

BAYSWATER
SECONDARY COLLEGE

YEAR 7
CURRICULUM
2017



Curriculum Structure for 2017

With the move to the Victorian Curriculum and the determination to prepare our students to become active global citizens in a changing economic, technical and economic environment, we have made some changes to the structure of the curriculum for 2017.

Literacy and numeracy remain a priority. As literacy is the foundation for much of the learning at school and underpins life out of the college, literacy will be a focus in all subjects in all year levels in the college. Teachers will be using the latest, research based strategies to improve the students' literacy whether that level be at a level above or below expected.

Programs for students in year 7 – 10 will be planned and delivered according to the Victorian Curriculum Framework. Programs will be developed by Professional Learning Teams to cover the content and standards that comprise the Victorian Curriculum. The Victorian Curriculum sets out what every student should learn during their first eleven years of schooling. The curriculum is the common set of knowledge and skills required by students for life-long learning, social development and active and informed citizenship. There are eight learning areas; the Arts, English, Health and Physical Education, The Humanities, Languages, Mathematics, Science and Technologies. The Victorian Curriculum also includes capabilities of Critical and Creative Thinking, Ethical, Intercultural and Personal and Social. These capabilities will be entwined in all of the learning areas.

Year 7

All students in Year 7 will complete a common course as shown below. English, Maths, Science, Humanities, Health and PE and Languages (German) are full year subjects. Students complete Visual Arts one semester and then Performing Arts the next semester. In Performing Arts, students complete music. When completing Visual Arts, the students are given the opportunity to use various mediums. Design and Technology includes wood technology and food technology, students complete a semester of each.

Flexibility in the structure of the program will allow students to learn according to their individual learning needs and learning style. An Individual Learning Plan will be developed for each child and this will be reviewed and refined throughout the year. Parents will be provided with a copy of the plan and the suggested strategies to assist the child's development.

Skill development in the areas of literacy and numeracy will be the focus of the program. The needs of the students will be identified by testing, assessment data and teacher professional judgement. Teaching strategies will include explicit teaching of literacy and numeracy skills.

Year 7 Curriculum

Subject	English	Maths	Science	Humanities	Health and PE	Performing Arts/Visual Arts	Design and Technology	Languages (German)
Sessions per cycle	9	9	6	6	6	5	5	4

The cycle is a two week cycle.

Year 8 - 10

In years 8 – 10, the development of the Individual Learning Plan will see students making choices from the elective (and VCE) blocks to cater for their individual interests, skills and development. Students will complete the subjects of: English, Maths, Science, Humanities, Health and Physical Education in their Year Level. They will, however, choose (with guidance from the Home Teacher and in consultation with parents) the appropriate electives to ensure a comprehensive education and an extended education .

Yr 8	English 9	Maths 8	Science 6	Humanities 6	Health & PE 6	Elective 1 OR VCE Study from Block	Elective 2 OR VCE Study from block	Elective 3 OR VCE Study from block
Yr 9	English 9	Maths 8	Science 6	Humanities 6	Health & PE 6			
Yr 10	English 9	Maths 8	Science 6	Humanities 6	Health & PE 6			

- Numbers under subjects are the sessions per cycle. A cycle is a fortnight.
- Elective blocks are for 5 sessions, VCE blocks for 8 sessions. A student choosing and gaining approval for a VCE study would have to have another 3 sessions which may come from the Learning Areas or be from 3pm – 4pm, depending on timetable.
- Electives are chosen for a semester.
 - Elective 1 includes: Music/choir, Food Technology, IT unit, Robotics, Social Justice
 - Elective 2 includes; Team Games, Wood Technology, Photography, Media Studies, Sports Science
 - Elective 3 includes: Languages, Web/Design, Science iSTEM, Food Technology 2, 2D Art

Years 11 & 12 - Senior Learning Community (VCE, VCAL, VET)

Students in Years 11 and 12 can study for the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) or Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL). Subjects offered for study at VCE are determined by student demand. Distance Education, Virtual Learning and Language School options may also be available.

Students may also choose to undertake a Vocational Education and Training (VET) study from a wide range offered by the Mullum Cluster of schools and TAFE institutions. School Based Apprenticeships may also be undertaken as part of senior school studies. All studies at the VCE level are allocated 8 hourly sessions of explicit instruction per fortnight.

Students completing VCAL must complete Personal Development, Literacy, Work Related Skills and the program must include Foundation Maths. Students also undertake work placement and a VET study as part of the VCAL certificate.

Year 7

Sessions per fortnight	Subject	Brief description
9	English	<p>The Year 7 English course strives to develop globally aware students, capable of responding creatively and critically to a range of different texts. Students complete a range of tasks, including oral presentations, analytical responses, creative responses and comparative responses to develop these thinking skills.</p> <p>Unit 1 - Students distinguish between fiction and non-fiction texts before constructing their own autobiographical or biographical texts. Students complete a text study on the novel, <i>Boy Overboard</i>, exploring what it means to be a refugee and analysing the context of Afghanistan. Students participate in an interactive program 'Passages', which provides them with an opportunity to "experience" some of the difficulties an asylum seeker experiences in the hopes of creating empathetic young people before students create a recommendation for the Australian Government's immigration policy.</p> <p>Unit 2 - Students explore a variety of short texts including contemporary music and poetry as they develop their understanding of language and how it can influence an audience. They construct a presentation raising awareness for a campaign using a lyric of their choosing.</p> <p>Unit 3 – Students complete a text study on the novel, <i>Percy Jackson and the lightning thief</i>. They are required to identify key themes and ideas shown in the novel, including the impact of learning disabilities on self-esteem and identity, what it means to be a hero and the importance of friendship. Students also study the myths and legends from Ancient Greece, constructing modern comic representations of the ancient stories. This unit ties in with their historical study of Ancient societies in Humanities.</p> <p>Unit 4 – Students study the horror genre, learning the conventions of horror including setting, characterisation, events and language structures. Using this knowledge, students construct their own script detailing a ghost-trail or a narrative. Students also watch the films <i>Monster House</i> and <i>Coraline</i> before creating a comparative analysis as they explore how different directors approach the same genre.</p>

