Curriculum Handbook

Year 8 2026

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Siena
CATHOLIC COLLEGE

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Information for Students and Parents

Choosing Year 8 Subjects and Electives

During Year 8 students will complete both subjects and electives with opportunities to select four semester length electives drawn from across the various areas of study embedded in the Australian Curriculum framework.

Curriculum Offerings

Core Subjects

All students in Year 8 will study **six core academic subjects**. The core academic subjects include:

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

Students also participate in the weekly Sport/Recreation program.

Elective Subjects

Along with studying the core subjects, Year 8 students are required to select **four elective subjects** across the year (two per semester) plus **two reserve elective subjects** from the range of elective indicated on the next page.

Electives have a time allocation of **six** periods per cycle (two weeks) and the recommendation is that students should select their first four preferences across at least three subject areas. The only exceptions to this guideline are Italian and Music due to the specific sequential and developmental nature of these subjects.

Timetable Schedule

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

Subject Selection Online

Subject selections are facilitated through an online subject selection system.

Curriculum Offerings

Year 8 Subjects		Semester Length	Type	Semester Offered
08RE	Religion	2	Core	
08ENG	English	2	Core	
08GEO	Humanities and Social Sciences (Geography)	1	Core	
08HIS	Humanities and Social Sciences (History)	1	Core	
08MAT	Mathematics	2	Core	
08SCI	Science	2	Core	
08HPE	Health and Physical Education	2	Core	
08SPO	Sport and Recreation	2	Core	
Languages				
08ITLC1	Italian I	1	Elective	1
08ITLC2	Italian II	1	Elective	2
Technologies				
08DTMATC1	Design Technology Materials I	1	Elective	1
08DTMATC2	Design Technology Materials II	1	Elective	2
08DIGTEC1	Digital Technology I	1	Elective	1
08DIGTEC2	Digital Technology II	1	Elective	2
08DTEPS1	Engineering Principles and Systems I	1	Elective	1
08DTEPS2	Engineering Principles and Systems II	1	Elective	2
08DTFS	Food Specialisation I	1	Elective	1
08DTFS	Food Specialisation II	1	Elective	2
08DTFFP	Textiles and Fibre Production I	1	Elective	1
08DTFFP	Textiles and Fibre Production II	1	Elective	2
The Arts				
08DAN1	Dance I	1	Elective	1
08DAN2	Dance II	1	Elective	2
08DRAC1	Drama I	1	Elective	1
08DRAC2	Drama II	1	Elective	2
08MEDA1	Media Arts I	1	Elective	1
08MEDA2	Media Arts II	1	Elective	2
08MUSC1	Music I	1	Elective	1
08MUSC2	Music II	1	Elective	2
08VARTC1	Visual Arts I	1	Elective	1
08VARTC2	Visual Arts II	1	Elective	2

Strategy for Choosing Subjects

As a basic strategy, it is suggested students choose subjects:

- they enjoy
- in which they have already had some success
- which may help them reach a chosen career
- that lead to subjects they may be considering for senior phase of learning (Year 11 and 12)
- which will develop skills, knowledge and attitudes useful throughout your life

It is important to remember that students are individuals, and their needs and requirements in subject selection will be different from those of other students. This means that it is unwise to either take or avoid a subject because:

- someone told them they will like or dislike it
- their friends are or are not taking it
- they like or dislike the teacher

Further Information

Homework/Study

Each student should endeavour to complete approximately 1 to 1½ hours of homework/study each night during Year 8. 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 Elective)

Religion

Core Subject – Compulsory

Subject Title: 08RE – Religion

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.

Faith development at Siena involves nurturing the spiritual growth of students within the school and community. The Four College Dominican Pillars: Prayer, Study, Community, and Service are incorporated into the Religious Education Curriculum to support each student's faith journey. This fosters purpose and identity in a community that values right relationships, compassion, and justice.

Teaching Religion focuses on educating students to enhance their knowledge and understanding. It uses various learning methods and resources to equip students with the skills needed to engage critically and effectively in their faith communities and wider society.

The Religion Curriculum involves four interrelated strands: Sacred Texts, Beliefs, Church, and Christian Life, all of which are integrated across a variety of topics.

