

Year 8 Elective Subject Guide

Information provided to assist in elective subject selection

October 2020



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SUBJECT SELECTION

General Information regarding subject selections in Junior years at St. John's College:

When choosing subjects, we recommend that students:

- Choose subjects that they are good at;
- Choose subjects that they like;
- Be realistic in making choices according to their ability, including taking into account recommendations made by teachers and Curriculum Leaders.
- Choose subjects which they wish to study – DO NOT choose subjects simply to be with friends or because you like the teacher!
- Consider a long-term approach to choosing subjects – Students in Years 8 and 9 should try a wide variety of elective options to see what they enjoy and sample everything in these years. This will enable them to start to specialise in Year 10 in preparation for Senior Schooling.

For the different year levels, we recommend:

- Years 8 and 9 students** should try a range of electives so that they keep their options open for the future. Students should not be afraid to try something new in these year levels if they think that they may be interested in studying it further in the future. It is important for these students to consider all alternatives so that they get a number of different experiences during these years.
- Year 10 students** should be seriously choosing subjects which lead into areas which they are interested in studying in Years 11 and 12. Many subjects will be introducing concepts which will be re-visited in the Senior Years, so studying those courses in Year 10 could be helpful in gaining a better insight into what to expect in Senior. Students select year-long subjects and have to apply to change subjects throughout the year.

What will student's study:

YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10
Religious Education (whole year) English (whole year) Mathematics (whole year) Humanities (whole year) Science (whole year) Health & Physical Education (whole year) 4 Student Selected (Elective) subjects – 2 per semester	Religious Education (whole year) English (whole year) Mathematics (whole year) Humanities (whole year) Science (whole year) Health & Physical Education (whole year) 6 Student Selected (Elective) subjects – 3 per semester	Religious Education (whole year) English (whole year) Mathematics (whole year) Science (whole year) 3 Student Selected (Elective) subjects – Whole of year subjects – students must apply to do any changes throughout the year and such changes will be limited.

Getting started:

Whilst many students in all year levels do not know exactly what career to pursue, they should try to determine the areas of future employment they might enjoy. Much can be learned from re-visiting their My Career Match Profile, exploring career websites and quizzes e.g. myfuture - <http://www.myfuture.edu.au/>

; Job Outlook - <http://joboutlook.gov.au/careerquiz.aspx> ; Career Quest - <http://www.careers.govt.nz/tools/>

; studying the Job Guide and talking to people who work in areas of interest to you.

If you are struggling to find a career path or direction, a really great place to start is the **Student Connect website**. <http://www.studentconnect.qcaa.qld.edu.au>. The Student Connect website is designed, maintained and provided for by the Queensland Government in conjunction with educational authorities.

It is ideal for families to use and provides a starting point for discussion:

- identifying interests and abilities through actual exercises
- exploring suitable career paths
- decision making and planning

The College's Careers Department also operates a website:

<http://www.stjohnscollegecareers.com/>.

This is a valuable resource for students and families to utilise as much of the research has already been completed. Students should register in the Secure Student Area to access many career planning quizzes and resources.

This Handbook:

We encourage you to take the time to read this handbook so that you can make wise and informed choices. It is set out in department areas so that you can see which subjects are available in each department.

This will take some time to work through, but we believe it is time that is well invested for you to achieve successful future outcomes.

In particular, you should consider:

- Which topics are being studied in each semester of these subjects and pick areas which you are most interested in;
- Which subjects do you most want to study? These should be your first preferences to give yourself the best chance of receiving these choices.
- Plan your ideal program across Years 8 to 10 so that you can see a pathway emerging of the subjects you might like to study in Years 11 and 12. The table below can assist with this.

