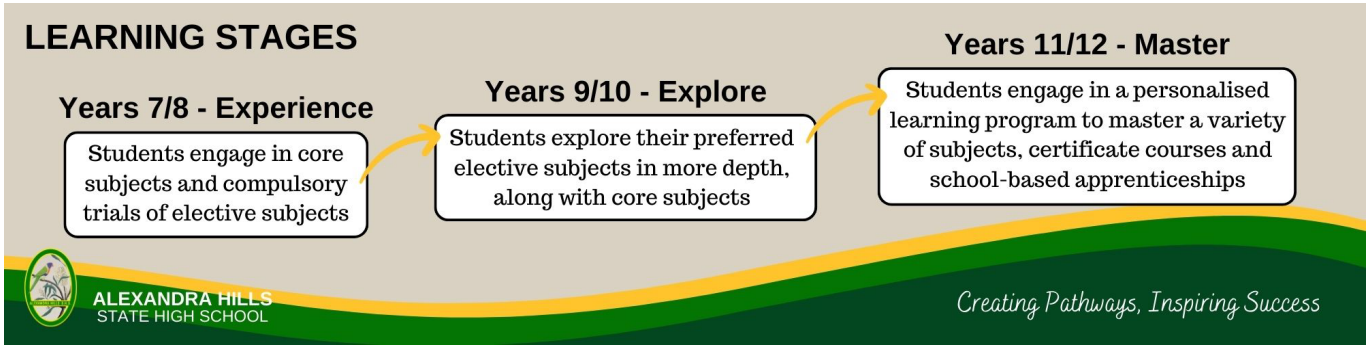
Subject Selection Guide – Year 10

Course Overview



In year 10, students complete **"preparation for senior" subjects** including compulsory English and Maths, plus a wide variety of semester-long electives. All subjects are studied for 3 lessons per week.

Compulsory Subjects

Learning Area	Subject Options	Duration
English	Essential English **or** General English **or** Literature	All year
Mathematics	Essential Maths **or** General Maths **or** Maths Methods	All year
Science	Agricultural Practices, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Psychology, Science in Action	Minimum 1 semester of a Science in Year 10
Humanities	Ancient History, Economics & Business, Geography, Legal Studies, Modern History, Tourism	Minimum 1 semester of a Humanities in Year 10

Elective Subjects (4 choices per semester, 8 choices in total for year 10)

Aerospace Systems	Design	Physical Education - Core	Legal Studies	Specialist Mathematics
Agricultural Practices	Digital Solutions	Physical Education – Basketball Academy	Media Arts	Sport & Recreation - Core
Ancient History	Drama	Hospitality Practices	Modern History	Sport & Recreation – Rugby League Academy
Biology	Early Childhood Studies	Information & Communication Technology	Music	Tourism
Building & Construction Skills	Economics & Business	Industrial Technology Skills	Physics	Visual Arts
Chemistry	Furnishing Skills	Italian *	Psychology	
Dance	Geography	Japanese *	Science in Action	

*** Language subjects are studied year-long.**

Subject Types – planning for years 11 and 12

General	General subjects primarily prepare students for university and other academic pathways.
Applied	Applied subjects primarily prepare students for vocational education and training (VET), further education, and work.

Selecting Subjects – Guidelines

- Students will select an English and a Maths subject for year-long study in Year 10.
- Students will select four (4) elective subjects each semester for study in Year 10.
- Elective subjects **can only be studied for one semester**, except for languages (Italian / Japanese) which are studied year-long.
- Availability of a particular subject depends on a number of important factors, including availability of staff, availability of specialised classrooms and class numbers.
- Students will be required to identify two (2) reserve electives.
- Students will remain in their elective subjects for the full semester. Subject changes are typically **only possible at the end of a school term** and can only happen where class sizes permit. Students and families must submit the school's "subject change form" to request a subject change.

Selecting Subjects – Advice

Some of the most important decisions you 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 – COMPULSORY

❖ ESSENTIAL ENGLISH

Essential English develops and refines students' understanding of language, literature and literacy to enable them to interact confidently and effectively with others in everyday, community and social contexts. The subject encourages students to recognise language and texts as relevant in their lives now and in the future and enables them to understand, accept or challenge the values and attitudes in these texts.

Link to senior subjects:

- Essential English (Applied)

❖ GENERAL ENGLISH

General English focuses on the study of both literary texts and non-literary texts, developing students as independent, innovative and creative learners and thinkers who appreciate the aesthetic use of language, analyse perspectives and evidence, and challenge ideas and interpretations through the analysis and creation of varied texts.

