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## Introduction

The purpose of this handbook is to provide a resource for Year 9 students and parents/guardians to outline the Year 10 curriculum and assist with the selection of subjects for Year 10. It contains an outline of the compulsory subjects, elective subjects and possible VCE subjects offered in Year 10. Subject descriptions for each of the subjects offered are detailed in the Subject Descriptions section later in this handbook.

Our Year 10 curriculum consists of a set of compulsory year long subjects, a set of electives and a set of VCE studies.

Our overall Year 10 program is designed to:
- provide a challenging, comprehensive and appropriately accelerated curriculum for students
- enable students to experience and explore a range of subjects prior to committing to a personalised VCE program in Year 11 and 12
- ensure each student is given the best possible preparation for VCE and an opportunity to move into a preferred tertiary pathway

In Year 10 students take one of two pathways with either:
- Only Year 10 subjects (both compulsory and elective)  
  **OR**  
- Year 10 subjects (both compulsory and elective) and one VCE unit 1 and 2 elective

The following tables show the number of subjects taken by students in either pathway:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pathway 1</th>
<th>Compulsory</th>
<th>Electives</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 10</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sem 1</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>HPE Sport</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Math</td>
<td>Tutorial</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Science</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Humanities</td>
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<td></td>
<td>LOTE</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sport</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Tutorial</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3 Elective</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 Elective</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pathway 2</th>
<th>Compulsory</th>
<th>Electives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sem 1</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>HPE Sport</td>
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<td>Math</td>
<td>Tutorial</td>
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<td>Science</td>
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<td>Humanities</td>
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<td>LOTE</td>
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<td>Tutorial</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3 Elective</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 Elective</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Overview of Year 10

A central aim of our curriculum is to provide students with relevant and challenging educational opportunities enhanced by the incorporation of learning technologies. In Year 10 there will be elective studies that enable students to both consolidate learning in key areas and experience new subjects. Electives are offered for extension, enrichment, specialisation and creative purposes.

Compulsory Year 10 Subjects (Whole Year)

All students will undertake the following studies in their Home Group classes:

- English
- Health and Physical Education
- Humanities (Economics and History)
- LOTE (Chinese or French)
- Mathematics
- Science
- Sport
- Tutorial

The core curriculum in Years 9 and 10 is based on the AusVELS.

Elective Selection Parameters

The parameters for selecting elective preferences are as follows:

- Year 10 electives are for one semester only
- All VCE electives run for the whole year (so students take both unit 1 and unit 2)
- Students who are accepted into a VCE elective will take two Year 10 electives during the year (one in first semester and a different one in second semester)
- Students who do not undertake a VCE elective will undertake four Year 10 electives during the year (two per semester).
- All students will be required to undertake at least one elective from the list of Art, Design and Technology subjects during the year.

Year 10 Elective Studies (Semester Length)

These are the elective subjects on offer in Year 10 in 2015.

Art, Design & Technology electives — note: Students must take at least one elective from this list of Art, Design and Technology subjects.

- Architectural Environments
- Digital Photography
- Drama
- Food Technology
- Information Technology
- Music
- Robotics
- Studio Art
English elective
• Literature

Health & PE electives
• Health for Life
• Sports Conditioning

Humanities electives
• International Relations
• Philosophy

Science electives
• Environmental Science
• Psychology

Overview of the VCE electives

At Suzanne Cory High School we are committed to preparing students for a successful Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) program, with a view to maximising the Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) for all students at the end of Year 12. We offer a comprehensive VCE program for students in Years 11 and 12.

These VCE studies are being offered based on breadth and on subject suitability and on our overall assessment of student readiness and interest.

Please note that it is not compulsory to undertake a VCE elective in Year 10. Students are invited to express an interest in one of the VCE electives and the school will determine whether or not early entry into a VCE subject is appropriate. In some cases students will not be approved to take a VCE study in Year 10 because early entry into the VCE Studies offered will not be the most appropriate option for every individual student. These VCE subjects will also be offered to students when they are in Year 11 (provided there is sufficient interest and demand).

Beginning a VCE subject in Year 10 can provide great intellectual challenge and beneficial exposure to the VCE approaches to learning and assessment. It can also allow students to complete a unit 3 and 4 study in Year 11. However, beginning a VCE program prematurely can be seriously detrimental to a student’s ultimate VCE performance, not only in the chosen VCE subject but also in other Year 10 subjects the student will be taking concurrently.

