

Let's Get Started



SUBJECT SELECTION

YEAR 8 2025



Contents

From the Principal	4
Curriculum Structures	5
Learning Areas	6
General Capabilities	6
Curriculum Overview	7
Electives (Year 7)	7
Specialisations (Years 8 to 10)	7
Study and Homework Expectations	11
How to Use This Book	12
Subject Descriptions	13
Religion	14
English	15
Mathematics	16
Science	17
Humanities	18
Health and Physical Education	19
The Arts	20
Japanese	21
Spanish	21
SEDA	22
Technologies	23
STFM	24

PLEASE NOTE

The College reserves the right to not run a class if there is insufficient demand or if the staffing is not available.

From the Principal

Dear Parents and Students,

As students move through secondary schooling, greater specialisation is required in relation to subject choices. The range of subjects offered to Year 8 students has been designed to allow students to experience specific subject disciplines they may not have previously encountered and to continue to consolidate the skills required for the Senior Phase.

Students will complete Core subjects in Year 8 and will be able to also select four (4) Specialisation units. Students are therefore advised to choose wisely from a more self-aware understanding of what may interest them as a future pathway.

The selection of 'Specialisation' subjects should employ the same messages that are provided to our Year 10 students who are considering choices for the Senior Phase of Learning:

- · Choose subjects that they are good at
- Choose subjects that they enjoy

Implicit with this is an appreciation that 'good' choices are made when students consider their own strengths and avoid selections that are based on 'wrong' reasons, such as choosing a subject so as to be with a friend or that it is a 'bludge' subject. Our experience shows that when students follow their passion the outcomes are better. And there are no subjects that are 'bludge' subjects.

The most significant effort students can make in Year 8 is in better understanding their learning strengths and deliberately working on areas that do not come so naturally. This can be done through conscious focus during daily learning in the classroom and attentiveness to feedback. Students will come to understand when their learning is 'on target' and which areas require further work. Good routines and encouragement to persist with learning at home will support students in becoming more self-reliant and confident in their learning, and more accomplished in meeting the requirements of subject specific assessments.

The process of selecting subjects can be challenging. This Curriculum Handbook has been designed to provide important information to students and parents to assist in making informed decisions about Future Pathways and is intended to be used in conjunction with the subject selection process which occurs at home and at the College.

Our aim at Chisholm Catholic College is to provide multiple options and pathways for our students. This booklet provides additional information for parents and students when considering these options. Should you experience difficulty with subject choices or seek clarification I ask that you contact staff at the College to assist with the selection process.

I wish you all the best with this process.

Damian Bottaccio

Principal

Curriculum Structures

Education Ministers have agreed to a new national declaration on education goals for all Australians. Known as the <u>Alice Springs (Mparntwe) Education Declaration</u> (the Declaration), it sets out the national vision for education and the commitment of Australian Governments to improving educational outcomes. The following principles underpin the curriculum structures at Chisholm Catholic College.

- a) Continuity through Years 7 12 will be promoted via:
 - The Australian Curriculum
 - The Religious Education program
 - Implementation of ACARA Curriculum Guidelines, QCAA Syllabuses (Years 7-10), QCAA Syllabus (Years 11-12)
 - Commitment to the development of the cognitive verbs (CV's) for all students 7-12
 - Collaborative planning processes focused on clearly identified learning outcomes and standards
 - Authentic and continuous assessment and reporting practices
 - 'Intra' and 'Inter' school moderation processes
 - A developmental approach to learning which is student centred
- b) Selection of curriculum experiences will be:
 - relevant
 - purposeful
 - holistic
 - dvnamic
 - · responsive
 - contemporary
- c) Curriculum is integrated, balanced and connected to:
 - Encourage students to develop a deeper and broader understanding of themselves and their world.
 - Require the learner to access knowledge and strategies across the Learning Areas in a way which replicates operating in the real world.
 - Promote the transfer of knowledge across Learning Areas independently and interdependently.
 - Prepare for a more disciplinary orientation to formal curriculum offerings that are presented to students during the Senior Years.
 - Meet the needs of all students respecting the multiple pathways to tertiary studies, post school education and training, and employment that are available either in the College or through other providers.
 - Promote options for students to participate in community and workplace learning. Access to suitably targeted local community priorities for vocational education and training are provided. Students have opportunities to participate in school-based apprenticeships and traineeships as appropriate
- d) The context of learning
 - Will be informed by real life and life like situations and theoretical constructs which, together, form a dynamic and balanced learning program.

