Footscray
High School

Curriculum Handbook **2027**

YEARS
7 — 9

Junior & Middle Years Handbook

Footscray High School • An Inspired Future

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear students and families,

Welcome to the Footscray High School Curriculum Handbook. Whether you are joining us for the first time or stepping into a new year of your journey, I am proud to invite you into the learning, friendship and discovery that lies ahead.

Our vision is to be a dynamic, inclusive and proudly diverse high school where every student is empowered to achieve academic excellence, cultivate essential life skills, and grow into a compassionate, responsible global citizen. That vision shapes every part of what we do — from the curriculum we design, to the conversations we have in our classrooms, to the way we welcome each new student through our doors.

At the heart of our school are four pillars: Unity, Respect, Creativity and Endeavour. Unity binds our three campuses, our many cultures and our many stories into one school community. Respect is how we treat ourselves, our peers and the world around us. Creativity is our willingness to think differently, ask better questions and imagine new possibilities. And Endeavour is the persistence and hard work that turns those possibilities into real achievements — in the classroom, on the sports field, on the stage and far beyond the school gates.

This handbook is more than a list of subjects. It is an invitation to imagine the person you are becoming. As you read it, I encourage you to choose subjects that excite you, take on challenges that stretch you and reach for the support of your teachers, classmates and family along the way. Your education is yours to shape, and we are honoured to walk alongside you as you shape it.

Wishing you a year of growth, courage and joy.

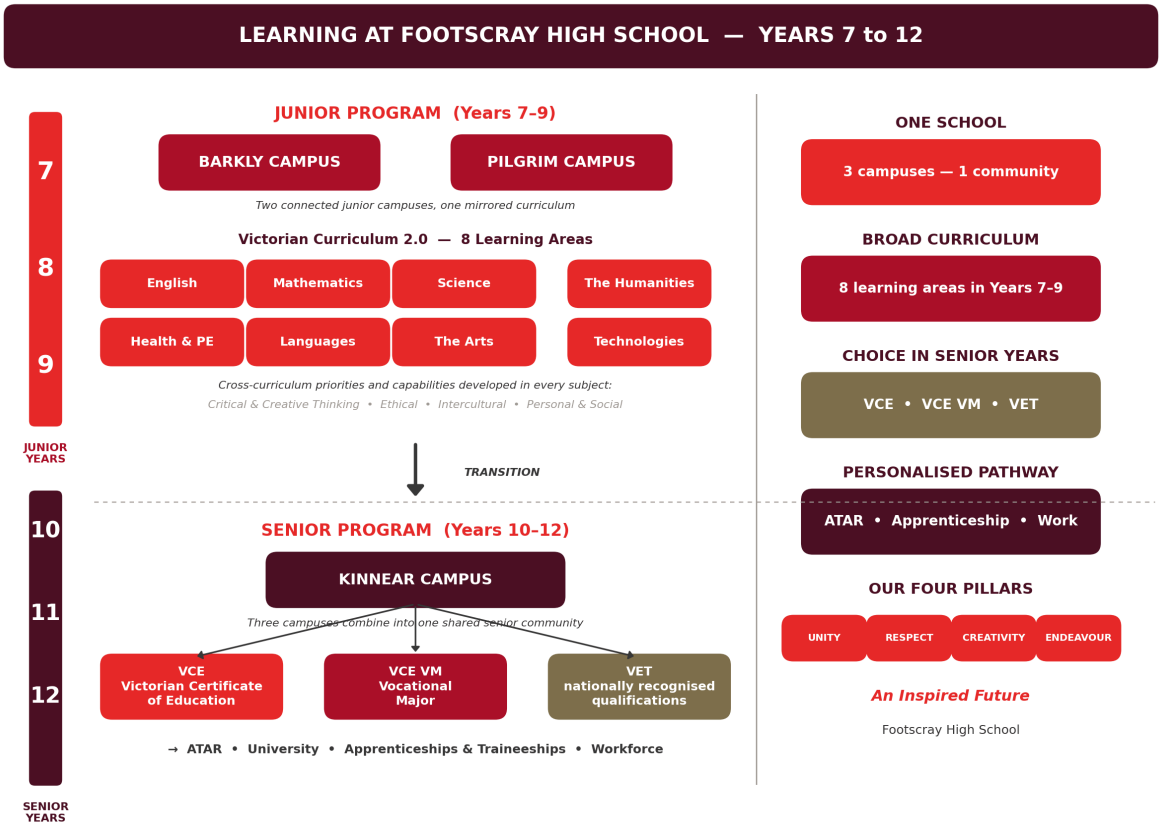
With warm regards,

Jill English

Principal, Footscray High School

YEAR 7 TO 12 PROGRAM STRUCTURE

An overview of how learning is organised across the school — from the connected Junior Program at Barkly and Pilgrim campuses, through the Year 9 program, and into senior pathways at the Kinnear Campus.



EXTRA-CURRICULAR PROGRAM

Beyond the classroom, students at Footscray High School are encouraged to grow their interests, leadership and friendships through a rich extra-curricular program available across all year levels and campuses.

Programs and clubs

- International trips to Japan and Italy
- FHS Rowing Club
- Homework Club
- Student clubs across a wide range of interests
- Instrumental Music Program
- FHS Community Band
- Science Club
- School theatre productions
- School camps
- Interschool sport

THE JUNIOR PROGRAM (YEARS 7 & 8)

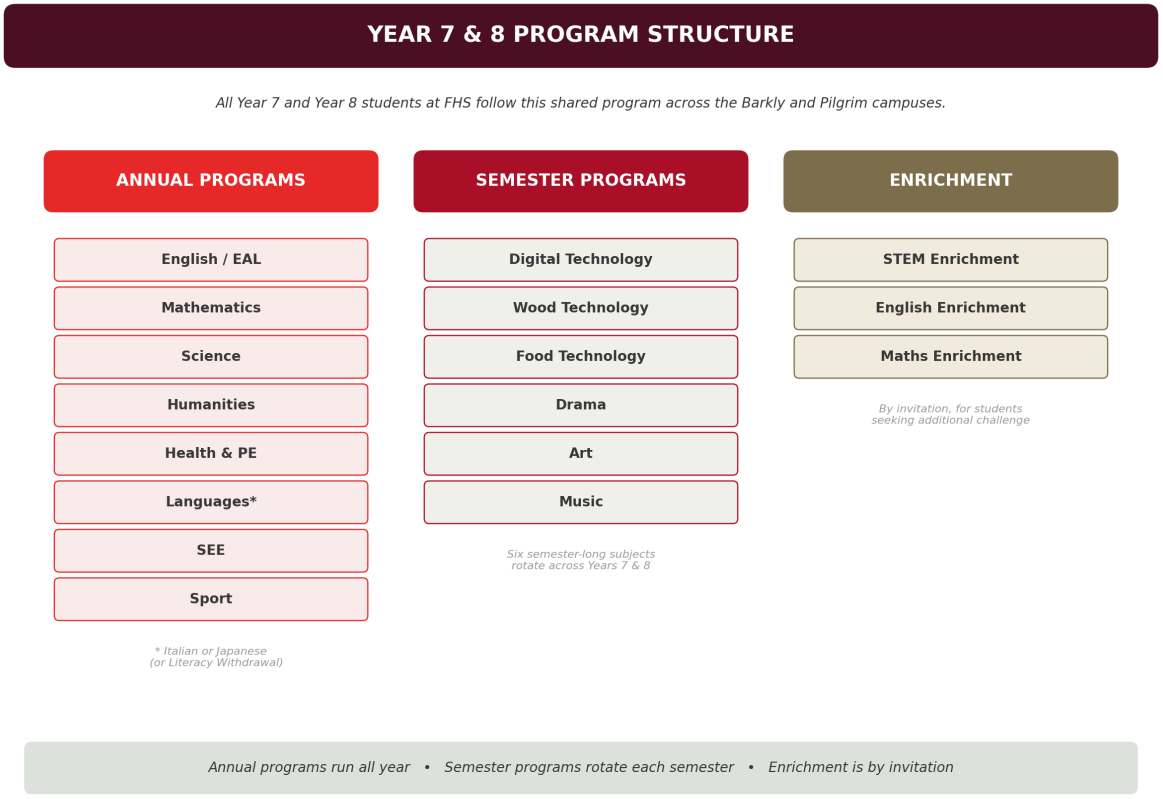
Building connection, curiosity and challenge

In Years 7 and 8 we take the time to truly know our students — academically and socially — while helping them build meaningful connections with one another. Students experience a broad, engaging curriculum aligned with the Victorian Curriculum, with targeted support and challenge to meet each learner at their point of need. Enrichment classes in English and Mathematics are available for students seeking additional challenge.

Through inquiry-based learning, students develop curiosity, critical thinking and a sense of agency as they explore ways to make a positive impact in their world.

Our two junior campuses give students the warmth of a small-school learning environment while still belonging to a large and dynamic secondary school. The Junior Curriculum is mirrored across the Barkly and Pilgrim campuses, ensuring a consistent and connected learning journey for all students.

Year 7 & 8 Program Structure



English & EAL

English — Year 7

#Reading #Viewing #Writing #Speaking #Listening

Aligned with Level 7 of the Victorian Curriculum, students build the foundations of effective communication through the study of language, literature and literacy. Across the year, they explore a range of texts and ideas while developing confidence in expressing themselves through speaking, writing and collaboration. Students are introduced to the skills and strategies needed for success in secondary English and beyond.

What will I learn in this subject?

You learn to write narratives, persuasive pieces and analytical responses using appropriate language and structure. You develop your reading comprehension and critical thinking skills, respond to novels, films and other texts, and build confidence in presenting ideas through discussion and oral presentations.

How will I be assessed?

