

Year 8 Curriculum Guide

Compulsory Subjects

Year 8 English

Course Description:

Students develop their skills in reading, viewing, speaking, listening, writing and creating by working within the three strands of the Australian Curriculum: language, literature and literacy. Within the language strand, text structure and organisation, language variation and change, language for interaction and expressing ideas are explored.

Literature focuses on exploring context, responding to text, examining text and creating student's own texts.

Literacy studies texts in context, interacting with others and interpreting, analysing and evaluating a range of text structures.

Assessment:

A range of written, oral and multimodal tasks each term.

Year 8 Food and Hospitality

Course Description:

Students will develop personal and teamwork skills by participating in a range of practical experiences. They will develop skills and knowledge of healthy food options for adolescents with emphasis on safety and hygiene. They will utilise a range of technologies, tools and equipment to prepare food for individuals and families.

Assessment:

Students are assessed holistically based on assessment tasks, design briefs, class participation and practical tasks.

Assessment examples include:

- Food safety and hygiene.
- 'Let's lunch locally' – emphasising the importance of local ingredients and sustainability factors in food as well as the Australian Dietary Guidelines.
- Asian Influences on Australian food trends.
- Self-reflection and evaluation.
- Literacy and Numeracy in the kitchen: Measurements, abbreviations, subject specific vocabulary.

Year 8 Health and Physical Education

Course Description:

The *Australian Curriculum: Health and Physical Education* has two interrelated strands:

- Personal, social and community health
- Movement and physical activity

A variety of practical activities and health related theory topics will be delivered so students can enhance their own and others' health and wellbeing and physical activity. Students will take part in cooperative, competitive group and individual activities that require skill development, planning and application of strategies and tactics.

Assessment:

Students are assessed in a variety of ways to meet the needs of each student, including Practical performance checklist, assignments and evidence folio activities addressing the General Capabilities.

Year 8 Humanities and Social Sciences

Course Description:

Year 8 History provides for a study of History from the end of the ancient period to the beginning of the modern era. Students will learn about European and Asian countries and groups circa 650-1740CE. There will be times throughout the year where students will link their historical knowledge and skills with other subject areas, such as English, Science, and Technology.

Areas of skill development include:

- Use chronological sequencing to demonstrate the relationship between events and developments in different periods and places
- Use historical terms and concepts
- Identify the origin, purpose and context of primary and secondary sources

Year 8 Geography students explore and analyse the characteristics of the places that make up the world in which we live, using the concepts of place, space, environment, interconnection, sustainability, scale and change.

Areas of skill development include:

- Different types of landscapes and their distinctive landform features
- Geomorphic processes that produce landforms, including a case study of at least one landform
- Human causes and effects of landscape degradation

Year 8 Enterprise and Business students explain how markets operate and recognise why governments may influence the market's operation. They explain the rights and responsibilities of consumers and businesses in terms of financial and economic decision-making. Students will apply knowledge of consumers and businesses via the undertaking of their own small business venture.

Areas of skill development include:

- Develop questions about an economic or business issue or event, and plan and conduct an investigation or project
- Generate a range of alternatives in response to an observed economic or business issue or event, and evaluate the potential costs and benefits of each alternative

- Apply economics and business knowledge, skills and concepts in familiar and new situations

Year 8 Civics and Citizenship students will study the different perspectives there are about national identity. They will analyse features of Australian democracy and explain features of Australia's democracy that enable active participation. Students will recognise different types of law in Australia and explain how laws are made.

Areas of skill development include:

- How national identity can shape a sense of belonging in Australia's multicultural society
- The freedoms that enable active participation in Australia's democracy within the bounds of law, including freedom of speech, association, assembly, religion and movement
- How citizens can participate in Australia's democracy, including use of the electoral system, contact with their elected representatives, use of lobby groups, and direct action

Assessment:

Assessments may include group presentations, teamwork checklists, peer and self-assessment, individual research or multimodal presentation.

