

PEACE AND UNITY



Year 7

Brief Subject Overview

2021

In One Spirit... we welcome · we nurture · we excel

Core Subjects

The Year 7 Curriculum at Holy Spirit College is based on the Australian Curriculum as supported by the Queensland Curriculum & Assessment Authority.

Our Year 7 Transition Program is designed to provide a breadth of curriculum experience across all Learning Areas while supporting students to make the change to secondary learning by providing a core teacher who has pastoral as well as academic oversight of each class and is a contact for families.

Students follow a common course of study. All students study a Core of subjects for the whole year with Rotational term subjects drawn from **The Arts, Technologies, Language** and **Business** Learning Areas.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education in Year 7 deals with the foundations of Catholic faith and practice. Students complete four term-length courses covering a variety of topics. Term 1 is focussed on Initiation into Community which centres on self and family, the school and church communities and sacraments of initiation. Term 2 deals with Tradition, Symbolism and Prayer which includes Catholic Rituals such as the Eucharist, the Rosary and other prayers, Church etiquette and symbols. Term 3 is Discovering God which uncovers images of God in the Bible and applies scripture to contemporary religious and social scenarios. Term 4 is about the Life and Person of Jesus and looks at His life and mission, miracles and parables.

ENGLISH

English assists students to communicate with the society around them in many different contexts. Students engage with a variety of texts: interpreting, analysing, evaluating and performing through a range of spoken, multimodal and written responses. They develop insights into how texts are crafted to create meaning for audiences in specific contexts. Year 7 English units include: *Myths, Fables and Legends*; *Me, Myself and I*; *Fractured Fairytales* and *Revolting Rhymes*; and *How am I Positioned?*

MATHEMATICS

Mathematics is important in many aspects of our daily lives and we recognise a need for creative, skilled mathematicians in our society. Through

investigative and problem-solving strategies students explore and apply the concepts of numbers, measurement, geometry, statistics and probability. Students have opportunities to participate in "Fun with Maths" and the Australian Mathematics Trust competition. Computers, calculators and discovery-learning activities are embedded in the teaching of Mathematics.

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Students use their interests in and experiences of health and physical activity issues to develop: health and well-being; actively engage in physical activity; and enhance personal development. They recognise that capabilities in health and movement can provide career opportunities and improve their quality of life. Students will integrate theory through practical units based upon Swimming, Athletics and Team Sports. Students are expected to demonstrate the safety rules, etiquette and some basic strategic game plans of activities in which they are involved.

SCIENCE

Science in Year 7 introduces students to the three dimensions of Science including: understanding science knowledge; science-based enquiry skills; and the influence and contribution of scientists throughout time. The Science program will be both practical and theory based, with students undertaking experiments in the specialist laboratories available at Holy Spirit College. The broad areas of Science covered in Year 7 will be: *Introduction to Science and Mixtures*; *Classification and Ecology*; *Forces*; and *Earth and Space Science*.

HISTORY

The theme for Year 7 History is *The Ancient World* which is the study of history from the earliest human communities to the end of the ancient period, approximately 60,000 BC to 650 AD. This was a period defined by the development of cultural practices such as religion and government and organised societies which are typified by towns and trade. The study of the ancient world includes discoveries of the past and some of the mysteries and myths that surround this period in history. Students will engage in developing historical skills such as using evidence and constructing timelines, as well as historical understandings through depth studies of *Ancient Egypt* and *Indigenous Australians*. Students will examine the characteristics of ancient civilisations and the legacies they have left behind.

GEOGRAPHY

There are two units of study for Year 7 Geography and they are *Place and Liveability* and *Water in the World*. *Place and Liveability* examines the services and facilities needed to support and enhance our lives and how places, including our own local area, could be improved through planning. Students will investigate how people's reliance on places and environments influence their perception of them. *Water in the World* focusses on water as a renewable environmental resource. The unit examines the many uses of water, the way it is perceived and valued and the way it connects places as it moves throughout the environment. The unit also looks at the varying availability and scarcity of water in the world.

Rotational Units

A range of *The Arts, Technologies, Humanities and Social Science* and *Language* subjects is undertaken by students in term blocks on a rotational basis. The purpose of this system is to broaden students' learning opportunities and gain a basic realistic understanding of each subject area. This system helps students to identify the interests and strengths that they will further develop in Year 8.

LANGUAGES/THE ARTS

JAPANESE/MEDIA

The Japanese and Media subject brings together the Key Learning Areas of Languages and Arts (Media).

We live in a society today where we can communicate with anyone, from anywhere in the world, at any given time, just with the press of a button. This subject explores how the two different worlds of Media Studies and Languages can work together to produce a short stop-motion animation that utilises the Japanese language.

In the Australian Curriculum, the Key Learning Area of Languages focusses on both language and culture, with students learning to communicate meaningfully in different contexts. Students will be engaged across two strands, Communicating and Understanding, to develop language skills relevant to the scenario they choose, while demonstrating their application of video-editing techniques.

The Media Arts Syllabus of the Australian Curriculum, connects audiences, purposes and ideas, exploring concepts and viewpoints through the creative use of materials and technologies. Like all art forms, media arts has the capacity to engage, inspire and enrich all students, exciting the imagination and encouraging students to reach their creative and expressive potential.

