YEAR 8 2026

SUBJECT SELECTION BOOKLET

LAMBTON HIGH SCHOOL

Respect | Excellence | Integrity | Responsibility

Foreword

The intention of this booklet is to provide information which will assist students, in consultation with parents/carers, to make informed subject selections for elective courses to be undertaken in Year 8 2026.

Students will still be required to study a Core Curriculum, but in addition there are two elective courses (known as X and Y Electives), which will allow for some individual choice. In this way we cater for mandatory study requirements, as well as student interest. Elective courses should be chosen based on interest and aptitude. It is important to note the choices made regarding Year 8 elective courses are for one year only.

Please be aware that many elective courses, particularly in Technological and Applied Studies (TAS) and Creative and Performing Arts (CAPA) faculty areas, have course contributions attached. Materials for these subjects are bought from these course contributions. If students are not in a financial position to contribute or are opposed to paying for the materials required, another elective course should be chosen, unless you have made other arrangements with the Principal. All course contributions should be paid in full by the end of the first month of the school year. Reselection may be necessary otherwise.

This booklet will enable students and parents/carers to better understand the curriculum and to make an informed choice of subjects. Should students or parents require more information about specific elective course details, please contact the respective Faculty Head Teacher or the Head Teacher Secondary Studies.

Mr. Jim Keath – Head Teacher Secondary Studies

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Subject Selection Timeline

DATE	EVENT

Term 3 Week 2	• Subject Selection Information Booklet – Year 8 2026
	  ○ Student copy issued digitally via CANVAS
	  ○ Parent copy issued digitally via email

Term 3 Week 3
Thursday 7 August
	• Parent/Carer Information Session
	  ○ Venue: Mini Hall
	  ○ Time: 5.00pm-5.30pm (Year 8 2026)

Term 3 Week 3
Friday 8 August
	• Student Information & Expo Session
	  ○ Venue: Mini Hall and Main Quad
	  ○ Period: 2

Term 3 Week 3 Friday 8 August	• WebChoices Portal open for online submission of elective course preferences.
Term 3 Week 4 Friday 15 August	• WebChoices Portal closes for online submission of elective course preferences (3.05pm).

Year 8 Curriculum Overview

The pattern of subjects to be studied by Year 8 students differs from that in Year 7.

In Year 8, all students will study the mandatory *Core* subjects, along with two *Elective* subjects for the duration of the year.

CURRICULUM	SUBJECTS
Core Subjects (Mandatory)	• English • Mathematics • Science • HSIE • PDHPE • Technology • Lambton Learning Ladder (LLL) • Sport
Elective Subjects	• X-elective course • Y-elective course

Elective Course Information

Students are to choose **two** elective courses as their main preferences, in order of priority, and three reserve preferences, also in order of priority. The specific details of each elective course offered in Year 8 is contained in this booklet.

Students will make their subject selections online, through the WebChoices selection portal. An email and password will be sent to student email addresses on Friday 8 August. It is important students prioritise their preferences in the order that courses are important to them. Students can change their preferences any number of times up until the closing date, with this having no impact on subject determinations. Students are asked to complete their selections, in consultation with their parents, by Friday 15 August (3.05pm).

Every effort will be made to give students their first choice of elective courses, but this may not always be possible. Elective courses will be formed on student demand, but staffing, resource and timetabling constraints may mean that not every course offered will be able to run. Therefore, it is important students prioritise their reserve preferences in the instance that a higher preference selection does not run.

Students who fail to submit subject selections by the specified deadline will be placed in courses based on availability.

Year 8 Elective Courses – Overview

FACULTY	ELECTIVE COURSE
CAPA	• Drama • Music • Photographic & Digital Media • Stage Craft (Entertainment Technologies) • Visual Arts
IT / LOTE	• Computer Games & Programming • French
Mathematics	• Elective Mathematics: To ∞ and beyond (exploring the mathematical world)
PDHPE	• Physical Activity & Sports Studies
TAS	• Cabinetwork • Childcare • Design & Fashion • Food Technology • Graphics Technology • Industrial Technology – Junior Engineering • Jewellery Design

Year 8 Elective Course Descriptors

CABINETWORK

Course Contributions: $35.00	**Course Length:** One year (Year 8)

Who is this subject intended for?

