



Years 9-10 Subject Selection Guide

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Course Overview

In Years 9 and 10 the course of study includes compulsory CORE subjects, plus an opportunity to start exploring their future learning pathways through a range of elective subjects:

- CORE Subjects (compulsory)**

English	Maths	Science	History	Health & Physical Education General HPE or Sporting Academy
			Both subjects in Year 9 ; One only chosen for Semester 1, Year 10	

- Elective Subjects**

Business & Economics Dance Digital Technology Drama	Engineering Principles and Systems Food & Fibre Production Geography	Materials & Technologies Specialisations (Furnishing Skills) Languages (German, Italian or Japanese)	Media Arts Music Visual Arts
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Selecting Subjects – Guidelines

- Students will be required to select two (2) elective subjects for study in Years 9 and 10
- Students will be required to identify one (1) additional elective of interest for consideration should their first preferences not be available
- Students need to be aware that availability of a particular subject is dependent upon a number of important factors, including availability of staff and physical resources such as specialist classrooms, and class size numbers
- Students remain in their elective subjects unless they ask to change subject. A note signed by a parent requesting the change needs to be given to the timetabling Deputy Principal. Subject changes are typically **only possible at the end of a school term** and can only happen where class sizes permit.



Selecting Subjects – Advice

Some of the most important decisions you have to make at school are concerned with your subject choices. A wise choice of subjects has an important bearing on happiness at school, success in studies and the range of options available for further study or entry to a desired vocation.

When making your selections, you should include subjects which:

- You are interested in
- You have experienced past success with
- May lead to your preferred career path
- Optimise opportunities to reach your potential.

A student SHOULD NOT choose subjects for the following reasons:

- *'My friend is taking that subject.'* There are usually several classes in a subject, so even if you are doing the same subjects, you won't necessarily be in the same class
- *'I do/don't really like the teacher.'* There is no guarantee that you will have any particular teacher
- *'Someone told me that the subject is fun (or easy, or interesting).'* Just because a subject may be enjoyable/easy/interesting for someone else does not mean that it will be same for you. Make up your own mind based on what you enjoy
- *'Someone told me that the subject is boring.'* See point above
- *'Someone told me that I do/don't need that subject for the course I want to take in Year 12/at university.'* If you are planning this far ahead, speak with the relevant Head of Department, check tertiary prerequisites or talk to a Guidance Officer.

ENGLISH (Core Subject)

The study of English is central to the learning and development of all young Australians. It helps create confident communicators, imaginative thinkers and informed citizens. It is through the study of English that individuals learn to analyse, understand, communicate and build relationships with others and with the world around them. The study of English plays a key role in the development of reading and literacy skills which help young people develop the knowledge and skills needed for education, training and the workplace. It helps them become ethical, thoughtful, informed and active members of society.

Link to senior subjects:

- General English (General / ATAR)
- Essential English (Applied / Vocational)



MATHEMATICS (Core Subject)

Mathematics provides students with essential mathematical skills and knowledge in Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry, and Statistics and Probability. It develops the numeracy capabilities that all students need in their personal, work and civic life, and provides the fundamentals on which mathematical specialties and professional applications of mathematics are built.

Link to senior subjects:

- Specialist Mathematics (General / ATAR)
- Mathematical Methods (General / ATAR)
- General Mathematics (General / ATAR)
- Essential Mathematics (Applied / Vocational)

SCIENCE (Core Subject)

Science provides opportunities for students to develop an understanding of important science concepts and processes, the practices used to develop scientific knowledge, of science's contribution to our culture and society, and its applications in our lives. It provides an understanding of scientific inquiry methods, a foundation of knowledge across the disciplines of science, and develops an ability to communicate scientific understanding and use evidence to solve problems and make evidence-based decisions.

The curriculum supports students to develop the scientific knowledge, understandings and skills to make informed decisions about local, national and global issues and to participate, if they so wish, in science-related careers.

