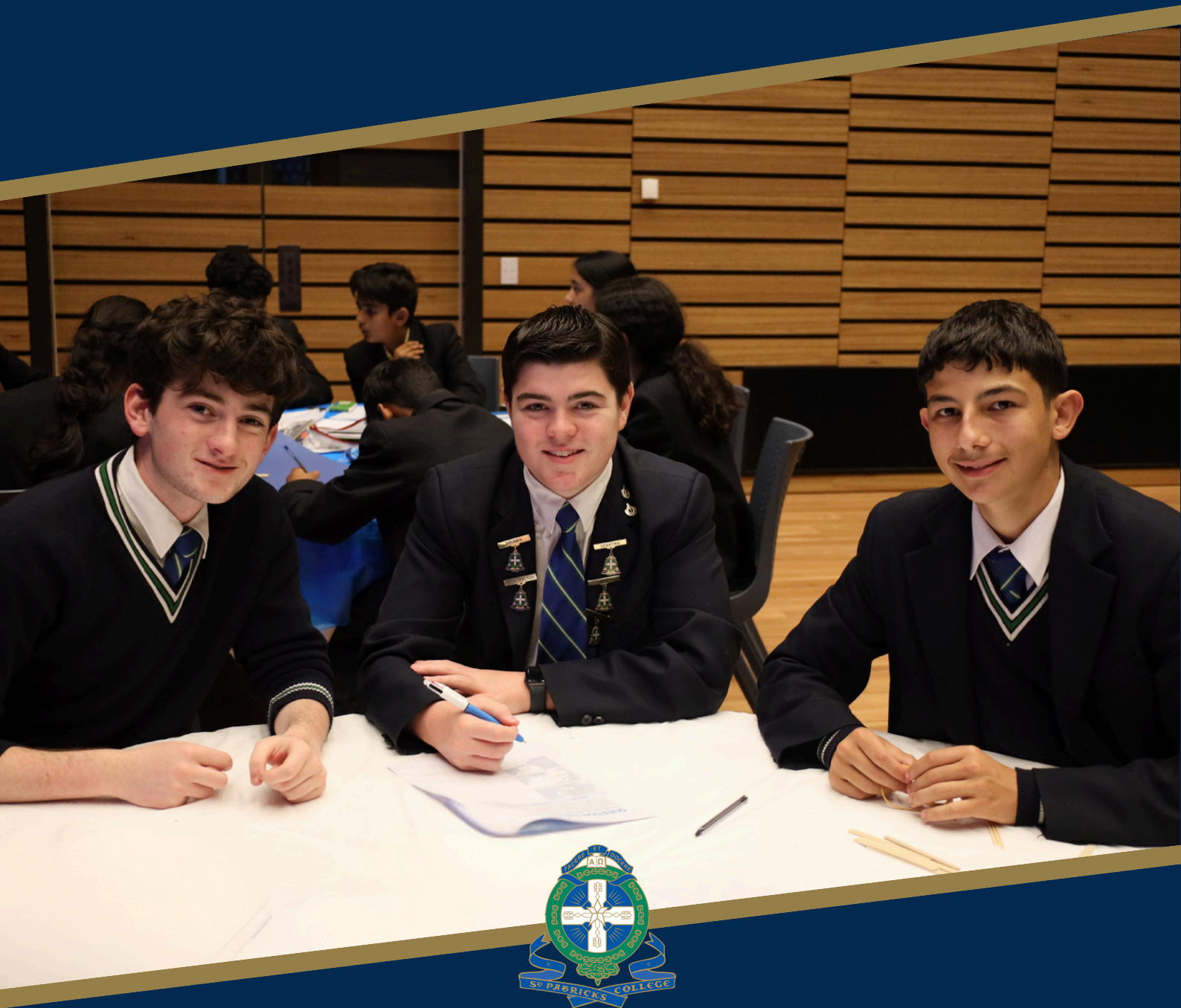




ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE
BALLARAT

YEAR 9 SUBJECT INFORMATION HANDBOOK

2027

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01 INTRODUCTION

The Year 9 program at SPC consists of Core subjects (compulsory for all) and Elective subjects.

CORE SUBJECTS

These are the subjects that must be completed by all students. The Core subjects for Year 9 are:

- Religious Education
- English (either Foundation or Standard)
- Humanities
- Mathematics (either Foundation, General or Methods)
- Physical Education
- Science

Full descriptions of each of the above Core Subjects can be found later in this Subject Selection Handbook.

ELECTIVES

Students are required to choose two elective subjects in each semester. Information on all elective choices can be found in this booklet.

All elective subjects run for **one semester only** except for Year 9 Languages – Japanese or French which are year-long electives. Any student selecting these subjects, must include it in both semesters.

It may not always be possible to give each student their preferred elective choices. Student numbers, staffing, timetabling, facilities and other limitations on resources will all impact on the subjects which will run in 2027.

The 2027 Year 9 Subject Selection Guide requires students to choose reserve choices in case a student does not receive their first elective choice.

HOW TO USE THE PLANNER

The following page contains a planner intended to assist in mapping out what Year 9 may look like. It serves as a structured guide for the planning process and provides a prompt for students and parents to discuss the various options available in Year 9. It is not intended to be submitted as the final subject selections.

It is recommended that students should have a brief discussion with their Year 8 teachers (particularly their Mathematics and English teachers) regarding their options for next year and to take some time to read through the information regarding each subject that they are interested in.

If you need more information regarding selections, please contact the relevant subject teacher or Head of Faculty.

YEAR 9 SUBJECT SELECTION PLANNER

For more information on the specifics of each subject, please refer to the Subject Information Booklet.

SUBJECT	SEMESTER 1	SEMESTER 2	TEACHER CHECK
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION Compulsory Full year	☐ Year 9 Religious Education		-----
ENGLISH* Compulsory Full year	☐ Year 9 Foundation English ☐ Year 9 English	or	-----
MATHEMATICS* Compulsory Full year	☐ Year 9 Foundation ☐ Year 9 General ☐ Year 9 Methods	or	-----
SCIENCE Compulsory Full year	☐ Year 9 Science		-----
PE & HEALTH Compulsory Full year	☐ Year 9 Physical Education & Health		-----
HUMANITIES Compulsory Full year	☐ Year 9 Humanities		-----
ELECTIVE** Select one for each semester	-----	-----	-----
ELECTIVE** Select one for each semester	-----	-----	-----

* Mathematics and English classes are assigned by the school according to data collected across multiple assessment types and teacher feedback. If a student wishes to change from the teacher selection, then communication must be made with the teacher to discuss the options available.

**Year 9 Japanese and French must be done for the full year. Students selecting this subject are required to study it in semester one and semester two and enter them as their first-choice elective in both semesters.

02 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

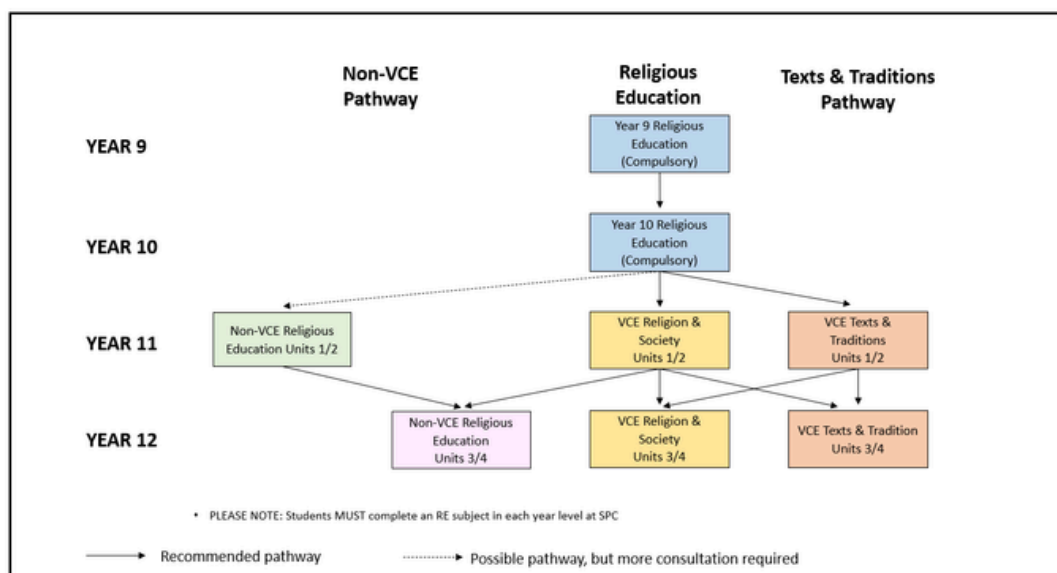
WHY STUDY A RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SUBJECT?

Religious Education plays a vital role in shaping students not just academically, but spiritually, morally and socially. Religious Education is especially important at St Patrick's College as it helps develop:

- **Faith and Identity:** helping students explore and deepen their understanding of the Catholic faith, fostering a sense of identity, purpose, and belonging within the Edmund Rice tradition.
- **Values and Ethics:** encouraging reflection on moral and ethical issues, promoting compassion, justice, and respect — core values of the Gospel and the Edmund Rice ethos.
- **Critical Thinking:** challenging students to think deeply about life's big questions — meaning, suffering, hope, and human dignity — developing their ability to reason, empathize, and engage in respectful dialogue.
- **Social Responsibility:** inspiring through the example of Blessed Edmund Rice, helping to motivate students to act for peace, equity, and the common good, both locally and globally.
- **Cultural and Interfaith Understanding:** In a diverse world, RE fosters appreciation for different beliefs and traditions, encouraging respectful engagement and global citizenship.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PATHWAYS

At SPC, students are required to undertake a Religious Education class each year. The diagram below shows the natural progression of each subject. Some changes are possible throughout the journey; however, these should only be made in consultation with your teacher.



YEAR 9 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

FULL YEAR

Year 9 Religious Education builds on the content covered in Years 7 and 8. The history of the church and the emergence of the Kingdom of God and our place in it are focuses of the year 9 program.

