THORNBURY HIGH SCHOOL

Year 9
HANDBOOK
2011

Name:.........................................................

Please retain this Handbook for reference to subjects, events and policies throughout 2011
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Thornbury High School - Year 9 Handbook, 2011
## PROPOSED YEAR 9 2011 PLANNER

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

At Thornbury High School we believe that a safe and secure learning environment, high academic standards and opportunities for students to pursue individual interests are the essential elements of an outstanding education.

At Thornbury High our purpose is to prepare students for a changing, diverse and sustainable world by;

- Building knowledge and skills,
- Encouraging effort and excellence,
- Fostering resilience and integrity,
- Developing a caring and cooperative learning community.

At Thornbury High school there are three distinct phases in education;

- Establishment and Support (year 7&8).
- Empowerment and Independence (year 9).
- Specialisation and Pathways (year 10,11 & 12).

In Year 9 students are involved in an authentic learning program with an emphasis on team learning, connections to the local community and the extensive use of information and communication technology. A significant part of their studies will occur in the newly renovated Library which is a flexible and multi-purpose learning environment.

Welcome to Thornbury High School,

Peter Egeberg, Principal

OUR GOALS

The Middle School at Thornbury High offers a wide range of opportunities, a broad curriculum and special programs to develop your thinking, personal and social skills. As a student currently in Years 8 you now face making some important decisions about your learning program for next year, and to some extent, for your future years.

As you enter into this next phase of your school life, you will be expected to take greater responsibility for your own learning. This starts now as you consider elective subject selections to make up your course of study for 2011. The elective offerings will provide opportunities for you to explore areas of interest, and possibly provide some background for subject selection in later years. It is for these reasons you must make wise choices, based on carefully considered information and advice from adults who are looking after your best interests. It is important you take every opportunity to talk over your choices with your parents, teachers and co-ordinators who want to advise and support you through this process. I hope you enjoy taking this next step forward and facing the challenges ahead.

Hopefully your time in the Middle School will be rewarding as you continue your education at Thornbury High.

All the best from the Middle School Team

Ann Vassos Middle School Manager       Phone 94586 112
STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES AND PARENT INFORMATION

- **Discipline Policy**
The School has a structured Discipline Policy which is published in the school planner. Copies are available from our website: [www.thornburyhs.vic.edu.au](http://www.thornburyhs.vic.edu.au)
We expect Thornbury High students to behave at all times with courtesy, common sense and consideration for others.

- **Wearing of the Uniform**
All students must wear the correct uniform when going to and from school and on other occasions as directed. The full school uniform requirements are outlined in the school planner.
Sport uniform must be worn during Sport, Physical Education Core and Elective Programs and during inter school sport days and when representing the school.

Hats are only to be worn outside the school buildings.

Uniforms are available to buy from the Acadamy Uniform Shop which operates at the school during lunchtimes on Wednesdays. Uniforms may also be bought from Monday to Saturday at the Acadamy shop at 238 WolsleyPlace, Thomastown 3074 Phone 94608011.

- **Lockers**
All students are issued with a locker. On entry to the school, students are requested to pay a $15 deposit to the General Office where they will be issued with a combination lock. This deposit will be refunded when your child leaves the School at the end of Year 12 or at any other time the student exits Thornbury High School.

Students are required to put their bags in their lockers. They are not permitted to carry their bags to class including P.E. classes or at recess and lunchtime. A small bag should be used to take their sport uniform to the gymnasium.

For security reasons, students are not permitted to go to their locker during class time unless they have signed permission in their planner from their classroom teacher.

- **Student Planner**
On enrolment, each student will be supplied with a planner. The planner is to be used exclusively for school related matters. It is not a personal diary. If not maintained in good condition free of stickers, graffiti and personal annotations, the planner must be replaced.

The planner is a very important document and our **students are expected to take this to each class**. The planner outlines important information. It contains detailed information on uniform requirements, school policies, regulations, rules and consequences; student goals, study plans, the times of classes and other information relevant to our students.
**The planner is used to record all HOMEWORK.**

Parents are asked to check the planner each night for homework, notes from teachers, etc. The planner can be used as a means of communication to teachers if parents wish to write messages back to the co-ordinator, form teacher or class teacher.

- **Homework**
Regular homework is given. All homework should be entered in the student planner by the student. Homework can take a number of forms: finishing off class work, revising, completing set tasks, researching, redrafting, homework assignments or completing class assignments and common assessment tasks, practising an instrument and reading.

