Curriculum Handbook
Year 7 2026

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Siena
CATHOLIC COLLEGE

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Information for Students and Parents

Year 7 Curriculum

Students in Year 7 study a combination of core subjects across the full year or in 13-week (trimester) rotation blocks.

Curriculum Offerings

Core Subjects

All students in Year 7 will study **six core academic subjects**. The core academic subjects include:

- Religion
- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Humanities and Social Sciences – Geography/History
- Health and Physical Education

Students also participate in the weekly Sport and Recreation program.

Rotation Subjects

Students also study the following Rotation Subjects:

- Languages
  - Italian
- Technologies
  - Design Technology and Industrial Design
  - Digital Technologies
  - Food and Textile Design
- The Arts
  - Performing Arts
  - Visual & Media Arts

These are designed to give experience in a broad range of subjects outside those designated as Core. Students study these subjects two at a time for 13-week blocks. At the end of Year 7 students will be required to select four single semester electives to be studied in Year 8.

Rotation subjects have a time allocation of six periods per cycle (two weeks).

Timetable

The timetable is structured as a 10-day (two week) cycle consisting of 50 periods.

Curriculum Offerings

Year 7 Subjects		Semester Length	Type
07RE	Religion	2	Core
07ENG	English	2	Core
07MAT	Mathematics	2	Core
07SCI	Science	2	Core
07HUM	Humanities and Social Sciences (Geography/History)	2	Core
07HPE	Health and Physical Education	2	Core
07SPO	Sport and Recreation	2	Core
Languages			
07ITL	Italian	1	Rotation
Technologies			
07DTMAT	Design Technology and Industrial Design	1	Rotation
07DIGTEC	Digital Technologies	1	Rotation
07DTFPS	Food and Textile Design	1	Rotation
The Arts			
07ARTDD	Performing Arts	1	Rotation
07VAR	Visual & Media Arts	1	Rotation

Further Information

Homework/Study

Each student should endeavour to complete approximately 1 to 1½ hours of homework/study each night during Year 7. This can take the form of work set by the teacher, a review of the day's work or general revision of work completed earlier in the semester. Homework/study should be done under conditions where distractions, such as television, are kept to a minimum.

Assessment Policy and Guidelines

During the course of students' schooling, they will be required to complete assessment tasks and submit work to teachers for evaluation. The assessment tasks may include research or practical assignments, performances, essays and formal examinations. Please refer to the **Assessment Policy and Guideline** document on the Parent Portal for further details.

SUBJECTS (Core and Rotation)

Religion

Core Subject

Subject Title: 07RE – Religious Education

Subject Overview

Catholic schools offer an educational foundation for life to the full. They encourage students to develop their relationship with their God and to live the enduring values needed in an ever-changing world.

Religious Education in the contemporary Catholic School comprises two distinct but complementary dimensions – teaching people religion and teaching people to be religious.

The Four College Dominican Pillars: Prayer, Study, Community, and Service are integrated into the Religious Education Curriculum and assessment to enhance each student's faith journey.

Themes to be studied include:

Term 1 Unit – The Siena Chronicles and Sacraments

Key concepts: The Siena story, the Patrons of Siena, the Church's Liturgical Year, Indigenous Australia and the Christian story, symbols and rituals, sacraments, and Baptism.

Term 2 Unit – Words, Forces of Light and Shadows

Key concepts: Words are powerful, words from the past and their importance today, context of famous speeches, New Testament Gospels and cultural context; occupations, laws and activities of Jesus' time, meaning today within scriptural texts and how creeds connect believers across time.

Term 3 Unit – Living Faith, a Believer's Journey

Key concepts: Books of the Hebrew Scripture and Christian Scriptures, the stories of the tradition, the story of God, the story of Abraham and monotheism.

Term 4 Unit – Embracing Good and Shunning Evil

Key concepts: Morality and values, Christian values in the Bible, introduction to Jewish values and ethics, conscience; living a good life, the Ripple Effect and Good and Evil in the Bible and today.

