



ST TERESA'S
CATHOLIC COLLEGE

*inspiring a life-long
love of learning*

2027
Year 10

SUBJECT SELECTION HANDBOOK



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Introduction

St Teresa's Catholic College is committed to creating a dynamic and supportive learning environment where students are provided with opportunities to realise their potential and pursue their aspirations.

Students in Year 10 are prepared for the challenges of Senior School through participation in subjects and courses that develop skill sets designed to set them up to succeed as independent, self-directed and motivated learners who are able to engage collaboratively with their peers to produce meaningful and relevant products of their learning.

As Year 10 represents a critical transition into the Senior Phase of Learning, students will be challenged to begin making choices about their future pathway options and determine where their personal strengths, gifts and talents best sit within the framework of a plan for their post-Year 10 education.

This handbook is designed to assist Year 9 students to make decisions about elective courses of study for Year 10. It contains relevant information pertaining to curriculum structures and courses that will be offered in 2027.

Curriculum Structures

In Year 10 all students will study a total of eight (8) courses each semester (6 core+ 2 elective).

The structure of the curriculum offerings for Year 10 for 2027 will be as follows:

Full Year Core Courses (Studied for two full semesters by all students)

Students will study 6 compulsory 'core' courses in Year 10 for a full year.

- English
- Religious Education
- Mathematics
- Science
- PE
- Humanities (History and Geography)

These courses will all be delivered within the guidelines of the ACARA National Curriculum and Brisbane Catholic Education syllabus documents.

Elective Courses

In 2027 the Year 10 Elective Course Program will be represented by thirteen (13) 'full year' courses. Students will select two (2) preferred electives and one (1) reserve elective choice.

The offering of a range of 'full year' courses in Year 10 provides students with improved opportunities for comprehensive preparation within subject areas that require significant development of highly specialized discipline sets for success in continuing study in Year 11 and 12.

10 Mathematics: Methods, General or Essential

In Year 10, students will be considered for one of the three Mathematics pathways:

- Mathematical Methods
- General Mathematics
- Essential Mathematics

Each subject accesses the Year 10 Curriculum within the guidelines of ACARA but focus time and rigor according to the demands of the corresponding Senior Mathematics Syllabus.

In Mathematical Methods (Year 11 & 12), there is a strong emphasis on mutually reinforcing proficiencies in Understanding, Fluency, Problem Solving and Reasoning. Students gain fluency in a variety of mathematical and statistical skills, including algebraic manipulations, constructing and interpreting graphs, calculating derivatives and integrals, applying probabilistic models, estimating probabilities and parameters from data, and using appropriate technologies. Achieving fluency in skills such as these allows students to concentrate on more complex aspects of problem solving.

Students will be considered for the **Year 10 Mathematical Methods** course if they:

- demonstrate mathematical rigor and a positive work ethic;
- achieve no less than a A- for Semester 2 of Year 9

General Mathematics (Year 11 & 12) is designed for students who want to extend their mathematical skills beyond Year 10 but whose future studies or employment pathways do not require calculus. It incorporates a practical approach that equips learners for their needs as future citizens. Students will learn to ask appropriate questions, map out pathways, reason about complex solutions, set up models and communicate in different forms. They will experience the relevance of mathematics to their daily lives, communities and cultural backgrounds. They will develop the ability to understand, analyse and take action regarding social issues in their world.

Students will be considered for the **Year 10 General Mathematics** course if they:

- demonstrate a positive work ethic;
- achieve no less than a B- for Semester 2 of Year 9

Students studying Essential Mathematics (Year 11 & 12) will develop skills that go beyond the traditional ideas of numeracy. This is achieved through a greater emphasis on Estimation, Problem Solving and Reasoning, which develops students into thinking citizens who interpret and use mathematics to make informed predictions and decisions about personal and financial priorities. Students will see mathematics as applicable to their employability and lifestyles and develop leadership skills through self-direction and productive engagement in their learning. They will show curiosity and imagination and appreciate the benefits of technology. Students will gain an appreciation that there is rarely one way of doing things and that real-world mathematics requires adaptability and flexibility.

Students considered for **Year 10 Essential Mathematics** will be studying content that best prepares them for Essential Mathematics in their senior schooling.

