

# Student Information Brochure



2023



A thriving, inclusive community





**Early Years**

Students bring to school a wide range of experiences, abilities, needs and interests. They have a natural curiosity about their world. Their desire to make sense of the world provides a platform to plan and review their learning through interactions with others, experimentation, scaffolding, explicit teaching, practice, and play.



**Primary Years**

Students will develop their ability to take positive action for wellbeing; relate and communicate well with others; pose questions and solve problems; make informed decisions and act responsibly. Students engage more purposefully with the discipline knowledge, understanding and skills across different learning areas.



**Preschool**

Our youngest learners are given the opportunity to learn and grow in a play based environment.

**Preschool**

**Early Years**

**Primary Years**

**Middle Years**

**Senior Years**



**Senior Years**

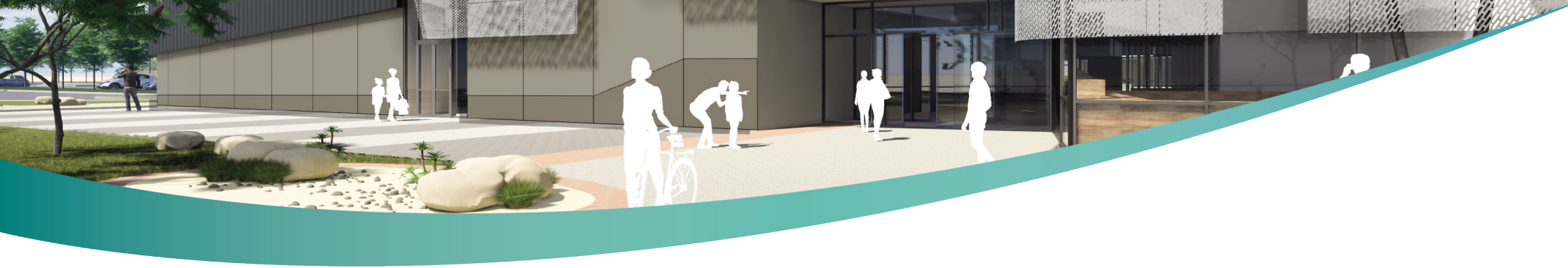
Our senior students experience a wide range of stimulating courses that allow them to have a deep learning experience which will enable them to transition to further learning or work.



**Middle Years**

Supports the deepening of knowledge, understanding and skills in all eight learning areas. The curriculum continues to prepare students for civic, social and economic participation and personal health and wellbeing whilst providing increased opportunities for students to make choices based on student skills and interest.

“building life-long learners, who will thrive today and in tomorrow’s world.”



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## What Drives Us

### Our Motto

A thriving, inclusive community.

### Our Purpose

Through world-class teaching and learning practices we will create a vibrant and inclusive birth to 12 educational community that fosters kind and resilient life-long learners, who will thrive today and in tomorrow's world.

### Our Values



### Our Cultural Drivers

At Riverbanks College B-12 we:

- are kind and relationship driven
- work hard, have fun and deliver on promises
- are evidence informed and experts in practice
- are relentless in the pursuit of equity and excellence
- are a collaborative professional learning community
- thrive through continuous feedback and improvement.



Through world-class teaching and learning practices we will create a vibrant and inclusive B-12 educational community.

## Principal's Welcome

Dear Families,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to our newly established Riverbanks College B-12 Community.

Our state-of-the-art college, located in the heart of booming Angle Vale, will offer our families a seamless, inclusive, and connected education experience for children from birth all the way through to Year 12.

Through world-class teaching and learning practices we will create a vibrant and inclusive B-12 educational community that fosters kind and resilient life-long learners, who will thrive in today and tomorrow's world.

We are committed to ensuring that Riverbanks College is a place of belonging, where every child matters and every child thrives. We believe that meaningful relationships, quality learning experiences and strong foundations in literacy, numeracy and wellbeing will underpin successful learning and life outcomes for all of our students.

We have recruited highly skilled and highly experienced members of our leadership, teaching and para-professional teams, all of whom are passionate about realising our moral purpose of meeting the needs of every child, every day. We look forward to working in close partnership with you to ensure the growth and success of your child.

Our promise to you is that we will be relentless in our pursuit of equity and excellence and that we will make Riverbanks College a place of collaboration, community, and nurturing.

Please take the time to explore our 2023 Student Information brochure to discover what makes Riverbanks College such a special place to learn, connect and grow, both now and into the future.

