Year 9
HANDBOOK
2014

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

Please retain this handbook for reference to subjects, events and policies throughout 2014
# Proposed Year 9 planner for 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 1</th>
<th>29th Jan – 4th April</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Assembly- Introduction to the Middle School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Goal Setting</td>
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<tr>
<td>SRC Assembly</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Camp</td>
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<tr>
<td>Swimming Carnival</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Interim Reports</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Parent Teacher Interviews</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 2</th>
<th>22nd Apr - 27th Jun</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student Opinion and Bullying Survey</td>
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<td>Athletics Day</td>
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<td>NAPLAN</td>
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<td>Elective Confirmation for Semester 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Urban Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>Urban Program Presentations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Semester 1 Reports distributed to students</td>
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<tr>
<th>Term 3</th>
<th>14th Jul - 19th Sep</th>
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<tr>
<td>Semester 1 Award Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Assembly – Midde School to Host</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Survey Results Discussed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Music Camp</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 10 Curriculum Handbook distributed to students</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 9 into Year 10, 2015 Assembly PowerPoint Presentations</td>
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<td>Interim Reports, Parent Teacher Interviews</td>
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<tr>
<th>Term 4</th>
<th>6th Oct – 19th Dec</th>
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<tr>
<td>Party-Safe Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Confirmation of electives for Year 10 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Promotion to Year 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transition program</td>
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<tr>
<td>End-of-year excursion</td>
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<td>Awards Evening</td>
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<td>Semester 2 Reports distributed</td>
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**To be advised:**

- Interschool camps, interschool sports, excursions, leadership forums, curriculum days.
- Please refer to our website or monthly newsletter for up-to-date details.
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 and 8).
- Empowerment and Independence (Year 9).
- Specialisation and Pathways (Year 10, 11 and 12).

In Year 10, students will be prepared for their VCE studies but also have a range of curriculum choices. These choices include VCE studies, Advanced Mathematics, Vocational and Education studies (VET) and a range of electives.

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 Year 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 2014. 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 coordinators who want to advise and support you through this process. We hope you enjoy taking this next step forward and facing the challenges ahead.

We hope 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
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
We expect Thornbury High students to behave at all times with courtesy, common sense and consideration for others.

Wearing of uniform
All students must wear the correct uniform when going to and from school and on other occasions as directed. The full school uniforms 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 Academy uniform shop which operates at the school during lunchtimes on Wednesdays. Uniform may also be bought from Monday to Saturday at the Academy shop at 238 Wolseley Place, Thomastown 3074. Phone 94608011

Second hand uniforms are also available for sale every Monday 3 p.m.-4 p.m. at the school. They are will also buy uniforms back from students/parents.

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 locker. They are not permitted to carry their bags to class including PE 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.

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 2014 will be available in the Newsletter at the beginning of the school year.

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 the ABSENCE LINE 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 ONLY
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. Students can only be collected during their breaks at recess and lunch. 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. 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. Parents may also email staff via the ‘contact our staff’ page on the school website.

School Detention
An official school detention runs from 3.10 until 4.00pm. 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 3.20pm. 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 CATs. 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 and parents will be notified of the date when book exchanges can be made.

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 or exchange 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
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. Mobile phones and iPods 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

