

Facing adversity, refocusing
and persevering



RESPECT
RESILIENCE
ENGAGEMENT

Showing respect for
for the dignity of others,
our College, our world



Commitment
improvement
and the world

2025 YEAR 8 Curriculum Handbook



**MURRUMBA
STATE SECONDARY
COLLEGE**

Our engaged community, Learning for Life

DISCLAIMER: All information contained is accurate at the time of publication however subject to change.

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Introduction

Murrumba State Secondary College is recognized as the first-choice education provider for families in the Murrumba Downs community. We have created a college where every young learner develops a sense of belonging and is inspired to shape their preferred future.

The College motto “*learning for life*” provides a focused mantra that is so much more than words on an emblem. It conveys the meaning of why we are here and that for which we strive. It is woven into the very fabric of our culture.

We achieve our vision because,

- we have a strong foundation of values that are touchstones for everything we do
- we have an unrelenting focus on quality outcomes for students
- we deliver a world-class education

Our Values

Our College values are the beacon that guide our students and instil the essence of what makes us unique. Every teacher, every student and every visitor to Murrumba State Secondary College will be expected to embrace these values and be proud to champion them.

These values form the very heart of our College, and are recognised amongst the greater community for:

- **Respect** – showing respect and dignity for self, others, our College, our community, our world
- **Resilience** – facing adversity, refocusing and persevering
- **Engagement** – commitment to my learning, my College and my community

Academic Excellence

Each student is encouraged to achieve their personal best and to develop a sense of pride in themselves, the College and their community. As well as enhanced in-class learning opportunities, students have the opportunity to pursue areas of individual interest and to develop a high level of competency by participating in a range of activities provided by the College and by external providers such as tertiary institutions and professional associations.

Student Progress

Students will receive a report on their progress 4 times a year. The report indicates the grade achieved in each subject, as well as the student’s progress in relation to behaviour, effort and homework completion. Each student’s progress is monitored closely and parents are contacted regularly by teachers and the student services team so that they may be aware of the progress being made. If individual students encounter difficulties with their learning, parents/caregivers are contacted before the formal reporting period. Parents are welcome to contact the school at any time if they are concerned about their child’s progress.



Student Support

To support student progress and development, Murrumba State Secondary College has access to various onsite and visiting educational specialists. Your permission for referral, testing or support will be sought where a teacher considers that your child would benefit from these services. You may also request support through the class teacher if you have a specific concern regarding your child's social, emotional or educational needs.

A Guidance Officer provides counselling and assessment support. Students and parents/caregivers are welcome to access our Guidance Officer by appointment. A College Chaplain provides support to students, staff and parents of the College community and is an integral part of the counselling and support services.

Our Diversity and Inclusion teamwork with students with a disability, as well as supporting students who require adjustments to support their engagement, learning and achievement. Personalised Learning Plans are developed in partnership with parents, teachers and other key stakeholders outlining inclusive strategies to be implemented to best meet individual student needs. The Diversity and Inclusion team works with teachers across the College to develop target and intensive teaching and learning opportunities to support student growth and development.

These specialists work in partnership with parents, classroom teachers, teacher aides and specialist agencies to ensure that we provide our students with a diverse and responsive supportive College environment.

Curriculum

Murrumba State Secondary College's Year 8 curriculum represents a sequence of carefully planned and balanced learning experiences designed to meet the current and future needs of our students. It is grounded in student focused educational philosophy and practice, responsive to individual student needs, as well as being rich in real-life significance. Our curriculum is focused around a student's active investigation of our world. Through investigation, students will interpret, interact and influence the world they live in. At the core of our curriculum is the focus on literacy, numeracy and ICTs.

Students study subjects aligned to the Australian Curriculum. Students will participate in a selection of mandated subjects which are designed to prepare students for success. All our students study Mathematics, English, Science, Health & Physical Education, Spanish and Humanities in addition to Creative Industries, Digital Technology and Design and Industrial Technologies.

Please note the subject specific information contain in this document is correct at the time of publishing, however is subject to change, especially with the transition to the Australian Curriculum Version 9.

Career Planning

From Year 7, students begin investigating career options as part of planning for the direction their future education will take. They will be guided by various teachers in planning and mapping individual pathways.



CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Year 8 Standard Timetable			
Semester 1		Semester 2	
Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
English – 3 lessons			
Mathematics – 3 lessons			
Science – 3 lessons			
Health and Physical Education – 2 lessons			
Humanities (History, Geography, Civics & Citizenship and Economics & Business) – 3 lessons			
Digital Technologies – 2 lessons		Food Studies – 2 Lessons	
Junior Creative Industries – 2 lessons			

Engineering Excellence Timetable			
Semester 1		Semester 2	
Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
English – 3 lessons			
Mathematics Extension – 3 lessons			
Science Extension – 3 lessons			
Health and Physical Education – 2 lessons			
Humanities (History, Geography, Civics & Citizenship and Economics & Business) – 3 lessons			
Engineering Excellence – 2 lessons			
Junior Creative Industries – 2 lessons			

