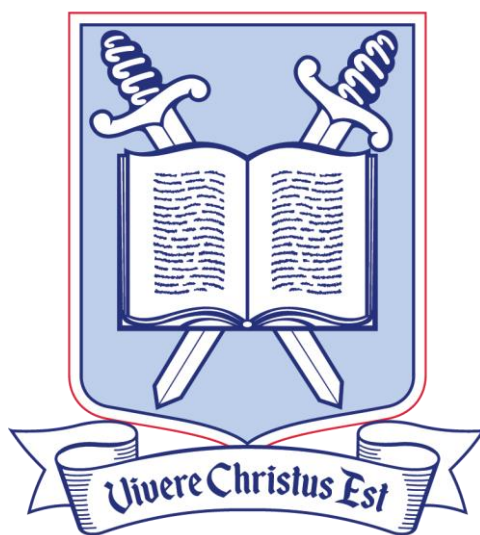


Stage 5

Additional Studies Handbook

2023

St Paul's
Catholic College



Booragul

Dear Parents/Carers

The pattern of study for the next two years has a potentially exciting dimension to it as students make **additional subject choices**, usually known as electives, in relation to their pattern of study. As Year 8 students enter into Semester 2 and begin the transition into Year 9 (Stage 5), they enter a phase of education that liberates them to make some choices and to pursue in greater depth some of the courses which they have enjoyed and excelled in. At the same time students will continue to develop their knowledge and skills in courses which are compulsory requirements for progression to Stage 6. These compulsory courses are: Religious Education, English, Mathematics, Science, HSIE and PDHPE.

Further to this, students will be able to choose TWO elective courses to complement their compulsory pattern of study. The options for students to select from are outlined in this handbook.

Every effort is made to offer as broad a range of elective subjects as possible in keeping with student interest. In most cases, we are able to satisfy both first choices. However, there will inevitably be some disappointments since not all elective subjects listed may eventually be offered or there may be a clash of subjects on the same subject grouping.

The final offering will be governed by:

- i) student choice (this is the overriding issue)
- ii) class sizes and facilities available (several subjects have class limits)
- iii) the need to ensure all subject areas continue to be represented in the school

Yours sincerely,



Mr Nicholas Wickham
Principal



Mrs Amber Carter
Assistant Principal Teaching & Learning

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Stage 5 Curriculum (Years 9 and 10) Record of School Achievement (ROSA) Requirements

Stage 5 refers to the two years of school that the students complete to be eligible to receive the RoSA, i.e. Years 9 and 10.

The mandatory subjects that must be studied by all students to gain the ROSA are:

- **English**
- **Mathematics**
- **Science**
- **Geography**
- **History**
- **PDHPE**

Students in the Maitland-Newcastle Diocese are also required to study Religious Education as part of their pattern of study.

To be awarded the ROSA, students must complete all assessment tasks and classwork with due diligence and sustained effort. The ROSA is the credential for students who leave school after Year 10 and before they receive their Higher School Certificate (HSC).

The ROSA is a cumulative credential in that it allows students to accumulate their academic results until they leave school. The ROSA records completed Stage 5 and Preliminary Stage 6 courses and grades, and participation in any uncompleted Preliminary Stage 6 courses. It is of specific use to students leaving school prior to the HSC.

At St Paul's Catholic College, in addition to the mandatory subjects, we offer a wide range of electives that can be studied either 100 hours (1 year) or 200 hours (2 years). It is expected that students take their chosen elective for 2 years, however, there is provision for students to change their elective after 1 year.

The Common Grade Scale and Course Performance Descriptors

Course Performance Descriptors describe the levels of achievement in each subject. The descriptors are grouped into five different levels of achievement, ranging from elementary to excellent. Schools will match students to the descriptor that best fits a student's overall achievement. The grade that corresponds to that descriptor is then awarded to that student. The grades are ranked A – E in all subjects. 'A' indicates excellent achievement and 'E' indicates elementary achievement. The use of these descriptors in assigning grades is designed to ensure comparability in the grades awarded by different schools for the ROSA.

Student achievement in mandatory courses is graded using Course Performance Descriptors while achievement in elective courses is graded using the Common Grade Scale which is shown in the following table. Course Performance Descriptors are found on the syllabus pages on the NESA website.