Terms of work are outlined above. In addition, attention will be given to the major church events throughout the year – Lent, Easter, Pentecost and Advent.

Assessment

Students' understanding of Religion will be assessed through a variety of methods, including but not limited to:

- Online Forum
- Campaign (spoken & product)
- Response to Stimulus Exam
- PowerPoint

Further Comments

Religious Education is compulsory for all students in all year levels.

Cost

Costs associated with this subject will be included in the College Fees.

English

Core Subject

Subject Title: 07ENG – English

Subject Overview

The English curriculum is built around the 3 interrelated strands of Language, Literature and Literacy. Together, the 3 strands focus on developing students' knowledge, understanding and skills in listening, reading, viewing, speaking, writing and creating.

A range of texts will provide opportunities to:

- Understand audience, purpose and context of texts
- Investigate the impact of language and images on meaning
- Explain issues and ideas
- Analyse evidence and meaning
- Select details from texts
- Identify different perspectives
- Use personal knowledge and experiences to express a point of view
- Create texts for a range of purposes and audiences
- Refine editing skills – spelling, grammar, vocab
- Take part in class and group discussions, presentations

Assessment

- Visual Literacy – TEEL paragraph writing in response to the covers of fictional texts
- Screen to Page – Narrative extract based on a scene from a film
- Motivational Speaking – TED talk
- Creative writing – Short story based on a key theme from the novel

Further Comments

The Year 7 English course also assists students in their use of language across other humanities subjects in the school curriculum and in activities beyond the school community.

Cost

Costs associated with this subject will be included in the College Fees.

Mathematics

Core Subject

Subject Title: 07MAT – Mathematics

Subject Overview

This course complies with the requirements of the Australian Curriculum. The strands covered are:

- Number and Algebra
- Statistics and Probability
- Measurement and Geometry

By the end of Year 7, students will be exposed to curriculum which allows them to,

- Solve problems involving the comparison, addition and subtraction of integers.
- Make the connections between whole numbers and index notation and the relationship between perfect squares and square roots.
- Solve problems involving percentages and all four operations with fractions and decimals.
- Compare the cost of items to make financial decisions.
- Represent numbers using variables.
- Connect the laws and properties for numbers to algebra.
- Interpret simple linear representations and model authentic information.
- Describe different views of three-dimensional objects.
- Represent transformations in the Cartesian plane.
- Solve simple numerical problems involving angles formed by a transversal crossing of two parallel lines.
- Identify issues involving the collection of continuous data.
- Describe the relationship between the median and mean in data displays.
- Use fractions, decimals and percentages, and their equivalences. Express one quantity as a fraction or percentage of another.
- Solve simple linear equations and evaluate algebraic expressions after numerical substitution.
- Assign ordered pairs to given points on the Cartesian plane.
- Use formulas for the area and perimeter of rectangles and calculate volumes of rectangular prisms.
- Classify triangles and quadrilaterals.
- Name the types of angles formed by a transversal crossing parallel line.
- Determine the sample space for simple experiments with equally likely outcomes and assign probabilities to those outcomes.
- Calculate mean, mode, median and range for data sets.

Assessment

Students will be assessed through unit tests and an assignment.

The following criteria will be assessed:

- Understanding and Fluency – recall and routine application of knowledge
- Problem solving and reasoning – application in sometimes unfamiliar situations

At the end of each semester, grades will be given that summarises a typical result in each criterion.

Cost

Costs associated with this subject will be included in the College Fees.

Science

Core Subject

Subject Title: 07SCI – Science

Subject Overview

In Year 7 Science students explore how biological diversity is ordered and organised. They represent flows of matter and energy in ecosystems and predict the effects of environmental changes. They model cycles in the Earth-sun-moon system and explain the effects of these cycles on Earth phenomena. They represent and explain the effects of forces acting on objects. They use particle theory to explain the physical properties of substances and develop processes that separate mixtures. Students identify the factors that can influence development and lead to changes in scientific knowledge. They explain how scientific responses are developed and can impact society. They explain the role of science communication in shaping viewpoints, policies and regulations.