A Homework timetable is issued at the beginning of each semester to all Years 7-9 students. Year 10 students should be mature and responsible enough to organise the nights they have homework.

**Parents should not accept students constantly telling them they do not have homework.**

A Homework Club operates after school twice a week in the Library where assistance in English and Maths is available.
STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES AND PARENT INFORMATION

- **Student Absence**
  All students are expected to be punctual and regular in their attendance. Students are required to maintain a minimum 90% attendance rate at school. If your child is absent for any reason parents are requested to ring their child’s Year Level Co-ordinator in the morning and leave a message on the voice mail. If the student is absent for an extended reason, a doctors certificate is required. Dental or doctor appointments should not be made during school time unless absolutely unavoidable.
  If your child is away for a lengthy period of time, work can be arranged to be sent home. Please contact your child's Year Level Co-ordinator.

  **ABSENCE LINE**
  94586125
  **MESSAGES TAKEN 24 HOURS**
  *Late arrivals can also be notified via the absence line*
  Please leave: Student Name, Form, Contact number, Reason for absence, and if late, time of estimated arrival.

- **Students Sick at School**
  If a student is unwell at school, the school will contact the parent or guardian before sending the student home. No student is permitted to go home unless the school has contacted the parent or guardian. Students are not permitted to use mobile phones if they are sick to contact parents without permission from a staff member.

  *It is important that when all students are enrolled at the school, emergency phone numbers are given as well as a contact number for the parent/guardian. It is also important that these phone numbers are kept up to date and changes are made with the General Office.*

- **Collecting your Child from School**
  If for any reason you need to collect your child during the school day, please report to the General Office. Please use the early leavers book to sign your child out.
  For safety reasons, we cannot allow students to wait for parents in the car park or surrounding areas.

- **Permission to leave the School**
  Students are not permitted to leave the school grounds during the school day without official permission. If it is necessary for a student to leave the school during school hours for any reason, they need to provide a note to their Year Level Co-ordinator and sign the Early Leavers’ Book which is located at the General Office.

- **Contacting the School**
  If you have any enquiries regarding your child's program or progress, please contact your child's Year Level Co-ordinator who will either answer your queries or direct you to the appropriate person. The Year Level Co-ordinator closely monitors all students in their care, so it is important to notify them of anything which may affect your child's progress at school.

- **Teacher Contact**
  Parents are invited to contact teachers, however, if you wish to see a teacher, parents must ring and make an appointment. Please be aware that teachers are not always available as they have classes, meetings and other commitments.
STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES AND PARENT INFORMATION

- **School Detention**
  An official School Detention runs from 3.10 until 4.00 pm. Students required to attend a school detention will be issued with a detention notice which requires a parent signature and which states the reason for the detention.

  If students are late to class, or have not completed homework, they can receive a ten minute detention after school from 3.10 to 3.20 pm. Parents will not be notified in this case unless there is no improvement shown.

  Catch up classes are held on the weekends for students needing to complete CAT’s. Parents are notified in writing. Weekend detention classes are also held.

- **Excursions/Sporting Events:**
  All activities which involve students leaving the school grounds require parental/guardian permission in writing. It is the student’s responsibility to ensure the appropriate forms are taken home, filled in correctly with all relevant contact numbers, and returned by the due date to the organising teacher. If this is not done, students may miss the opportunity to be involved in the activity/excursion.

- **Text Books**
  We are very aware of the cost to our parents in educating their child. We take particular care that we do not have an extensive book list so that we can reduce the cost for our parents. It is important that all our students have the necessary text books for all their subject areas.

  Students will be notified when second hand books are available for sale at the end of the year.

  Students may hand in their books at the end of the year to sell. We suggest that students take care of their books as this will increase the value of their books when they wish to re sell them - and further reduce the cost of books to parents.

- **Canteen**
  The School has a canteen available which provides food to our students. It is open before school as well as at recess and lunchtime. Lunch orders can be placed before school and at recess. Students are not permitted to leave the school grounds at any time to buy their lunch at other facilities. There is a separate queue for girls.

- **Lockers, Money and Valuables/Mobile Phones etc.**
  Money or valuables should be left at the General Office for safe keeping during the day. The school will not take responsibility for the security of any possessions or valuables not handed to the General Office. I-Pods and Mobile phones cannot be used during class time.