Content Overview	In this subject, students will cover: • Term One – Challenge ◦ This unit explores the role of challenge in the life of a human, including what a challenge calls people to and the potential that rests with human beings as being made in the image of God. • Term Two – Change and Reformation ◦ Students investigate the role of change in the Church as demonstrated through Christ's example. Challenges to the Church are discussed both through Luther's 95 theses and contemporary challenges today. • Term Three – Kingdom of God ◦ What is the Kingdom of God? Who are we called to be? These are the big questions asked in the term three course for Year 9. How can we access and help bring about the Kingdom of God? • Term Four – Our common home ◦ Pope Francis in his encyclical Laudato Si implores us to care for our common home. Using this document the year 9 term four cohort will explore how we care for our common home and what can we do to bring in about.
Future Study Pathways	Next year options: • Year 10 Religious Education • Year 10 Text and Traditions • All Year 7 – 10 courses cement knowledge that will lead to successful studies in any of the VCE RE courses
Types of Assessment	This subject will be assessed by: • Tests • Reports • Project-based Tasks
Further Information	For further information about this subject, please contact: • Your Year 8 RE teacher • Head of RE Faculty - Ms Ingrid Perkins

03 ENGLISH

WHY STUDY AN ENGLISH SUBJECT?

Studying English in secondary school is vital because it builds strong communication skills — reading, writing, speaking, and listening — that are essential in all areas of life. It helps students express ideas clearly, understand complex texts, and think critically about information.

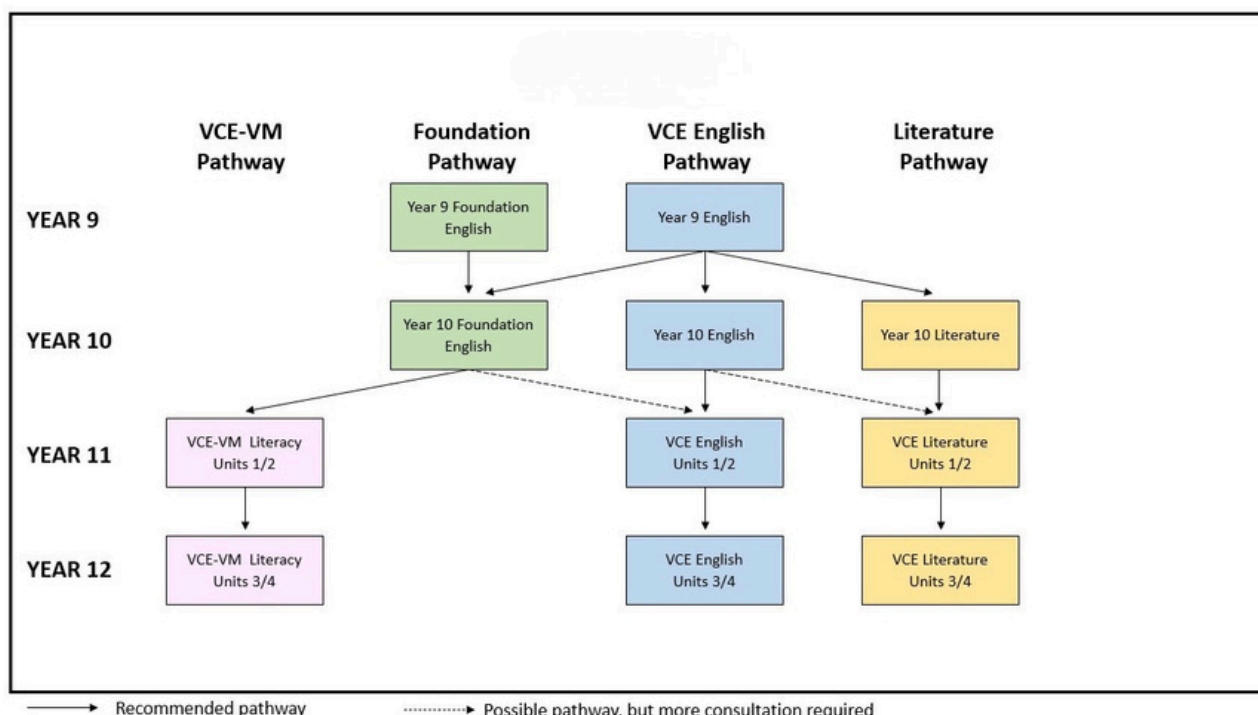
English also fosters creativity and empathy through literature, allowing students to explore diverse perspectives and cultures. These skills are crucial for success in further education, the workplace, and everyday interactions.



Whether writing a resume, analysing a news article, or participating in a discussion, a solid foundation in English empowers students to engage confidently and effectively with the world.

ENGLISH PATHWAYS

The diagram below shows the natural progression of each subject. Some changes are possible throughout the journey; however, these should only be made in consultation with your teacher.



YEAR 9 FOUNDATION ENGLISH

FULL YEAR

Foundation English is aligned with Year 9 English and is taught according to the Victorian Curriculum F-10, which involves reading, viewing, listening to, writing, creating, researching and talking about a range of text types from the simple to the complex. Where Foundation English differs is through its focus on building students' capacity in the areas of reading and writing at a more fundamental and foundational level. This is often achieved through providing students with additional supports and scaffolding. The assessments in Year 9 Foundation English also differ slightly from English to ensure that they meet the needs of the students.

Foundation English is only suitable for students who have had difficulty accessing the content and demonstrating the required skills in English. In most cases, students who undertake Year 9 Foundation English will have studied Year 8 Foundation English previously.

Content Overview	In this subject, students will cover: • Reading and Viewing ◦ Film text analysis ◦ Novel text analysis ◦ Analysing argument • Speaking and Listening ◦ Persuasive oral presentation ◦ Informative oral presentation • Writing ◦ Creative writing (poetry)
Future Study Pathways	Next year options: • Year 10 Foundation English or • Year 10 English
Types of Assessment	This subject will be assessed by: • Class work • Assessment tasks • End of Semester Exam.
Further Information	For further information about this subject, please contact: • Your Year 8 English teacher or Foundation English teacher. • Head of English Faculty – Mr Liam Young

YEAR 9 ENGLISH

FULL YEAR

The Year 9 English course is designed to improve students' literacy skills and to stimulate thinking about a range of ideas and concepts. The subject is taught according to the Victorian Curriculum F-10, and involves reading, viewing, listening to, writing, creating, researching and talking about a range of text types from the simple to the complex.

In Semester 1, students will complete analyses of both a film text and a persuasive media article by demonstrating insights into the various ways in which those respective texts are constructed. Students will also construct a persuasive piece of their own, employing a variety of language features and conventions to persuade an audience to agree with their point of view on an issue in society.

In Semester 2, students will delve into the literary genre of poetry, analysing the poetic devices and structures present in mentor texts before writing a poem of their own. Students will also complete another textual analysis – this time on a novel – by writing an essay in response to a topic about the text.

Content Overview	In this subject, students will cover: • Reading and Viewing ◦ Film text analysis ◦ Novel text analysis ◦ Analysing argument • Speaking and Listening ◦ Persuasive oral presentation ◦ Informative oral presentation • Writing ◦ Creative writing (poetry) ◦ Persuasive writing
Future Study Pathways	Next year options: • Year 10 English • Year 10 Literature ◦ High performing students will be invited into this subject • VCE Units 1 & 2 – English ◦ High performing students will be invited into this subject • Year 10 Foundation English
Types of Assessment	This subject will be assessed by: • Class work • Summative assessment tasks • End of semester exam
Further Information	For further information about this subject, please contact: • Your Year 8 English teacher • Head of English Faculty – Mr Liam Young

04

MATHEMATICS

WHY STUDY A MATHEMATICS SUBJECT?

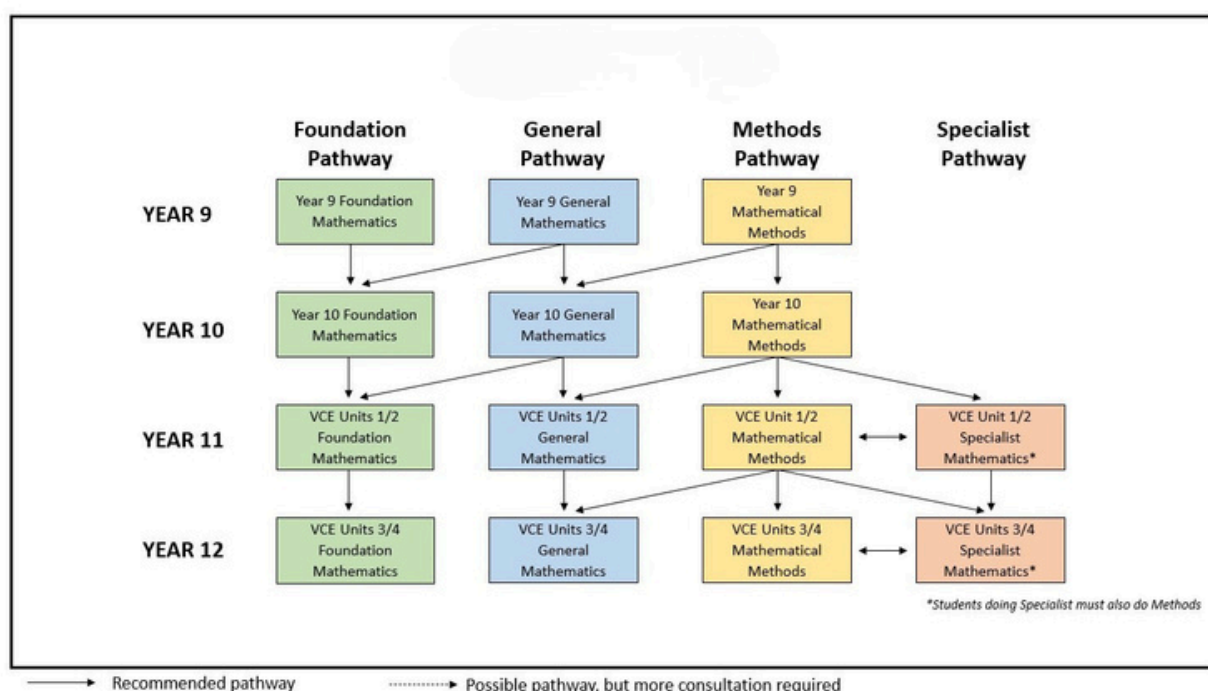
The study of Mathematics is compulsory until the end of Year 10 as it is widely recognised by parents, employer groups and government bodies as an essential part of any school education. Mathematics studies at St Patrick's College are designed to provide access to worthwhile and challenging mathematical learning in a way that considers the needs and aspirations of a wide range of students. Studying mathematics at secondary school is crucial as it develops critical thinking and problem-solving skills. It lays the foundation for understanding complex concepts in science, technology, engineering, and economics.