	GENERAL PERFORMANCE DESCRIPTORS
A	The student has an extensive knowledge and understanding of the content and can readily apply this knowledge. In addition, the student has achieved a very high level of competence in the processes and skills and can apply these skills to new situations.
B	The student has a thorough knowledge and understanding of the content and a high level of competence in the processes and skills. In addition, the student is able to apply this knowledge and these skills to most situations.
C	The student has a sound knowledge and understanding of the main areas of content and has achieved an adequate level of competence in the processes and skills.
D	The student has a basic knowledge and understanding of the content and has achieved a limited level of competence in the processes and skills.
E	The student has an elementary knowledge and understanding in few areas of the content and has achieved very limited competence in some of the processes and skills.

Assessment

Assessment is built into the learning process rather than being a separate event. The teacher monitors the responses of students as they do activities that have been designed to show what they have learnt. These activities also provide opportunities for feedback on what has been achieved and what needs to be done for students to progress in their learning. All types of assessment assist students and teachers in building a picture of what a student knows and can do. It follows, therefore, that all types of assessment can be used to inform the grade awarded to a student for mandatory and additional studies.

N-Awards

An 'N' Determination means that a student has not satisfied the requirements for a particular course. A student who is given an 'N' Determination in a mandatory course in Stage 5 (English, Mathematics, Science, History, Geography and PD/H/PE) will not be eligible for a ROSA. If a student receives an 'N' Determination for an elective subject they will still receive a ROSA and the 'N' Determination will be printed on their Record of Achievement for that elective. Students and parents/carers will be informed in writing if the student is at risk of receiving an N-determination.

Selection Process

After the Additional Studies Information Evening, students will be emailed a link to a site called WebChoices. Students will make their selection from this site and will have until Thursday week 3 to complete their choices. Students will make a first and second preference choice and then will select two reserve courses. The electives that will run will be based on student's selections. Every effort will be made to ensure students receive the subjects they desire but no guarantee can be made. Once a student has made their selection they will be prompted to print their selections which will be signed by a parent/carer and the form returned to Student Reception.

1. Consider

You should choose subjects which interest you, not just ones which you might want for a job. You should ask questions like:

- What electives suit my abilities?
- What electives will help me enjoy my leisure time out of school?
- What electives will broaden my interests?
- What electives will teach me something new?
- What electives will present a good level of challenge for me?

It is also essential that you seek guidance from your parents and teachers. Finally, make selections which are **your** selections.

Additional studies are not necessarily linked to Stage 6 (Year 11 and 12) courses. If you didn't take an elective in Year 9 and Year 10, it doesn't mean you can't take that course for Year 11 and Year 12.

The only exception to this is language courses. If you take a language in Year 9 and Year 10, you can only study that language as a Continuers course in Year 11 and Year 12, not a beginners course.

Things You Should NOT Consider:

- Don't choose a subject because you like (or don't like) the teacher. It may be a different teacher next year, anyway.
- Don't avoid a subject because you don't know anything about it. That might be a good reason for taking it.
- Don't choose a subject because someone says it's easy.
- Don't avoid a subject because someone says it's hard. Maybe taking a challenging elective would be a good idea.
- Don't choose a subject just because your friends say they're taking it. You choose what you want to do.
- If a course is linked to a particular career pathway. Electives are an opportunity to try something new and extend yourself, it is not about careers.

2. Explore

In this handbook there are brief details for every elective course offered in Years 9 and 10. Students are encouraged to read and discuss (with your Parent/Carer) the courses outlined in this book.

3. Decide

Elective choices will be submitted online. The arrangement of subjects is organised from the information you provide. All attempts will be made to try to satisfy student choices but this is not always possible. There are four areas for subject selection.

All effort will be made to fulfil the first two preferences, but your third and fourth choices must be viable options in case of clashes or if a subject does not achieve the minimum number of students, so cannot take place.

Electives Offered

Students are to make **two** elective choices from the list of subjects below.

	Page Number
Business Law and Order	6
Culture and Place – Aboriginal Studies	7
Design and Technology/STEM	8
Drama	9
If You Could Turn Back Time	10
Food Technology	11
Global Locals	12
French	13
German	14
Graphics Technology	15
Industrial Technology - Metal	16
Industrial Technology - Timber	17
Information and Software Technology	18
Music	19
Physical Activity & Sports Studies	20
Textiles Technology	21
Visual Arts	22
Visual Design	23

Information about each of the above electives is outlined on the following pages.

Additional Subject Fees 2023

(This applies to year 9 and year 10 enrolments in 2023)

Students choosing to undertake the following **subjects** will be required to **pay additional charges** as outlined below to cover specific expenses associated with individual subjects.