  No photographs or film/video recordings using mobile phones is permitted in school buildings or on the school grounds.

- **Legal and Illegal Substances NOT to be used at School**
  Whilst students are at school or travelling to and from school, or attending any school function, or wearing school uniform they are
  
  - not permitted to have or use any tobacco products.
  - not permitted to use or process, sell or be under the influence of alcoholic beverages, mind altering substances or illegal substances

  The following substances are banned from all School Buildings, grounds and vehicles
  
  - Chewing Gum
  - Liquid Paper, White out or other similar substances
  - Permanent markers/textas
STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES AND PARENT INFORMATION

- **Punctuality**
  We expect all our students to be punctual to school and class. All students begin the day with a form assembly. Students are expected to be at school by 8.45am so that they can collect their books from their lockers.
  **Students who arrive late on more than three occasions will be given a School detention.**

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<td>8.50 a.m.</td>
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<td>FORM ASSEMBLY</td>
<td>FORM ASSEMBLY</td>
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<td>9.04 a.m.</td>
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<td>11.28 a.m.</td>
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- **Early Dismissal**
  On alternate Wednesday afternoons three times per term students are dismissed at 1.40pm for staff professional development. Please check Newsletter for dates

- **Student Services**
  Thornbury High School has the services of the following:
  - Student Wellbeing Co-ordinator
  - Social Worker (part time)
  - Adolescent Health Nurse (part time)
  - Youth Worker
  - Integration Program

  The School has a Student Well Being Team which meets regularly to discuss programs for individual and groups of students.

  This team consists of administration, year level co-ordinators, sub school managers, integration and the personnel listed above.

- **Bullying Survey**
  Harassment is any behaviour, verbal or physical, which is unwelcome, dangerous, intrusive, violent, abusive or discriminatory in nature or offensive to a person. Harassment will not be tollerated in any way.

  The school conducts an annual survey of students to:
  - Ascertain the level of the problem.
  - Identify areas of the school where students feel less safe.
  - Identify students who bully and provide appropriate consequences and support.

- **ICT**
  The School will be using a user pays system for printing. Five dollar and two dollar top-up cards should be purchased from the General Office either before schoo or at recess or lunchtime.
Parent Involvement

At Thornbury High School, we strongly promote the partnership between our parents and staff in providing the best education for each individual child. An important aspect of this partnership is to keep our parents informed about the progress of their child and the events which are occurring in the school. We do this in a variety of ways:

**Parent Newsletter**

The Newsletter is issued three times a term and is posted home or emailed to each family to inform our parents of the events which are occurring in the school. Please read this newsletter as it will keep you up to date with all important events and activities that are going on in the school.

The Newsletter is also found on the school web page. www.thornburyhs.vic.edu.au

**Parent Participation**

There are many ways parents can be more involved in the school's programs. These include many of the committees which operate within the School. Please let the office know if you are interested in participating in any of the school's committees.

These include:
- School Council and its various sub committees
- Music Parents

**Education Maintenance Allowance**

Parents on EMA need to be aware of the date that these forms need to be completed and handed in to the General Office.

Reminder dates are published in the School Newsletter. Please ring the School's Business Manager, Mrs Theresa Daly, if you have any queries regarding EMA.

Assessment and Reporting

**Reporting to Parents**

Parents are invited to contact their child's Co-ordinator to discuss their child's progress at any time. Teachers may contact the parent, at any time, via the planner, e-mail or by making a phone call to the parent, if there is some concern about a student's progress.

There are four occasions throughout the year when there is a more formal reporting of a child's progress. This occurs at the end of each term.

At the end of Terms 1 and Term 3, Interim or Progress Reports are issued and Parent Teacher Interviews are conducted. This is an important time for parents to meet class teachers to discuss a child's progress.

An end of semester report is issued at the end of Semester 1 and 2. This is a more detailed report.
**CAT’s Compulsory Assessment Tasks**

All students in years 7 to 10 will be provided with a list of Compulsory Assessment Tasks for all core subjects and electives at the beginning of each semester. Students in year 10 who are studying a VET or VCE subject will also be provided with a list of School Assessed Coursework (SAC’s) and due dates for these subjects.
Students are expected to complete all CAT’s by the due date at an acceptable standard. Students may be issued with an extension. This is outlined in the procedure above.

