MacKillop
CATHOLIC COLLEGE

IN FAITH AND HOPE AND LOVE

Curriculum Guide
Year 8 2025

compassion
excellence service

Year 7 into 8 Subject Selection

Year 8 students study six elective subjects across the year. Each elective runs for two terms (one semester). The courses are designed to provide Year 8 students with experiences in both the Arts and Technologies, in line with Australian Curriculum requirements, but allows students to begin to have some choice in which subjects they want to study.

Students are required to complete two Technology subjects and two Arts subjects within the year, the two remaining subjects can be from the Arts *OR* Technologies subjects.

Arts Subjects available are:
- Dance
- Drama
- Digital Art (Media)
- Music
- Visual Art

Technology subjects available are:
- Design and Technology Textiles
- Design and Technology Wood
- Digital Technology
- Food Technology

It is recommended that parents/caregivers work with students to complete their elective choices for Year 8. The Year 7 into 8 Subject Selection process is completed via the Edval system, with individual login details being emailed to each student.*

When students enter the subject selection system they will be presented with instructions on how to complete the survey. It is critical that students carefully read the instructions in each section to ensure they complete it correctly. Students will print out a copy of their 'receipt of subjects selected' (sent automatically via email) and this *must be signed* by the student and the parent/caregiver and returned to the front office.

It is important that students select their SIX subjects in order of preference (Elective 1 = 1st choice, Elective 2 = 2nd choice, etc) and TWO reserved electives, also in order of preference.

*For support with the digital forms or email links please contact rzehmeister@mackillop.tas.edu.au for assistance.

Arts

Dance
In Year 8, students who choose Dance will develop an understanding about how Dance functions in society. They will learn about Social, Ritual and Artistic dance. They will be exposed to a variety of performance and choreographic activities that will allow them to experiment with new ways of moving. Students will also examine different dance styles of different decades and perform and choreograph a routine that captures the essence of a particular decade. Additionally, students will enhance their knowledge of Popular Dance by participating in a Hip Hop workshop run by a guest choreographer.

Drama
In Year 8, students who choose Drama will deepen their confidence and mastery of the elements of drama by exploring diverse performance styles and techniques. They will enhance their understanding of character and context in scripted performances and will learn about the elements of comedy which they will apply in their own devised performances.

Digital Art (Media)
In Year 8, students who opt for Digital Art will explore various media, working in small groups and individually, to create works that convey ideas and perspectives. They will utilise digital cameras and editing software to produce pieces demonstrating their comprehension of specific themes. Areas of focus include Digital Photography, Graphic Design, and Animation.

Music
In Year 8, students who choose music will be giving themselves the best possible chance to be the legends they dream of being. We will work towards mastering the fundamentals of playing guitar, as well as a number of other rock band instruments. Students will also explore the way music is created and the impact of music on culture and society. The semester will culminate in a band project in which students rehearse and perform in an ensemble with their peers.

Visual Art
In Year 8, students who choose Visual Art have the opportunity to build upon their understanding of artistic elements from Year 7. They'll delve into various artistic mediums, including mixed media artworks, clay sculpture, and printmaking. Additionally, students will enhance their observational drawing skills and explore the distinctive styles and techniques of influential artists.

Technologies

Design and Technology Textiles

Design and Technology, Textiles is a semester subject about using a design process to solve problems and create products using textile materials, which primarily include fabric, thread and yarns. Students make projects based on a design brief which allows critical and creative thinking based on student interest.

Who might be interested in Design and Technology, Textiles?

- Students who enjoy practical activities
- Students who have a creative flair and enjoy journaling and sketching ideas
- Students interested in learning skills and techniques so they can create textile objects and clothing, examples include how to use a sewing machine, hand embroidery, crochet, knitting, painting and stencilling on fabric, fabric dying, creative repair of clothing, fashion revamping
- Students who enjoy revamping and up-cycling, making new items from discarded clothing and textile materials

Design and Technology Wood

Are you interested in getting hands-on and creative? In Year 8 Materials, Design and Technology, you'll dive into exciting projects where you can work with various hand tools and even some basic power tools! It's a great way to learn new skills and understand the importance of Workplace Health and Safety while following workshop rules. Plus, you'll have the chance to put your personal touch on your projects, using different materials to bring your ideas to life.

You'll also learn to think like a designer, using the design process to solve problems and express your ideas through drawings and sketches. If you enjoyed the basics in Year 7, this course will take your skills to the next level and help you discover new ways to be creative. Join us in this elective and see what you can create!

Digital Technologies: Unleash Your Digital Creativity!

In this engaging Year 8 robotics course, students will dive into the exciting world of engineering and programming using LEGO Spike Prime robots. They'll learn to design, build, and code their own robots to solve real-world challenges, fostering creativity, critical thinking, and teamwork. Through hands-on projects and interactive lessons, students will explore the fundamentals of robotics, including sensors, motors, and coding logic, all while having fun and developing valuable STEM skills. This course is perfect for budding engineers and tech enthusiasts eager to bring their ideas to life!

Food Technology

Whether you're a budding chef or would like to improve your cooking skills, this subject could be the course for you. Course Highlights include;

1. Recipe Folder: From a fluffy omelette to a savoury stir-fry, they'll collect a variety of breakfast, lunch, dinner and snack recipes.

2. Practical Kitchen Adventures: Each week students will gain practical experience cooking in a kitchen. Students will chop, sauté, and bake their way to creating healthy food options. We'll equip students with essential safety and hygiene practices. Knife skills, stove etiquette, and safe food handling.

3. Nutritional Quests - Discover the nutritional secrets behind each ingredient. We'll explore how our food choices impact our health and the wider community.

Year 8 Food Technologies isn't just about cooking: it's about nourishing curiosity, creativity, and well-being. So grab your spatula, sprinkle some enthusiasm, and let's create tasty memories!

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Contact Information

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