Spanish Immersion Timetable			
Semester 1		Semester 2	
Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
English – 3 lessons			
Mathematics Immersion – 3 lessons			
Science – 3 lessons			
Health and Physical Education – 2 lessons			
Spanish – 1 lesson			
Humanities Immersion (History, Geography, Civics & Citizenship and Economics & Business) - 2 lessons			
Digital Technologies – 2 lessons		Food Studies – 2 Lessons	
Junior Creative Industries – 2 lessons			



Football Academy Timetable			
Semester 1		Semester 2	
Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
English – 3 lessons			
Mathematics – 3 lessons			
Science – 3 lessons			
Football Academy (HPE)– 2 lessons			
Humanities (History, Geography, Civics & Citizenship and Economics & Business) – 3 lessons			
Digital Technologies – 2 lessons		Food Studies – 2 Lessons	
Junior Creative Industries – 2 lessons			

High Performance Music Timetable			
Semester 1		Semester 2	
Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
English – 3 lessons			
Mathematics – 3 lessons			
Science – 3 lessons			
Health and Physical Education – 2 lessons			
Humanities (History, Geography, Civics & Citizenship and Economics & Business) – 3 lessons			
Digital Technologies – 2 lessons		Food Studies – 2 Lessons	
High Performance Music – 2 lessons			

Dance Academy Timetable			
Semester 1		Semester 2	
Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
English – 3 lessons			
Mathematics – 3 lessons			
Science – 3 lessons			
Dance Academy – 2 lessons			
Humanities (History, Geography, Civics & Citizenship and Economics & Business) – 3 lessons			
Digital Technologies – 2 lessons		Food Studies – 2 Lessons	
Junior Creative Industries – 2 lessons			



English

Prerequisites/Special Requirements: Nil

Outline of the subject:

At Murrumba State Secondary College, the Australian Curriculum: English forms the basis for the core studies for all students within the English department. The curriculum allows for the students to develop their skills in the important basics of mastering the meaningful use of the English language – spelling, punctuation and grammar – as well as the ability to improve other skills such as the analysis of different text types and presenting their ideas to an audience.

In Year 8, students communicate with peers, teachers, individuals and in a range of face-to-face and online/virtual environments.

Students listen to, read, view, interpret, evaluate and perform a range of spoken, written and multimodal texts. These include various types of media texts including newspapers, magazines and digital texts, early adolescent novels, non-fiction, poetry and dramatic performances.

Assessment Outline:

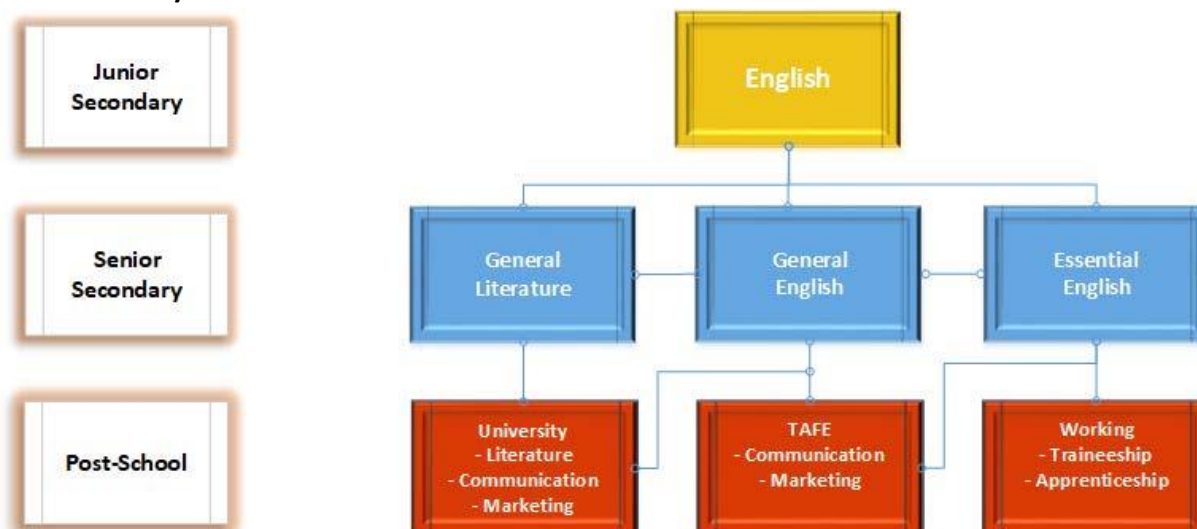
	Course Outline	Assessment Summary
Term One	Exploring Teen Experiences in Literature.	Short Response Character Monologue
Term Two	Exploring Representations of Events, Groups and Individuals in Texts.	Short Story
Term Three	Media Musings	Short Response Opinion Article
Term Four	Exploring Representations in Narrative Film	Multimodal Presentation

Cost (if any): Refer to the Fee Matrix on the College website.

Materials:

- Students will be required to have three ruled exercise books;
- Pens, pencils, ruler, eraser;
- Pearson English Homework Program (available through the College)

Future Pathways:



Mathematics

Prerequisites/Special Requirements: Nil

Outline of the subject:

Learning Mathematics creates opportunities for all Australians. The Mathematics Curriculum provides students with essential mathematical skills and knowledge in Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry, and Statistics and Probability. It develops the numeracy capabilities that all students need in their personal, work and civic life, and provides the fundamentals on which mathematical specialties and professional applications of mathematics are built.