Students plan and conduct safe, reproducible investigations to test relationships and aspects of scientific models. They identify potential ethical issues and intercultural considerations required for field locations or use of secondary data. They use equipment to generate and record data with precision. They select and construct appropriate representations to organise data and information. They process data and information and analyse it to describe patterns, trends and relationships. They identify possible sources of error in methods and identify unanswered questions in conclusions and claims. They identify evidence to support their conclusions and construct arguments to support or dispute claims. They select and use language and text features appropriately for their purpose and audience when communicating their ideas and findings.

Assessment

Assessment includes both formative and summative assessment techniques including:

- Student Experiments
- Supervised Exams/Data Tests
- Research Investigations
- Group Presentations

The assessment criteria will be based on two dimensions:

Understanding

- Science Understanding
- Science as a Human Endeavour

Skills

- Questioning and predicting
- Planning and conducting scientific investigations
- Evaluating
- Processing, interpreting and analysing data and information
- Communicating

Student Resources

- Pearson Science Textbook
- Teacher-prepared units and Teams pages/One Note notebooks
- Stile online program

Cost

Costs associated with this subject will be included in the College Fees.

Health and Physical Education

Core Subject

Subject Title: 07HPE – Health and Physical Education

Subject Overview

Students engage in learning under the strands of the HPE National Curriculum: personal, social and community health and movement and physical activity. Contact time amounts to three theory and two practical lessons per fortnightly cycle.

The following is covered in Year 7:

Personal, Social and Community Health Strand

- Navigating New Horizons
- Embracing Diversity
- Bullying
- Healthy Eating
- Daniel Morcombe Child Safety Curriculum

Movement and Physical Activity Strand

- Invasion Game
- Athletics
- Striking and Fielding
- OzTag

Assessment

Students submit a work booklet demonstrating their learning of the elements under the Personal, Social and Community Health Strand. Students also complete an assessment task each term to demonstrate their progress in achieving the Health and Physical Education Australian Curriculum Achievement Standards.

Students undergo continuous assessment of the elements of the Movement and Physical Activity Strand. This assessment culminates in an authentic context physical activity eg. Athletics – undertake Javelin and Discus, take part in small-sided games.

Cost

Costs associated with this subject will be included in the College Fees.

Humanities and Social Sciences (Geography/History/Business & Economics/Civics & Citizenship)

Core Subject

Subject Title: 07HUM – Humanities and Social Sciences (Geography/History/Business & Economics/Civics & Citizenship)

Subject Overview

Students complete one term each of Civics and Citizenship, Business and Economics, History, and Geography across the school year.

Purpose

Humanities helps students understand the world and their place within it. Through the study of people, systems, and environments, students develop critical thinking skills and explore how societies function—past, present, and future. The subject encourages active participation in civic life and fosters values such as democracy, social justice, sustainability, and peace.

Disciplinary Focus

Humanities draws on the key disciplines of:

- Civics and Citizenship
- Business and Economics
- History
- Geography

Assessment

Students will be assessed through a variety of instruments, including:

- Field Reports
- Short Response Tests
- Stimulus Response Tests
- Extended Written Responses
- Practical Exercises
- Oral Presentations

Cost

All costs associated with this subject are included in the College Fees.

Sport and Recreation

Core Subject

Subject Title: 07SPO – Sport and Recreation

Subject Overview

Sport and Recreation at Siena Catholic College provides Year 7 students with a dynamic and inclusive program designed to develop skills, teamwork, and a lifelong love of physical activity.

In Terms 2 and 4, students have the opportunity to represent the College in the Coastal District Interschool Sport Gala Days, held in Week 4 and Week 8 of each term. These events allow students to experience competitive sport in a supportive environment while building school spirit.