Themes to be studied include:

- Covenant in the Hebrew Scriptures
- The Trinity
- Monotheistic rituals
- The Mission of Jesus
- Reformers and the Reformation

Assessment

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

- Podcast and script
- Essay
- Service-Learning Portfolio (*Socktober)*
- Examination

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 – Compulsory

Subject Title: 08ENG – 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

Units and Assessment:

- Imaginative Writing
- Novel study – analytical essay
- Poetry – reflective multimodal response
- Promotional Travel Writing – focus on target audience

Further Comments

The Year 8 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.

Humanities and Social Sciences (Geography)

Core Subject – Compulsory

Subject Title: 08GEO – Humanities and Social Sciences (Geography)

Subject Overview

Students complete a Semester course of History and a Semester course of Geography.

Humanities help students to understand the world and their place within it. Students learn how to interact with each other and with environments. It involves investigations of issues and promotes critical thinking as regards to the past, present and possible future. This subject encourages students to be active participants in their world. Students develop the ability to reflect on the values of democratic process, social justice, economic and ecological sustainability and peace, to make decisions about issues regarding society and environments.

Geography: 'Landforms and Landscapes' and 'Changing Nations'

Geography: Landforms and Landscapes

Landforms and landscapes focuses on investigating geomorphology through a study of landscapes and their landforms. This unit examines the processes that shape individual landforms, the values and meanings placed on landforms and landscapes by diverse cultures, hazards associated with landscapes and the management of landscapes. Students complete this investigation by participating in a field trip to Mary Cairncross Scenic Reserve.

Geography: Changing Nations

Changing Nations investigates the changing human geography of countries, as revealed by shifts in population distribution. The unit explores the reasons for urbanisation and draws on a study of a country from the Asia region to show how urbanisation changes societies. It investigates the reasons for the high level of urban concentration in Australia, one of the distinctive features of Australia's human geography. The unit then examines issues related to the management and future of Australia's urban areas.

Assessment

Students will be assessed through the following instruments:

- Field Reports
- Short Response Tests
- Extended Written Reponses

Cost

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

Humanities and Social Sciences (History)

Core Subject – Compulsory

Subject Title: 08HIS – Humanities and Social Sciences (History)

Subject Overview

Students complete a Semester course of History and a Semester course of Geography.

Humanities help students to understand the world and their place within it. Students learn how to interact with each other and with environments. It involves investigations of issues and promotes critical thinking as regards to the past, present and possible future. This subject encourages students to be active participants in their world. Students develop the ability to reflect on the values of democratic process, social justice, economic and ecological sustainability and peace, to make decisions about issues regarding society and environments.

Medieval Europe and Shogunate Japan

These units provide students with the opportunity to study from history from the end of the ancient period to the beginning of the modern period. This was when major civilisations around the world came into contact with each other. Social, economic, religious and political beliefs were often challenged and significantly changed. It was the period when the modern world began to take shape.

Assessment

Students will be assessed through the following instruments:

- Short Response Tests
- Stimulus Response Tests
- Inquiry Reports
- Oral Presentations

Cost

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

Mathematics

Core Subject – Compulsory

Subject Title: 08MAT – Mathematics

Subject Overview

All Year 8 Mathematics students will be exposed to a wide range of mathematical understandings, processes and skills in ways that encourage them to develop an appreciation of the power and beauty of Mathematics and its usefulness in our society.

All students will have access to topics from the Australian Curriculum in the following strands:

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

Mathematics units will be offered sequentially across Semester 1 and 2.

Assessment

Students in all units will be assessed through tests and an assignment each semester.

The following criteria will be assessed:

- Fluency and understanding
- Problem solving and reasoning

Cost

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

Science

Core Subject – Compulsory

Subject Title: 08SCI – Science

Subject Overview

In Year 8 Science students explain the role of specialised cell structures and organelles in cellular function and analyse the relationship between structure and function at organ and body system levels. They apply an understanding of the theory of plate tectonics to explain patterns of change in the geosphere. They explain how the properties of rocks relate to their formation and influence their use. They compare different forms of energy and represent transfer and transformation of energy in simple systems. They classify and represent different types of matter and distinguish between physical and chemical change. Students analyse how different factors influence development and lead to changes in scientific knowledge. They analyse the key considerations that inform scientific responses and how these responses impact society. They analyse the importance of science communication in shaping viewpoints, policies and regulations.