Link to senior subjects:

- General English (General)

❖ LITERATURE

Literature focuses on the study of literary texts, developing students as independent, innovative and creative learners and thinkers who appreciate the aesthetic use of language, analyse perspectives and evidence, and challenge ideas and interpretations through the analysis and creation of varied literary texts.

Link to senior subjects:

- Literature (General)

MATHS – COMPULSORY

❖ ESSENTIAL MATHEMATICS

Essential Mathematics develops skills that go beyond the traditional ideas of numeracy. This is achieved through a greater emphasis on estimation, problem-solving and reasoning, which develops students into thinking citizens who interpret and use mathematics to make informed predictions and decisions about personal and financial priorities. Students will see mathematics as applicable to their employability and lifestyles.

Link to senior subjects:

- Essential Mathematics (Applied)

❖ GENERAL MATHEMATICS

The major domains of mathematics covered in year 10 General Mathematics are Number and algebra, Measurement and geometry, Statistics and Probability. Learning reinforces prior knowledge and further develops key mathematical ideas. General Mathematics is designed for students who want to extend their mathematical skills but whose future studies or employment pathways do not require calculus.

Link to senior subjects:

- General Mathematics (General)

❖ MATHEMATICAL METHODS

The major domains of mathematics covered in year 10 Mathematical Methods are Number, Algebra, Measurement, Functions, relations and their graphs, Statistics and Probability. Students who undertake Mathematical Methods will see the connections between mathematics and other areas of the curriculum and apply their mathematical skills to become critical thinkers, innovators and problem-solvers.

Link to senior subjects:

- Mathematical Methods (General)
- General Mathematics (General)

ELECTIVE SUBJECTS

❖ AEROSPACE SYSTEMS

For students with an interest in the research, design, manufacture, and maintenance of vehicles that fly within the Earth's atmosphere (aeronautics) and in space (astronautics), including aircraft, drones, helicopters, spacecraft, satellites, and missiles. Aerospace Systems focuses on the fundamentals, history and future of the aerospace industry. This high-technology sector supports both civil and military customers, playing a significant role in the global economy through transportation, communication, defence, and space exploration, with a current focus on technological innovation and environmental sustainability. Students will also examine the drone industry and drone physics as well as developing skills in drone piloting. 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).

Link to senior subjects:

- Aerospace Systems (General)
- Certificate III Aviation / Drones

❖ AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES

Agricultural Practices course provides students with opportunities to develop knowledge and practical skills valued in agricultural workplaces. Students focus on safe practices, including the use of standard operating procedures for garden tools, personal protective equipment, and risk assessment. They learn to identify and respond correctly to hazards to minimise risk and harm to themselves and others. Students also investigate plant structures and functions, exploring both asexual and sexual reproduction in plants. They examine how environmental conditions impact growth and reproduction while engaging in hands-on experiences with plant anatomy and propagation. This subject builds applied knowledge and problem-solving skills that prepare students for Senior Agricultural Practices.

Link to senior subjects:

- Agricultural Practices (Applied)

❖ ANCIENT HISTORY

Ancient History is concerned with studying people, societies and civilisations of the Ancient World, from the development of the earliest human communities to the end of the Middle Ages. Students explore the interaction of societies and the impact of individuals and groups on ancient events and ways of life, enriching their appreciation of humanity and the relevance of the ancient past.

Link to senior subjects:

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

❖ BIOLOGY

Biology explores the fascinating world of living systems, building on previous biological concepts, and preparing students for Senior Biology. Students investigate the structure and function of cells as the basic units of life, patterns of inheritance and DNA as the blueprint of continuity of life, and the theory of evolution as the unifying explanation for biodiversity. Through hands-on tasks, data analysis, and critical thinking, students learn how scientific evidence underpins our understanding of health, disease, genetics, and conservation. The subject emphasises inquiry, problem-solving, and real-world applications, establishing strong foundations for Senior Biology and future studies in the life sciences.

Link to senior subjects:

- Biology (General)
- Agricultural Studies (Applied)

❖ BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION SKILLS

User-Pays Subject ($)

Building & Construction Skills includes the study of the building and construction industry's practices and production processes through students' application in trade learning contexts. Production processes combine the production skills and procedures required to manage the construction of structures from raw materials.