Year 8 Material Solutions (Wood Technology)

Course Description:

This course enables students to gain a basic understanding of skills, knowledge and materials. Projects involving solid timber, manufactured boards, plastics and CAD form the basis of the course and individual design and problem solving are given emphasis. The areas covered in this course include:

- Design and manufacture
- Critiquing of projects
- Safe operation of tools and machines

Students will use digital technology to access programs on topics like cyber security, programming (block and script based) and web design.

Assessment:

Assessment will be through practical projects and theory exercises.

Year 8 Mathematics

Course Description:

The Year 8 Mathematics course is developed using the Proficiency strands of Understanding, Fluency, Problem Solving and Reasoning to enable our students to develop their skills and understanding of the Australian Curriculum content. Students investigate and study mathematical concepts in Number and Algebra (including Index notation, Profit and Loss and Linear relationships), Measurement and Geometry (including time zones and congruent shapes) and Statistics and Probability (including Venn Diagrams).

Assessment:

Students will complete a range of assessment tasks to demonstrate achievement against the Year 8 Mathematics Achievement Standard. These tasks may take the form of Directed Investigations, supervised tests or evidence-based learning.

Other Comments:

Students will be encouraged to take part in various extra-curricular activities such as the Mathematics Competition and the opportunity to work with technology assisted learning via Maths is Fun and Mathletics.

Year 8 Science and Digital Technologies

Course Description:

Year 8 students develop their scientific inquiry skills through experiencing Cells and Body Systems, Particle Theory and Chemical Reactions, Energy, Heat and Geology as required by the Australian Curriculum. Learning Science as a Human Endeavour (SHE) gives meaning and purpose to the various fields of knowledge studied by our students. Students learn to question their own observations, learn from experimentation (or from the vast pool of knowledge shared by those scientific thinkers who came before them) and become adept at questioning the world around them.

Assessment:

Various types of assessments may be used, including research assignments, student led inquiries, experiments, laboratory reports and supervised tests. Together these assessment tasks will form the evidence of learning against the Year 8 Science Achievement Standards.

Other Comments:

Students will be encouraged to participate in extra-curricular activities such as Science Week.

Elective Subjects

Year 8 Drama

Course Description:

Students are introduced to basic theatre concepts and engage in activities that develop personal and interpersonal skills. Topics include ensemble, improvisation, introduction to History of Drama (Ancient Greek Theatre), movement and characterisation and the short one act play.

Assessment:

Students are expected to participate in group activities and drama workshops, demonstrating creativity, collaboration, and the ability to contribute effectively as part of an ensemble. Students will also maintain a reflective journal to evaluate their learning and development, complete a performance review that analyses a dramatic work, and undertake a research assignment exploring a drama-related topic.

Year 8 Music

Course Description:

Students will develop practical skills on keyboard, drums, vocals, tuned percussion, and guitar. Students will explore their musical interests through listening, composing, and performing. They can begin as new musicians or continue from previous learning. Studies may include;

- The language of music (notation)
- Specialised music terminology
- Creating their own music tracks using digital platforms

Areas of skill development include:

- Reading, writing and talking about music using specific terminology
- Identifying instruments from around the world
- Digital music production skills and programming
- Appropriate and responsible use of software and equipment

Assessment:

Tasks may include completion of practical and theory components, including a theory booklet, practical skills in playing drum kit rhythms and group percussion, and foundation keyboard and guitar skills.

Year 8 Visual Art

Course Description:

This course introduces students to creating visual artworks and incorporates elements of design. Students explore, make, and respond to artworks. This practical course develops skills and techniques in painting, drawing, printmaking, clay, and design. The course will provide opportunities for students to develop:

- critical and creative thinking using visual arts language
- various problem solving strategies and idea development processes
- knowledge and analysis of art and artists from a historical, contemporary and cultural view
- confidence, imagination and enjoyment when making artworks
- prepare work for display and understand processes of exhibiting work
- an understanding of the arts industry

Assessment:

- Folio of developmental practical work and final pieces.
- Research and theory work.