## Student Activities

The School offers our Years 9 students the opportunity to be involved in a number of activities throughout their time in the middle school. These include the following:

- **Inter School Sports**
  The whole school participates in a number of sporting events and students are encouraged to be involved in any of the Thornbury High School’s sport teams. Students interested in a particular sport should attend the information meeting and any practice sessions outside class hours as required by the coach of that team. Parents are most welcome to attend any of the sporting events. Information concerning the times of training sessions is published in the Student Bulletin and on the 9/10 noticeboard.

- **House Sports**
  All students are allocated a House team (Onus/Nicholls/Saunders/Blair) and participate in the Swimming and Athletics Carnival days.

- **S.R.C.**
  The School Representative Council is an active body in the school with students participating in decision making processes on important issues relating to students. SRC representatives run year level assemblies and organise events during the school year. The S.R.C. also supports various charities by arranging and taking part in fundraising events.

- **Camps**
  Year 9 students will attend camp at Raymond Island Victoria in March 2011. Cost $350. Itinerary will be available in 2011. Year 9 students will attend either on the 1st-4th March or the 15th-18th March 2011.
  Music and Outdoor Educational Camps occur throughout the year for students who take part in such Electives.

- **Homework Club**
  The Homework Club commences at 3.10 pm twice per week, for one hour. The Homework Club is supervised by staff and teachers who are available to assist students with their work during this time. Details concerning the location and the day when this will occur in 2011 will be available in the Newsletter at the beginning of the school year.

- **Debating**
  Thornbury High School is actively involved in competitions established by the Debating Association of Victoria. The School has for many years had a significant involvement in debating, fielding many teams at different levels with great success.

- **Concert/Stage/Rock Groups/ Music Program**
  Students who learn an instrument can be involved in one of the above groups. These groups perform regularly and attend a Music Tour, usually interstate.

- **Computer Club/Library**
  Computer areas, including the Library Learning Centre, are available to students during lunchtime and recess.

- **Competition and Special Events**
  Throughout the year, students have the opportunity to participate in a variety of competitions and special events. These Special Events include:
  - Competition - Mathematics
  - LOTE Competitions.
  - Sporting Events
  - Peer Support Program
  - Alpine School
  - Thornbury has Talent
  - Science Competitions
  - School Musical Production/play
  - Public Speaking
  - Leadership Training
  - Party Safe Day

- **Overseas/Cultural/LOTE Tours.**
  Thornbury High School has two sister school relationships with schools in Beijing, China, and San Marco, Italy. In 2005, a tour to Beijing, China, and Malaysia, was organised for students. In January, 2006, there was a music tour to the United States. In 2008 students visited our sister school in Italy. These overseas tours usually occur every second year.
The Year 9 Program

YEAR 9

CORE
- Mathematics
- Science
- Physical Education
- Sport & Health
- LOTE
  - Indonesian
  - Italian
  - Greek
  - Mandarin
  - ESL

CO-CURRICULAR
- Camps
- Inter School Sports
- House Sports
- Concert/Stage/Rock Groups
- Music Program/Band
- Instrumental music lessons
- Debating
- Leadership S.R.C
- Leadership Forums
- Alpine School
- Mathematics Competitions
- Science Competitions
- Public Speaking
- Party Safe Day
- Urban Week

QUEST
- English
- Humanities
- Personal Learning
- Co-operative Learning
- Interpersonal development
- Civics & Citizenship
- Oral Communication
- ICT

ELECTIVES
- Animation
- Art Studies
- Automotive
- Crime & Law
- Design & Technology
- Dance
- Drama
- Fitness & Body Systems
- Forensic Science
- Food & Technology
- Information Technology
- Media Class TV
- Music Performance
- Music Sound Production
- Outdoor Education
- Photography
- Robotics
- Sport & Recreation
- Visual Communication
Overview of Year 9 Curriculum

The Curriculum at Year 9 is made up of Core (compulsory) and Elective subjects. Both Core and Elective subjects are drawn from the three strands of the Victorian Essential Learning Standards (VELS). The Victorian Essential Learning Standards provides the basis for curriculum planning, assessment and reporting for all Victorian schools from Prep to Year 10.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUBJECT</th>
<th>Year 9 Semester 1</th>
<th>Year 9 Semester 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Periods per fortnight</td>
<td>Periods per fortnight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quest Program English/Humanities</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics+</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Education &amp; Health</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>LOTE</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>6 Elective 1</td>
<td>6 Elective 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>6 Elective 3</td>
<td>6 Elective 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>40 Periods</td>
<td>40 Periods</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The above chart gives an overview of the Year 9 curriculum and indicates the number of periods per fortnight allocated to each subject or Key Learning Area. Each period is of 72 minutes duration.