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 I/II Construction Pathways

❖ CHEMISTRY

Chemistry helps us understand and explain the phenomena that are present in our ever-changing world. This subject develops students' knowledge of the periodic table, the structures and models of atoms, properties of elements and an introduction to the various types of chemical reactions that contribute to the role of chemistry in society, in terms of their relevance to real-world sectors like healthcare, manufacturing, engineering and the environment. Students engage in experimental investigations and critical thinking tasks that explore these chemical principles and their development over time, while strengthening their scientific skills and preparing them for deeper study into Chemistry at a senior level.

Link to senior subjects:

- Chemistry (General)

❖ DANCE

In Dance, you'll dive into the world of movement and creativity! This is your chance to explore how dance can be a powerful way to express ideas, emotions, and stories, without saying a word. You will learn how to watch and interpret different styles of dance, discovering what each performance is trying to say. But that's just the beginning! You'll become a choreographer, designing your own dances using innovative techniques, choreographic tools, and various production elements to bring your vision to life. Whether it's contemporary, jazz, hip hop, tap, or cultural dance, you will rehearse and perform with style, showing off your technical skills and expressive flair. You will work solo and in groups, learning from each other and building confidence as performers.

Link to senior subjects:

- Dance (General)
- Dance in Practice (Applied)

❖ DESIGN

User-Pays Subject ($)

Design is a unique multidisciplinary subject built on innovation and problem solving. Students in this subject will get exclusive use of a range of Laser Technologies and 3D printers which allows them to rapidly prototype their project ideas and solutions. The use of laser technology allows students to learn in hands-on, cross-disciplinary ways by transforming designs into physical objects, fostering creativity, critical thinking, and STEM skills. 3D printing technology positions students as creators. Instead of buying or consuming the creations of someone else, they become inventors, who can identify needs and create solutions. Built on a 'Systems Thinking' approach this subject is ideal for future entrepreneurs, creators and problem solvers. 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).

Link to senior subjects:

- Design (General)

❖ DIGITAL SOLUTIONS

In Digital Solutions, students engage in problem-based learning to explore algorithms, computer languages and user interfaces through generating digital solutions. They engage with data, information and applications to generate digital solutions that filter and present data in timely and efficient ways while understanding the need to encrypt and protect data. They understand computing's personal, social and economic impact, and the issues associated with the ethical integration of technology into our daily lives. 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).

Link to senior subjects:

- Digital Solutions (General)
- Certificate III Aviation / Drones

❖ DRAMA

In Drama, you begin exploring how different techniques, performance skills, and dramatic conventions are used to bring stories to life. You will dive into a mix of styles and cultures to discover how drama can share powerful ideas, challenge opinions, and celebrate what it means to be Australian. Whether working solo or in a team, you will shape your performances using elements of drama and creative structures to express meaning and emotion. You experiment with voice, movement, and character skills to keep audiences hooked—whether that's through improvisation, creating original scenes, or performing scripted plays.

Link to senior subjects:

- Drama (General)
- Drama in Practice (Applied)

❖ EARLY CHILDHOOD STUDIES

Early Childhood Studies focuses on the learning and development of children from birth to five years through early childhood education and care. While there are many different approaches to early learning, the subject highlights the importance of play in supporting a child's growth, development, and wellbeing. Play-based learning provides children with opportunities to explore, imagine, investigate, and engage in purposeful, meaningful experiences that help them make sense of their world. The subject also considers the role of health and nutrition in supporting children's overall development.

Link to senior subjects:

- Early Childhood Studies (Applied)
- Hospitality Practices (Applied)

❖ ECONOMICS & BUSINESS

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:

- Diploma of Business
- Certificate III in Business
- Business Studies (Applied)
- Social and Community Studies (Applied)

❖ FURNISHING SKILLS

User-Pays Subject ($)

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.

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:

- Furnishing Skills (Applied)
- Certificate II Construction Pathways

❖ GEOGRAPHY

Geography teaches us about the significance of ‘place’ and ‘space’ in understanding our world. These two concepts are foundational to the discipline, with the concepts of environment, interconnection, sustainability, scale and change building on this foundation. By observing and measuring spatial, environmental, economic, political, social and cultural factors, geography provides a way of thinking about contemporary challenges and opportunities.

Link to senior subjects:

- Geography (General)
- Social and Community Studies (Applied)

❖ HOSPITALITY PRACTICES

User-Pays Subject ($)

Hospitality Practices focuses on food and beverage production and service. The subject includes the study of industry practices and production processes through real-world related application in the hospitality industry context to implement hospitality events.

