



ST TERESA'S
CATHOLIC COLLEGE

*inspiring a life-long
love of learning*

2023
Year 9

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 9 consolidate their foundational learning 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.

Over the coming year, students will be challenged to begin considering their future pathway options and determine where their personal strengths, gifts and talents best sit within the framework of a plan for their senior years of education.

This handbook is designed to assist Year 8 students to make decisions about elective courses of study for Year 9. It contains relevant information pertaining to curriculum structures and courses that will be offered in 2023.

Curriculum Structures—2023

In Year 9 all students will study a total of eight (8) courses each semester (6 core + 2 elective).

The structure of the curriculum offerings for Year 9 for 2023 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 9 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 2023 the Year 9 Elective Course Program will be represented by a selection of semester-long units of work.

Choosing Elective Subjects

Students are encouraged to keep their options open and experience a range of subjects to ensure that they experience the full range of opportunities available throughout Year 9.

Before making any decisions regarding the choice of Elective Subjects, please consider carefully 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.**

The Subject Selection Process

Students are required to choose six (6) preferences for their Elective Subjects for 2023. This is made up of four preferred courses (two for Semester 1 and two for Semester 2) and two reserve choices.

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 two extra choices as reserves.

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' fifth and sixth preferences – as such, it is important to only choose subjects as preferences which you wish to be considered for.

Elective Subjects Offered in 2023

Half Year (Semester based) Elective Options

Dance

This unit provides an exciting foundation for active whole-body learning and advanced creative thinking, through composing dance and learning physical technique, and is ideal for males and females of all abilities. Focusing on the genres of Jazz and Contemporary, students will engage in practical workshops to develop rhythm, coordination, movement awareness and disciplined technique. Students will also learn choreographic elements and dance appreciation and will apply their skills in whole class activities, small group performances and in the development of their own dance compositions.

Design Graphics

Year 9 students will be coached in how to professionally sketch simple 2D drawings for communicating design information. Aspects of basic 3D sketching and drawing will also be explored. Artistic techniques for presenting drawings and using basic CAD for drawing ideas will provide useful practical skills for any design situation.

Design & Production

The practical wood workshop skills developed early in this course will provide a foundation for students to design their own project work and make a finished product. A range of tools and equipment will be used. A key focus is safety, which allows students to learn techniques that they apply to their design ideas.

Design Textiles

In the study of Textiles in Year 9 students will learn how to follow a commercial sewing pattern to make clothes that are original and that fit them well. A knowledge of fibres and fabrics will be studied to aid in the decision-making process of what to sew. Sustainability in the wardrobe to minimise our impact on the environment will also be taught.

Digital Technologies

In Digital Technologies, students learn about algorithms, computer languages and user interfaces through generating digital solutions to problems. Students develop skills in creating code using, CircuitPython, that have real-world applications. Students will program microcontrollers (Circuit Playground Express). They will use sensors to collect, display the information and use that information to control servos and motors.

Drama

This fun course helps build the confidence necessary for success in many subjects and pathways where students are required to present information via live communication. It provides an energetic, collaborative context for learning, focusing on skill in speaking, staging and performing. Students learn to understand and manage relationships as they explore and express characters and issues. Learning occurs through mainly practical workshops, using scripted texts and also devising their own original works using masks, voice and movement, and learning how scenes are staged.

Economics & Business

Young Queenslanders in the 21st century need to be:

- innovators
- entrepreneurs
- lifelong learners
- responsible global citizens.

Therefore, the Year 9 Economics and Business course develop an understanding of the effects of decisions made by consumers, workers, businesses and governments on individuals, households and markets as a whole.

Students will be able to:

- Join the 100k Entrepreneur Classroom Project – an eco-friendly business initiative involving Year 9 students to create a business classroom worth eventually 100k.
- Undertake creating a start-up business individually or in pairs to plan and develop a product/service, identify a target audience and determine strategies to market and sell their product/service online and at ‘live test’ opportunities. All revenue from sales goes to the students’ business except for identified charity days.
- Meet and talk to local and national business owners to gain valuable insight into the world of entrepreneurship.
- Explain the importance of managing financial risks and rewards and analyse the different strategies that may be used.
- Explain why businesses seek to create a competitive advantage and evaluate the strategies that may be used.
- Complete Google Digital Garage modules to attain certification in the ‘Fundamentals of Digital Marketing’.
- Review the business on completion of the course and determine lessons learnt for potential future businesses.

Food Technology: Global Cuisines

This course will explore cookery skills and techniques through the lens of different cultures around the world. Students will look at what makes a culture’s food habits and patterns unique, the influence these cultures have had on the Australian Cuisine, and how we have embraced some of these dishes from around the world and made them our own. Countries studied will be negotiated with the class to cater for student interests and cultural backgrounds, and could include French, Italian, Spanish, Thai, Vietnamese, Chinese and Malaysian. Assessment, both theoretical and practical will explore the consequences of food choices which result in health inequities around the world, and the development of new recipes based on cultural influences.

French

The Year 9 French course will build on the French language and culture foundations explored in Year 8 and further develop use of French language in both written and spoken form within a variety of real-life contexts. Students will expand their repertoire of comprehension and communication skills and use these to respond effectively within a range of creative scenarios that build their appreciation and understanding of French culture.

French I

In French I, students revisit the topic of food. They learn to follow and write a French recipe and create their own MasterChef cooking video. In the second term of study, student watch a French dramatic mini-series in class and learn to describe the characters, analyse the action and predict the plot using a range of vocabulary and structures.

French II

In French II, students study places in a town and describing places, they work as urban planners to create a new town, and then create an iMovie about their own neighbourhood. In the second term of study, students watch a French sit-com and follow the characters through a range of situations from shopping to dating. They learn to describe their daily routine and compare their life to that of a French student.

French I and French II can be studied independently as a semester unit of study, or sequentially as a year-long unit of study.

Media Arts

Media Arts in Year 9 provides an insight into the world of advertising, television and film. Students will design and create media for a range of contexts, targeting specific audiences. They will learn to use Final Cut Pro on MacBooks to develop their expertise of film language. Students will also analyse and evaluate media to determine how it impacts audiences.

Music

The Year 9 Music course will focus on developing students' knowledge, understanding and skills as musicians to create their own music and develop confidence as performers and presenters in the 21st century. Students will develop skills to investigate the journey of Music into the 21st century and apply learned skills in performance and multi-media technology to create original recordings.

Visual Arts

Visual Art in Year 9 will focus on understanding the manipulation of Visual Language both through the analysis of Australian Artists and their works and through experimentation and exploration of a wide variety of media and techniques including print making, drawing, painting and digital art. Through the Semester long course, students will develop confidence in communicating with intent visually, through creation of a folio applying art exercises and explorations. Assessment involves the completion of a series of major expressive artworks of the student's choice accompanied by an Artist Statement, as well as an analytical article demonstrating their knowledge and understanding of how other artists communicate ideas visually.