Students plan and conduct safe, reproducible investigations to test relationships and explore models. They describe potential ethical issues and intercultural considerations needed for specific field locations or use of secondary data. They select and use equipment to generate and record data with precision. They select and construct appropriate representations to organise and process data and information. They analyse data and information to describe patterns, trends and relationships and identify anomalies. They identify assumptions and sources of error in methods and analyse conclusions and claims with reference to conflicting evidence and unanswered questions. They construct evidence-based arguments to support conclusions and evaluate claims. They select and use language and text features appropriately for their purpose when communicating their ideas, findings and arguments to specific audiences.

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 – Compulsory

Subject Title: 08HPE – 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 8:

Personal, Social and Community Health Strand:

- Relationships and Consent
- Risk Taking and Safety
- Making Informed Choices
- Investigating Physical Potential
- Mental Health

Movement and Physical Activity Strand:

- Net Sports
- Ultimate Frisbee
- AFL
- Netball

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. Netball– play in an intra-class Speedball tournament.

Cost

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

Sport and Recreation

Core Subject – Compulsory

Subject Title: 08SPO – Sport and Recreation

Subject Overview

Sport and Recreation at Siena Catholic College provides Year 8 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.

Humanities and Social Sciences – Business and Economics

Elective Subject

Unit Title: 08BUS – Business and Economics

Unit Overview – Business and Economics

In this engaging unit, students will explore the dynamic world of business and the forces shaping the modern workplace. Through topics such as *What is Business? Consumer Decisions*, *Innovation*, *Emerging Technologies*, and *Competitive Advantages*, students will gain a foundational understanding of how businesses operate and adapt in a changing environment.

The course delves into key influences on consumer choice and behaviour, the role of corporate social responsibility, and the impact of innovation and technology on employment and work practices. Students will also examine how businesses respond to evolving consumer trends and apply tools like SWOT analysis to evaluate business strategies.

Topics covered include:

Business Decisions

- Franchising, sole trading and partnerships
- The main ways to own a business
- Opportunities for businesses
- Responding to opportunities in the market
- Pitching business ideas

Assessment

Students will be assessed through class tests and assignments.

Cost

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

Languages – Italian I

Elective Subject

Unit Title: 08ITLC1 – Italian I

Unit Overview

In studying Italian, students will be encouraged to develop communication skills in the areas of Listening, Reading, Speaking, and Writing. Italian classrooms are vibrant learning environments where students engage in a variety of tasks based on the Parliamo Italiano Insieme series. These books and interactive language practices meet the full requirements of the Australian Curriculum: Italian, preparing students for further studies.

The study of Italian encourages cultural literacy through the promotion of socio-cultural understanding. Studying Italian opens the possibility of travel, both with the College's Italian exchange Program and independently. Students will study a variety of units, including:

- The classroom
- Greetings
- Where do you live?

Assessment

Students will be assessed each term with a variety of instruments which mimic senior assessment structures.

Further Comments

Students may choose either one or both semesters of Italian in Year 8.

If you wish to study Italian in Year 9 and beyond, you must choose at least one semester of Italian in Year 8.

Cost

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

Languages – Italian II

Elective Subject

Unit Title: 08ITLC2 – Italian II

Unit Overview

In studying Italian, students will be encouraged to develop communication skills in the areas of Listening, Reading, Speaking, and Writing. Italian classrooms are vibrant learning environments where students engage in a variety of tasks based on the Parliamo Italiano Insieme series. These books and interactive language practices meet the full requirements of the Australian Curriculum: Italian, preparing students for further studies.

The study of Italian encourages cultural literacy through the promotion of socio-cultural understanding. This is promoted through the study of the Italian culture. Studying Italian opens the possibility of travel, both with the College's one-month Italian exchange program and independently.