10 Science: General or Applied

In Year 10, students have the opportunity to select either General Science or Applied Science. Both pathways access the Year 10 Australian Curriculum for Science and are designed to strengthen students' scientific understanding, inquiry skills and ability to communicate scientifically. Each pathway supports different learning needs, strengths, interests and future goals, while preparing students for appropriate senior science pathways in Years 11 and 12.

At the end of Year 9, students will identify the Science pathway that best aligns with their interests, strengths and anticipated senior pathway. This decision should be made in consultation with their Year 9 Science teacher and family, using evidence of achievement, engagement, learning habits and readiness for the demands of the course.

Both General Science and Applied Science are valued pathways. Students are encouraged to choose the course that will best support their learning, confidence and success in senior schooling.

General Science

General Science builds strong scientific knowledge, inquiry skills and scientific literacy to support further study in senior General Science subjects, including Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Psychology and Marine Science. Students develop a solid understanding of scientific concepts and processes, engage in experimental and research investigations, and learn how to analyse and interpret data. A strong emphasis is placed on reading, writing and communicating using appropriate scientific language.

Students may be well suited to Year 10 General Science if they:

- demonstrate strong achievement in Year 9 Science, with achievement in the B range or above indicating readiness for the academic demands of the course.
- show consistent engagement with scientific ideas, investigations and class learning.
- are prepared to engage with independent study, revision and completion of learning tasks.
- are willing to refine the quality of their work through feedback, drafting and improvement.
- are interested in continuing with one or more General Science subjects in Years 11 and 12.

General Science is designed for students who are interested in continuing Science into the senior years and who may already be considering one or more General Science subjects. These students typically enjoy reading, writing, research, scientific report writing and data interpretation. Students selecting Year 10 General Science will study content and skills that best prepare them for General Science subjects in senior schooling.

Applied Science

Applied Science provides a valuable pathway for students who enjoy practical, hands-on and real-world applications of science. This pathway links directly to senior Applied Science subjects, including Science in Practice and Aquatic Practices. Students develop scientific understanding through applied investigations, practical problem solving, creating or modifying solutions, and evaluating how changes can improve outcomes.

Applied Science is particularly suited to students who enjoy learning through practical investigations, experimentation and relevant, real-world contexts. Students are expected to record, analyse and write up their findings using appropriate scientific conventions, while focusing more heavily on applied skills and practical understanding.

Students selecting Year 10 Applied Science will study content and skills that best prepare them for Applied Science subjects in senior schooling, including Science in Practice and Aquatic Practices. This pathway supports students to develop confidence, capability and success through a practical and applied approach to scientific learning.

Choosing Elective Subjects

Students are encouraged to keep their options open and experience a range of subjects to ensure that the important choices that are made for Years 11 and 12 are based not only on a chosen career path but a broader understanding of the curriculum offered.

Before making any decisions regarding the choice of Elective Subjects, please carefully consider the information that is presented in this Handbook. More specific information is available from the respective Curriculum Leader and subject teachers.

It is recommended that students select subjects that they enjoy and in which they have a genuine interest. Students should also consider subjects that they might wish to study in Years 11 and 12.

The Subject Selection Process

Students are required to choose three (3) preferences for their Elective Subjects for 2026. This is made up of two (2) preferred courses and one (1) reserve choice.

Every effort is made to accommodate students' subject choices; however, some subject combinations may not be possible. It is for this reason that we ask students to nominate one extra choice as a reserve.

Although all subjects are offered, on occasions there may not be viable numbers for a class (or a second class) to run within the timetable structure of the College. In such instances, we will refer to students' 3rd preference – as such, it is important to only choose subjects as preferences which you wish to be considered for.

Which Year 10 elective course pathway will best set you up for success in Year 11 and 12?

ELECTIVE SUBJECTS OFFERED IN 2027



Humanities and Social Sciences

Business Studies

As mass global flows of people, resources, finances, and information produce social, economic, political and environmental complexities and challenges, Australia needs enterprising individuals who can make informed decisions and actively participate in society and the economy as individuals and more broadly as global citizens.

By the end of this Year 10 course, students will:

- Analyse factors that influence major consumer and financial decisions and explain the short- and long-term effects of these decisions.
- Explain how businesses respond to changing economic conditions and improve productivityEvaluate the effect of organisational and workforce management on business performance.
- Explain economic performance indicators and relate their understanding to Australia's performance,
- Explain the ways that governments manage the economy to improve economic performance and living standards,
- Explain reasons for links that exist between economic performance and living standard, the variations that exist within and between economies, and the possible causes.