HSIE		TAS		Creative Arts & Languages	
Commerce <i>Business Law & Order</i>	\$50	Design and Technology	\$135	Drama	\$110
Culture and Place – Aboriginal Studies	\$50	Food Technology	\$205	Languages ▪ French Beginners \$70 ▪ German Beginners \$70	
Elective History <i>If you could turn back time</i>	\$50				
Elective Geography <i>Global Locals</i>	\$50	Graphics Technology	\$55		
PDHPE					Music
Physical Activity & Sports Studies Year 9 Covers the cost of attending venues	\$200	Industrial Technology ▪ Metal \$130 ▪ Timber \$170		Visual Arts	\$225
IT					
Information Software Technology	\$70	Textiles Technology	\$145	Visual Design	\$225

These are the subsidised costs and are set by the Catholic Schools Office.

Fees are subject to change in 2024.

Introduction – What is studied in this course?

Business Law and Order is a course that provides a great foundation for young people to understand their place in the commercial and legal world. It is an interesting and practical subject that provides students with skills to make decisions about being a consumer, understanding finance, the function of business, how law works and employment decisions. It is a very useful and relevant course that has been developed to suit the needs and interests of all students.

Who is suited to this course?

Each of us participate in all the elements of business, law and order every day, so this course is suited to anyone interested in a greater understanding of their rights and responsibilities in these areas.

How is this course assessed?

Tasks are based on both the knowledge and skills you gain during class time as well as the preparation you make for developing a product, running a business at school and visiting the law courts. Assessment takes various forms such as research, media studies, tests and inquiry-based and practical tasks such as role plays, Mock Trial and Market Day.

Additional Information:

Practical activities and excursions are a major part of business, law and order and could include things like: developing a product, running a business at school, visiting a local business, participating in the ASX Schools Share Market Game and excursions to law courts and parliament house.

Course Cost: [Additional Subject Fees 2023 \(Years 9 & 10\)](#)

Link to syllabus document: <https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/k-10/learning-areas/hsie/commerce-7-10-2019>

Introduction – What is studied in this course?

This course provides students with the opportunity to develop an understanding of Aboriginal People and Culture. Looking at culture and both the historical and contemporary experiences of Aboriginal Peoples and relationships with non-Aboriginal people is the focus of the course. Studies of Aboriginal groups include those for Australian First Nation People as well as First Nation People of other countries.

Who is suited to this course?

This course benefits non-Aboriginal students and Aboriginal students alike, by providing deeper insights that can enable more respectful and reciprocal engagement. Each of us participate in respectful, reciprocal relationships with others every day, so this course is suited to anyone interested in a greater understanding of their rights and responsibilities in these areas.

How is this course assessed?

Tasks are based on both the knowledge and skills you gain during class time as well as the experiences and perspectives gained talking and listening to others, going on country and excursion experiences. Assessment takes various forms such as research, media studies, art and workshop participation and inquiry-based tasks.

Additional Information:

Practical activities and excursions are a major part of Aboriginal Studies and could include things like: yarning circles, weaving, story-telling and story-making, dance and song, art, visiting sacred sites, bush food, plant identification and use and much more.

Course cost: [Additional Subject Fees 2023 \(Years 9 & 10\)](#)

Link to syllabus document: <https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/k-10/learning-areas/hsie/aboriginal-studies-7-10-2020>

Introduction – What is studied in this course?

Design and Technology provides experiences in a range of activities with a STEM focus. They use the design process to develop quality solutions to real life problems. Contemporary technological skills, capacities to adapt to rapid change, to collaborate, and to develop and express creative ideas are becoming the new foundations of design and technology and STEM learning. These foundations provide the capabilities to thrive in the emerging Australian and international economies and the lifestyle challenges that may present themselves. The development of functional and aesthetic design solutions allows students to be innovative and creative in their thinking and application.

Who is suited to this course?

Students with an inquisitive mind and the desire to solve problems using existing skills, and abilities or to develop new skills and abilities, are suited to this course.

Knowledge and understanding of this subject takes place in a problem solving learning environment where students are encouraged to investigate problems by: researching relevant information, exploring ideas and concepts, experimenting with solutions, producing a final solution to an outlined problem (teacher or student developed) and finally, evaluating and justifying their solution. The course is centred around students developing skills that will become increasingly required in the workforce including creative thinking and collaboration.

How is this course assessed?

Students will complete work and be assessed in a number of ways including:

Design Projects, Research Activities, Product Development, Folio Production.

Assessment areas could include, but are not limited to, design areas such as CO₂ Racers, Electronics Communication Systems, Aeronautics, Vehicle Construction (e.g. Billy Carts) and emerging technologies.

Additional Information:

WHS: All students will be required to wear enclosed leather shoes with leather uppers, when completing practical activities.

Depending on the project developed, students will need to learn how to safely and effectively use the appropriate tools and machinery.

