



KARABAR HIGH SCHOOL

2027 Stage 5 Curriculum Booklet

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Principal's Message	1
Important Information	2
Compulsory Subjects	3
Record of School Achievement.....	3
A guide to selecting subjects.....	4
Subject offerings.....	5
Subject overviews.....	6-22
What do I do now?	23
For more information.....	23

Principal's Message

Welcome to the elective subject choice booklet for Stage 5 studies.

This is an excellent time for you to explore the wide range of subjects which are offered at Karabar High School. Some of these you may have experienced in Stage 4, but others may be completely new to you. Whatever courses you decide on, these will contribute to your Record of School Achievement (RoSA).

This is not the time to be concerned with what you wish to do when you enter the workforce, but rather, look at the wide variety of subjects on offer and decide which of these you are interested in. This stage of your school is about exploring different options which will then allow you to choose wisely the subjects to study in the Preliminary and Higher School Certificate years. Having said that, it is important to recognise that it is not possible to move between subjects after classes have been formed, so you need to choose carefully at this stage.

The subjects you choose will span across the stage from the middle school to the senior school in Year 10. This delivery method mirrors the Preliminary and Higher School Certificate courses.

We wish you the best in your subject selections and remind you to seek assistance from your parents, teachers, the executive team and the senior executive.

Ann-Marie Shannon
Principal



STAGE FIVE

NESA has organised the K–12 schooling into 'stages':

- **Stage 1** – Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2
- **Stage 2** – Year 3 and Year 4
- **Stage 3** – Year 5 and Year 6
- **Stage 4** – Year 7 and Year 8
- **Stage 5** – Year 9 and Year 10
- **Stage 6** – Year 11 and Year 12

Important Information

All students entering Stage 5 at Karabar High School are required to study English, Mathematics, Science, History, Geography and Personal Development/Health/Physical Education.

Students are required to study two 200-hour electives.

We cannot guarantee that all elective subjects listed will actually run, as this is dependent on sufficient students wanting to study a particular subject. We are therefore asking students to **list their first FIVE (5) preferences for the 200-hour electives**. Best efforts will be made to place students in one of these subjects. Which subjects run will depend on student preferences.

Parents are urged to discuss the subject offerings with their child. Students should choose courses in which they are interested.

It is important to know that students need not limit their elective choices in Years 9 and 10 to areas which they think they might wish to pursue in senior years. All subjects studied in Years 11 and 12 do not need to have been taken in Stage 5.

Please note that:

- These course expectations are set by the New South Wales Education Standards Authority (NESA) and the Department of Education.
- Satisfactory participation in electives is required for these subjects to be listed on the Record of School Achievement. Students should ensure that they choose carefully and wisely as there will be little or no opportunity to make changes to selections.
- Some electives have associated fees to pay for materials. **These elective costs are compulsory**, as there is no government funding provided to schools to run these courses.

NESA has developed new NSW K-10 syllabuses incorporating the Australian curriculum for English, History, Mathematics, PDHPE and Science

Compulsory Subjects

All schools in NSW are required to deliver programs of study that comply with the requirements of NESA syllabuses. These syllabuses can be found online at <https://syllabus.nesa.nsw.edu.au>

All students in Stage 5 at Karabar High School are required to study:

English

For more information see Jodie Winslade (HT English)

Geography

For more information see Lisa Eldridge (HT HSIE)

History

For more information see Lisa Eldridge (HT HSIE)

Mathematics

Year 9 students will be placed into one of two Stage 5 Mathematics Pathways, leading to Mathematics Advanced or Mathematics Standard in Stage 6. This placement is based on their achievement of Stage 4 Mathematics outcomes. For more information see Carolyn Gibbs (HT Mathematics).

Personal Development, Health and Physical Education

For more information see Tim Gregson (HT PDHPE)

Science

For more information see Jonathan Brown (HT Science)

Record of School Achievement (RoSA)

Eligible students who leave school before receiving their Higher School Certificate (HSC) will receive the NSW Record of School Achievement (RoSA).

The RoSA is a cumulative credential in that it allows students to accumulate their academic results until they leave school.

The RoSA records completed Stage 5 and Preliminary Stage 6 courses and grades and participation in any uncompleted Preliminary Stage 6 courses. It is of specific use to students leaving school prior to the HSC.

ELECTIVE SUBJECTS

Students study two 200-hour courses during Years 9 and 10.