Learning Areas

The Curriculum is based around the Learning Areas managed by the Australian Curriculum Assessment Reporting Authority (ACARA) and Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) together with Religious Education which is overseen by Brisbane Catholic Education. These are:

- Religious Education
- Mathematics
- English
- Health and Physical Education (HPE)
- Science
- History
- The Arts [consisting of Music, Dance, Visual Arts, Drama and Media]
- Technologies
- Cultural Literacy and Languages, including Japanese and Spanish

General Capabilities

- The General Capabilities play a significant role in the Australian Curriculum in equipping young Australians to live and work successfully in the twenty-first century.
- In the Australian Curriculum, capability encompasses knowledge, skills, behaviours and dispositions. Students develop capability when they apply knowledge and skills confidently, effectively and appropriately in complex and changing circumstances, in their learning at school and in their lives outside school.
- In the Australian Curriculum, the General Capabilities are addressed through the content of the learning areas.



Curriculum Overview

Year 7	Religion	English	Mathematics	Science	HPE	HASS	Elective	
Year 8	Religion	English	Mathematics	Science	HPE	Humanities	Specialisation	
Year 9	Religion	English	Mathematics	Science	HPE	Specialisation 1	Specialisation 2	
Year 9	Religion	English	Mathematics	Science	History	Specialisation 3	Specialisation 4	
Year 10	Religion	English	Mathematics	Science	HPE	Specialisation 1	Specialisation 2	
Year 10	Religion	English	Mathematics	Science	History	Specialisation 3	Specialisation 4	
Year 1	.1 Religio	n Englis	sh Mathema	tics Spec	ialisation 1	Specialisation 2	Specialisation 3	

Electives (Year 7)

Religion

English

Year 12

Year 7 students will experience *Elective subjects* to provide them with a broad education. Students may undertake subjects they did not do in primary school.

Specialisation 1 Specialisation 2 Specialisation 3

Mathematics

In choosing subjects, we encourage students to either pursue their interests or strengths. A prominent message in later year levels is – Choose subjects that you are interested in, choose subjects that you are good at and choose subjects that may be required for future study; therefore, students are now asked to Specialise in their choice of elective subjects.

Specialisations (Years 8 to 10)

These are courses for you to focus on specific skills, interests and abilities within Key Learning Areas and are designed for you to deepen your learning within a subject area and across the curriculum. Specialisations may assist with future pathways and subject pre-requisites.

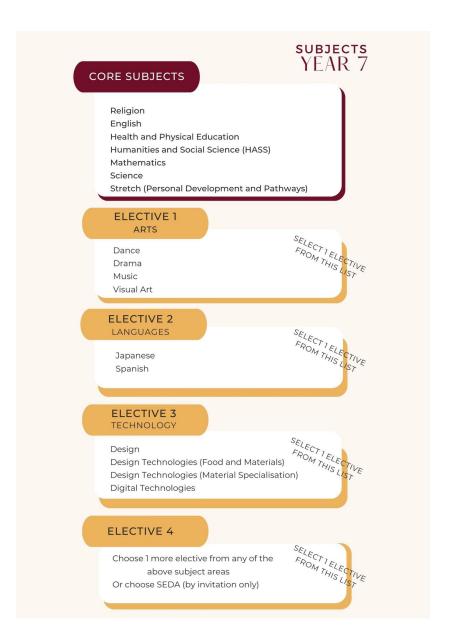
Specialisations are not a compulsory core subject; you have a choice as to which Specialisation course you may study. It allows you to select subjects that interest you.

Year 8 Specialisations are a term-based course of study, and students need to choose at least one from The Arts and one from the Technologies courses.

Year 9 and Year 10 Specialisations are a semester-based course of study. Pre-requisites may be used to determine eligibility for further study in particular areas.