**Joe Priolo**  
**PRINCIPAL**

“Every child matters and every child thrives.”

# Teaching and Learning

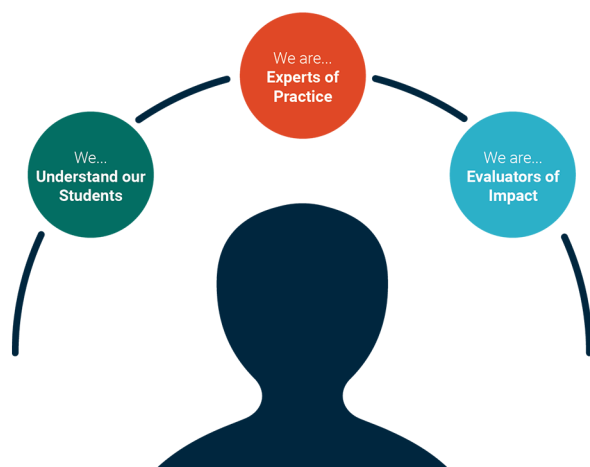
At Riverbanks College, highly effective teaching is the key to improving student learning.

Our teachers deliver meaningful, challenging and relevant learning experiences that build on student prior knowledge to support the transfer of learning. We use the Australian curriculum to meet the learning needs of all our students and operate within a multi-tiered system of support where all resources are available to all students.

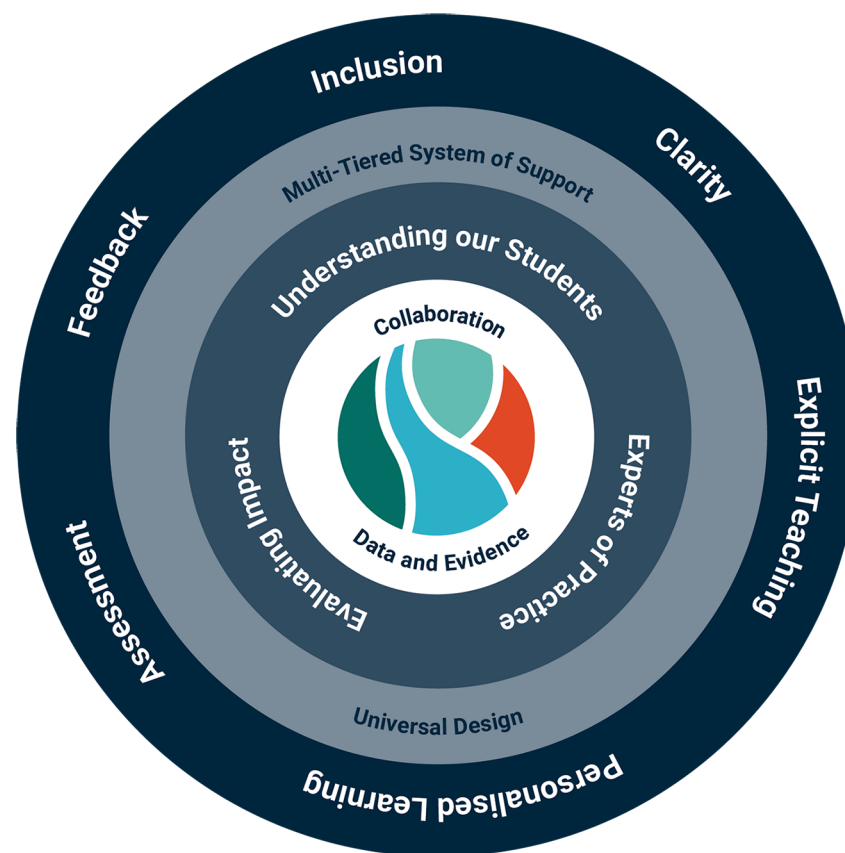
Having high expectations of every student, our teachers have clarity about what students are expected to know, understand and be able to do. We explicitly teach skills and content utilising current and emerging technologies and monitor learning to determine the impact of our teaching.

Working together, we are relentless in the pursuit of equity and excellence to improve student learning outcomes at Riverbanks College.

## Our Drivers of Learning



## Our Teaching and Learning Framework



# Teaching and Learning

Collaboration and being evidence informed is central to teaching and learning at Riverbanks College.

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We are a **professional learning community** where we **learn** from each other, **share ideas**, learn from **mistakes**, develop a common language of progress and **evaluate our impact** together. Nobody works in isolation at Riverbanks College.