A practical course based in the Wood Workshop allowing students to work using some woodworking machines, as well as bench exercises to produce practical projects.

Course Description

Students will develop skills and knowledge in:

- Practical woodworking skills
- Associated theoretical knowledge to compliment practical skills
- Basic personalised product designs

Practical Projects

- Cutting Board
- Toolbox
- Desk Organiser

Main Topics

The main areas of study in this course include:

- Workplace Health and Safety
- Practical construction skills
- Material preparation
- Use of hand tools and machinery
- Joints
- Reading working drawings and plans
- Assembly
- Material and product properties and their use
- Basic knowledge of the Timber Industry

Particular Course Requirements:

- Students are required to wear fully enclosed leather school shoes.

Further Information

Staff: Mr. Mannweiler

Faculty: TAS (Industrial Arts)

CHILDCARE

Course Contributions: $30.00	**Course Length:** One year (Year 8)

Who is this subject intended for?

This course is intended for any student with an interest in learning about the development and care of young children. It extends students' understanding of human development from conception to middle childhood and provides opportunities for them to apply this learning in a variety of situations.

Course Description

Students will learn about the beginning of life, pregnancy, birth, growth and development of the child as well as developing skills in childcare. They will be given the opportunity to complete tasks and activities involving children.

Main Topics

The main areas of study in this course include:

- The Beginning of Life
- Pregnancy
- Care of the Newborn Baby
- Growth and Development
- Skills for Childcare
- Nutrition

Further Information

Staff: Miss. Loveday

Faculty: TAS (Applied Technology)

COMPUTER GAMES & PROGRAMMING

Course Contributions: N/A	**Course Length:** One year (Year 8)

Who is this subject intended for?

In this course students plan, design and create assets for video games. Content includes game design, computer programming and visual assets.

Course Description

Students will develop skills and knowledge in:

- Game engines, and computer programming languages to create: text-adventure games (e.g. Zork); 2D platformer games (e.g. Mario); all assets needed for a game (art, music, level-design, etc).
- Students will also build an electronic portfolio of the projects they complete.
- Game development is an exciting employment growth area. Being able to program is an invaluable skill to take to an employer; whether it is to ability to write a database search or implement a complete software solution. This is the beginning phase of development of this skillset.
- Problem solving in a variety of contexts, based off video games.

Main Topics

The main areas of study in this course include:

- Good game design – What makes a good electronic game and why? Examples like Space Invaders and Pac Man are used to examine this area.
- Utilising a game engine to build simple, engaging games with a high level of player interaction.
- Building in good game essential features like scoring and high scorers tables.
- Game sprite design and development for personalised creations.
- Programming with computer languages like Python, represented in block code.

Further Information

Staff: Mr. Swain

Faculty: IT/LOTE

DESIGN & FASHION

Course Contributions: $45.00	**Course Length:** One year (Year 8)

Who is this subject intended for?

Design and Fashion is for students who are resourceful, creative, proactive and responsible learners. For those of you who love fashion, style and trends, this is a subject that allows creativity to be demonstrated in a variety of mediums.

Course Description

During this course, students will learn to:

- Design portfolio documentation process throughout all units of work.
- Demonstrate skill in the production of textile projects.
- Select and manipulate a range of textile materials.
- Generate design ideas for textile items.
- Safely use techniques and equipment in the production of textile projects.
- Identify aspects of quality in the design and construction of textile items.
- Generate design mood boards to reflect historical, cultural or contemporary influences.
- Utilise a range of fibre, yarn and fabrics.

Areas of Study:

1. Design
2. Properties and Performances of Textiles
3. Textiles and Society

Main Topics

- Fashion illustration and production drawings
- Sleepwear design and construction
- Upcycling vintage garment makeover
- Interior design item construction
- Basic pattern use – creating a casual Item of clothing
- Designers in the textile industry
- Manufacturing process
- Dyeing processes of fabrics
- Australian fashion industry
- Sustainable design developments

Course Requirements:

- Students will be required to provide their own material of choice to be used in two major textile prototypes in this course.