- Classwork and homework tasks
- Persuasive oral presentation
- Analytical and creative responses to studied texts
- PAT Reading and NAPLAN

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Writing, journalism and publishing
- Teaching and education
- Law and advocacy
- Communications and marketing
- Public service and policy

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2E7 — Strands: VC2E7LA Language; VC2E7LE Literature; VC2E7LY Literacy • Elaborations: e.g. VC2E7LA01_E01, VC2E7LE01_E01, VC2E7LY01_E01 (Level 7)*
Capabilities *VC2CCCT Critical & Creative Thinking • Critical analysis of texts; considering ethical decisions made in texts*

English — Year 8

#Reading #Viewing #Writing #Speaking #Listening

Aligned with Level 8 of the Victorian Curriculum, students develop as confident communicators, imaginative thinkers and informed citizens. Through the study of a range of texts and perspectives, they deepen their understanding of how language shapes meaning and influences audiences. Students are encouraged to think critically, communicate effectively and engage with contemporary issues and ideas.

What will I learn in this subject?

You analyse how authors and creators use language, structure and style to convey ideas and engage audiences. You develop your persuasive, analytical and creative writing skills, explore different perspectives, and create written, spoken and multimodal texts for a range of purposes.

How will I be assessed?

- Classwork and homework tasks
- Creative and analytical text responses
- Persuasive oral presentation
- PAT Reading

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Writing, journalism and publishing
- Teaching and education
- Law and advocacy
- Communications and marketing
- Public service and policy

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2E8 — Strands: VC2E8LA Language; VC2E8LE Literature; VC2E8LY Literacy • Elaborations: e.g. VC2E8LA01_E01, VC2E8LE01_E01, VC2E8LY01_E01 (Level 8)*
Capabilities *VC2CCCT Critical & Creative Thinking • Critical analysis of texts; considering ethical decisions made in texts*

English & EAL

English Enrichment

Year 7 or 8

#Reading #Viewing #Writing #Speaking #Listening

This extension program is designed for students seeking additional challenge and opportunities to deepen their engagement with English. Through the study of more complex texts and ideas, students extend their analytical, creative and critical thinking skills while exploring language and literature in greater depth.

What will I learn in this subject?

You extend your reading, writing and analytical skills through challenging texts, discussion and creative exploration. You develop greater precision and sophistication in your writing, strengthen your interpretation of literature, and refine your ability to communicate complex ideas with insight and confidence.

How will I be assessed?

- Extension writing tasks
- Analytical and creative responses
- Oral presentations

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Writing and creative industries
- Academic research and teaching
- Law and policy
- Editing, publishing and translation
- Journalism and media

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2E7–8 — Strands: VC2E7-8LA Language; VC2E7-8LE Literature; VC2E7-8LY Literacy • Extends elaborations across Level 7 and Level 8 (e.g. VC2E7LA01_E01 to VC2E8LE01_E01)*
Capabilities *VC2CCCT Critical & Creative Thinking • Critical analysis of texts (extension)*

Mathematics — Year 7

#Number #Algebra #Measurement

Year 7 and 8 Mathematics builds strong foundations in numeracy through explicit, at-level teaching. Lessons combine clear instruction, differentiated tasks and rich problem-solving, using concrete materials and visual models where appropriate.

Core lessons follow an "I do, We do, You do" structure to support fluency and mastery. Students also undertake PAT Mathematics and NAPLAN in Term 1.

What will I learn in this subject?

You build strong foundations in number, algebra, measurement, space, statistics and probability. You develop fluency through guided practice, problem-solve in unfamiliar contexts, and use technology to investigate, model and explain mathematical ideas.

What you'll learn

- Number: integers, fractions, decimals, percentages, ratios
- Algebra: exponents, coefficients, equations
- Measurement: length, angle relationships, area
- Space: 3-D objects, properties of geometric figures, transformations
- Statistics: data analysis I
- Probability: introduction to probability

How will I be assessed?

- Topic tests
- Week of Inspirational Maths
- Soma Cube assessment
- Problem-solving assessment
- Semester 2 exam

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Engineering and technology
- Computing and software
- Business, finance and accounting
- Science and medicine
- Architecture and design

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2M7 — Strands: VC2M7N Number; VC2M7A Algebra; VC2M7M Measurement; VC2M7SP Space; VC2M7ST Statistics; VC2M7P Probability • Elaborations: e.g. VC2M7N01_E01, VC2M7A01_E01 (Level 7)*
Capabilities *VC2CCCT Critical & Creative Thinking • Reasoning, problem-solving and creative thinking*

Mathematics — Year 8

#Number #Algebra #Probability

Year 7 and 8 Mathematics builds strong foundations in numeracy through explicit, at-level teaching. Lessons combine clear instruction, differentiated tasks and rich problem-solving, using concrete materials and visual models where appropriate.

Core lessons follow an "I do, We do, You do" structure to support fluency and mastery. Students also undertake PAT Mathematics and NAPLAN in Term 1.

What will I learn in this subject?

You extend your understanding of number, algebra, measurement, space, statistics and probability into more complex contexts. You build reasoning, problem-solving and communication skills as you model situations and use technology to investigate patterns and relationships.

What you'll learn

- Number: integers, rational and irrational numbers
- Algebra: equations, linear relationships, inequalities, exponent laws
- Measurement: length, ratio and rates, area, surface area, volume
- Space: 3-D objects, properties of geometric figures, 3D coordinates
- Statistics: data analysis II
- Probability: complementary events and combinations

How will I be assessed?

- Topic tests
- Theme Park assessment
- Probability project
- Problem-solving assessment
- Semester 2 exam

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Engineering and technology
- Computing and software
- Business, finance and accounting
- Science and medicine
- Architecture and design

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2M8 — Strands: VC2M8N Number; VC2M8A Algebra; VC2M8M Measurement; VC2M8SP Space; VC2M8ST Statistics; VC2M8P Probability • Elaborations: e.g. VC2M8N01_E01, VC2M8A01_E01 (Level 8)*
Capabilities *VC2CCCT Critical & Creative Thinking • Reasoning, problem-solving and creative thinking*

Maths Enrichment

Year 7 or 8

Extension for students ready to be stretched in mathematics. Students tackle deeper problem-solving tasks and explore concepts beyond the core curriculum.

What will I learn in this subject?

You take on extended problem-solving challenges, mathematical investigations and rich tasks that stretch you beyond the core curriculum. You build resilience, creativity and depth in mathematical thinking.

How will I be assessed?

- Problem-solving tasks
- Topic extension tests
- Rich investigations

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Engineering and applied mathematics
- Computer science and AI
- Finance, banking and actuarial work
- Physics, astronomy and research
- Data science and analytics

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2M7–8 — Extension across all six strands (VC2M7-8 N/A/M/SP/ST/P) • Elaborations as published by VCAA for Level 7 and Level 8*
Capabilities *VC2CCCT Critical & Creative Thinking • Reasoning, problem-solving and creative thinking (extension)*

Science — Year 7

#Inquiry #Lab Skills

Students are introduced to the science laboratory, gain their Bunsen burner licence and develop scientific inquiry skills.

Semester 1 covers states of matter and separation techniques ("Alien Soup" investigation) and the diversity of life on Earth, including dissection of fish, squid and prawns. Semester 2 explores Earth and Space Science (weather, seasons, day/night, lunar phases, eclipses) and Physical Science (forces, motion and gravity).

What will I learn in this subject?

You begin scientific inquiry in a real laboratory, earning your Bunsen burner licence. You investigate states of matter, separation techniques, the diversity of life on Earth, Earth and Space science (weather, seasons, day and night, lunar phases) and Physical Science (forces, motion and gravity).

How will I be assessed?

- Scientific poster
- Online and/or paper tests
- Practical investigations
- Class tasks and discussions

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Medicine, nursing and allied health
- Engineering and technology
- Environmental science and conservation
- Veterinary and animal science
- Research and laboratory work

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2S7 — Strands: VC2S7BS Biological; VC2S7CS Chemical; VC2S7ES Earth and Space; VC2S7PS Physical Sciences; VC2S7SI Science Inquiry; VC2S7SHE Science as a Human Endeavour • Elaborations: e.g. VC2S7BS01_E01 (Level 7)*
Capabilities *VC2CCCT Critical & Creative Thinking; VC2CCEC Ethical Capability • Animal ethics; ethics of conducting scientific experiments*

Science — Year 8

#Chemistry #Biology #Physics

Semester 1 introduces particle theory: elements, compounds and mixtures, and chemical vs physical change. Students also study cells as the basic unit of life, distinguishing plant and animal cells.

Semester 2 explores physics (forms of energy, transfers, transformations, with extension into waves) and Earth Science (formation of sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic rocks).

What will I learn in this subject?

You investigate particle theory (elements, compounds, mixtures and chemical change), cells as the basic unit of life, energy transfers and transformations, and how rocks form. You design and conduct your own experiments and analyse your results.

How will I be assessed?

- Scientific poster
- Online and/or paper tests
- Practical investigations
- Class tasks and discussions

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Medicine, nursing and allied health
- Engineering and technology
- Environmental science and conservation
- Veterinary and animal science
- Research and laboratory work

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2S8 — Strands: VC2S8BS Biological; VC2S8CS Chemical; VC2S8ES Earth and Space; VC2S8PS Physical Sciences; VC2S8SI Science Inquiry; VC2S8SHE Science as a Human Endeavour • Elaborations: e.g. VC2S8BS01_E01 (Level 8)*
Capabilities *VC2CCEC Ethical Capability; VC2CCCT Critical & Creative Thinking • Animal ethics; ethics of conducting scientific experiments*

Humanities — Year 7

#Civics #Geography #History

Students explore civics, economics, geography and history. Semester 1 covers Government and Democracy, Economic Literacy and Water in the World, followed by an introduction to historical thinking. Semester 2 studies Ancient Australia (Kulin Nation), Ancient Egypt and Ancient China.