In Semester 1 students will participate in the ASX Schools Sharemarket Game where they will manage their own portfolio including buying and selling shares and collecting dividends.

In Semester 2 There will be a focus on sustainable and ethical business practices throughout the course, with real world examples, case studies and practical activities. Time permitting students will have the opportunity participate in the planning, production and marketing of a sustainable product of their choice.

Civics and Citizenship: Crime and Justice

In this full year elective course students will begin to investigate issues affecting our society and learn how the law interacts in our everyday lives. Students will cover a range of topics including:

- Legal Foundations – The basics of our legal system
- Criminal Law – Court procedures and police investigations
- Youth Justice – Understanding the issues affecting young people and the law
- Human Rights and International Law – Australia's role in global affairs

The primary skills of inquiry, critical thinking, problem-solving and reasoning empower Civics students to make informed and ethical decisions and recommendations. Learning is based on an inquiry approach that develops reflection and awareness. Through inquiry, students identify and describe legal issues, explore information and data, analyse, evaluate and make decisions helping them to become informed citizens able to contribute meaningfully to our society.

This course is a foundation course for Year 11 and 12 subject Legal Studies (ATAR General)



Sports Science

Within this unit, students will explore a range of topics relating to exercise, training and sports performance.

Units of work can include

- Fitness - Training principles and methods, program design and application
- Coaching, motor learning, skill acquisition
- Energy systems and physiology
- Strength and conditioning
- Analysing performance with technology (Skills, strategy and physiological demands of various sports).
- Sports psychology and high performance

Students will use equipment such as the College Gymnasium, GPS and heart rate monitors, and video analysis tools. This course will study the theoretical principles of these topics and apply the learned knowledge in a practical sense where appropriate. As such, there is equal emphasis placed on both areas of learning. Students will be provided the opportunity to plan and implement training programs, acquire, enhance and analyse skills across a range of sports and activities. In addition, students will be able to enhance their personal sporting performances and to continue to improve their fitness and skills.

Undertaking Sport Science allows students to determine their suitability for the range of senior subjects offered in Year 11 and 12 in HPE.

This course is a recommended foundation subject for the following senior courses.

- Physical Education (General)
- Certificate III in Fitness
- Sport and Recreation (Applied)



Design Food

In this full year elective program, students will explore;

- Food for special occasions
- Food Trends
- Food Service and Catering
- Food Equity

Students will build on skills and knowledge developed in Year 9 Food Technology as they learn new techniques and concepts and apply them with the design process to create solutions to real world problems. Course work will include research, experimentation and trialing of concepts and products, whilst following the design process.

The course is a recommended foundation subject for Year 11 and 12 subject options:

- Food and Nutrition (General)
- Certificate II in Hospitality SIT20322

Design Graphics

In this exciting full year elective, students will explore a range of skills including:

- Drawing techniques & basic hand drawing skills,
- Digital technologies & design software programs,
- CAD programs, including Corel, Inventor and REVIT
- 3D printing, LASER cutting and prototype modelling,
- Architectural & Built Environment design and modelling
- Opportunities to create design solutions.

Students will build on skills and knowledge developed in Year 9 Graphics for Design as they learn new professional software suites and apply a design process to create solutions using the techniques and technologies available for rapid prototyping.

Developing design solutions will involve research, ideation, compilation and presentation. While exploring design options students will also develop further awareness of the impact of modern technologies on humanity and the environment.

The course is intended as a solid foundation for Year 11 and 12 subjects:

- Design (General)
- Industrial Graphic Arts
- Certificate I in Construction CPC10120/ Certificate II in Construction Pathways CPC20220

Design Textiles

In this innovative full year elective, students will develop their creativity and sewing skills. This course is designed for those eager to explore a wide range of skills in sewing and garment construction. Students will develop essential sewing techniques and learn to create their own unique garments using various fabrics and commercial patterns. Throughout the year, students will actively engage in designing and producing quality solutions tailored to their specific needs. By applying the design process, they will investigate, generate, and refine ideas, and evaluate their designed solutions. This course also emphasises the importance of environmental impacts and sustainable practices in the fashion industry. Students will gain insights into sustainable design and learn how to make eco-friendly choices in their projects.

Digital Systems and Technology

In Digital Systems and Technology, students learn about algorithms, computer languages and user interfaces through generating digital solutions to problems. They engage with data, information and applications to create digital solutions that filter and present data in timely and efficient ways while understanding the need to encrypt and protect data. They understand computing's personal, local and global impact, and the issues associated with the ethical integration of technology into our daily lives.