Students require a display folder.

Course Cost: [Additional Subject Fees 2023 \(Years 9 & 10\)](#)

Link to syllabus document: <https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/k-10/learning-areas/technologies/design-and-technology-2019>

Introduction – What is studied in this course?

Drama is an art form that encourages a cooperative approach to exploring the world through enactment. Learning experiences in Drama are provided which involve the intellect, emotions, imagination and body, engaging the whole person. Confidence, motivation and self-esteem are developed through the devising, workshopping, rehearsing and performing of individual and collaborative works.

Drama

- will encourage you to develop your skills in acting, directing, play building and improvisation.
- includes learning and writing about theatre, using a logbook and recording the process of devising theatre. We study both the **theory** and **practice** of drama in this course.
- will develop your skills in spontaneity, voice projection and confidence in front of an audience.

All students will have the opportunity to perform on Drama Nights throughout the year and may take part in the College production.

Who is suited to this course?

Drama

- includes being involved physically, emotionally and intellectually. You will need to be brave!
- will involve individual, duologue and ensemble public performances. You need to enjoy working as part of a group. You must also be willing to trust and rely on the support of other actors in the class. You need to have self-motivation.
- will develop the skills of communication, collaboration, compromise and cooperation. You will need to enjoy using your creativity and curiosity!

How is this course assessed?

Assessment in Drama involves both practical and theoretical tasks such as logbook writing, solo and ensemble performances, group-devised tasks, written examinations and research tasks.

Additional Information:

There is a strong emphasis placed on the need for students to attend live performances from time to time. Students will have the opportunity to attend excursions to local and Sydney productions. Additional costs will apply to attend these. Students are also welcome to join our Evening Theatre Program with the Civic Theatre, Newcastle.

Course Cost: [Additional Subject Fees 2023 \(Years 9 & 10\)](#)

Students will be issued with an A4 Process Diary as their logbook.

Link to syllabus document: <https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/k-10/learning-areas/creative-arts/drama-7-10-syllabus>

Introduction – What is studied in this course?

What would you do if you could turn back time? This course covers many historical events and people that the compulsory History course does not. Students will investigate the events that have influenced and impacted our world in both positive and negative ways. Elective History enables students who love history to follow their interests as the class will be able to choose their “own adventure” to align with their area of interest.

This is a course where there is the freedom and time to enjoy the many topics. Some topics which can be studied are listed below:

- Mysteries and Conspiracies
- Terror and Terrorism
- Who owns the past?
- History and film
- Myths, legends, gods and goddesses
- Researching your own favourite part of history

Who is suited to this course?

Those who have an inquiring mind and an interest in the past. Students will develop critical thinking skills that will help them in the senior school and can be used in any occupation including analytical thinking, problem solving, decision-making, oral and written communication skills.

How is this course assessed?

Practical activities and inquiry-based learning are important elements of Elective History and could include things like: developing an ancient board game, running a Viking market at school, visiting virtual sites and doing virtual tours of the world’s museums, being involved in a ‘real’ archaeological dig.

Assessment tasks can incorporate the above type of activities and various forms such as research, media studies, tests and inquiry-based tasks can be used.

Additional Information:

Course cost: [Additional Subject Fees 2023 \(Years 9 & 10\)](#)

Link to syllabus document: <https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/k-10/learning-areas/hsie/history-elective-7-10-2019>

Introduction – What is studied in this course?

Students will explore food-related issues through a range of practical experiences, allowing them to make informed and appropriate choices with regards to food.

Food Technology includes the study of nutrition and involve designing, preparing, and evaluating food and consumption patterns.

Topic areas include:

- Food Selection and Health
- Food in Australia
- Food Equity
- Food for Special Occasions
- Food Service and Catering
- Food for Special Needs
- Food Product Development
- Food Trends

Who is suited to this course?

Students who are interested in or have a passion for working with food or in the food services industry are suited to this course. This course can lead to Stage 6 Food Technology and/or Hospitality.

How is this course assessed?

Students will be assessed on their ability to work safely and hygienically to plan and produce food items. Students will also be required to complete written assessment tasks and other project-based activities.

Additional Information:

WHS: All students will be required to wear enclosed shoes with leather uppers, when completing practical activities.

Equipment:

Students will be supplied in class with aprons, tea towels and equipment. They will need to supply a container to take food home.

Course Cost: [Additional Subject Fees 2023 \(Years 9 & 10\)](#)

This contributes towards the apron, food items and equipment.

Link to syllabus document:

<https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/k-10/learning-areas/technologies/food-technology-2019>

Introduction – what is studied in this course?