All of the courses offered have been designed by NESA or have been designed by Karabar High School and approved by NESA. The school has offered courses it feels are suitable for students in Years 9 and 10.

A Guide to Selecting Subjects

- Step 1** Read this entire booklet very carefully.
- Step 2** Think about the type of courses that are of interest.
- Step 3** Read the summary for each course again.
- Step 4** Talk about the courses that are of interest with the Year Advisor and teachers at the school.
- Step 5** Go to my.edval.education/login to make your subject selections. **Login details will be sent to your school email by 3:00 pm on Thursday, 10 September 2026.**
- Step 6** You will be required to select five (5) subjects in order of preference from the Elective Subject offerings.
- Step 7** Double check your selections with your parent/carer and press submit.
- Step 8** This selection sheet must be completed online by **Friday, 18 September 2026.**

ELECTIVE SUBJECTS

This page outlines the elective courses Karabar High School offers. It does not mean that all these courses will run in 2027. The courses that run will be determined by student preferences.

Elective Subject Offerings

Students need to indicate their first **five (5)** preferences from the following list of subjects. They will study **two** of these additional subjects. Details about these subjects can be found on the following pages.

- Aboriginal Studies
- Agricultural Technology
- Child Studies
- Commerce
- Computing Technology
- Dance
- Design & Technology
- Drama
- Food Technology
- Elective Geography – Global Futures
- History Elective – Murder and Mayhem
- Industrial Technology – Timber
- Music
- Physical Activity and Sport Studies
- Textiles Technology
- Visual Arts
- Visual Design



COUNTRY

SPIRITUALITY

TRADITIONS

IDENTITY

CULTURE

SELF-DETERMINATION

HUMAN RIGHTS

Aboriginal Studies

Aboriginal Studies is encouraged for:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, to connect with and explore their own heritage.
- Non-Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, to develop cultural awareness, respect, and reconciliation.

It focuses on students developing an understanding and respect for the knowledges and practices of Aboriginal Peoples as the oldest living, continuous Cultures in the world. Aboriginal Studies looks at the diversity of Aboriginal Peoples, and the importance of Country/Place, community and spirituality to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples. In studying these concepts, students will engage with historical and contemporary experiences of Aboriginal Peoples, the importance of self-determination and autonomy, ethical research skills, community consultation and Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property (ICIP) protocols.

Topics studied include:

- Aboriginal identities
- Aboriginal self-determination and autonomy
- Aboriginal Peoples and oral and written tradition
- Aboriginal enterprises and organisations

Assessment

Class tests and examinations, research assessments, class participation, written reports and oral presentations could be used.

Requirements

- A4 workbook with a solid cover
- Ruler, eraser, pens, coloured pencils, pencil sharpener, glue and scissors
- Possible excursion expenses

For more information
contact Lisa Eldridge
(HT HSIE)





LIFESTYLE

DYNAMIC

MARKETS

LIVESTOCK

PRODUCTION

CROPPING

Agricultural Technology

Agricultural Technology will be offered to Year 9 students as a 200 hour elective course. Agricultural Technology is an applied science course, so not only do students learn various skills needed to produce animals and plants, but also how and why we produce commodities a certain way.

Over the two years students will learn about plant and animal enterprises from a local farming point of view. A variety of farming enterprises will be offered depending on the interest of students as well as the available opportunities and resources.

Animal enterprises students study include beef, wool, lamb, pig and poultry production. Plant and other enterprises studied include orchard, hydroponic vegetable and marine production.

Karabar High School has a small farm which students visit regularly to complete practical work. The farm contains crops, pastures, animals, tools and machinery. Students may also participate in excursions to farms and rural events.

Agricultural Technology is a subject relevant to everyone – not just those from a rural background. If you have ever wondered where your food comes from, then this is the subject for you. All you need is a willingness to get your hands dirty and to work with animals and machinery, an enquiring mind and enjoy being outdoors.

Assessment

There are three assessment tasks for each year of the course. Students will be assessed on practical skills as well as theory. Assessment tasks will take the form of enterprise assignments and practical tasks.

Requirements

- Subject fees apply for this course
- Exercise books
- Excursion costs
- Practical materials
- Protective clothing. Students must wear a hat and use sunscreen when working outside during summer. They must also wear appropriate clothing (pants) and enclosed leather shoes during all practical lessons.



