YEAR 8 HANDBOOK

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Web Preferences
Year 8 provides students with a great opportunity to explore some new areas of learning and discover more about themselves as successful learners. Students will be given some choice of subjects they will do each semester and they will participate in the Personal Learning Program.

English

The three main focus areas of Year 8 English are the study of texts such as novels, poetry, film; the development of writing and language skills; and the development of oral presentation skills. A reading program working in conjunction with the library also forms an important part of the course.

Students will:
- Extend and develop their language skills in, and knowledge of, reading and viewing, writing, speaking and listening.

Mathematics

The proficiency strands Understanding, Fluency, Problem Solving and Reasoning are an integral part of mathematics content across the three content strands: Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry, and Statistics and Probability. The proficiencies reinforce the significance of working mathematically within the content and describe how the content is explored or developed. They provide the language to build in the developmental aspects of the learning of mathematics.

Health and Physical Education

Students will:
- Perform proficient complex movements and manipulative skills.
- Measure their own fitness and physical activity levels and identify factors that influence motivation to be physically active.
- Participate regularly in moderate to vigorous physical activity.
- Participate in 4 week blocks of T-ball, Hockey, Badminton, Touch Rugby, Gaelic Football, discus, shot put, javelin, high jump, triple jump, long jump, Netball, Gymnastics and Ultimate Frisbee.
- Describe the physical, emotional and social changes that occur during adolescence.
- Identify outcomes of risk-taking behaviours, health concerns of young people and investigate resources/services available to help improve health.
- Analyse major nutritional needs for growth and activity and the influence on personal and family food selection.

Science

Students will:
- Explore forms of Energy and the ways they are transferred and transformed.
- Relate the properties of solids, liquids and gases to the way their particles behave.
- Learn to distinguish between atoms, molecules, elements and compounds.
- Become proficient in the use of the light microscope to investigate cell structure.
- Consider the ways in which cells are organized into tissues, organs and body systems.
- Be introduced to the subject of Geology by investigating the Rock Cycle.
Geography and History run for one semester each.

**Geography**

The course aims to encourage an enthusiasm and fascination for our world while further developing sound geographical knowledge and skills which form the basis for further studies in Geography and related subjects. This subject will allow students to develop an understanding of physical processes that shape our environment. Students will learn many life skills that will be beneficial in other areas of study throughout adulthood. Geography emphasises the development of tolerance and respect for various cultures, lifestyles and opinions, and provides an insight into, and skills relevant to, processes of decision-making, especially with respect for the environment.

**History**

The course focuses on significant ideas, people and events in medieval times in both Europe and the Pacific Islands. Through their investigation, students will be able to see how these events have shaped history. Students further develop a sense of time and categorise events over a long period. They are encouraged to describe and explain why people acted in a certain way in the past, and how the movement of groups of people have influenced societal and geographic change across the globe.

**Structure and Elective Selection Rules**

The school year is divided into two semesters. Each semester students will do two elective subjects, which will run for three periods per week. Over the year students complete four elective subjects. From those four electives students must choose at least one from each of the following areas:

- Arts
- LOTE
- Technology

The fourth elective can be from any of the above areas or the students can choose Home Eco as their fourth elective.

Students who have lived in Australia for five years or less and speak English as an Additional Language must choose EAL as an elective in both semesters.

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<th>Periods</th>
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<td>Mathematics</td>
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<td>Geography</td>
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<td>Science</td>
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<td>Personalised Learning</td>
<td>Personalised Learning</td>
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<td>Health and Physical Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>Information Technology</td>
<td>Information Technology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elective 1 – Arts</td>
<td>Elective 3 – TECH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elective 2 – LOTE</td>
<td>Elective 4 – Free choice</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td><strong>30</strong></td>
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Students must choose at least one unit from the Arts area.

**Arts Electives**

**Arts**

**Ceramics and 3 Dimensional Art**

Students will:
- Explore Ceramics – clay types and uses, hand building techniques including slab and coil constructions, investigation of ceramic artists.
- Create a variety of three-dimensional construction methods. Explore decorative techniques such as relief carving, underglazing and sgraffito. Some sculpture will also be explored.