Policy on Promotion

We regard the learning and teaching process as a partnership between students, parents and staff. Thus, we expect our students to actively participate in this process, and to take increasing personal responsibility for their own learning. We similarly expect our parent community to support their children both directly, by providing them with appropriate materials, monitoring homework and wide-reading, as well as indirectly, by supporting the college and its policies. Parents and students should be well aware that promotion of students to a higher year level is not automatic.

Promotion to Year 10 requires

1. Achieve an acceptable work standard
   - Complete all compulsory assessment tasks (CAT’s) to an acceptable standard.
   - Obtain at least an ‘acceptable’ rating for effort as recorded in their reports.

2. Have acceptable attendance
   - Minimum attendance of 90% this means a minimum of 9 days attendance every fortnight.
   - Consistently punctual to class.

3. Demonstrate acceptable behaviour at all times
   - Ongoing commitment to studies and consistent work throughout the year.
   - Obtain at least ‘acceptable’ rating for class behaviour as recorded in their school report.
   - Consideration to be given to number of school detentions and suspensions.

Inability to meet Promotion Requirements

If student does not meet these promotion requirements there are three possible courses of action and will be decided by a panel consisting of the Year 9 Co-ordinator, 9/10 Manager, parents, teachers and student.

1. Promoted to the next year level on a contract which will be reviewed at the end of 5th week of Term 1 and if contract not met, student will return to previous year.
2. Offered the chance to repeat current year level.
3. Assisted in transferring to another school or alternative setting.
The Year 9 Core Curriculum

The following subjects are compulsory for all Year 9 students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 9 CORE</th>
<th>Quest Program</th>
<th>English/Humanities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>This exciting program has all year 9 students working together in our Learning Centre which is a large, flexible and diverse space. The approach facilitates inquiry based learning and challenges students to work cooperatively with their peers and to construct their own meaning from negotiated research and folio projects. Students are taught by a dedicated team of innovative teachers who are skilled in ICT (Information, Communication and Technology). The program facilitates students working in small groups under the guidance of a tutor.</td>
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<tr>
<td>As part of Authentic Learning, students:</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Participate in a pastoral camp in term one</td>
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<td>- Use the local community as a learning base</td>
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<td>- Attend a full week in the Urban Week Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Participate in the global classroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Skills Focus: The program focuses on developing on the following skills:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Co-operative</td>
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<tr>
<td>- ICT</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Writing Folio</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Independent Learning</td>
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<td>- Group/Team work</td>
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<td>- Oral Communication</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Community Engagement</td>
<td></td>
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<td>- Wide Reading</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Text Response</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Interview Skills</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Reflective Thinking</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Action Research</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Quest Program

INTEGRATES... English, Humanities and Personal Development

EMPOYS... Action research, Authentic learning, Inquiry learning and Community based projects

IS... Information Communication Technology rich, Underpinned by VELS and Involves Negotiated learning activities

Curriculum Focus:
Term One: Being a Teen is a Dream
Term Two: Australians at War
Term Three: World Issues
Term Four: Immigration and Australia

Compulsory Assessment Tasks:

Semester 1
1. Writing Folio x3
2. Exploring Text
3. War Documentary
4. CD cover and song

Semester 2
1. Writing Folio x3
2. Exploring Text
3. Digital Story
4. Oral Presentation
### Year 9 CORE - English as a Second Language

E.S.L. (English as a Second Language) is offered to students who have been in Australia fewer than seven years and for those students whose education in English has been interrupted due to living overseas for an extended period of time.

The course is designed to help students gain confidence in using the English language and develop their skills in reading, writing, listening and speaking.

**Compulsory Assessment Tasks: Semester 1 and repeated in Semester 2**

1. Oral Presentation  
2. Text Response  
3. Writing Folio

### Year 9 CORE - Mathematics

**Curriculum Focus**

The Year 9 Mathematics Program focuses on: Space, Number, Measurement/Chance and Data, Structure and Working Mathematically.

Students are required to keep an organised workbook with all class notes, exercises and homework. Homework should enable students to finish class work, projects and other set tasks. Mathematics homework should be completed regularly, at least two nights a week.