Students in the Engineering Excellence Program are also enrolled in Mathematics Extension. These students complete a similar program to the core classes but are extended in both depth and breadth of the content covered.

Assessment Outline:

	Course Outline	Assessment Summary
Term One	Unit 1.1: Algebra 1 and Integers Unit 1.2: Rates and Ratios Unit 1.3: Financial Maths	Unit 1 Exam
Term Two	Unit 2.1: Data Unit 2.2: Time, Probability	Unit 2.1: PSMT Unit 2.2: Exam
Term Three	Unit 3.1: Algebra 2 Unit 3.2: Linear Equation and Graph Linear Relationships	Unit 3: Exam
Term Four	Unit 4.1: Volume, Area, Perimeter Unit 4.2: Geometric Reasoning	Unit 4.1: Exam Unit 4.2: Investigation – Portfolio

Cost (if any): Refer to the Fee Matrix on the College website.

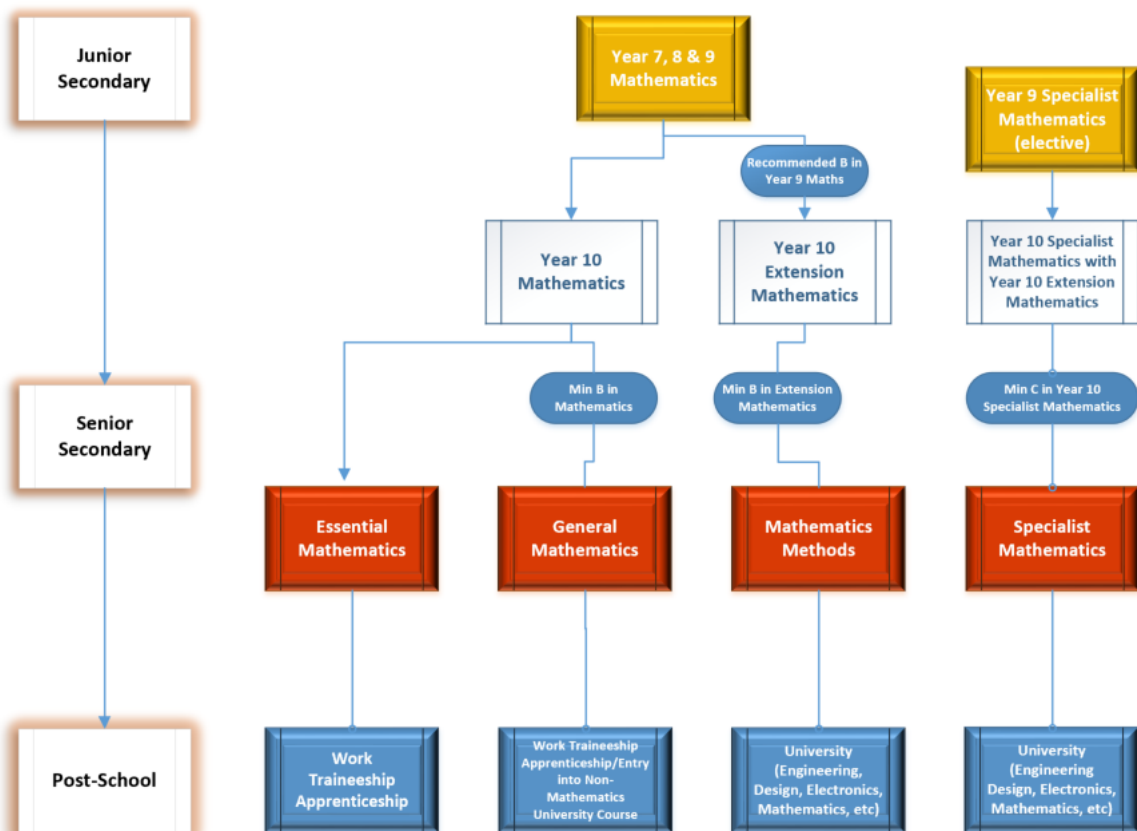
Materials:

Students will be required to have:

- Three ruled exercise books - one for modelled example, one for practice and one for spare practice book;
- Scientific calculator (Texas TI-30XB);
- Graph paper;
- Pens, pencils, ruler, eraser, highlighters;
- Students will be provided (via the Student Resource Scheme) with access to: * eTextbook



Future Pathways:



Science

Prerequisites: Nil

Special Requirements: Students will be expected to participate safely in laboratory lessons and will be required to wear impervious shoes and other protective equipment (such as goggles, provided by the College) as directed by the teacher.

Outline of the subject:

Science provides opportunities for students to develop an understanding of important science concepts and processes, the practices used to develop scientific knowledge, of science's contribution to our culture and society, and its applications in our lives. The curriculum supports students to develop the scientific knowledge understandings and skills to make informed decisions about local, national and global issues and to participate, if they so wish, in science-related careers.

In addition to its practical applications, learning science is a valuable pursuit in its own right. Students can experience the joy of scientific discovery and nurture their natural curiosity about the world around them. In doing this, they develop critical and creative thinking skills and challenge themselves to identify questions and draw evidence-based conclusions using scientific methods. The wider benefits of this "scientific literacy" are well established, including giving students the capability to investigate the natural world and changes made to it through human activity.