YEAR 8 SEMESTER 1	YEAR 8 SEMESTER 2	YEAR 9 SEMESTER 1	YEAR 9 SEMESTER 2	YEAR 10 SEMESTER 1	YEAR 10 SEMESTER 2
RE English Mathematics Humanities Science Health & Physical Education	RE English Mathematics Humanities Science Health & Physical Education	RE English Mathematics Humanities Science Health & Physical Education	RE English Mathematics Humanities Science Health & Physical Education	RE English Mathematics Science	
ELECTIVE 1	ELECTIVE 1	ELECTIVE 1	ELECTIVE 1	ELECTIVE 1	
ELECTIVE 2	ELECTIVE 2	ELECTIVE 2	ELECTIVE 2	ELECTIVE 2	
		ELECTIVE 3	ELECTIVE 3	ELECTIVE 3	

The Subject Selection Process

Students are required to choose a number of preferences for their Elective Subjects. All courses which are offered must be allocated a preference in this process.

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 extra choices as reserves.

Although all subjects are offered, on occasion there may not be viable numbers for a class (or a second class) to run within the timetable structure of the College. In these circumstances, we will refer to reserve preferences - as such, it is important to choose subjects in an order of preference.

Students will generally be provided with their allocated Elective Subjects before the end of the previous semester to enable the necessary resources to be purchased. There will only be a limited amount of change possible after these are distributed, so students do need to think very carefully when selecting their choices.

There is a lot of flexibility provided for students in these selections, but they do need to think very carefully about their overall "plan" for future years when making their choices.

Contact People:

- Mr. Shaun Lendrum (Assistant Principal):
 - For all general enquiries about this process and subject changes throughout Years 8 - 12
- Curriculum Middle Leaders:
 - For any subject specific questions about what is involved in the study of a particular elective and any other information about those subjects
- Mrs. Bernadette Natoli (Careers and VET Co-ordinator):
 - For assistance in career advice, VET training options, University prerequisites and all assistance relating to future study and work options)
- Mrs. Maria Cross and Mrs. Victoria Taber (Learning Enhancement):
 - For assistance in making suitable subject choices for students who may require learning support or have needs which need to be catered for within a specialised learning framework
- Year Level Pastoral Middle Leaders:
 - For any questions or concerns about student well-being, general issues which affect student participation in school programs, extended absences etc

ELECTIVE SUBJECT CHOICES AVAILABLE IN YEAR 8, 2021

Indonesian	Digital Technologies	Economics and Business Studies
Graphics	Visual Arts	Drama
Industrial Technology	Dance	Music
Food Studies		

YEAR 8 SUBJECT SELECTION PLANNER-

STUDENT NAME: _____

LEARNING AREAS	OPTIONS	MY SELECTIONS
<p>MANDATORY CORE SUBJECTS</p> <p>These subjects are studied throughout the entire year in Core Classes. They are pre-allocated for all Year 8 students.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Religious Education English Mathematics Science Humanities (including Geography, History and Civics) Physical Education 	<p>08RE21 & 08RE22</p> <p>08ENG21 & 08ENG22</p> <p>08MAT21 & 08MAT22</p> <p>08SCI21 & 08SCI22</p> <p>08GEO21 & 08HIS22</p> <p>08HPE21 & 08HPE22</p>
<p>ELECTIVE SUBJECTS</p> <p>Students will study TWO of these subjects throughout each semester. This means that they will have experienced FOUR elective subjects by the end of Year 8.</p> <p>Students are required to place all subjects in their order of preference in the final column. The number 1 choice should be the subject that the student MOST wants to study. The number 2 choice should be the subject that is their second most wanted subject. Continue to place all subjects in order all the way down to number 10.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drama 2 (08DRA2) Visual Art 2 (08VARTS2) Music (08MUS2) Digital Technologies (08DIGTEC2) Design and Technologies – Engineering Principles and Systems – Graphics (08DTEPS2) Design and Technologies – Materials and Technologies – Wood (08DTMAT2) Design and Technologies – Food Specialisation (08DTFS2) Indonesian (08IND2) Dance (08DAN2) Business and Economics (08ECBUS2) 	SUBJECT PREFERENCE 1
		SUBJECT PREFERENCE 2
		SUBJECT PREFERENCE 3
		SUBJECT PREFERENCE 4
		SUBJECT PREFERENCE 5
		SUBJECT PREFERENCE 6
		SUBJECT PREFERENCE 7
		SUBJECT PREFERENCE 8
		SUBJECT PREFERENCE 8
		SUBJECT PREFERENCE 10