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCHOOL BELL TIMES</th>
<th>EARLY DISSMISAL BELL TIMES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LOCKERS</td>
<td>8.50 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>FORM ASSEMBLY</td>
<td>8.55 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>PERIOD 1</td>
<td>9.04 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>PERIOD 2</td>
<td>10.16 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>RECESS</td>
<td>11.28am</td>
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<tr>
<td>LOCKER BELL</td>
<td>11.52am</td>
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<tr>
<td>PERIOD 3</td>
<td>11.57 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>PERIOD 4</td>
<td>1.53 pm</td>
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<td>PERIOD 5</td>
<td>1.58 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>LUNCH</td>
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<td>END OF DAY</td>
<td>1.53 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>LOCKER BELL</td>
<td>1.58 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>PERIOD 4</td>
<td>3.10pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>PERIOD 5</td>
<td>4.22 pm.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOCKERS</th>
<th>FORM ASSEMBLY</th>
<th>PERIOD 1</th>
<th>PERIOD 2</th>
<th>RECESS</th>
<th>PERIOD 3</th>
<th>PERIOD 4</th>
<th>END OF DAY</th>
<th>PD – SESSION 1</th>
<th>PD – SESSION 2</th>
<th>END OF DAY</th>
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<tr>
<td>8.50 am</td>
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<td>10.16 am</td>
<td>11.28am</td>
<td>11.52am</td>
<td>11.57am</td>
<td>1.53 pm</td>
<td>1.58 pm</td>
<td>3.10pm</td>
<td>4.22 p.m.</td>
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Early Dismissal
On Thursday (blue week) 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 Wellbeing 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 tolerated 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**

Students need to pay for their printing. Five dollar, two dollar and 50 cent top-up cards should be purchased from the General Office either before school, recess or lunch.

**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 emailed or posted home 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 all activities that are going on in the school.

The newsletter is also found on the school web page [www.thornburyhs.vic.edu.au](http://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, its various sub committees and the Music Parents Association

**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 if you have any queries regarding EMA.
Student activities

The school offers Year 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 and House sports
The whole school participates in a number of sporting events and students are encouraged to be involved in any of 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. All students are allocated a House (Onus/Nicholls/Saunders/Blair) and participate in the Athletics days.

School Representative Council (SRC)
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 SRC also supports various charities by arranging and taking part in fundraising events.

Camps
Year 9 students will attend camp at Philip Island, cost $360. Itinerary will be available in 2014. Year 9 students will attend between the 10th-14th February. Music and Outdoor Educational camps occur throughout the year for students who take part in such Electives.

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, 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
- Languages Competitions.
- Sporting Events
- Peer Support Program
- Thornbury’s Got Talent
- Science Competitions
- School Musical Production/play
- Public Speaking
- Leadership Training
**Assessment & 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. These occur 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 (Term 2 and 4). This is a more detailed report.

**Compulsory Assessment Tasks (CATs)**
All students in years 7 to 10 will be provided with a list of CATs for all core subjects and electives at the beginning of each semester.

Students are expected to complete all CATs by the due date at an acceptable standard. Students may be issued with an extension. The process is outlined in the diagram below:

---

**Process for submission of Years 7-10 CATs**

1. **CAT due today. Handed in on time?**
   - **YES**
     - Teacher approves 24 hour extension.
     - Work submitted after extension?
       - **YES**
         - Legitimate excuse? (or medical certificate)
         - **YES**
           - Teacher hands out weekend class letter to student.
           - Student submits work at weekend class?
             - **YES**
               - High Distinction
               - Distinction
               - Credit
               - Satisfactory
             - **NO**
               - Unsatisfactory
               - CAT does not meet the minimum acceptable standard
           - **NO**
             - Unsatisfactory
             - CAT does not meet the minimum acceptable standard
       - **NO**
         - Unsatisfactory
         - CAT does not meet the minimum acceptable standard
   - **NO**
     - Legitimate excuse? (or medical certificate)
     - **YES**
       - Teacher hands out weekend class letter to student.
       - Student submits work at weekend class?
         - **YES**
           - High Distinction
           - Distinction
           - Credit
           - Satisfactory
         - **NO**
           - Unsatisfactory
           - CAT not submitted even after an extension
     - **NO**
       - Unsatisfactory
       - CAT does not meet the minimum acceptable standard

---

10
Overview of the 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 Victorian Essential Learning Standards (VELS). The VELS provide the basis for curriculum planning, assessment and reporting from Prep to Year 10.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUBJECT</th>
<th>Periods/fortnight (Sem.1)</th>
<th>Periods/fortnight (Sem.2)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quest (English/Humanities)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health &amp; PE</td>
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<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Languages</td>
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<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective 1 / Elective 3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elective 2 / Elective 4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
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<td>40</td>
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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 lasts 72 minutes.