Assessment Outline:

	Course Outline	Assessment Summary
Term One	Unit 1: Chemastic Particle	Data Test
Term Two	Unit 2: Rocks Never Die	Research Task
Term Three	Unit 3: Building Blocks of Life Unit 4: The Body	Exam
Term Four	Unit 5: Energy for my lifestyle	Student Experiment

Cost (if any): Refer to the Fee Matrix on the College website.

Materials:

- Students will be required to have an exercise book for classwork and one for homework;
- eTextbooks (provided via the Student Resource Scheme);
- Scientific calculator;
- Pens, pencils, ruler, eraser;
- USB

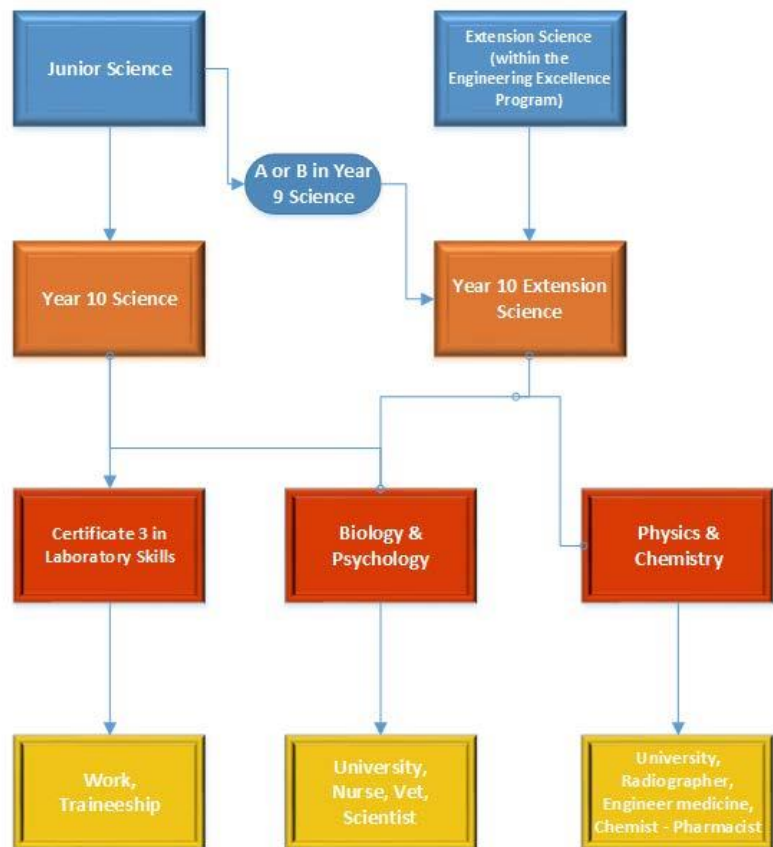


Future Pathways:

Junior
Secondary

Senior Secondary

Post-School



Humanities

Outline of the subject:

The Humanities and Social Science subjects in the Australian Curriculum provide a broad understanding of the world in which we live, and how people can participate as active and informed citizens with high-level skills needed for the 21st century.

In the Australian Curriculum for Year 8, the Humanities and Social Sciences learning area comprises of four subjects: Years 7–10 History, Geography, Civics & Citizenship and Economics & Business. Through their learning in each subject or sub-strand, students develop knowledge and understanding relating to broader enduring ideas that underpin the Humanities and Social Sciences in the Australian Curriculum, which are represented in varying ways across the subjects.

Assessment Outline:

The curriculum program is subject to change with the transition to Australia Curriculum version 9.0.

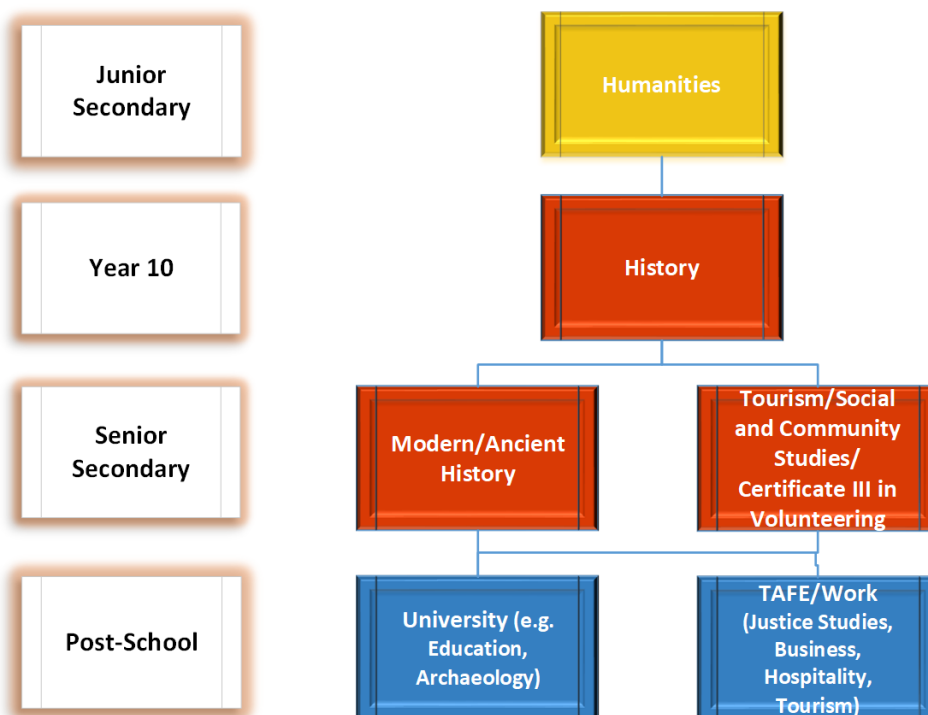
	Course Outline	Assessment Summary
History	Medieval Europe	Short Response Exam Research Investigation
Geography	Landforms and Landscapes	Project
Civics & Citizenship	Active Australian Citizens	Investigation
Economics & Business	National Business Issues	Project

