



YEAR 7 FACT SHEET

Year 7 is a partially integrated program made up of three subjects: Communication and Culture, Maths and Science. Students spend most of their time in these subjects with teachers who have expertise in these learning areas and with this age group.

The program encourages students to become independent learners and to work collaboratively. They develop research skills through tasks that encourage them to inquire in depth and choose their own pathways. The curriculum aims to be both academically rigorous and engaging: preparing students not only for senior school, but also to be life-long learners.

COMMUNICATION & CULTURE (C&C)

This is an integrated subject, which we call C&C. We combine English and Humanities. Students learn the key knowledge and skills for each of these disciplines, getting a sense of each discipline as a unique subject area.

These subjects naturally lend themselves to integration, which makes it easier for students to understand and apply new knowledge. For example, in Humanities, punctuation might be taught during a History or Geography unit. Mapping skills might be a focus when studying the Roman Empire. Of course, core English skills are the backbone of Humanities and this is reflected in the curriculum.

MATHS & SCIENCE

Students undertake three Mathematics lessons and two Science lessons a week.

ARTS & TECHNOLOGY

Throughout Year 7 & 8, students rotate through subjects from the Arts and Technology learning areas. These subjects will include:

Art	Mechatronics	Fabrics
Food Technology	Music	Drama
Wood Technology	Digital Technologies	Visual Communication & Design

LANGUAGES

The only elective in Year 7 is choosing a language. Through Languages, we aim to foster an enjoyment of linguistics and develop an appreciation for countries overseas. Students are introduced to the basic geography of France or Japan (and their territories) and to aspects of either nation's culture.

Students develop skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing.

French The focus is broadly personal within topics such as self, family, friends, pets, animals and numbers.

Japanese There is a focus on script acquisition. Students develop communication skills within topics such as self, family, friends and likes and dislikes.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

In this subject we draw attention to 'living in a just world'. Through the integration of prayer and scripture, we invite students to see what is happening in the wider world and how they can make a difference. One endeavour is the Caritas Coin Line, where proceeds assist the less fortunate.



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ESSENTIAL ENGLISH

The aim of this program is to support identified students with a focus on improving their literary skills. Through carefully considered guidance, students are engaged and given the tools in order to understand their own learning needs. The program works to improve skills required for independent learning using appropriate resources. We provide information about strategies that lead to more confident independent learners.

Students are identified for this program by previous involvement, teacher recommendation, ACER and NAPLAN testing results. Identified students will receive a letter from Shaun Mason, Deputy Principal (Learning, Teaching & Innovation) inviting them to participate. Essential English is studied instead of a Language.

PERSONAL LEARNING (PLE)

Students have Personal Learning once per week. PLE enables students to gain knowledge and skills that will help them across subject areas throughout their schooling.

Students start the year by learning ways to organise themselves and how to use the various programs on their laptops. Later on, they build the skills to conduct their own inquiries into topics of personal interest. They also learn questioning and note-taking skills. Health and personal development is a major focus of PLE.

LEARNING SPACES

Teaching and learning takes place primarily in two centres: Egan and Duffy. There are four 'traditional' classrooms for individual classes in Egan with a flexible space joining these classrooms. Duffy also has a large flexible learning space. These spaces are able to accommodate more classes which facilitates team teaching, allowing staff to share their expertise and practices. It also allows for more flexibility in offering large group, small group and individual instruction.

The Duffy Centre houses a Resource Hub that has a large selection of fiction and non-fiction texts aimed specifically for Year 7 and to suit the program.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Students are expected to enthusiastically 'have a go' at a range of sports and in doing so, learn the basic skills required to play these activities.

MACBOOK

Each student is allocated a 13" MacBook. The laptop is incorporated into the teaching and learning. Students are taught different programs through assignment work and group workshops.

Students become confident in the use of the Apple programs, Microsoft Office, Google Apps, iMovie etc. Teachers have access to software that enables them to monitor student laptop use at school. There is a balanced mixture of bookwork and laptop use.

CAMP

In Week 4 of Term 1 the cohort goes on camp to Harrierville, staying at the Feathertop Chalet. Students participate in outdoor activities that include canoeing, raft building, archery and mountain bike riding. It is a great way for students to get to know each other and their new teachers.

We require a signed permission slip for the camp from each family, which will be available at the family information night in late October.