Further Information

Staff: Miss. Loveday

Faculty: TAS (Applied Technology)

DRAMA

Course Contributions: $55.00	**Course Length:** One year (Year 8)

Who is this subject intended for?

All students interested in the following should consider Drama as an elective course: performing, directing, scriptwriting, design and leading teams. Drama is not just about performing, it is about learning and exploring essential skills such as communication, critical and creative thinking, problem solving and collaboration. Overall, developing a student's employability skills.

Course Description

In Year 8, students learn the fundamental practical skills required to become a strong Drama practitioner. The curriculum is practical based where students explore topics in a fun and creative environment that enriches student learning through the establishment of firm and supportive teams. The introductory year of Drama builds skills in improvisation, physical theatre and play building. Students get to work in professional theatre venues where possible and develop their skills in directing and design. Year 8 Drama students are automatically placed in Star Struck as the LHS Drama Group.

Main Topics

Improvisation & Theatre Sports Competition

- Students learn the basics of Drama that support their learning and ability to make, accept and extend offers in improvised situations.

StarStruck & Melodrama

- Students will explore the topic Melodrama and perform at junior level for Green Day. Students will also be involved in StarStruck, which is an amazing opportunity to showcase their skills at a regional level.

Scripted Drama

- Students work in small groups to direct, design and stage a small-scripted scene or short play. This may involve short film work through negotiation with the teacher. Students will present their work to a junior Lambton HS audience.

Student-Directed Project

- Students work in groups to pursue a project about which they are passionate. This can be performance, design or research based.

Course Requirements

- $55.00 for Star Struck participation fee. Additional costume fees may also apply.

Further Information

Staff: Mr. Wilson, Mrs. Grivas

Faculty: CAPA

ELECTIVE MATHEMATICS: TO ∞ AND BEYOND (EXPLORING THE MATHEMATICAL WORLD)

Course Contributions: $10.00*	**Course Length:** One year (Year 8)

Who is this subject intended for?

This course is intended for students that have a strong interest or passion for mathematics. Students that would like to pursue STEAM based subjects or further studies will enjoy this subject.

Course Description

Students will learn about mathematical concepts that exist within the world. Students selecting this elective will work as hands on learners, through inquiry-based learning formats, to investigate the applications of mathematical thinking. Students will also develop a deeper understanding of how approaches to mathematics have translated and impacted through history.

Main Topics

The main areas of study in this course include:

- Fractals: The beauty of mathematics
- Mathematics in the Modern World: Crime, animation and elements of the 21st Century
- STEAM: Making mathematics work
- Cryptography: Hidden codes and the secrecy of mathematics
- Infinity, Counting Systems & Set Theory: Understanding the history and patterns of numbers
- Mathematical Paradoxes: Pushing the boundaries when mathematics doesn't make sense
- The Maths Behind The Game
- Transition Activity: Creating a problem solving activity for Year 6 students.

Further Information

Staff: Mrs. Nolan, Mrs. Martindale

Faculty: Mathematics

*There is also an opportunity to participate in excursions at an additional cost.

FOOD TECHNOLOGY

Course Contributions: $90.00	**Course Length:** One year (Year 8)

Who is this subject intended for?

This course is for students who wish to develop basic food preparation skills whilst having fun in the process. Students will investigate food through hands-on application of food preparation and presentation.

Course Description

Students develop practical skills in preparing and presenting food that will enable them to select and use appropriate ingredients, methods and equipment. This course provides students with some knowledge and understanding of nutrition and of food properties, processing and preparation and their interrelationships. It addresses the importance of hygiene and safe working practices. Students will also examine a range of desserts and Asian cookery.

Main Topics

- Term 1 – Kitchen Basics
- Term 2 – Nutrition
- Term 3 – Desserts for Fun
- Term 4 – Cultural Cookery

Particular Course Requirements:

- Students are required to wear a white apron and fully enclosed leather school shoes for practical lessons.

Further Information

Staff: Mrs. Cossettini

Faculty: TAS (Applied Technology)

FRENCH

Course Contributions: $5.00	**Course Length:** One year (Year 8)

Who is this subject intended for?

