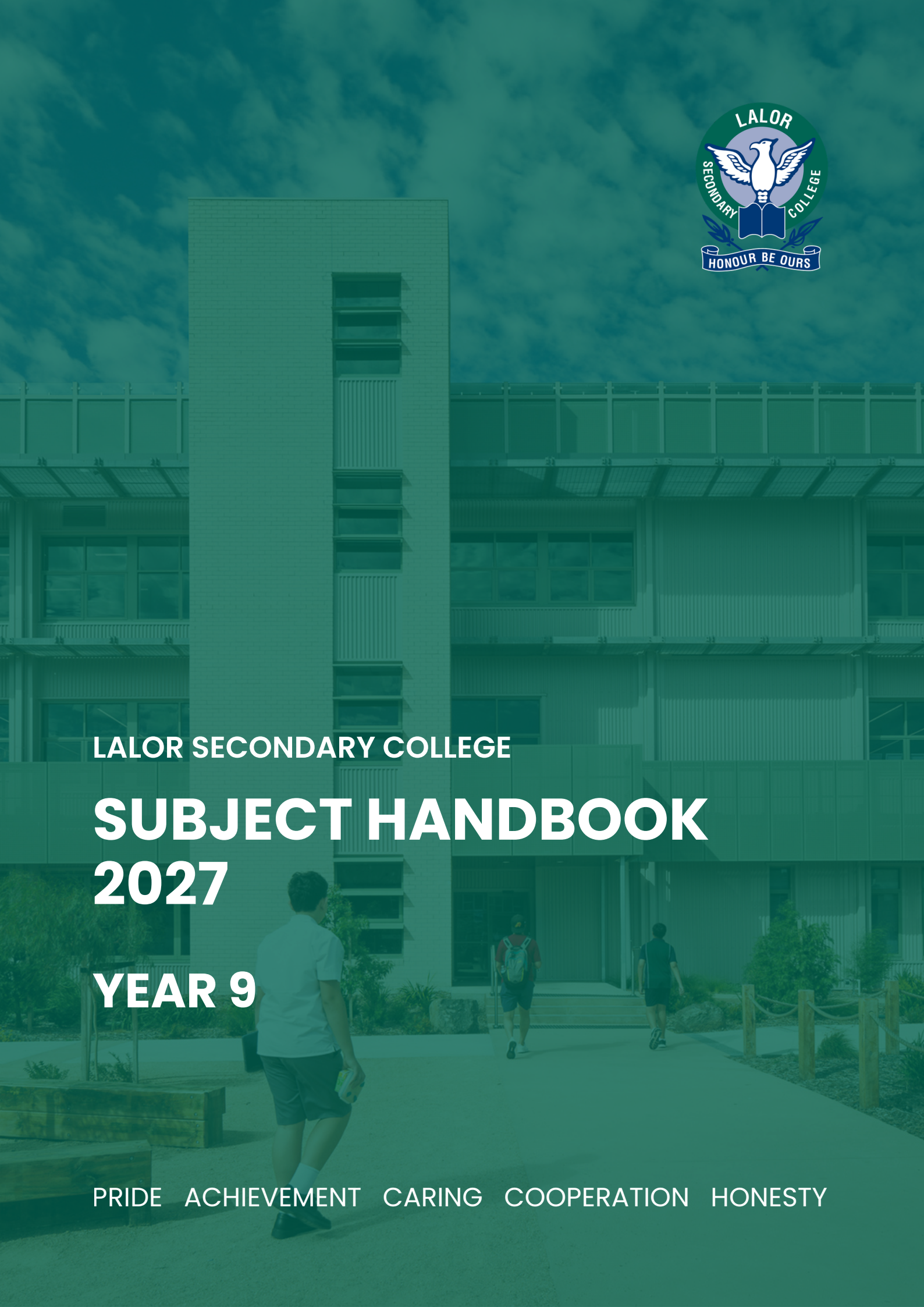

LALOR SECONDARY COLLEGE

SUBJECT HANDBOOK 2027

YEAR 9

PRIDE ACHIEVEMENT CARING COOPERATION HONESTY

LALOR SECONDARY COLLEGE

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Ms Laura Forster

Assistant Principal (Middle Years)
Ms Julie Ryan

Assistant Principal (Junior Years)
Mr Josh Simpson

Curriculum Leader
Mr Mario Ladnjak

Year 9 and 10 Sub-school Leader
Ms Lana Siryani

Lalor Secondary College was established in 1963. It is a co-educational Year 7-12 school situated in the City of Whittlesea and serves the communities of Lalor, Thomastown, Epping, South Morang, Mill Park and Reservoir. Set on approximately 4 hectares the college has excellent facilities and spacious grounds.

In 2026 the college will have an enrolment of approximately 1200 students representing more than 40 ethnic groups with approximately 60% from non-English speaking backgrounds.

The College provides a broad, inclusive and comprehensive Curriculum designed around the Victorian Curriculum to ensure the needs of all students are met.

The College provides a number of pathways at the senior level of the school including a comprehensive range of VCE subjects, including the VCE Vocational Major and VET programs.

A partnership between parents, staff and students is encouraged through informal and formal communication.

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MISSION & VISION

PRIDE
ACHIEVEMENT
CARING
COOPERATION
HONESTY

Mission

The community of Lalor Secondary College acknowledges the ability and right of all students to learn and to experience success. All students are encouraged and challenged to reach their full potential. The College provides studentsand staff with a safe and nurturing environment.

Vision

Our vision for Lalor Secondary College is to be a vibrant school where learning is valued and students are empowered to become lifelong, socially responsible learners where a challenging and diverse curriculum caters for the variety of learning styles and the varying talents of students and staff are recognised, and celebrated where excellencea nd effort are rewarded.