Students will study a variety of units, including:

- Friends
- Nature
- School
- Shopping

Assessment

Students will be assessed each term with a variety of instruments which mimic senior assessment structures.

Further Comments

Students may choose either one or both semesters of Italian in Year 8.

If you wish to study Italian in Year 9 and beyond, you must choose at least one semester in Year 8.

Cost

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

Technologies – Design Technology Materials I and II

Elective Subject

Unit Title: 08DTMATC1 – Design Technology Materials I
08DTMATC2 – Design Technology Materials II

Unit Overview

This subject has a strong focus on the produce element of the design process and is based mainly on the traditional woodwork/metalwork workshops.

Students analyse ways to produce designed solutions through selecting and combining characteristics and properties of materials, systems, components, tools and equipment. Students will be solving design problems by working through a design process to produce products and prototypes using a variety of materials (wood, metal, plastics) and technologies (hand and portable power tools).

Students will be required to produce Design Folios that will also include the need to learn: 'sketching, technical drawing' and 'computer 2D & 3D modelling' techniques.

Design problems may include:

- Toolbox – Sheet metal
- Money Box – Timber and plastic
- Cake slice – Acrylic
- Fruit bowl
- Child's Toy

Assessment

Students will be assessed through project booklets, drawing folios and practical projects.

Cost

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

Technologies – Digital Technology I and II

Elective Subject

Unit Title: 08DIGTEC1 – Digital Technology I
08DIGTEC2 – Digital Technology II

Unit Overview

In a workforce where automation is either deeply embedded in day-to-day routines or replacing traditional jobs all together, Digital Technology is an incredibly relevant and rewarding course.

The Digital Technology course is structured to support students who have a range of experience in coding, including those who have never coded before. The learning experiences within Digital Technology are based upon the skills of students up to a Year 7 level and as a result students of any ability or interest will find success in the course.

Here are four good reasons to study 'Digital Technologies':

- growth in jobs
- non-technical staff can also benefit from basic programming knowledge.
- learning to code promotes abstract thinking and problem solving
- you can develop applications for your own personal use or to sell on the App Store

Student learning involves the hands-on use of computers and programs, which allow for the development of a variety of solutions integrating the development iPhone/iPad software, coding to apply iPhone/iPad hardware along with Internet and web technologies. In Year 8 students will learn project management skills where they analyse a scenario, determine the client's workflows and practices and identify a solution to the problem. These skills ensure a business can run smoothly and efficiently.

Students selecting Digital Technologies for both semesters in Year 8 will be progressed into the Year 9 course, where they will be further analysing business practices and finding solutions that will enhance user experience and in turn, sales. As part of their assessment students will be required to participate on an excursion to McDonalds. They will be analysing how the global giant has applied touch screen technology in all their stores to maximise their workflows in order to increase sales and improve service. In the second assessment students will develop an e-commerce application of their own based on a business scenario.

Enrolling in two semesters of Digital Technologies will place students on a pathway to our Digital Solutions head start program, where they can begin an ATAR subject in Year 10 and complete the course a year early in Term 3, Year 11. This gives the students an opportunity to have a spare line in Year 12 to focus on other subjects, begin a traineeship or enroll in a university course.

Assessment

The content and assessment has been designed specifically for individualisation. Unlike exam-based subjects, all products generated in the assessment are designed to be personally used or sold to a wider audience with a larger purpose. Students are solving problems that they determine require a digital solution. At no stage will students be required to memorise code or work within a closed environment. All assessment is completed under real world conditions with resources always available and collaboration at the forefront.

Further Comments

Students will be encouraged to work independently so that they can extend their programs to a degree consistent with their ability and interest.

Cost

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

Technologies – Engineering Principals and Systems I and II

Elective Subject

Unit Title: 08DTEPS1 – Engineering Principals and Systems I
08DTEPS2 – Engineering Principals and Systems II

Unit Overview

This subject has a strong focus on the design element of the design process and is based mainly in a general classroom.

In this unit students will analyse how motion, force and energy are used to manipulate and control electromechanical systems when designing simple, engineered solutions. They will solve problems through the design process. Students will be experimenting with selecting the most appropriate principles and systems on which to base design ideas, for example structural components to be tested for strength. Students will have the opportunity to use numerous technologies in this unit.