Link to senior subjects:

- Biology (General / ATAR)
- Chemistry (General / ATAR)
- Physics (General / ATAR)
- Psychology (General / ATAR)
- Agricultural Studies (Applied / Vocational)



HISTORY (Core Subject)

History provides opportunities for students to investigate Australian and world history. Australian history is taught within a world history context. Students develop knowledge, understanding and skills through their study of societies, events, movements and developments.

This subject also integrates elements of Civics and Citizenship.

Link to senior subjects:

- Ancient History (General / ATAR)
- Modern History (General / ATAR)
- Social and Community Studies (Applied / Vocational)

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION / HPE (Core Subject)

(General HPE, Basketball Academy, Rugby League Academy)

Health and Physical Education offers experiential learning, with a curriculum that is relevant, engaging, contemporary, physically active, enjoyable and developmentally appropriate. Integral to Health and Physical Education is the acquisition of movement skills, concepts and strategies that enable students to participate in a range of physical activities confidently and competently.

In Health and Physical Education, students develop the knowledge, understanding and skills to support them to be resilient, to develop a strong sense of self, to build and maintain satisfying relationships, to make health-enhancing decisions in relation to their health and physical activity participation, and to develop health literacy competencies in order to enhance their own and others' health and wellbeing.

Link to senior subjects:

- Physical Education (General / ATAR)
- Certificate III Fitness (VET)
- Sport and Recreation (Applied / Vocational)



❖ BUSINESS & ECONOMICS (Elective)

Students focus on aspects of economics and business that affect daily life. Students will learn about the role that individuals, businesses and governments play in the economy, the way they make decisions about how to allocate resources and the effects of these decisions. Key questions include: What strategies can be used to manage financial risks and rewards? How does creating a competitive advantage benefit business? What are the responsibilities of participants in the workplace and why are these important?

Link to senior subjects:

- Certificate III in Business (VET)
 - Business Studies (Applied / Vocational)
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❖ DANCE (Elective)

In Dance, students focus on creating dance and developing the ability to communicate and express themselves through movement. Students will also learn to analyse and respond to various dances, giving their interpretation of what is being communicated. Students choreograph dances by manipulating and combining the elements of dance, choreographic devices and production elements to communicate their choreographic intent. They choreograph, rehearse and perform dances, demonstrating technical and expressive skills appropriate to the genre and style. They will learn and perform dances within groups and/or individually.

Link to senior subjects:

- Dance (General / ATAR)
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❖ DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY (Elective)

The rapid expansion of new technologies in society has had an impact in almost every industry. Digital Technology provides students with skills equip them for their future in 21st Century society. Topics covered include: Robotics, Drones, Immersive Technologies (Virtual Reality and Augmented Reality) and Coding. In this subject, students benefit from cutting-edge resources and unique learning opportunities made possible through our [Centre of Excellence in Automation and Robotics](#).

Link to senior subjects:

- Digital Solutions (General / ATAR)
- Certificate III Aviation / Drones (VET)
- Information and Communication Technologies (Applied / Vocational)



❖ DRAMA (Elective)

Drama helps students communicate understanding about human issues and experience by enacting real and imagined events. They develop confidence and awareness of self and others as they collaborate to prepare and present drama. They learn about a range of forms, styles and purposes of drama.

Link to senior subjects:

- Drama (General / ATAR)
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❖ ENGINEERING PRINCIPLES & SYSTEMS (Elective)

Students explore and develop design and engineering skills involving mechanics, electronics and CAD in the design and manufacture of products. In this subject, students benefit from cutting-edge resources and unique learning opportunities made possible through our [Centre of Excellence in Automation and Robotics](#).

This **academic subject** is the beginning of a university or technical trade pathway.

Link to senior subjects:

- Design (General / ATAR)
 - Engineering (General / ATAR)
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❖ FOOD & FIBRE PRODUCTION

Students achieve a broad understanding of food selection, preparation and presentation for use in the home and the hospitality industry. They will focus on the planning and preparation of tasty, healthy, budget foods which can form part of the everyday diet of students' families. Students also explore the area of textiles, garment and fabric care, fashion trends and sewing to develop skills from basic to more advanced.