PLEASE NOTE – ALL SUBJECT SELECTIONS MUST BE COMPLETED USING THE SUBJECT SELECTION ONLINE BY 3PM ON FRIDAY 16th OCTOBER

THE ARTS

LEVEL 2 ELECTIVE SUBJECT (generally studied in Year 8)

Contact Person: Patrick Wilson

Code: 08DAN2

Subject Name – Dance 2

Length: 1 Semester

Overview	Students explore the essential elements of dance and production elements through practical workshops and analysis. Students learn about choreographic devices and processes, providing them with knowledge, understanding and skills to create meaningful and diverse movement. Students will also explore their own movement capabilities and develop technical and expressive dance skills.
Prerequisites / Recommended Prior Study / Assumed Knowledge	Nil
Topics Studied:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Popular dance styles • The elements of dance • Choreography skills • Performance skills • Dance analysis • Production elements • Choreographic intention • Responding to stimulus to create dance
Assessment:	Choreography Performance Appreciation
Pathways to Years 9 and 10	Preparation for Year 9 Dance
Additional fees and charges	NIL

Additional information	Dance offers students the opportunity to develop their physical creativity and self-confidence within a safe learning environment.
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LEVEL 2 ELECTIVE SUBJECT (generally studied in Year 8)

Contact Person: Patrick Wilson

Code: 08DRA2

Subject Name – Drama 2

Length: 1 Semester

Overview	Students will learn basic skills of improvisation: making and accepting offers, storyline development, focus, establishing role, status. In the second unit, students will study comedy. They will learn: to identify comic devices, character development and performance skills
Prerequisites / Recommended Prior Study / Assumed Knowledge	Recommended: Satisfactory completion of Drama 1 rotation unit in Year 7.
Topics Studied:	Improvisation techniques and comic devices, character, focus, timing
Assessment:	Small group improvised scene Comedy script performance in pairs
Pathways to Years 9 and 10	Preparation for Years 9 & 10 Drama
Additional fees and charges	NIL
Additional information	Students create scenes in the improvisation unit in response to a variety of stimuli In the comedy unit, students begin script analysis

LEVEL 2 ELECTIVE SUBJECT (generally studied in Year 8)

Contact Person: Patrick Wilson

Code: 08MUS2

Subject Name – Music 2

Length: 1 Semester

Overview	Year 8 Music students will undertake practical activities to learn about adapting music for performance. These skills will also be enhanced with elements of improvising, composing and scoring.
Prerequisites / Recommended Prior Study / Assumed Knowledge	Recommended: Satisfactory completion of Music 1 rotation unit in Year 7.
Topics Studied:	Performance, composing and scoring
Assessment:	Composition Performance
Pathways to Years 9 and 10	Preparation for Year 9 Music
Additional fees and charges	NIL
Additional information	NIL

LEVEL 2 ELECTIVE SUBJECT (generally studied in Year 8)

Contact Person: Patrick Wilson

Code: 08VARTS2

Subject Name – Visual Art 2

Length: 1 Semester

Overview	The unit ' <i>My Face, You</i> ' is primarily based around portraiture. Students will become adept at drawing their own and others faces and reproduce it in many ways utilising a variety of mediums and techniques.
Prerequisites / Recommended Prior Study / Assumed Knowledge	Recommended: Satisfactory completion of Visual Art 1 rotation unit in Year 7.
Topics Studied:	CONTENT: Portraiture, Art History (Cubism, Fauvism, Expressionism) SKILLS/TECHNIQUES: Drawing, Painting, Collage, Sculpture, Mixed-Media MEDIUMS: Paint, Mixed-Media, Clay, Charcoal, Pencil
Assessment:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Body of Work- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drawn Portrait • Scribble portrait (Brett Whiteley inspired) • Painting Techniques portrait(Expressionistic) • Clay Vase/Tile (Cubist Inspired) • Texture portrait • Lino print portrait (Matisse Inspired) 2. Written Task
Pathways to Years 9 and 10	Preparation for Year 9 Art
Additional fees and charges	NIL
Additional information	NIL

