

English

The Year 7 English program is structured to help you explore a variety of purposes and styles of communication in using our language. It is designed to enable you to become increasingly more critical and creative thinkers and more competent and confident readers, writers and speakers. You will regularly use the laptop computers in class to study English, using various software packages to create autobiographical videos, conduct research and draft and edit your writing. Your class work will involve the following:

1. Workbook

This is your record of all notes, drafts, journal entries and any other class work. Your teacher will check this workbook throughout the semester and use it to help you focus on the skills and techniques that you need to improve in.

2. Writing Folio

This is a collection of writings where the best pieces from your drafts will be submitted for final presentation. The number and type of pieces to be completed will be decided between you and your teacher.

3. Texts

The English KLA keeps class sets of novels and other texts (plays, poems, short stories, and film). Classes will use a class novel or other text as a common focus for each term's study. It is required to be read. You will be involved in a variety of activities based around these texts.

4. Wide Reading

You are encouraged to read widely for your own enjoyment and to broaden your understanding of purpose and style. Your teacher will negotiate a reading program with you.

5. Oral communication

Your teacher will be helping you to become a more confident and capable speaker when you participate in activities such as group discussions and debates about interesting topics. You will also have the opportunity to perform short plays and present information to the rest of the class.

6. Homework

You will be expected to complete weekly exercises from your English homework book that will reinforce the literary, grammatical and spelling principles presented in your class lessons.

7. Library Familiarisation

You will complete a series of lessons in the library where you will undertake a number of tasks and complete a range of practical and creative activities with our librarian, Ms Calder. This experience will allow

you to develop the skills necessary to make the best use of our library facility.

Assessment in English is based on students showing improvement across a range of outcomes in the areas of Writing, Reading, Speaking and Listening. Assessment tasks (Writing Folio, Text Responses and Oral Communication) enable students to demonstrate their understanding of English principles and to produce their own creative pieces.

Through your English classes you will be able to meet visiting authors, performance artists and storytellers. Last year the Complete Works Theatre Co. performed a series of Australian Poems for our Year 7 students; and paper sculptor David Miller has also been a recent visitor. Opportunities to attend performances of live theatre in the city and other cultural experiences are provided through the English program. Our students met Morris Gleitzman, Margaret Clarke and other authors at a writers' forum in Melbourne last year.

HIGH ACHIEVERS

There are many opportunities for extending students who excel in English. You may wish to challenge your writing skills through poetry, song writing or scriptwriting. You may choose to read novels or texts from a wider range of historical periods and other cultures. Interested students have the opportunity to take part in the school musical production. We have had students successfully compete in at both state and national levels in spelling and writing competitions. Senior students may also participate in an interschool debating competition.

SUBJECTS and OPPORTUNITIES

English is the only compulsory study at VCE; this means that all students need to achieve highly in this area to assist with their overall VCE performance. Literature is a specialised area of text study that can be undertaken at VCE level in addition to, or instead of, English. The English Coordinator will advise you if you show an interest in this study.

The language skills that you will develop as you study English will allow you to communicate effectively in whatever field of employment or tertiary study you eventually choose. There are many areas of employment that draw specifically on your English skills including: journalism, theatre, teaching, editing, film and television and bookselling.

For further information feel free to speak with

Wendy Jackson

English Manager

Mathematics

Throughout your Year 7 Mathematics Program you will look at a range of real life activities and analyse them from a mathematical perspective. All students study a series of sequential mathematical topics. However, as individual students will have differing levels of mathematical knowledge your teacher may organise class groups to work on different activities and tasks. A remedial, core and extension structure within your class provides flexibility and focus to support this. Your class work will involve the following:

1. Workbook

You are required to maintain a workbook of class activities that are a record of your understanding of mathematical approaches. This includes keeping lists of mathematical rules, formulae and examples along with the steps you used to work out mathematical problems.

2. Topic tests

Regular tests are used to determine your level of understanding of the different topics and mathematical principles taught. Students complete the PATMaths diagnostic test early in Year 7.