To successfully study a VCE subject in Year 10, students must be able to manage heavy workloads without compromising their performance in other subjects. In deciding whether students will be ready to undertake a VCE subject in Year 10, we take into strong consideration students’ organisational skills, progress in all other subjects, and their overall approaches to learning.
Our Year 10 curriculum provides a solid academic foundation for successful VCE outcomes in Years 11 and 12 regardless of whether a student undertakes a VCE subject in Year 10. During Year 10, students explore career pathways in the context of their individual talents, skills, values and goals. By midway through Year 10, students are able to make sound decisions about the course of studies they should undertake in the vital VCE years and beyond.

The school has identified a number of subjects suitable for accelerated entry that Year 10 students may choose from if approved for early entry to VCE. The subjects they may choose from are indicated in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject Area</th>
<th>VCE Study</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Art, Design Tech</td>
<td>Information Technology (Software development)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Media</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humanities</td>
<td>Accounting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Business Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Geography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Legal Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOTE</td>
<td>Chinese* (2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt; Language &amp; 2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt; Language Advanced)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>French*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health and PE</td>
<td>Health &amp; Human Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Physical Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics and</td>
<td>Biology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Environmental Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mathematical Methods*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Psychology</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Subjects marked have specific entry requirements for accelerations in addition to the general requirements. These are indicated on the subject information page in the VCE handbook. Early entry to LOTE in Year 10 is only possible for family languages.

Please note that Year 10 students who take VCE Biology will also take Year 10 Science, students who take VCE Health & Human Development will also take Year 10 Health & Physical Education, students who take VCE Accounting or Business Management or Legal Studies will also take Year 10 Humanities (Economics and History), and students who take VCE Mathematical Methods may also have to take Year 10 Mathematics, depending on the timetable structure.

**Selection criteria for entry to a VCE Study in Year 10**

Students who are interested in taking one of these subjects should download the VCE subject handbook from eWorkspace to review the content of the course. They are also encouraged to discuss the subject with a current teacher of that course.

Students will only be approved for early entry to VCE if they have demonstrated
1. That they are achieving at least at the expected level in English and Mathematics
2. That they can achieve above the expected level in the subject area they are applying to accelerate in
3. That they are consistently able to submit work on time
4. That they consistently meet the school’s attendance requirements.

**These achievement requirements are measured using the following criteria:**

Criteria for early entry to one VCE subject in year 10
- Achieving over 50% VG in all subject areas.
- Achieving at or above the expected AusVELS level in English and Maths
- Achieving above the expected AusVELS level in the curriculum area they wish to accelerate in.
- No more than one ‘non-submitted’ assessment task across all subjects.
- Attendance rate above 85%

Criteria for early entry to one internal and one external VCE subject in year 10 is as above and includes:
- Achieving over 75% VG in all subject areas

Students have earlier been provided with a letter and application form outlining the requirements to be met before being considered for VCE Mathematical Methods or for VCE LOTE.

**General introduction to the VCE structure**

VCE studies are divided into units, each unit lasting one semester. Most studies offer four units, but students do not necessarily have to take all four units. There are two levels of units within the VCE:

- **Units 1 and 2**, which are usually taken in the first year of VCE (in Year 11). All units that are part of the Year 10 course are Units 1 or 2 level.

- **Units 3 and 4**, which are more advanced and are mostly taken in the second year level of VCE (in Year 12). Units 3 and 4 must be studied as a sequence - that is, if you take Unit 3 of any study, you must take Unit 4 also.

**Subject selection process**

Students will receive the link to the subject selection portal and their unique username and password by Friday, 8th August. Detailed instructions for making the subject selections will also be provided to students by the Curriculum Implementation Leading Teacher, Mr Darren Nicholas.
Outline of the subject selection process

Students will make their **online selections in preference order** for electives and/or a VCE study from the list of options. While students might not get all of their elective preferences, our aim is to enable students to undertake the subjects they would most like to study in either semester 1 or semester 2. The preference rankings that students provide will be used to make decisions about numbers of classes that will run next year in each elective group. The selection process is designed to accommodate the subject preferences, interests and needs of the majority of students within the context of the whole school timetable.

It is important that students discuss elective preferences with their parents/guardians before submitting them online. We expect students to print out their selections and co-sign them with parents and submit that hard copy to their Home Group teacher by the due date. The selection of preferred electives should be a collaborative process between the student, family and school. Students are encouraged to seek advice from their subject teachers and Home Group teacher during the process of making their elective selections.

