

Welcome to the Later Years 2026

Year 10 – My Personal Pathway



BUCKLEY PARK COLLEGE

Build your Wings

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The Year 10 Curriculum

The central priority of the school curriculum is to ensure every student achieves success through a challenging, innovative and broad curriculum. At Year 10, a combination of subject choices enables our students to consolidate learning, begin to specialise and investigate new subjects in a range of learning areas.

The Year 10 curriculum at Buckley Park College is designed to provide curriculum breadth, and personalised learning pathways, for all students. A rich, diverse and stimulating range of educational opportunities is provided to students. It is acknowledged that Year 10 begins students' learning as members of the Later Years sub-school.

The Year 10 curriculum is based on the Victorian Curriculum. The Victorian Curriculum provides a single, coherent and comprehensive set of prescribed content and common achievement standards, which will be used to plan student learning programs, assess student progress and report to parents and the community.

Students will be challenged to extend their learning in a variety of ways and will have the opportunity to study a VCE subject in Year 10.

All Years 10-12 'Units' are taught over 3 periods. The Year 10 curriculum at Buckley Park College operates with 'core' requirements, while also aiming to maximise student choice, both in terms of what they study and at what level.

**NB: 1 Year 10 *Unit* = 1 Semester of
Study 1 VCE *Subject* = 2
Semesters of Study**

THIS IS MY TIME TO CHOOSE

**WHAT WILL BE MOST INTERESTING AND
MOTIVATING FOR ME?**

**CREATE A BALANCED PROGRAM AND START MY
OWN PATHWAY**



Year 10 Students

1. Students must choose:
 - 2 x Units of English | 2 x Units of Mathematics | 1 x Unit of Science
 - 1 x Unit of Humanities | 1 x Unit of Physical Education
2. Students then choose their additional units of study from:
 - 2.1 VCE Unit: Students may apply to do a VCE subject, from the list published. Students must meet the set enrolment criteria.
 - 2.2 Elective Units: Then students elect their other Units from the various Domain offerings. Their VCE subject choice may replace a Year 10 Unit.
(For example, if Jane decides to do VCE History in Year 10, then she will no longer need to do Year 10 Humanities)
 - 2.3 Languages are taken for the whole year, comprised of two elective units.

Students then select elective Units from a range of Domains, guided through the counselling process. These choices will depend on whether they have a VCE sequence and the subsequent amount of Year 10 Units to be selected. The counselling team will work with students to ensure that a broad learning program is studied.

Planning My Learning Program – Year 10 Students

What will my course counselling planner look like?

YEAR 10 Students						
SEMESTERS	English	Maths	Science	PE (Core)	10 Elective 2	10 Elective 4 or VCE Unit 1
			Humanities	10 Elective 1	10 Elective 3	10 Elective 5 or VCE Unit 2



Year 9 – Year 10: Choosing a VCE Subject for 2026

All students are able to request to study a VCE subject in 2026. Students will only be accepted into that study if they meet the overall criteria that have been developed. At Buckley Park College, our Later Years curriculum has at its core the belief that student pathways should be personalised and tailored individually, however choosing a VCE subject does not mean automatic inclusion.

While we encourage students to consider applying for early-entry into a VCE subject, a number of aspects will be taken into account. Students will need to positively demonstrate the following criteria:

- ☒ A excellent record of academic achievement and consistent attendance
- ☒ A very strong ability to be organised and meet deadlines
- ☒ A clear ability to cope with the demands of an increasing workload
- ☒ A strong ability to work independently
- ☒ Excellent results in the Domain that the student wishes to now begin VCE

The Process

1. Students complete an application form and express interest in studying a VCE subject in 2026.
2. Once your application is submitted, your classroom teacher will be asked to make a recommendation supporting your application.
3. The completed forms are assessed by the Later Years team and student early-entry to VCE decided.
4. The completed forms are then used as part of the counselling process.

NB: Practically, it may not be possible for a Year 10 student to have their first preference for a VCE subject and sometimes students may be asked to consider changing their choice. This could be due to classes being full, insufficient numbers of students selecting a subject and other constraints or timetabling restrictions. It is important to note that students enrolled in Year 11 will be accepted into a VCE subject over a student enrolled in Year 10 if numbers are an issue.