**For more information
contact Jonathan Brown
(HT Science)**

**Course Fees:
\$33 per year**



PARENTHOOD

NEWBORN CARE

DIVERSITY

CHILDCARE

Child Studies

Child Studies aims to develop in students the knowledge, understanding and skills to positively influence the wellbeing and development of children in the critical early years in a range of settings and contexts.

Assessment

- Practical skills
- Group work
- Individual theory tasks

Requirements

- Laptop
- An interest in the developmental stages of young children
- An ability to communicate effectively with young children and workers in the childcare services sector



For more information
contact Tim Gregson
(HT PDHPE)



MONEY

NEEDS & WANTS

INVESTMENT

BUSINESS

EMPLOYMENT

LAW

TRAVEL

CONSUMER

INDEPENDENCE

Commerce

Commerce is concerned with how people survive and exist in our modern society. It is about people as consumers and the dealings they have with the law, business, employment, finance and government. Areas studied include Consumer and Financial Decisions, Running a Business, Travel, Law, Society and Political Involvement, the Economic and Business Environment, Employment and Work Futures, Investing, and Towards Independence.

Assessment

Class tests and examinations, research assignments, class participation, written reports and oral presentations could be used.

Requirements

- A4 workbook with a solid cover
- Ruler, eraser, pens, pencils, pencil sharpener, glue and scissors
- Possible excursion expenses



For more information
contact Lisa Eldridge
(HT HSIE)



PRACTICAL PROJECT WORK

EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES

MULTIMEDIA

DATABASES

STORYBOARDS

Computing Technology

In Computing Technology, students will develop knowledge, understanding and skills in manipulating hardware and software to solve real world problems. The course will include practical experiences relating to and enhancing computer related theory. Additionally, classroom experiences with computers will be related to the wider societal context.

This course will be an excellent springboard for possible computing courses in the senior years and beyond.

Assessment

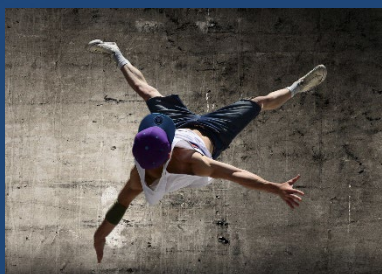
Assessment will consist of tests and class project work.

Requirements

- A4 display book
- Ruler, eraser, pens and pencils



For more information contact
Donna Smithson
(HT TAS)



HIP HOP

CONTEMPORARY

JAZZ

IMPROVISATION

COMPOSITION

**ELEMENTS OF
DANCE**

PERFORM

ANATOMY

Dance

The study of Dance centres on the three practices of performance, composition and appreciation. Equal emphasis is placed on the processes and the end-product. Students learn both movement principles and stylised techniques, and they learn through both problem-solving and directed teaching. The development of creativity, imagination and individuality is emphasised equally with knowledge of dance.

Dance involves the development of physical skill as well as aesthetic, artistic and cultural understanding.

- **dance performance** as a means of developing dance technique and performance quality to communicate ideas
- **dance composition** as a means of creating and structuring movement to express and communicate ideas
- **dance appreciation** as a means of describing and analysing dance as an expression of ideas within a social, cultural or historical context

There is the opportunity to extend classroom learning in a wide range of enrichment activities and a variety of integrated performances.

Assessment

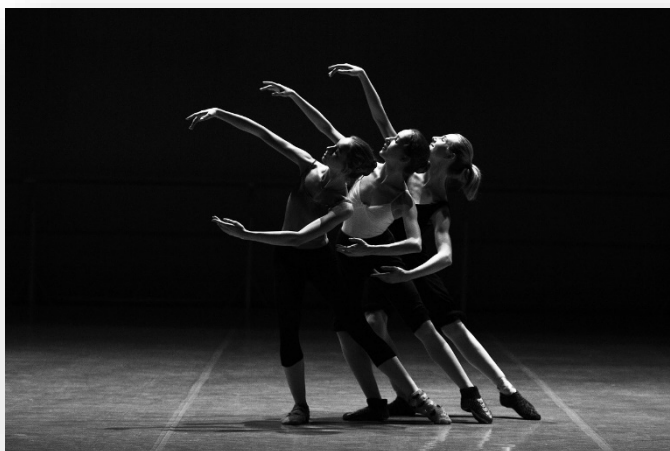
- Practical work: performance & composition
- Study of styles, practices, choreographers and the elements of dance

Requirements

- Subject fees apply for this course
- Willingness to participate in practical activities

For more information
contact Alison Nilon
(HT CAPA)

Course Fees:
\$15.50 per year





PRACTICAL

PROJECT WORK

DESIGN THEORY

PROBLEM SOLVING

Design & Technology

Design and Technology builds on the experiences of Stage 4 in Technology Mandatory. The course aims to further develop students' ability to design, produce and evaluate quality solutions.