COLLEGE VALUES





LSC School Values

ACHIEVEMENT

THIS MEANS

- Being committed
- Being persistent
- Always striving to do my best
- Having aspirations
- Aiming for excellence

THIS VALUE IS SHOWN WHEN

- I am committed
- I always try my best
- I am organised
- I complete all my work
- I celebrate achievement
- I am responsible
- I am motivated
- I am rational
- I see mistakes as an opportunity for improvement

CARING

THIS MEANS

- Being respectful
- Having positive relationships
- Being helpful
- Using manners
- Showing friendship
- Having a positive attitude

THIS VALUE IS SHOWN WHEN

- I am attentive I am helpful to others
- in need I show respect to others and
- show
  them that they are being noticed
- I choose my attitude
- I am a good listener
- I am sensitive to others needs
- I behave consistently to build richer relationships
- I am respectful
- I am tolerant
- I am friendly
- I am appreciative
- I make others comfortable
- I am encouraging
- I accept others for who they are
- I consider others feelings and needs
- I treat others in a caring manner
- I am polite

PRIDE

THIS MEANS

- Being loyal
- Doing my personal best
- Being passionate and satisfied with your own achievements.
- Being passionate and satisfied with the achievements of your school
- Being passionate and satisfied with the achievements of your peers.

THIS VALUE IS SHOWN WHEN

- I am proud of my work
- I am passionate about everything I do
- I take pride in what I participate in
- I am proud of my school
- I dress appropriately and with pride
- I wear the school uniform with pride

HONESTY

THIS MEANS

- Being truthful
- Showing trust
- Being reliable
- Having integrity

THIS VALUE IS SHOWN WHEN

- I have integrity in what I do
- I am loyal
- I do not speak about others behind their back
- I am trustworthy
- I am responsible
- I am honest
- I am truthful

CO-OPERATION

THIS MEANS

- Being tolerant
- Being respectful
- Having understanding
- Working as part of a team

THIS VALUE IS SHOWN WHEN

- I work together with teachers and peers
- I follow instructions
- I accept other people's opinions
- I accept decisions
- I work in a team to achieve common goals
- I work with others willingly
- I listen to others ideas/opinions
- I am reliable



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



As a member of the Lalor Secondary College community for the past 25 years I have great confidence in the educational opportunities that we provide to all of our students. I know that Lalor Secondary College is a vibrant school where learning is valued and students are empowered to become lifelong, socially responsible learners, so that they are caring and confident contributors to the global community of the 21st Century.

The school's core values of Pride, Achievement, Caring, Cooperation and Honesty are embedded in our wellbeing and teaching practices, as well as our Student Code of Behaviour. High expectations and well-developed policy and practices ensure a calm teaching environment that allows the focus of the classroom to be centred around the teaching and learning. The high expectations are driven by a student culture where students motivate and inspire each other to achieve excellence in the academic field, applied learning field or through the extra-curricular program.

The extra-curricular program is supported by both student and staff led clubs. Some of these include the Science and Maths Clubs, Art Club, Horticulture Club, Sports Program, House Program, Music Program, Year 12 Mentor Program, Breakfast Club and Chess Club. This also includes a unique partnership with ABCN that provides numerous leadership opportunities to our students that supports the student leadership structures of the College. The school has an established and dedicated Wellbeing Team that delivers a coordinated approach to the Student Wellbeing Programs that have been embedded into the school curriculum and culture. Some of these programs include Peer Support, After School Homework Club and the Pre-Orientation Program. The College also offers distinctive educational programs such as the Years 7 to 10 differentiated Mathematics program, Years 7 to 10 Literacy Support Program, High Potential Learning Program, Years 7 to 12 Languages program offering Macedonian, Greek, Italian and Vietnamese and an extensive elective program in Years 9 and 10.

Our school community acknowledges the ability and the right of all students to learn and to experience success in the classroom. The College delivers a rigorous and comprehensive educational program built around the Victorian Curriculum in Years 7 to 10, where a challenging and diverse curriculum caters for a variety of learning styles. The varying talents of students at years 7 to 10 are recognised and celebrated and excellence and effort are rewarded throughout the College at regular intervals throughout the year. The program offered at Years 11 and 12 provides opportunities for students to excel in VCE, Vocational Major and VET, which is long established through student results of the highest level.. The school has a strong pathways program that ensures a high retention from Year 7 to Year 12 and assures all students in Years 9 to 12 receive counselling in choices of study and focuses on providing an individual pathway for every child.

The school recognises that the final years of schooling are a challenging time for students and parents, however the College has well established programs that offer wellbeing support to students through a teacher-student Mentor program, pathways and career support, stress management sessions and study skills presentations. The rigorous nature of the academic program means students are provided the opportunity to excel, within the newly revised VCE and VCE Vocational Major study, and academic excellence is the expectation from all within the College.

The information in this handbook will provide more explicit details to assist you with your upcoming choices. If you require any further information or clarification to assist you with your choices, please do not hesitate to contact the relevant staff member or myself.

Mr Corey Jewell
College Principal

IMPORTANT PROGRAMS AT THE YEAR 9 LEVEL

The Year 9 program emphasises independent life skills and encourages participation through a diverse range of activities.

The Year 9 Explore Program is designed to cater for the wellbeing needs and interests of Year 9 students. Explore is an integral part of the Year 9 Curriculum.

The program will encompass enrichment activities such as:

Resume & Cover Letters
Students will begin building essential job-readiness skills by creating their own resumes and cover letters. They'll learn how to present their strengths, experiences, and achievements in a professional way, skills that will support them in applying for part-time jobs and future opportunities.