Global locals is a Geography based subject that investigates global issues with a focus on our local environment. The aim of the subject is to stimulate students' interest in and engagement with the world. Students develop an understanding of the functioning of environments through practical based learning activities, fieldwork and geographical skills. A focus on sustainable management is facilitated by studies of the global and local environment and investigation of practical solutions.

Topics could include: Physical Geography, Oceanography, Primary Production, Global Citizenship, Australia's Neighbours and Political Geography.

Who is suited to this course?

Global locals enables students to become informed, responsible and active citizens who can evaluate the opinions of others and express their own ideas and arguments, while participating in fun activities. This forms a basis for active participation in community life, a commitment to sustainability, the creation of a just society, and the promotion of intercultural understanding and lifelong learning. The skills and capabilities developed through geographical study can be applied to further education, work and everyday life. Students who like geography and getting outside will enjoy this course.

How is this course assessed?

Inquiry based learning tasks and practical activities such as fieldwork, food production and land management exercises. Fieldwork includes water quality monitoring at Booragul constructed wetlands, working with Landcare on revegetation projects, setting up and running an aquaponics system as well as visits to a barramundi farm coasts fieldtrip. Students will also be able to explore a local issue of their choosing.

Additional Information:

Course Cost: [Additional Subject Fees 2023 \(Years 9 & 10\)](#)

Introduction – What is studied in this course?

Bonjour et bienvenue! - Hello and welcome!

What images does the word 'French' bring to mind for you? Is it croissants and baguettes, mopeds and racing cars, or clothing and cosmetics? French culture has been a major influence in countries all over the world. By learning French you will be able to communicate with people as far away as North Africa and as close as New Caledonia. It is truly an international language.

However, French is not just for those of us who wish to travel. As you develop your language skills you will be able to appreciate French films, music, poetry and art from a new perspective.

Some topics covered in this elective are: Family, Descriptions, Hobbies, Health, School, Weather, Holidays and, of course, Food!

Finally, studying a Language:

- Can dramatically improve students' listening comprehension skills.
- Can lead to improved study habits, self-discipline and motivation.
- Can improve students' general knowledge and cognitive skills.
- Can enable students to develop a more creative and flexible approach to dealing with unfamiliar terminology: the strange words and sounds represent 'cognitive conflicts' that force students to try new ways of thinking and solving problems that are applicable to other subjects as well.
- Can enable students to become more divergent thinkers and develop higher order thinking skills such as analysis, synthesis and evaluation of material.
- Can develop a greater awareness and openness to people of a different culture.
- Can stimulate creativity in dealing with situations in life (problem solving) and promotes sensitivity towards other peoples.

Who is suited to this course?

Anybody who is interested in increasing their communication skills, improving their understanding of other cultures and/or may wish to travel, live or study abroad.

How is this course assessed?

There are **NO** Big Assignments or Essays to write – just small exercises in the form of written homework and lots of revision!

The course outcomes are assessed across the four areas of reading, speaking, listening and writing, both through formal and informal tasks.

Additional Information:

When possible, we look for opportunities for our students to have language and cultural experiences outside of the classroom. This may include webinars, incursions, excursions, and trips overseas when appropriate.

Course Cost:

[Additional Subject Fees 2023 \(Years 9 & 10\)](#)

Includes Language Workbook and Digital Resources

Link to syllabus document: <https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/k-10/learning-areas/languages/french-k-10-2018>

Introduction – What is studied in this course?

German has a direct relationship with English, having evolved from the same family of European languages. Many German words look and sound similar to English words and this helps make learning German an achievable and enjoyable experience.

A knowledge of German enhances the appreciation of German cultures and promotes an understanding of diverse attitudes and values. It provides students with opportunities for continued learning and for future employment, both domestically and internationally in areas such as: Commerce, Tourism, Hospitality and International Relations

Some topics covered are: Family, Hobbies, Food, School, Holidays and Friends.

Finally, studying a Language

- Can dramatically improve students' listening comprehension skills.
- Can lead to improved study habits, self-discipline and motivation.
- Can improve students' general knowledge and cognitive skills.
- Can enable students to develop a more creative and flexible approach to dealing with unfamiliar terminology: the strange words and sounds represent 'cognitive conflicts' that force students to try new ways of thinking and solving problems that are applicable to other subjects as well.
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Course Cost:

[Additional Subject Fees 2023 \(Years 9 & 10\)](#)

Includes Language Workbook and Digital Resources

Link to syllabus document: <https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/k-10/learning-areas/languages/german-k-10-2018>

Introduction – What is studied in this course?