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGIES

LEVEL 2 ELECTIVE SUBJECT (generally studied in Year 8)

Contact Person: Tim Jones

Code: 08DTEPS2	Subject Name – Design & Technologies (Engineering, Principles & Systems) 2 - Graphics	Length: 1 Semester
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Overview	<p>This unit builds on the introduction to Graphics study from Year 7</p> <p>A strong emphasis will be placed on using Computer Aided Drafting (CAD) programs to produce drawings. Students will also be required to develop hand skills, using a variety of sketching techniques.</p>
Prerequisites / Recommended Prior Study / Assumed Knowledge	NIL
Topics Studied:	<p>Student skills and knowledge are developed in the areas of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sketching • 3D Modelling • Architectural Drawing (Domestic and Commercial)
Assessment:	Portfolio of work
Pathways to Years 9 and 10	<p>Semester units may be studied individually to meet the different needs and interest of students. Graphics is offered in Years 9 and 10. From 2019 onwards, the Certificate III in Engineering Technical - CAD will be offered at St John's College.</p>
Additional fees and charges	NIL
Additional information	NIL

LEVEL 2 ELECTIVE SUBJECT (generally studied in Year 8)

Contact Person: Tim Jones

Code: 08DTMAT2	Subject Name – Design & Technologies (Materials and Technologies) 2 – Wood	Length: 1 Semester
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Overview	The content of Design & Technologies - Wood units is structured around practical projects and their design. They are aimed at extending the students' knowledge and skill in the areas of Technology and design. Students will study some initial safety in the workshop. A number of small and simple projects will be constructed to introduce students to basic skills and equipment.
Prerequisites / Recommended Prior Study / Assumed Knowledge	Recommended: Satisfactory completion of Design & Technologies 1–Wood rotation unit in Year 7.
Topics Studied:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Workshop Safety <input type="checkbox"/> Measuring and marking out <input type="checkbox"/> Basic hand skills. <input type="checkbox"/> Introduction to basic metal working <input type="checkbox"/> Painting preparation and finish.
Assessment:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will be required to complete online safety tests using the program On-guard. They will be provided with a link and login details by their teacher. • Students will also be assessed on their completed projects.
Pathways to Years 9 and 10	All skills build as students progress in age and knowledge. With practice most students will find the transitions between levels a natural progression.
Additional fees and charges	NIL
Additional information	NIL

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

LEVEL 2 ELECTIVE SUBJECT (generally studied in Year 8)

Contact Person: John Cathcart

Code: 08DIGTEC2

Subject Name – Digital Technologies 2

Length: 1 Semester

Overview	<p>Students analyse the properties of networked systems and their suitability and use for the transmission of data types. They acquire, analyse, validate and evaluate various types of data, and appreciate the complexities of storing and transmitting that data in digital systems. Students use structured data to model objects and events that shape the communities they actively engage with. They further develop their understanding of the vital role that data plays in their lives, and how the data and related systems define and are limited by technical, environmental, economic and social constraints.</p> <p>Students broaden their programming experiences to include general-purpose programming languages, and incorporate subprograms into their solutions. They predict and evaluate their developed and existing solutions, considering time, tasks, data and the safe and sustainable use of information systems, and anticipate any risks associated with the use or adoption of such systems.</p> <p>Students plan and manage individual and team projects with some autonomy. They consider ways of managing the exchange of ideas, tasks and files, and techniques for monitoring progress and feedback. When communicating and collaborating online, students develop an understanding of different social contexts, for example acknowledging cultural practices and meeting legal obligations.</p>
Prerequisites / Recommended Prior Study / Assumed Knowledge	Recommended: Satisfactory completion of Digital Technologies 1 in Year 7.
Topics Studied:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • App design and creation • Coding and programming • Databases
Assessment:	Digital folio of projects

Pathways to Years 9 and 10	Digital Technologies Years 9 and 10 subjects
Additional fees and charges	NIL
Additional information	NIL

ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS STUDIES

LEVEL 2 ELECTIVE SUBJECT (generally studied in Year 8)