* Current Maths teachers will make recommendations and judgements about the appropriate level of study.





Year 10 Learning Domain and Units

LEARNING DOMAIN	LEARNING DOMAIN LEADER AND KEY STAFF
English	Ann Abramovic
Mathematics	Sarah Chrystiuk
Science	Vandan Rana
Humanities	Lachlan Grant
Art	Luke Jones
Health & Physical Education	Kevin Brittain and Wayne Tobin
Languages	Candice De La Motte and Jessica Suh
Technology	Lisa Eltham
Vocational Education & Training (VET) Extension Program in the VCE, Careers	Andrea Ferridge

VCE SUBJECTS AVAILABLE TO YEAR 10 STUDENTS in 2026

Accounting	Health & Human Development
Applied Computing	Legal Studies
Art Making and Exhibiting	Literature
Biology	Media
Business Management	Modern History
Chemistry	Music
Drama	Physical Education
Economics	Psychology
Food Studies	Visual Communication Design
	Physics

***Year 10 students can not accelerate in Mathematics or Languages**

For more information on these VCE subjects, please see key staff as listed in the Later Years handbook.

Also refer to the VCE - Later Years Handbook on our [Buckley Park College website](#) or Compass



Year 10 Unit outlines

The units students may choose to study in 2026 are described in the following pages. The future pathway options which connect closely to each unit are outlined as well. For more information about any of these units, students should see the Learning Domain staff identified on page 5

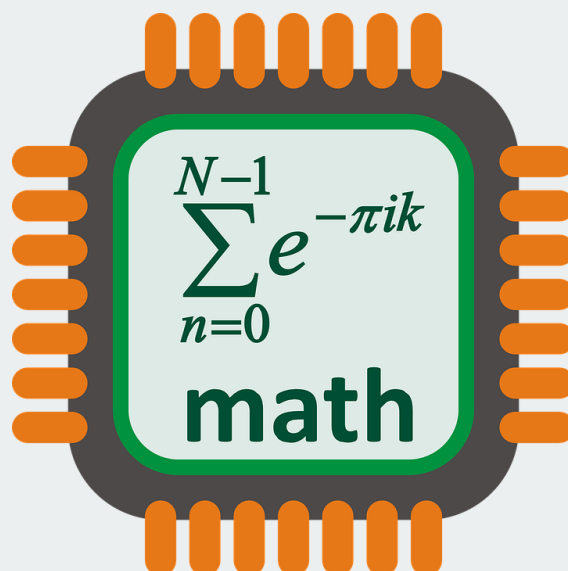
Subject Charges: The study of some units in Year 10 require parent payment. Typically these are units which have external costs embedded in them (excursions/coaches/camps). Unit costs are noted throughout. Most units don't have specific cost noted, as they are covered by the compulsory school Education Resource Charge. All units may require further payment for excursions/incursions that arise as valuable learning opportunities throughout the year.

ENGLISH		
Unit Title	Unit Outline	Pathways
English 10	<p>In Year 10 English, students will explore a variety of engaging and important texts to further their skills of analysis and creativity. To develop the writing skills required for VCE English and Literature, students will explore the key themes and ideas in texts. They will have rich opportunities to improve their skills as writers through a rigorous focus on the planning and structural requirements of a variety of text types including creative and analytical. Students will learn how language can be used to persuade a reader. Speaking and listening skills will be developed both informally in classrooms that encourage discussion and debate, and formally through presentations.</p>	English prepares students well for VCE English and Literature