Students engage in problem-based learning that enables them to explore and develop ideas, generate digital solutions, and evaluate impacts, components and solutions. They understand that solutions enhance their world and benefit society. To generate digital solutions, students analyse problems and apply computational, design and systems thinking processes. Students understand that progress in the development of digital solutions is driven by people and their needs.

Students develop skills in creating code using CircuitPython, HTML/CSS, and Javascript that have real-world applications. Students will create user-interfaces and games, and program microcontrollers (Circuit Playground Express). They will use sensors to collect, analyse the information and display results.

The course is a foundation for Year 11 and 12 subject options:

- Digital Solutions (General)
- Certificate III in Information Technology at TAFE ICT30120

Industry Trades: Trade Training & Manufacturing

This course has been developed to provide opportunities to explore industry skills in basic OH&S, materials, equipment, calculation, design, production and finishing techniques. Students engage in 'real life' workplace expectations and industrial processes. The students will produce personal projects as well as engage in production project tasks within a team framework. This course will essentially offer students an early appreciation of the manufacturing, construction or trade industries.

Semester 1. Basic OH&S, materials, hand equipment, calculation, simple design, production and finishing techniques. Focus is on wood.

Semester 2. Basic OH&S, materials, power equipment, workshop, calculations, project design and finishing techniques. Focus is on metal.

Please note: this course will be limited to 18 students. Students seeking enrolment may be subject to eligibility criteria and will ideally have an intended future career pathway plan within the building trades industry.



French

The Year 10 French course is a comprehensive, year-long program designed to provide students with the foundational skills and knowledge required for further studies in ATAR French. Throughout the year, students will engage with a range of relevant learning activities designed to strengthen their accuracy and range of French, enabling them to communicate confidently and effectively. The course systematically covers:

- Speaking: Interactive dialogues, role-plays, oral presentations, and spontaneous conversations to develop fluency and pronunciation.
- Listening: Exposure to authentic French audio—such as podcasts, conversations, and film clips—to hone comprehension skills.
- Reading: Close reading of a variety of texts, including stories, articles, and advertisements, to build vocabulary and interpret meaning.
- Writing: Practice in composing a range of texts, from emails and diary entries to essays and creative writing pieces, focusing on accuracy, structure, and style.

Regular feedback and reflection allow students to track their progress and set meaningful goals for their continued learning.

Assessment in the Year 10 French course is designed to introduce students to the skills and expectations of senior French. The variety of assessment types reflects the multimodal nature of communication and allows students to demonstrate their abilities across different contexts.

Integral to the course is the possibility for students to take the DELF (Diplôme d'Études en Langue Française) examination, an internationally recognised qualification that attests to their proficiency in French.



The Arts

Arts in Practice

Year 10 Arts in Practice is a dynamic, hands-on course designed for creative students who want to explore the exciting world of contemporary arts and media. This interdisciplinary subject combines **Drama, Media, Dance, and Music** through engaging real-world projects that reflect how artists and creators work today. Students will develop practical creative skills while working collaboratively to produce original performances, films, music, and multimedia experiences.

At STCC, the course focuses on the power of storytelling across both traditional and digital platforms. Students will explore:

- Filmmaking and video production
- Acting for screen and live performance
- Music performance and production
- Dance and movement for performance
- Editing, special effects, and visual storytelling
- Creative collaboration and project development
- Independent passion projects that showcase individual talents and interests

Whether you are an experienced performer, film maker or simply curious to try something new, this course encourages creativity, confidence, innovation, and self-expression in a supportive and energetic learning environment.

Year 10 Arts in Practice provides an excellent foundation for senior subjects including:

- Music (General)
- Drama (General)
- Dance (General)
- Film, Television & New Media (General)
- Arts in Practice (Applied)

Dance

The Year 10 Dance course is suitable for students who either

- a. Study studio dance outside of school and are keen to be developed as 'thinking' dancers OR
- b. Have not previously studied dance technique but are keen to develop technique and whole-body awareness.

It provides a solid foundation of skill development in both practical (performance and choreography) and theoretical classes.

This year-long course focuses on developing dance technique in a variety of dance genres, including commercial jazz, contemporary dance, tap and hip hop. The course also fosters skills in critical analysis and deepens students' understanding of the historical and cultural contexts of dance. Through this, they learn to appreciate choreographic intent, the origins of style and form, and explore diverse approaches to creating and shaping movement sequences.