**Compulsory Assessment Tasks: Semester 1 and repeated in Semester 2**

1. Topic Tests  
2. Project  
3. Homework Tasks

### Year 9 CORE - Science

**Curriculum Focus**

In Science, students investigate chemical reactions, earthquakes, optics and cell processes. They learn about collecting and analysing information, and about applying the scientific method. They also complete a range of computer-based activities.

Students will be expected to maintain an organised workbook with a record of all class activities – notes, diagrams, and practical reports. They should also have a consistent home study program. This will include a review of key concepts.

**Compulsory Assessment Tasks: Semester 1**

1. Research Investigation  
2. Practical Investigation  
3. Research Assignment x2

### Year 9 CORE - Physical Education, Health and Sport

**Curriculum Focus**

Physical Education provides an opportunity for students to assess their fitness and to improve their physical fitness where necessary. Students participate in a wide range of activities and games. Students are expected to use, consolidate and extend individual and group tactics as well as the skills learnt in previous years. Students may participate in recreational activities including archery, swimming, bowling and golf. All students must change into full P.E. uniform. They are encouraged to wear sunscreen protection and hats, and to participate in all activities.

Students may be required to complete written assignments at home. Sport and physical education activities are aligned with the inter and intra school sporting programs.

**Compulsory Assessment Tasks: Semester 1 and repeated in Semester 2**

1. Participation  
2. Uniform

### Year 9 CORE - Languages other than English

**Curriculum Focus**

The languages offered at Year 9 level are Italian, Indonesian and Greek. Students are encouraged to continue with the language studied in Year 7/8.

The course aims to develop the skills of Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing, as well as an appreciation of the culture of the country of the LOTE. All LOTE studies expect students to complete homework activities on a regular basis. This may include written work from texts, printed handout sheets or assignment work.

**Compulsory Assessment Tasks: Semester 1 and repeated in Semester 2**

1. Oral Performance  
2. Writing Folio
The Year 9 ELECTIVES

Students will follow four of the following courses

ELECTIVE  Animation

Curriculum Focus
In this subject students will learn the basics of animation techniques, history and future directions in the field, which includes 3D and advertising, voice overs, story boarding and film reviews.

Students will be required to produce a 3 minute animation created in claymation, 2D animation using software such as Adobe Flash or Pivot, 3D animation using “Machinima” voice overs and a sound track.

Compulsory Assessment Tasks:
1. Video Presentation
2. Research Folio
COST: $25

ELECTIVE  Art Studies

Curriculum Focus
In this subject, students will work on a sequential series of skills based pieces of Art Work. These explore the elements of design and also experimental and imaginative processes.

Students will learn to draw from life and create artworks using a variety of media including painting, digital and mixed media production. Students will undertake theory based research which relates to their own art making ideas and explores the visual world they live in.

Compulsory Assessment Tasks:
1. Folio
2. Workbook including research
COST: $25

ELECTIVE  Automotive Studies

Curriculum Focus
In this elective, students develop an understanding of automotive mechanical and electrical systems. They will develop skills in the safe and correct use of tools and equipment to service, adjust and modify automotive systems. Students will:
- Investigate, design and carry out a vehicle service
- Investigate, design and carry out a vehicle detail
- Investigate changing technologies within the automotive industry

Compulsory Assessment Tasks:
1. Assignment
2. Theory Modules
COST: $30.

ELECTIVE  Crime and the Law

Curriculum Focus
The focus of this elective is ‘What is Crime?’ and the course focuses on the following areas:
- Crimes against people
- Crimes against property
- Crimes against the state

The aim of the course is to introduce students to the impact of law in our lives and how law impacts upon the individual. The focus of the subject is the criminal law, court procedures and criminal sanctions. Many famous criminal cases are used in the study of the subject.

Compulsory Assessment Tasks:
1. Assignment/Case Study
2. Test
### ELECTIVE Dance Mixed & Girls only

**Curriculum Focus**
Students develop the ability to make sustained dance statements that show technical control and aesthetic understanding. They use real imagined and abstract themes as the basis for developing movement sequences. They improvise and choreograph dances independently as well as in groups.