It is important to remember that choices and directions can be changed in Year 11 and that there will be considerable course counseling in Year 10 to support students with developing their full VCE course. While the Year 10 electives are a useful introduction to certain subject areas, they are **not** prerequisites for VCE studies in Year 11; for example, Year 10 Psychology is **not** a requirement for potentially taking VCE Psychology Units 3 and 4 in Year 11 but is may be helpful.

In many cases, students who have commenced a VCE Units 1 and 2 subject in Year 10 have continued on to complete Units 3 and 4 of that subject in Year 11, but not in all cases. Some students may find that the particular VCE study they have attempted is not the right subject for them so they may decide to discontinue that VCE study and take up a different VCE study at Year 11. There will be opportunities to explore and investigate a range of tertiary pathways and future career options prior to committing to a particular VCE program of subjects in Year 11.

**Submitting subject selections**

Students will submit their course selection online and in paper form. The online system will be open from **8th - 15th August** with a link to the website on eWorkspace. Students will be given individual usernames and passwords to access this system. The hardcopy of selections must be printed and co-signed by the student and a parent. This must be stapled to the printout of their online selection and submitted to Home Group teachers in Home Room by **Friday 15th August**.

The timeline for the Year 10 subject selection process is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 30th July 2014</td>
<td>VCE Subject Expo—Parents Welcome 6.00—6.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Parent Information Evening 6.30—7.30pm in the school auditorium.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 8th August 2014</td>
<td>Online subject selection portal will be made available to students on this day along with individual log in details.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Subject selection forms must be completed online and returned in signed hard copy to Home Group teachers by 4pm on this day.

**Subject levies**

To cover the cost of consumables, some subjects will incur a student levy as part of school fees. The exact subject levies will be published for parents and students during term 3.
Compulsory Year 10 Subjects – Whole Year

Course Descriptions

Year 10 English

Length of Study: Whole Year (Compulsory)

Content
Based on the Australian Curriculum (AusVELS), students will understand:
- Narrative writing, prose, poetry, plays, informative, expository and persuasive writing, critical reading, language analysis, and film genres

Students will learn how to:
- Listen and read critically on complex themes and issues
- Compare the purposes, text structures and language features of traditional and contemporary texts in different media
- Analyse a variety of sophisticated texts and evaluate the social and moral positions represented in texts
- Identify, explain and discuss how narrative devices shape different interpretations and responses to a text
- Understand how language use can have inclusive and exclusive social effects, and can empower or disempower people
- Create texts with a sustained ‘voice’, selecting and adapting appropriate structures, literary devices and visual features for a specific purpose and intended audience
- Create imaginative texts that make relevant thematic and inter-textual connections with other texts
- Refine vocabulary choices to discriminate between shades of meaning
- Sustain oral presentations on complex topics and speak with clarity, coherence, logic, imagery and rhetorical devices to engage audiences
- Interpret literary texts by analysing theme and character development

Likely Assessment
- Text Response Essays
- Oral Presentations
- Writing Folio
- Using Language to Persuade
- End-of-Semester Examination

Possible VCE Pathways
- VCE English (or EAL)
- VCE English Language
- VCE Literature
Year 10 Mathematics
Length of Study: Whole Year (Compulsory)

Content:
Year 10 Mathematics follows the Australian Curriculum (AusVELS) and will provide students with knowledge and skills required for VCE Mathematics Studies. Students will learn:

Rational and Irrational Numbers:
- Rationalising denominators of surd fractions

Linear Algebra and Functions:
- Solving simultaneous equations and inequations

Trigonometry:
- The unit circle and circular functions

Quadratic Functions and Equations:
- Factorising by completing the square
- Using the quadratic formula and discriminant

Exponential Functions:
- Modelling exponential growth and decay

Measurement:
- Rates of time, speed, density and concentration

Geometry:
- Chords, secants and tangents
- Locus

Variance:
- Direct, partial, inverse and joint variation

Probability and Statistics:
- Independent and dependent events
- Measures of spread and central tendency
- Lines of best fit