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. Levels of achievement, completion of coursework, and other considerations will be taken into account.

Promotion to Year 10 requires
1. Achieve an acceptable work standard in all Work Habits
   - Complete all compulsory assessment tasks (CATs) to an acceptable standard in all subjects.

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

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

1. Offered the chance to repeat the current year level.

2. Assisted in transferring to another school or alternative setting.
The Year 9 Program

**Quest**
- English
- Humanities
- Co-operative learning
- Interpersonal Development
- Civics & Citizenship
- Oral communication
- ICT

**Co-Curricular**
- Camps
- Inter-school sports
- House sports
- Concert/Stage/Rock Groups
- Music Program/Band
- Instrumental music lessons
- Debating
- Leadership
- SRC
- Leadership forums
- Alpine School
- Mathematics Competitions
- Science Competitions
- Public speaking
- Party-Safe Day
- Urban Week

**YEAR 9**

**Core**
- Mathematics
- Science
- Health & PE

**Languages**
- Greek
- Indonesian
- Italian
- Mandarin

**Electives**
- Art Studies
- Class TV
- Crime and the Law
- Dance
- Design and Technology – Wood
- Digital Art
- Drawing
- Drama
- EAL
- Fitness and the Body
- Forensic Science
- Food Studies
- Information Technology
- Music Performance
- Music Production Recording and Technology
- Outdoor Education
- Pâtisserie
- Photography
- Robotics
- Sport and Recreation
- Visual Communication
YEAR 9 CORE CURRICULUM

The following subjects are compulsory for all Year 9 students

CORE: Quest

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Quest Program</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>INTEGRATES...</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>EMPLOYS...</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>IS...</strong></td>
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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.

As part of authentic learning, students:
- Participate in a pastoral camp in Term One
- Use the local community as a learning base
- Attend a full week in the Urban Week Program
- Participate in the global classroom

The program focuses on developing on the following skills:
- Research
- Co-operative
- ICT
- Writing Folio
- Independent Learning
- Group/Team work
- Oral Communication
- Community Engagement
- Wide Reading
- Text Response
- Interview Skills
- Reflective Thinking
- Action Research

Curriculum Focus
Term One: What is eating Teenagers? Term Three: Global Issues
Term Two: Australians at War Term Four: Immigration and Australia

CATs
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester 1</th>
<th>Semester 2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>War Documentary</td>
<td>Writing Folio</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing Folio x 3</td>
<td>Exploring Text</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exploring text folio</td>
<td>Digital Story</td>
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<tr>
<td>CD cover and song</td>
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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.

CATs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester 1</th>
<th>Semester 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Topic Tests</td>
<td>Topic Tests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project</td>
<td>Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework Tasks</td>
<td>Homework Tasks</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CORE: Science

Curriculum Focus
In Science, students investigate chemical reactions, earthquakes, and plate tectonics 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.

CATs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester 1</th>
<th>Semester 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brain Dysfunctions</td>
<td>Acid Base Titration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy Efficiency</td>
<td>Eco Systems and Earth Report</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**CORE: Health & Physical Education (H&PE)**

**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 sporting activities including cricket, soccer, tennis and netball. 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.

**CATs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester 1</th>
<th>Semester 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health Assignment</td>
<td>Drug Awareness Test</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CORE: Languages**

**Curriculum Focus**
The languages offered at Year 9 are Italian, Indonesian, Greek and Mandarin Chinese. Students are encouraged to continue with the language studied in Year 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 Language. The themes for Year 9 will include: The World of Teenagers, Travel in the Languages Country, Weather and Fashion, Directions, Our City, Our Houses, Entertainment and Pastimes.

All Languages studies expect students to complete homework activities on a regular basis. This may include written work from texts, printed handout sheets or assignment work.