Pathways & Careers
This unit encourages students to start thinking about their future. They will explore different career pathways, learn about subject choices for senior school, and reflect on their own strengths and interests. Guest speakers and interactive activities will help students connect school learning with real-world opportunities.

Banqer High
Our financial literacy program, Banqer High, gives students hands-on experience managing money in a simulated world. They'll earn income, budget for expenses, and make financial decisions and learning valuable skills about saving, spending, and planning for the future.

City Experience
Students will head into the city to explore Melbourne as a place of learning and opportunity. Through guided activities, they will develop navigation skills, teamwork, and an understanding of how to engage safely and responsibly in public spaces. This is a fantastic chance to build independence while discovering what the city has to offer.



Year 9 Camp

In previous years this has been in the form of an educational tour for those wishing to attend. The purpose of the camp is to provide a challenging, engaging learning opportunity.
The venue for the camp varies.

Community Services

Students in Year 9 have an opportunity to become involved in community programs through the Advance program and participation in activities organised for the Explore program.

Differentiated Mathematics Program

As part of the differentiated Mathematics program, students are placed into classes based on their ability. These include Foundation Mathematics, General Mathematics and Mathematical Methods. Each of these classes is designed to assist students improve their mathematical skills and knowledge.

Foundation Mathematics is designed to develop key numeracy skills and apply them to real life situations. This course gives students the opportunity to achieve success whilst enhancing their mathematical understanding.

General Mathematics and Mathematical Methods both cover the Year 9 Mathematics skills required by the Victorian Curriculum. Those students in Mathematical Methods will have their learning enriched through use of more complex applications of these concepts. Students who require extension will be challenged.

Literacy

The BOOST Program aims to provide additional support to Those students identified as requiring extra assistance to improve their literacy skills. The goals of the program include:

- Students learn to build their personal set of reading comprehension strategies, so they can be used spontaneously and selectively.
- Students improve knowledge of spelling and letter patterns, of sentence and paragraph structures and of networks of concepts.
- Collect and monitor the evidence of student's improved literacy learning.
- Increasing students' self-esteem, confidence and motivation.

Library Resource Centre

The core role of the Library Resource Centre is to support and enrich the educational program of Lalor Secondary College. It does this by providing an abundance of current and relevant resources in a wide variety of formats and levels. The library staff work to provide a learning environment that encourages independent lifelong learners.

To enable the Library Resource Centre to fulfil its central educational role in the school, Librarians provide programs in Literature, Information Literacy and I.C.T.

Library Hours

Monday	8:00am to 4pm
Tuesday	8:00am to 4pm
Wednesday	8:00am to 4pm
Thursday	8:00am to 4pm
Friday	8:00am to 4pm

Borrowing

Students can borrow up to four books at a time, with loan periods of up to two weeks. Books can be renewed simply by bringing them back to the library. Please ensure that students have their Student ID Card with them to borrow resources.

Printing and Photocopying

The library offers colour and black and white printing and photocopying. Each student receives a $5 print credit at the start of the year. Additional credits can be purchased from the school reception. Don't forget – students will need their Student ID Card to access these services.

After School Homework Program (ASH)

The reasons students give for not completing homework are varied and may include the following: not having a homework routine, lack of a quiet place to study, or not understanding the work set. To help address these issues, Lalor Secondary College, in collaboration with The Smith Family and Whittlesea Community Connections deliver a weekly after school homework program in the Library Resource Centre.

The After School Homework Program (ASH) runs after school 1 day a week between 3:00pm - 4:00pm. Students have the option of leaving early and are not required to stay for the length of the program. Teachers and trained volunteer tutors attend each session to assist students with work. Students have access to computers, internet, and library resources. Students are also encouraged to bring their digital devices for educational purposes. Staff from the Wellbeing Team provide supervision and assist students in getting themselves organised to complete work.

ASH is open to students at all year levels, however, Parent/Guardian/Carer consent is required for students who want to attend the program. Forms are available from the General Office or the Welfare Office.



YEAR 9 COURSE INFORMATION

The Year 9 Curriculum at Lalor Secondary College is designed to provide opportunities for students to explore. It aims for students to succeed by offering a wide range of subject choices and pathways into future courses and career options.

All students will complete subject selection online and print out their selections, which must be signed by a parent or guardian. Staff at the College are available to discuss any concerns or clarification about the Year 9 program.

Core Subjects

- English or English as an Additional Language
- Mathematics (differentiated program)
- Science
- Humanities
- Health and Physical Education
- Arts-based Core
- Languages
- Explore

The Year 9 program is designed to allow students to maximise their opportunities to succeed by offering choice within the Arts based core.

Arts based core (choose one subject per semester from the following):

- 2D Art Making
- 3D Art Making
- Music
- Drama
- Dance
- Visual Communication Design
- Film and Television

Languages – compulsory two semesters continued from Years 7 and 8 from the following:

- Macedonian
- Modern Greek
- Vietnamese
- French

Specialist Subjects

Students are able to choose from a range of subjects depending upon their interests and abilities. Specialist subjects also provide pathways for future progression and choice.

Specialist subjects run for a semester and students chose two semester length subjects from the range offered below.

(Please note: Advance Program runs for 2 semesters)

- Advance (Two Semesters)
- Architecture and Industrial Design
- Art in Fashion
- Business
- Cake Decoration
- Digital Technologies
- Food Safari
- History's Mysteries
- Forensic Science
- Environmental Science
- Product Design and Technology
- Reading for Creative Writing
- Jewellery Design
- Sports Education – choice of one sport per semester:
  - Girls' netball and hockey
  - Boys' hockey and football
  - Boys' volleyball and soccer
  - Girls' volleyball and soccer
  - Mixed tennis and basketball

Subject Fees

Some subjects have fees associated with them that cover consumables and materials.