Cost (if any): Refer to the Fee Matrix on the College website.

Materials:

- Students will be required to have four ruled exercise books;
- Pens, pencils, ruler, eraser

Future Pathways:



Health and Physical Education

Prerequisites: Nil

Special Requirements: Students must be prepared to participate fully in all practical activity lessons. Students must have a hat for all practical activities.

Outline of the subject:

Health and Physical Education reflects the dynamic and multi-dimensional nature of health and recognizes the importance of physical activity in the lives of individuals and groups in our society. HPE offers students opportunities to develop knowledge, understandings, processes and skills necessary to make informed decisions about their physical wellbeing and health.

The course aims to;

- teach the basic skills, rules, strategies and tactics of a wide variety of activities;
- give each student the opportunity to develop skills to their full potential;
- have each student participate actively in all course components; those requiring input as an individual and as a member of a team;
- develop an attitude of sportsmanship and fair play;
- provide opportunities for leadership and to show the advantages of friendship, co-operation and communication developed in a physical activity situation;
- examine a range of personal and community Health issues.

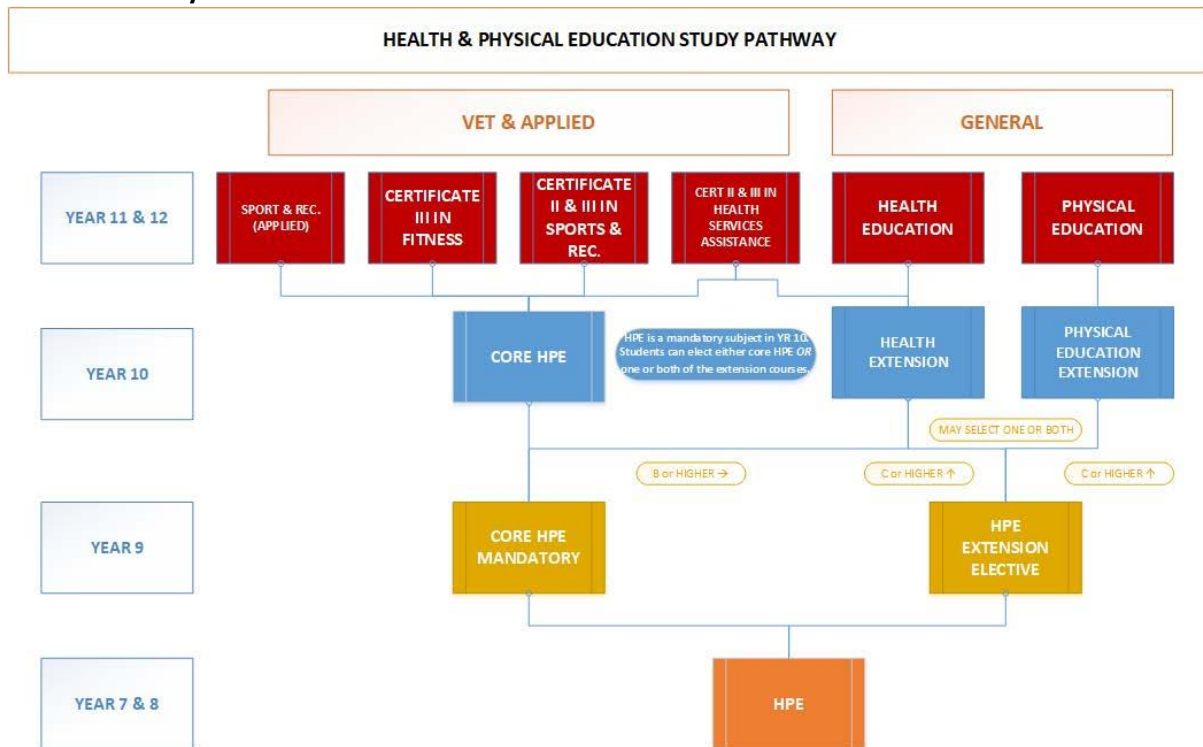
Assessment Outline:

	Course Outline	Assessment Summary
Term One	Health Unit - First Aid Practical Unit - Lifesaving This involves 6-7 pool-based lessons that occur at Murrumba Community Pool.	Theory Assessment: Exam Practical Assessment: Performance
Term Two	Health Unit - Active Aussies Practical Unit - Rhythmic Fitness	Theory assessment: Short response Practical Assessment: Performance
Term Three	Health Unit - Cultural Connections Practical Unit - Modified and Indigenous games	Theory Assessment: Portfolio Tasks Practical Assessment: Performance
Term Four	Health Unit - My decisions, my life Practical Unit - Striking and Fielding games	Theory Assessment: Investigative Report Practical Assessment: Performance

Cost (if any): Refer to the Fee Matrix on the College website.