The ability to communicate in French provides incentives for travel and for more meaningful interactions with speakers of French, encouraging sociocultural understanding between Australia and francophone countries, and cohesion within the Australian community. It also provides opportunities for students to gain insights into the contributions that have been made by French-speaking communities to Australian society and to the global community. For background speakers, this valuable learning experience is further enhanced by the opportunity to maintain and develop their French language skills and understanding of their cultural heritage.

Course Description

Through learning languages, students develop an intercultural capability and an understanding of the role of language and culture in communication and become more accepting of difference and diversity. They develop an understanding of global citizenship, and reflect on their own heritage, values, culture, and identity.

Students will develop sound skills in communicating in spoken and written French through a wide range of communicative activities and tasks which will enhance the practical French language skills appropriate for travel abroad and/or future career opportunities.

Main Topics

This course will build on what students studied in Year 7 and will enable them to further develop their experiences of French culture. Students will develop a deeper understanding of the French language and speakers of French and French speaking communities throughout the world. Students interact with others in French to exchange information and ideas on topics of interest, and engage in collaborative tasks that involve making plans and arrangements.

Topics studied include:

- Personal information
- Hobbies & pastimes
- Expressing opinions (e.g., likes & dislikes)
- French & French speaking people, places and history

Further Information

Staff: Mr. Nash, Ms. Manitta

Faculty: IT/LOTE

GRAPHICS TECHNOLOGY

Course Contributions: $15.00	**Course Length:** One year (Year 8)

Who is this subject intended for?

This course is for those that would like to explore Technical Drawing, Computer Aided Drawing, and Graphical Communication.

Course Description

Throughout this course students will learn to:

- Translate their ideas from images to drawings which they can use to develop their thoughts.
- Prepare drawings designed to convey information to technical people to be used for construction, engineering, and architecture.
- Develop an understanding of mapping, landscape design and interior design.
- Use various computer software packages, suitable for the many different types of graphical communication.
- Develop skills in many areas of graphics and drawing to build a sound foundation for future elective subjects and employment in a large range of areas.

Main Topics

The main areas of study in this course include:

- Technical Drawing using both traditional and computer-based skills.
- Orthogonal Drawing, Isometric drawing and Oblique drawing.
- Use of Google Sketch-Up and TurboCAD.
- Integration of computer aided drawing and computer aided manufacturing through use of a 3D printer.
- Use of Photoshop to create Graphical Products such as book and magazine covers, graphics used for product advertising and packaging.

Further Information

Staff: Mr. Mannweiler

Faculty: TAS (Industrial Arts)

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY – JUNIOR ENGINEERING

Course Contributions: $45.00	**Course Length:** One year (Year 8)

Who is this subject intended for?

This course gives the students an introduction to knowledge and skills in the subject area of engineering.

Course Description

Throughout this course students will develop skills and knowledge of:

- Force, motion and energy
- Aerodynamics
- Graphical Design and Manufacturing (CAD/CAM)
- Practical skills in the manufacture of own $C0^2$ Dragster
- Manufacturing to specifications
- Learn how forces and materials properties effect the behaviour and performance of their engineered system.

Main Topics

The main areas of study in this course include:

- Applied Mathematics: force, motion and energy
- Drawing/sketching techniques
- Use of CAD (Computer Aided Design) in the manufacture of Engineered Products
- Use of CAM (Computer Aided Manufacturing) in the manufacture of Engineered products
- Practical skills: manufacture of own $C0^2$ Dragster
- Entry into area $C0^2$ Dragsters in Schools competition

Further Information

Staff: Mr. Papadopoulos

Faculty: TAS (Industrial Arts)

JEWELLERY DESIGN

Course Contributions: $30.00	**Course Length:** One year (Year 8)

Who is this subject intended for?

In this practical course students design and produce a range of small-scale jewellery pieces which develop basic skills in shaping and joining mixed materials.

Course Description

Throughout this course students will develop skills and knowledge of:

- Functions of jewellery
- Different Styles of jewellery
- Using hand tools and metal working machinery to shape jewellery
- Using mixed materials such as metal, acrylic, beads, leather, clay and timber
- Using different decoration techniques such as stamping and texturing
- Design drawing skills
- Design portfolio presentation
- Entrepreneurial skills

Main Topics

The main areas of study in this course include:

- Drawing/sketching techniques
- Use of CAD in manufacturing their jewellery piece
- Use of 3D printing software
- Practical skills: manufacture of own jewellery designs
- Design skills: production of a design portfolio that showcases their jewellery
- Promotion and marketing to sell jewellery: the option to sell their jewellery at a design market held at school.