3. Completing problem solving tasks

Problem solving tasks are set during each semester and you will work individually and in teams to use your mathematical knowledge to solve these problems.

4. Projects

You will work on research tasks, for example the use of mathematics in Sport, which you will present as a major report.

5. Homework

You will have regular weekly homework exercises to complete from your Mathematics textbook CD Rom.

Assessment in Mathematics is based on student's ability to complete a series of tasks in each of the following VELS Dimensions; Structure, Measurement Data and Chance, Space, Number and Working Mathematically. Possible assessment tasks will include: Topic Tests, Class and Homework exercises, Projects.

HIGH ACHIEVERS

You are encouraged to enter the annual Australian Mathematics Competitions. One is based on 30 multiple-choice questions, and the other of applying mathematical problem solving techniques. All students who participate receive a certificate of recognition. In

previous years many of our students have gained high distinctions.

EXTRA ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT

At all year levels you can access the extensive range of mathematical software on our computer network. You can log in to intranet sites that have selections of problem-solving tasks and maths related games. You can have extra assistance at all levels through the Maths Club Program run at lunchtimes and after school.

SUBJECTS and OPPORTUNITIES

Mathematics requires sequential learning. How you would progress through to VCE Studies is summarized in the diagram below.

Middle Years (Years 7, 8 and 9)

Core Learning Program with individual learning tasks

Later Years (Year 10)

Core Learning Program with individual learning tasks

Later Years (Year 11)

Foundation Mathematics

Unit 1, 2 General Mathematics

Unit 1, 2 Mathematical Methods

Later Years (Years 12)

Unit 3-4 Further Mathematics

Unit 3-4 Mathematical Methods

Unit 3-4 Specialist Mathematics

Further Mathematics Units 3 and 4 provide general preparation for employment or further tertiary studies.

Mathematical Methods Units 3 and 4 may be taken alone or in conjunction with either Specialist Mathematics Units 3 and 4 or Further Mathematics Units 3 and 4, and is intended to provide an appropriate background for tertiary studies that have a significant level of mathematics. For example: Sciences, Economics or Medicine.

Specialist Mathematics Units 3 and 4 is normally taken with Mathematical Methods Unit 3 and 4. This study extends material from Mathematical Methods 3 and 4. Specialist Mathematics Units 3 and 4 is intended for those with strong interests in mathematics and those who wish to subsequently undertake further study in mathematics and related disciplines such as Physics or Engineering.

Students need to purchase the textbook for their year level. It is a requirement for mathematics studies that students have access to a scientific calculator. The purchase of your own calculator is

recommended. Scientific calculators can be bought through the school office throughout the year.

For further information feel free to speak with
Mr. Yang Tey
Mathematics Manager

Science

The Year 7 Program has a specific focus on developing disciplined approaches to conducting scientific research, recording of experimental and research data and learning a body of scientific knowledge that will be applied to real world situations. The initial lessons will introduce you to the key laboratory skills of safety, using equipment correctly and accurate measurement and recording of data. The laptop computers will be used for data entry and analysis along with presentation of work. Over the year you will work through topics selected from the VELS Dimensions; Science, Interpersonal Development and Design, Creativity and Technology

The topics your learning will be based on will include:

- mixtures
- solids, liquids and gases
- forces (magnets, friction)
- light and sound
- Planet Earth
- classification systems
- our solar system
- our human body

1. Maintaining a workbook

You are required to maintain a workbook of class notes and activities that are a record of your understanding of scientific facts and knowledge.

2. Topic tests

At the end of each topic you will have a topic test so your teacher can gauge your understanding of the topic covered.

3. Complete practical reports

Prior to doing practical experiments you and your partner(s) have to write up the method and aims of the experiment. Then, once completed, you accurately record your results and write down your conclusions from the evidence shown.

4. Projects

You will work on research tasks, for example the Solar System, and present your findings to the class as a model or PowerPoint presentation.

5. Homework

You will be asked to complete weekly exercises from your text book, or worksheets, which will reinforce the scientific knowledge, applications and language discussed in class lessons.