Mathematics enhances logical reasoning and analytical abilities, which are essential for everyday decision-making and various careers. It also fosters perseverance and attention to detail. Moreover, math education promotes financial literacy, helping students manage personal finances more effectively.

MATHEMATICS PATHWAYS

The diagram below shows the natural progression of each subject. Some changes are possible throughout the journey; however, these should only be made in consultation with your teacher.



YEAR 9 FOUNDATION MATHEMATICS

FULL YEAR

Foundation Mathematics follows the same course and topics as Mathematics - General, however this is done at a more basic level. This class is designed for students who find mathematics difficult and/or require extra support to help them achieve success. These classes are smaller and allow students to gain confidence in their mathematical ability.

Content Overview	In this subject, students will cover: • Measurement & Geometry ◦ Pythagoras' Theorem & Trigonometry ◦ Geometry ◦ Measurement • Statistics & Probability ◦ Probability ◦ Statistics • Number & Algebra ◦ Number ◦ Percentages ◦ Expressions & Equations ◦ Linear Relations ◦ Indices
Future Study Pathways	Next year options: • Year 10 Mathematics – Foundation • Year 10 Mathematics – General ◦ This move is only recommended for students achieving to a high level in Year 9 Mathematics - Foundation After school options: • TAFE • University – Mathematics is a prerequisite for many courses
Types of Assessment	This subject will be assessed by: • Classwork • End of topic tests • End of Semester Examinations
Further Information	For further information about this subject, please contact: • Your Year 8 Mathematics teacher • Head of Mathematics Faculty - Ms Ganisha Doma

YEAR 9 GENERAL MATHEMATICS

FULL YEAR

General Mathematics continues to build upon the general maths skills that students have developed through Years 7-8. This subject is intended to be widely accessible by many different types of mathematics students and is seen as the “standard” level of mathematics at Year 9.

All topics are non-calculus based and are designed to provide general preparation for employment or further mathematical study, particularly where data analysis, financial maths and number patterns are important. General mathematics is often the minimum mathematics required for many university courses or trades.

Content Overview	In this subject, students will cover: • Measurement & Geometry ◦ Pythagoras & Trigonometry ◦ Measurement • Statistics & Probability ◦ Statistics ◦ Probability • Number & Algebra ◦ Number ◦ Linear Equations ◦ Indices ◦ Linear Relations
Future Study Pathways	Next year options: • Year 10 Mathematics – Foundation • Year 10 Mathematics – General • Year 10 Mathematics – Methods ◦ This move is only recommended for students achieving to a high level in Year 9 Mathematics - General After school options: • TAFE ◦ University – Mathematics is a prerequisite for many courses
Types of Assessment	This subject will be assessed by: • Class work • Topic Test • End of Semester Examinations
Further Information	For further information about this subject, please contact: • Your Year 8 Mathematics teacher • Head of Mathematics Faculty - Ms Ganisha Doma

YEAR 9 MATHEMATICAL METHODS

FULL YEAR

Mathematical Methods is known as the “pure” mathematics. There is more focus on theory and the various methods that can be used to solve problems. The topics covered include a large focus on various algebra topics, as well as geometry, trigonometry, probability, measurement and some financial mathematics. Methods is often a prerequisite to university courses like Engineering, IT, Medicine etc. Methods is seen as more advanced than Mathematics - General and provides opportunities to pursue more difficult subjects in later years.

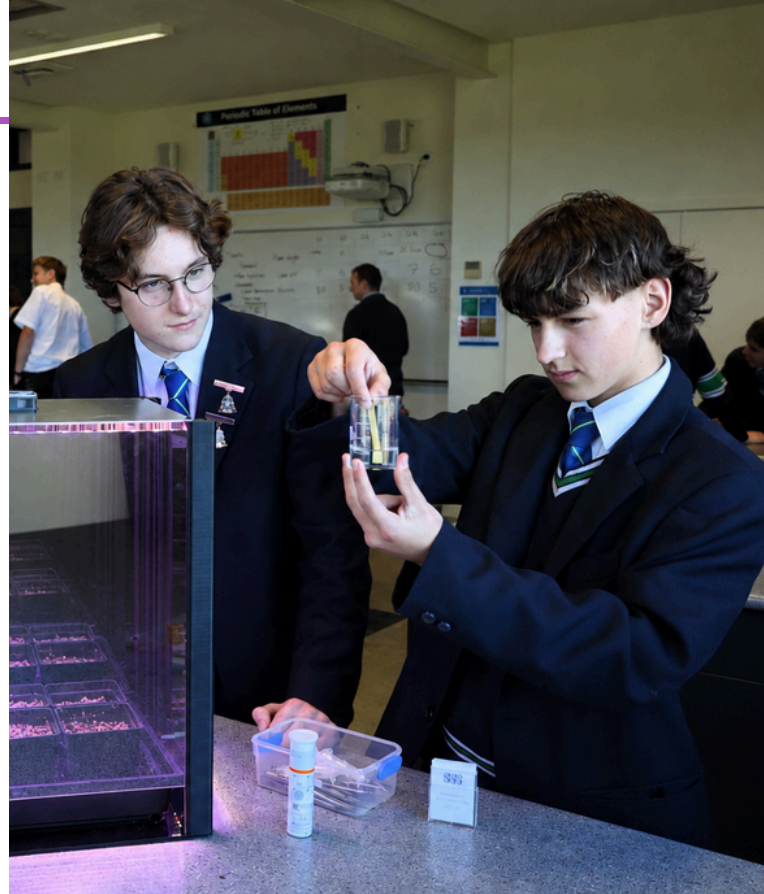
Content Overview	In this subject, students will cover: • Measurement & Geometry ◦ Pythagoras ◦ Trigonometry • Statistics & Probability ◦ Statistics ◦ Probability • Number & Algebra ◦ Finance ◦ Linear Equations ◦ Indices ◦ Algebraic Techniques ◦ Quadratics
Future Study Pathways	Next year options: • Year 10 Mathematics – General • Year 10 Mathematics – Methods • VCE Units 1 & 2 Specialist Mathematics ◦ The highest performing Year 9 Mathematic – Methods students will receive an invitation into this acceleration subject After school options: • TAFE • University – Mathematics (particularly Methods) is a prerequisite for many courses
Types of Assessment	This subject will be assessed by: • Classwork • Topic Tests • End of Semester Examinations
Further Information	For further information about this subject, please contact: • Your Year 8 Mathematics teacher • Head of Mathematics Faculty - Ms Ganisha Doma

05

SCIENCE

WHY STUDY A SCIENCE SUBJECT?

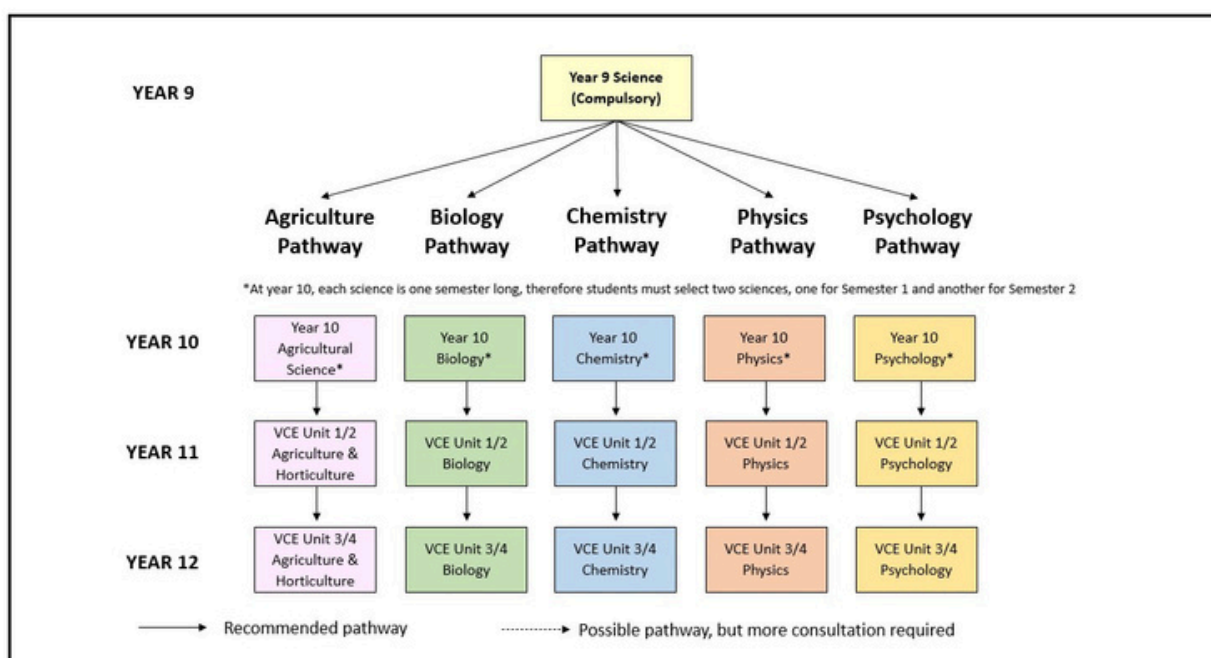
Studying science in secondary school is important because it helps students understand the world around them through observation, experimentation, and evidence-based reasoning. It nurtures curiosity, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills, which are essential in everyday life and many careers. Science education also prepares students for future opportunities in medicine, engineering, environmental studies, and technology. It encourages informed decision-making on global issues like climate change, health, and sustainability.



By learning scientific principles, students become more capable of evaluating information, thinking logically, and contributing meaningfully to society. At SPC students at year 10 and beyond have the opportunity to experience a variety of different sciences depending on their particular interests.

SCIENCE PATHWAYS

The diagram below shows the natural progression of each subject. Some changes are possible throughout the journey; however, these should only be made in consultation with your teacher. It is important to note that each of the sciences at Year 10 are semester-based subjects and students will be required to select two different sciences, one for each semester. In Year 11, the subject runs for the full year and students have the choice of which one (or two) they would like to do.



YEAR 9 SCIENCE

FULL YEAR

In Semester 1, Year 9 Science focuses on the different forms of chemical reactions and how they can be balanced through the application of the law of conservation of mass, culminating in the collection and presentation of primary data in the form of a scientific report. Students are then introduced to the nervous system and the science behind control and coordination of key body systems and subconscious functions. Students also investigate the application of science within the Forensic field, culminating in the completion of a Forensic Case Study.