What will I learn in this subject?

You explore civics and democracy, economic literacy, geography (water in the world) and history. You study Ancient Australia (the Kulin Nation), Ancient Egypt and Ancient China — the origins of the modern world.

How will I be assessed?

- Short written tests (civics, economics, history)
- Geography research project (Water in the World)
- Source analyses (Ancient Egypt and Ancient China)

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Teaching and education
- Law and government
- Journalism and writing
- Tourism and cultural heritage
- Public service and community work

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *Strands: VC2HC7K Civics & Citizenship Knowledge; VC2HE7K Economics & Business Knowledge; VC2HG7K Geographical Knowledge; VC2HH7K Historical Knowledge (Level 7) • Elaborations: e.g. VC2HC7K01_E01, VC2HG7K01_E01, VC2HH7K01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCEC Ethical Capability; VC2CCCT Critical & Creative Thinking • Critical analysis of historical sources*

Humanities

Humanities — Year 8

#Civics #Geography #History

Semester 1 explores civics (Laws and Citizens), Changing Nations and Landscapes and Landforms. Semester 2 covers Medieval Europe, Shogunate Japan and the Emergence of the Modern World.

What will I learn in this subject?

You explore civics and the law, changing nations, landscapes and landforms in geography, and history including Medieval Europe, Shogunate Japan and the Emergence of the Modern World.

How will I be assessed?

- Short written test (Laws and Citizens)
- Research projects (Changing Nations; Landscapes and Landforms)
- Creative project (Medieval Europe)
- Source analyses (Shogunate Japan; Emergence of the Modern World)

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Teaching and education
- Law and government
- Journalism and writing
- Tourism and cultural heritage
- Public service and community work

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *Strands: VC2HC8K Civics; VC2HE8K Economics & Business; VC2HG8K Geography; VC2HH8K History (Level 8) • Elaborations: e.g. VC2HC8K01_E01, VC2HG8K01_E01, VC2HH8K01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCEC Ethical Capability • Ethical decision making; frameworks of behaviour and values*

Visual Art

Year 7 or 8 — semester-long

Students build on the elements and principles of art through theoretical and practical learning. They experiment with drawing, painting, sculpture and lino printmaking, and maintain a visual diary documenting research, planning and experimentation.

What will I learn in this subject?

You build on the elements and principles of art through theoretical and practical learning. You experiment with drawing, painting, sculpture and lino printmaking, and document your creative process in a visual diary.

How will I be assessed?

- Folio of finished artworks
- Visual diary
- Written analysis tasks

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Studio art and fine art
- Illustration and design
- Animation and games art
- Curation and gallery work
- Art teaching

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2AV7–8 — Sub-strands: VC2AV7-8E Explore and Express Ideas; VC2AV7-8P Visual Arts Practices; VC2AV7-8PP Present and Perform; VC2AV7-8R Respond and Interpret • Elaborations: e.g. VC2AV7-8E01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCCT Critical & Creative Thinking; VC2CCPS Personal & Social Capability • Critical and creative thinking when analysing artists' works; empathy for multiple perspectives*

Drama

Year 7 or 8 — semester-long

Students explore performance styles including Comedy, Horror, Melodrama, Commedia dell'Arte and Greek Theatre. They interpret and perform scripted and devised works, building confidence, teamwork and creativity.

What will I learn in this subject?

You explore performance styles including Comedy, Horror, Melodrama, Commedia dell'Arte and Greek Theatre. You interpret and perform scripted and devised works and build your confidence, voice and teamwork.

How will I be assessed?

- Performance tasks
- Reflective journal
- Written research and analysis

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Acting and theatre
- Film and television performance
- Drama teaching
- Event and production management
- Voice and broadcast work

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2ADR7–8 — Sub-strands: VC2ADR7-8E Explore and Express Ideas; VC2ADR7-8P Drama Practices; VC2ADR7-8PP Present and Perform; VC2ADR7-8R Respond and Interpret • Elaborations: e.g. VC2ADR7-8E01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCCT Critical & Creative Thinking; VC2CCIC Intercultural Capability • Drama ideas across diverse cultures; critically observe, reflect on and evaluate practice*

Music

Year 7 or 8 — semester-long

Students develop performance, composition and analysis skills through singing, instrumental work and digital tools such as GarageBand. The opt-in Instrumental Music Program offers tuition on a wide range of instruments for an additional cost.

What will I learn in this subject?

You develop performance, composition and analysis skills through singing, instrumental work and digital tools such as GarageBand. You play in ensembles and analyse a wide range of musical styles.

How will I be assessed?

- Performance tasks
- Composition tasks
- Listening and analysis tasks

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Music performance and composition
- Music production and audio engineering
- Music teaching
- Music therapy
- Music industry administration

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2AU7–8 — Sub-strands: VC2AU7-8E Explore and Express Ideas; VC2AU7-8P Music Practices; VC2AU7-8PP Present and Perform; VC2AU7-8R Respond and Interpret • Elaborations: e.g. VC2AU7-8E01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCCT Critical & Creative Thinking; VC2CCIC Intercultural Capability; VC2CCPS Personal & Social Capability • Listening and analysing music from diverse cultures and contexts*

Technology

Food Technology

Year 7 or 8 — semester-long

Students explore nutrition, food safety and sustainability while developing practical cooking skills. They respond to design briefs and analyse ethical and environmental issues in the food industry.

What will I learn in this subject?

You explore nutrition, food safety and sustainability while developing practical cooking skills. You respond to design briefs and analyse ethical and environmental issues in the food industry.

How will I be assessed?

- Introduction to Food Studies test
- Production assessment
- Design task

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Chef and cookery
- Hospitality and catering
- Food science and nutrition
- Food retail and small business
- Food media and writing

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2TDF7–8 — Sub-strands: VC2TDF7-8K Knowledge & Understanding (Food and Fibre Production / Food Specialisations); VC2TDF7-8P Processes & Production Skills • Elaborations: e.g. VC2TDF7-8K01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCIC Intercultural Capability • Intercultural awareness through foods and food culture*

Technology

Digital Technology

Year 7 or 8 — semester-long

Students develop computational thinking and problem-solving skills, learning how computers represent data (binary, encryption), introductory Python programming, and data analysis and visualisation using spreadsheets.

What will I learn in this subject?

You build computational thinking and problem-solving skills, learning how computers represent data (binary, encryption), introductory Python programming, and how to analyse and visualise data with spreadsheets.

How will I be assessed?

- Data Inquiry project
- Topic test
- Coding portfolio
- Networks and Security project

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Software development
- Data analytics
- Cybersecurity
- Game design
- IT support and consulting

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2TDI7–8 — Sub-strands: VC2TDI7-8K Digital Knowledge & Understanding; VC2TDI7-8P Processes & Production Skills • Elaborations: e.g. VC2TDI7-8K01_E01, VC2TDI7-8P01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCCT Critical & Creative Thinking • Ideation, problem-solving and creative thinking (design thinking)*

Technology

Design and Technology

Year 7 or 8 — semester-long

Students investigate real-world needs and develop creative solutions through the design process — ideation, planning, production and evaluation. They work with a range of materials, tools and digital design platforms.

What will I learn in this subject?

You investigate real-world needs and develop creative solutions through the design process — ideation, planning, production and evaluation — working with a range of materials, tools and digital design platforms.

How will I be assessed?

- Design and graphics tasks
- Production folio
- Safety and topic tests

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Industrial and product design
- Architecture and interior design
- Engineering and manufacturing
- Trades and skilled crafts
- Sustainable design and entrepreneurship

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2TDE7–8 / VC2TDM7–8 — Sub-strands: VC2TDE7-8K Engineering Knowledge & VC2TDM7-8K Materials Knowledge; VC2TDE7-8P / VC2TDM7-8P Processes & Production Skills • Elaborations: e.g. VC2TDE7-8K01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCCT Critical & Creative Thinking • Ideation, problem-solving and creative thinking (design thinking)*

STEM

Community Inquiry — STEM

Year 7 or 8 — semester-long

#STEM #Inquiry #Design #Community

A hands-on, inquiry-based program where students apply STEM thinking — Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics — to a real challenge facing their local community. Working in teams, students follow the design and inquiry process from end to end and pitch their solution to an authentic audience.

What will I learn in this subject?

You investigate a real-world challenge in your local community and design a STEM-based response to it. Working in teams, you apply the inquiry and design process to identify a problem, research possible solutions, build and test a prototype, and present your findings to an authentic audience. Along the way you draw on scientific reasoning, design thinking, coding, data and applied mathematics, while building your skills as a collaborator, communicator and ethical problem-solver. Your project might investigate sustainability in Footscray, urban biodiversity, water and waste, food systems, transport, energy use, or another inquiry sparked by your own observations of life in the west or around our school.

How will I be assessed?

- Design folio (problem definition, research, ideation, planning, prototyping and refinement)
- Group prototype, model or working solution
- Inquiry journal and individual reflection
- Community pitch or presentation to an authentic audience
- Peer and self-assessment of teamwork

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Engineering (mechanical, civil, electrical, mechatronic, environmental)
- Computer science, software development and data analytics
- Environmental science, sustainability and urban planning
- Architecture, industrial and product design
- Community development, social enterprise and STEM education

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *Cross-curricular STEM — VC2TDE7–8 Design and Technologies: Engineering principles and systems; VC2TDI7–8 Digital Technologies (Knowledge & Processes); VC2S7–8SI Science Inquiry; VC2M7–8 Number, Algebra and Measurement • Elaborations: e.g. VC2TDE7-8K01_E01, VC2TDI7-8P01_E01, VC2S7SI01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCCT Critical & Creative Thinking; VC2CCEC Ethical Capability; VC2CCPS Personal & Social Capability • Ideation, problem-solving and creative thinking; ethical decision-making in design; managing self and others, respectful collaboration*

Health & PE

HPE — Year 7

#Movement #Wellbeing

Semester 1 (PE) introduces individual and team sports, fitness testing and video analysis of athletics technique. Health topics include resilience, bullying and cyberbullying.