Future Pathways:



Spanish Immersion

Prerequisites/Special Requirements: Entry via the application process which includes an interview.

Outline of the subject:

In addition to their compulsory LOTE (Spanish) class, Immersion students will also learn Mathematics, Access and Humanities in Spanish. Students will have the opportunity to explore new vocabulary and grammar structures, developing high levels of language proficiency. The program will offer a greater depth of exposure to the Spanish language and provide challenging opportunities within a nurturing learning environment. The program provides students with opportunities to develop proficiency in the four macro skills: speaking, listening, reading and writing, in both Spanish and English.

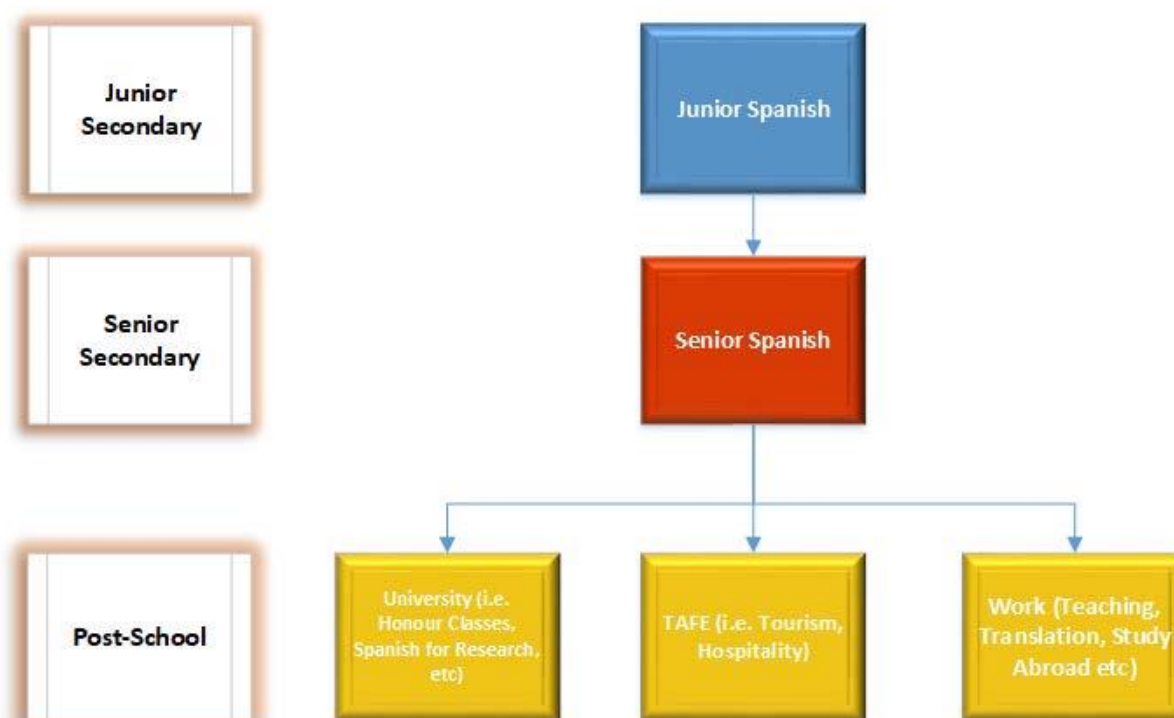
Assessment Outline:

The curriculum program is subject to change with the transition to Australia Curriculum version 9.0.

	Course Outline	Assessment Summary
Unit One	Routines	Short Response to Stimulus - Listening Exam
Unit Two	My World	Combination Response - Speech
Unit Three	My Future	Short Response to Stimulus – Reading and Listening Exam
Unit Four	Reflection	Extended Response – Written Assignment

Cost (if any): Refer to the Fee Matrix on the College website.

Future Pathways:



Digital Technologies

Prerequisites/Special Requirements: Nil

Outline of the subject:

Learning in Digital Technologies focuses on further developing understanding and skills in computational thinking such as decomposing problems and prototyping; and engaging with information systems as students broaden their experiences and involvement in a variety of activities.