**CATs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester 1</th>
<th>Semester 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Writing Task/Test</td>
<td>Writing Task/Test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Listening and Speaking Task</td>
<td>Listening and Speaking Task</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Year 9 Electives

Year 9 students will complete four electives through the course of the year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KLA</th>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Elective</th>
<th>2014 Levy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>1.</td>
<td>EAL</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health &amp; PE</td>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Fitness and the Body</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health &amp; PE</td>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Outdoor Education</td>
<td>$240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health &amp; PE</td>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Sport and Recreation</td>
<td>$80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humanities</td>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Crime and the Law</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humanities</td>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Information Technology</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Forensic Science</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Robotics</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology</td>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Food Studies</td>
<td>$60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology</td>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Pâtisserie</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology</td>
<td>11.</td>
<td>Woodwork</td>
<td>$60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Arts</td>
<td>12.</td>
<td>Art Studies</td>
<td>$25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Arts</td>
<td>13.</td>
<td>Class TV</td>
<td>$25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Arts</td>
<td>14.</td>
<td>Dance</td>
<td>$40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Arts</td>
<td>15.</td>
<td>Digital Art</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Arts</td>
<td>16.</td>
<td>Drama</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Arts</td>
<td>17.</td>
<td>Drawing</td>
<td>$25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Arts</td>
<td>18.</td>
<td>Music Performance Semester 1 and 2</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Arts</td>
<td>19.</td>
<td>Music Production Recording and Technology</td>
<td>$70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Arts</td>
<td>20.</td>
<td>Photography</td>
<td>$85</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Information is correct at the time of printing and is subject to change.
YEAR 9 ELECTIVES

Instructions
- Students must choose 4 elective units from each box on the sheet.
- Preferences must be numbered 1-4 (1 being the most preferred and 4 being the least preferred of all your choices for each box).

Please note that:
- some electives do not run because of insufficient numbers, or
- there are timetable clashes of electives, or
- there are no places available.

ELECTIVE: Art Studies

Curriculum Focus
In Art there will be an emphasis on drawing both from life, imaginative process and experimentation. Students will develop skills in a variety of materials including pencil graphite charcoal pastels and paint.

Students will explore print making including digital printing on computer. They will also undertake theory based research which relates to their own art making ideas and explores the visual world they live in. Students will also visit the galleries as part of the course.

CATs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>One semester only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Folio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual Diary</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ELECTIVE: 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.

CATs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>One semester only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-production (Planning a shoot)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Production (Recording)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post production (Video Editing)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**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.

**CATs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>One semester only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assignment on a crime issue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case Study Evaluation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folio of Classwork</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**ELECTIVE: Dance**

Curriculum Focus
So you think you can dance? In this elective, students examine the elements of dance across differing styles and cultures. The opportunity to learn techniques and work collaboratively with others to create performance pieces is integral to this subject. Students will encourage to develop performance skills and link and utilise all the elements of this field i.e. music, tradition, significance creativity and style.

**CATs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>One semester only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Safe Dance Practices Brochure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dance Culture PowerPoint Presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Warm Up Task</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**ELECTIVE: Design and Technology – Wood**

Curriculum Focus
In this subject students will construct an awesome folding chair to take home. During this process students will learn to use CAD software to prepare working drawings, and to design new, more comfortable parts. They will revisit old skills and combine them with new ones. Students’ creativity is tested by various design competitions, and they have the option to build one of these designs upon completion of their folding chair.

**CATs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>One semester only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Folding chair – CAD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folding chair – Production</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folding chair – Evaluation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design Tasks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design Task – Production (optional)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ELECTIVE: Digital Art

In this subject students will develop and extend their specialised computer skills using Adobe Create Suite (Illustrator and Photoshop) to create digital illustrations and artworks. Students will be introduced to contemporary digital artists and photographers and they will record their thinking and work practices in a visual diary.

CATs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>One semester only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vector Illustration (Using Adobe Illustrator)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photographic Collage (Using Adobe Photoshop)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Artwork (Using Illustrator Photoshop)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 and script development.