Students will be required to produce Design Folios that will also include the need to learn: 'sketching, technical drawing' and 'computer 2D & 3D modelling' techniques. Engineering is not a workshop-based subject. It is an academic course that involves students to conduct research into materials and designs, producing low fidelity prototypes of products such as bridges and towers.

Possible projects may include:

- Balloon/mouse trap powered car
- Torch lantern
- Pin ball maze
- Cam toy
- Candle holder
- Ice cream stick truss

Assessment

Assessment will include Design Folios and products/prototypes.

Cost

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

Technologies – Food Specialisations I and II

Elective Subject

Unit Title: 08DTFS – Food Specialisation I
08DTFS – Food Specialisation II

Unit Overview

During the **Eat Street @ Siena** unit, students will apply design thinking and processes when investigating food design challenges. The subject motivates young people and engages them in a range of learning experiences that are transferable to family and home, leisure activities, community contribution and lifestyle. Students will be analysing how characteristics and properties of food may determine preparation techniques and presentation when designing solutions for healthy eating. Students will do this by considering different cultural foods and develop solutions in a similar format to Eat Street. Topics covered may include:

- Cultural foods
- Enviro-packaging
- Meeting a market
- Modern day family leisure activities
- Practical healthy eating tips
- Skill development for food preparation
- Presenting food
- Critiquing needs and opportunities for Eat Street style events
- Sketching
- Testing design ideas
- Working with a client
- Managing a project

Assessment

Students will be assessed through interesting design folios and practical food preparation.

Cost

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

Technologies – Textiles and Fibre Production I and II

Elective Subject

Unit Title: 08DTFFP1 – Design and Technologies – Textiles and Fibre Production I
08DTFFP2 – Design and Technologies – Textiles and Fibre Production II

Unit Overview

During the Design and Technologies Designing for the Community unit, students will apply design thinking and processes when investigating textile technology challenges. The subject motivates young people and engages them in a range of learning experiences that are transferable to family and home, leisure activities, community contribution and lifestyle.

This subject is aimed at students who want to develop:

- Responsibility, self-reliance, personal management and teamwork.
- Principles and practices underlying the nature, performance, use, design and maintenance of textile materials.
- Sound practice related to textile selection and construction to ensure efficient utilisation of resources.

A textile-based unit will include elements of the following:

Make and Create: Community Bags

- Boomerang bags – reusable bags
- Investigating the waste surrounding textile products in particular plastic bags
- Design process: design your own bag, sketch, label and annotate your design ideas
- Sustainability: recycle, reuse and repurpose
- Tie dying techniques, general sewing skills, applique, hand sewing
- Community project: bags made, filled with Christmas hamper for our Stella Maris Homeless community

Assessment

Students will be assessed through interesting research assignments and textile projects.

Cost

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

The Arts – Dance I

Elective Subject

Unit Title: 08DAN1 – Dance I

This unit is offered in Semester 1 only.

Students will have the opportunity to explore dance as an art form through choreography, performance, and appreciation. They will explore meaning and interpretation, forms and elements, and social, cultural and historical contexts of dance as they make and respond to dances.

Unit Overview

This semester, explore the world of hip-hop and lyrical contemporary dance! You'll master the basics of hip-hop movement and explore storytelling through dance. Experience the power of dance to express what words cannot, as you perform and create with your classmates. You'll develop your skills in choreography, performance, and dance analysis, focusing on the four elements of dance: time, space, dynamics, and relationships. Join us for an exciting journey of creativity, expression, and collaboration, and create a dance piece that brings a news story to life. Get ready to move, create, and inspire!

Students will study the following units:

- Bring the Beat
- Storytelling

Assessment

Students will be assessed in the following areas:

- Making
- Responding

Students will be assessed on self and group devised choreography which they perform, with written justification of the elements of dance and choices made. They will also evaluate the elements and the choreographer's intention of particular dances.