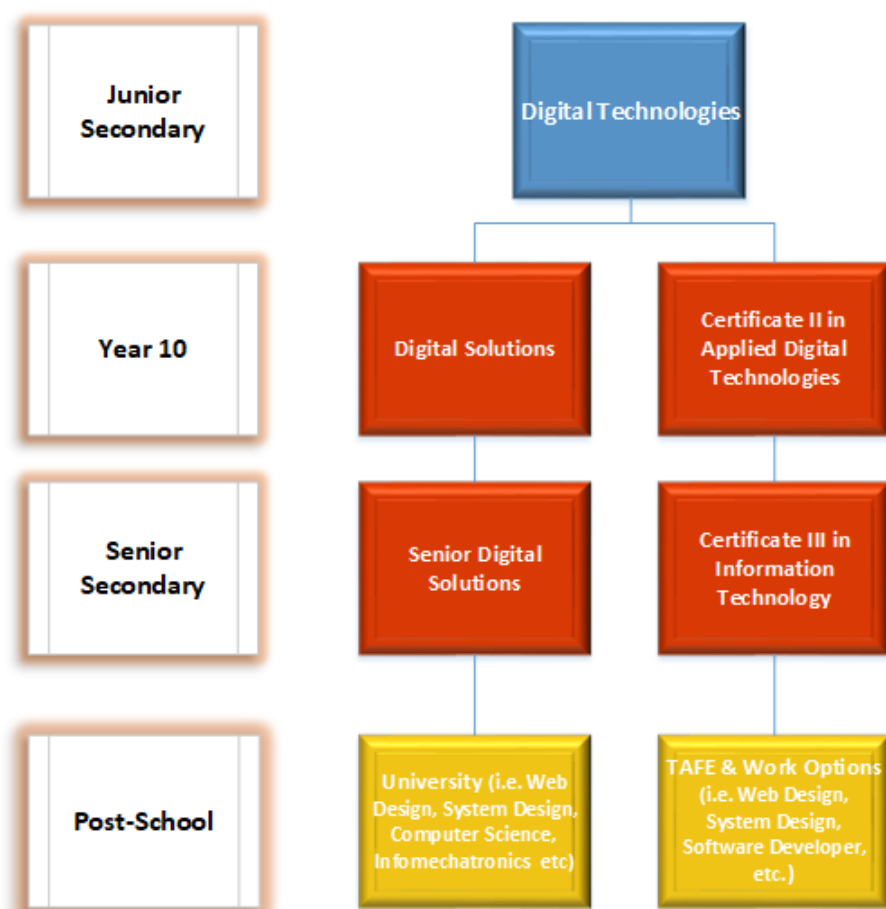
Students apply computational thinking by defining and decomposing real-world problems, creating user experiences, designing and modifying algorithms and implementing them in general-purpose programming languages. In year 8, students develop skills and apply these skills to coding, cyber security and game development.

Assessment Outline:

	Course Outline	Assessment Summary
Term One	Coding and Cyber Security	Project- Digital Solution and folio of design process
Term Two	Game Development	Project – Digital Solution and folio of design process

Cost (if any): Refer to the Fee Matrix on the College website.

Future Pathways:



Junior Creative Industries

Prerequisites/Special Requirements: Nil

Outline of the subject:

The Year 8 JCI (Junior Creative Industries) course allows students to experience the Arts Curriculum that may include elements of Dance, Drama, Film, Visual Art and Music. The focus of all units is to embed theory and knowledge into student focused activities and games.

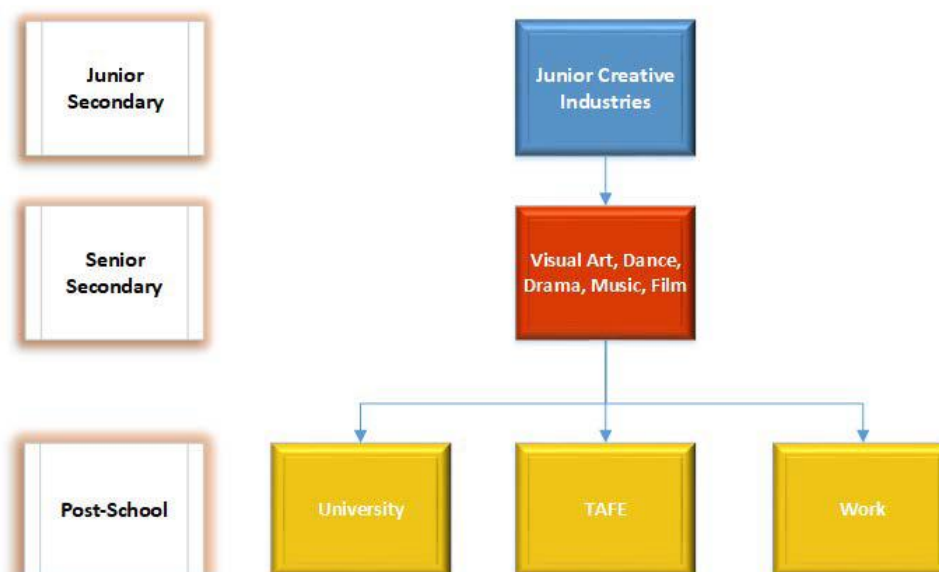
Embedded within units of work in the Creative Industries is the development of the 21st Century Skills, a broad set of skills critical to students' success in future education and in life. Research suggests that to meet the demands of the 21st century, students need more than core subject knowledge (Bruniges 2012). The 21st century skills include critical thinking, creative thinking, communication, collaboration and teamwork, personal and social skills, and information and communication technologies (ICT) skills. These 21st century skills will help prepare Queensland students by giving them the knowledge, skills and confidence they need to be equipped for the demands of higher education, work and life, and to participate effectively in the community and the economy in a complex and rapidly changing world.

Assessment Outline:

	Course Outline	Assessment Summary
Drama	Utilising technical drama skills to create a realistic performance.	Performance
Dance	Manipulating movement and nonmovement components to deliver a choreographic intent.	Choreography
Music	Manipulating the elements of music in Practical music-making skills.	Performance
Visual Art	Explore media, techniques, skills and processes to communicate intended meaning when design in and making artworks	Project
Film	Manipulating shot sizes, angles and developing storyboards to create their own original work.	Project

Cost (if any): Refer to the Fee Matrix on the College website.