Students have the opportunity to specialise in SEDA. This subject is an extension for HPE (SEDA eligible sports). or if staffing is not available. Please note – The College reserves the right to not run a class if there is insufficient demand

SUBJECTS YEAR 8 CORE SUBJECTS Religion English Health and Physical Education Humanities Mathematics Science Stretch (Personal Development and Pathways) SPECIALISATION SUBJECTS ANY 4 LISTS BELOW THE ARTS Dance Drama Music Visual Art SPECIALISATION LANGUAGES Japanese Spanish SPECIALISATION TECHNOLOGIES Digital Technologies Design Technologies (Food and Materials) Design Technologies (Material Specialisation) SPECIALISATION STEM (by invitation only) SEDA (by invitation only)



SUBJECTS YEAR 10

SUBJECTS FROM THE

CORE SUBJECTS

Religion

English or Essential English

Health and Physical Education

History

Maths or Essential Maths or Advanced Maths

Science

Stretch (Personal Development and Pathways)

SPECIALISATION

ARTS, HASS, LANGUAGE, TECHNOLOGIES

Dance

Design Technologies (Food Specialisation)

Design Technologies (Hospitality)

Design Technologies (Textile and Fashion)

Digital Technologies

Drama

Economics and Business

Engineering Skills

Film, Arts and New Media

Geography

Industrial Graphics

Japanese Course 1 / Japanese Course 2

Manufacturing (Woodwork)

Music

SEDA (by invitation only)

Spanish Course 1 / Spanish Course 2

STEM (by invitation only)

Visual Art

VET OPPORTUNTIES

Opportunity for TRADE TASTER open to students in year 10 - Apply early limited places available

SENIOR

CORE SUBJECTS

Religion

Study of Religion (General) Religion and Ethics (Applied)

English

English (General)

Literature (General)

Essential English (Applied)

Mathematics

General Mathematics (General)

Mathematical Methods (General)

Specialist Mathematics (General)

Essential Mathematics (Applied)

GENERAL SUBJECTS

Accounting

Aerospace Systems

Ancient History

Biology

Business

Chemistry

Dance

Design

Digital Solutions

Drama

Food and Nutrition

Japanese

Legal Studies



Study and Homework Expectations

Teachers ensure that homework is set as part of a balanced lifestyle. This gives students the opportunity to further their classroom learning while leaving enough time for family, recreation and other activities.

Homework helps students:

- Prepare for and expand on classroom learning
- · Involve family members in their learning
- · Become independent learners

When and where should my child do homework?

It is helpful for students to establish routines for homework like:

- Setting a time to complete homework
- · Finding a space that is free of distractions

How can I help?

You can help your child by:

- Encouraging them to take responsibility for their learning and time management
- Supporting them to complete tasks by discussing key questions and directing them to helpful and appropriate resources
- Participating with them in online learning forums
- · Reading and playing games with them
- · Involving them in tasks; including shopping and cooking
- Encouraging them to read and to take an interest in and discuss local, national and international events
- Discussing homework concerns with your child's teacher



How to Use This Book

This book is designed to help you make decisions about subjects for your Year 8.

READ IT CAREFULLY. USE IT TO TALK TO YOUR FAMILY, YOUR TEACHERS AND THE ACADEMIC LEADERS, ABOUT SUBJECT CHOICES. USE IT TO FILL OUT YOUR SUBJECT SELECTION FORM.

Section 1 contains general information about how to decide on certain subjects.

Section 2 lists all the departments and subjects in alphabetical order. Information about each subject is provided including an Introduction, Course Outline and any specific Course requirements.

SUBJECT CHANGES: Students may change subjects at certain times of the year only. Subject changes are subject to availability, and they are not automatically granted. The process outlined on the Subject Change form must be followed; forms are available at the Middle Years Learning Leader's Office. Students who wish to make a subject change outside of the allocated opportunities must do so through the Assistant Principal: Curriculum.

GUIDELINES FOR THE SELECTION OF YEAR 8 SUBJECTS

The intention of this booklet is to provide both parents and students with as much information as possible to assist with subject selection. Year 8 students will study the following compulsory core subjects:

- English
- History
- Mathematics
- Science
- · Health and Physical Education
- Stretch

SPECIALISATION SUBJECTS

In addition to the core subjects above, **students will also select four (4)** elective subjects to study each Term and 2 reserves. When selecting subjects, students would be well advised to discuss their selection of subjects with their parents, teachers, Academic Leaders, Pastoral Leader or the Program Leader: Pathways. A few helpful hints:

ACHIEVEMENT: If you have done well in a subject previously, you are likely to continue to do well in that subject.