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:

- Hospitality Practices (Applied)

❖ INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY SKILLS (Metalwork / Graphics)

Industrial Technology Skills (ITS) aims to provide students interested in the manufacturing industries a grounding in both computer aided drawing (CAD) and engineering specific practical skills. By engaging in the planning phase of production students are exposed to a holistic approach to manufacturing, one which closely represents current Australian industry practices. During the semester students will draw and model several small metal products and subsequently produce these designs in the Engineering workshop. An ITS student will learn how to draw and dimension to Australian standards (AS1100) and they will be introduced to many engineering manufacturing processes both manual and machine assisted.

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:

- Industrial Technology Skills (Applied)

❖ INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT)

Information & Communication Technology includes the study of industry practices and ICT processes through students' application in and through a variety of industry-related learning contexts. Information & Communication Technology can establish a basis for further education and employment in many fields, especially the fields of ICT operations, app development, audio and video production, layout and publishing, digital imaging and modelling and web development.

Link to senior subjects:

- Information & Communication Technology (Applied)

❖ ITALIAN Year-Long Subject

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.

Link to senior subjects:

- Italian (General)

❖ JAPANESE Year-Long Subject

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.

Link to senior subjects:

- Japanese (General)

❖ LEGAL STUDIES

Legal Studies focuses on the interaction between society and the discipline of law. Students study the legal system and how it regulates activities and aims to protect the rights of individuals, while balancing these with obligations and responsibilities. An understanding of legal processes and concepts enables citizens to be better informed and able to constructively question and contribute to the improvement of laws and legal processes.

Link to senior subjects:

- Legal Studies (General)
- Certificate IV in Justice Studies
- Social and Community Studies (Applied)

❖ MEDIA ARTS

In Media Arts, you get creative with designing, making, and exploring media like videos, podcasts, and digital stories. You will learn how media can share powerful messages and reflect different values and points of view. By looking at media from different cultures, times, and places, you will discover how things like genre, camera angles, music, and symbols help tell stories and connect with audiences. Whether you are creating your own media or checking out others' work, you become smart media makers and viewers—thinking about how meaning is made and how media can shape the way we see the world.

Link to senior subjects:

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

❖ MODERN HISTORY

Modern History examines traces of humanity's recent past so they may form their own views about the Modern World since 1750. Students consider different perspectives and learn that interpretations and explanations of events and developments in the past are contestable and tentative. Modern History distinguishes itself from other subjects by enabling students to empathise with others and make meaningful connections between what existed previously, and the world being lived in today — all of which may help build a better tomorrow.

Link to senior subjects:

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

❖ MUSIC

In Music, you will learn how to break down music like the professionals, exploring how composers and performers use sound, rhythm, and structure to grab attention and tell a story. You explore music from different cultures, time periods, and styles to see how it can express ideas, emotions, and even challenge what it means to be Australian. You will sharpen your listening skills and learn to create music that speaks to people. You experiment with sounds, instruments, and techniques to shape their own compositions, and record or write down your music to share it. When performing, you use the correct skills and styles to bring your own or others' music to life—whether it's singing, playing, or mixing it up on stage.

Link to senior subjects:

- Music (General)

❖ PHYSICAL EDUCATION – CORE

Physical Education requires students to demonstrate their understanding through **theory lessons** while using practical application to gather data and information.

In Physical Education, students develop how they can enhance movement from a biomechanical perspective; broaden their perspective by determining the psychological factors, barriers and enablers that influence their performance and engagement in physical activity; develop tactical awareness and influence ethical behaviour of their own and others' performance in physical activity; explore energy, fitness and training concepts and principles to optimise personal performance.

Link to senior subjects:

- Physical Education (General)
- Certificate III Fitness

❖ PHYSICAL EDUCATION – Basketball Academy (semester 1 only) User-Pays Subject ($)

Basketball is the key context for practical sessions in this subject. Physical Education requires students to demonstrate their understanding through **theory lessons** while using practical application to gather data and information.

In Physical Education, students develop how they can enhance movement from a biomechanical perspective; broaden their perspective by determining the psychological factors, barriers and enablers that influence their performance and engagement in physical activity; develop tactical awareness and influence ethical behaviour of their own and others' performance in physical activity; explore energy, fitness and training concepts and principles to optimise personal performance.

Link to senior subjects:

- Physical Education (General)
- Certificate III Fitness

❖ PHYSICS

Physics investigates the fundamental laws and principles that govern the universe, from the smallest particles to the largest cosmic structures. This subject develops students' understanding of motion, forces, energy, and waves, while linking these concepts to practical technologies and everyday applications. Students design and conduct experiments, analyse data, and use models to explain physical phenomena, equipping them with the inquiry and problem-solving skills needed for Senior Physics, which explores mechanics, electromagnetism, and the nature of light and the universe.