Assessment in Science is based on students showing improvement in using scientific principles of prediction, investigation, testing, and analysis of results. Assessment Tasks (Topic Tests, Class and Homework exercises, Practical Reports) will enable students to demonstrate their scientific knowledge. Research Projects allow students to investigate and apply their scientific knowledge to real life situations, and use ICT skills to present and communicate their information.

HIGH ACHIEVERS

You will have many opportunities to participate in Science competitions and forums throughout Year 7 and in the later years through the following:

- National Science Competition
- Australian National Chemistry Quiz
- Science Talent Search
- Australian Museum Eureka Prizes
- Science Journalism Competition
- Other Science competitions or activities that are brought to our attention such as:
 - Students as Inventors
 - Kistler Space Endeavour Competition

SUBJECTS and OPPORTUNITIES

Science is a sequential learning program to ensure a broad range of factual knowledge is gained during your secondary schooling. This learning will help you understand and make decisions about the impact of science and technology on your life and others, our society, and the environment. StarLab Mobile Planetarium visits each year, and you will have opportunities to visit Scienceworks, and work with Shire initiated projects like WaterWatch.

Science also prepares you for working in specialist fields such as marine biology, medical and health services, geology, vehicle engineering, astronomy and chemical engineering. How you progress through to VCE Studies is summarized in the diagram below.

Middle Years (Years 7 and 8)

Core Learning Program with individual projects based around topics

Middle Years (Year 9)

Core Learning Program directly linked to investigating the use of science in current and local issues.

Later Years (Year 10)

Core Learning Program. Disciplined approaches to thinking is the key learning focus as you learn how scientific knowledge is continually evolving but is based on being consistent with evidence and widely applicable.

Students who have demonstrated high achievement in Science may choose to accelerate their learning by enrolling in one VCE Unit 1 Science study while they are in Year 10.

Later Years (Year 11 and 12)

You now choose if and what specialist science area(s) you want to continue your learning in. You can choose to enrol in any of the following VCE Science Studies:

**Biology Chemistry Physics
Environmental Science Psychology**

For further information feel free to speak with
Mr. Roy Nedumannil

Science Manager

Humanities

Throughout the Year 7 Program each of the earth's continents will become a focus for specific topics. You will broaden your general knowledge about people and places on our earth as you learn the skills that geographers and historians use to both collect and record information.

You will be taught correct mapping skills, terminology and symbols so you can read and construct accurate maps for a range of different purposes. You will learn about the range of archaeology approaches (traditional and cutting edge technology) that are used to find evidence about past events. The way in which this evidence is recorded and presented, to help us understand how others lived in their time and environment, will be explained.

You will learn to understand the use of primary sources and secondary sources of evidence, timelines and historical periods, social structures and resource use as the foundations to study how peoples of the world live. There is a particular focus on ancient civilizations and indigenous peoples.

The Humanities program maintains class sets of texts for student use. Students will use the laptop computers to access resources, such as an Atlas on the school's intranet and the internet.

Assessment in Humanities is based on students showing improvement across a range of outcomes. These outcomes are assessed in classroom tasks on mapping skills, and using primary and secondary evidence exercises. Research assignments and Reports are presented as Annotated Visual Displays.

Humanities teachers are encouraged to take their classes on regular excursions so students can broaden their learning. Our students have been part of the Swimming with Dolphins program, and coastal beach studies are annual part of the Geography program. Classes have worked closely with the local Healesville Historical Society and visited local sites of archaeological and historical significance with local people. VCE students also visit the Melbourne and Immigration Museum and State Library. As part of the Yarra Valley Host program students tour specific businesses in our Valley to assess the impact of employment and tourism in our area.

HIGH ACHIEVERS

Opportunities are always available for extending each students knowledge in a particular area of interest. At all Year levels you can access the extensive range of Humanities software (e.g. database of our weather station) on our computer network. You can participate in National Geography Competitions, or be part of local

interest groups such as the Youth Environmental Protection group.

SUBJECTS and OPPORTUNITIES

Humanities is a semester based learning program to ensure a balance between the disciplines is maintained during your secondary schooling.