Term 2		Term 4	
Boys	**Girls**	**Boys**	**Girls**
Netball Rugby League 9s Touch Football Volleyball	Netball Touch Football Volleyball	Basketball Fast 5 Futsal OzTag Pickleball	Basketball Fast 5 Futsal OzTag Pickleball

Every student is guaranteed a place in their chosen sport, ensuring participation and skill development across a variety of activities.

In Terms 1 and 3, students engage in a range of exciting options, including Surf Skills, Interhouse sport competitions, and targeted training programs designed to enhance fitness and performance.

Proficient athletes are encouraged to trial for District and Regional sporting teams at designated trial days throughout the year, with pathways to State selection for outstanding performers.

Further Comments

Interhouse carnivals are a highlight of the College calendar, fostering community spirit and healthy competition:

- Swimming Carnival – Term 1
- Cross Country – Term 2
- Athletics Carnival – Term 2 or 3 (in line with Coastal District Trials)

Selected students will represent Siena at District and Regional carnivals, with opportunities for progression to District, Regional, and State teams.

Cost

Costs associated with this subject will be included in the College Fees.

ROTATION SUBJECTS

Languages – Italian

Rotation Subject

Unit Title: 07ITL – Italian

Unit Overview

In Year 7, Italian introduces students to the language and culture of Italy, with an emphasis on the city of Siena and the influences of this city on our College.

Students learn about the famous Palio race, the Contradas, and the story of Romulus and Remus.

Topics include conversational Italian, development of dialogue and basic greetings, in addition to a unit on food "A Tavola" (at the table) which develops an appreciation of the way in which food is considered an essential part of social life for Italians.

Assessment

Students will be assessed with a variety of instruments including:

- An interactive role play
- A reading and writing test

Further Comments

Year 7 Italian is offered as a 13-week rotation.

Cost

Costs associated with this subject will be included in the College Fees.

Technologies – Design Technology and Industrial Design

Rotation Subject

Unit Title: 07DTMAT – Design Technology

Unit Overview

Design Technology involves the design and manufacture of products and graphical representations. Innovation and technological developments continually expand the range of materials, tools, processes and techniques that can be used in the development of industrial technology and design products.

Students use a variety of hand and power tools to solve design problems using metal, plastics, and timber products and related technology.

Topics covered include:

- Design Process
- Safety
- Material

Possible projects could include creating an Identification Tag (plastics), Box with Lid (timber, ply and acrylic).

Assessment

Students will be assessed through their ability to engage with the Design Process to produce a product to solve a set problem.

Further Comments

Year 7 Design Technology is offered as a 13-week rotation.

Cost

Costs associated with this subject will be included in the College Fees.

Technologies – Food and Textile Design

Rotation Subject

Unit Title: 07DTFS – Food and Textile Design

Unit Overview

Year 7 Food and Textile Design (FTD) aims to develop students' knowledge, skills and understanding of the importance of food in ensuring the well-being of all Australians. Students develop food skills and an understanding of, food preparation, food safety, nutrition and consumption.

FTD recognises the importance of a practical approach to solving everyday living problems and of providing students with the opportunity to develop the practical and management skills involved in the selection and manipulation of resources and the planning and execution of practical tasks.

Food Technology explores the fundamentals of food preparation in our contemporary, fast paced society in order to form a firm foundation for simple, nutritious and delicious meals and snacks for themselves and others. Food hygiene and food safety will be investigated.

Textile Technology will enable students to explore the use of textile products in their daily lives. The characteristics of fibres and fabrics, construction techniques of textiles will be investigated. Students will consider others when deciding what and for whom their project will be constructed for; simple practical skills in textiles will be practiced. This then culminates in enabling students to investigate, design, produce and evaluate a textile product for an end purpose.

Assessment

Students will be assessed through interesting research assignments, practical food preparation and textile projects.

- Safe and hygienic participation in weekly practical lessons:
  - both food cookery and textiles production.
- Practical Cookery: Snacks, Breakfasts, Lunches, Dinners
- Textile items: design and construction packaging for food presentation and delivery
- Students are also required to bring / purchase some ingredients or textile items from home

Further Comments

Year 7 Food and Textile Design is offered as a 13-week rotation.