Semester 2 develops modified games (soccer, basketball, cricket, kickball, baseball) and includes a four-week swimming essentials program. Health topics include resilience, nutrition and personal growth.

What will I learn in this subject?

You participate in individual and team sports and build movement, coordination and fitness. You explore health topics including resilience, bullying and cyberbullying, nutrition and personal growth, and take part in a swimming program.

How will I be assessed?

- Practical skills assessments
- Fitness reflections
- Health written tasks

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Sports coaching and personal training
- Physiotherapy and exercise science
- PE teaching
- Allied health and nutrition
- Emergency services and defence

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2HPE7 — Strands: VC2HPE7P Personal, Social and Community Health; VC2HPE7M Movement and Physical Activity (Level 7) • Elaborations: e.g. VC2HPE7P01_E01, VC2HPE7M01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCPS Personal & Social Capability • Managing self and others; respectful relationships*

Health & PE

HPE — Year 8

#Movement #Wellbeing

Semester 1 (PE) develops motor skills, fitness and teamwork. Students design and deliver modified games and reflect on fitness testing at the start and end of the semester.

Semester 2 (Health) explores resilience, harm minimisation, drugs and alcohol education and respectful relationships, building on the school's SEE program.

What will I learn in this subject?

You develop motor skills, fitness and teamwork through a wide range of sports and design your own modified games. In Health you explore resilience, harm minimisation, drugs and alcohol education and respectful relationships.

How will I be assessed?

- Practical skills tasks
- Game design project
- Health written tasks

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Sports coaching and personal training
- Physiotherapy and exercise science
- PE teaching
- Allied health and nutrition
- Emergency services and defence

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2HPE8 — Strands: VC2HPE8P Personal, Social and Community Health; VC2HPE8M Movement and Physical Activity (Level 8) • Elaborations: e.g. VC2HPE8P01_E01, VC2HPE8M01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCPS Personal & Social Capability • Managing self and others; respectful relationships*

Languages

Japanese — Year 7

#Hiragana #Culture

Students are introduced to Japanese language, culture and writing systems, learning all hiragana characters. They develop reading, writing, speaking and listening skills through greetings, numbers and self-introductions.

What will I learn in this subject?

You are introduced to Japanese language, culture and writing. You learn all hiragana and develop reading, writing, speaking and listening skills through greetings, numbers and self-introductions.

How will I be assessed?

- Hiragana writing tasks
- Speaking and listening tasks
- Cultural and unit tests

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Translation and interpreting
- International business and trade
- Tourism and hospitality
- Diplomacy and foreign service
- Teaching and language education

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2LJ7 — Strands: VC2LJ7C Communicating Meaning in Japanese; VC2LJ7U Understanding Language and Culture (Level 7) • Elaborations: e.g. VC2LJ7C01_E01, VC2LJ7U01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCIC Intercultural Capability • Intercultural awareness*

Languages

Italian — Year 7

#Greetings #Culture

Students begin Italian language and culture, exchanging greetings and sharing ideas about their personal, social and school lives. They explore similarities between English and Italian and the role of metalanguage.

What will I learn in this subject?

You begin Italian language and culture. You exchange greetings and ideas about your personal, social and school life and explore the similarities between English and Italian.

How will I be assessed?

- Speaking and listening tasks
- Reading and writing tasks
- Cultural and unit tests

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Translation and interpreting
- International business and trade
- Tourism and hospitality
- Diplomacy and foreign service
- Teaching and language education

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2LI7 — Strands: VC2LI7C Communicating Meaning in Italian; VC2LI7U Understanding Language and Culture (Level 7) • Elaborations: e.g. VC2LI7C01_E01, VC2LI7U01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCIC Intercultural Capability • Intercultural awareness*

Languages

Japanese — Year 8

#Katakana #Grammar

Students deepen their Japanese, learning all katakana. They explore Who, What, When, Where and Why to communicate about people, places and activities.

What will I learn in this subject?

You deepen your Japanese through all katakana plus topics that explore Who, What, When, Where and Why. You expand your grammar and intercultural understanding of modern and traditional Japan.

How will I be assessed?

- Katakana writing tasks
- Speaking and listening tasks
- Cultural and unit tests

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Translation and interpreting
- International business and trade
- Tourism and hospitality
- Diplomacy and foreign service
- Teaching and language education

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2LJ8 — Strands: VC2LJ8C Communicating Meaning in Japanese; VC2LJ8U Understanding Language and Culture (Level 8) • Elaborations: e.g. VC2LJ8C01_E01, VC2LJ8U01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCIC Intercultural Capability • Intercultural awareness*

Languages

Italian — Year 8

#Speaking #Culture

Students build on Italian through topics including hobbies, weather, countries and nationalities. They primarily use the present tense to produce simple descriptions and reflect on cultural and linguistic identity.

What will I learn in this subject?

You build on your Italian through topics including hobbies, weather, countries and nationalities. You use mainly the present tense to produce simple descriptions and reflect on cultural and linguistic identity.

How will I be assessed?

- Speaking and listening tasks
- Reading and writing tasks
- Cultural and unit tests

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Translation and interpreting
- International business and trade
- Tourism and hospitality
- Diplomacy and foreign service
- Teaching and language education

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2LI8 — Strands: VC2LI8C Communicating Meaning in Italian; VC2LI8U Understanding Language and Culture (Level 8) • Elaborations: e.g. VC2LI8C01_E01, VC2LI8U01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCIC Intercultural Capability • Intercultural awareness*

S.E.E.

Social Emotional Education — Year 7

#Transitions #Connection #ProactivePrograms

SEE provides students with a consistent, supportive environment that promotes wellbeing, belonging, and successful engagement in school life. SEE supports students to build positive relationships, develop organisational skills, and engage in proactive learning programs. These sessions address important topics such as anti-bullying, racism and inclusion, cyber safety, and gambling awareness, while also providing shared time to prepare for camps, sport carnivals, and celebration assemblies. SEE also acts as a central point for communication and helps students build confidence in navigating school systems and expectations.

What will I learn in this subject?

In SEE, you will develop the skills and knowledge needed to feel confident, organised, and connected at school. You will learn how to navigate challenges, take responsibility for your learning, and participate positively in the school community.

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Counselling, psychology and social work
- Teaching and youth work
- Health and community services
- Human resources and leadership
- Any career that values self-awareness and collaboration

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2CCPS — Personal & Social Capability (Level 7) • Elaborations: e.g. VC2CCPS7S01_E01, VC2CCPS7SR01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCPS Personal & Social Capability; VC2CCEC Ethical Capability • Self-awareness, self-management and social awareness; ethical decision-making*

S.E.E.

Social Emotional Education — Year 8

#Resilience #Connection #Wellbeing

SEE provides students with a consistent, supportive environment that promotes wellbeing, belonging, and successful engagement in school life. SEE supports students to build positive relationships, develop organisational skills, and engage in proactive learning programs. These sessions address important topics such as anti-bullying, racism and inclusion, cyber safety, and gambling awareness, while also providing shared time to prepare for camps, sport carnivals, and celebration assemblies. SEE also acts as a central point for communication and helps students build confidence in navigating school systems and expectations.

What will I learn in this subject?

In SEE, you will develop the skills and knowledge needed to feel confident, organised, and connected at school. You will learn how to navigate challenges, take responsibility for your learning, and participate positively in the school community.

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Counselling, psychology and social work
- Teaching and youth work
- Health and community services
- Human resources and leadership
- Any career that values self-awareness and collaboration

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2CCPS — Personal & Social Capability (Level 8) • Elaborations: e.g. VC2CCPS8S01_E01, VC2CCPS8SR01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCPS Personal & Social Capability; VC2CCEC Ethical Capability • Self-awareness, self-management and social awareness; ethical decision-making*

Support

Literacy Support

Additional literacy support is offered to students identified as operating 12 months or more behind expected level in reading or writing, based on Grade 6–Year 7 transition data, PAT Reading, NAPLAN and classroom assessments. Students work in small groups with a teacher and are withdrawn from their chosen language.

What will I learn in this subject?

You receive targeted small-group support in reading and writing, working with a teacher to build strong literacy foundations for success across all your subjects.

How will I be assessed?

- Targeted reading and writing tasks
- Progress monitoring assessments

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Trade apprenticeships and traineeships
- Community services and care
- Hospitality and customer service
- Retail and small business
- Further VCE, VM or vocational study

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2E7–8 — Targeted Literacy strand: VC2E7-8LY • Elaborations: e.g. VC2E7LY01_E01, VC2E8LY01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCCT Critical & Creative Thinking • Targeted literacy strand (extension of Year 7–8 English capabilities)*

Support

Numeracy Support

Additional numeracy support is offered to students identified as operating 12 months or more behind expected level in mathematics. Students work in small groups with a teacher.

What will I learn in this subject?

You receive targeted small-group support in mathematics, working with a teacher to build strong numeracy foundations for success across all your subjects.

How will I be assessed?