Link to senior subjects:

- Physics (General)

❖ PSYCHOLOGY

Psychology explores human thoughts, feelings, emotion, and behaviour through the lens of science. This subject draws on concepts from science and humanities to investigate brain function, learning, memory, development, and social influences. Students engage in inquiry-based learning, practical activities, and data analysis to understand how psychological research is conducted and applied in everyday life. This foundation equips them with the skills and knowledge to confidently transition into Senior Psychology, which focuses on cognition, biological bases of behaviour, social psychology, and psychological research methods.

Link to senior subjects:

- Psychology (General)

❖ SCIENCE IN ACTION

Science in Action develops an understanding of how scientific knowledge is used in everyday life, industries, and communities, making connections between the biological, chemical and physical sciences. Students investigate issues around topics ranging in health, energy, materials, technology, the environment, and forensic science, applying scientific concepts and solutions to everyday situations. The subject is designed to build confidence in applying scientific ideas beyond the classroom, offers opportunities to design and conduct investigations, analyse data, and communicate ideas effectively. This course equips students not only with the knowledge and skills to succeed in applied science pathways but also complements preparation for general science pathways in Senior.

This subject is designed for students who need to complete their compulsory semester of Science but are unsure about studying general – Biology / Chemistry / Physics / Psychology, or applied – Agricultural Practices.

❖ SPECIALIST MATHEMATICS (semester 2 only)

Students must also study Mathematical Methods to choose this subject

The major domains of mathematical knowledge in year 10 Specialist Mathematics are Deductive and Circle Geometry, Algebra, Vectors and matrices, and Trigonometry. Topics are developed systematically, with increasing levels of sophistication, complexity and connection, building on content from Mathematical Methods, while also introducing new topics. Functions and calculus are essential for creating models of the physical world. Matrices, complex numbers and vectors are essential tools for explaining abstract or complex relationships that occur in scientific and technological endeavours.

Link to senior subjects:

- Specialist Mathematics (General)

❖ SPORT & RECREATION - CORE

Sport & Recreation provides more opportunities for students to demonstrate learning through **practical lessons**.

The skills developed in Sport & Recreation may be oriented toward work, personal fitness or general health and wellbeing. Students will be involved in learning experiences that allow them to develop their interpersonal abilities and encourage them to appreciate and value active involvement in sport and recreational activities, contributing to ongoing personal and community development.

Link to senior subjects:

- Sport & Recreation (Applied)
- Certificate III in Fitness

❖ SPORT & RECREATION – Rugby League Academy (semester 1 only) User-Pays Subject ($)

Rugby League is the key context for practical sessions in this subject. Sport & Recreation provides more opportunities for students to demonstrate learning through **practical lessons**.

The skills developed in Sport & Recreation may be oriented toward work, personal fitness or general health and wellbeing. Students will be involved in learning experiences that allow them to develop their interpersonal abilities and encourage them to appreciate and value active involvement in sport and recreational activities, contributing to ongoing personal and community development.

Link to senior subjects:

- Sport & Recreation (Applied)
- Certificate III in Fitness

❖ TOURISM

Tourism focuses on the practices and approaches of tourism and tourism as an industry; the social, environmental, cultural and economic impacts of tourism; client groups and their needs and wants, and sustainable approaches in tourism. It enables students to gain an appreciation of the role of the tourism industry and the structure, scope and operation of the related tourism sectors of travel, hospitality and visitor services. Students develop and apply tourism-related knowledge through learning experiences and assessment in which they plan projects, analyse challenges and opportunities, make decisions, and reflect on processes and outcomes.

Link to senior subjects:

- Tourism (Applied)

❖ VISUAL ARTS

User-Pays Subject ($)

In Visual Art, you get hands-on with creativity, making, displaying, and talking about your own artworks. You will explore different ways to express yourself, build confidence in your artistic skills, and enjoy the process of creating something unique. Through drawing, painting, design, collage, and mixed media, you will learn how to use the elements and principles of art to bring their ideas to life.
Art becomes a way to share personal stories, explore big ideas, and connect with others. Whether it's sketching, experimenting with materials, or putting their work on display, you will discover how art can be fun, meaningful, and a skill you can use in everyday life.

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

Link to senior subjects:

- Visual Arts (General)
- Visual Arts in Practice (Applied)