**Compulsory Assessment Tasks:**
1. Performance
2. Performance Analysis

### ELECTIVE Design & Technology WOOD

**Curriculum Focus**
In this elective, students will develop an understanding of the creative problem solving process by:
- Designing a 3D project
- Producing the project
- Investigating timber softwood and hardwood
- Developing finishing techniques

**Compulsory Assessment Tasks:**
1. Design of a Model
2. Completion of Product

**COST:** $50

### ELECTIVE Drama

**Curriculum Focus**
Development of improvisation and production skills to use in the creation of a performance to an audience

**Students will be working on**
- Improving acting skills
- Production skills
- Script development

**Compulsory Assessment Tasks:**
3. Ensemble Performance
4. Play Analysis

### ELECTIVE Fitness & Body Systems

**Curriculum Focus**
This elective encourages students and provides them with the opportunity to develop healthy living habits. It aims to develop and instil the skills of making healthy choices and living an active life. It also allows students to access local facilities aimed at promoting healthy lifestyles in a supportive, structured and non-threatening way.

**Course Content:** Use facilities at school in the local community to begin and maintain a healthy lifestyle. Topics and activities may include:
- Healthy eating and nutrition
- Circuit training, swimming, resistance training, aerobics, box-exercise
- Planning and developing own fitness program.

**Compulsory Assessment Tasks:**
1. Fitness testing
2. Fitness Journal
3. Participation
**ELECTIVE Food Studies**

**Curriculum Focus**
This is mainly a practical subject. The student will be expected to design, produce and evaluate food products. The practical work will involve making a variety of food dishes which demonstrate safe and responsible work practices.

**Compulsory Assessment Tasks:**
1. Folio of work
2. Practical Work

**COST:** $50

**ELECTIVE Forensic Science**

**Curriculum Focus**
In this unit students will take on the role of Forensic Science investigators for our own CSI. Students will work in a chemistry laboratory to solve hypothetical crimes. They will learn to apply observation and logic, fingerprinting, microscopy, chromatography, DNA profiling and chemical analysis.

Highlights of the unit will be a workshop at CSIRO, SEC, Highett, and the production of a CSI video.

This unit will help develop higher order thinking skills and prepare students for further studies in science.

**Compulsory Assessment Tasks:**
1. Multi Media Presentation
2. Portfolio/Casebook

**COST:** $10

**ELECTIVE Information Technology**

**Curriculum Focus**
In this unit students will prepare a range of individually designed and computer generated documents using acquired keyboard skills and toolbar icons. They will investigate and evaluate a variety of current software such as education and recreation packages and reference data bases. Students will also investigate, design and evaluate functions of the various Internet search engines.

**Compulsory Assessment Tasks:**
1. Research Assignment
2. Structured Task

**ELECTIVE Media Class TV**

**Curriculum Focus**
In this unit students will be involved in the world of television production which includes filming, pre-production, post production and team work. Skills will focus on scripting, digital editing, filming, lighting and sound as well as looking at copyright, codes and censorship.

**Compulsory Assessment Tasks:**
1. Folio
2. Project: film and Editing

**COST:** $25
**ELECTIVE**  
**Music Performance Semester 1**  
**YEAR 9 BAND STUDENTS ONLY**

**Curriculum Focus**  
The focus of this elective is on Performing within a senior band **interstate tour**. The elective is recommended for **Music Students who were part of the band class in Year 8**. Students are expected to play in a band through the **whole year** and attend regular instrumental lessons during school and weekly rehearsal outside school hours. This will incur a cost $160 per year. Instruments can also be hired from school for $50 per term. Students can join this class if they want to learn a concert band instrument.

**Compulsory Assessment Tasks:**  
1. Alternative instrument study  
2. Composition  
3. Performance (Solo and Group)

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**ELECTIVE**  
**Music Sound Production**

**Curriculum Focus**  
Ever wanted a career involving music but not sure where to start or what is available. This subject caters for students interested in the Music Industry, or Performing Arts Industry. The subject involves:

- Discovering the role of the producer  
- Music composition/Recording your own music using brand new recording studio  
- Exploration of Music Videos  
- Getting hands on ‘behind the scene’ experience

**Compulsory Assessment Tasks:**  
1. Music producer research assignment  
2. Production Composition

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**ELECTIVE**  
**Outdoor Education**

**Curriculum Focus**  
Students will work in teams/partnership with others to develop co-operative skills, planning, negotiation and trust. Unfamiliar activities enable students to experience and build from a common base and encourage and support each other in new realms.