Please note that at the time of publication these fees were correct, however, they may be subject to change dependent on the provider/supplier.

LALOR SECONDARY COLLEGE

SUBJECT HANDBOOK 2026



YEAR 9

CORE SUBJECTS

CORE SUBJECT: ENGLISH OR EAL

English

Two Semesters

Learning Focus

English in Year 9 seeks to further develop the skills of reading, writing, listening and speaking, and understanding the English language. It aims to enhance reasoning and analytical abilities and encourage reading for pleasure, understanding and language enrichment. Students interpret a variety of texts with an emphasis on the development of more complex responses to literature. Students use writing to explore different perspectives and to extend their skills in writing for different purposes and audiences.

Students demonstrate oral fluency via formal speech making, debating and presentations on contemporary issues. They also critically evaluate how the spoken language influences audiences through the study of persuasive techniques.

Emphasis is placed on the accurate use of language conventions and on extending vocabulary.

Areas of Study

1. Reading
2. Writing
3. Speaking and Listening

Suggested Assessment Tasks

1. Analytical Response Essay
2. Creative Writing
3. Argument Analysis
4. Oral Presentation
5. Persuasive Writing
6. Examination

English as an Additional Language (EAL)

Two Semesters

Learning Focus

EAL classes provide intensive English tuition for students who have come to Australia from another country and are learning to use English as their main language.

Students need to understand and control the English language as a means of learning. Students' understanding of English will develop through reading, writing, speaking and listening. Study of novels, film, short stories, plays, poetry and issues in media are the main foci in EAL.

Students learn to understand and respond to texts. They think, speak and write about the purpose, audience, structure and language features of texts. They learn to use correct spelling, grammar and punctuation when expressing their ideas.

Areas of Study

1. Text Study
2. Writing
3. Issues

Suggested Assessment Tasks

1. Text Response
2. Writing Folio
3. Oral Presentation
4. Exam

**Students who have a keen interest in English can extend on their learning by also choosing an English based specialist elective subject.*

CORE SUBJECT: MATHMATICS*

Based on the differentiated Mathematics program, students are placed into one of the following:

Foundation Mathematics

Two Semesters

Learning Focus

Foundation Mathematics, as part of the differentiated Mathematics program at Lalor Secondary College, is designed to assist selected students to develop and improve key numeracy skills through their application to real life situations. Topics studied will include Number Skills and an introduction to Financial Mathematics, which will be the focus for Semester. One as well as a modified course in line with General Mathematics topics. Students will work on the application of the four number operations to real life situations. Semester Two will see an introduction to topics such as Linear Relationships. Probability will cover the calculation of the chance of different situations occurring. Statistics will look at how data can be presented and how to understand graphs, especially those that the media are showing.

Areas of Study

Semester One	Semester Two
Financial Mathematics	Linear Relationships
Indices & Algebra	Statistics
Pythagoras and Trigonometry	Probability
Measurement and Geometry	

Suggested Assessment Tasks

1. Topic tests
2. Inquiry Project
3. Semester Exams

General Mathematics

Two Semesters

Learning Focus

Students extend and apply the exponent laws with positive integers and the zero exponent to variables. They expand binomial products and factorise monic quadratic expressions. They find the distance between 2 points on the Cartesian plane, sketch linear graphs and find the gradient and midpoint of a line segment. Students use mathematical modelling to solve problems involving change, including simple interest in financial contexts and change in other applied contexts, choosing to use linear and quadratic functions. They graph quadratic functions and use null factor law to solve monic quadratic equations with integer roots algebraically. Students investigate and describe the effects of variation of parameters on functions and relations, using digital tools where appropriate, and make connections between their graphical and algebraic representations.

Students apply formulas to solve problems involving the surface area and volume of right prisms, cylinders and composite shapes. They solve problems involving ratio, similarity and scale in two-dimensional situations. They determine percentage errors in measurements. Students apply Pythagoras' theorem and use trigonometric ratios to solve problems involving right-angled triangles.

They use mathematical modelling to solve practical problems involving direct and indirect proportion, ratio and scale, evaluating the model and communicating their methods and findings. Students express small and large numbers in scientific notation.

Students apply the enlargement transformation to images of shapes and objects and interpret results. They design, use and test algorithms based on geometric constructions or theorems.

Students compare and analyse the distributions of multiple numerical data sets, choose representations, describe features of these data sets using summary statistics and the shape of distributions, and consider the effect of outliers. They explain how sampling techniques and representation can be used to support or question conclusions or to promote a point of view. Students determine sets of outcomes for two-step chance experiments and represent these in various ways. They assign probabilities to the outcomes of two-step chance experiments. They design and conduct experiments or simulations for combined events using digital tools.

Areas of Study

Semester One	Semester Two
Real Numbers/ Finance	Algebra
Measurement	Linear Relationships
Space	Statistics
Indices	Probability

Suggested Assessment Tasks

1. Topic tests
2. Inquiry Project
3. Semester Exams

Mathematical Methods

Two Semesters

Learning Focus

Students extend and apply the exponent laws with positive integers and the zero exponent to variables. They expand binomial products and factorise monic quadratic expressions. They find the distance between 2 points on the Cartesian plane, sketch linear graphs and find the gradient and midpoint of a line segment. Students use mathematical modelling to solve problems involving change, including simple interest in financial contexts and change in other applied contexts, choosing to use linear and quadratic functions. They graph quadratic functions and use null factor law to solve monic quadratic equations with integer roots algebraically. Students investigate and describe the effects of variation of parameters on functions and relations, using digital tools where appropriate, and make connections between their graphical and algebraic representations.