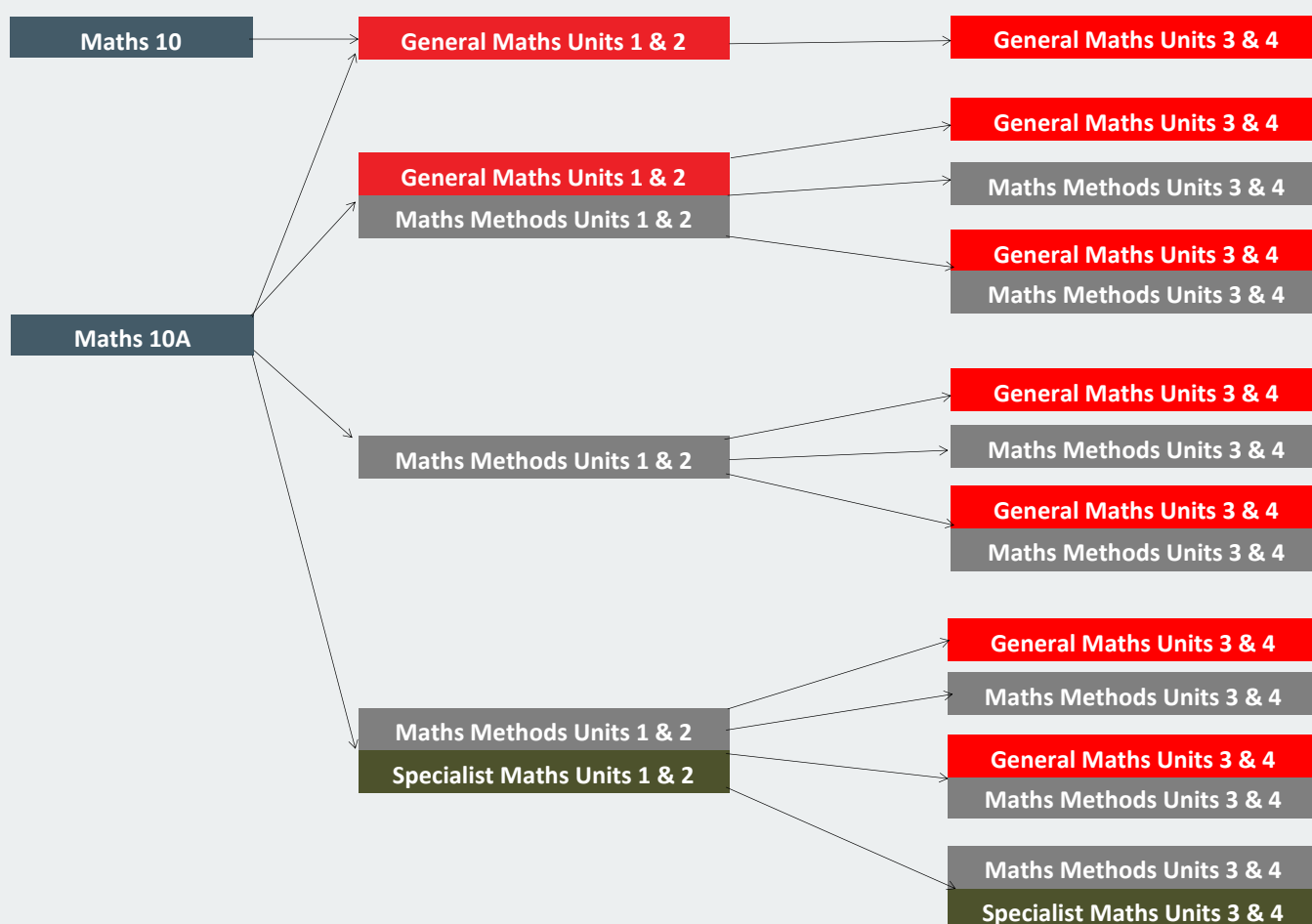
MATHEMATICS		
Unit Title	Unit Outline	Pathways
Maths 10	This unit is designed for students who are interested in practical mathematics with real life applications. Students complete topics that have practical applications such as statistics and financial mathematics. Students complete all assessment with the assistance of technology and their Maths Journal. The topics studied are: statistics, linear algebra, measurement, indices, probability, trigonometry, linear relations, money and finance.	See next page pathways flow chart
Pre-requisite	Students need to have obtained a C average in YR9 Maths	
↓ Maths 10A	This unit is designed for those students with a keen interest in mathematics. It has a high algebraic content and it will include assessments that reflect VCE practices in Mathematical Methods where students are expected to complete assessment both with and without technology. The topics studied are: surds, indices, exponentials, logarithms, linear relations, quadratics, parabolas, polynomials, circular functions, probability and counting techniques.	See next page pathways flow chart
	Student selection is based on Teacher recommendations	
Maths Enrichment	This unit is designed for students that may wish to study Specialist maths in Year 11. It also is extending students in areas covered in Mathematical Methods. This class will run outside the normal timetable, occurring after school on Wednesday and Friday and will appear as a period 7 class on students timetable. Students will study topics including algebra, and proof, polynomial and quadratics and trigonometry and the unit circle.	See next page pathways flow chart