Consumer Arithmetic:
- Compound interest
- Loan repayments

Technology:
- Computer Algebra System (CAS)
- Modelling software applications

Likely Assessment
- Topic tests
- Investigations
- End-of-semester examination

Possible VCE Pathways
- Mathematical Methods (CAS)
- General Mathematics (Advanced) / Specialist Mathematics
- General Mathematics (Standard) / Further Mathematics
Year 10 Science
Length of Study: Whole Year (Compulsory)

Content
Year 10 Science follows the Australian Curriculum and will provide students with the knowledge and skills required for VCE Science studies. Students will learn:

Biology:
- Mendelian genetics and inheritance
- The structure of DNA and its role in inheritance
- Natural selection and evolution

Chemistry:
- Reaction types and chemical equation writing
- Combustion of fuels and exothermic / endothermic reactions
- Chemical structures of biomolecules

Physics:
- Origin and evolution of the universe
- Electromagnetism and electronics
- Force, mass and movement

Likely Assessment
- Practical activities including extended investigations
- Practical reports
- Research reports in multimedia and/or poster format
- Tests
- End-of-semester examination

Possible VCE Pathways
This course will provide critical knowledge and skills preparing students for VCE Biology, VCE Chemistry and VCE Physics and for future Science-based tertiary courses.

Year 10 Chinese – Beginner and Intermediate
Length of Study: Whole Year (Compulsory)

Content
Year 10 Chinese builds on the knowledge and skills acquired in Year 9 Chinese. Students will learn how to:
- Give and receive directions and instructions in Chinese
- Use a variety of Chinese vocabulary related to home life, shopping, clothing and transportation
- Hold extended conversations about school life and subjects studied
- Find Chinese characters in dictionaries and use Chinese word processing software
- Order food in restaurants and use appropriate table etiquette
- Apply travel-related vocabulary to discuss major cities and tourist attractions
- Give reasons, offer choices and ask for permission
• Discuss time duration
• Make compound sentences and make comparisons
• Use auxiliary verbs, verb phrases, conjunctions, past tense and present perfect tense

Likely Assessment
• Reading comprehension tasks
• Listening comprehension tasks
• Speaking tasks
• Writing tasks
• Vocabulary tests
• Grammar tests
• End-of-semester examination

Possible VCE Pathways
• Chinese – Second Language (VCE) and Chinese – Second Language Advanced (VCE)

Year 10 French
Length of Study: Whole Year (Compulsory)

Content
Year 10 French builds on the knowledge and skills acquired in Year 9 French. Students will learn how to:
• Talk about past and future events
• Use reflexive verbs to discuss daily routines
• Give commands, including complex directions
• Conjugate more irregular verbs
• Read a biography
• Speak with greater confidence and fluency
• Avoid repetition and better connect ideas when writing

Students will understand:
• The conventions of a range of text types
• The distinction between colloquial and formal language
• A wide range of vocabulary, including within the topics of fashion, travel, work, the environment, and Francophone cultures
• The contribution of some prominent French-speaking individuals from the past and present
• The history of French exploration

Likely Assessment
• Reading comprehension tasks
• Listening comprehension tasks
• Speaking tasks
• Writing tasks
• Vocabulary tests
• Grammar tests
• End-of-semester examination

Possible VCE Pathways
• French (VCE)

Year 10 Humanities: Economics
Length of Study: One Semester (Compulsory)

Content
Students will learn about:
• Management of the Australian economy, within an international context
• Economic policies and how they affect people
• Ideas of exchange, trade and globalisation
• Attributes of enterprise and the role of innovation
• Relationship between economic growth, sustainability and standard of living
• Ethical trade and production (influence of values)
• Solutions for global economic problems
• Personal economic literacy such as savings, investment and career education

Likely Assessment
• Case study analysis
• Research assignment
• Tests
• End-of-semester examination

Possible VCE Pathways
• Accounting (VCE)
• Business Management (VCE)
• Economics (VCE)

Year 10 Humanities: History
Length of Study: One Semester (Compulsory)

Content
Students will learn about:
• The causes and course of World War Two, including significant events such as the Holocaust and the dropping of the Atomic Bomb
• Explore the experiences of Australians during World War Two and the significance of the war to Australia’s international relationships, including Asia.
• Struggles for human rights in the USA and Australia, and their interconnection
• Examine the civil rights struggle of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples
- Examine methods used by civil rights activists to achieve change
- Examine the various waves of post-World War Two migration to Australia
- The contribution of migration to Australia’s changing identity as a nation and to its international relationships

Likely Assessment
- Essay
- Migration Experience Research Report
- End-of-semester examination