In Semester 2, students study electricity and differentiate between series and parallel circuits and use this knowledge to predict the effectiveness of circuits when globes and other components were removed and added. Students then finish the semester by applying their knowledge of electricity and energy efficiency through the view of climate science. Students will investigate the greenhouse effect, weather, climate and pollution. Students then finish Year 9 science by investigating disease and various disease management strategies.

Content Overview	In Semester 1, students will study: • Chemical Reactions ◦ Types of Chemical Reactions ◦ Balancing Chemical Reactions ◦ Isotopes ◦ Cation and Anion Formation • Control and Coordination and Forensic Science ◦ The Nervous System ◦ Stimulus Response Models ◦ Homeostasis ◦ Forensic Science In Semester 2, students will study: • Electricity and Climate Science ◦ Series and Parallel Circuits ◦ Ohm's Law ◦ Renewable Energy Sources ◦ Global Cycles • Disease ◦ Pathogens and Disease ◦ First and Second Lines of Defence ◦ Passive and Active Treatments
Future Study Pathways	Next year options: At the end of Year 9 Science, students will be able to choose a combination of two Year 10 Semester Based Science options. These options include: • Year 10 Agricultural Science • Year 10 Biology • Year 10 Chemistry • Year 10 Physics • Year 10 Psychology

Types of Assessment	Year 9 Science includes assessments such as: • Topic Tests and examinations • Practical Reports • Scientific Posters
Further Information	For further information about this subject, please contact: • Your Year 8 Science Teacher • Head of Science Faculty - Mr. James Russell



06

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

WHY STUDY A HaPE SUBJECT?

At St Patrick's College, our Health and Physical Education offerings — such as Health and Human Development, Sport, Physical Education, Outdoor and Environmental Studies and VET Sport and Recreation — support the development of the whole person. These subjects promote physical fitness, mental wellbeing, healthy lifestyle choices and encourages students to connect with nature and develop environmental awareness. They also build essential life skills like teamwork, leadership

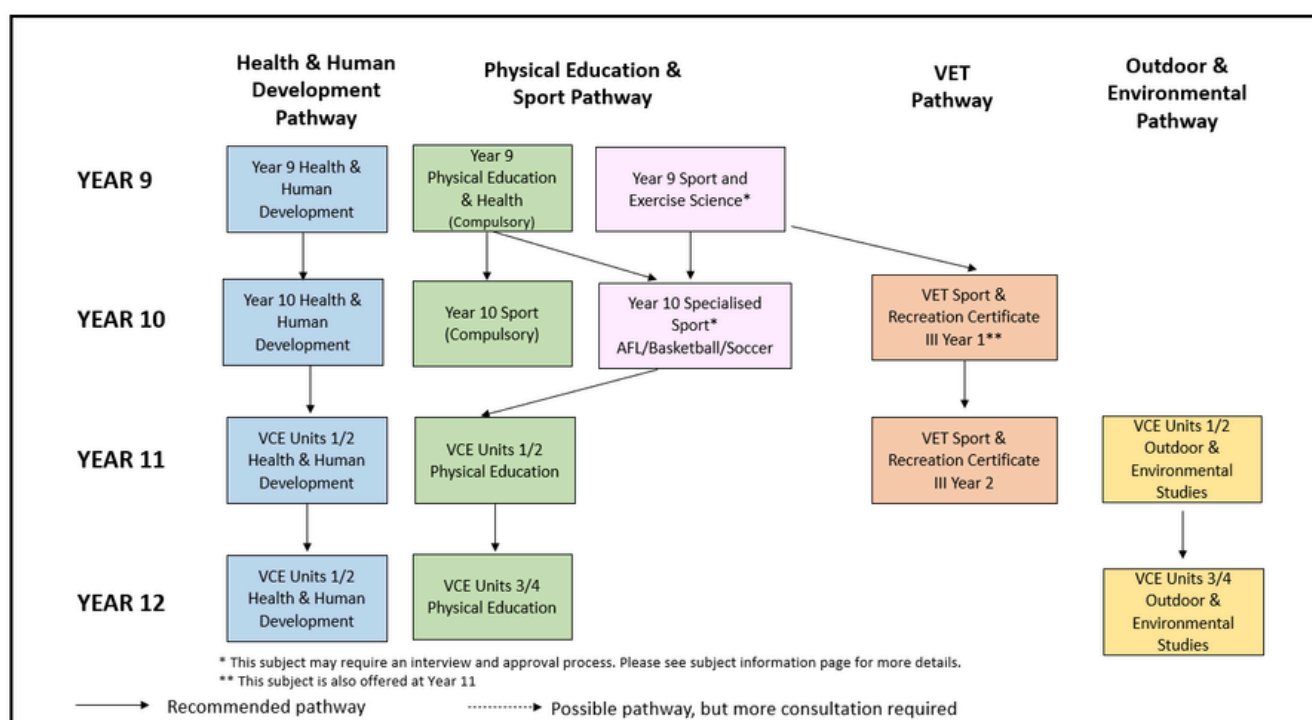


and resilience.

Students gain valuable insights into human development, health systems, and the role of sport in society, while also exploring pathways into careers in health, fitness, education, and community services. These subjects empower students to lead active, informed, and purposeful lives.

HaPE PATHWAYS

The diagram below shows the natural progression of each subject. Some changes are possible throughout the journey; however, these should only be made in consultation with your teacher.



YEAR 9 HEALTH & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

ONE SEMESTER

The Year 9 Health and Human Development elective course supports students to refine and apply strategies for maintaining a positive outlook and evaluating behavioural expectations in different leisure, social, movement and online situations. Students learn to apply health and physical activity information to devise and implement personalised plans for maintaining healthy and active habits. They also experience different roles that contribute to successful participation in physical activity and propose strategies to support the development of preventive health practices that build and optimise community health and wellbeing.

Content Overview	In this subject, students will cover: • Nutrition ◦ Essential Nutrients ◦ Sports Nutrition • Safety ◦ First Aid ◦ HLTAID011 - Provide First Aid ◦ HLTAID010 - Provide basic emergency life support ◦ HLTAID009 - Provide cardiopulmonary resuscitation ◦ Sports Injuries • Health Status of Australians ◦ Health Status Indicators ◦ Factors affecting the health of Australians ◦ Data Analysis • Human Lifespan ◦ Characteristics of development ◦ Changes in development over time
Future Study Pathways	Next year options: • Year 10 Health • Year 10 Specialist Sport - AFL, Basketball or Soccer
Types of Assessment	This subject will be assessed by: • Test • Research Task • Online with face-to-face assessment • Practicals • End of Semester Test
Further Information	For further information about this subject, please contact: • Your Year 8 PE and Health Teacher • Head of HaPE Faculty – Miss Carly Twaits

YEAR 9 PHYSICAL EDUCATION & HEALTH

FULL YEAR

Year 9 Physical Education and Health aims to empower students to lead active and healthy lifestyles by fostering physical fitness, sportsmanship, teamwork, and awareness of important health-related issues.

Through both practical activities and theoretical discussions, students are encouraged to develop skills, knowledge, and attitudes that promote lifelong well-being.

Content Overview	In this subject, students will cover: • Physical Education ◦ Cricket/Tball ◦ Tennis ◦ European Handball ◦ Gaelic/AFL 9s ◦ Ultimate Frisbee ◦ Touch Rugby/Flag Football ◦ Fitness ◦ Sofcrosse • Health ◦ First Aid ◦ Respectful Relationships ◦ Physical Activity and Fitness ◦ Sexual Health
Future Study Pathways	Next year options: • Year 10 Sport • Year 10 Specialist Sport – AFL, Basketball or Soccer • VCE VET Sport and Recreation • Year 10 Health
Types of Assessment	This subject will be assessed by: • Booklets • Exit Pass Tasks • Direct observation of students in practical activities – skill, game sense and ability to work in teams
Further Information	For further information about this subject, please contact: • Your Year 8 Physical Education & Health Teacher • Head of HaPE Faculty – Miss Carly Twaits

YEAR 9 SPORT AND EXERCISE SCIENCE - INTRODUCTION TO THE SPORTING EXCELLENCE ACADEMY

ONE SEMESTER

This subject provides students with an introduction to the Sport Academy pathway through the study of exercise science and athletic development. Students explore the key body systems involved in movement, including the muscular, skeletal, cardiovascular and respiratory systems, and examine how they work together during physical activity. They develop an understanding of energy systems, fitness components and training principles, while participating in theory and practical activities designed to improve performance, fitness and overall sporting success.

Content Overview	In this subject, students will cover: • The anatomy and physiology of the human body (with emphasis on the muscular, skeletal, and cardiorespiratory systems), during exercise and sporting activity • The role of energy systems and use of food fuels in physical performance • Identification and testing of fitness components. • Devising training sessions that incorporate specific fitness components and training methods.
Future Study Pathways	Next year options: • Year 10 Specialist Sport – AFL, Basketball or Soccer • VCE VET Sport and Recreation (Year One) • Acceleration - VCE Units 1 & 2 Physical Education • SPC Sporting Excellence Academy
Types of Assessment	This subject will be assessed by: • Laboratory Reports • Tests • Training Programs
Further Information	For further information about this subject, please contact: • Your Year 8 Physical Education & Health Teacher • Head of Middle School – Mr Nash • Head of HaPE Faculty – Miss Carly Twaits

07

HUMANITIES

WHY STUDY A HUMANITIES SUBJECT?