Contact Person: Steven Crawley

Code: 08ECBUS1

Subject Name - Business 2-1

Length: 1 Semester

Overview	BUSINESS provides students with opportunities to develop enterprising behaviours and capabilities that will equip them to face challenges in their lifetime. Through real learning opportunities including running a business venture. Students develop enterprising skills such as flexibility, ability to be innovative; team work; initiative and leadership.
Prerequisites / Recommended Prior Study / Assumed Knowledge	NIL
Topics Studied:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Show me the money • Business Venture • Working for a Living
Assessment:	Combination Examination Business Venture Investigation Portfolio
Pathways to Years 9 and 10	Leads directly into Year 9 Business and Economics and Year 10 Business.
Additional fees and charges	NIL
Additional information	NIL

FOOD TECHNOLOGY

LEVEL 2 ELECTIVE SUBJECT (generally studied in Year 8)		
Contact Person: Narelle Persich		
Code: 08DTFS2	Subject Name – Design & Technologies – Food Specialisation 2	Length: 1 Semester

Overview	<p>Eat well be well</p> <p>The course comprises both practical and theoretical components. Students will participate in a double lesson of practical work most weeks and a single lesson of theory, related to their practical work. Learning focuses on food safety and hygiene, food production, preparation, processing and presentation. The influence of foods on society, their advantages and disadvantages on the health of individuals and family groups.</p> <p>Investigating how a recipe can be modified to enhance health benefits, and justifying decisions, for example by replacing full cream milk with skim milk.</p>
Prerequisites / Recommended Prior Study / Assumed Knowledge	<p>Recommended: Satisfactory completion of Design & Technologies – Food Specialisation 1</p> <p>Prerequisites: Consistent organisation of ingredients in Design & Technologies – Food Specialisation 1</p>
Topics Studied:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food safety and hygiene • Nutrition for healthy living • Nutritious and tasty foods for breakfast, lunch and dinner • Designing food products • Australian Guide to Healthy Eating • The Australian Dietary Guidelines • Healthy snacks • Adolescent food needs • Recipe basics – making sense of a recipe • Tools of the trade

Assessment:	Design project folio.
Pathways to Years 9 and 10	Skills, knowledge and understanding will progress each year. Cookery techniques will advance thorough out each level.
Additional fees and charges	Students are required to provide minor specialised ingredients, apron and containers for cooking each week when participating in this course.
Additional information	Students are strongly encouraged to take their prepared food products home.

LOTE (INDONESIAN)

LEVEL 2 ELECTIVE SUBJECT (generally studied in Year 8)		
Contact Person: Maree Anning		
Code: 08IND2	Subject Name - Indonesian 2	Length: 1 Semester

Overview	<p>Indonesian — or <i>Bahasa Indonesia</i> as it is known— is spoken by approximately 230 million people throughout Indonesian. The ties between Australia and Indonesia continue to develop, with an increasing number of Australians travelling to Indonesia, for leisure, business and education purposes. Indonesia currently has Australia's largest overseas diplomatic presence.</p> <p>Why learn a second language?</p> <p>Indonesian is a valuable language for Australians to learn. It enhances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cognitive and problem solving skills, increased social skills, Insights into another culture, career paths and opportunities <p>This semester, Indonesian is divided into two units of work:</p> <p>Family and Friends This unit allows students to gain a cultural understanding of family units in Indonesia. They learn to interact and build a conversation around family, friends and daily structures.</p> <p>Sports and Hobbies Students learn to describe their degree of like regarding various sports and hobbies. They also acquire the vocabulary and sentence structures to describe the frequency, location and who they participate with in sports or hobbies.</p>
Prerequisites / Recommended Prior Study / Assumed Knowledge	Recommended satisfactory completion of Level 1 – Indonesian Language
Topics Studied:	<p>Family and Friends Focusing on family structures and daily activities.</p> <p>Sport and Hobbies Focusing on talking about your favourite sports & hobbies.</p>

Assessment:	Portfolio of Tasks including one sample of Speaking, Reading, Listening and Writing Skills.
Pathways to Years 9 and 10	Indonesian in Year 8 is considered to be foundational for future study in this subject in Years 9 and 10.
Additional fees and charges	NIL
Additional information	NIL