Further Comments

This semester unit studied in Year 8 provides students with an introduction to the subject of Dance as well as a range and balance of learning activities and skills. Units are designed to cater for a variety of interests and levels of experience from beginners to experienced dancers. Dance promotes self-confidence and self-expression, which allows students to use their creativity to express themselves through movement.

Cost

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

The Arts – Dance II

Elective Subject

Unit Title: 08DAN2 – Dance II

This unit is offered in Semester 2 only.

Students will have the opportunity to explore dance as an art form through choreography, performance, and appreciation. They will explore meaning and interpretation, forms and elements, and social, cultural and historical contexts of dance as they make and respond to dances.

Unit Overview

This Semester, dive into the dynamic world of dance on social media! You'll explore the impact of platforms like YouTube, Instagram, and TikTok on dance, both positive and negative. Create your own dance piece for your favorite platform and critically analyse issues like mental health, age-appropriate content, and over-stretching. Participate in Jazz technique classes to understand style development and commercial jazz as an evolved style. You'll start with a commercial jazz routine and then add your own flair using choreographic devices and dance elements. Get ready to dance, create, and evaluate your work in this exciting and relevant unit!

Students will study the following units:

- Cyber Dance
- Vibe with Me

Assessment

Students will be assessed in the following areas:

- Making
- Responding

Students will be assessed on self and group devised choreography which they perform, with written justification of the elements of dance and choices made. They will also evaluate the elements and the choreographer's intention of particular dances.

Further Comments

This semester unit studied in Year 8 provides students with an introduction to the subject of Dance as well as a range and balance of learning activities and skills. Units are designed to cater for a variety of interests and levels of experience from beginners to experienced dancers. Dance promotes self-confidence and self-expression, which allows students to use their creativity to express themselves through movement.

Cost

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

The Arts – Drama I

Elective Subject

Unit Title: 08DRAC1 – Drama I

This unit is offered in Semester 1 only.

In Drama, students explore, depict and celebrate human experience by imagining and representing other people through live performance. Students identify and analyse how the elements of drama are used, combined and manipulated in different styles. They apply this knowledge in the drama they make and perform.

Unit Overview

In Term One, you will step into someone else's shoes and bring characters to life! Use your voice, body, and imagination to create bold, believable roles and relationships. Through fun workshops, explore expressive skills like movement, facial expression, and tone of voice. Working in groups, you will devise planned improvisations and mini performances, learning to use drama elements to build strong characters and compelling stories. Experiment with eclectic theatre conventions to make your performances original and unexpected. This unit is all about experimenting, taking creative risks, and engaging an audience. In term two, you will transform a published play into a live performance. You will unpack characters, explore dramatic situations, and turn words on a page into powerful stage moments. You will learn how to apply key drama elements like role, tension, and situation, and discover how stagecraft can add impact to a performance. Through reflection and evaluation, you will be able to analyse how meaning was created through voice, movement, and staging. This unit will show you what it takes to turn a script into a story that feels real and unforgettable.

Students will study the following units:

- Role & Character – Stepping into the Story
- A Play in Performance – Bringing the Script to Life!

Assessment

Students will be assessed in the following areas:

- Making: Forming and Performing
- Responding

Further Comments

Semester units studied in Years 8 provide students with a range and balance of learning activities and skills that develop in complexity from the introductory Year 7 Performing Arts course. Units are designed to cater to a variety of interests and levels of experience. Drama promotes self-confidence and develops students' skills in oral presentation for a variety of situations now and in the future.

Cost

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

The Arts – Drama II

Elective Subject

Unit Title: 08DRAC2 – Drama II

This unit is offered in Semester 2 only.

In Drama, students explore, depict and celebrate human experience by imagining and representing other people through live performance. Students identify and analyse how the elements of drama are used, combined and manipulated in different styles. They apply this knowledge in the drama they make and perform.