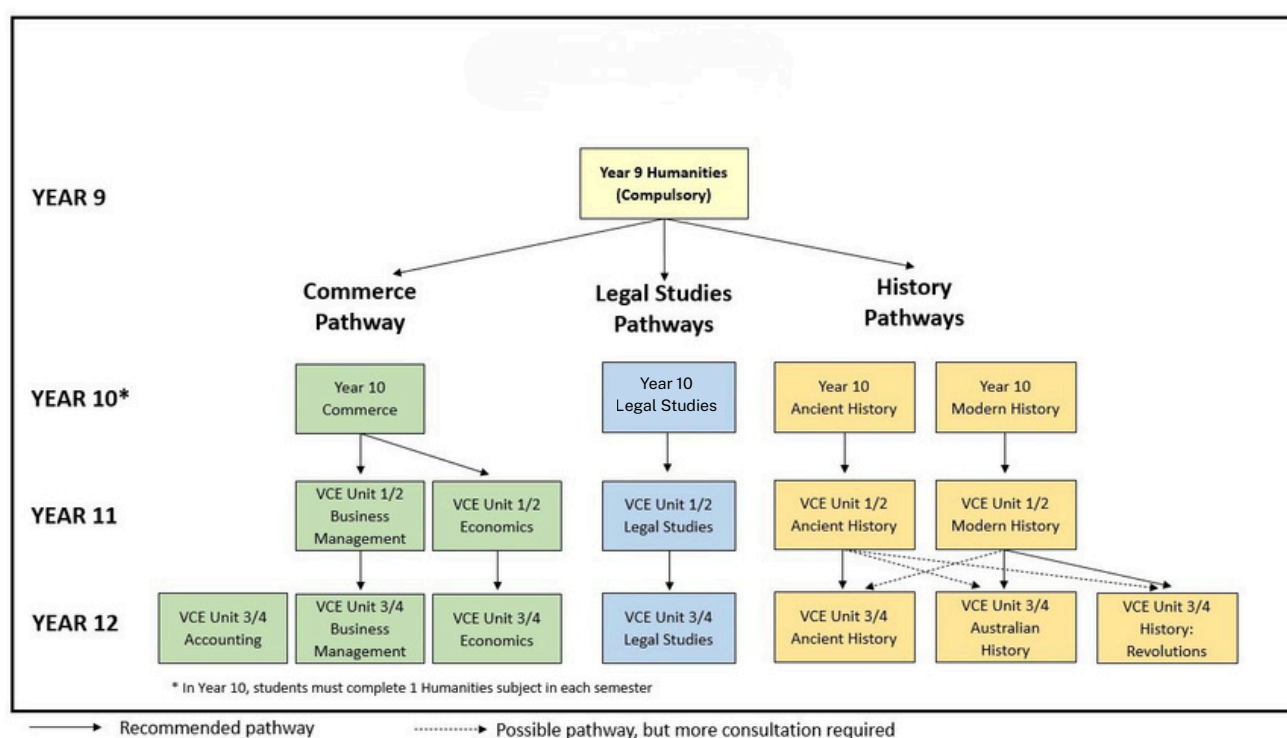
Learning in the Humanities helps us understand the rich complexity of human experience across time, cultures, and beliefs. Through the Humanities, students investigate people's interconnections with society, groups and other individuals and with built and natural environments. Humanities subjects provide a framework for students to examine the human-related systems and processes that have shaped the world — skills essential for navigating an increasingly interconnected humanity.



Through studying History, Geography, Business and Economics and Civics and Citizenship, we gain insights into who we are and how we shape our societies. Ultimately, the Humanities empower us to be thoughtful, informed, and active citizens.

HUMANITIES PATHWAYS

The diagram below shows the natural progression of each subject. Some changes are possible throughout the journey; however, these should only be made in consultation with your teacher.



YEAR 9 HUMANITIES

FULL YEAR

In Year 9 Humanities, students dive into understanding the big ideas and happenings that have shaped our world today. They'll explore how politics, society, and culture have all played a role in shaping different societies worldwide. Throughout the course, they'll cover various topics. In Civics and Citizenship, they'll learn about how laws work, focusing on the Victorian and Federal legal systems. They will also have an introduction to Economics, looking at the forces shaping our economy.

In Geography, students will look at biomes and the role they play in food security. They will go on to study geographies of human wellbeing, which focuses on resource distribution on a global scale.

In History, they'll delve into pivotal moments like the Industrial Revolution, the changes in Australia over time, and the reasons behind World War One and its aftermath. Additionally, students will be introduced to key economic concepts and principles in Business and Economics, providing them with a foundational understanding of economic systems.

Content Overview	In this subject, students will cover: • Civics and Citizenship ◦ The Victorian Legal System ◦ Federal Politics • Business and Economics ◦ Introduction to Economics • History ◦ Colonisation to Federation ◦ The Gold Rush ◦ World War One • Geography ◦ Biomes ◦ Human Wellbeing
Future Study Pathways	Next year options: • Year 10 Commerce • Year 10 History • Year 10 Legal Studies
Types of Assessment	This subject will be assessed by: • Structured Question tests • End of Semester Examinations
Further Information	For further information about this subject, please contact: • Your Year 8 Humanities teacher • Head of Humanities Faculty – Ms Jennifer Casey

08

ARTS

WHY STUDY AN ARTS SUBJECT?

At St Patrick's College, our diverse Arts curriculum — encompassing Visual Communication & Design, Art Making & Exhibiting, Media, Architecture, Photography, 2-D & 3D Art, — empowers students to become creative, adaptable, and innovative thinkers prepared for the future.

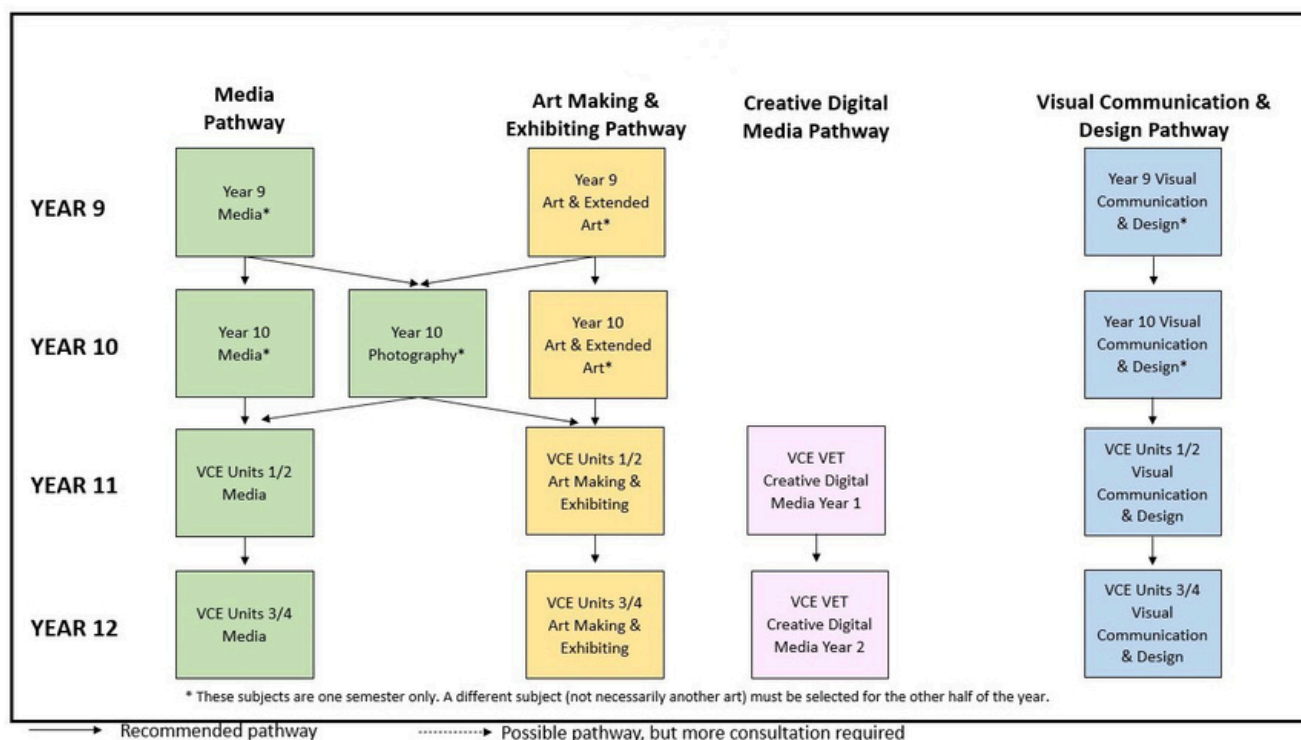
By engaging in hands-on projects and exploring complex ideas, students develop essential skills in visual literacy, critical thinking, and creative problem-solving. These capabilities are highly valued in emerging industries such as digital media,



design, architecture, advertising, and visual storytelling. Beyond career readiness, our Arts programs foster cultural awareness, confidence, and personal expression — equipping students with the tools to shape, interpret, and influence the world around them.

ARTS PATHWAYS

The diagram below shows the natural progression of each subject. Some changes are possible throughout the journey; however, these should only be made in consultation with your teacher.



YEAR 9 ART

ONE SEMESTER

Year 9 Art is a hands-on course that encourages students to explore their creativity while developing practical skills across both two-dimensional and three-dimensional art forms. Through a wide range of engaging projects, students will experiment with drawing, painting, printmaking, digital image manipulation, ceramics, and sculpture. Creativity is recognised as one of the most valuable 21st-century skills, and this course challenges students to think imaginatively, solve problems creatively, and express their ideas in original ways. Students will investigate the work of contemporary artists and creative processes to deepen their understanding of how art communicates meaning. Year 9 Art offers the opportunity to build confidence, refine your artistic and presentation skills, and further develop your creative and critical thinking.

Content Overview	In this subject, students will cover: • Drawing & Painting ◦ Drawing & Painting techniques • Printmaking ◦ Relief, intaglio or Screen-printing • Digital Art Practices ◦ Photographic Manipulation/Digital Painting • Ceramics ◦ Traditional & Manual Techniques • Sculpture ◦ Sculpting, Carving or Mixed Media
Future Study Pathways	Next year options: • Year 10 Art (and Extended Art in Semester 2) • Year 10 Photography • Year 10 Visual Communication Design • Unit 1 & 2 VET Creative Digital Media • VCE Art Making & Exhibiting (only via VCE Acceleration process) After school options: • TAFE courses in Visual Arts & Design, Screen & Media, Theatre Arts, Game, & App Design, Animation, Character Design, Visual Communication Design • University degrees in Visual Arts, Arts Management, Screen & Media, Animation, Visual Communication Design, Photography, Web, App & Game Design, and Theatre Arts.
Types of Assessment	This subject will be assessed by: • Folio of Artworks • Artist & Contemporary Practice Analysis • End of Semester Assessment Task - Exam
Further Information	For further information about this subject, please contact: • Your Year 8 Art teacher • Head of Arts Faculty: Ms. Jeanean Pritchard

YEAR 9 MEDIA

ONE SEMESTER

Media explores the world of media with an emphasis on film and film production. Students will analyse a media text, examining the production techniques, narratives, aesthetics, and cultural contexts. They will also explore issues such as representation in the media.

