese provides access to the culture of Japan. The ability to communicate in Japanese can in conjunction with other skills, widen travel opportunities and employment opportunities in a range of areas.

Students will engage in topics that will broaden their communication skills and cultural understanding from previous study. Topics covered will include designing your own Japanese comic, life in Japan as a teenager, asking for and giving directions and shopping in Japan. Throughout these units students will look at a variety of texts including personal, descriptive, informative and imaginative; for a range of purposes further developing their grammatical understanding of the Japanese language.

This course will actively prepare students for a language pathway for VCE.

Excursions will have an individual cost.

Indonesian Language and Cultural Studies

Learning Indonesian provides access to the culture of Indonesia. The ability to communicate in Indonesian can in conjunction with other skills, widen travel opportunities and employment opportunities in a range of areas.

Students will engage in topics that will broaden their communication skills and cultural understanding from previous study. Topics covered will include food and ordering at a restaurant, bargaining at a market, asking for and giving directions and making plans with a friend. Throughout these units, students will look at a variety of texts including personal, descriptive, informative and imaginative; for a range of purposes further developing their grammatical understanding of the Indonesian language.

This course will actively prepare students for a language pathway for VCE.

Excursions will have an individual cost.

SCIENCES



STEM (Whole year)

This subject is only to be selected by students who have completed the Year 8 STEM Pathways program or have successfully applied to be involved in the Year 9 STEM Pathways program for 2023.

- Do you know how a plane is able to fly?
- Do you know how to make a boat made of cardboard float and hold your own weight?
- How can circuit diagram theory help us with robot design and construction?

STEM is an interdisciplinary approach to studies. In STEM, students focus on developing key skills that are transferrable. Students apply these skills to solve real world problems by thinking more critically at the given problem and attempt to solve the problem by producing a well thought out solution. Students are expected to receive feedback and refine their solution and continuously refine over the course of semester.

A continuation of the already exciting STEM program and activities. This is only eligible for students who have completed STEM in year 7 and/or 8. If spots become available we will offer applications.

This elective will run for the entire year.

Brain Buzz

What does it mean to be intelligent? Students will look at various types of intelligence and learn about Gardner's Multiple Intelligences. Students will run practical activities with primary students using the Multiple Intelligences during a primary lesson.

How do illusions work? Students learn about how the eye works and this will involve dissecting a sheep's eye. You will investigate how the brain is tricked using illusions and will go on an excursion to 'Amaze N Things' to experience illusions first hand.

Students will study the use of manipulation to get people to join Cults and students will use these techniques to make a video for a "Cult" they wish to lead.

They will delve into mental health and talk about the causes and treatments of psychological disorders. Students conduct experiments and learn to write professional psychological reports.

This elective is a great introduction to VCE Psychology.

Elective fee includes resources and excursions will have an individual cost.

Curriculum Contribution \$10



TECHNOLOGY



Bakehouse

In this elective, students have the opportunity to make numerous savoury and sweet recipes based around yeast and pastry cookery as well as various baking processes.

Students will prepare a variety of pastries, breads, cakes and other baked items of their choice. Students will be encouraged to develop or change recipes to suit their individual tastes and dietary needs.

Assessment in this subject will include: research tasks that incorporate both theatrical and practical components.

Elective fee includes food/ingredients.

Curriculum Contribution \$50

Multi-Cultural Munchies

Travel the world creating a range of dishes such as exotic spicy curries, Asian Street foods and rich European pastries.

Practical and theoretical work will focus on the history of selected regions, as well as their unique preparation and cooking techniques, ingredients and dishes. Weekly tasks will be student-focused with individuals choosing a culture and designing their work to meet set criteria.

Join in this celebration of fabulous ingredients, flavours, aromas and possibilities.

Elective fee includes food/ingredients.

Curriculum Contribution \$50

Food by Design

Students will be introduced to a range of kitchen skills and processes used in food production. These skills will include preparation and cooking techniques, food styling and presentation, nutrition, ingredient selection and recipe modification. Safe work habits and food hygiene will be thoroughly investigated and practiced. Students will be required to select their own recipes and cater for groups or individuals with specific needs. Students will be required to work in teams and individually to investigate, design, produce and evaluate their set tasks.

This elective should be considered by students with an interest in developing their knowledge of the theory behind common foods and skills in food production.

Elective fee includes food/ingredients.

Curriculum Contribution \$50

Computers in the Real World

This elective will equip students with a number of software skills for the real world. Students adopt or invent an organisation such as a sporting club, band or business and learn how to promote and support its day-to-day operations using a range of computer applications.

- Design and produce a range of printed promotional materials.
- Make a power point presentation of the business of their choice
- Design and work through the expenses and daily transactions for a business through a spreadsheet
- Develop a professional-looking building plan for your organisation.
- Peek inside the workings of the internet.
- Use Photoshop and learn how to manipulate images.

With each activity, emphasis will be on planning and designing solutions. Throughout the elective, students will be involved in self-evaluation and peer-evaluation assessment. They will carry out a weekly self-reflection by writing an online journal.

Creative Computing and Game Making

Want to learn more about how your favourite games are made? In this elective you will learn computational thinking concepts; creativity and innovation, communication and collaboration, research and information fluency, critical thinking, digital citizenship, problem solving, decision-making, using and selecting applications effectively and productively.

- Multimedia animations (sequencing/looping)
- Storytelling through the use of conditional statements
- Game development (operators, data management, testing and debugging)
- Final project (designing, collaborating, abstracting, modularizing)

Introduction to Product Design Technology 1 (Furniture)

Students in this class will gain advanced skills and knowledge of Product Design Technology including furniture construction using timber.

Students will manufacture core pieces of work to understand the manufacturing techniques, processes and procedures.

Students will be able to use these skills and knowledge to design and construct a project of their own choice.

Students will focus on working safely, as Occupational Health and Safety is a key issue in a Worksafe environment when using hand and power tools in a manufacturing setting.

Taking home a finished product is an important component of this elective

Elective fee includes resources.

Curriculum Contribution \$35

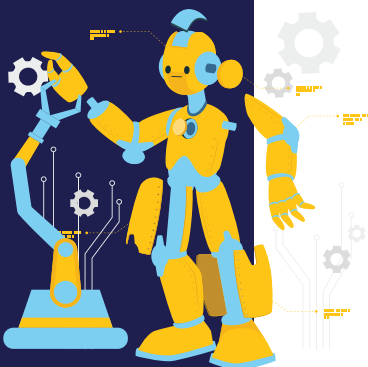
Robotics, Electronics & Engineering

This subject cannot be selected by any students who will be in the Year 9 STEM Pathways program for 2024.

Gain a basic understanding of electronics and robotics through hands-on learning, electrical theory and fundamental electro-technology skills. Students will learn how basic electronics control the functions of a simple robot, circuit symbols and diagrams, electronics theory and elementary electronics assembly by making their own working robot.

Elective fee includes resources.

Curriculum Contribution \$70



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