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We are **evidence informed** and **data literate**. We utilise current research and multiple data sets to **inform** intentional teaching and **adjust teaching practices** accordingly.

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# Literacy and Numeracy

Literacy and numeracy is the foundation for learning across all curriculum areas.

At Riverbanks College, we believe literacy and numeracy helps create confident communicators, imaginative thinkers and informed citizens. It is through literacy and numeracy that students learn to analyse, understand, communicate and build relationships with others and the world around them.

We ensure the students at Riverbanks College develop a love of language and learning delivered through best possible practice that enables early identification and intervention so all students will reach their potential. Our structured reading and writing approach focuses on explicit teaching of phonological awareness and phonics, vocabulary development, reading comprehension strategies and understanding of text types.

Numeracy is involved in all aspects of our lives. Numerical understandings are developed through play and problem-solving activities that incorporate sorting, noticing and patterning. Students make connections through explorations of measurement, estimations, recognising patterns, number, spatial reasoning and interpreting statistical information.

Riverbanks College develops a whole school approach to literacy and numeracy development and improvement through connection and continuity of learning across birth to year 12. A cornerstone of our approach is timetabled and targeted literacy and numeracy blocks with a focus on explicit teaching of literacy and numeracy.



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# Inclusion

At Riverbanks College, learning is accessible to all learners.

At Riverbanks College we believe inclusive schools are key to creating more inclusive societies.

All students in our community access the Australian Curriculum with individual adjustments and positive behaviour support to develop the skills to be self-regulated, confident and reflective young people. We believe that for students to feel a sense of belonging they must be present, participating and making progress.

At Riverbanks we:

- engage all students in a relevant and rigorous curriculum in age-appropriate classrooms, with access to interventions to both support and challenge
- ensure all students are involved in a consultation process about their learning
  - operate multi-tiered systems of support for academic, behaviour, social and emotional learning, and intervention
  - use quality differentiated teaching practice ensuring all students have access to learning.

To ensure each student is engaged and challenged in a learning program that provides growth and progress, we use a series of universal assessment and screening tools to create learner profiles that accurately demonstrate a student's strengths as well as the next steps in their learning. Additional progress monitoring tools are used across tier 2 and 3 interventions to ensure that our teaching is responsive and intentional, and all students are demonstrating achievement.

Our inclusion framework spans across three domains: academic, behaviour, social and emotional learning.



# Inclusion

Riverbanks College work alongside our families and communities to create a culturally inclusive school.

## Aboriginal Education

Riverbanks College is committed to reconciliation through incorporating a strong focus on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and perspectives into our curriculum. We know that to provide a better future for all Australians we need to learn from the past. We respect and recognise Aboriginal culture as one of the world's oldest living cultures, and we learn about Aboriginal culture through all of our subject areas.

At Riverbanks College we will work alongside our families and communities to create a culturally inclusive school. The Department for Education's Aboriginal Education Strategy guides us to ensure that each Aboriginal student is achieving at their highest potential. From the early years all the way through to post school pathways, we will provide high quality, culturally appropriate education that builds on learner voice, choice and agency.

## English as an Additional Language (EALD)

Australian classrooms are culturally diverse. Our teachers are skilled in providing access to the curriculum for students of whom English is a second language. Students with English as an additional language or dialect (EALD) are given specialist support to develop standard Australian English and scaffolding to access the curriculum whilst their language abilities develop. Developing standard Australian English involves developing knowledge about how the English language works and how to use language appropriately and effectively in the context of the curriculum. Our teachers build on the knowledge of how EALD learners learn and why, and offer high quality EALD programs. Our language support programs operate through multi-tiered systems of support with all learners accessing high quality instruction in their classroom and increasing levels of intervention or support as required across all subject areas, with a focus on oral language, creating texts and grammar.



# Wellbeing for Learning

Children and young people with good wellbeing are more engaged and successful learners.

Our Thrive Time program is a structured wellbeing for learning program adapted from the Department for Education's Wellbeing for Learning and Life Framework. All students from reception through to year 12 will engage with three targeted and timetabled lessons focused on the explicit teaching of respectful relationships, keeping safe and student leadership.

Students will experience regular opportunities to actively learn and practice social and emotional competencies, developing a deep understanding of our core values.

Thrive Time is built around three essential components: cognition, meta-cognition and motivation. We will encourage students to develop a strong sense of self-efficacy, self-regulation and positive health and wellbeing.