Possible VCE Pathways
- Global Politics (VCE)
- History (VCE)
- Legal Studies (VCE)

Year 10 Health and Physical Education
Length of Study: Whole Year (Compulsory)

Content
In the Health dimension of this course, students will learn:
- Anatomy and the body systems (muscular, skeletal, cardiovascular, respiratory, digestive, lymphatic) and the effect of exercise and nutrition
- Energy system and metabolic process carried out by the body for creation of energy during exercise
- Health data and statistics to determine the major causes of mortality and morbidity in Australia
- The personal behaviours and community actions that may contribute to the health of specific groups.
- The work of government departments and non-government bodies in promoting and protecting the health of young people, including laws, policies and provision of health services.
- The relationship between nutrition and stages of growth and development, and the eating practices associated with different stages in life.
- To analyse the links between diet and current community health issues, and consider special dietary needs, and ways of improving their own diet.
- To research the patterns of food consumption in Australia and investigate factors that influence food choice, such as changes in family life.

In the Physical Education dimension of this course, students will learn:
- High-level movement and manipulative skills
- Ways of improving the quality of their performance during games, physical activities and sports.
- New sports, games and activities that sophisticated skills or adaptation of previously learnt skills in a new context.
- Peer teaching or coaching with a focus on skill development and improvement.
• A variety of roles in team games (e.g. player, coach, umpire and administrator) and the organisation of aspects of a sporting competition.
• To set personal physical activity and/or fitness goals, develop an activity and/or fitness program and evaluate its success
• To engage in a variety of recreational and outdoor adventure activities, and develop skills, knowledge and behaviours for enhancing safe participation in these activities.

Likely Assessment
• Topic test and research assignment on anatomy and body systems
• Inquiry research project
• Statistical analysis of community health
• Physical performance and skill analysis

Possible VCE Pathways
• VCE Physical Education
• VCE Health and Human Development

Year 10 Electives—Semester Length Course Descriptions
Please read these course outlines carefully before submitting your elective preferences.

ART, DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY ELECTIVES

Students must take at least one elective subject from the group of Art, Design and Technology electives subjects in Year 10.

Year 10 Elective: Digital Photography
Length of Study: One Semester (Elective)
Content
Students will learn how to:
• Develop and shoot images according to a photographic brief
• Use a digital camera to produce artistic and expressive images
• Use camera functions and photo-editing to manipulate a digital image/artwork
• Analyse the visual language of film as well as the aesthetic and technical elements in photography
• Use digital video cameras, lighting, and recording equipment to capture imagery and sound
• Conceptualise, develop and refine a short video production
• Use production software to process, edit and produce a finished short film production
Likely Assessment

- Photographic and/or video production folio
- Final photographic presentations according to a photographic brief and/or final video production according to a set brief
- Visual Diary comprising of annotated photographs and arts criticism
- Research assignment on the history of photography / application of photography in the media / visual analysis and comparison of photographers / photographs

Possible VCE Pathways

- VCE Media
- VCE Visual Communication and Design

Year 10 Elective: Music
Length of Study: One Semester (Elective)

Content

Students will learn about:

- Compositional techniques, melody and verse with harmonies
- Harmonic understandings of up to 4 sharps and flats; major, minor and Blues scales
- Basic vocal and piano voicing harmony / cadences
- Transposition
- Compound rhythms, time signatures and proper note / rest grouping
- Interval, melodic and rhythmic dictation
- Solo and ensemble performances
- Participating in major public performances
- Using software to compose, arrange and publish music compositions

Likely Assessment

- Composition Task
- Music Theory
- Research Assignment
- Solo and Ensemble Practical Assignments

Possible VCE Pathways

- VCE—Music Performance

Year 10 Music is not a mandatory prerequisite to any VCE music studies but would be an advantage.

Year 10 Elective: Drama
Length of Study: One Semester (Elective)

Content
Students will learn about:
  • Designing, creating, refining, rehearsing and performing small group productions and individual monologue performances
  • Using voice, movement, characterisation, improvisation and mime
  • Elements of Drama and Theatre
  • Critical analysis of performance.

Likely Assessment—Drama
  • Performance and workshop tasks
  • Analysis tasks
  • Drama diary

Possible VCE Pathways
  • Drama (VCE) – n.b. not offered in 2015.