Graphics Technology develops the ability to read, interpret and produce graphical presentations that communicate information using a variety of techniques and media. It is a subject where students will develop skills in both manual and computer based forms of image generation and manipulation, to assist with a deeper understanding of other subjects.

Graphics Technology teaches students to visualise and sketch, interpret, and design, use graphical conventions and computer based graphical presentations to develop an appreciation of graphical design in industry and society.

What will the students learn about?

Students will study a range of topics that focus on a specific area of graphics including:

- Freehand Drawing
- Pictorial Drawing
- Rendering
- Geometric Construction
- Architectural Drawing
- Engineering Drawing
- Computer Aided Design (CAD)
- Product Illustration
- 3D Printer

Who is suited to this course?

The skills learnt in Graphics Technology are very helpful for any student considering going into Architecture or trades such as building, fitting, and turning, plumbing, cabinet making, boiler making etc, as well as any Senior Technology subject and any form of Engineering at TAFE or University.

How is this course assessed?

Students will complete an assignment for each topic studied both formal and informal. There may be an end of year examination.

Additional Information:

Equipment: Students are expected to provide their own drawing board for all classes. This assists with the neatness, accuracy, and continuity of their work. A detailed list is given to all who select Graphics Technology, stating the desired brand etc. of the equipment required.

Course Cost: [Additional Subject Fees 2023 \(Years 9 & 10\)](#)

NB: A Drawing Kit needs to be purchased. Cost approximately \$55.00 – in addition to subject fees.

Link to syllabus document: <https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/k-10/learning-areas/technologies/graphics-technology-2019>

Introduction – What is studied in this course?

Industrial Technology Metal develops students' understanding of materials and processes. Skills and knowledge are developed by using tools, materials, techniques employed in planning, development, construction and evaluation of quality practical projects and processes.

Students will develop knowledge relating to current and emerging technologies in industrial and domestic settings. The world of work will be understood with particular reference to WHS (Work Health & Safety) and to vocational pathways and future leisure and lifestyle activities.

What will the students learn about?

Industrial Technology Metal provides students with an opportunity to gain an understanding of and skills in the metal and related industries. Students will develop skills in cutting, shaping, turning, and welding in metal.

Students will complete a range of metal projects involving metal turning, sheet metal work and scroll work. As well, students will learn how to read and interpret engineering drawings and conduct case studies on the Metalworking Industry, including investigating possible career paths.

Who is suited to this course?

Students that enjoy the practical environment and the challenges of learning new hand skills can find this type of subject enjoyable and very rewarding.

How is this course assessed?

This subject has a large practical component which will be assessed each semester. The theory component of the subject will be assessed through an examination.

Additional Information:

WHS: All students will be required to wear enclosed leather shoes with leather uppers, when completing practical activities.

Course Cost: [Additional Subject Fees 2023 \(Years 9 & 10\)](#)

Link to syllabus document: <https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/k-10/learning-areas/technologies/industrial-technology-2019>

Introduction – What is studied in this course?

IT Timber provides the opportunity for students to gain an understanding of and skills in the timber and related industries. The specialist module that we complete at St Paul's is Cabinetwork, which involves students learning joinery skills using a range of tools, machines, and techniques to produce high quality projects.

Who is suited to the course?

Do you have practical skills in timber OR are you willing to dedicate time to learning these skills?

Do you enjoy being away from the school desk and participating in hands on practical learning?

Are you passionate about design, innovation and manufacture?

Do you get satisfaction out of designing and producing hand made products?

Are you interested in learning joinery skills using a wide range of tools and machines?

If you have answered YES to one or more of the above questions, Industrial Technology Timber is for you!

How is the course assessed?

Students will complete a number of assessment tasks consisting of practical projects, portfolios and formal examinations.

Students will complete a range of informal exercises in skill development projects.

Additional Information:

WHS: All students will be required to wear enclosed leather shoes with leather uppers, when completing practical activities.

Equipment

All timber, safety equipment and consumables for completion of projects will be covered by the subject fee.

All students will need to supply an A4 display folder for portfolio work.

Course Cost: [Additional Subject Fees 2023 \(Years 9 & 10\)](#)

Link to syllabus document: <https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/k-10/learning-areas/technologies/industrial-technology-2019>

Introduction - What is studied in this course?

- Do you like using computers?
- Would you like to create interesting graphics, websites and games?
- Do you need to improve your computing skills?

Information and Software Technology (IST) gives students the opportunity to work with different computing applications to create interesting projects for specific purposes.

Students work through projects and use different software to:

- create graphics and animations
- construct web sites and presentations
- develop databases and spreadsheets
- develop programming skills
- learn about computer hardware components.