Mathematics Pathways Planning

This flowchart helps students to plan your personalised and most appropriate Mathematics pathway through the Later Years. As well as the next year in front of you, students must also think about your plans for the future. Where do you want to be in Year 12 and how will you best get there?





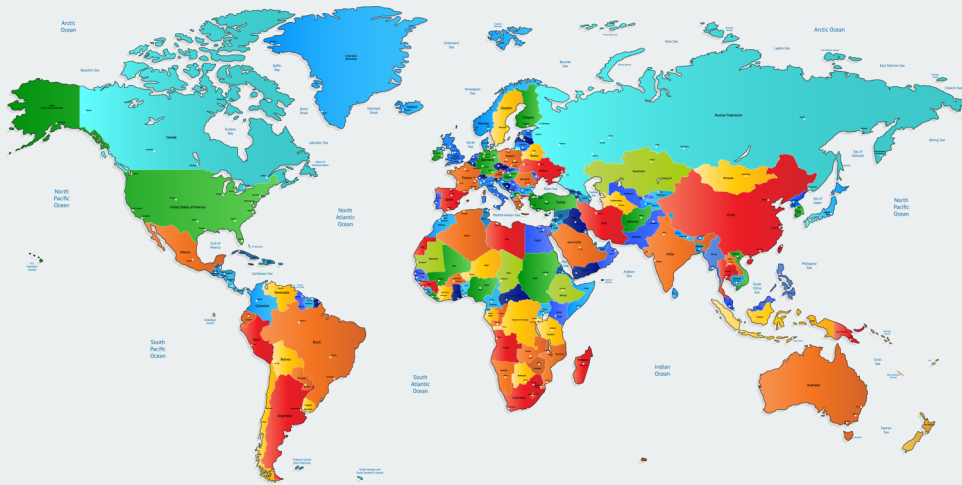
SCIENCE		
Unit Title	Unit Outline	Pathways
Biology	<p>In this unit, students will explore how multicellular organisms rely on coordinated and interdependent internal systems to respond to changes to their environment and how an animal's response to a stimulus is coordinated. Students will examine the transmission of heritable characteristics from one generation to the next involving DNA and genes. The theory of evolution by natural selection to explain the diversity of living things and how it is supported by a range of scientific evidence will be studied. Students will explore the components of ecosystems and the way matter and energy flow through these systems.</p>	<p>This unit prepares students well for VCE Biology</p>
Chemistry	<p>In this unit, students will investigate atoms, molecules and the chemicals that make up all matter on earth. The historical development of the periodic table from Dalton to Schrodinger and trends in the periodic table will be examined. They will explore how common materials are formed and how they interact with each other. Students will study bonding in different types of substances (ionic, covalent and metallic) and the properties that this bonding produces. Different types of chemical reactions will be explored. Experimental skills in the chemistry lab will be a major focus of the course.</p>	<p>This unit prepares students well for VCE Chemistry</p>
Physics	<p>In this unit students will explore the laws that govern matter and energy throughout the universe. They will study galaxies, stars, solar systems and the discovery of evidence that led to the formulation of the Big Bang Theory of the origin of the Universe. They will learn how energy flow in Earth's atmosphere can be explained by the processes of heat transfer and how this impacts on the "green house effect". Students will explore how to describe and explain the motion of objects involving the interaction of forces and the exchange of energy and how motion can be predicted using the Newtonian laws of classic physics. Experimental skills in the Physics lab will be a major focus of the course.</p>	<p>This unit prepares students well for VCE Physics</p>