Learning experiences include excursions to professional dance performances at QPAC, along with opportunities to present class choreography and performance pieces at events such as eisteddfods and school Arts events.

The course is intended as a solid foundation for Year 11 and 12 subjects:

- Dance (General)
- Arts in Practice (Applied)

Drama

Year 10 Drama is a dynamic, hands-on course that builds confident live communication. Students develop strong vocal and physical skills and learn to shape ideas through both scripted, devised and onscreen performance. They collaborate to create and perform scenes across styles, gaining foundations in acting, directing, and stagecraft. Drama fosters critical thinking, teamwork, creativity, and empathy.

As part of the course, students will participate in The Scene Project with Queensland Theatre. Using a script as stimulus, they will devise an original piece and perform it on Brisbane's Billie Brown Stage to an audience of other schools. As part of this course, students will also attend a professional play or musical to deepen their understanding of contemporary performance.

Future industry pathways

- Skills developed in Drama transfer to careers such as acting and screen performance, directing, stage management, production and technical theatre (lighting, sound, set, costume), arts administration and marketing, event management, content creation/media, education, youth arts, community arts, and drama therapy.
- Drama also supports studies in Media Arts, English, History, Psychology, and the Creative Industries, building strengths in public speaking, leadership, collaboration, and creative problem-solving

The course is a foundation for Year 11 and 12 subject options:

- Drama (General)
- Arts in Practice (Applied)
- Drama in Practice (Applied)
- Film, TV and New Media (General)

Media Arts

Year 10 Media Arts provides students with the fundamental skills, learning and experience to succeed in Film, Television and New Media in Years 11 & 12. The four primary units on Short Film, Music Video, Special Effects and Advertising provide extensive opportunities for students to direct, film, and edit their own creative work to express meaning. With a focus on learning through engaging, practical filmmaking activities, students use high-level production skills and media languages (technical and symbolic codes and genre conventions) to create visually meaningful works that impact an audience. They also evaluate how and why media artists represent and challenge ideas, perspectives and meaning. This course will provide students with the tools and knowledge to bring their storytelling vision to life and make a lasting impact in the growing world of media.

The course is a foundation for Year 11 and 12 subject options:

- Film, TV and New Media (General)
- Arts In Practice (Applied)

Music

Year 10 Music is designed for students who are ready to take their musicianship to the next level. Whether you're a performer, songwriter, producer, or instrumentalist, this course will help you build confidence, refine your skills, and become a more versatile musician.

Throughout the year, you'll develop your abilities to perform, compose, improvise, and analyze music while exploring a wide variety of musical styles and genres. You'll strengthen your music literacy skills by learning to read and interpret chord charts, TAB notation, and traditional music notation, giving you the tools to perform and create music independently.

In this course, students will study music from a range of genres including: Jazz, Popular Music, Contemporary and Modern Styles, and Classical Music. You'll discover how different genres use rhythm, harmony, melody, structure, and improvisation to create unique musical experiences, while also applying these ideas in your own performances and compositions.

Throughout the course, you will:

- Perform both individually and in ensembles
- Compose and arrange original music
- Experiment with improvisation and creative music-making
- Improve your music reading and theory skills
- Explore music from different cultures, eras, and genres
- Develop rehearsal, collaboration, and performance techniques
- Create polished performances and creative projects

Year 10 Music is perfect for students who want to challenge themselves creatively and improve their practical music skills.

Music in Year 10 will prepare you to continue your studies in

- Music (General)
- Arts in Practice (Applied)

Visual Art

Visual Art in Year 10 offers an exciting and challenging program that builds your creative skills while preparing you for senior studies. Through a range of hands-on units, you will explore ceramics, photography, and personal expression. In the ceramics unit, you will create a series of functional forms inspired by your experience at Noosa National Park, learning advanced making processes from construction through to glazing and exhibition.

In the Art as Personal unit, you will develop your own artistic voice, exploring themes of identity while following the creative process used in the QCAA senior Visual Art syllabus. You will also experiment with DSLR photography and digital editing, expanding your skills with contemporary media.

Year 10 students participate in a day-long Brisbane excursion to visit leading art galleries for inspiration.

This course develops the technical skills, creativity, and critical thinking needed for success in senior Visual Art.