The Design and Technology course will provide students with:

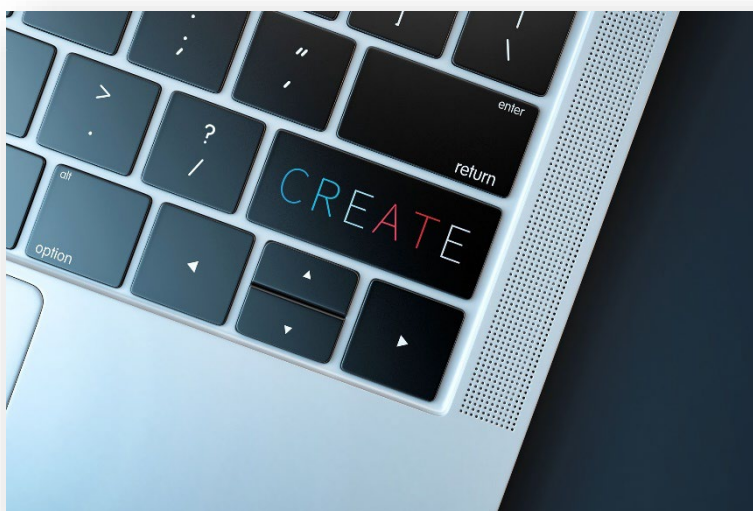
- Creative opportunities to design and make solutions to identified needs
- Problem solving skills that can be applied throughout life
- An understanding of the design process
- Knowledge about the activity of designers

Assessment

- Practical experiences centred on design projects
- Portfolios

Requirements

- Subject fees apply for this course
- Students may have to provide some items for practical tasks
- A4 display book
- Ruler, eraser, pens and pencils



**For more information
contact Donna Smithson
(HT TAS)**

**Course Fees:
\$33 per year**



PLAYBUILD

IMPROVISE

ELEMENTS OF DRAMA

THEATRE

PHYSICAL THEATRE

STAGING

For more information
contact Alison Nilon
(HT CAPA)

Course Fees:
\$15.50 per year

Drama

In Drama students learn to communicate in complex and powerful ways. Learning experiences in Drama involve the intellect, emotions, imagination and engage the whole person.

Learning in Drama in Years 9 and 10 can be divided into three areas:

- **Making Drama.** Creating drama that explores a range of imagined and created situations in a collaborative group and as an individual
- **Performing Drama.** Perform both self-devised and scripted drama using a variety of performance techniques and styles
- **Appreciating Drama.** Learn about the role and function of theatre in history and around the world today

A number of different theatrical styles will be studied including Melodrama, Scriptwriting, Commedia del'Arte, Farce, Physical Theatre, Improvisation and Playbuilding, Absurdism, Realism, Symbolism and Expressionism.

There is an opportunity to extend classroom learning in a range of enrichment activities including School Productions and the District Arts Festival.

Assessment

- Practical work: performing and creating
- Individual and group performances
- Logbook
- Study of styles, practice and the elements of drama

Requirements

- Subject fees apply for this course
- A4 exercise book
- Willingness to participate in practical activities





COOKING

**EXPERIMENTING WITH
FOOD**

MULTICULTURAL

FOODS

**FOOD STYLING AND
PRESENTATION**

HEALTHY HABITS

Food Technology

Do you want to be the next Master Chef?

Students will find that studying Food Technology can have a positive impact on the quality of their lives through food.