WORK ETHIC: All students can achieve well if they work hard and complete all assignments and homework involved in each subject.

AMBITION AND INTEREST: Through previous studies, you should have a fair idea as to the types of subjects in which you are interested. If you wish to follow a certain career, make sure you take the subjects in Year 9 that will enable you to choose the correct subjects in Years 11 and 12.

ATTENDANCE: You must come to school every day unless you are genuinely sick. There is a high correlation between attendance and academic achievement.



Subject Descriptions

Brisbane Catholic Education Curriculum:

Religion



Course Overview

Term One: Rituals of Initiation

The students identify the significance of initiation rituals in the Abrahamic religions (Judaism, Christianity, Islam) for the faith journey of believers. Students explore how believers, past and present continue the mission of Jesus in the world, in times of challenge and change.

Term Two: Movers and Shakers

The students consider and organise patterns of change and continuity in the Church from c. 650~CE-c. 1750~CE, identifying the impact of the writings and key messages of significant reformers in the Church at that time

Term Three: Mission Matters

The students consider and organise evidence from Scriptural texts to **explain** how God's saving plan for all creation was accomplished, through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and **identify** the unique relationship between God and God's people.

They consider and organise evidence from the Acts of the Apostles to explain the significance of some key events, individuals and groups in the life of the early Church and evaluate and draw conclusions about the ways in which the Church is present and active in the world today. The students respond to emerging moral questions and how society is practising the cardinal virtues.

Term Four: Hello God

The students describe how words and images are used to represent the mystery of the Trinity. They consider and organise Old Testament covenant narratives and the actions and messages of some Old Testament prophets; Students identify the unique relationship between God and God's people.

- Multimodal Presentation
- Proposal
- Storybook
- Essay
- Folio of Work





Course Overview

Unit Title: Stories of Others

Students will engage in language experiences that focus on the way we tell stories about others.

Unit Title: Poetry

Students will explore how poets use a variety of poetic forms and devices to engage with personal experiences of both the poet and the reader. Poems used in class will have an Indigenous focus.

Unit Title: Have you ever been a Teenager?

Students will explore the representation of teenage characters in a variety of narrative texts. They will engage with a novel, a variety of short stories, and a film.

Unit Title: 'Cause we are living in a digital world'.

Students will study representations of characters and contexts in both written narratives and films. They will explore which style of storytelling is more accurate and a superior choice.

- Written responses
- Spoken/signed responses
- Multimodal responses

Mathematics



Course Overview

Unit title: Number and Algebra

Unit focus: Students describe rational and irrational numbers. They make connections between expanding and factorising algebraic expressions. Students use efficient mental and written strategies to carry out the four operations with integers. They simplify a variety of algebraic expressions. They solve linear equations and graph linear relationships on the Cartesian plane.

Unit title: Number and Algebra

Unit focus: Students solve everyday problems involving rates, ratios and percentages. They describe index laws and apply them to whole numbers. They describe rational and irrational numbers. Students solve problems involving profit and loss. They solve linear equations and graph linear relationships on the Cartesian plane (continued from term 1).

Unit title: Geometry and Measurement

Unit focus: Students will explore congruency of plane shapes. They will use substitution in formula to calculate area and perimeter of plane shapes and volume of prisms. Students will be able to choose appropriate units for these calculations and convert between them. Students will solve problems involving perimeter, area and volume. Students will solve problems involving 12 and 24-hour time and singular time zones.

Unit title: Statistics and Probability

Unit focus: Students model authentic situations with two-way tables and Venn diagrams. They choose appropriate language to describe events and experiments. They explain issues related to the collection of data and the effect of outliers on means and medians in that data. Students determine the probabilities of complementary events and calculate the sum of probabilities.

- Problem Solving & Modelling Task
 - Written
 - Spoken
 - Multimodal
- Examination



Science

Course Overview

Unit Title: Chemical Sciences

Students classify matter as elements, compounds or mixtures and compare different representations of these, including 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional models, symbols for elements and formulas for molecules and compounds. They compare physical and chemical changes and identify indicators of energy change in chemical reactions

Unit Title: Physical Sciences

Students classify different types of energy as kinetic or potential and investigate energy transfer and transformations in simple systems

Unit Title: Biological Sciences

Students recognise cells as the basic units of living things, compare plant and animal cells, and describe the functions of specialised cell structures and organelles. They analyse the relationship between structure and function of cells, tissues and organs in a plant and an animal organ system and explain how these systems enable survival of the individual.