		<p>Students participate in a reading program throughout the year, engaging in 10 minutes of reading at the start of all classes. Students are explicitly taught a range of comprehension strategies to assist with the development of their reading skills and keep a reader's notebook detailing these strategies to assist them as they encounter new and challenging texts. All students are enrolled in the Premier's Reading Program to promote a love of reading.</p>
	English as an Additional Language (EAL)	<p>Students learning English as an Additional Language are provided with additional support to assist with their understanding of the English language within the classroom. The course focuses on developing reading, writing and listening skills and increasing familiarity with a variety of different styles of text. Students are encouraged to develop literacy in their first language alongside their development of the English language. Students also participate in a variety of aural tasks to improve and develop their verbal communication skills and listening skills.</p>
9	Mathematics	<p>From the content areas Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry, and Statistics and Probability, Year 7 students begin to delve deeper into foundational concepts laid in primary school. They build connections between the concepts of fractions, decimals and percentages, create algebraic expressions, and apply appropriate computation strategies. Students apply their understanding to work out 'best buy' scenarios. The formulas for the area of various shapes are established, shape and angle properties investigated and combinations of prisms and shapes are introduced. Students build on their experience of chance and data by creating sample spaces, assigning probability, constructing a range of data displays and analysing characteristics of data sets. Students are encouraged to use estimation to test their solutions are reasonable and build the skills necessary to participate in meaningful, positive learning conversations with their classmates.</p>
6	Science	<p>Students undertaking science will develop skills, knowledge and understanding in safety in science, equipment and its use, experimenting and laboratory work, states of matter, classification, electricity and electronics, robotics and programming, classification, drones (making and flying), physics, chemistry and mythbusting. Students will be linked in to Swinburne TAFE and experience science in a university</p>

		atmosphere during this year.
6	Humanities	In Year 7 Humanities students undertake a study of History, Geography, Economics and Business and Civics and Citizenship. In History students investigate ancient worlds and learn and use key historical concepts such as cause and effect. Through a study of water and place, students gain geographic skills and knowledge. Economics and Business sees students gain an understanding of how we all make economic choices and the impact these have on our community and economy. In Civics and Citizenship, students learn about our government and different political systems, ensuring that they understand their rights and responsibilities as citizens.
4	Languages - German	In Year 7 German students acquire communication skills in German and investigate how language is used and is developing. They get to know themselves as communicators and understand the link between language and culture. Students study parts of speech in both English and German, and investigate their culture and other cultures. Students who are new to German language learning are supported through activities and games, while students who have learnt German previously are extended through range of texts and online activities.
6	Health Physical Education	In year 7, students begin by focusing on gaining a greater understanding of themselves physically, socially and emotionally. Students begin to comprehend the national nutritional guidelines through the healthy eating model and what that looks like for them in the real world. They gather and analyse health information, identifying a variety of resources and support networks. Students demonstrate skills to work collaboratively and play fairly in a variety of different sporting and game simulations.
5	Visual arts	In Year 7 Arts students undertake a study of three-dimensional and two dimensional designs in order to investigate a range of processes and equipment through a series of oblique, isometric and perspective exercises. Students will gain an understanding in the development of skills in visual analysis, utilising a design brief and the design process. Students will also be introduced to the 3 different sculptural techniques (Intaglio, In the Round and In-Relief) in order to demonstrate effective use of equipment, materials and presentation techniques.

5	Performing Arts - Music	At Year 7, students are introduced to the various instruments utilised in classroom music – Keyboard, guitars, drum kit, tuned and untuned percussion. They explore the basic history, mechanics and techniques used in order to play these instruments. Beginner theory is introduced including treble clef note reading and simple rhythmic notation. Students learn to play simple chords, melodies and rhythms to create and present in class ensemble.
5	Food Technology	In Year 7 Food Technology students undertake a study of the basics of food production. This includes kitchen hygiene and safety, knife skills and identification of kitchen equipment. Students work towards improving their understandings and knowledge of recipes and abilities to measure ingredients accurately. Using the design process students will produce a variety of food products to create a Food Portfolio, which includes a food assessment criterion.
5	Wood Technology	In Year 7 Wood Technology, students learn how to safely use a range of wood working hand tools. Students get introduced to different types of timber and timber products whilst learning about wood working techniques such as timber joining techniques. Students construct specific products through the use of design briefs. Students learn to develop product evaluation criteria to effectively critique the products they construct which provides an important cog in the learning process.

Visual Art, Performing Arts, Food Technology, Wood Technology are Semester subjects they are studied for two terms.