

Year 9 Curriculum Guide

Compulsory Subjects

Year 9 English

Course Description:

The Australian Curriculum for English has three interrelated strands of language, literature and literacy. Students develop skills in reading, writing, viewing, speaking and listening.

The subject includes:

- Formal study of texts
- Creating a range of original texts
- Understanding the structure of a range of texts
- Speaking and listening skills
- Language conventions and formalities.

Assessment:

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

Year 9 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 9 Humanities and Social Sciences

Course Description:

Year 9 Geography students explain how geographical processes change the characteristics of places. They analyse interconnections between people, places and environments and explain how these interconnections influence people and change places and environments. They predict changes in the characteristics of places over time and identify the possible implications of change for the future. Students analyse

alternative strategies to a geographical challenge using environmental, social and economic criteria.

Students will study the following:

- Distribution and characteristics of biomes as regions with distinctive climates, soils, vegetation and productivity
- Environmental, economic and technological factors that influence crop yields in Australia and across the world

Year 9 History students refer to key events and the actions of individuals and groups to explain patterns of change and continuity over time. They analyse the causes and effects of events and developments and make judgments about their importance. They explain the motives and actions of people at the time. Students explain the significance of these events and developments over the short and long term. They explain different interpretations of the past.

Students will study the following:

- The industrial revolution
- Great Bengal famine of 1770

Year 9 Civics and Citizenship students evaluate features of Australia's political system and identify and analyse the influences on people's political choices. They explain the key principles of Australia's system of justice and analyse the role of Australia's court system. They analyse a range of factors that influence identities and attitudes to diversity. They reflect on how groups participate and contribute to civic life.

Students will study the following:

- What factors influence Australian democracy
- How the media portrays and influences political issues

Year 9 Enterprise and Business students explain the role of the Australian economy in allocating and distributing resources and analyse the interdependence of participants in the global economy. They explain the importance of managing financial risks and rewards and analyse the different strategies that may be used. They explain why businesses seek to create a competitive advantage, including through innovation, and evaluate the strategies that may be used. Students analyse the roles and responsibilities of participants in the workplace.

Students will study the following:

- Australia as a trading nation and its place within the rising economies of Asia and broader global economy
- Why and how participants in the global economy are dependent on each other

Assessment:

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

Year 9 Mathematics

Course Description:

Our Year 9 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 real numbers and money and financial mathematics), measurement and geometry (including volume calculations and trigonometric investigations) and statistics and probability (including chance and population statistics).

Assessment:

Students will be given a range of assessment tasks in order to demonstrate their achievement against the Year 9 Mathematics Achievement Standard. These tasks may take the form of directed or design investigations, supervised tests, ongoing portfolio or evidence-based learning.

Year 9 Science

Course Description:

Year 9 students develop their scientific inquiry skills through experiencing ecosystems, radioactivity, chemical reactions, plate tectonics and wave motion as outlined by the Australian Curriculum. 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 9 Science Achievement Standard.

Other Comments:

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

Elective Subjects

Year 9 Digital Technology

Course Description:

This course enables students to gain a basic understanding of digital technology. Students will look at a range of topics including cyber security, block and script-based programming, HTML web design. Students will also learn to use CAD to design products. They will manipulate images for conversion to machine code.

Assessment:

Assessment will be through practical projects and theory exercises.

Year 9 Drama

Course Description:

Students develop their knowledge of the history of theatre during the ancient classical period. They also explore human ritual as a dramatic form. They will develop script writing skills with a view to performing their own works in a class performance and as part of the whole school showcase (e.g., Beyond MAD). Students continue to develop on and off-stage theatre skills.

Assessment:

Practical assessment - The successful participation in group exercises, demonstration of a capacity for creative individual expression and the ability to be part of an ensemble.

Keeping a reflective journal, completing a review and a research assignment.

Other Comments:

The class performance is a demonstration of student mastery of the theatre and stage skills and knowledge developed over the semester. As such, this is the major assessment focus for this subject.

Year 9 Food and Hospitality

Course Description:

Students will develop appropriate skills and knowledge in relation to food, nutrition and food preparation. Students will explore the historical factors that have influenced eating patterns in Australia with particular focus on multiculturalism and the political and social changes of the family unit.

Assessment:

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

Assessment examples include:

- Food safety and hygiene.
- Eat Well Be Well – What is food? Nutrients in food, digestion and selecting food wisely.
- Snack Attack – based on the *Live Lighter* campaign.
- That Sugar Film – work modules.

Year 9 Material Solutions (Wood Technology)

Course Description:

This course enables students to gain a basic understanding of the skills, knowledge, materials and processes associated with modern woodworking. Projects involving solid timber, manufactured boards, plastics and CAD form the basis of the course and individual design and problem solving are given major emphasis.

This course develops knowledge and skills in the following woodworking areas:

- Uses of hand tools
- Drilling machines
- Bandsaw and wood lathes
- Products used for fixings
- Adhesives and finishing procedures
- Project planning and design
- Freehand sketching
- Orthographic projection
- Problem solving and safety

Assembling more than one component in the manufacture of a product and project evaluation are key components of the course. A theory component is also undertaken.

Assessment:

Assessment will be through practical projects and theory exercises.

A design brief will be required, including sketches, drawings and an evaluation.

Year 9 Music

Course Description:

Students will work to develop a proficient level of skill on percussion or an identified instrument. Practical lessons will allow students to prepare and present music in the class band and as soloists. Students will begin to explore music industry skills, starting with safe management of live sound equipment such as microphones, cables, amplifiers and speakers.

Areas of skill development include:

- Music notation and terminology
- Practical music playing/singing skills
- Composing digital music works

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 9 Visual Art

Course Description:

They build on and further develop their learning from year 8 Visual Arts. This course will emphasise the practical side of art and will include techniques in areas such as painting, drawing, printmaking, design, technologies and sculpture.

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.

Other Comments:

This course will support students who have an interest in pursuing the Visual Arts at Year 10, 11 and 12.