Middle Years (Years 7 and 8)

Core Learning Program with individual projects based around studied topics.

Middle Years (Year 9)

A core Learning Program directly linked to investigating current and local issues. You are enrolled in one study each semester.

Year 9 Geography: The physical factors influencing the appearance of the earth's surface and the impact that man's activities have had on it. The environmental impact of human activities, locally and internationally.

Year 9 Commerce: Two specific programs are part of this semester subject. *The Real Game:* you are randomly given an occupation and are then asked to role-play real life decision making based on budgeting against confined incomes, balancing work, leisure and holiday times, and identifying competences and skills that can be transferred to new occupations. *Yarra Valley Host Program:* you investigate employment, tourism and customer services in our Yarra Valley and learn the importance of teamwork, communication and adaptability as key employable skills.

Later Years (Year 10)

Core Learning Program directly linked to investigating current and international issues. You are enrolled in one study each semester.

Year 10 Australian History

Year 10 Social Studies

Students who have demonstrated high achievement in Humanities may choose to accelerate their learning by enrolling in one VCE Unit 1 Humanities study while they are in Year 10.

Later Years (Year 11 and 12)

You now choose if and what specialist Humanities area(s) you want to continue your learning in. You can choose to enrol in any of the following VCE Humanities Studies:

Accounting Geography History Legal Studies
Later Years study in Humanities leads to a wide range of tertiary studies and career opportunities in Park Management, Environmental Services, Archaeology, Accounting, Business Management and Law.

For further information please feel free to speak with

Health and Physical Education

YEAR 7 PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH

You will be improving your fitness and fundamental motor skills by following a sequential skill development program throughout the year. As your skills develop you will participate in a broad range of team activities that use those skills. At the same time your class learning will help you to understand how your body changes through puberty and how you can make healthy lifestyle choices. Your learning will be supported by Richard Flanagan, the school's Adolescent Health nurse.

Each area of learning involves students participating in planned activities that will be the basis for completing written reports and assessed tasks. Assessment is based on participation, level of improvement and attitude, as well projects on set topics. Students are expected to accept responsibility within the group, and to take responsibility for themselves, as well as working co-operatively with others.

YEAR 7 SPORT EDUCATION

Sport Education is offered all year (2 periods each week). Students will participate in as many as four separate sports, one per term. You will be learning to develop specific sport skills, an understanding of the rules of various sports and an appreciation of codes of behaviour. Sport Education builds on the knowledge, skills, and attitudes gained in your Physical Education classes.

Sport Education allows opportunities for students to take on leadership roles and the objective is to engage students in physical activity each week to promote personal health. *Interschool Sports* will be incorporated, where possible, into the sports offered each term. Successful teams will participate in Eastern Zone and State level competitions.

Some Physical Education and Sport Education activities will have an excursion charge related to the travel, venue and equipment costs in providing that particular activity.

SUBJECTS and OPPORTUNITIES

Health and Physical Education is a sequential, year long learning program at Year 7 but from Year 8 semester based subjects with increasing specialisation are offered at each year level to VCE studies.

Middle Years (Years 7)

Core Learning Program: Year 7 Health and Physical Education

Elective Program rotating each term: Year 7 Sport Education

Middle Years (Year 8)

Semester based program:

- Year 8 Food and Health
- Year 8 Physical Education
- Elective Program rotating each term: Year 8 Sport Education

Middle Years (Year 9)

Semester based program:

- Year 9 Health
- Year 9 Physical and Outdoor Education
- Elective Program rotating each term: Year 9 Sport Education

Later Years (Year 10)

Semester based elective program:

- Year 10 Physical Education
- Year 10 Outdoor Education
- Year 10 Traffic Education (a pre-driver education program)

Students who have demonstrated high achievement in Health and Physical Education classes may choose to accelerate their learning by enrolling in one VCE Unit 1 study while they are in Year 10.