Throughout Years 9 and 10, students cover **4 to 6** option topics from the following:

- Digital Media
- Internet and Web design
- Software development and programming
- Artificial intelligence, simulation and modelling
- Authoring and Multimedia
- Database design
- Networking and operating systems
- Robotics and automated systems

Who is suited to this course?

This course is suitable for students with any level of background knowledge in computing as the projects allow students to develop their individual interests, talents and capabilities.

How is this course assessed?

Most assessment tasks consist of in-class projects using different software. Tasks could include a presentation, website, portfolio or research activities.

Additional Information:

Students do not require specific applications on their home computer as most work is carried out in class time, however, some research work may be required at home. This course provides students with an excellent opportunity to develop information technology skills required in all other curriculum areas.

Course Cost: [Additional Subject Fees 2023 \(Years 9 & 10\)](#)

Link to syllabus document:

<https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/k-10/learning-areas/technologies/information-software-technology>

Introduction – What is studied in this course?

Being an elective Music student also gives you the opportunity to focus on developing skills on your chosen instrument or vocals. You can also participate in musical presentations including concerts, liturgies, assemblies, DioSounds, and Aspire.

Performance

Performance activities are linked to the topics studied and to performances in the school. During lessons you will be provided with the opportunity to learn Vocals, Bass Guitar, Electric Guitar, Drums, Keyboard and Ukulele. Many students choose to get private instrumental tuition to support their classwork. It is at this stage of the Music course where students will form rock bands/ensembles.

Composition

For the most creative and satisfying musical pursuit, and the one that can reap the most financial benefit, we offer the opportunity to create your own music and explore your own musical ideas. Students will develop skills in writing film music, rock songs with accompaniment and writing for different instrument and voice combinations.

Listening

Students will have the opportunity to experience and understand a vast range of musical styles and through this, gained a deeper understanding of the concepts of music — Duration, Pitch, Texture, Tone Colour, Structure and Dynamics and Expressive Techniques.

The course covers a wide range of styles and topics including:

Music of other Cultures; Music for Film and Television; Classical Music; Rock and Pop Music; 20th Century Art Music; Jazz; Australian Music

Who is suited to this course?

The course will appeal to those who want to develop performance skills on their chosen instrument or vocals. Students who have studied music privately will enjoy the challenging but interesting and varied content of the course.

How is this course assessed?

Course outcomes are assessed via viva voce; written and performance type tasks, solo and in groups.

Additional Information:

Students will require a standard music book or folder with manuscript pages.

Course Cost: [Additional Subject Fees 2023 \(Years 9 & 10\)](#)

Link to Syllabus Document: <https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/k-10/learning-areas/creative-arts/music-7-10>

Introduction – What is studied in this course?

The Physical Activity and Sports Studies (PASS) course builds on the experiences and understanding developed through the mandatory PDHPE course. It aims to enhance students' capacity to participate effectively in physical activity and sport, leading to improved quality of life for themselves and others.

Students engage in a wide range of physical activities to develop key understandings about how and why we move and how to enhance quality and enjoyment of movement. Students also explore the contribution of physical activity to individual, community and societal wellbeing.

PASS units are drawn from three areas of study:

- Foundations of Physical Activity
- Physical Activity and Sport in Society
- Enhancing Participation and Performance.

Some of the topics included in the course include sports nutrition, event management, technology in sport and coaching. Students will develop their skills in a range of sports at school including Badminton, European Handball, Tchoukball and American Football. There will also be the opportunity to participate in activities at external venues, such as resistance training, paddleboarding, lawn bowls and swimming.

Who is suited to this course?

The PASS course is relevant for students who have an interest in competitive sport, leisure and/or recreation. It suits any student who is keen to understand the role of body systems, physical fitness, nutrition and safety in maximising physical performance.

A large component of this course involves movement application. **Students are expected to engage in all practical activities offered in PASS.**

How is this course assessed?

Students are assessed through a range of in-class tasks, assignments and practical skill assessments.

Additional Information:

Course Cost: [Additional Subject Fees 2023 \(Years 9 & 10\)](#)

Subject fee for year 9 is \$200 this covers the cost of attending external venues.

Link to syllabus document: <https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/k-10/learning-areas/pdhpe/physical-activity-sports-studies-7-10-2019>

Introduction - What is studied in this course?

Textiles have played a significant role throughout history by providing solutions to functional and aesthetic needs. During the Textiles Technology Course, students will learn about fabric properties and sewing construction techniques through resourceful and innovative projects.