- Targeted numeracy tasks
- Progress monitoring assessments

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

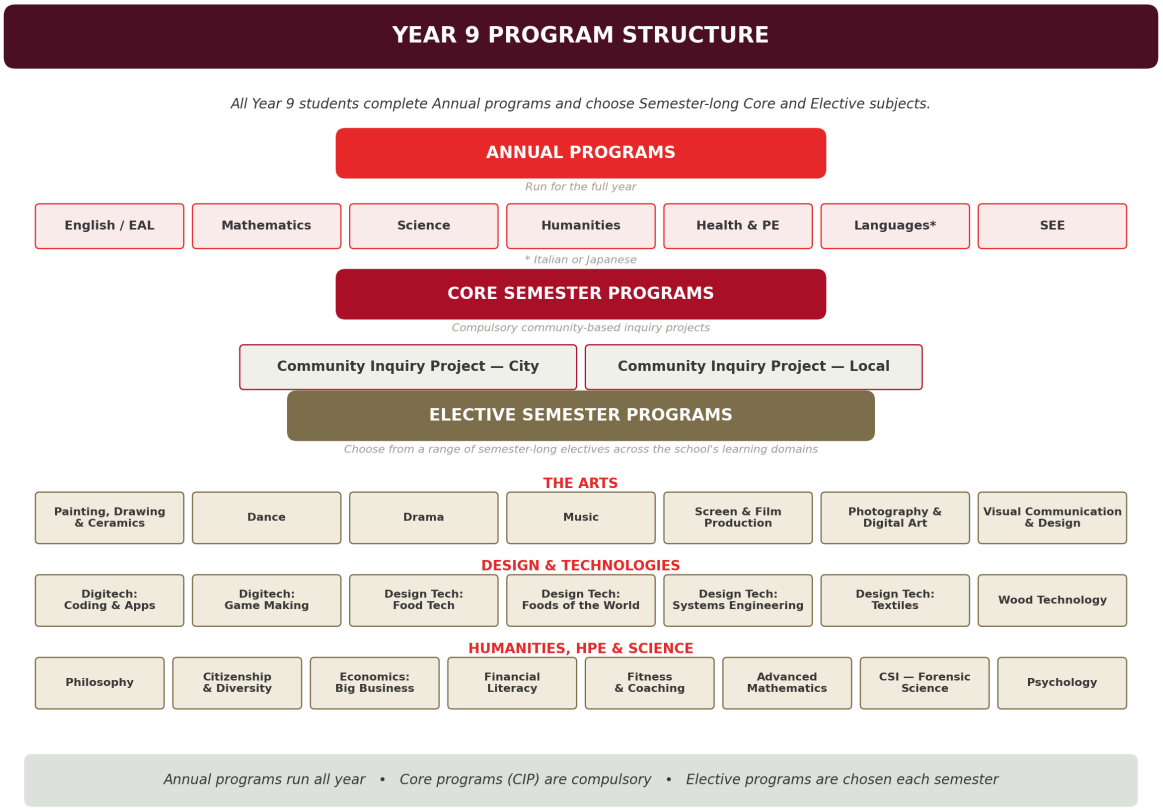
- Trade apprenticeships and traineeships
- Business and administration
- Retail and small business
- Hospitality and community services
- Further study with stronger maths foundations

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2M7–8 — Targeted strands: VC2M7-8N Number; VC2M7-8A Algebra; VC2M7-8M Measurement • Elaborations: e.g. VC2M7N01_E01, VC2M8A01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCCT Critical & Creative Thinking • Reasoning, problem-solving and creative thinking (targeted)*

YEAR 9

Year 9 is a defining year. Students consolidate the skills and dispositions developed in the junior years while extending themselves through challenging core studies, hands-on intensives and a wide range of electives.

Program Structure



Core Subjects

Core

English and EAL

#Reading #Viewing #Writing #Speaking #Listening

Aligned with Level 9 of the Victorian Curriculum, students engage deeply with language, literature and literacy. Through the study of complex texts, genres and ideas, they strengthen their ability to think critically, communicate persuasively and engage in independent inquiry. Students refine their skills through discussion, debate, sustained writing and analytical exploration.

What will I learn in this subject?

You analyse how language choices, text structures and genre conventions shape meaning and influence audiences. You develop sophisticated creative, analytical and persuasive writing skills, construct and defend arguments, and communicate complex ideas with increasing confidence, precision and insight.

How will I be assessed?

- Classwork and homework tasks
- Written analytical interpretation of selected texts
- Creative responses with written explanation of choices
- Oral presentation and debates
- PAT Reading and NAPLAN

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Writing, journalism and publishing
- Teaching and education
- Law and advocacy
- Marketing and communications
- Public service and policy

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2E9 — Strands: VC2E9LA Language; VC2E9LE Literature; VC2E9LY Literacy (or VC2EAL Pathway C) • Elaborations: e.g. VC2E9LA01_E01, VC2E9LE01_E01, VC2E9LY01_E01 (Level 9)*
Capabilities *VC2CCCT Critical & Creative Thinking • Critical analysis of texts; considering ethical decisions made in texts*

Core

Mathematics

#Number #Algebra #Trigonometry

Year 9 Mathematics extends students' understanding of key concepts and applies them to real-world and abstract problems. Students reason logically, communicate clearly and use technology strategically.

Lessons follow the school's "I do, We do, You do" approach with explicit instruction and differentiated tasks. Students also undertake PAT Mathematics and NAPLAN in Term 1.

What will I learn in this subject?

You extend your understanding of number, algebra, trigonometry, measurement, statistics and probability. You learn to model and solve increasingly complex real-world and abstract problems and to communicate your reasoning clearly using technology.

What you'll learn

- Number: exponents
- Algebra: direct proportion and finance, linear equations, quadratic equations
- Measurement: trigonometry
- Space: spatial reasoning, 2D shapes, 3D objects
- Statistics: data analysis III
- Probability: probability II

How will I be assessed?

- Topic tests
- Graphing assessment
- Probability project
- Problem-solving assessment
- Semester 1 and Semester 2 exams

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Engineering and technology
- Computing and software
- Business, finance and accounting
- Science and medicine
- Architecture and design

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2M9 — Strands: VC2M9N Number; VC2M9A Algebra; VC2M9M Measurement; VC2M9SP Space; VC2M9ST Statistics; VC2M9P Probability • Elaborations: e.g. VC2M9N01_E01 (Level 9)*
Capabilities *VC2CCCT Critical & Creative Thinking • Reasoning, problem-solving and creative thinking*

Core

Science

#Atoms #Ecosystems #Electricity

Year 9 Science deepens understanding of the atom as the building block of the universe, including atomic structure and radiation. Students explore marine, aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems and the impact of human activity.

Students investigate matter and energy flow through ecosystems, build electric circuits and examine how magnets generate electricity. They also learn how scientific understanding is refined through peer review.

What will I learn in this subject?

You investigate atomic structure and radiation, ecosystems and the impact of human activity, chemical reactions and ocean acidification, and the generation of electricity using magnets. You design and conduct your own scientific investigations.

How will I be assessed?

- Conducting scientific investigations
- Reporting on scientific investigations
- Communicating scientific knowledge
- Scientific poster

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Medicine, nursing and allied health
- Engineering and technology
- Environmental and conservation science
- Research and laboratory science
- Pharmacy and biotechnology

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2S9 — Strands: VC2S9BS Biological; VC2S9CS Chemical; VC2S9ES Earth and Space; VC2S9PS Physical Sciences; VC2S9SI Science Inquiry; VC2S9SHE Science as a Human Endeavour • Elaborations: e.g. VC2S9BS01_E01 (Level 9)*
Capabilities *VC2CCCT Critical & Creative Thinking; VC2CCEC Ethical Capability • Ethics in scientific inquiry; critical analysis of evidence*

Core

Humanities

#Geography #History

Semester 1 covers Biomes and Food Security, an Industrial Revolution overview and Australia 1750–1901. Semester 2 explores Indigenous Rights (Protectionism, the Stolen Generations, the Freedom Rides, the 1967 Referendum, land rights) and 1901–World War I.

What will I learn in this subject?

You investigate Biomes and Food Security, an Industrial Revolution overview and Australia 1750–1901. In Semester 2 you explore Indigenous Rights — including Protectionism, the Stolen Generations, the Freedom Rides, the 1967 Referendum and land rights — and 1901–WWI.

How will I be assessed?

- Geography written test with case study
- Short history test (Industrial Revolution)
- Research essay (Australia 1750–1901)
- Extended source analysis (Indigenous Rights)
- Written test (1901–WWI)

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Law and legal practice
- Teaching and education
- Journalism, writing and media
- Tourism and cultural heritage
- Public service and government

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *Strands: VC2HG9K Geographical Knowledge (Biomes & Food Security); VC2HH9K Historical Knowledge (Industrial Revolution; Australia 1750–1901; Indigenous Rights; 1901–WWI) • Elaborations: e.g. VC2HG9K01_E01, VC2HH9K01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCEC Ethical Capability; VC2CCCT Critical & Creative Thinking • Critical analysis of historical sources; ethical decision-making in civics and law*

Languages

Japanese

Continuing language elective

Year 9 Japanese explores daily routines, housing in Australia and Japan, school life and weather and seasonal activities. Students engage with authentic texts and develop intercultural understanding of modern and traditional Japanese culture.

What will I learn in this subject?

You deepen your Japanese language and intercultural understanding through topics including daily routines, housing in Australia and Japan, school life, and weather and seasonal activities. You engage with authentic Japanese texts and media.

How will I be assessed?

- "A Day in the Life" written schedule and interview
- Email to host sibling
- School life audiovisual presentation
- International weather report
- Unit tests

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Translation and interpreting
- International business and trade
- Tourism and hospitality
- Diplomacy and foreign service
- Teaching and language education

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2LJ9 — Strands: VC2LJ9C Communicating Meaning in Japanese; VC2LJ9U Understanding Language and Culture (Level 9) • Elaborations: e.g. VC2LJ9C01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCIC Intercultural Capability • Intercultural awareness*

Languages

Italian

Continuing language elective

Year 9 Italian covers daily routines and health, school life, housing in Australia and Italy, making plans for the weekend and describing a past holiday. Students develop growing fluency and cultural awareness.