SCIENCE cont'd

Unit Title	Unit Outline	Pathways
Psychology	<p>In this unit student will explore psychology as a science. They will define psychology and distinguish the differences between psychology and psychiatry. They will examine various specialist areas of psychology, design and carry out a range of investigations related to various areas of psychology and use appropriate technology to assist in the collection and analysis of data collected during activities. Students will look at brain structure and function and how these work together to shape everything we think, feel and do. The understanding of sleep will be explored including why we sleep when we do, what happens when we sleep and how much sleep do we actually need. Students will explore the darker side of human nature by exploring forensic psychology as a discipline. This includes the types of stalking, criminal profiling, organised and disorganised crime and case studies of serial killers and mass murders.</p>	<p>This unit prepares students well for VCE Psychology</p>





HUMANITIES

Unit Title	Unit Outline	Pathways
Commerce	<p>'Commerce' examines economic problems on a personal, business and national level. In this unit students will consider personal financial issues including budgeting and financial management, investing in the stock market, loans and credit cards, and ways of avoiding scams. They will undertake a case study of a business, evaluating strategies used by organisations to respond to challenges. Students will also study the features of the Australian economy, analysing the links between economic performance and living standards, and the way that these can be influenced by government policies and international trade.</p>	<p>This unit prepares students well for VCE Accounting, Business Management and Economics</p>
Legal & Political Studies	<p>Is Australia the lucky country? Do we meet our international legal obligations? What shapes our laws and policies? In this unit students explore the nature of Australia's political and legal system. They explain the differences between criminal and civil law and the roles and responsibilities of courts in settling disputes. Students are introduced to the ideas and concepts required to explore politics and international law, investigating issues relevant to global politics, powerful global leaders, the impact of protesting and the role of the United Nations.</p>	<p>This unit prepares students well for VCE Legal Studies and Australian and Global Politics</p>
History	<p>In the wake of World War II, the world experienced a wave of civil rights movements instigated by a growing sense of inequality and oppression. In this unit students will engage in an in-depth study of the causes and consequences of the American and Indigenous Australian civil rights movement. Students will then investigate the influence of global events in shaping modern Australian society, including Migrant Experiences and Pop Culture. Students analyse primary sources, debate different perspectives and investigate a number of significant events. Students will be asked to consider social, political and cultural factors and write responses in a variety of forms.</p>	<p>This unit prepares students well for VCE Modern History</p>
Geography	<p>Could you live on a dollar a day? How does where we live affect our lifestyle? What can we do about issues of global importance? In this unit students will investigate how human beings live, work, change and manage the planet we live on today. Students will explore a variety of global issues by collecting and analysing data and examining their impact on the world.</p>	<p>This unit prepares students well for VCE Geography and Australian and Global Politics</p>



LANGUAGES

Unit Title	Unit Outline	Pathways
Japan: Where Tradition Meets the Modern	<p>How has Japan managed to maintain its unique heritage and remain at the forefront of technological and social advancement? Despite a global drive to change and develop at a fast pace, its people eagerly balance an absorbing and dense history and culture with contemporary ideals. Japan is a country rich in diversity and contrast. In this unit students explore how tradition meets the modern. Language provides the platform for a deeper exploration into a highly connected and vibrant community. This course aims to develop students' knowledge and appreciation of the language and engage in the virtual Japan by exploring a world of animation, music, shopping, fashion, food and travel. Students are encouraged to extend their language skills beyond the classroom through a range of authentic opportunities. Students participate the annual Amazing Race event in Melbourne CBD, role-plays, interviews and discussions on topics ranging from part-time jobs to sport, school life and travel. Students exchange information and opinions, provide elaboration and make evaluations on various topics. Throughout the year students are exposed to a range of text types and produce their own written materials, including advertisements, interviews reviews and articles to explore the dynamic, highly engaging world of Japan.</p>	<p>Students planning to study Japanese at VCE must study this course in Year 10</p>
German: Key to a Global Future	<p>Do you like the idea of global opportunities to work or study in a German-speaking country in the future? Do you want to make new friends across the world? Are you intrigued by this fascinating history and culture? Then continuing with the study of German is for you. In this course students build on their knowledge of German vocabulary and grammar to enhance their communication and conversation skills. They learn how to talk about their interests and hobbies and personal world in depth; practise negotiations, including shopping, eating out and travel. Cultural differences between regions in Germany and Austria are investigated through the study of food, festivals and traditions. Students explore German-speaking communities' rich heritage from Mozart to reading fairy tales in their original language. Students are introduced to Germany's role in 20th Century history, with the rise and fall of Hitler and Nazism, its clash with communism and ultimately Germany's reunification as one country again. Students will have the opportunity to put German into practice in organising events with the German club and are encouraged to extend their language skills beyond the classroom through a range of authentic opportunities.</p>	<p>Students planning to study German at VCE must study this course in Year 10</p>



HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Unit Title	Unit Outline	Pathways
Physical Education (Core Subject Cost:\$60)	In this unit students will develop their levels of fitness and physical skill, while improving their understanding of the body systems. Students will improve their skills through the participation in various sports and also learn about peer coaching. Students participate in regular excursions outside of school to community sports facilities. The theory elements of this unit comprise learning about the bones, muscles, cardio respiratory system, fitness components, training principles, training methods and energy systems. Students set fitness goals and design a personal fitness program to meet their needs derived from fitness testing.	This unit prepares students well for VCE Physical Education
Health and Human Relations	In this unit students will investigate the impact of risk-taking sexual behaviour and teen pregnancy. They will explore external factors which can affect foetal development and the various methods and choices regarding conception. Students will learn about the dimensions of health and wellbeing and how these impact different health focus areas.	This unit prepares students well for VCE Health and Human Development





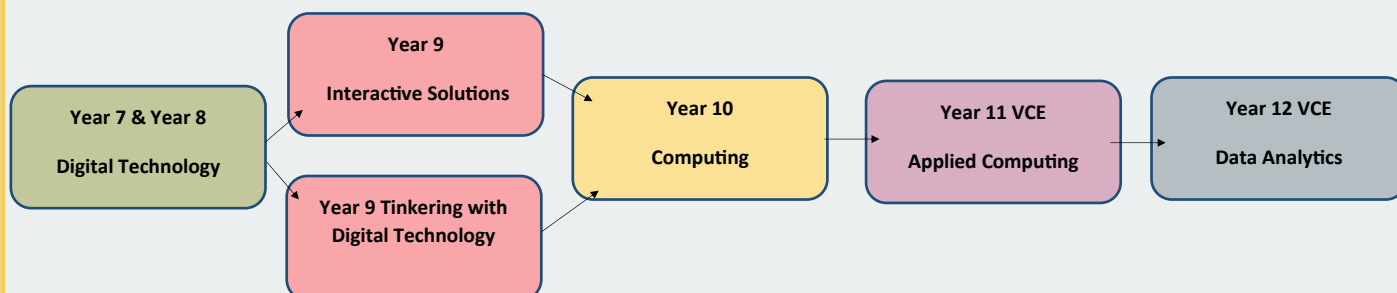
THE ARTS

Unit Title	Unit Outline	Pathways
Visual Communication Design	<p>"Design is everywhere — from the spaces we live in to the objects we use and the messages we see every day. In middle years VCD, students explore the exciting world of design across a range of fields, including environmental design (Architecture), Objects design (product, fashion and furniture design), Messages Design (logos and graphics), and interactive experiences. Using both manual and digital drawing techniques, students develop their skills in creative problem-solving and design thinking using Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator. They'll learn how to bring ideas to life in both two and three dimensions, applying design elements and principles to meet real-world briefs and challenges. Projects include floor plans, perspective renders, orthogonal drawings, digital album cover redesigns, and observational sketches. Students will also explore the cultural and historical influences on design and discover how visual communication can</p>	This unit prepares students well for Visual Communication Design
Art	<p>"Do you enjoy art making? Do you like to ask questions and express ideas? Yes, then Art is for you. Art involves exploring and experimenting with a range of art forms (painting, drawing, photography/digital, printmaking, mixed media, ceramics...). Students will explore personal inspiration and artistic influences through art making and artwork analysis. Students will present artworks for display and participate in group critiques to receive feedback and expand on individual ideas. Students will develop art making skills and document their practice into a visual arts journal."</p>	This unit prepares students well for VCE Art Making and Exhibiting
Music	<p>In Year 10 Music, you will perform, listen to, and create music. It prepares students to better appreciate different styles of music, as well as provide them with the skills they need to undertake subsequent music studies. Students will explore the role of context and music making through the lens of contemporary music history, whilst continuing to develop their capacity to prepare and deliver a performance. Students refine and expand their musicianship skills through music language and listening analysis which supports their development as professional musicians.</p>	This unit prepares students well for VCE Music