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Areas of Study

Semester One	Semester Two
Number	Measurement
Algebra	Geometry
Probability	Number
Statistics	Algebra

Suggested Assessment Tasks

1. Topic tests
2. Inquiry Project
3. Semester Exams

CORE SUBJECT: SCIENCE

Learning Focus

Semester One

Science in Year 9 will focus on the two strands: Science Understanding and Science Inquiry.

In Semester One the students will continue to develop their science understanding, focusing on the Nervous System, its structure and function and will investigate disorders affecting the nervous system.

Students examine the structure of the atom, developing the understanding of what makes up everything around us including nuclear radiation and decay.

Semester Two

Science in Year 9 will focus on the two strands: Science understanding, Science as a Human Endeavour and Science inquiry.

In Semester Two students build on the concepts they have developed in Semester One with a particular focus on ecosystems, plate tectonics, Earth systems and climate change.

Areas of Study

Please Note: Topic sequences can change from time to time when the opportunity to work in cross Key Learning Area themes and topics arise.

Semester One	Semester Two
The Nervous System	Ecosystems & Earth Systems
The Immune System	Generation of Electricity
Types of Chemical Reactions	Climate Change
Animal Reproductive System	Plant Reproduction

Suggested Assessment Tasks

1. Topic tests
2. Inquiry Project
3. Semester Exams

**Students who have a keen interest in science can extend their learning by also choosing a Science based specialist elective subject.*



CORE SUBJECT: HUMANITIES

Learning Focus

The Year 9 curriculum provides a study of the history of the making of modern world from 1750 to 1918. It was a period of industrialisation and rapid change in the ways people lived, worked and thought. It was an era of nationalism and imperialism, and the colonisation of Australia was part of the expansion of European power. The period culminated in World War I 1914-1918, the 'war to end all wars'.

An investigation of India from 1750 to the present, examining the key social, cultural, economic and political features that have shaped the nation over time will also be explored. Significant developments shaping the experiences and perspectives of individuals, groups and movements, and their impact on Indian society over time will be considered.

The Geography component provides a study of geographical units that explore biomes of the world, their alteration and significance as a source of food and fiber, and the environmental challenges and constraints on expanding food production in the future.

This course of study also investigates geographies of interconnections, with a focus on how people, through their choices and actions, are connected to places throughout the world in a wide variety of ways, and how these connections help to make and change places and their environments.

Students also study Australia's political system and how it enables change. Students examine the ways political parties, interest groups, media and individuals influence government and decision making processes. This unit of study includes an investigation of the features and principles of Australia's court system, including its role in applying and interpreting Australian law.

Areas of Study

The areas of study will includethe following units that address the study of History, Geography, Businessand Economics and Civics and Citizenship:

Industrial Revolution	Biomes and Food Security
Making a Nation	Geographies of Interconnections
World War 1	The Australian Political System & Democracy

Suggested Assessment Tasks

Assessmentsmay take the following forms and will consist of at least three pieces offormalassessment per semester:

1. Essay
2. Document analysis
3. Fieldwork Report
4. Inquiry led research
5. Test or case study

**Students who have a keen interest in Humanities can extend on their learning by also choosing a Humanities based specialist elective subject.*

Two subjects (one per semester) from the following options must be selected for the Arts based core.

ARTS-BASED CORE SUBJECTS*

Choose one subject per semester from the following:

2D Art Making: Painting & Printmaking

One Semester

Learning Focus

The Year 9 2D Art program encourages students to express their individual ideascreatively. It provides them with the opportunity to experiment and create artwork within the areas of drawing, painting, printmaking and mixed media.

It develops student's practical skill and theoretical knowledge by studying artworks of Australian and Internationalartists. This electiveis particularly suitable for students who are keen to study Art Making and Exhibiting at the VCE level.Students may choose to undertake the 3D Art elective, which complements the coursework completed in 2D Art.

Areas of Study

1. Art Production
2. Art Appreciation

Suggested Assessment Tasks

1. Folio One
2. Folio Two

Cost

$15.00 per semester

3D Art Making: Ceramics & Sculpture

One Semester

Learning Focus

The Year 9 3D Art program aims to inspire students to create artworks in primarily 3-dimensional form. Students will work in a range of materials, specifically clay, as well as recycled and found materials.

Students will use research and drawingas starting points to develop their initial ideas,then work individually and collaboratively to create their 3D artworks. They will apply glazes where appropriate to decorate the surfaces of their designs which may befunctional or non-functional.

Areas of Study

1. Art Production
2. Art Appreciation

Suggested Assessment Tasks

1. Folio One
2. Folio Two

Cost

$15.00 per semester

Two subjects (one per semester) from the following options must be selected for the Arts based core.

ARTS-BASED CORE SUBJECTS*

Choose one subject per semester from the following:

Visual Communication Design

One Semester

Learning Focus

The Year 9 Visual Communication Design program introduces students to the concept of developing effective designs in order to communicate information visually.

They will learn how to use freehand and technical drawing techniques, as well as aspects of the design process to find solutions to design problems as outlined in a brief.

Areas of Study

1. Design Elements and Principles
2. Message and Object Design

Suggested Assessment Tasks

1. Folio One
2. Folio Two

Cost

$15.00 per semester

Drama

One Semester

Learning Focus

The Year 9 Drama course focuses on developing students' expressive and performance skills by introducing them to a range of dramatic styles and techniques.

Theatre styles from all over the world will be explored through practical workshops and research tasks. Students will maintain a drama journal to reflect and record their observations, experiences and generate ideas.