What will I learn in this subject?

You expand your Italian through topics including daily routines and health, school life, housing in Australia and Italy, weekend plans and past holidays. You communicate with growing confidence in writing and speech.

How will I be assessed?

- Role play between two friends
- Letter to an Italian host family
- Blog entry about fashion
- Oral presentation

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Translation and interpreting
- International business and trade
- Tourism and hospitality
- Diplomacy and foreign service
- Teaching and language education

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2LI9 — Strands: VC2LI9C Communicating Meaning in Italian; VC2LI9U Understanding Language and Culture (Level 9) • Elaborations: e.g. VC2LI9C01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCIC Intercultural Capability • Intercultural awareness*

Year 9 Core Semester Programs

Cross-curricular

Community Inquiry Project — City

Year 9 — Core Semester Program (compulsory)

#Inquiry #CBD #SocialIssues #CivicAction

A compulsory semester-long inquiry program based out of FHS's city classroom in Melbourne's CBD. Students use the city itself as their learning environment and investigate real social issues affecting people who live, work and pass through the centre of the city.

What will I learn in this subject?

You spend your time at our city classroom in the heart of Melbourne, using the CBD as a living, breathing learning environment. You investigate a real social issue affecting people in the city — issues such as homelessness, mental health, transport equity, public space, multiculturalism, youth voice, urban renewal or community safety — and you research it through direct fieldwork, interviews with community organisations and the analysis of primary and secondary sources. You then develop and present an informed, evidence-based response that contributes to civic conversation. Across the semester you build your skills as an inquirer, a critical and ethical thinker, a communicator and an engaged civic actor — and you come to know the city not just as a place you visit but as a community you belong to.

How will I be assessed?

- Inquiry portfolio (research, fieldwork records, interview transcripts)
- Issue analysis report
- Group community-engagement project
- Final presentation or pitch to an authentic audience
- Reflective journal and self/peer assessment

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Politics, government and public policy
- Law, advocacy and human rights
- Social work, youth work and community development
- Journalism, writing and media
- Urban planning, public administration and the not-for-profit sector

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *Cross-curricular — VC2HC9–10K Civics & Citizenship; VC2HG9K Geography; VC2HH9K History; VC2HE9–10K Economics & Business (Level 9) • Elaborations: e.g. VC2HC9-10K01_E01, VC2HG9K01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCCT Critical & Creative Thinking; VC2CCEC Ethical Capability; VC2CCIC Intercultural Capability; VC2CCPS Personal & Social Capability • Inquiry and critical reasoning; ethical decision-making about civic issues; intercultural understanding in a diverse city; managing self and others through fieldwork and partnership work*

Cross-curricular

Community Inquiry Project — Local

Year 9 — Core Semester Program (compulsory)

#Inquiry #Sustainability #Maribyrnong #ParksRangers

A compulsory semester-long inquiry program rooted in the local community of Footscray. Students investigate place-based issues and complete sustainability projects along the Maribyrnong River in partnership with Parks Victoria Rangers.

What will I learn in this subject?

You investigate the place you call home — Footscray and the surrounding inner west — using inquiry to deepen your understanding of community, environment and place. You work in partnership with Parks Victoria Rangers on real sustainability projects along the Maribyrnong River, contributing to revegetation, biodiversity monitoring, water-quality testing and the responsible management of public natural assets. Alongside the river work you explore local community issues — culture, identity, history, urban change, sustainability and inequality — and you develop and present an evidence-based response that contributes to the wellbeing of the place you live. By the end of the semester you have done more than learn about Footscray; you have given something back to it.

How will I be assessed?

- Fieldwork journal and observation records (river work, site visits)
- Sustainability project with Parks Rangers (group)
- Local issue analysis report
- Community pitch or presentation to an authentic audience
- Reflective journal and self/peer assessment

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Environmental science, sustainability and conservation
- Outdoor education, parks and ecotourism management
- Community development, social work and youth work
- Urban planning, landscape architecture and design
- Geography, climate science and policy

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *Cross-curricular — VC2HG9K Geography (Biomes and Food Security; Environmental Change and Management); VC2S9SI Science Inquiry; VC2HC9–10K Civics & Citizenship; VC2HH9K History • Elaborations: e.g. VC2HG9K01_E01, VC2S9SI01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCCT Critical & Creative Thinking; VC2CCEC Ethical Capability; VC2CCIC Intercultural Capability; VC2CCPS Personal & Social Capability • Environmental and ethical decision-making; intercultural awareness of place and country; teamwork with community partners and rangers*

Year 9 Intensives

Intensives

EATWELL Intensive

A hands-on introduction to the hospitality industry. Under the guidance of FHS's Food Service Manager, students operate the school canteens across all three campuses for a week, applying Safe@Work principles and developing numeracy, communication and teamwork.

What will I learn in this subject?

You get a hands-on introduction to the hospitality industry. Under the guidance of the FHS Food Service Manager, you operate the school canteens across all three campuses for a week, applying Safe@Work principles and developing numeracy, communication and teamwork.

How will I be assessed?

- Reflection journal
- Resume

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Hospitality and chef work
- Café and venue management
- Catering and events
- Customer service and retail
- Food production and supply

Intensive

BIKEHUB Intensive

Students develop foundational skills in repairing, maintaining and refurbishing bicycles in a real workshop environment. The program builds transferable engineering and STEM skills, teamwork, creativity and problem-solving.

What will I learn in this subject?

You develop foundational skills in repairing, maintaining and refurbishing bicycles in a real workshop environment. The program builds engineering, STEM, teamwork and problem-solving skills.

How will I be assessed?

- Reflection journal
- Resume

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Mechanical and bicycle engineering
- Trades and skilled crafts
- Automotive and transport
- Manufacturing and prototyping
- Small business and entrepreneurship

Year 9 Elective Subjects

English

English

English Enrichment

Year 9 — Specialist Elective

#Reading #Viewing #Writing #Speaking #Listening

This extension elective is designed for Year 9 students seeking additional challenge and preparation for senior English. Through the study of complex texts, ideas and language, students deepen their understanding of how writers communicate meaning, influence audiences and explore different perspectives. The course encourages intellectual curiosity, critical thinking and sophisticated communication.

What will I learn in this subject?

You develop advanced reading, writing and analytical skills through the study of challenging literary and persuasive texts. You analyse how language choices and text structures shape meaning and influence audiences, refine your own writing through a range of analytical and creative tasks, and build the precision, depth and independence needed for success in senior English studies.

How will I be assessed?

- Extension writing tasks
- Analytical and creative responses
- Oral presentations

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Writing, journalism and publishing
- Teaching and education
- Law and advocacy
- Marketing, communications and PR
- Academia, editing and creative industries

The Arts

Arts

Painting, Drawing and Ceramics

A semester elective in which students create a folio of original works using drawing, painting, printmaking and sculpture. They study Australian and international artists.

What will I learn in this subject?

You create a folio of original works using drawing, painting, printmaking and sculpture. You study Australian and international artists and reflect on meaning, identity and context.

How will I be assessed?

- Studio process and folio of finished artworks
- Written analysis tasks

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Fine art and studio practice
- Illustration and design
- Curation and arts administration
- Art therapy
- Teaching and art education

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2AV9–10 — Sub-strands: VC2AV9-10E Explore and Express Ideas; VC2AV9-10P Visual Arts Practices; VC2AV9-10PP Present and Perform; VC2AV9-10R Respond and Interpret • Elaborations: e.g. VC2AV9-10E01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCPS Personal & Social Capability; VC2CCCT Critical & Creative Thinking • Teamwork; managing self and others; creative problem-solving*

Arts

Dance

Students develop technique, performance and choreography skills through whole-class, duo and small-group dance works.

What will I learn in this subject?

You develop technique, performance and choreography skills through whole-class, duo and small-group dance works.

How will I be assessed?

- Practical tasks
- Theory tasks
- Written research tasks

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Professional dance performance
- Choreography and dance making
- Dance teaching
- Physiotherapy and movement therapy
- Performing arts production

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2AD9–10 — Sub-strands: VC2AD9-10E Explore and Express Ideas; VC2AD9-10P Dance Practices; VC2AD9-10PP Present and Perform; VC2AD9-10R Respond and Interpret • Elaborations: e.g. VC2AD9-10E01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCCT Critical & Creative Thinking; VC2CCPS Personal & Social Capability • Creative thinking; managing self and others*

Arts

Drama

Students refine improvisational and performance skills and develop a scripted group performance from script analysis through to rehearsal and presentation.

What will I learn in this subject?

You refine improvisational and performance skills and develop a scripted group performance from script analysis through to rehearsal and presentation. You explore tension, focus, space, role and motivation.

How will I be assessed?

- Practical performance
- Creative performance
- Research tasks
- Journal

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Acting and theatre performance
- Theatre direction and production
- Drama teaching
- Set, lighting and costume design
- Stage and event management

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2ADR9–10 — Sub-strands: VC2ADR9-10E Explore and Express Ideas; VC2ADR9-10P Drama Practices; VC2ADR9-10PP Present and Perform; VC2ADR9-10R Respond and Interpret • Elaborations: e.g. VC2ADR9-10E01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCCT Critical & Creative Thinking; VC2CCIC Intercultural Capability • Drama ideas across diverse cultures; critical reflection*

Arts

Music

Students develop as ensemble performers and extend their understanding of music language, notation, rhythm, melody and harmony. The opt-in Instrumental Music Program offers tuition on a wide range of instruments.