## Thrive Time

### Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships (3R's)

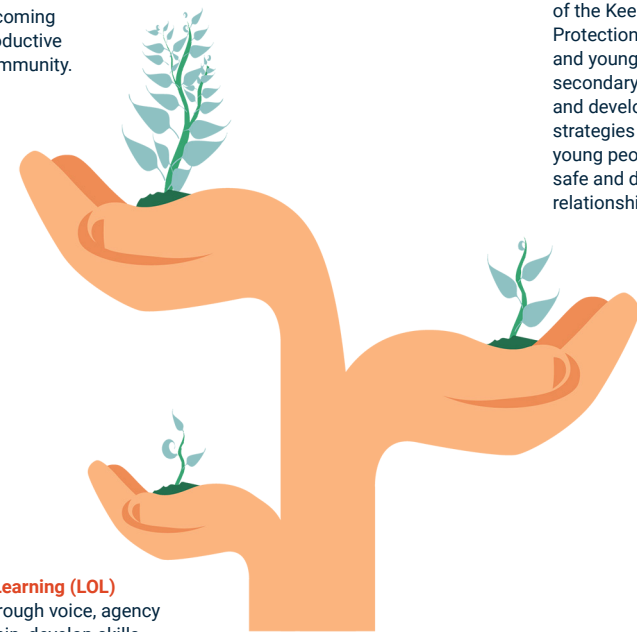
Focusing on self-regulation, relationships, health and wellbeing, personal growth and academic achievement, our students explore and embrace our core values, becoming responsible and productive members of our community.

### Keeping Safe (CPC)

Learning about respectful relationships is at the foundation of the Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum for children and young people from early to secondary years. We provide age and developmentally appropriate strategies to help children and young people keep themselves safe and develop respectful relationships.

### Leaders of Learning (LOL)

Students, through voice, agency and leadership, develop skills and capabilities to be active agents in their learning as well as monitoring their progress and improvement.





# Student Leadership

At Riverbanks College, every student is a leader.

At Riverbanks College, we believe all students are leaders in their learning and within their community. Students are supported to develop positive relationships, identity and effective inter-personal and intra-personal skills.

Every student in every class takes on the role of being a leader of their own learning. The skills developed through our student leadership program empowers students to use their voice in respectful and meaningful ways to share their thoughts, ideas and beliefs.

Leadership at Riverbanks College is expressed through 3 lenses:

- student life
- school life
- community life.

Student leadership is evident in every classroom across the whole school and in our community. Opportunities will exist for students to lead through:

- student life
- class meetings
- student mentoring
- co-construction of learning
- student representative teams
- community engagement committees.

“**Leadership is not about titles, position or flowcharts. It is about one life influencing another.**

- JOHN MAXWELL

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# Digital Delivery

At Riverbanks College, technology enhances the learning experience, opportunities and success for all students.

We know that when the effective use of technology is coupled with quality teaching and learning, the opportunity for students to be successful is greater. We are committed to using current, new and emerging technologies to improve the learning experiences for all students. We use a blended digital delivery method utilising the Microsoft Education Suite, enabling students to experience immersive learning experiences ensuring they thrive in today and tomorrow's world.

Microsoft Teams and OneNote drives the digital delivery of teaching and learning at Riverbanks College, allowing for greater collaboration and access to learning in a safe and secure digital environment.

We value and encourage open communication with our families. We will utilise an online communication portal as our primary source of communication with families.

We know that students benefit from having a quality device, 24/7 access to learning materials and the ability to collaborate throughout their learning journey. Having a touch enabled device with high-quality stylus integration supports collaboration and learning opportunities across the site.

Within the early years of learning, our students will access iPads to strengthen their literacy and numeracy development. Transitioning into the primary years students will utilise banks of Microsoft Surface Pro 7's to develop digital literacy and enhance learning. Within the middle and senior years, we will implement a one-to-one laptop program in partnership with Microsoft ensuring students continually improve and develop their digital skills and enhance their learning.

At Riverbanks College, we are committed to providing support and understanding that students and families need to connect and operate effectively within our digital environment.