Drama: Ensemble Play-Making	<p>In this Unit students present issues through development of group devised dramatic work. They will undertake a study of dramatic elements, expressive skills and performance conventions which are used to create theatre for the audience. Students will explore different theatre makers from history and use their techniques to create their own piece of eclectic theatre that provides an empowering message for an audience. Developing the plays requires research, selecting and structuring dramatic elements, rehearsing and presenting. Students learn to analyse performances. This unit will develop and challenge the student actor beyond their previous exploration of drama and extend their performance skills.</p>	This unit prepares students well for VCE Drama
Media: Experience a cinematic masterpiece and create your own	<p>Experience a cinematic masterpiece and create your own. Students become true students of film as they engage with an iconic narrative, THE TRUMAN SHOW. In this film study, we'll dissect scenes using the knowledge of codes and conventions. The 2nd unit focuses on exploring New & Digital Media in our modern society and its effects. Students research and enhance their understanding of phenomena related to New Media and the world of media innovations. For the last unit, we then create our own short film by researching a genre of choice and undertake the development of editing skills. At the end of this course you will have a new understanding of media's exciting impact on our world.</p>	This unit prepares students well for VCE Media



TECHNOLOGY		
Unit Title	Unit Outline	Pathways
Wood by Design	<p>If you like designing or making things, and are interested in such a career path, then Wood Technology may be the subject for you. There are numerous design careers that relate to this subject (product design, interior design, landscape design, industrial design, architecture - to name just a few) as well as a number of trade and employment fields that require 'working with your hands'. Regardless of choice, a love of coming up with your <u>own</u> design is fundamental, and will be a key emphasis of the Wood Technology course. If attempted, a series of 'design challenges' will require students to solve a specific problem with an appropriately thought out 'product solution' – which must also be aesthetically pleasing to behold. In so doing, students will follow a set Design Process (Investigating, Visualising, Planning, Producing & Evaluating) - the same approach used by designers, regardless of employment field. The main materials used will obviously be timber, but opportunities will also exist to incorporate other components (resins, 3D printed plastics, electronics, textiles etc.) to enhance the performance and appeal of each and every product, and to increase its relevance to the needs of the modern world. Assessment will specifically focus upon the quality of each product design, and the competency of the accompanying Design Process documentation.</p>	This unit prepares students well for Product Design and Technology, and associated design studies.
Food for Life	<p>Which other subjects are you able to eat what you learn? In this unit students will safely prepare and evaluate a range of food dishes whilst implementing various complex processes within their weekly productions. They will develop an understanding of special dietary needs as well as examining the nutritional, social, cultural and environmental impacts of food. Students will apply the design process to show how they can become more efficient and effective when planning meals and to show how new food products are introduced onto the market by food manufacturers.</p>	This unit prepares students well for VCE Food Studies and Technology
Computing	<p>This unit prepares students for the VCE Applied Computing course. Students work collaboratively to create an innovative solution with a range of coding and circuit boards such as the Micro: Bit, Circuit Playground Express and Arduino products. Students then study a range of interactive technologies and the impacts on security and the gaming industry. The interactive technologies include: Drones, Virtual Reality and more.</p>	This unit prepares students well for VCE Applied Computing studies

Digital Technology Pathways





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