Subject Fee – A subject invoice will be issued to families for cooking ingredient expenses.

Safe Footwear – To enrol in this subject and participate in its practical activities, students must wear black, fully enclosed leather sports joggers (not mesh, canvas or suede) or leather lace-up school shoes.

Link to senior subjects:

- Food and Nutrition (General / ATAR)
- Hospitality Practices (Applied / Vocational)



❖ GEOGRAPHY (Elective)

Geography provides opportunities for students to investigate, analyse and explain the characteristics of the places that make up our world. The key inquiry questions include: What are the causes and consequences of change in places and environments and how can this change be managed? What are the future implications of changes to places and environments?

This subject also integrates elements of Civics and Citizenship.

Link to senior subjects:

- Geography (General / ATAR)
 - Social and Community Studies (Applied / Vocational)
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❖ LANGUAGES: GERMAN / ITALIAN / JAPANESE (Elective)

Learning an additional language provides students with the opportunity to reflect on their understanding of the language studied and the communities that use it, while also assisting in the effective negotiation of experiences and meaning across other cultures and languages. Students participate in a range of interactions in which they exchange meaning, develop intercultural understanding and become active participants in understanding and constructing written, spoken and visual texts.

A course of study in either German, Italian or Japanese can establish a basis for further education and employment in many professions and industries, particularly those where the knowledge of an additional language and the intercultural understanding it encompasses could be of value, such as business, hospitality, law, science, technology, sociology, music, travel and education.

Link to senior subjects:

- German (General / ATAR)
- Italian (General / ATAR)
- Japanese (General / ATAR)



❖ MATERIALS & TECHNOLOGIES SPECIALISATIONS / “FURNISHING SKILLS” (Elective)

Students will be exposed to a diverse range of problems, skills, tools and materials. This will provide the basic building blocks for further years to expand on these processes. Students will establish technical knowledge, develop reasonable proficiency in hand and machine skills, create an awareness of quality design and create a safe and productive working environment.

This subject caters for students who may be looking for trade apprenticeships or who may have an interest in just making things.

Subject Fee – A subject invoice will be issued to families for woodwork project material expenses.

Safe Footwear – To enrol in this subject and participate in its practical activities, students must wear black, fully enclosed leather sports joggers (not mesh, canvas or suede) or leather lace-up school shoes.

Link to senior subjects:

- Certificate II Construction (VET)
- Furnishing Skills (Applied / Vocational)
- Industrial Technology Skills (Applied / Vocational)

❖ MEDIA ARTS (Elective)

Media Arts students will focus on designing, producing and responding to meaning in media texts. Students identify and analyse how representations of social values and points of view are portrayed in the media artworks they make, distribute and view. They evaluate how they and other makers and users of media artworks from different cultures, times and places use genre and media conventions and technical and symbolic elements to make meaning.

Link to senior subjects:

- Film, TV and New Media (General / ATAR)
- Media Arts in Practice (Applied / Vocational)



❖ MUSIC (Elective)

Music focuses on students making music and developing the ability to think and express themselves in sound. Music is an integral part of everyday life serving self-expressive, celebratory, social, cultural, political and educational roles.

Link to senior subjects:

- Music (General / ATAR)
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❖ VISUAL ARTS (Elective)

Visual Art focuses on making, displaying and appraising artworks. Students will engage in experiences to develop personal expression, aesthetic judgement, critical awareness, a sense of satisfaction and enjoyment in making artworks and displaying their works. Students develop confidence in their creative talents and skills that can be transferred to their working and recreational lives. Students will be introduced to the elements and principles of art and design. They may study drawing, design, painting, collage and mixed media.

Subject Fee – A subject invoice will be issued to families for art project material expenses.

Link to senior subjects:

- Visual Arts (General / ATAR)
- Visual Arts in Practice (Applied / Vocational)