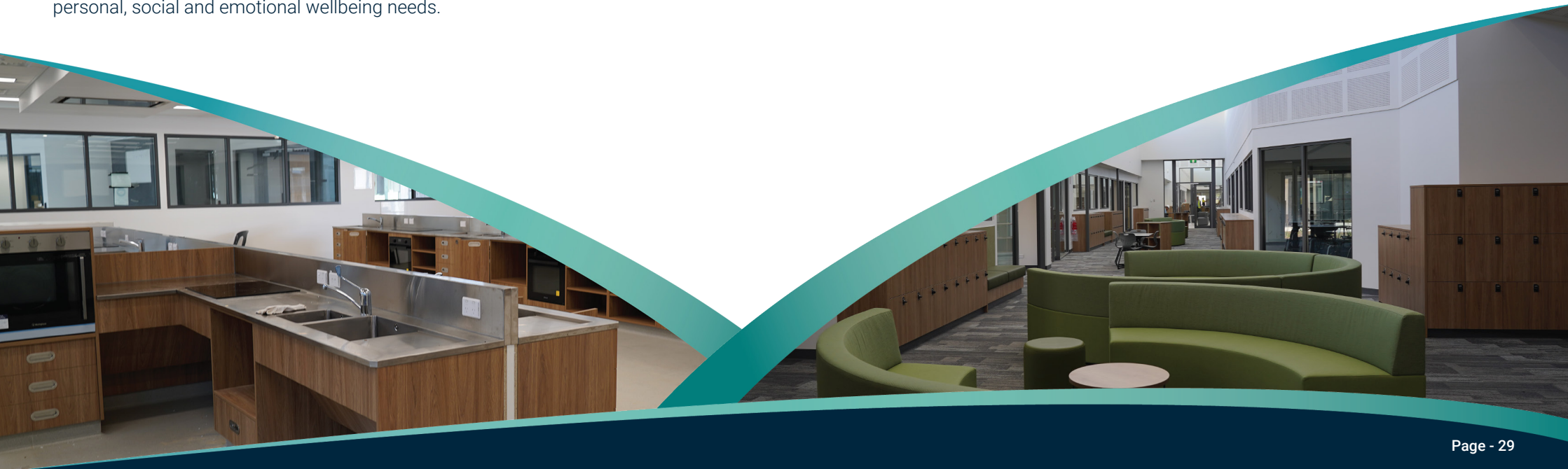
## Middle Years (7-9)

At Riverbanks College, we foster positive relationships with students to enhance connectedness and a sense of belonging.

At Riverbanks College, we foster positive relationships with students to enhance connectedness and a sense of belonging to school, supporting all students with their learning. We are passionate about our students and are deeply committed to ensuring that they have a rich and successful experience in the middle years.

Transitioning from primary to middle school is seen as a period of transition to adulthood where students develop a clearer sense of their personal strengths, interests and goals, beginning to see themselves as active participants in the community. Throughout the middle years, students develop a strong sense of self-efficacy and self-regulation where students learn to exercise control of their motivation, wellbeing and personal accomplishments, meeting their academic, personal, social and emotional wellbeing needs.

We will equip students with the skills, knowledge and confidence to transition into senior school. We understand the competing spheres of influence that students experience and the importance of negotiating a balance allowing students to achieve success in their academic, personal and life pursuits. This is a time that students experience increased academic rigor, work independently and develop the skills required for the SACE and post school pathways.



## Middle Years (7-9)

At Riverbanks College, students have opportunities to make choices about their learning.

Students have opportunities to make choices about their learning and to specialise in areas of interest.

### Year 7 and 8

The curriculum for students in year 7 and 8 is broad, balanced and challenging, ensuring all our students experience a diverse range of subjects as they prepare for year 9. The year 7 and 8 curriculum will consist of: A full year of English, maths, science, HASS and exposure to the arts, health and physical education, Italian and technologies.

The Arts	HPE	Languages	Technologies
music (1 term) drama (1 term) visual art (1 term)	health (1 semester) physical education (1 semester)	Italian (1 semester)	composite materials (1 term) digital technologies (1 term) food and textiles (1 term)

### Year 9

Our curriculum at year 9 allows students the chance to shape their curriculum by allowing them to focus on areas of interest as they start to explore their future interests and prepare themselves for the senior school and SACE. The curriculum provides a wide range of stimulating courses that allow students to have a deep learning experience which will prepare them well for future studies. The year 9 curriculum will consist of a full year of English, maths, science, HASS and a semester of health. In addition, students will choose five semester subjects from the range of electives below.

The Arts	HPE	Languages	Technologies
music drama art and design multimedia art	health physical education	Italian	composite materials future technologies advanced technologies engineering food technology textile technology







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