Areas of Study

1. Performance Skills
2. Melodrama
3. Slapstick Comedy

Suggested Assessment Tasks

1. Melodrama Performances
2. Slapstick Comedy Performances

Cost

$20.00 per semester

ARTS-BASED CORE SUBJECTS*

Choose one subject per semester from the following:

Dance

One Semester

Learning Focus

In Year 9 Dance, students will build on their awareness of how the body can be used to communicate dance ideas and how it is used in specific dance styles.

They will extend their understanding and use of the elements of dance (space, time, dynamics and relationships) to communicate ideas and intentions. They extend their ability to use technical and expressive skills safely performing within their own body capabilities and working safely in dance spaces and groups.

Areas of Study

1. Dance safety
2. Elements of dance
3. Styles of dance
4. Hip Hop practical performance

Suggested Assessment Tasks

1. Styles of Dance Research Task
2. Hip Hop Performance and Reflective Journal

Music

One Semester

Learning Focus

In Music, students will experience what it is like to play in a band and gain an understanding of the various instruments and parts involved in performances.

Students will form performance groups and choose appropriate songs for their ability level and instrumentation. They will work on developing their 'ear' as well as looking at different types of music notation.

As this is a performance-based subject students will be supported to perform to an audience at events such as class performances, assembly, school concerts and the North-West Victorian Region (NWVR) School of Rock event. To assist with this all students will be enrolled in the Instrumental Music Program if they are not currently receiving lessons at school or privately. The Music Department will be available at lunchtimes for extra rehearsals via prior arrangement with their teacher.

Areas of Study

1. Theory
2. Performance

Suggested Assessment Tasks

1. Rhythm Written Test
2. Performance Assessment

Two subjects (one per semester) from the following options must be selected for the Arts based core.

ARTS-BASED CORE SUBJECTS*

Choose one subject per semester from the following:

Film and Television

One Semester

Learning Focus

The course aims to provide students with an understanding of the media through television and film.

Each medium is analysed to determine major concepts and students will undertake practical work.

The aim of the course is to introduce students to the technical and creative process of media production and familiarize students with media equipment.

Areas of Study

1. Sitcoms
2. Media Pre-Production Process
3. Media Production Process

Suggested Assessment Tasks

1. Sitcom Test
2. Music Video Production

Cost

$20.00 per semester



CORE SUBJECT:

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Two Semesters

Learning Focus

In Year 9 Health and Physical Education, students will develop proficiency in a range of high-level movement and manipulative skills and implement ways of improving the quality of their performance during games, physical activity and sports.

Students will also examine physical, social and mental health, as well as personal development across the various stages of the lifespan.

Areas of Study

Semester One	
Practical	**Theory**
1. Team Sports	1. Drugs
2. Self Defence	2. Sexual Health
3. Team Sports	
4. Minor Games	

**Students who have a keen interest in HPE can extend on their learning by also choosing a HPE based specialist elective subject.*

Suggested Assessment Tasks

1. Practical Assessment (Term 1 & Term 2)
2. Drugs Assignment
3. Sexual Health Assignment

Semester Two	
Practical	**Theory**
1. Team Sports	1. Analysing Nutrition
2. Minor Games	2. Body Image
3. Fitness Tests & Components	3. Fitness Training

Suggested Assessment Tasks

1. Practical Assessment (Term 3 & Term 4)
2. Analysing Nutrition Assignment
3. Fitness and Training Assignment

CORE SUBJECT: EXPLORE

Two Semesters

Year 9 is 'A Time to Explore.' This subject allows students to investigate various topics and pathways to reach their career goals and become responsible, caring and informed citizens and learn skills to aid their learning and prepare them for their future. This subject is assessed based on the Critical and Creative Thinking capabilities as well as the Ethical, Personal and Social.

During Term One, students look inwards towards themselves in the 'Respecting Identity and Understanding Self' unit. They review the importance of individuality, cultural differences as well as look to better understand their emotions and reactions to situations. We take an excursion to the O'Brien Icehouse where students develop resilience and ways to work with and support others as they learn to ice skate.

During Term Two, students focus on coverletters and resume writing, involving guest speakers. Stduents complete a resume to be used for future jobs, and build on job-rediness skills,

Term Three sees students explore 'Careers and Financial Literacy' using an interactive online platform that engages them to understand the complexities of banking, budgeting, home ownership versus rental options as well as understanding credit and debits.
Students also get the opportunity to explore real job interview experiences in which they prepare an application for a real job and then undertake role-playing activities to develop their interview skills.

Term Four sees students gain skills and opportunities to become work ready in preparation for their Year 10 Work Experience. Guest speakers, presentations and workshops aim to have students develop their interpersonal skills and resilience. Within this term, we also dive into the needs of our 'Community' and what makes a healthy and sustainable community. We take a city experience tour around some of Melbourne's key landmarks.

Areas of Study

1. Respecting Identity and Understanding Self
2. Careers and Financial Literacy
3. The World Around Us
4. Community

Suggested Assessment Tasks

1. Inquiry Assignments
2. Reflections
3. Research Projects

Cost

$10.00 per semester

LALOR SECONDARY COLLEGE

SUBJECT HANDBOOK 2026



YEAR 9

SPECIALIST ELECTIVE SUBJECTS

SPECIALIST SUBJECTS: ENGLISH ELECTIVES

Reading for Creative Writing

One Semester

Learning Focus

Have you ever written a short story and wished you could turn it into something bigger, but the word limit was too small? Have you ever wondered how you could write like a professional author? In this elective, students will get to learn new creative writing techniques by studying the works of famous authors and what makes their texts effective. They will learn how to create unique science fiction worlds through studies of Patrick Ness' 'The Knife of Never Letting Go' and Ernest Cline's 'Ready Player One', both of which were turned into feature-length movies. Students will continuously reflect on their writing and participate in workshop activities focused on improving their use of figurative language, creation of appropriate settings and the development of memorable characters.