Students will create their own films, and learn about storytelling techniques, media technologies, and the process of media production, including pre-production planning, production, and post-production editing.

Content Overview	In this subject, students will cover: • Media Representation ◦ Narratives ◦ Media codes & conventions • Media Production Process ◦ Pre-production ◦ Production ◦ Post-Production • Media Industry ◦ Audience ◦ Auteurs
Future Study Pathways	Next year options: • Year 10 Media • Year 10 Photography • VCE Media (only via VCE Acceleration process) • VCE VET Creative Digital Media (only via VCE Acceleration process) • VCE Art Making & Exhibiting (only via VCE Acceleration process) After school options: • TAFE courses in Media, Communication, Journalism, Screen & Media, Theatre Arts, • University degrees in Media, Journalism, Media Communication, Theatre Arts, and Visual Arts
Types of Assessment	This subject will be assessed by: • Short Film Pre-production • Short Film Production • Short Film post-production • Analysis of a film text • End of Semester Examination
Further Information	For further information about this subject, please contact: • Your Year 8 Art teacher • Head of Arts Faculty: Ms. Jeanean Pritchard

YEAR 9 VISUAL COMMUNICATION DESIGN

ONE SEMESTER

Visual Communication Design (VCD) students develop their creative and technical skills through the exploration of design elements and principles, design thinking, problem-solving, use of digital and traditional media, and analysis of professional practice. Creativity has recently been recognized as one of the four most important 21st Century skills. The study of Visual Communication Design will encourage students to problem solve, be innovative, and think outside the square.

Students will engage in practical tasks, including sketching, illustration, typography, layout, environmental, interactive, product, packaging, and object design.

Content Overview	In this subject, students will cover: • Drawing Systems ◦ 1- and 2-Point Perspective Drawing ◦ Isometric and Planometric Drawing • The Design Process ◦ Human-Centred Design ◦ Design Elements & Principles • Design Professional Practice ◦ Design Analysis ◦ Principles of Good Design & Sustainability
Future Study Pathways	Next year options: • Year 10 Visual Communication Design • Year 10 Product Design & Technology • Year 10 Art • VCE Visual Communication Design • VCE Product Design & Technology • VCE Systems Engineering • VCE VET Creative Digital Media • VCE Art Making & Exhibiting After school options: • TAFE courses in Communication, Visual, Fashion, Landscape and Interior Design, Product and Industrial Design, Media • University degrees in Visual Communication Design, Architecture, Environmental Design, Product & Object Design, Fashion, Media, and Visual Arts
Types of Assessment	This subject will be assessed by: • Folio of Visual Communication Design • Contemporary Practice Analysis • End of Semester Examination
Further Information	For further information about this subject, please contact: • Your Year 8 Art teacher • Head of Arts Faculty: Ms. Jeanean Pritchard

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DRAMA

WHY STUDY A DRAMA SUBJECT?

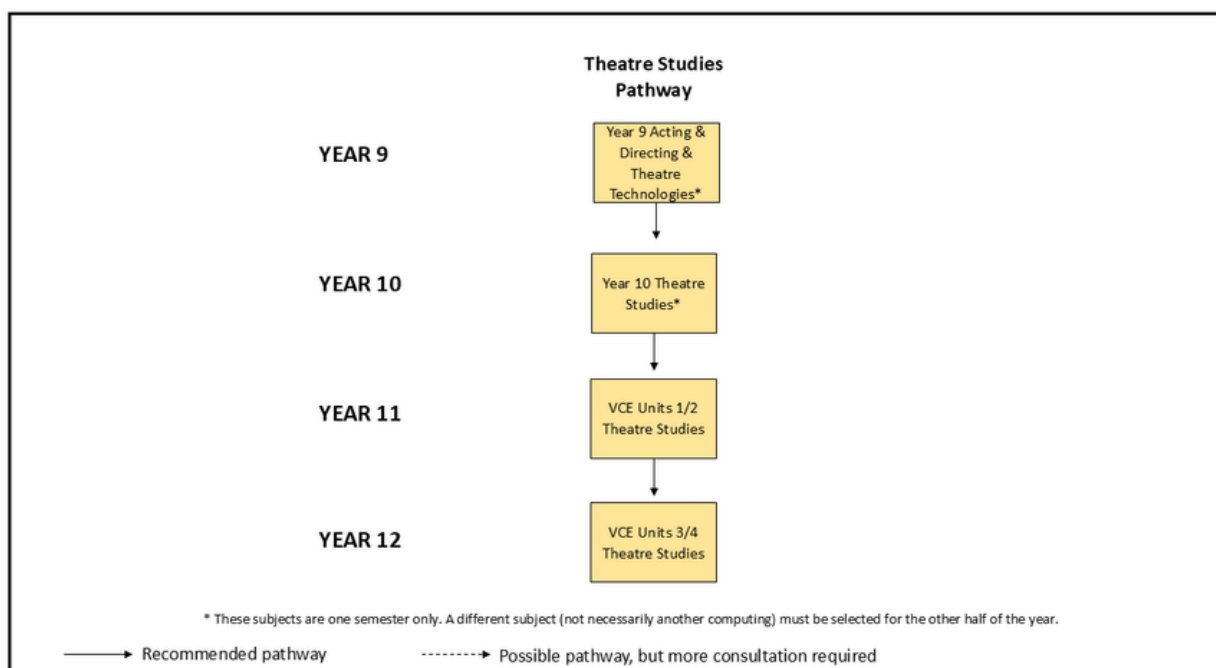
At St Patrick's College, our Drama subjects — including Acting & Directing, Theatre Technologies, and Theatre Studies — offer students a dynamic and enriching experience in the performing arts. Drama fosters creativity, confidence, and collaboration, while developing communication and presentation skills that are valuable in all walks of life. Students explore performance, production, and the technical aspects of theatre, gaining insight into storytelling, stagecraft, and expressive movement.



These subjects also encourage empathy and cultural awareness through the study of diverse texts and theatrical traditions. Drama opens pathways to careers in the arts, media, education, and event production, while nurturing personal growth and self-expression.

DRAMA PATHWAYS

The diagram below shows the natural progression of each subject. Some changes are possible throughout the journey; however, these should only be made in consultation with your teacher.



YEAR 9 ACTING, DIRECTING & THEATRE TECHNOLOGY

ONE SEMESTER

A class where students specialise in either Acting & Directing or Theatre Technology.

Acting & Directing

Students will learn about key approaches to directing and acting for the screen and stage. Through practical workshops, students learn how they can convey the internal world of characters.

Students work collaboratively to enhance their directorial skills by learning best practice for blocking, planning rehearsals and warmups as they stage a class production. All students will maintain a folio documenting their contributions to the planning, rehearsal and presentation of the class play. At the conclusion of this subject, parents and friends will be invited to come along and watch this play presented in the Performing Arts Centre Theatre. Students will watch and analyse a live theatre production.

Theatre Technology

Students will focus on the technical design side of theatre with a specific focus on lighting and sound design for performance. Students will learn how to use programs such as Audacity and Qlab for designing and playing sound during live performances.

They will learn about the lighting fixtures and desk used in the Performing Arts Centre, how to plot lighting design through the desk and run cues during a performance. Students will learn set design and construction as well as stage management skills.

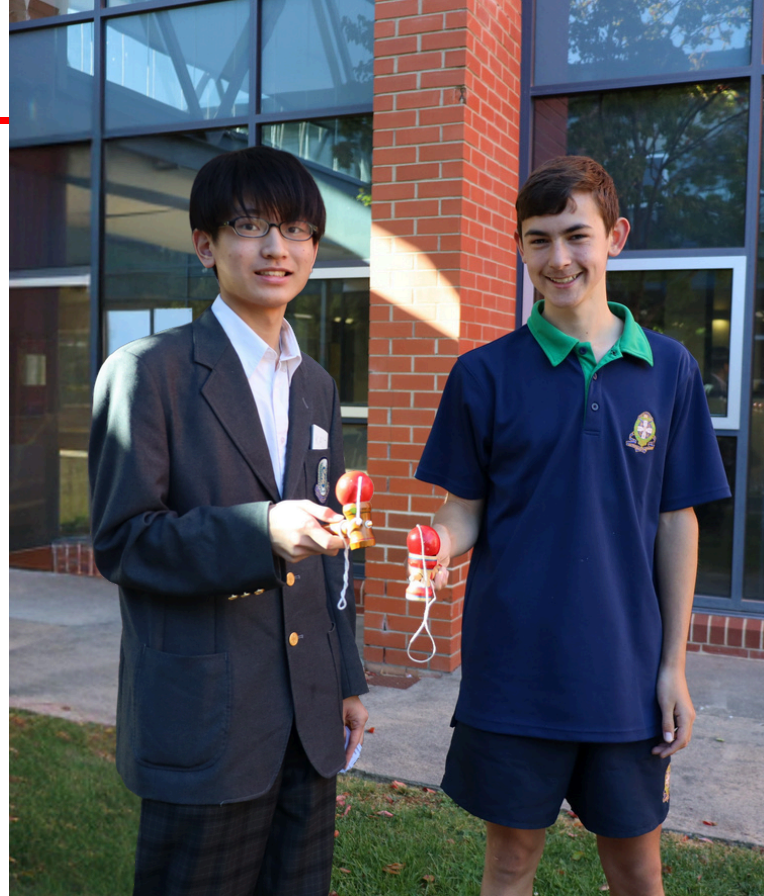
Content Overview	In this subject, students will cover: • Stages of the Production Process ◦ Planning, Development and Presentation of a play ◦ Documentation & evaluation of each stage of the process • Developing Theatre ◦ Theatre Styles and associated performance conventions • Analysing and Evaluating Theatre
Future Study Pathways	Next year options: • Year 10 Theatre Studies After school options: • TAFE • University
Types of Assessment	This subject will be assessed by: • Script Interpretations/Performances/Qlab for sound and light plotting • Short Answer and Extended Written Responses • End of Semester Examinations
Further Information	For further information about this subject, please contact: • Your Drama/Theatre Studies Teacher • Head of Drama Faculty – Ms. Samantha Bashford-Leger

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LANGUAGES

WHY STUDY A LANGUAGES SUBJECT?