Further Information

Staff: Miss. Irvine

Faculty: TAS (Industrial Arts)

MUSIC

Course Contributions: $20.00	**Course Length:** One year (Year 8)

Who is this subject intended for?

All students should have the opportunity to develop their musical abilities and potential. As an artform, music pervades society and occupies a significant place in world cultures and in the oral and recorded history of all civilisations. At an individual level, music is a medium of personal expression. It enables the sharing of ideas, feelings and experiences.

Course Description

This practical course gives students the opportunity to sing or play a musical instrument. It has a focus on contemporary music styles and builds on the musical foundations begun in Year 7. All students will have the chance to use different forms of technology to notate their own songs, create loop-based compositions and record their work in the Music Technology Studio.

Main Topics

Music is designed for students who love to perform and to study all types of music. Topics include a wide range of styles such as Rock, Popular, Classical and music from a range of different cultures. It aims to cater for students with various interests and abilities and to develop each student's capacity to understand and enjoy music-making, both in a group and individually.

Music provides opportunities to:

- Develop skills on an instrument of choice.
- Work with keyboards and computer technology.
- Compose, experiment, improvise, organise and arrange music.
- Listen to a wide range of musical styles and discuss the contexts of pitch, duration, tone colour, structure and expressive techniques.
- Record your performances and compositions in the Music Technology Lab.

Further Information

Staff: Mr. Wilson

Faculty: CAPA

PHOTOGRAPHIC & DIGITAL MEDIA

Course Contributions: $30.00	**Course Length:** One year (Year 8)

Who is this subject intended for?

This course is for students who want their photography to stand out. Nearly everyone carries a camera with them in their phones – we take, share and look at more photos than ever before. This course teaches you how to take and edit photos to go beyond just basic shots that anyone can take, and instead move into creative, engaging and exciting visual media. It doesn't matter if you want to create photographs for galleries, social media, marketing, or just for sharing with friends and family, this course will teach you how to do exactly that.

Course Description

Objectives:

- To develop an appreciation of photography as an important form of communication in modern society.
- To encourage students to respond to their world through the media of photography.
- To instill a passion for taking high quality photographs that engage a wider audience.
- To make students aware that photography can be an interesting, useful and entertaining hobby, and that photographic excellence can lead to a rewarding career.

Main Topics

Students will progress through projects to:

- Learn the skills to operate and maximise the results from a digital camera (DSLR and smart phone).
- Learn the techniques that professional photographers use to take high quality, engaging photographs.
- Understand the artistic requirements of photographic composition.
- Learn how to edit, manipulate and enhance photos using industry standard software such as Adobe Photoshop and Lightroom.

Particular Course Requirements:

- Students are required to wear fully enclosed leather school shoes for practical lessons.
- During the course it will be necessary to undertake regular excursions, some involving out of school travel.
- It is not essential for students to have their own camera.

Further Information

Staff: Mr. Wilson, Mr. Clift

Faculty: CAPA

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY & SPORTS STUDIES

Course Contributions: $5.00	**Course Length:** One year (Year 8)

Who is this subject intended for?

The Year 8 Physical Activity and Sport Studies (PASS) course would suit students interested in sport, recreation and physical activity with a view of continuing their studies into Years 9 and 10. It will also assist in providing students with a knowledge and skills base that will allow students to transition into the Stage 6 HSC Health and Movement Science course.

Course Description

The aim of PASS is to enhance students' capacity to participate effectively in physical activity and sport, leading to improved quality of life for themselves and others. PASS promotes learning about movement and provides students with opportunities to develop their movement skills, analyse movement performance and assist the performance of others.

Recreation, physical activity, sport and related health fields provide legitimate career pathways. This course provides students with a broad understanding of the multifaceted nature of these fields. It also introduces students to valuable and marketable skills in organisation, enterprise, leadership and communication.