Unit Overview

This semester, step into the suspenseful world of mystery and crime-solving! Explore the Whodunnit genre, uncovering its dramatic conventions like suspense, red herrings, and dramatic reveals. Become both actor and detective as you interpret characters, design scenes, and use stagecraft elements to bring the mystery to life. Mark up scripts like professionals, and write your own ending—will justice be served or will there be a surprise reveal? Perform your version of the play for your peers and leave them on the edge of their seats! In the second unit of the semester, dive into the thrilling world of Melodrama with bold emotions and exciting twists! Using the script "Terror on the Train," bring scenes to life with powerful expression and creative stagecraft. Write your own dramatic opening scene and present it to the class. These scenes will be filmed and turned into a short film. Prepare for a dramatic adventure full of suspense, creativity, and theatrical fun!

Students will study the following units:

- Whodunnit? – A Mystery on Stage!
- Melodrama Madness!

Assessment

Students will be assessed in the following areas:

- Making: Forming and Performing
- Responding

Further Comments

Semester units studied in Years 8 provide students with a range and balance of learning activities and skills that develop in complexity from the introductory Year 7 Performing Arts course. Units are designed to cater for a variety of interests and levels of experience. Drama promotes self-confidence and so develops students' skills in oral presentation for a variety of situations now and in the future.

Cost

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

The Arts – Media Arts I

Elective Subject

Unit Title: 08MEDA1 – Media Arts I

This unit is offered in Semester 1 only.

In Media Arts, students develop knowledge, understanding and skills in the creative use of communications technologies and digital materials to tell stories and explore concepts for diverse purposes and audiences. They use genre and media conventions and shape technical and symbolic elements for specific purposes and meaning. Students collaborate with others in design and production processes, and control equipment and technologies to achieve their intentions.

Unit Overview

In Media Arts this semester, students delve into stop motion animation, exploring media arts concepts like shot sizes, setting, colour, and costume design to create meaningful narratives. They analyse and evaluate media languages in various animations, including those by First Nations artists. Students apply their knowledge to design and produce a stop motion animation for a young audience. Additionally, they study the art of Foley, investigating how sound layers communicate meaning and mood. By experimenting with materials and techniques, they create original sounds and produce their first film, reflecting on responsible media practices and distribution strategies for their intended audience.

Students will study the following units:

- Animation Imagination
- Sounds of Nature

Assessment

Students will be assessed in the following areas:

- Making
- Responding

Students will be assessed in a variety of formats that integrate 21st century skills including collaboration, use of technologies, and innovative practices.

Cost

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

The Arts – Media Arts II

Elective Subject

Unit Title: 08MEDA2 – Media Arts II

This unit is offered in Semester 2 only.

In Media Arts, students develop knowledge, understanding and skills in the creative use of communications technologies and digital materials to tell stories and explore concepts for diverse purposes and audiences. They use genre and media conventions and shape technical and symbolic elements for specific purposes and meaning. Students collaborate with others in design and production processes, and control equipment and technologies to achieve their intentions.

Unit Overview

In Media Arts this semester, students explore Photoshop and image manipulation, studying celebrity and social media culture to understand the ethics and social pressures involved. They develop skills like liquifying, using adjustment layers, and removing objects, creating a portfolio with reflections on their process and respectful practices. Additionally, students delve into the art of montage, enhancing their knowledge of visual languages such as shot sizes, camera angles, and movement. They refine their editing skills by timing visuals to narration and experimenting with speed ramping, ultimately producing an engaging montage with a three-column script to inspire their target audience.

Students will study the following units:

- Manipulating Media
- Inspire Me

Assessment

Students will be assessed in the following areas:

- Making
- Responding

Students will be assessed in a variety of formats that integrate 21st century skills including collaboration, use of technologies and innovative practices.

Cost

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

The Arts – Music I

Elective Subject

Unit Title: 08MUSC1 – Music I

In Music, students learn through engagement with a variety of music genres, practices, and concepts. Students will learn how to interpret and manipulate the musical elements to create their own individualised style. Music assists students in developing skills in working independently and collaboratively, reflecting authentic practices of music performers, composers, and audiences. Students develop highly transferable skills and the capacity for flexible, creative thinking.

Unit Overview

In this unit, you'll dive into the world of rock and popular music, exploring various genres and learning how music elements create different styles. You'll get hands-on experience playing keyboard, guitar, bass guitar, and drum kit, forming bands to perform a pop/rock song. You'll also develop basic music theory skills and compose a 12-bar blues using GarageBand. Plus, you'll discover the unique contributions of contemporary First Nations bands. Get ready for an exciting journey of creativity, teamwork, and musical exploration!