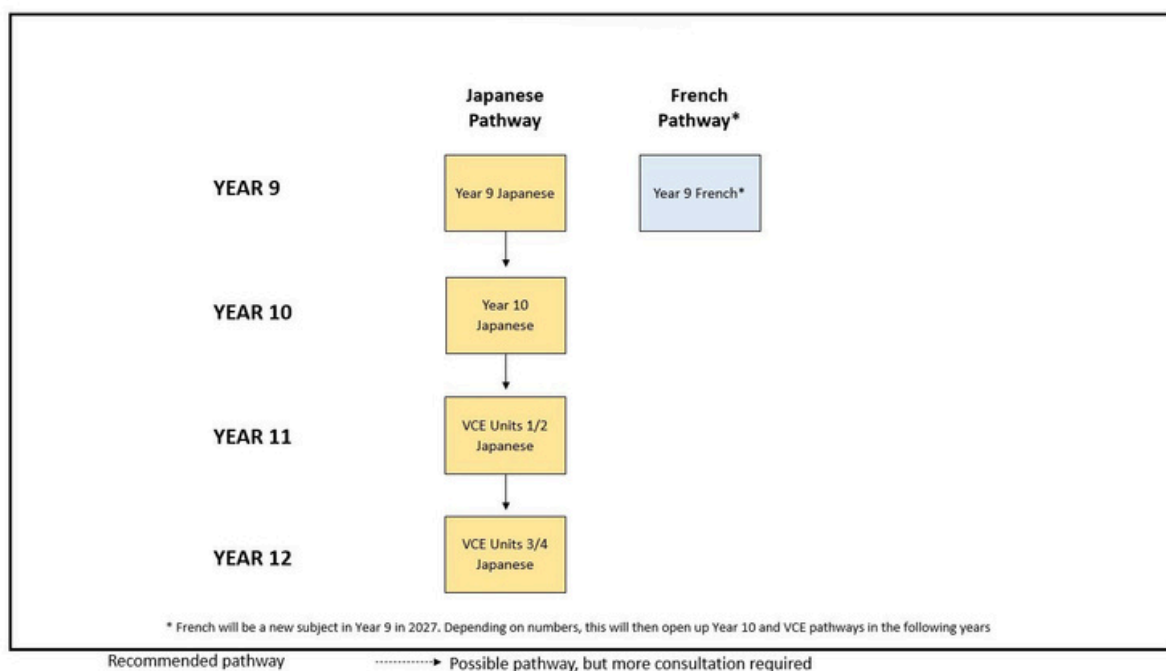
At St Patrick's College, students have the opportunity to study Japanese, gaining valuable skills in communication, cultural understanding, and global awareness. Learning a second language enhances cognitive development, improves memory, and strengthens problem-solving abilities. Japanese offers insights into one of the world's most influential cultures and economies, opening doors to international travel, study, and career opportunities in business, education, tourism, and diplomacy.



Language learning also fosters empathy and respect for diversity, helping students become thoughtful global citizens. Studying Japanese equips students with lifelong skills that enrich both personal and professional experiences.

LANGUAGES PATHWAYS

The diagram below shows the natural progression of each subject.



YEAR 9 LANGUAGES - JAPANESE

FULL YEAR

In Year 9 Japanese students become more fluent and confident in using spoken and written language to express their ideas and opinions. They learn to express their cultural identity and reflect on their own milestones and culture through comparisons with Japanese students.

Students continue to consolidate the use Hiragana, Katakana and Kanji. They use a wider variety of grammatical elements and an increasing range of vocabulary.

Content Overview	In this subject, students will cover: • Childhood and milestones ◦ Doing things for the first time ◦ Describing emotions of past events • Languages and skills ◦ Nationalities and languages ◦ How you study • Shopping ◦ Where items can be found ◦ Discussing prices ◦ Giving reasons • Entertainment ◦ Accepting and declining invitations ◦ Arranging an outing
Future Study Pathways	Next year options: • Year 10 Japanese • Japan Study Tour ◦ Students who study Japanese from years 9-12 are eligible for the trip held every second year • Melbourne Experience Japanese outing • Japanese food tasting experience at school
Types of Assessment	This subject will be assessed by: • Speech • Listening and reading assessment • Viewing and responding assessment • End of Semester Assessments
Further Information	For further information about this subject, please contact: • Your Year 8 Japanese teacher • Head of Languages Faculty – Monsieur Gorge

YEAR 9 LANGUAGES - FRENCH

FULL YEAR

Year 9 French develops students' language skills in line with the VCAA Levels 9–10 French curriculum, focusing on more independent communication and longer, more detailed responses.

Using Allez 1 Chapter 9 and Allez 2 Chapters 1–4, students extend their ability to discuss school, daily life, free time, travel, weather, holidays, and past and future experiences. They also begin to express and justify opinions and describe events in greater detail. Grammar includes consolidation of present tense, aller + infinitive (near future), passé composé (past tense), adjective agreement, and a wider range of connectives to develop more complex sentences.

Cultural understanding is developed through exploring French-speaking countries, lifestyles, and traditions, and comparing these with Australian culture.

Assessment tasks include speaking, listening, reading, writing, and vocabulary and grammar tests, with an increased focus on extended responses and accuracy.

By the end of Year 9, students can communicate more confidently and independently across a range of familiar topics, using past, present, and future tenses in simple but connected language.

Content Overview	In this subject, students will cover: • Discuss where they live, daily routines, past and future activities • Describe and compare France, Australia and other countries • Explore French and Francophone people, culture and characters • Discuss transport, entertainment, advertising, films, music and reading • Describe technology, gadgets and leisure activities, including the benefits and risks of social media • Discuss family relationships, pocket money and helping at home • Explore teenage pressures, advice and how life has changed over time • Describe the experiences of homeless children.
Future Study Pathways	Next year options: • Year 10 French
Types of Assessment	This subject will be assessed by: • Writing & Speaking-Give a Speech • Comprehension of written and spoken French • Composing – PBL style task. Project Based task where students work in groups to produce text in French on given topic. • End of Semester Assessments
Further Information	For further information about this subject, please contact: • Your French teacher • Head of Languages Faculty – Monsieur Gorge

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MUSIC

WHY STUDY A MUSIC SUBJECT?

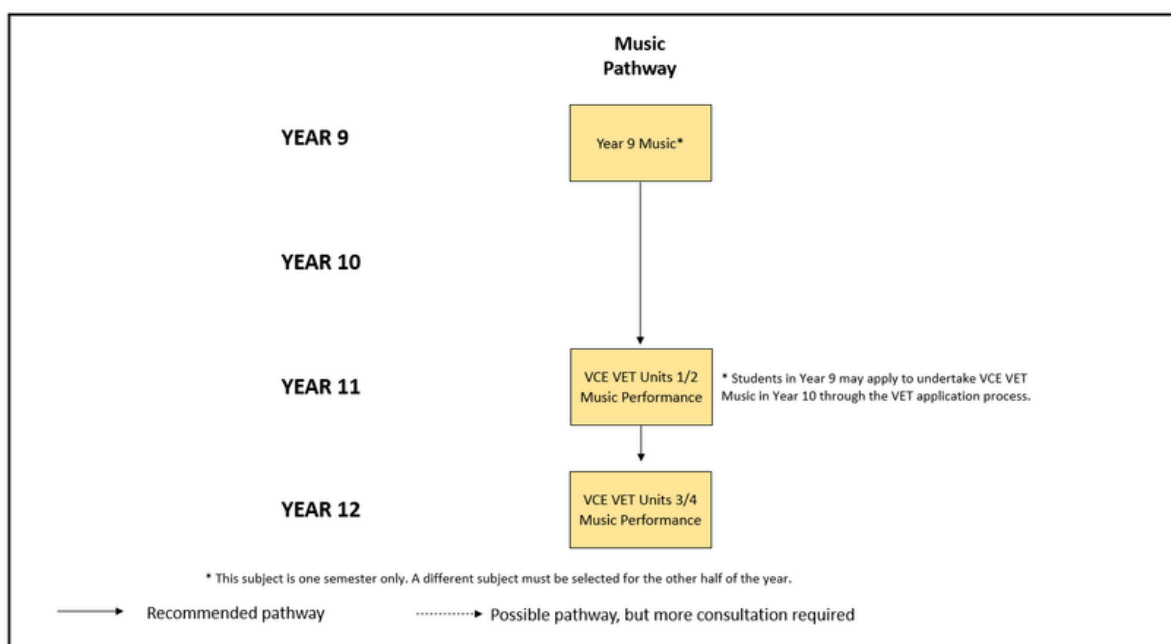
At St Patrick's College, our Music program offers students a rich and rewarding artistic experience. Our Year 9 and 10 elective program works hand in hand with our Specialist Music Program to prepare students for VCE studies in music, tertiary pathways and a lifelong interest in music. The program empowers students with the skills and knowledge to be diverse, independent and capable musicians with the ability to create and perform music across a variety of contexts, styles and performance settings. Studying music nurtures creativity, discipline, and emotional expression, while developing technical skills in performance, composition, and music theory.



It enhances cognitive abilities, improves memory, and fosters collaboration through ensemble work. Music education also builds confidence and resilience, preparing students for public performance and lifelong appreciation of the arts. Whether pursuing a career in music or simply enriching their personal growth, students gain valuable skills that resonate far beyond the classroom.

MUSIC PATHWAYS

The diagram below shows the natural progression of each subject.



YEAR 9 MUSIC

ONE SEMESTER

The Year 9 Music Elective provides students with a foundation for further study in VCE VET Music (Performance), introducing key concepts in performance and improvisation. Students work collaboratively to form a class band, with a strong focus on preparing and presenting musical performances, which form a central part of their performance tasks. Through this process, they develop essential ensemble skills, including communication, timing, and balance. Students also build their technical and musicianship skills on their chosen instrument, while being introduced to improvisation and beginning to develop their confidence and creativity in this area. It is recommended that students can play an instrument with developing confidence and control and are engaged in instrumental lessons with a specialist teacher.

Content Overview	In this subject, students will cover: • Group Performance ◦ Rehearsal preparation ◦ Performance • Improvisation ◦ Creating and performing ◦ Processes used by music creators and performers
Future Study Pathways	Next year options: • VCE VET Units 1 & 2 Music (Performance) - Year 1 After school options: • TAFE • University
Types of Assessment	This subject will be assessed by: • Class Band Performances • Improvisation and Performance Analysis
Further Information	For further information about this subject, please contact: • Your Year 8 Music teacher • Head of Music Faculty - Ms Katrina Bird

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TECHNOLOGY

WHY STUDY A TECHNOLOGY SUBJECT?