What will I learn in this subject?

You develop as an ensemble performer and extend your understanding of music language, notation, rhythm, melody and harmony. The opt-in Instrumental Music Program offers tuition on a wide range of instruments.

How will I be assessed?

- Rehearsing and performing
- Music language tasks
- Music analysis listening task

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Music performance
- Music production and audio engineering
- Music teaching
- Composition and songwriting
- Music therapy and community music

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2AU9–10 — Sub-strands: VC2AU9-10E Explore and Express Ideas; VC2AU9-10P Music Practices; VC2AU9-10PP Present and Perform; VC2AU9-10R Respond and Interpret • Elaborations: e.g. VC2AU9-10E01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCCT Critical & Creative Thinking; VC2CCIC Intercultural Capability • Listening and analysing music from diverse cultures*

Arts

Media and Screen Production

Students investigate Australian film, produce a "fly-on-the-wall" documentary and pitch and create an original short film in a genre of their choice.

What will I learn in this subject?

You investigate Australian film, produce a "fly-on-the-wall" documentary and pitch and create an original short film in a genre of your choice.

How will I be assessed?

- Reflective folio/blog
- Short documentary (group)
- Original short film (genre choice)

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Film and television production
- Journalism and broadcasting
- Cinematography and editing
- Digital media and content creation
- Advertising and marketing

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2AM9–10 — Sub-strands: VC2AM9-10E Explore and Express Ideas; VC2AM9-10P Media Arts Practices; VC2AM9-10PP Present and Perform; VC2AM9-10R Respond and Interpret • Elaborations: e.g. VC2AM9-10E01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCCT Critical & Creative Thinking; VC2CCIC Intercultural Capability • Critical and creative thinking; intercultural understanding through media*

Arts

Photography and Digital Art

Students investigate photographic processes and digital techniques, blending traditional artmaking with digital media including illustration, collage and photo manipulation.

What will I learn in this subject?

You investigate photographic processes and digital techniques. You blend traditional artmaking with digital media including illustration, collage and photo manipulation.

How will I be assessed?

- Practical photography tasks
- Analysis and evaluation
- Excursion
- Practical and online tasks
- Written research tasks

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Photography and visual arts
- Digital illustration and design
- Advertising and creative direction
- Film, TV and media production
- Arts administration

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2AV9–10 / VC2AM9–10 — Visual Arts and Media Arts sub-strands E/P/PP/R • Elaborations: e.g. VC2AV9-10E01_E01, VC2AM9-10P01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCCT Critical & Creative Thinking • Critical and creative thinking through visual practice*

Arts

Visual Communication and Design

Students explore graphic, environmental and industrial design with a focus on illustration and advertising, fashion and decorative arts, and furniture and product design.

What will I learn in this subject?

You explore graphic, environmental and industrial design with a focus on illustration and advertising, fashion and decorative arts, and furniture and product design.

How will I be assessed?

- 3D design prototypes
- 2D graphic design solutions
- Design process folio
- Design in context

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Graphic design and brand identity
- Architecture and interior design
- Industrial and product design
- UX/UI and digital design
- Advertising and creative direction

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2AVC9–10 — Sub-strands: VC2AVC9-10E Explore and Express Ideas; VC2AVC9-10P Design Practices; VC2AVC9-10PP Present and Perform; VC2AVC9-10R Respond and Interpret • Elaborations: e.g. VC2AVC9-10E01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCCT Critical & Creative Thinking • Design thinking and creative problem-solving*

Design and Technologies

Technology

Game Making

Students explore the history and design of computer games and use MakeCode Arcade to build their own.

What will I learn in this subject?

You explore the history and design of computer games and use MakeCode Arcade to build your own. You develop skills in level design, sprite creation, sound design and digital graphics.

How will I be assessed?

- Major game project
- e-Portfolio
- Research assignments
- Game review presentations

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Game design and development
- Software development
- Digital art and animation
- UX/UI design
- Game writing and narrative design

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2TDI9–10 — Sub-strands: VC2TDI9-10K Digital Knowledge & Understanding; VC2TDI9-10P Processes & Production Skills • Elaborations: e.g. VC2TDI9-10K01_E01, VC2TDI9-10P01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCCT Critical & Creative Thinking • Design thinking and computational creative thinking*

Technology

Food Studies

Students investigate food properties, preparation, processing and nutrition with a strong focus on hygiene, safety and sustainability.

What will I learn in this subject?

You investigate food properties, preparation, processing and nutrition with a strong focus on hygiene, safety and sustainability.

How will I be assessed?

- Design briefs
- Research tasks
- Practical activities

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Chef and cookery
- Food technology and product development
- Hospitality management
- Nutrition and dietetics
- Food media and writing

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2TDF9–10 — Sub-strands: VC2TDF9-10K Knowledge & Understanding (Food and Fibre Production / Food Specialisations); VC2TDF9-10P Processes & Production Skills • Elaborations: e.g. VC2TDF9-10K01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCIC Intercultural Capability; VC2CCCT Critical & Creative Thinking • Intercultural awareness through food; sustainability problem-solving*

Technology

Foods of the World

A culinary journey through global cuisines. Each week students research a different country or region before preparing an authentic dish.

What will I learn in this subject?

A culinary journey through global cuisines. Each week you research a different country or region before preparing an authentic dish.

How will I be assessed?

- Research assignment
- Productions
- Portfolio
- Cultural celebration presentation

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Chef and culinary arts
- Hospitality and catering
- Food tourism and cultural events
- Food retail and small business
- Food media and writing

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2TDF9–10 — Sub-strands: VC2TDF9-10K Knowledge & Understanding (Food and Fibre Production / Food Specialisations); VC2TDF9-10P Processes & Production Skills • Elaborations: e.g. VC2TDF9-10K01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCIC Intercultural Capability • Intercultural awareness through food and food culture*

Technology

Systems Engineering

Students explore electrical and mechanical principles, then follow the engineering design process to research, design, fabricate, test and refine a working prototype.

What will I learn in this subject?

You explore electrical and mechanical principles, then follow the engineering design process to research, design, fabricate, test and refine a working prototype.

How will I be assessed?

- Theory test
- Practical work
- Systems engineering folio

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Mechanical and electrical engineering
- Robotics and mechatronics
- Automotive and aerospace
- Renewable energy systems
- Skilled trades and manufacturing

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2TDE9–10 — Sub-strands: VC2TDE9-10K Engineering Knowledge & Understanding; VC2TDE9-10P Processes & Production Skills • Elaborations: e.g. VC2TDE9-10K01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCCT Critical & Creative Thinking • Design thinking and engineering problem-solving*

Technology

Textiles

Year 9 — Design Technology Elective

#Design #Fabric #Construction

An introduction to textile design and production. Students explore fabrics, fibres and construction techniques while developing creative and functional design solutions.

What will I learn in this subject?

You explore the world of textile design through hands-on projects using a range of fabrics, fibres, tools and techniques. You apply the design process to plan, sketch and produce your own original textile products — learning to use sewing machines and hand techniques safely, and to consider sustainability and the role of textiles in fashion and culture.

How will I be assessed?

- Design folio
- Production project
- Research and analysis task
- Reflective journal

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Fashion and apparel design
- Costume design for theatre, film and dance
- Textile, surface and interior design
- Sustainable fashion and small business
- Manufacturing and product development

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2TDM9–10 — Sub-strands: VC2TDM9-10K Materials Knowledge & Understanding; VC2TDM9-10P Processes & Production Skills • Elaborations: e.g. VC2TDM9-10K01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCCT Critical & Creative Thinking; VC2CCIC Intercultural Capability • Design thinking; intercultural awareness through textiles*

Technology

Wood Technology

Students design and produce timber-based products using the full design process, including CAD and CNC.

What will I learn in this subject?

You design and produce timber-based products using the full design process, including CAD and CNC.

How will I be assessed?

- Practical skills project
- Project folio
- Research assignment
- Safety assignment

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Carpentry and joinery
- Furniture making and design
- Architecture and interior design
- Construction and building
- Skilled trades and manufacturing

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2TDM9–10 — Sub-strands: VC2TDM9-10K Materials Knowledge & Understanding; VC2TDM9-10P Processes & Production Skills • Elaborations: e.g. VC2TDM9-10K01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCCT Critical & Creative Thinking • Design thinking and material-based creative thinking*

Humanities and Social Science

Humanities

Citizenship and Diversity

Students explore cultural identity in modern Australian society and the global community, examining religion, pluralism, culture and social media.

What will I learn in this subject?

You explore cultural identity in modern Australian society and the global community, examining religion, pluralism, culture and social media.

How will I be assessed?

- Research project
- Presentation

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Politics, government and policy
- Law, advocacy and human rights
- Community development and NGOs
- Journalism and writing
- International development and diplomacy

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2HC9–10 — Strand: VC2HC9-10K Civics & Citizenship Knowledge & Understanding • Elaborations: e.g. VC2HC9-10K01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCIC Intercultural Capability; VC2CCEC Ethical Capability; VC2CCPS Personal & Social Capability • Intercultural awareness; ethical decision-making; community engagement*

Humanities

Economics: Big Business

Students investigate ethical and economic problems facing real businesses and design a solution for a chosen local or global business.

What will I learn in this subject?

You investigate ethical and economic problems facing real businesses — from supply chains to sustainability — and design a solution for a chosen local or global business.

How will I be assessed?

- Business solution folio
- Exam

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Banking, finance and economics
- Business analysis and consulting
- Marketing and advertising
- Entrepreneurship and small business
- International trade and policy

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2HE9–10 — Strand: VC2HE9-10K Economics & Business Knowledge & Understanding • Elaborations: e.g. VC2HE9-10K01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCCT Critical & Creative Thinking; VC2CCEC Ethical Capability • Critical thinking about business ethics and decision-making*

Financial Literacy

Students develop the skills to make informed financial decisions. Topics include budgeting, banking, investing, the Stock Market Game, insurance and tax planning.