Unit Title: Earth and Space Sciences

Students investigate tectonic activity including the formation of geological features at divergent, convergent and transform plate boundaries and describe the scientific evidence for the theory of plate tectonics. They describe the key processes of the rock cycle, including the timescales over which they occur, and examine how the properties of sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic rocks reflect their formation and influence their use.

- Research Investigation
- Experimental Investigation
- Examination

Humanities



Course Overview

Humanities is the study of human behaviour and interaction in social, cultural, environmental, economic, business, legal and political contexts. This learning area has a historical and contemporary focus, from personal to global contexts, and considers the challenges that may occur in the future. At Chisholm, students explore all four subjects within the Humanities learning area: History, Geography, Economics & Business and Civics and Citizenship.

History

Students study of history from the end of the ancient period to the beginning of the modern period, c.650–1750 AD (CE) by focusing on two civilisations – European and Japanese. Students investigate the impact of the Black Death on Europe and research social and cultural customs of Shogunate Japan.

Geography

Students focus on investigating geomorphology through a study of landscapes and their landforms. This unit examines the processes that shape individual landforms, the values and meanings placed on landforms and landscapes by diverse cultures, hazards associated with landscapes, and management of landscapes.

Economics & Business, Civics & Citizenship

Students learn about how markets influence the allocation of resources to the production of goods and services and the ways businesses adapt to opportunities in markets and respond to the work environment. Students investigate the role of how citizens can actively participate in Australia's political system, the role and impact of elections, and the ways political parties, interest groups, media and individuals influence government and decision-making processes.

- Multimodal
- Proiect
- Folio of Tasks
- Independent Source Evaluation



Health and Physical Education

Course Overview

The Year 8 Health and Physical Education curriculum allows students to investigate a range of health issues relevant to young people to understand the choices people make about their health and wellbeing. Students examine the factors that can influence an individual's choices, and explore and evaluate options, consequences, and healthier and safer alternatives. Students practise and apply more complex combinations of skills and strategies in a range of movement situations and settings. They explore the range of factors and movement concepts that influence the quality of movement performances. They practise techniques that can be used to enhance their own and others' performances.

Students have opportunities to practise using creative and collaborative processes to work in a group or team to communicate effectively, solve problems, resolve conflicts, and make decisions in movement and social contexts.

Focus areas to be addressed in Years 7 and 8 may include:

- alcohol and other drugs
- food and nutrition
- health benefits of physical activity
- mental health and wellbeing
- relationships and sexuality
- safety
- challenge and adventure activities
- games and sports
- lifelong physical activities
- rhythmic and expressive movement activities

- Project Folio
- Investigation
- Examination
- Physical performance



The Arts

Dance - Music Video Project

In this unit, students will explore dance as an art form away from its traditional performance medium. Students will explore how dance has permeated into popular culture through the music video medium. They will be able to analyse and compose dance works which reflect popular dance styles, such as Jazz and Hip-Hop. Students will continue to build on and extend their technical skills within the popular dance styles, as well as expressive skills developed in the previous units, increasing their confidence, accuracy and clarity of movement. They will extend their understanding of the elements of dance by making and responding to dance independently and collaboratively.

Assessment Types

- Choreography
- Evaluative reflection

Group task Individually assessed.

Drama - Script Study

During this unit students will immerse themselves in the role of a superhero and discover how place and tension along with set, costumes and sound communicate dramatic meaning to audiences. Students will explore place, role and tension through studying the play *Wonderfly* by Nick Atkins. In addition, students will explore the role of playwright and work through the process of creating a script for performance. Students will explore the development of characters and relationships, identifying gaps and silences. They will create a scene which fills one of these gaps or silences. Students' learning will culminate in a performance task of their devised scene.

Assessment Types

- Script writing
- Performance
- Response to performance

Group task Individually assessed.

Music - Rhythm, Roles and Sections

In Year 8, students explore and experiment with the concepts of music, particularly Performing Media Roles, Texture and Duration (Rhythm). Students will perform drums or cajon to accompany a selected cover song. As Concepts of Music are unpacks, students will learn to analyse music and evaluate their performance and that of their peers. They will learn to describe the effectiveness of their performances to communicate meaning to their audience.