Project areas that are studied include:

- Apparel
- Furnishings
- Costume
- Textile Arts
- Non-apparel

Who is suited to this course?

This course is suited to self-motivated students who love to design and create. Students who have an interest in fashion, fabrics and sewing will enjoy Textiles Technology. Students will undertake projects that allow them to work independently, managing their own time and resources. It can lead to the study of Stage 6 *Senior Design and Technology* or Stage 6 *Senior Textiles and Design*.

How is this course assessed?

Students will complete a range of tasks consisting of practical projects and design folios.

Additional Information:

WHS: All students will be required to wear enclosed leather shoes with leather uppers, when completing practical activities.

Course Cost: [Additional Subject Fees 2023 \(Years 9 & 10\)](#)

Students will need to purchase materials for some projects.

Link to syllabus document: <https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/k-10/learning-areas/technologies/textiles-technology-2019>

Introduction - What is studied in this course?

The Visual Arts course allows students the opportunity to explore, develop, create and respond to artworks. You will develop an understanding of the concepts explored by artists through the study of Artmaking, Art Criticism and Art History.

One of the best parts about studying Visual Arts is that you do not just study Art: you *make* it. Visual Arts is a practical subject and students will develop new skills in the techniques of drawing, painting, collage, sculpture, ceramics, photography, printmaking and digital media. Art enhances fine motor skills, hand-eye coordination, problem solving skills, lateral thinking, complex analysis and critical thinking skills. No matter what career you choose, those who can arrange, present and display material in a way that is aesthetically pleasing have an advantage.

There will be opportunities for students to display their Artworks both in exhibitions and in digital galleries. St Paul's students also have an opportunity to participate in Art competitions such as the Dobell Festival Art Prize, held annually.

The course includes a variety of units and may cover artmaking mediums such as:

Drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, ceramics, photoshop, photography, film, stencils and mixed media.

Who is suited to this course?

The Visual Arts course is designed to allow for extensive engagement in Artmaking. Those who are skillful, driven and passionate will develop their abilities to produce high quality, meaningful artworks.

How is this course assessed?

Students will be challenged conceptually and asked to demonstrate their understanding of both theory and practice by creating art works, 40% Art-making, 40% Historical and critical studies, case studies, research tasks and the Visual Arts Process Diary (VAPD) together with major practical tasks, with 20% being dedicated to whatever area the teacher wants to enhance the students learning in.

Additional Information:

It is possible for a student to take both the Visual Arts and Visual Design courses as they are both significantly different and the course content does not overlap.

Finally, a number of excursions are offered to students each year including visits to Art Express, the AGNSW, the Archibald Exhibition and local galleries.

Course Cost: [Additional Subject Fees 2023 \(Years 9 & 10\)](#)

This cost also includes a Visual Arts Process Diary.

Link to syllabus document: <https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/k-10/learning-areas/creative-arts/visual-arts-7-10>

Introduction – What is studied in this course?

This course specialises primarily in Design based activities, with an emphasis on two main areas:

Practical —————> Making Visual Design

Theory —————> Critically and historically interpreting Visual Design Artworks

Visual Design also provides opportunities for students to pursue these art related experiences into senior school and particularly into vocational and career orientated courses beyond school.

Artmaking in Visual Design can include the following:

Year 9

Introduction to Graphic Design: Students make T-shirt graphics using Photoshop.

Designing and making graphics for Skateboard.

Illustration on a functional 3D object.

Architecture – creating maquettes.

Year 10

Introduction to 'Wet' photography and darkroom skills to produce a photographic portfolio.

Exploration of the concept of "celebrity" in the media. Students learn intermediate Photoshop skills to create magazine layouts and covers.

The process of 3D character.

Architecture; designing for prescribed spaces.

Who is suited to this course?

The Visual Design course is designed to allow for extensive engagement in Artmaking and Design Concepts. Those who are skillful, driven and passionate will develop their abilities to produce high quality, meaningful artworks.

How is this course assessed?

Students are assessed via the following:

- 40% Practical
- 40% Critical and Historical Studies
- 20% will be assigned by the teacher to either of the above areas as they see necessary.
- Students are required to keep a Visual Design Folio

Additional Information:

It is possible for a student to take both the Visual Arts and Visual Design courses as they are both significantly different in course content.

A number of excursions are held in Visual Design including photographic Excursions into Newcastle and surrounding areas, exhibitions and regional galleries.

Course Cost: [Additional Subject Fees 2023 \(Years 9 & 10\)](#)

This cost also includes a Visual Design Process Diary.

Link to syllabus document: <https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/k-10/learning-areas/creative-arts/visual-design-7-10>