What will I learn in this subject?

You develop the skills to make informed financial decisions. Topics include budgeting, banking, investing (with the Stock Market Game), insurance, planning for major purchases and tax planning.

How will I be assessed?

- Skills exercises and worksheets
- Major project
- Assignments
- Stock Market Game portfolio

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Banking, finance and insurance
- Accounting and bookkeeping
- Financial planning and advice
- Business administration
- Entrepreneurship and small business

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2HE9–10 — Strand: VC2HE9-10K Economics & Business (financial decision-making focus) • Elaborations: e.g. VC2HE9-10K01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCCT Critical & Creative Thinking; VC2CCPS Personal & Social Capability • Reasoning and problem-solving; personal financial decision-making*

Health, Physical Education and Science

HPE

Fitness and Human Movement

Two units — Building Fitness Foundations and Movement Analysis and Coaching — build students' understanding of physiology, biomechanics and safe training.

What will I learn in this subject?

Two units — Building Fitness Foundations and Movement Analysis and Coaching — build your understanding of physiology, biomechanics and safe training in the Barkly Campus weights gym.

How will I be assessed?

- Practical project
- Written coursework

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Personal training and fitness coaching
- Physiotherapy and exercise science
- Sports coaching and athletic training
- PE teaching
- Sports medicine and rehabilitation

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2HPE9–10 — Strands: VC2HPE9-10P Personal, Social & Community Health; VC2HPE9-10M Movement and Physical Activity (Levels 9–10) • Elaborations: e.g. VC2HPE9-10M01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCPS Personal & Social Capability; VC2CCCT Critical & Creative Thinking • Managing self and others; analysing movement*

Advanced Mathematics

Additional time to consolidate and apply foundational numeracy skills as students prepare for Year 10.

What will I learn in this subject?

You consolidate and apply foundational numeracy skills as you prepare for Year 10. You develop your own learning goals and explore rich, low-floor / high-ceiling tasks that build resilience.

How will I be assessed?

- Skills exercises and worksheets
- Rich learning / problem-solving project
- Tests

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Engineering and applied mathematics
- Computer science and software
- Finance and economics
- Science and medicine
- Architecture and design

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2M9–10 — Extension across all six strands (VC2M9-10 N/A/M/SP/ST/P) • Elaborations: e.g. VC2M9N01_E01, VC2M10A01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCCT Critical & Creative Thinking • Reasoning, problem-solving and creative thinking (extension)*

Science

CSI — Forensic Science

Students explore the scientific, legal and analytical role of forensic science through hands-on investigations including fingerprinting, blood spatter analysis and DNA extraction.

What will I learn in this subject?

You explore the scientific, legal and analytical role of forensic science through hands-on investigations including fingerprinting, blood spatter analysis, hair and fibre analysis, facial recognition software and DNA extraction.

How will I be assessed?

- Conducting scientific investigations
- Reporting on scientific investigations
- Communicating scientific knowledge

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Forensic and laboratory science
- Policing and law enforcement
- Pathology and medical science
- Criminology and legal practice
- Science journalism and education

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2S9–10 — Strands: VC2S9-10BS Biological; VC2S9-10CS Chemical; VC2S9-10SI Science Inquiry • Elaborations: e.g. VC2S9-10CS01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCCT Critical & Creative Thinking; VC2CCEC Ethical Capability • Critical analysis of evidence; ethics in scientific inquiry*

Science

Psychology

Students examine how the brain, mind and behaviour shape the way we think, feel and interact. Topics include brain structure, growth mindset, mindfulness and psychological experimentation.

What will I learn in this subject?

You examine how the brain, mind and behaviour shape the way we think, feel and interact. Topics include brain structure and function, growth mindset, mindfulness and psychological experimentation.

How will I be assessed?

- Conducting scientific investigations
- Reporting on scientific investigations

What pathway can this subject lead to after school?

- Psychology and counselling
- Social work and youth work
- Human resources
- Teaching and education
- Marketing and consumer research

Victorian Curriculum 2.0 *VC2S9–10 — Strand: VC2S9-10SI Science Inquiry; cross-curricular links to VC2CCPS Personal and Social Capability • Elaborations: e.g. VC2S9-10SI01_E01*
Capabilities *VC2CCCT Critical & Creative Thinking; VC2CCPS Personal & Social Capability; VC2CCEC Ethical Capability • Critical thinking; understanding self and others; research ethics*

APPENDIX — VICTORIAN CURRICULUM 2.0 MAPPING

This appendix maps every subject offered across Years 7, 8 and 9 to its corresponding Victorian Curriculum 2.0 learning area, level and sub-strand codes. Use it as a quick reference for curriculum alignment when designing your program.

VICTORIAN CURRICULUM 2.0 — YEARS 7 TO 9 CURRICULUM MAPPING

Each FHS subject mapped to the Victorian Curriculum 2.0 learning area, level and sub-strand codes.

ENGLISH

English — Year 7	*VC2E7LA Language; VC2E7LE Literature; VC2E7LY Literacy*
English — Year 8	*VC2E8LA Language; VC2E8LE Literature; VC2E8LY Literacy*
English Enrichment (Y7/8)	*VC2E7–8LA / LE / LY (extension)*
Literacy Support	*VC2E7–8LY Literacy (targeted small-group support)*
English and EAL — Year 9	*VC2E9LA; VC2E9LE; VC2E9LY (or VC2EAL Pathway C)*
English Enrichment — Year 9	*VC2E9LA; VC2E9LE; VC2E9LY (extension)*

MATHEMATICS

Mathematics — Year 7	*VC2M7 N; A; M; SP; ST; P*
Mathematics — Year 8	*VC2M8 N; A; M; SP; ST; P*
Maths Enrichment (Y7/8)	*VC2M7–8 extension across all strands*
Numeracy Support	*VC2M7–8 N; A; M (targeted)*
Mathematics — Year 9	*VC2M9 N; A; M; SP; ST; P*
Advanced Mathematics — Year 9	*VC2M9–10 extension*

SCIENCE

Science — Year 7	*VC2S7 BS; CS; ES; PS; SI; SHE*
Science — Year 8	*VC2S8 BS; CS; ES; PS; SI; SHE*
Science — Year 9	*VC2S9 BS; CS; ES; PS; SI; SHE*
CSI — Forensic Science (Y9)	*VC2S9–10 CS; BS; SI*
Psychology (Y9)	*VC2S9–10 SI; cross-curricular Personal & Social*

HUMANITIES

Humanities — Year 7	*VC2HC7K Civics; VC2HE7K Economics; VC2HG7K Geography; VC2HH7K History*
Humanities — Year 8	*VC2HC8K; VC2HE8K; VC2HG8K; VC2HH8K*
Humanities — Year 9	*VC2HG9K Geography; VC2HH9K History*
Citizenship and Diversity (Y9)	*VC2HC9–10K Civics & Citizenship*
Economics: Big Business (Y9)	*VC2HE9–10K Economics & Business*
Financial Literacy (Y9)	*VC2HE9–10K (financial decision-making)*

HEALTH & PE

HPE — Year 7	*VC2HPE7P Personal/Social/Community; VC2HPE7M Movement*
HPE — Year 8	*VC2HPE8P; VC2HPE8M*
Fitness and Human Movement (Y9)	*VC2HPE9–10P; VC2HPE9–10M*

LANGUAGES

Italian — Year 7	*VC2LI7C Communicating; VC2LI7U Understanding L&C*
Japanese — Year 7	*VC2LJ7C; VC2LJ7U*
Italian — Year 8	*VC2LI8C; VC2LI8U*
Japanese — Year 8	*VC2LJ8C; VC2LJ8U*
Italian — Year 9	*VC2LI9C; VC2LI9U*
Japanese — Year 9	*VC2LJ9C; VC2LJ9U*

TECHNOLOGY

Digital Technology (Y7/8)	*VC2TDI7–8K; VC2TDI7–8P*
Food Technology (Y7/8)	*VC2TDF7–8K; VC2TDF7–8P*
Design and Technology (Y7/8)	*VC2TDE7–8 / VC2TDM7–8 (K / P)*
Game Making (Y9)	*VC2TDI9–10K; VC2TDI9–10P*
Food Studies (Y9)	*VC2TDF9–10K; VC2TDF9–10P*
Foods of the World (Y9)	*VC2TDF9–10K; VC2TDF9–10P*
Systems Engineering (Y9)	*VC2TDE9–10K; VC2TDE9–10P*
Wood Technology (Y9)	*VC2TDM9–10K; VC2TDM9–10P*
Textiles (Y9)	*VC2TDM9–10K; VC2TDM9–10P*

THE ARTS

Visual Art (Y7/8)	*VC2AV7–8 E; P; PP; R*
Drama (Y7/8)	*VC2AD7–8 E; P; PP; R*
Music (Y7/8)	*VC2AU7–8 E; P; PP; R*
Painting, Drawing & Ceramics (Y9)	*VC2AV9–10 E; P; PP; R*
Dance (Y9)	*VC2AD9–10 E; P; PP; R*
Drama (Y9)	*VC2ADR9–10 E; P; PP; R*
Music (Y9)	*VC2AU9–10 E; P; PP; R*
Media & Screen Production (Y9)	*VC2AM9–10 E; P; PP; R*
Photography & Digital Art (Y9)	*VC2AV / VC2AM 9–10*
Visual Communication & Design (Y9)	*VC2AVC9–10 E; P; PP; R*

Specific content descriptions and elaborations: see victoriancurriculum.vcaa.vic.edu.au