Assessment Types

- Performance of cover song and
- Critical evaluation

Visual Art

In Year 8, students further explore the elements of art, visual conventions and artmaking processes. They interact with the world around them, responding to artists such Shaun Tan through visual representations. Students work in both 2D and 3D formats, to create surrealist-inspired steampunk sculptures. Students extend their artmaking practice through curating exhibitions where they present their ideas and concepts in a purposeful and respectful manner.

- Mixed media sculpture
- Analysis



Japanese

Course Overview

The purpose of this unit is for students to develop basic Japanese language skills through cultural episodes that are specific to national identity, family life in both Japan and Australia, and hobbies that are common in Japan and Australia. Additionally, the application of dates and days of the week to these concepts are introduced in order to have a fuller understanding of the grammar that underpins communication in Japanese.

Assessment Types

- Writing task
- Speaking task
- Listening task
- Reading task

Australian Curriculum:



Spanish

Course Overview

In Year 8, students begin their journey into the Spanish language, building on their prior learning and language experiences. They use Spanish to describe their personal worlds and interact with teachers and peers both in and beyond the classroom. Activities in listening, speaking, reading, viewing, and writing are supported through modelling, scaffolding, and feedback.

Students engage with authentic and purpose-developed spoken, written, and multimodal resources, including conversations, audio and video clips, textbooks, advertisements, blogs, and magazines. They use their English literacy knowledge to reflect on similarities and differences between Spanish and English pronunciation, structures, and features. They learn that language choices reflect cultural identity, beliefs, and values.

Assessment Types

Creating Texts:
Speaking and writing

Understanding Texts: Listening and reading





The Sporting Excellence and Development Academy (SEDA), allows our athletes to achieve a balance between their academic and sporting pursuits. SEDA provides our students with the opportunity to compete and perform at the highest level possible both on and off the sports field. Sports include Football, Netball, Basketball and Rugby League.

Vision

The sporting Excellence and Development Academy is an established program reflecting our FAMILY values, designed to promote sportsmanship, to holistically develop individuals to reach their potential, and to equip students with life-long skills.

Assessment Types

 Physical performance

Technologies



Unit Title: Tynker Programming Adventures

Embark on an exciting journey into the world of coding with our Year 8 Digital Technologies unit: Tynker Programming Adventures! Aligned with the Australian Curriculum, this unit provides a handson, engaging introduction to programming through the Tynker platform.

Students will design and develop interactive stories, animations, mini-games, and drones, and they will progress from visual block coding to text-based coding in JavaScript and Python. This progression builds a strong foundation in programming concepts and techniques, fostering computational thinking and problem-solving skills.

This unit not only meets the curriculum goals but also inspires students to think like digital creators, preparing them for the technological world of tomorrow. Get ready to unlock your coding potential and explore the limitless possibilities of digital technology!

Assessment Types

Mini Projects and Folio

Design Technologies: Materials and Technologies

Unit title: My Desk...What a Mess!

Unit focus:

Designing a solution for an identified need or want. (Home or Community)

The design process – Explore-Develop-Produce

Developing safe practices and procedures in a workshop environment

using relevant tools and equipment.

Assessment Types

• Design Folio

Design Technologies: Food and Materials

Unit title: How can we plan and produce with a Textiles and Food?

Unit focus:

Food: Design task – Students further develop their knowledge of nutrition using the Australian Guide to Healthy eating to analyse a recipe to create a new and improved version.

Textiles: Design Task – Students develop and extend their sewing skills to complete a design task to create a textiles item for a client, ensuring they understand client needs in their application.

Assessment Types

Design Folio

STEM



Course Overview

Students will use LEGO Spike Prime Education and Coding, where innovation, engineering, and coding come together to spark curiosity and creativity! In this dynamic course, you will dive into the world of robotics, design, and programming using the versatile LEGO Spike Prime kit. Get ready to build, code, and innovate your way through exciting STEM challenges. This course is designed to provide you with hands-on experience in robotics, coding, and problem-solving. As students build, program, and innovate with the Spike Prime kit, they will not only acquire technical skills but also foster a mindset of innovation, exploration, teamwork, and critical thinking.

Assessment Types

Portfolio items

All students must use the Subject Selection Online process for selecting subjects for 2025 **no paper copies will be accepted**