This course will provide students with:

- Practical food preparation experiences and cooking demonstrations
- Knowledge of wise food choices for a healthy lifestyle
- Experiences which will create an awareness of the impact of technology
- Development of a variety of cooking skills

Assessment

Assessment techniques will involve the following:

- Practical experiences - food preparation and presentation skills
- Portfolios - which develop critical thinking skills
- Research projects and written reports
- Presentations
- Practical and written tests

Requirements

- Subject fees apply for this course
- A4 workbook
- Pens, pencils, ruler, eraser, glue and scissors



**For more information contact
Donna Smithson
(HT TAS)**

**Course Fees:
\$56 per year**



SUSTAINABILITY

ENVIRONMENT

POPULATION

PLACES

CHANGE

CONFLICT

CONNECTIONS

Elective Geography – Global Futures

Students choosing to study Elective Geography – Global Futures will develop their understanding of the forces and issues shaping our world today and into the future. Through Geography students are encouraged to question why the world is the way it is, reflect on their relationships with and responsibilities for the world and propose actions designed to shape a socially just and sustainable future.

Possible areas of study could include forces shaping the earth, spectacular geographic events, energy problems, resource wastage, poverty and wealth, population growth, international conflict, migration and refugees, and other contemporary issues. Throughout the course students will develop their map, graph, photograph, statistical, fieldwork and research skills.

Assessment

Class tests and examinations, research assignments, class participation, written reports and oral presentations could be used.

Requirements

- A4 workbook with a solid cover
- Ruler, eraser, pens, pencils, pencil sharpener, glue and scissors
- Possible excursion expenses



For more information contact
Lisa Eldridge
(HT HSIE)



ARCHAEOLOGY

CELTIC SOCIETY

SLAVERY

SAMURAI

WARFARE

MEDIEVAL

Elective History – Murder and Mayhem

Elective History – Murder and Mayhem is strongly recommended for students who wish to maintain their skills and interest in History. There is a wide variety of topics studied and they range from the ancient world to the modern world. Topics studied can include:

- Archaeology of early and ancient societies
- Medieval Greece (including the Spartan Warriors, Mythology and the Olympians)
- Tudor and Stuart England – Henry VIII and his six wives, Bloody Mary, Elizabeth I
- Conspiracy theories and myths
- Historical figures (including Jack the Ripper, John F. Kennedy, Nelson Mandela and Che Guevara)
- Warfare through the ages
- The Holocaust
- Modern world issues such as terrorism, apartheid, struggles for freedom and genocide

Assessment

Class tests and examinations, research assignments, class participation, written reports and oral presentations could be used.

Requirements

- A4 workbook with a solid cover
- Ruler, eraser, pens, pencils, pencil sharpener, glue and scissors
- Possible excursion expenses

For more information
contact Lisa Eldridge
(HT HSIE)





PROJECT PLANNING

PRACTICAL PROJECT WORK

DESIGN MODIFICATION

MAJOR PROJECT

Industrial Technology – Timber

The Timber focus area provides opportunities for students to develop knowledge, understanding and skills in relation to the timber and associated industries. The core modules are studied in Year 9 and are enhanced in Year 10 with the study of both of the following:

Wood Machining. Students produce projects using tools such as the wood lathe, routers, drills, biscuit cutters, the band-saw and jigsaw.

Cabinet Work. Involves using basic cabinetwork joints to produce medium sized projects of good finish using basic hand and machine tools (e.g. decorative lidded box, magazine rack, bread box, coffee table).

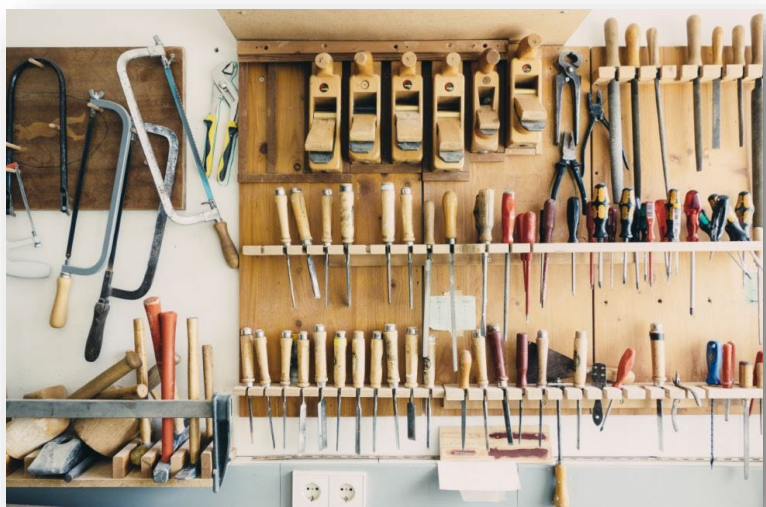
In Year 10 students will undertake the design and production of a major project.