Students have an opportunity to think outside the box and use their talents and imagination to produce an animation in the Japanese language that will develop their skills and understanding in both areas, which is fun and engaging.

Currently, more than 6,000 languages are spoken in the world by over 6 billion people! Some of these languages are signed, some are written and most are spoken. Research indicates that the

more we learn about other languages, the more proficient we will become in our own. In addition, to learn more about the English we speak today, we need to look at a history of language as it actually took quite a long time before the English language became anything that we could recognise today!

This Year 7 rotational unit will briefly explore the history of the English language and look into how English has been influenced by other languages, before moving into an introduction to Japanese. This unit is a precursor to Year 8 Japanese where students have the opportunity to investigate the language further.

DRAMA

Drama in Year 7 enhances students' experiences of performance and creative analysis. Students participate in practical and theory activities to create performances and responses which utilise the common elements of Drama. Students will perform an excerpt from a studied script, focussing on communicating meaning through a manipulation of dramatic elements, performance techniques and design conventions. The skills students develop in Drama assist them to effectively communicate with people, cultures and the world around them.



DANCE

Dance contributes skills and knowledge around three central concepts – choreography, performance, and responding to dance works. The students have the opportunity to

choreograph and perform their own dance sequences, learn and perform a routine choreographed by the teacher, and analyse their peers' and their own performances. Dance promotes and strengthens cultural awareness by covering various dance styles and movements utilised in our everyday lives.

MUSIC

Music in Year 7 develops students' musical performance and analysis skills. Students discover how the elements of music are combined and manipulated within different styles and genres of music. The guitar is the main focus of the unit, developing and enhancing students' performance skills. Music assists students in developing holistically as individuals through the discrete knowledge, processes and skills obtained through a study of music.

ART

Students in this rotational unit explore the Elements of Design using a variety of art materials, including 2D and 3D media. The focus is on producing original and creative work while developing skills in Art media and techniques. Inspired by artists and art styles, students create a range of artworks, including an imaginative 3D ceramic creature.

HUMANITIES

BUSINESS

Year 7 Business students will explore a variety of topics to assist them to make smart financial decisions in the future. Students will learn how to make informed decisions about consumer issues such as budgeting, decision-making, goal setting and money management. They will also analyse needs and wants, and why these are important in the business world.

Rotational Units

TECHNOLOGIES

INTERACTIVE MULTIMEDIA

Year 7 Interactive Multimedia students will study computational thinking skills such as abstraction and event handling. Through the generation of an interactive game or animation, students will also study design thinking skills allowing them to develop an entertaining user experience in a software application designed for their age and ability. Basic skills such as backup procedures, word processing, electronic filing and naming conventions as well as mind mapping skills are incorporated into the course to enhance student development of essential 21st century capabilities.



FOOD FOR LIVING

In our modern kitchen, students have the opportunity to cook a variety of snacks, meals and sweet treats. They will learn important cooking techniques that can be incorporated into many recipes they may use throughout life. Their knowledge of nutrition is developed, concentrating on the need for a healthy diet by selecting foods that are low in fat, sugar and salt. Students are challenged to improve their diet and eating habits to promote a long and healthy life. The textiles component



will look at the design and production of a Finger Puppet that incorporates some basic hand-sewing skills.

GRAPHICS

Students will be exposed to computer aided drawing techniques for both 2D and 3D objects at an introductory level. Their learning experiences will be predominantly through use of AutoCAD which is the software used in all Graphics classes at HSC. Students will also practise their sketching skills and techniques, and be challenged by, communicating graphically. This foundational course is designed to assist students with making choices about future subject selections in higher year levels, particularly the Senior Subject of Industrial Graphics.

WOOD & METAL TECHNOLOGY

This subject is entirely a workshop subject and aims to lay the foundations of safe practices in workshop technology in both woodwork and metalwork. Students will spend an equal amount of time on wood-based and metal-based projects. Projects will focus on manipulation of wood and



metal using hand tools and some basic machines such as a pedestal drill and disc sander. Students will learn safety, workshop terminology, measuring, cutting, joining, assembly and finishing of project materials in both workshops. This foundational course may lead to Design and Certificate Courses in Engineering and Construction in higher year levels. The Design and Technologies Department provides

students with safety glasses and an apron but students will require leather upper shoes and a HB pencil before they can participate.

DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

Students in this subject will be challenged by a variety of learning experiences that are project-based and incorporate a variety of technologies. Projects will see students introduced to, or building upon, their knowledge of



sketching, designing, computer-aided drafting (AutoCAD), laser cutting, basic electronics and workshop safety, tools and machinery. Students will have scope to show some creative flair in this subject which requires students to document what they have learnt through a design folio. The Design and Technologies Department provides students with safety glasses and an apron but students will require leather upper shoes and a HB pencil before they can participate. This subject leads to the senior subject of Design.

LITERACY EXTENSION

Literacy Extension is designed for all students to extend their reading and writing skills through whole class and small group activities. They practise these skills together, using topics of interest such as, 'How I would change school'. Lessons involve many opportunities for discussions about how we communicate ideas effectively to extend every student to a higher level of performance in Literacy. This Extension English subject assists students in all areas of the school curriculum to equip them well for high school.