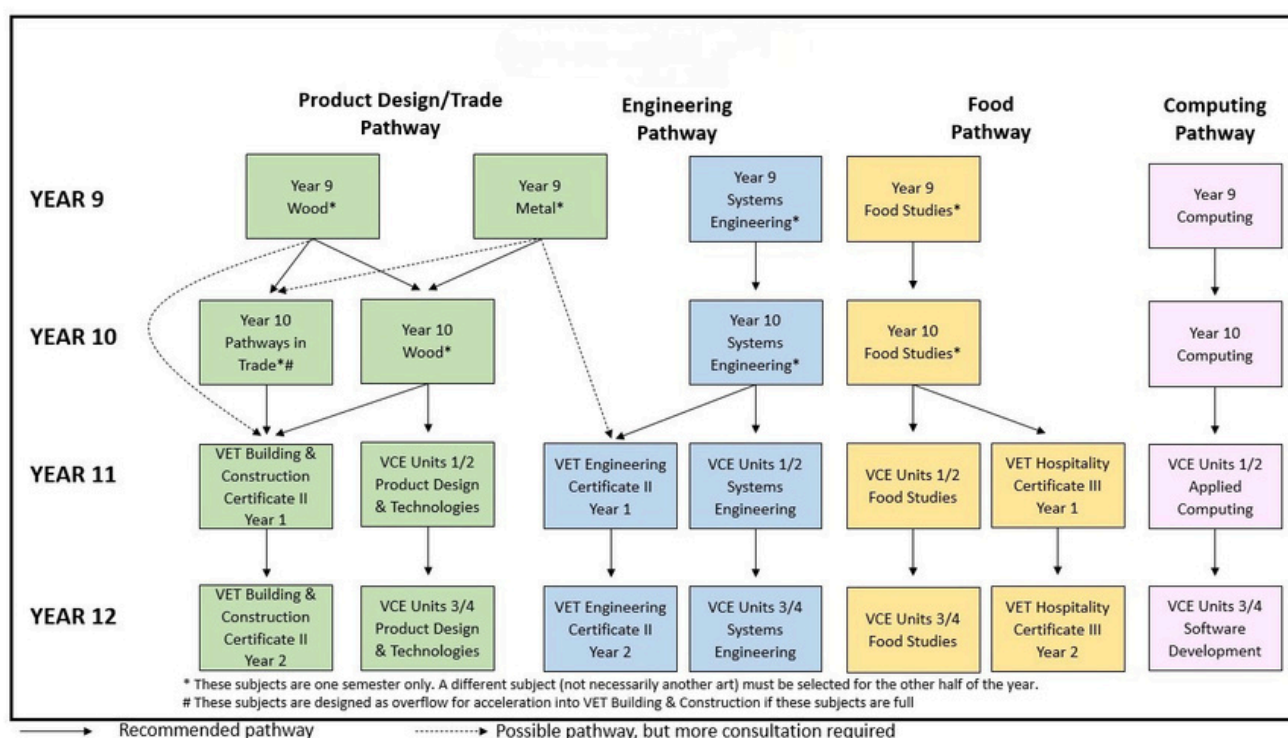
At St Patrick's College, our Technology subjects — including Metal, Wood, Systems Engineering, and Food Studies — offer students practical, hands-on learning that builds real-world skills and creativity. With pathways through to VCE and VET Certificate courses in Building & Construction, Engineering, and Hospitality, students can explore their interests while gaining industry-relevant experience. These subjects foster problem-solving, design thinking, and technical proficiency, preparing



students for careers in trades, engineering, manufacturing, and culinary arts. Technology education also promotes innovation, teamwork, and resilience, empowering students to create, build, and contribute meaningfully to their communities and future workplaces.

TECHNOLOGY PATHWAYS

The diagram below shows the natural progression of each subject. Some changes are possible throughout the journey; however, these should only be made in consultation with your teacher.



YEAR 9 COMPUTING

ONE SEMESTER

The Computing course helps students become skilled and imaginative digital solution developers by using information systems and problem-solving methods.

Students will learn skills to understand and create digital systems, manage data and information, and handle processes.

This course prompts students to make decisions by exploring various methods of handling interactions between digital systems, people, data, and processes (information systems), and assessing their impacts on society and the environment.

Content Overview	In this subject, students will cover: • Programming ◦ Algorithms ◦ Python • Working with Data ◦ Spreadsheets – MS Excel ◦ Databases – MS Access • Theory ◦ Information Systems ◦ Developing Digital Solutions ◦ Problem Solving Methodologies ◦ Benefits/Challenges of technology • Project ◦ Apply all skills covered to meet set challenge
Future Study Pathways	Next year options: • Year 10 Computing, Programming, Hardware and Innovative Digital After school options: • TAFE courses in Information Technology, Computer Programming, and Web Development • University degrees in Computer Science, Software Engineering, Information Systems, and related fields (Digital Technologies may be a prerequisite for some courses)
Types of Assessment	This subject will be assessed by: • Portfolios of Tasks - Programming • Reports - Data Sorting and Presentation • Project • End of Semester Examinations
Further Information	For further information about this subject, please contact: • Your Year 8 Computing teacher • Head of Computing Faculty – Mr Roger Knight

YEAR 9 FOOD STUDIES

ONE SEMESTER

Food Studies introduces students to two pathways in food studies - the hospitality industry and/or VCE Food Studies. VET Certificate II in Kitchen Operations is a VETiS option in Year 10 and Food Studies is available in the VCE. Both practical and theory concepts are included in this course to give students a clear understanding of the different pathways available to them in the Senior years.

Content Overview	In this subject, students will cover: • Examples of the types of classroom activities you will be doing in Food Studies: • Introduction of the principles of cookery • Investigation and development of a range of options to a given design problem which consists of a personal design brief, specific evaluation criteria and relevant research. • Develop a range of skills and techniques relevant to more advanced production methods. • Research and investigate tasks involving critical thinking and analysis.
Future Study Pathways	Next year options: • Year 10 Food Studies. • VETiS Certificate II in Kitchen Operations
Types of Assessment	This subject will be assessed by: • Principles of Cookery • Research • Design • Production • Self- evaluation and sensory responses • End of semester exam
Further Information	For further information about this subject, please contact: • Your Year 8 Food Technology Teacher • Head of Technology Faculty - Mr Roger Knight.

YEAR 9 DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY - METAL

ONE SEMESTER

Design and Technology - Metal is suitable for students interested in designing and making items made from metal, as well as those interested in careers in the manufacturing and construction industries. The course will focus on the application of the design process and the manufacture and evaluation of assorted products using solid forms of metal.

Students spend 70 per cent of class time doing practical activities, including On Guard safety training modules and 30 per cent of class time will be spent doing theory and completing an investigation into metal processing.

Classroom activities include preparing project folios, which includes the elements of researching, designing, and drawing, completing a range of exercises in measuring, shaping, and joining steel using common hand tools and workshop equipment, manufacture of several different metal projects, conducting ICT based research on a major topic related to metal, and evaluating the success of each project and the design/production processes applied.

Content Overview	Knowledge and skills students will gain include: • The application of safe and proper work practices in a metal workshop environment • Further developing skills in using a range of common hand tools, portable power tools, stationary machines, and equipment • Applying the technology design process, which is based on the model of investigate, design, produce and evaluate.
Future Study Pathways	Next year options: • Year 10 Pathways in Trade • VET Certificate II Building and Construction ◦ Limited spots are available for year 10 students After school options: • Apprenticeships • TAFE • University
Types of Assessment	This subject will be assessed by: • Skill development tasks • Manufacture of metal products • Investigation Report • Evaluation of the product and processes applied. • End of semester exam
Further Information	For further information about this subject, please contact: • Your Year 9 Technology teacher • Head of Technology Faculty - Mr Roger Knight

YEAR 9 SYSTEMS ENGINEERING

ONE SEMESTER

Systems Engineering introduces students to STEM (Science Engineering and Mathematics) based learning. This is an exciting field of study that provides access to some of the most recent innovations in technology education.

Students start with basic mechanical and electrical theory with topics that include, energy, force, motion, series and parallel circuits and ohms law.

They learn to simulate basic circuits using simulation software. They learn to prototype using CAD software and 3D printing technology. Students create and assemble basic mechatronic projects. They learn the basics of coding using programming software and robotics hardware.

During the course, students become familiar with mechanisms and electronic components and their applications in technology contexts.

Content Overview	In this subject, students will cover: - Investigating mechanical and electrical concepts and principles. - Designing elements of simple mechatronic projects. - Using simulation software to investigate circuits. - Constructing simple mechatronic projects. - Programming Microbot robots using basic coding software - Evaluating project work
Future Study Pathways	Next year options: - Year 10 Systems Engineering - VET Engineering After school options: - Apprenticeships - TAFE - University
Types of Assessment	This subject will be assessed by: - Mechanical and electrical theory, concepts, and principles. - The Design Process (Investigate, design, make, test, evaluate). - Projects - Coding - End of semester exam.
Further Information	For further information about this subject, please contact: - Your Year 9 Systems teacher - Head of Technology Faculty - Mr Roger Knight

YEAR 9 DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY - WOOD

ONE SEMESTER

This study is suitable for students interested in designing and making items made from wood, as well as those interested in careers in the manufacturing and construction industries. The course will focus on the application of the design process and the manufacture and evaluation of a major production piece.

Classroom activities include completing a range of exercises in measuring and joining timber using hand tools, making a product using hand tools and other powered woodworking equipment, evaluating the success of the end product and production processes used, and preparing a personal design folio which will include elements of researching, designing, and sketching.

Content Overview	Knowledge and skills students will gain include: • The application of safe and proper work practices in a wood workshop environment. • Further developing skills in using a range of hand tools, portable power tools, stationary machines, and equipment. • Developing an understanding of how to read and use working drawings and a materials list. • Understanding the design processes and developing the associated skills and techniques required to research, design, and make a product.
Future Study Pathways	Next year options: • Year 10 Design and Technology – Wood • VET Certificate II Building and Construction ◦ Limited spots are available for year 10 students After school options: • Apprenticeships • TAFE • University
Types of Assessment	This subject will be assessed by: • Completion of a Design Folio • Development of a wide range of practical wood working skills • Manufacture of wood-based products • Evaluation of the product • End of semester exam.
Further Information	For further information about this subject, please contact: • Your Year 9 Technology teacher • Head of Technology Faculty - Mr Roger Knight



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