Cost

Costs associated with this subject will be included in the College Fees.

Technologies – Digital Technologies

Rotation Subject

Unit Title: 07DIGTEC – Digital Technologies

Unit Overview

Digital Technology centres around the idea of transmitting data across the Internet. Students will understand what happens when they send text and images to others using the Internet. The topics covered include:

- What the Internet is and how it works
- What Wi-Fi is and how it relates, yet differs to the Internet
- How mobile phone towers combine to provide mobile data

To provide context to the knowledge and understanding, students will follow the processes that occur when social media applications are used, describing where their data goes and how it is sold and used by social media companies. In addition, students will analyse how and why people use social media and determine the potential social and emotional impacts of all users, regardless of age and gender.

With this information in hand, students will determine the best practices of setting up Wi-Fi and the Internet and the most appropriate tools for online collaboration in the workplace.

Assessment

Students will be assessed through an in-class assignment, creating a multimodal Keynote presentation to help people use the Internet effectively, efficiently and in a way that protects their mental health.

Further Comments

Year 7 Digital Technology is offered as a 13-week rotation.

Cost

Costs associated with this subject will be included in the College Fees.

The Arts – Performing Arts

Rotation Subject

Unit Title: 07ARTDD – Performing Arts

In the integrated rotation, students experience dance, drama, and music. They will learn how to identify and analyse the elements of dance, drama and music through specific practical learning activities. Students will apply this knowledge as they take on the role of a character; come together as a rock band and recall and perform choreography with expressive and technical skill.

Unit Overview

Dive into the world of musical theatre with our Superhero-themed unit! This engaging and dynamic course is designed to captivate students of all interests and backgrounds, offering a unique blend of drama, singing, and dance. Whether you're a fan of superheroes or simply curious about the performing arts, this unit promises an unforgettable experience. You'll embody a superhero, bringing your character to life through expressive acting, vocal techniques, and choreographed movements. By the end of the rotation, you'll not only have a deeper understanding of the performing arts but also the confidence to showcase your talents in a performance.

Students will study the following unit

- Heroes Unmasked- The Art of a Superhero Performance

Assessment

Students will be assessed in the following areas:

- Making
- Responding

Further Comments

Year 7 Performing Arts is offered as a 13-week rotation. The course will provide students with a range of engaging learning activities that will prepare them for the Dance, Drama & Music elective subjects in Year 8 and beyond. Units are designed to cater for a variety of interests and levels of experience. Performing Arts promotes self-confidence for performance and self-expression through movement.

Cost

Costs associated with this subject will be included in the College Fees.

The Arts – Visual Arts & Media Arts

Rotation Subject

Unit Title: 07VAR – Visual Arts & Media Arts

In Visual & Media Arts students learn through direct engagement with two-dimensional, three-dimensional and four-dimensional art practices and concepts. Students will learn how to manipulate materials and techniques to develop, refine and represent ideas and subject matter in their artworks.

Unit Overview

Discover the transformative power of art in our Visual Arts & Media Arts unit! Students will delve into the elements of art, learning to create stunning compositions in visual art and master conventions of photography and animation. Through hands-on production processes, you'll explore how art and media can be applied in your own creations and those of other artists. Engage in personal reflections, interpret and analyse visual qualities, and assess your success in practical exercises. This rotation promises an inspiring journey into the world of art and media.

Students will study the following unit

- Creating a Feeling – The elements of design

Assessment

Students will be assessed in the following areas:

- Making
- Responding

Students will be assessed through art and media making, their art journal and written tasks.

Further Comments

Year 7 Visual Arts & Media Arts is offered as a 13-week rotation. Students will engage with a range of learning activities that will prepare them for the Visual Art & Media Arts elective subject in Year 8 and beyond.

Cost

Costs associated with this subject will be included in the College Fees.