Year 10 Elective: **Architectural Environments**

Length of Study: One Semester (Elective)
Content
Students will learn how to:
  • Use a range of drawing methods (freehand and instrumental) to illustrate architectural environments
  • Use a range of materials and media to illustrate architectural environments
  • Understand Australian Standards for Technical Drawing
  • Use a Design Process to generate, develop and refine visual solutions to a design brief
  • Use a range of appropriate materials and construction techniques to produce a final solution/model to a brief
  • Research a significant architect/architecture style

Likely Assessment
  • Drawing Folio
  • Design Process
  • Final solution(s) to a design brief
  • Research assignment/Case Study on a significant architect/architecture style

Possible VCE Pathways
  • VCE – Visual Communication & Design

Year 10 Elective: **Studio Arts**

Length of Study: One Semester (Elective)
Content
Students will learn how to:

- Generate images and ideas to be developed into artworks using a variety of sources of inspiration such as observation, research, mentors etc.
- Use a Design process to generate, develop and refine ideas for artworks
- Use a range of artforms (drawing, painting, printmaking), media, and techniques to produce a range of individual artworks
- Apply the elements and principles of art creatively in the production of artworks
- Refine and resolve a finished artwork(s)
- Understand the individual styles and techniques used by a range of significant artists and how they influence future art/styles

Likely Assessment
- Folio of Artworks
- Design Process
- Presentation of a final artwork(s)
- Research assignment on a range of significant artists/art styles

Possible Future Pathways
- VCE Studio Arts
- VCE Visual Communication & Design

Year 10 Elective: Information Technology
Length of Study: One Semester (Elective)

Content: Information Technology is a largely practical based elective that introduces students to the digital design process, through the development of client-based briefs. Students use a range of software to plan and then execute a design brief. Students investigate a range of media in the preparation and development stages of their products and continuously reflect upon each product’s effectiveness. In particular, students establish the fundamental client-based design habits that are applicable to industry-based IT design fields.

Likely Assessment
- Folio
- IT proposal according to a set brief
- Final submission of developed product

Possible VCE Pathways
- VCE Units 3 and 4 IT: Software Development
Year 10 Elective: **Robotics (Systems Engineering)**  
Length of Study: One Semester (Elective)

**Content**  
Students will learn how to:
- Interpret a basic engineering system in terms of input, process, output and feedback
- Construct and test a simple robotic platform
- Use a graphical programming system to control their robot
- Install and calibrate sensors to enable the robot to respond to its surroundings
- Assemble DC electrical circuits and use test equipment to measure them
- Assemble simple geared and pneumatic mechanical systems and test them
- Use programming software to create an interactive and responsive system
- Understand the basics of digital logic
- Use electronic components to assemble and test control circuitry
- Install and program a PicAxe microcontroller chip on a robotic controller
- Design, implement and evaluate a number of micro-robotic projects
- Apply Health and Safety standards in the production of finished design solutions

**Likely Assessment**
- Practical projects
- Research investigation
- Major project including presentation

**Possible VCE Pathways**
- VCE Systems Engineering

Year 10 Elective: **Food Technology**  
Length of Study: One Semester (Elective)

**Content**  
Students will learn about:
- Sensory analysis of food
- The functional role of nutrients
- Recipe selection and analysis of dietary choices
- Cooking healthy, fast and affordable food from a range of cuisines
- Budgeting and designing suitable foods for specific dietary needs
- Creative food presentation
- Appropriate food safety handling
- Understanding of Food Technology equipment and working within a kitchen environment
ENGLISH ELECTIVE

Year 10 Elective: **Literature**

Length of Study: One Semester (Elective)

Content
Year 10 Literature offers students an introduction to the skills of close passage analysis as well as a beginning understanding of critical theory. Students study different modes of texts, including poetry, short stories and novels. As they progress through the course, students are encouraged to develop their own individual contentions on texts and respond critically to texts. They are exposed to basic principles around different ways of seeing and thinking, such as feminism and modernism.