Areas of Study

1. World building in creative writing
2. The Sci-fi genre
3. Expressing key ideas through creative writing
4. Improving writing through peer review and self-reflection

Suggested Assessment Tasks

1. First chapter of an original story.
2. Collaborative short story or pilot script.

SPECIALIST SUBJECTS: HUMANITIES ELECTIVES

Business

Are you fascinated by the dynamics of business and the broader economic landscape?

This course examines key concepts in the business and commercial world and the importance of small business, and changing technology to our economy and our standard of living.

The course is a preparation for VCE Business Management, Economics and Accounting. We begin with an 'introduction to businesses' in Australia to consider how businesses are classified. This is complemented by a unit on the Australian Economy. The course then has a focus on Consumer and Financial literacy which incorporates an introduction to personal and business Accounting. The world of work draws on students' work experience to consider emerging trends in workforce patterns and employment.

Areas of Study

1. Categorising Business in Australia
2. The Australian Economy
3. Consumer and Financial Literacy
4. Accounting

Suggested Assessment Tasks

1. Tests
2. Assignments
3. Reports

VCE Pathway: Business Management

SPECIALIST SUBJECTS: LANGUAGES*

Continuation from Year 8 in one of the following:

French, Macedonian, Modern Greek, Vietnamese

Two Semesters

Learning Focus

The College provides an extensive language program with French, Modern Greek, Vietnamese and Macedonian being offered.

It is optional for students to undertake a language in Year 9. The language program provides for both advanced (Pathway 1) and beginner students (Pathway 2).

Through a thematic approach, the language courses aim to develop and/or further improve students' confidence, fluency and understanding of the specific language they are studying.

Areas of Study

1. Communicating in a language other than English
2. Intercultural knowledge and language awareness

Suggested Assessment Tasks

1. Oral Task
2. Written Task
3. Comprehension Task

Please note: Students selecting a language will need to choose this subject for both Semester One and Semester Two.



SPECIALIST SUBJECTS: SCIENCE ELECTIVES

Forensic Science

One Semester

Learning Focus

This elective explores the science behind searching for evidence, gathering clues and discovering how science can help solve crimes.

Students undertake investigations using chromatography techniques, facial identification, fingerprints, footprints, genetic material, entomology, hair and fibres, handwriting analysis and more. These practical activities are designed to help students to understand how material and substances can be identified how events have taken place and who is involved when a crime has been committed.

Areas of Study

1. Fingerprints, blood and DNA
2. Cause/time of death
3. Fibres/hairs, impression evidence
4. Handwriting analysis, identity theft

Suggested Assessment Tasks

1. Test
2. Inquiry task

Environmental Science Horticulture

One Semester

Learning Focus

Environmental Horticulture is the science and art of improving the world around us with the use of plants and is something we encounter in our daily lives. It includes parks, botanic gardens, sports facilities, roundabouts, cemeteries and shopping centres.

In this subject, students will develop an understanding of the role these green spaces have in society on a local and global scale. They will learn about the impacts it has on the environment, including climate change and covers the practical management of gardens and green spaces. Students will develop their knowledge of plants, their uses, propagation, care, beautification and business applications.

Areas of Study

1. Cycles in Nature
2. Indigenous Australian Plants
3. Planting and Propagation
4. Garden Care
5. Landscape Planning

SPECIALIST SUBJECTS: HPE ELECTIVES

Advance

Two Semester

Learning Focus

The Advance course aims to make the connection for young people as to how they can make positive impacts. This is achieved through connecting with not only themselves, but also connecting with the local, national and global communities, as well as considering the environment and their peers. The course emphasises a strong partnership between our school and the local community. The program provides opportunities for students to build on their strengths and capacities by working with local groups and understanding their context.

As part of the program the students must complete a First Aid course as well as the Duke of Edinburgh Award at the bronze level which involves: planning and participating in an expedition (compulsory overnight camp – two nights); community service involvement; mastery of a skill and physical recreation.



Areas of Study

The students will complete the modules of the Advance course that will involve:

1. Knowledge of the Community
2. Identifying People, Places and Organisations in the Community
3. Communication
4. Volunteering
5. First Aid
6. Camp Craft

Students who complete the course will receive certification in the following:

- First Aid Accreditation
- Duke of Edinburgh Award
- Advance Certificate
- Community Service Certificates

Suggested Assessment Tasks

Semester One

1. Community Project
2. Research Campaign
3. Community Service

Semester Two

1. First Aid Test
2. Practical Assessment and Reflection
3. Camp Preparation Project

Cost

$150.00

– This is to cover bus transport to and from community service placements, level two first aid and fees associated with the camp and celebration.

$20 Advance Hoodie (extra cost)

SPECIALIST SUBJECTS: HPE ELECTIVES

Sport Education

One Semester

Learning Focus

Sport Education will consist of both practical and theory classes.

The practical class will generally involve practical work in which the skills of the sport being studied will be practiced and developed. The theory lessons will focus on the rules, tactics and strategies involved in the sport, as well as the history and profiles of athletes in the sport.

Students will be involved in aspects of coaching and administration of sport, taking an active role in each.

The aims of this program are to:

1. Promote a healthy lifestyle.
2. Encourage and provide opportunities for participation.
3. Teach students how to manage the cooperative and competitive requirements of sport.
4. Provide opportunities for students to be involved in sport as players, coaches and administrators.
5. Develop the capacity to make reasoned decisions that will lead to good behaviour as players, spectators, coaches and administrators.
6. Develop a thorough knowledge and understanding ofthe chosen sports, including the rules, tactics and strategies involvedin these sports.