Later Years (Year 11 and 12)

You now choose if and what specialist area(s) you want to continue your learning in. You can choose to enrol in any of the following VCE Studies:

- Units 1, 2, 3-4 VCE Food Technology
- Units 1, 2, 3-4 VCE Health & Human Development
- Units 1, 2 3-4 VCE Outdoor Education
- Units 1, 2 3-4 VCE Physical Education

Pathways for students to access career opportunities in the areas of sport, physical education, health and recreation are readily available through the Later Year offerings.

HIGH ACHIEVERS

You are encouraged to participate in Inter-school carnival and team sports offered throughout the year.

A broad and diverse curriculum enables you the opportunity to acquire skills to participate in less well known sports in the wider community. You can choose to be part of one of the many Community Leaders Programs offered by the school.

For further information please feel free to speak with
Mrs. Lyn Baker and Mr Allan Rennick
Health and Physical Education Managers

LOTE (Japanese)

In being able to make comparisons with their own Australian language and culture with the Japanese language and culture, our students learn that there are many ways of viewing the world. Misunderstandings are common and easily made and are usually the result of one person not being aware of specific cultural or social understandings.

You will learn to speak Japanese as a second language. You will develop basic conversation skills about yourself and your friends, using numbering systems and other simple vocabulary. You will continue your study of Hiragana - the simplest writing form of the Japanese language. You will also investigate various aspects of Japanese culture such as celebrations and national holidays, the ancient social system that established the Samurai class, travel and tourist opportunities in Japan.

Speaking: You are encouraged to speak Japanese as much as possible. Oral activities involve communicating with your class teachers and with other students in your class.

Listening: As well as listening to your peers during conversations and performances using the Japanese languages you will also be listening to visiting Japanese teachers and students.

Reading and Writing: At year 7 you will revise **Hiragana** (46 symbols representing sounds used by the Japanese as an alphabet for smaller words and to alter endings) that is now taught in most of our local primary schools. **Katakana** (46 symbols representing sounds used for foreign words and names) is taught at Year 8. **Kanji** (Symbols representing ideas – borrowed from the Chinese. 1,850 are taught in Japanese schools – approximately 150 are required by the end of VCE in Australia) is introduced gradually. In the early stages, you will use Roman English alphabet to help you remember the sounds.

Assessment in LOTE Japanese is based on the students showing improvement in a range of outcomes based on the learning areas of Writing in Japanese script, Reading, Speaking and Listening.

Assessment tasks will be based on a range of classroom activities (Oral performances and Writing in script) that will enable students to demonstrate their level of understanding of oral language, spelling, grammar and language structure.

Specific projects (Research Assignments) allow students to research and present various aspects of Japanese society and culture.

HIGH ACHIEVERS

Our school annually hosts secondary students from Osaka City, Japan. This is a very valuable learning experience for the school community but in particular for those studying Japanese and helps to extend student experiences and language development.

For the past eight years students have visited from Hokkaido Kiritappu High School. The number of local families who are willing to be short-term hosts for our Japanese visitors has encouraged our school, and the families have provided memorable experiences about Australian culture, education and lifestyle for our visitors.

We have also been fortunate to accept the services of volunteer registered teachers from Japan who are able to work individually and in small groups with students to consolidate their learning.

SUBJECTS and OPPORTUNITIES

The LOTE program is sequential and continuous. It allows you to develop your skills through continual and regular practice of both the spoken and written language in Years 7 and 8.

From Year 9 you may elect to study Japanese. If you do we allow you to be exempted from one other subject each semester in years 9 and 10 (from one of the Arts, Technology or Humanities areas – but you cannot be exempted from the same area twice). This is so you can again develop your Japanese speaking and writing skills through continual and regular practice with the language. If you study Japanese at Years 9 and 10 you will have many opportunities to travel on day trips to meet with Japanese speaking people.

We are in the planning phase of organising another group of students to visit Japan for a few weeks on a cultural exchange. Several of our Later Years students have also had the opportunity to spend time in Japan on exchange for one year.

VCE Japanese is offered and several of our students have gone on to study Japanese at University or have travelled to Japan for further study, employment or holidays.