CATs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>One semester only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Creating Dramatic Tension Performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-devised solo performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical elements of theatre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group-devised ensemble performance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ELECTIVE: Drawing

In this subject students will explore all aspects of drawing and expressing themselves on paper. The class will use different media and styles to create both sketches and detailed activities. Students will look at artists’ drawings and the techniques they use to inform the students’ own work.

CATs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>One semester only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Visual Diary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folio of finished works</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**CORE: English as an Additional Language (EAL)**

**Curriculum Focus**
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 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, speaking and listening.

**CATs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester 1</th>
<th>Semester 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oral Presentation</td>
<td>Oral Presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Text Response</td>
<td>Text Response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing Folio</td>
<td>Writing Folio</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ELECTIVE: Fitness and the Body**

**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.

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

**CATs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>One semester only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy Systems</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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.

**CATs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>One semester only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Menu Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practical Work</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**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. This unit will help develop higher order thinking skills and prepare students for further studies in Science.

**CATs**
- One semester only
- Multi Media Presentation
- Portfolio/Casebook

**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.

**CATs**
- One semester only
- Checklist (Portfolio)
- HTML Task (Term 4)
- Assignment (Term 3)

**ELECTIVE: Music Performance (Semesters 1 and 2 – all year elective)**

**Curriculum Focus**
The focus of this elective is on Performance. This subject can be undertaken on any instrument, including voice. Students will need to perform in at least one of the school ensembles. Concert Band students would perform in the Year 9 Concert Band and audition for the Senior Concert Band. Contemporary instrumentalists (guitar, voice, piano etc.) will form a band and rehearse repertoire. All students are expected to attend our interstate band tour, taking place in term two.

Contemporary instrumentalists – it is expected that you will organise instrumental lessons on your chosen instrument. Lessons are provided at school but will be at an extra cost. We will make use of the school's recording studio to record your ensembles, and teach you how to use it. Concert Band Students – lessons will continue with your instrumental teacher ($50 per term levy). Hire is available for $50 per term.
ELECTIVE: Music Production, Recording and Technology

Curriculum Focus
Have you ever wanted to know how chart-topping songs are produced? Do you want to be able to create your own hits? OR are you interested in recording these hits? This subject will teach you how to run a recording studio, (including microphone technique, mixing, effects and mastering), how to use GarageBand effectively (more than just click and drag loops) and how to put on live performances (including setting up P.A. systems, speakers, D.I. boxes etc.). A must-do for any techy wannabe!

CATs
- One semester only
- Recording of band - GarageBand
- Event management
- Test (recording techniques)

ELECTIVE: Outdoor Education

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

- Water safety (pool, river, beach) excursions to pools, rivers and oceans (surfing and ocean kayaking)
- Blading- safety theory and excursions (Indoor blading and ice skating)
- Hiking- preparation and cooking of food, tent set up, clothing and equipment investigation
- Environmental impacts of recreation

CATs
- One semester only
- Major Project
- Minor Project
- Participation and Reports

ELECTIVE: Pâtisserie

Curriculum Focus
This subject will focus on the investigation and production of pastry and cake products. Some may be savoury but many will be sweet. This will include cake decoration. Students will carry out investigations then design and produce products.

CATs
- One semester only
- Folio – written and electronic
- Practical – ongoing assessment
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.

CATs
- One semester only
- Photo Analysis (magazine)
- Folio of finished photographs
- Workbook

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.

CATs
- One semester only
- Model Production
- Written Project

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, and laser force and beach volleyball. Students must wear full sport uniform.

CATs
- One semester only
- Participation/Uniform
- Journal
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:

- Architectural drawing
- Freehand and Instrumental drawing
- Digital imaging
- Freehand Illustration
- Photoshop and Illustrator
- Computer Design

CATs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>One semester only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Folio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual Diary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completion of a product</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folio/Workbook</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How to choose electives

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 - lot of new subjects, new electives, and 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 this handbook carefully for unit descriptions. Each unit lasts for one semester and cannot be repeated. Discuss your options with teachers and parents – if you’re not sure!
- Students must choose 1-4 in order of preference from 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

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 from each box. 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.