Main Topics

Theory Units

- Physical Activity for Health
- Physical Fitness
- Australia's Sporting Identity
- Event Management

Practical Units

- Recreational Games/Games of the World
- Floor Hockey
- Korfball
- Striking and Fielding
- Oztag
- Flag Football
- Mini tennis
- Coburn Cup

Further Information

Staff: Ms. Cohen

Faculty: PDHPE

STAGE CRAFT (ENTERTAINMENT TECHNOLOGIES)

Course Contributions: $20.00	**Course Length:** One year (Year 8)

Who is this subject intended for?

A course reflecting the Entertainment Industry with a specific focus to audio, lighting, staging and video production. The cultural industries are wide-ranging, covering many activities, organisations and businesses in fields associated with the arts, live music, theatre, media and entertainment. These industries are essential to a vibrant and creative society, contributing to the quality of life in Australia and to an understanding of our cultural identity. They also contribute significantly to the national economy as there tends to be a high proportion of contract and casual work. Students who have an interest in computers, technology, lighting, audio design and production and performance are suited to this course. You don't necessarily have to be a Music, Drama, Visual Arts, Computers or Technology student already – students should have an interest and willingness to participate and learn new skills in the realm of the Entertainment Industry.

Course Description

The course is diverse and covers all aspects of the production of any type of live performance or event. Occupational areas include audio, lighting, sets, staging and vision systems. As part of the commitment to this course, students will have the opportunity to set up and operate audio-visual equipment and staging for all school events held in the MPC. Students will gain skills and experience for the following future career opportunities:

- Audio Engineer (in live music as well as recording studio environments)
- Lighting Designer/Operator
- Stage Manager (theatre, live music, etc.)
- Production Manager/Tour Manager
- Musician, actor, director, set designer, etc.

Main Topics

In this course, students will learn to complete a range of activities that contribute to the delivery of high Entertainment events. Topics studied in Entertainment include:

- Safe Work Practices (including stage design, logistics, safe equipment movement and Sound Pressure Levels, etc.)
- Audio (selecting and setting up microphones, running a mixing desk, recording audio, etc.)
- Lighting (setting up lighting fixtures, running a lighting desk, setting up DMX controls, etc.)
- Vision (operating various software for presentations, controlling projection technology, camera operating, etc.)
- Staging (designing stage plots, setting up instruments, operating theatre curtains, setting up stage platforms and other set pieces, etc.)
- Recording and creating audio (using Digital Audio Workstations to create and record music, etc.)

Further Information

Staff: Mr. Clift

Faculty: CAPA

VISUAL ARTS

Course Contributions: $30.00	**Course Length:** One year (Year 8)

Who is this subject intended for?

This course is well suited to students who are interested in building on practical skills and creative thinking processes developed in Year 7. It is recommended for students looking to develop their 21st Century employability skills and to improve their confidence in expressing their ideas to an audience through exhibitions.

Course Description

Visual Arts fosters interest and enjoyment in the making and studying of art. Visual Arts builds understanding of the role of art, in all forms of media, in contemporary and historical cultures and visual worlds.

In Year 8 students will be given opportunities to:

- Create artworks which explore their own ideas and interests.
- Work in a range of expressive forms for example drawing, painting, printmaking, photography, ceramics, sculpture, documented forms, film, graphic design.
- Document their artmaking experiences using a Visual Arts Process Diary.
- Create written responses to artists and artworks related to practical work.
- Exhibit artworks in a range of different exhibitions including the Artibald Prize Competition, Generate Showcase, MAD Night to inspire artmaking in the classroom.
- Visit art exhibitions in a range of art galleries to explore original artworks in a real-life context.

Main Topics

The Year 8 Visual Arts Course entails a minimum of 2 units of work which focus on and explore concepts and imagery about their world, interests and broader cultural phenomenon.

Through effective teaching and learning, students' knowledge of the visual arts can become increasingly complex, more reflective and authoritative over time. This syllabus encourages students to become informed, interested and active citizens as participants in, and consumers of, the visual arts and contemporary culture. It encourages the creative and confident use of technologies including traditional and contemporary artforms and emerging applications in Information and Communication Technologies and digital media.

Further Information

Staff: Mr. Wilson, Miss. Sullivan, Ms. Watt **Faculty:** CAPA