Assessment
- Close passage analysis
- Critical response

Possible VCE Pathways
- VCE Literature

HUMANITIES ELECTIVES

Year 10 Elective: **International Relations: Crisis and Response in the Asia Pacific**

Length of Study: One Semester (Elective)

Content
Students will understand:
- The historical processes and political values and beliefs underlying current international relations
- The political structure of societies and the interactions and responses between nations, inter-government organisations and non-government organisations
- Some of the historical and political reasons for the local, regional and global crises,
conflicts and issues between nations

Students will learn how to:
• Analyse and interpret historical documents
• Account for historical change
• Think critically through current international policies and politics
• Form inquiry questions to inform research

Likely Assessment
• Research essay
• Document study

Possible VCE Pathways
• VCE History—Twentieth Century
• VCE History—Revolutions
• VCE Global Politics

Year 10 Elective: Philosophy
Length of Study: One Semester (Elective)

Content
Students will learn about:
• The history and function of philosophical thinking in Eastern and Western tradition
• The works and central theories of various philosophers
• The meaning of life

Students will learn how to:
• Read, interpret and respond to contemporary and historical philosophical texts
• How to identify and analyse philosophical ideas in contemporary film
• Refine personal ideas and beliefs, explain changes and analyse alternative perspectives
• Develop critical thinking skills
• Form inquiry questions, discuss and debate ‘big ideas’
• Engage in Socratic dialogue (reasoned argument)

Likely Assessment
• Essay
• Oral presentation
• Research task
• Tests

Possible VCE Pathways
• VCE Philosophy
• VCE Global Politics
• VCE History
SCIENCE ELECTIVES

Year 10 Elective: **Environmental Science**

Length of Study: One Semester (Elective)

Content
In Environmental Science students will investigate the interactions between natural and human systems. They will examine the application of environmental science to ecologically sustainable development and environmental management. Students will understand the values and attitudes that underpin environmental decisions and reflect on effective ways for modifying behaviour of individuals and groups for positive environmental outcomes. Students will learn about:

- The characteristics and distribution, causes and effects of human-induced environmental changes both negative and positive.
- The use of indicators for an ecosystem or environmental issue; for example, turbidity in streams, pH, light intensity, salinity level in soils or water.
- Causes and effects of a selected local example of environmental degradation or environmental issue.

Likely Assessment:
- Fieldwork and reports
- Oral presentations
- Practical reports
- Reports in multimedia and/or poster format
- Tests

Possible VCE Pathways
This course will provide useful knowledge and skills for VCE Biology, VCE Chemistry and VCE Environmental Science as well as future Life Sciences tertiary courses.

Year 10 Elective: **Psychology**

Length of Study: One Semester (Elective)

Content
Students will understand:

- The fields of psychology
- Eminent psychologists and their findings and theories
- Visual perception and optic systems
- Learning and memory
- Functions of the brain and cerebral hemispheres
- Psychological research methodologies
- The different levels of awareness
The impact of sleep and dreaming on physiological states

Students will learn how to:
• Produce psychological reports
• Investigate the connection between psychological and physical systems
• Analyse, investigate and compare visual processes
• Improve memory and learning by employing relevant strategies
• Participate in a field study to gather data and interpret patterns of behavior

Likely Assessment
• Tests
• Psychological research report
• Oral presentation
• Note taking and evaluation of data matrix

Possible VCE Pathways
• VCE Psychology

HEALTH & PE ELECTIVES

Year 10 Elective: Health for Life
Length of Study: One Semester (Elective)

Content
This elective is designed for students who want to improve their physical and mental wellbeing through learning about and participating in various activities that are available in the local community.

Students will learn about:
• Physiological benefits of being physically active
• Local facilities, government and non-government health organisations
• How these organisations support youth health needs and build community connectedness
• The relationship between physical activity and positive mental health
• A range of recreational and leisure activities which may include, and not limited to:
  o Yoga/meditation/Pilates
  o Body balance/body pump
  o Rock climbing/hiking
  o Self-defence
  o Bike riding/active transport

Likely Assessment:
• Case study
Possible VCE Pathways

- VCE Health and Human Development

Year 10 Elective: **Sports Conditioning**

Length of Study: One Semester (Elective)

Content

This elective acts as a stepping stone to VCE PE where the students write an in-depth training program based on sport analysis. Sports Conditioning will give the students an opportunity to experience the practical elements of a training program with a focus on good technique.

Students will learn about:

- Building an in-depth training program and how it fits into their personal sport or activity
- How to create detailed safe and effective training sessions focusing on specific components of fitness for their sport or activity
- Strength and conditioning technique
- Training ideas
- Evaluating their training programs
- How to use Visual Coaching Pro software

Likely Assessment:

- Training program
- Program evaluation
- Diary

Possible VCE Pathways

- VCE Physical Education