**Course Content:**

- Water safety (pool, river, beach) excursions to pool, river flows and surfing  
- Blading - safety theory and excursions (Indoor blading/outdoor blading/ ice skating)  
- Hiking- preparation and cooking of food, tent set up, clothing and equipment investigation, overnight camp and hiking  
- Environmental impacts of recreation

**Compulsory Assessment Tasks:**  
1. Major Project  
2. Minor Project  
3. Participation and Reports  

**Cost:** $200

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**ELECTIVE**  
**Photography**

**Curriculum Focus**  
In photography, students will learn the processes of black and white photography and then undertake photographic assignments to develop their skills. They will learn the basic composition and camera techniques as well as analysing photographs. Students will keep a visual diary containing all work.

**Compulsory Assessment Tasks:**  
1. Work Book  
2. Photo Analysis  
3. Folio

**COST:** $75
## ELECTIVE  
**Robotics**

### Curriculum Focus
This elective will focus on engineering, machines, and computer control. Access to Technics hardware and software will be available. Motors, sensors and pneumatics, constructing devices to the specification of your own design and the use of drag and drop programming for control, will be skills that this elective will focus on. The chance to take part in robotics competitions and work in teams for our own robot wars are some of the activities students will participate in.

### Compulsory Assessment Tasks:
1. Project
2. Model Production

**COST:** $20

## ELECTIVE  
**Sport and Recreation**

### Curriculum Focus
A range of sport and recreation activities designed to utilise recreational facilities in the local community. Students will develop skills and knowledge to assist in their preparation for being an active and responsible member of the community.

These activities may include, but not be limited to, bocce, ten pin bowling, mini golf, archery, lawn bowls, lazer force and beach volleyball. Students must wear full sport uniform.

### Compulsory Assessment Tasks:
1. Minor Project
2. Journal
3. Participation

**COST:** $80

## ELECTIVE  
**Visual Communication**

### Curriculum Focus
In this elective students will study the Visual Communication production processes as a means to develop ideas into finished pieces of artwork.

The course will place emphasis upon conventional drawing including freehand and rendering processes. Students will explore:
- Architectual drawing,
- Packaging,
- Digitalimaging Techniques,
- Photography Techniques,
- Photoshop, CAD
- Computer Design.

### Compulsory Assessment Tasks:
1. Folio
2. Work Book

**COST:** $25
Selecting Electives: How do I choose?

**Step 1 Reflection**
- In terms of your education: What are your strengths? What do you enjoy doing?
- At this stage what career path interests you? i.e., Sport/Rec Industry, Health/Beauty Industry, Sciences, Commerce, Small Business, Law, Information Technology or the Music or the Arts.
- You could check these references to research possible courses [www.myfuture.edu.au](http://www.myfuture.edu.au) which gives students opportunity to explore their interest and skills.

**Step 2 Some Advice**
- Year 9 is a challenge- lots of new subjects, new electives, new co-curricular and new friends to make. Think about your future —**choose what suits you** not what your current friends want to do. This is a time to explore and think about where you’re heading —make the most of the opportunities being offered.
- The elective program offers a wide range of units. You will do **two electives units each semester** in Year 9. Choose units which sound interesting to you
- Read the 9 Handbook carefully for unit descriptions. Each unit lasts for one semester and can not be repeated. Discuss your options with teachers and parents —if you’re not sure!
- Students must choose 1-4 in order of preference form Block 1 and 1-4 in order of preference from Block 2.
- Students need to read the handbook carefully or ask the relevant teachers if they require further information. **Once students have been placed on a published elective roll and their elective choices have been confirmed in writing no changes can be made to selections.**
- Parents are encouraged to participate in assisting their child in selecting their electives and must note that some elective can incur a cost.
- Please note that some Electives have a cost and this must be paid to confirm enrolment in the subject.

**Process of Elective Selection**

The selection process will operate in the following manner:

1. Each student will be required to complete the Elective Preference Form. **Parents are encouraged to discuss elective choices with their child.** Students are to indicate their first four preferences in order for each Block (1 to 4). We hope to give students their first and second choice but in some case this may not be possible

2. Once parental approval has been given to the student’s choice of electives, by signing the elective form, the form must be returned to the Co-ordinator’s office by the due date. Students who hand in their selection sheets late may have a limited choice of electives.

3. The information received from the forms will be used to derive the level of demand for each elective. Students whose first choice cannot be fully satisfied will be given their second or third choice.

4. When all students’ choices have been finalised, the elective subjects available to each student will be confirmed to the parent and the student in writing.