Students will study the following units:

- Battle of the Bands

Assessment

Students will be assessed in the following areas:

- Making – performing and composing music
- Responding

Students will be assessed through a combination of performance, composition, and written tasks.

Cost

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

The Arts – Music II

Elective Subject

Unit Title: 08MUSC2 – Music II

In Music, students learn through engagement with a variety of music genres, practices, and concepts. Students will learn how to interpret and manipulate the musical elements to create their own individualised style. Music assists students in developing skills in working independently and collaboratively, reflecting authentic practices of music performers, composers, and audiences. Students develop highly transferable skills and the capacity for flexible, creative thinking.

Unit Overview

This semester, you'll explore the fascinating history of video game music and how technology has shaped it. You'll analyse how music elements create drama and action in games and use 'Beepbox' to compose your own video game music. You'll also learn to read guitar tablature and piano notation to perform iconic game tracks. Additionally, you'll investigate advertising jingles, discovering how composers use music to appeal to audiences. You'll develop skills in composing your own jingle and collaborate with peers using GarageBand. Get ready for an exciting journey into the world of music and technology!

Students will study the following units:

- Game On
- Sounds that Sell

Assessment

Students will be assessed in the following areas:

- Making – performing and composing music
- Responding

Students will be assessed through a combination of performance, composition, and written tasks.

Cost

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

The Arts – Visual Arts I

Elective Subject

Unit Title: 08VARTC1 – Visual Arts I

In Visual 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. Students will also learn how to evaluate artworks and analyse connections between visual conventions, practices and viewpoints that represent their own and others' ideas.

Unit Overview

In Semester 1, you'll dive into the fascinating world of art principles and discover how they can be manipulated to create stunning artworks. You'll learn to analyse and evaluate how these principles are used in both your own creations and the works of others. By the end of the unit, you'll have developed a portfolio that showcases your understanding and creativity, reflecting your mastery of these visual conventions. Get ready to unleash your artistic potential and see the world of art in a whole new light!

Students will study the following unit:

- Design Matters -The principles of Design

Assessment

Students will be assessed in the following areas:

- Making
- Responding

Students will be assessed on practical making tasks, folio /art journal submission and written assignments.

Further comments

The Art program provides an extension of the rotation course in Year 7 with emphasis in Year 8 on knowledge and understanding of the elements and principles of design. In Year 8, self-expression and creativity as a means of visual communication and art appraisal are emphasised. The program is designed for students to study both semesters sequentially, but they can also elect one semester of art and develop the skills required to progress into Year 9 Visual Art.

Cost

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

The Arts – Visual Arts II

Elective Subject

Unit Title: 08VARTC2 – Visual Arts II

In Visual 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. Students will also learn how to evaluate artworks and analyse connections between visual conventions, practices and viewpoints that represent their own and others' ideas.

Unit Overview

In Semester 2, you'll dive into the principles of design and apply your understanding to create both realistic and abstract artwork using various forms of media. You'll get hands-on experience by completing a realistic painting of the small wonders in nature, capturing intricate details and beauty.

As you create, you'll reflect on your own art practice, analysing how other artists have influenced your work. You'll also develop the ability to evaluate how artists communicate their ideas through their art. This unit is all about exploring your creativity, learning from others, and expressing your unique artistic voice. Get ready to unleash your inner artist and see the world through a new lens!

Students will study the following unit:

- Materials Matter -Exploring design and materials

Assessment

Students will be assessed in the following areas:

- Making
- Responding

Students will be assessed on practical making tasks, folio /art journal submission and written assignments.

Further Comments

The Art program provides an extension of the rotation course in Year 7 with emphasis in Year 8 on knowledge and understanding of the elements and principles of design. In Year 8, self-expression and creativity as a means of visual communication and art appraisal are emphasised. The program is designed for students to study both semesters sequentially, but they can also elect one semester of art and develop the skills required to progress into Year 9 Visual Art.

Cost

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