Assessment

- Practical projects
- Research task
- Knowledge testing
- Design folio

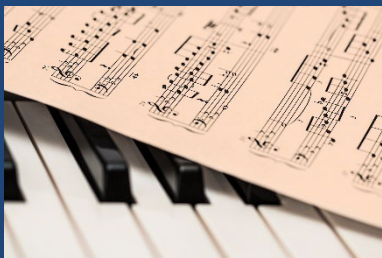
Requirements

- Subject fees apply for this course
- Any extension work will be at the student's own expense
- Safety glasses - for operating power tools and equipment
- Workbook and A4 display book with plastic sleeves
- Ruler, eraser, pens and pencils



For more information contact
Donna Smithson
(HT TAS)

Course Fees:
\$33 per year



PLAY

SING

COMPOSE

CONCEPTS OF MUSIC

**LEARN AN
INSTRUMENT**

Music

Learning Music in Years 9 and 10 is divided into three areas – Performing, Composing and Listening.

Performing

- In the classroom and beyond, students sing and play a variety of instruments both solo and as a group in a variety of styles

Composing

- Playing and analysing the compositions of others
- Learning to compose music

Listening

- Playing, listening to and analysing music from a wide range of musical styles

These components are studied in relation to different topics. The Mandatory Topic is Australian Music. Additional topics are also studied each year. Students will also complete a depth study on an area of personal interest

There is the opportunity to extend classroom learning in a wide range of enrichment activities including the Instrumental Program, Vocal Program, Instrumental Groups, School Productions and the District Arts Festival.

Assessment

- Practical skills: performance and composition
- Study of styles and musical concepts

Requirements

- Subject fees apply for this course
- A4 Display Folder and Exercise Book



**For more information contact
Alison Nilon
(HT CAPA)**

**Course Fees:
\$15.50 per year**



CAREER IN FITNESS

LEVEL 0 COACH

LIFELONG FITNESS

TECHNOLOGY

**SPORT IN AUSTRALIAN
SOCIETY**

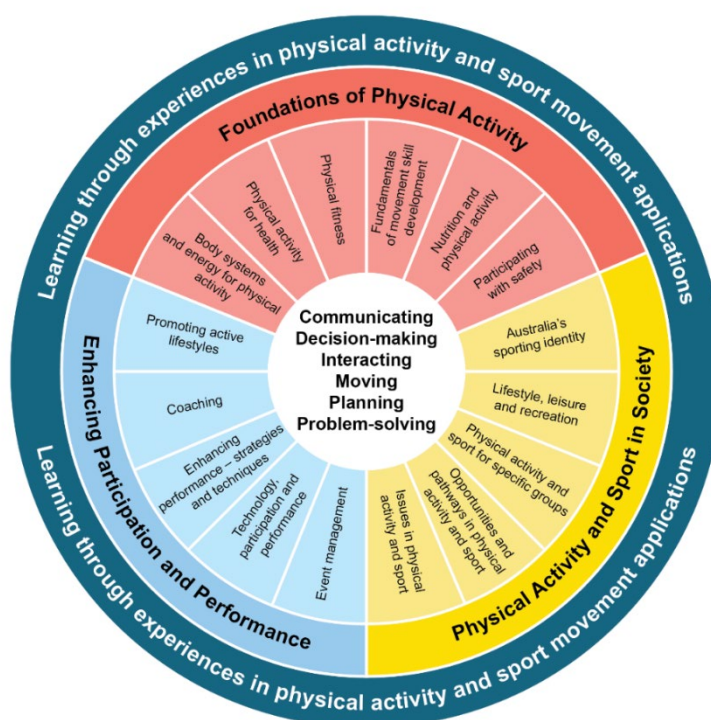
Physical Activity and Sports Studies (PASS)

Physical Activity and Sports Studies provides opportunities for personal challenge, enjoyment and satisfaction through students participating in a range of practical and theory lessons. Students will have the opportunity for positive interaction with others, in both collaborative and competitive contexts, and support the development of key social skills necessary for strong interpersonal relationships.

PASS students will develop a foundation for participation and performance in a range of activity and sport movement contexts. They will analyse the role of body systems, physical fitness, nutrition and safety, and apply their knowledge and understanding when participating and performing in various movement contexts.