**Collage and Printmaking**

Students will:
- Create a pattern using small lino-print
- Print with a variety of materials, including vegetables, card and found objects
- Produce a silk-screen print using paper stencil
- Design using stencils
- Create a mixed-media landscape, include mosaic, water-colour and pastels
- Create a textured collage/drawing using a variety of materials
- Make a cityscape using layers of coloured paper, investigating shapes and silhouettes

**Guitar**

Students will:
- Play chords and melody
- Read and write music
- Listen to music
- Study the history of the guitar and its music
- Play in a group

**Keyboard**

Students will:
- Learn to play the keyboard and develop their skills at playing songs
- Learn more about reading, writing and listening to music
- Look at pieces that composers/songwriters have written for the keyboard/piano in past years
- This unit caters for beginners through to more advanced players
Students must choose at least one unit from the Arts area.

Arts

Painting and Drawing

Students will:
- Improve their drawing skills including two and three dimensional drawing methods and use of perspective, learn about and use the elements and principles of design and create a variety of drawings and paintings using these
- Study paintings by specific artists and create paintings inspired by their technique and style
- Complete paintings and mixed media artworks inspired by imagination dreams, books, movies and culture

Arts

Design

Students will:
- Develop presentations for an audience from a set brief. Research and use a variety of inspirations in the generation of ideas
- Use a variety of techniques and materials such as drawing with pencils, textas and inks; use digital cameras and computer
- Look at posters over time. Students will have the opportunity to create an old fashioned poster and then a more modern poster using modern technologies
- Explore the communication of ideas through texts and then through images, investigating design elements and principles
- Look at how to create the illusion of objects appearing 3D

Arts

Drama – Comedy Capers

Students will:
- Create and perform a modern fairy tale
- Create and perform a piece of stand-up comedy routine
- Participation in Theatre sports
- Research an element of stagecraft
- Keep a regular journal
Students must choose at least one unit from these L.O.T.E. electives.

**LOTE**

**Australian Sign Language**

Students will:
- Learn signs to communicate about themselves, family and daily life.
- Learn H.O.L.M. rules, to produce and recognise signs accurately.
- Learn simple Auslan grammar to organise ideas and include descriptive language.
- Learn about Deaf culture by watching short scenarios to compare with the hearing culture.
- Watch Auslan storytelling, modelling these to create signed picture stories.

**LOTE**

**Japanese**

Students will:
- Learn new symbols, Katakana, to extend their reading and writing skills
- Learn basic words for their daily life
- Learn useful Japanese expressions for communicating with people
- Complete worksheets to consolidate their language skills
- Learn Japanese culture through documentaries and movies in Japanese
Students must choose at least one unit from the Technology area.

Technology

Textiles

Students will:

- Work through the design to and create a windcheater
- Investigate the properties textile fibres and fabrics, to determine which are most suitable for their windcheater.
- Research and produce various samples of methods fabric decoration.
- Research current fashion trends.

Technology

Product Design - Wood

Students will:

- Work with hand tools.
- Design, make and evaluate two projects from pine. These projects may vary but could include a toy with moving parts, a box or carving

Technology

Twenty-first Century Skills

Students will:

- Develop skills for the 21st century
- Learn about research and presentation with Information and Communication Technologies
- Advance their knowledge using the Internet and multi-media resources to research topics from a variety of sources
- Explore aspects of desktop publishing, issues and ethics in computing and create a portfolio for a company brand
Students must choose at least one unit from the Technology area.

Technology

Product Design - Metals

Students will:

- Learn trade skills relevant to working with sheet metal
- Build a range of models that will teach them the basic fabrication techniques of sheet metals
- Work through a design process in the development of their models

Food

Students will:

- Create a variety of interesting dishes using foods from the various food groups
- Learn how to make good food choices using the “Healthy Eating Pyramid”
- Examine and research a food item for which they will produce a healthy food item
- Design and produce a healthy breakfast
These electives are compulsory for EAL students who have been in Australia for five years or less.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English as an Additional Language Semester 1</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Students will:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Develop their listening and speaking skills</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Develop their reading skills</td>
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<td>• Develop their writing skills</td>
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<tr>
<th>English as an Additional Language Semester 2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>This unit is a continuation of Semester 1 EAL. Students will:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Develop their listening and speaking skills</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Develop their reading skills</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Develop their writing skills</td>
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All selections must be completed by
Friday 16th September 2016

- Students will make their 2017 Year 8 subject selection during class time using a web based program – Web Preferences – www.webpreferences.com.au
- Each student will have a personalised Student Access Guide containing their private Student Access Code and Password.
- All Year 7 students will be assisted in the subject selection process by one of their classroom teachers.
- After selecting their subjects students will bring home a printed out preference sheet for parents to sign and return to school.

Please remember that listing a subject in the handbook does not mean that it will run in 2017.

If insufficient students choose a subject it may mean the unit will be withdrawn.