Areas of Study

Students must select fromthe following electives. Each sport will cover one term in the semester long subject.

1. Boys Volleyball and Soccer
2. Girls Volleyball and Soccer
3. Mixed Tennis and Basketball

Suggested Assessment Tasks

1. Peer Teaching Assignment
2. Practical Assessment



SPECIALIST SUBJECTS: ARTS ELECTIVES

Architecture and Industrial Design

One Semester

Learning Focus

In Year 9 Architecture and Industrial Design, students have the opportunity to look in-depth at the architecture and industrial design fields.

They develop skills and learn the conventions for technical drawing in both fields. Students also learn about the design process as they design work in response to a client and brief.

Areas of Study

1. Architectural Design
2. Industrial Design
3. Design Analysis

Suggested Assessment Tasks

1. Folio One
2. Folio Two

Cost

$15.00 per semester

Art in Fashion

One Semester

Learning Focus

The Year 9 Art in Fashion course examines the impact Art has had on fashion.

Students follow the design process to design contemporary clothing as well as accessories. Students explore sewing, fabric printmaking and garment construction, as well as fashion trends and designers both past and contemporary.

Areas of Study

1. Design Process
2. Sustainability

Suggested Assessment Tasks

1. Folio One
2. Folio Two

Cost

$15.00 per semester



SPECIALIST SUBJECTS: TECHNOLOGY ELECTIVES

Digital Technologies

One Semester

Learning Focus

The Year 9 Digital Technologies course is designed to introduce students to foundational concepts in computing and digital literacy. Through a combination of tasks, students will develop essential skills in programming, digital design, and problem-solving.

This course aims to equip students with the knowledge and abilities necessary to understand the role of technology in today's world and to prepare them for further studies in digital technology and related fields.

Areas of Study

1. Digital Systems
2. Data and Information
3. Creating Digital Solutions

Suggested Assessment Tasks

1. Practical tasks
2. Coding Folio



Product Design and Technology

One Semester

Learning Focus

Year 9 Design and Technology is a stimulating and interactive subject that emphasizes the enhancement of practical skills, innovation, and problem-solving capabilities by designing and producing products. Students will investigate a range of materials, technologies, and methods to realise their design concepts, all while taking into account sustainability, ethics, and innovation. This topic promotes critical thinking and teamwork among students as they progress through the design process from start to finish.

This subject equips students with valuable skills in creativity, technical knowledge, project management, and critical thinking, preparing them for future studies and careers in design, technology, and related fields.

Areas of Study

1. Introduction to Design Thinking
2. Materials and Their Properties
3. Tools, Equipment, and Safety
4. Technical Drawing and CAD
5. Sustainable and Innovation
6. Entrepreneurship

Suggested Assessment Tasks

1. Research Task (40%)
2. Manufacturing and Portfolio (60%)

Cost

$30.00 per semester

SPECIALIST SUBJECTS: TECHNOLOGY ELECTIVES

Jewellery Design

One Semester

Learning Focus

In Jewellery Design, students will develop knowledge and skills in the use of jewellery materials, tools and techniques, guided by the design process.

They will begin by developing their own design brief, creating a client with specific needs and constraints of their choice, informed by research. Students will implement their own project plan to meet the design brief, documenting their process in a folio that demonstrates generation and connection of ideas and materials and the justification for their decisions. Students will have the opportunity to explore a range of materials including acrylic, paper, clay, soft wood, metal, flat wire, resin, felting and macrame to create a series of designed solutions (final pieces) that meet their developed brief. Students will evaluate the success of their designed solutions against the design brief and offer opportunities for improvements and modifications for future designs.

Areas of Study

1. Design Brief
2. Designed Solutions folio and final pieces
3. Evaluation

Suggested Assessment Tasks

1. The Design Brief
2. Design Solutions Folio and Final Pieces
3. Evaluation

Cost

$20.00 per semester

Cake Decoration

One Semester

Learning Focus

This subject focuses on developing students' ability to produce a variety of cakes whilst using their creative skills and techniques in cake decoration.

Keytopics include safe and hygienic use of tools and equipment correctly, the use of chocolate, various icing techniques and moulding.

The students will learn and produce basic techniques of cake making with the use of appropriate decoration based on a theme.

The students will design and create a special occasion cake during class for assessment utilizing the decorative skills learned in class.

Areas of Study

1. Preparation of buttercream and cooking cakes and cupcakes
2. Application of buttercream and soft icing on cakes
3. Rolling and modelling fondant
4. Learning a variety of types of cakes
5. Melting Chocolate and Molding into Molds

Suggested Assessment Tasks

1. Investigation and Design Briefs
2. Production Activities
3. Folio of Evaluation Tasks
4. Written Test

Cost

$120.00 per semester

SPECIALIST SUBJECTS: TECHNOLOGY ELECTIVES

Food Safari

One Semester

Learning Focus

Let's 'Get cooking' and discover many exciting ways with fruit, vegetables and grains to make meals that keep us nourished and healthy. Ignite your excitement for this subject by joining a class and creating many foods from around the world.

Learn about some of world's longest living and surviving food cultures and the cuisines that influence Australia's eating patterns.

Your major CAT is based around indigenous and international food and influences on Australia where you will get to investigate and discover about another culture and create that food.

Areas of Study

1. Food safety and hygiene
2. Principles & purposes of cooking
3. Vegetables - cooking with them, their properties & nutritional value
4. Fruit, quality sensory properties & nutritional value
5. Grains & cereals as brain food
6. Taste of Australia & global influences on our eating

Suggested Assessment Tasks

1. Test
2. Design Brief

Cost

$55.00 per semester