Students will demonstrate a broad understanding of the historical, social and cultural factors that have shaped contemporary views of physical activity and sport in Australia. They will identify facts and reflect on significant changes, events and new directions that have shaped identity and increased participation for groups in society.

Students will complete modules of the PASS syllabus from the following areas: Foundations of physical activity, Physical activity and sport in society and Enhancing participation and performance.



**For more information contact
Tim Gregson
(HT PDHPE)**

**Course Fees: There are no
course fees but excursion
costs may apply**



PRACTICAL PROJECT WORK

CREATIVE DESIGN SKILL DEVELOPMENT

TEXTILE ARTS

CLOTHING DESIGN

Textiles Technology

Textiles Technology will enable students to have a wide range of practical sewing experiences.

This subject relates to the clothes you wear, your home and other environments. It is a subject that is fun, interesting and ever changing. You will learn what a fibre is and what the elements of design are. You will see how technology influences the textile world, learn how to design, produce and evaluate textile items and enjoy hands on experiences.

This course will provide students with:

- Practical textile experiences
- Skills to apply design knowledge to creative projects
- Knowledge about the properties and performance of textiles
- Awareness of the roles of textiles in society

Assessment

- Textile projects, including design work and supporting documents
- Written tests
- Class work

Requirements

- Subject fees apply for this course
- Students will have to provide some patterns, fabrics and sewing notions
- A4 workbook and display folder
- Pens, pencils, pencil sharpener, ruler and eraser



**For more information contact
Donna Smithson
(HT TAS)**

**Course Fees:
\$40 per year**



PAINT

DRAW

SCULPT

EXHIBIT

CERAMICS

ART HISTORY

PHOTOGRAPHY

Visual Arts

The Visual Arts course consists of making and studying artworks in a number of possible areas – drawing, painting, sculpture, ceramics, printmaking, etc. The practical side of the course involves the development and production of artworks and exploring a diverse range of art-making processes. The study of Art History is integrated with the practical work so that students can discover how others have solved similar artistic problems and developed ideas.

Visual Arts is a course for students who enjoy exploring different expressive forms and want to learn new skills and develop their own creativity.

The course is predominately based on art making practices, which are assessed on concept development and technical skills.

Assessment

- Practical skills
- Historical and critical studies

Requirements

- Subject fees apply for this course
- A4 exercise book
- A4 visual arts diary
- Students will be able to purchase a materials kit for this subject



**For more information
contact Alison Nilon
(HT CAPA)**

**Course Fees:
\$43 per year**



CERAMICS

WHEEL

HAND BUILDING

Visual Design

In this course students develop and make designed objects in clay which explore and experiment with 2D and 3D qualities. Students learn to use hand-built and wheel-thrown forms in clay to present visual design artworks, including objects and packaging. The techniques and technologies to develop and resolve ideas in functional ceramics are covered extensively. Students engage with the processes and skills in slab, coil, moulded and thrown forms. Surface decoration is explored using slips, resist wax, glazes, oxides and paper transfers. Students use their visual design journal to explore and record their immediate and wider environment as a rich source of visual design ideas, and investigate traditional Indigenous and emerging technologies to inform their own practice.

Assessment

- Making visual design artworks (practical)
- Critically and historically interpreting visual design artworks (written, report or presentations)

Requirements

- Subject fees apply for this course
- Laptop
- Visual diary

**For more information
contact Alison Nilon
(HT CAPA)**

**Course Fees:
\$43 per year**



What do I do now?

In addition to the compulsory subjects every student will complete two elective courses. Each of these electives will be included on a student's Record of School Achievement. The successful completion of an elective in Year 9 and 10 is the best possible preparation for the senior school years as well as for TAFE.

Students must complete and submit the subject preference forms online NO LATER than Friday, 18 September 2026. The 2027 elective lines will be formed from these preferences and every effort will be made to place students in their preferred subjects.

We make every effort to meet students' requests, but sometimes this will not be possible.

For More Information...

Faculty Head Teachers

Alison Nilon (HT CAPA)
Jodie Winslade (HT English)
Lisa Eldridge (HT HSIE)
Carolyn Gibbs (HT Mathematics)
Tim Gregson (HT PDHPE)
Jonathan Brown (HT Science)
Donna Smithson (HT TAS)

Transition Advisor

Chris Bell (HT Teaching and Learning: Senior Studies)

Year Advisor

Lauren Brahe

Deputy Principal

Dale Cunningham

Principal

Ann-Marie Shannon