Healesville High will provide the opportunity for a student to undertake a second language, other than Japanese, through The Victorian School of Languages if the student can demonstrate a purpose for undertaking that particular language.

For further information please feel free to speak with
Ms Yumiko Campbell

The Arts and Technology Studies

YEARS 7 AND 8 ROTATING WORKSHOPS

Our students undertake foundation learning in a broad range of specialist Arts and Technology Studies. Safe and correct ways of working are emphasised while students undertake to creatively produce their own solutions to design tasks. Student work is displayed throughout the school buildings and at community venues. Our Years 7 and 8 students are a vital part of the artistic and cultural program held each November.

Arts and Technology workshops follow industry occupational (OH&S) health and safety practices. Student's work and behaviour practices are expected to meet these requirements.

Assessment in the Arts and Technology workshops is based on students completing a specific number of folio or production pieces that show a range of skill development with mediums and materials and the processes used, as well as short research or investigation tasks, and written evaluation reports.

There is an emphasis on your skill development, planning, organisation of work and workshop management, including health and safety practices, rather than an emphasis on just the end product.

Visual Arts: You will practice using a wide range of art and sculpture mediums and techniques to create your own artworks. This learning includes the recognition and use of key art elements – line, pattern, texture, form, etc – to create a personal style in your pieces.

Metal: You will become familiar with both sheet metal fabrication and jewellery making. There is a particular focus on finishing and applied decoration while you create your own rings, pendants and chains.

Wood: You will work through a series of small projects to learn basic wood construction, decoration and finishing techniques. This learning includes an understanding of the conventions in reading technical plans.

Textiles: Your learning is focused on machine sewing. As you show understanding and control of the sewing machine's functions you are awarded a sewing licence. This then allows you make your own products using basic garment construction techniques.

Food: There is an emphasis on understanding key health and food issues so you can make more informed decisions about good food choices. You will use basic food preparation techniques and processes in making your own products.

Systems: An introduction to basic principles of electronics and mechanics, including electrical systems, levers, pulleys, and vehicle design.

Visual Communication and Design (Yr 8 only): You will learn a range of drawing techniques and how to present information in a visual form including cartoon and illustration, rendering and instrumental drawing.

YEAR 7 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Information Technology is a semester one subject that introduces the Healesville High intranet and use of laptops. The teaching emphasis is to ensure you make correct and efficient use of our intranet and the Internet, including file management and transfer, and printing. You can use a range of multimedia programs with scanned and digital camera images, desktop publishing and web page programs. **You are expected to meet Internet and printing guidelines and costs according to school policy.**

YEAR 7 MUSIC

A semester subject when you will participate in practical lessons on the drum kit, keyboard, guitar and Latin percussion, performing basic rock patterns, rhythms, and simple melodies. This learning includes the recognition of basic notation so you can improvise your own music based on other music styles. There are opportunities for music students to perform to small audiences or the larger public throughout the year.

HIGH ACHIEVERS

You can broaden your experiences in the Arts and Technology areas by being part of the following programs: Instrumental Music; School Production (actors, stage design, sound and lighting, props); displays in the community festival; school murals, school and student magazines.

SUBJECTS and OPPORTUNITIES

Middle Years (Years 7 and 8)

Rotating Workshop Program: Year 7 Core Program.
Year 8 Elective program

Middle Years (Year 9) and Later Years (Year 10)

Semester Elective program, some studies with combined Year levels, also with Ceramics and Photography. Students who have demonstrated high achievement in Arts or Technology may choose to accelerate their learning by enrolling in one VCE Unit study while they are in Year 10.

Later Years (Year 11 and Year 12)

You now choose if and what specialist area(s) you want to continue your learning in. You can choose to enrol in any of the following VCE Studies:

Studio Arts Media Music Performance

Visual Design and Communication

Design Technology – Wood or Fabric

Food and Technology Information Technology

VET Clothing and Design (Units 1-4)

VET Hospitality (Units 1-4)

For further information please feel free to speak with

Mr. Chris Murphy

Arts and Technology Manager