Future Pathways:



Engineering Excellence Program (EEP)

Prerequisites/Special Requirements:

- Current enrolment and satisfactory progress in Year 7 EEP OR Expression of Interest in enrolment package
- High performance in HAST exam (which incurs a non-refundable fee)
- High academic achievement in maths and science
- Participation in program is reviewed each semester

Outline of the subject:

The Engineering Excellence Program aims to provide successful applicants with an extension from their core studies into the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics fields. These studies will then pave the way for students to move into Senior Engineering, Mathematics and Science subjects at the College with the aim to continue on in these areas at a university level.

Throughout the junior course, the student will engage with a variety of different units which may include Robotics, Design, Engineering, Sustainability, Food Technology, Environmental Engineering, Polymers, Biotechnology and Forensic Science.

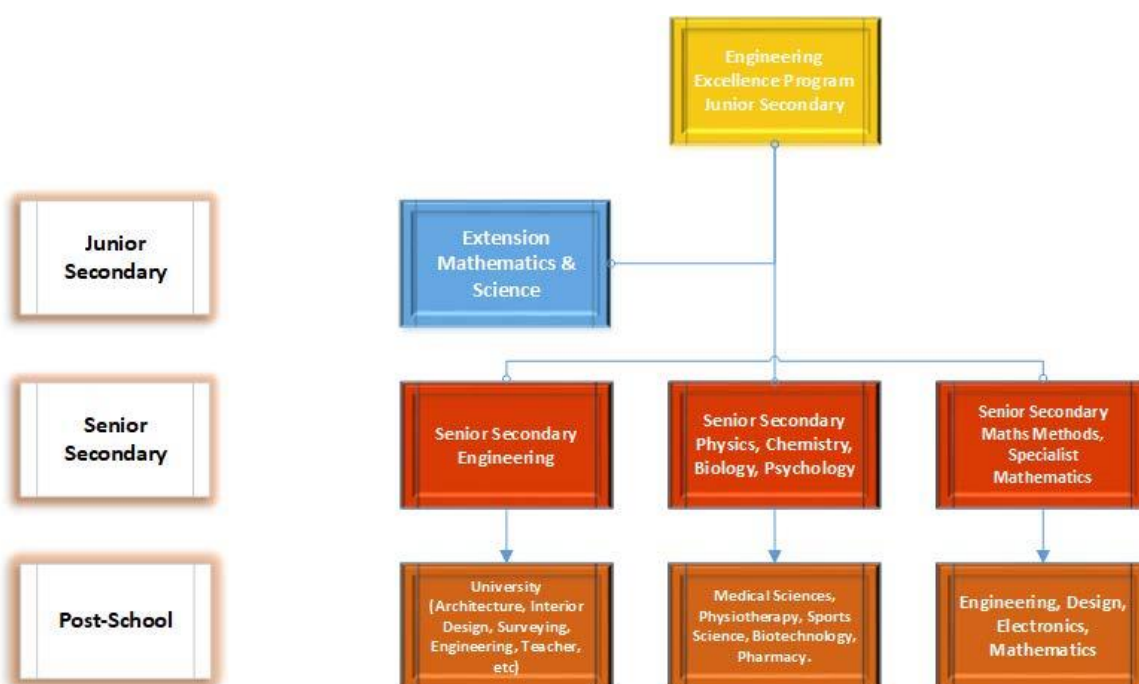
It is a requirement of the course that all successful applicants participate in a variety of competitions which will incur costs.

Cost (if any): Refer to the Fee Matrix on the College website.

Materials:

- Scientific calculator
- Pens, pencils, eraser, ruler
- USB
- Ruled exercise book
- Device Required

Future Pathways



Football Academy

Prerequisites: Expression of Interest and successful trial.

Special Requirements: Students must be prepared to participate in all practical lessons, including before school sessions where required. Students must conduct themselves in accordance with the Football Academy player code of conduct.

Outline of the subject:

The Murrumba State Secondary College Football Academy provides talented secondary-aged players a pathway to a career in football. The Football Academy employs a student-athlete model, where qualified and experienced staff work with the students to develop on- and off-field skills. The student-athlete model combines academic performance, with positive behaviour expectations and sporting performance to achieve success. This model has provided a range of positive outcomes, including youth international representatives and national championship winning teams as well as establish a number of high-profile links within the community; Hyundai A-League club Brisbane Roar being one of example.

The Football Academy combines practical and theory lessons to develop a student-athlete, prepared for the demands of juggling athletic performance with academic studies. The practical lessons develop the technical base the players have upon joining the program, then progress to applying them within a team unit. The theory component has four pillars, student-athletes, football excellence, performance enhancement and human excellence.

The course aims to:

- Deliver best-practice learning experiences exposing the players to sessions focused on their technical, tactical, physical and mental development;
- Provide opportunities to represent the College, their District and Region in football and futsal with a desire to be successful;
- Provide a professional environment with appropriate effort and behaviour expectations, with associated positive and negative consequences, and
- Provide accreditation opportunities in the fields of coaching, refereeing and administration.

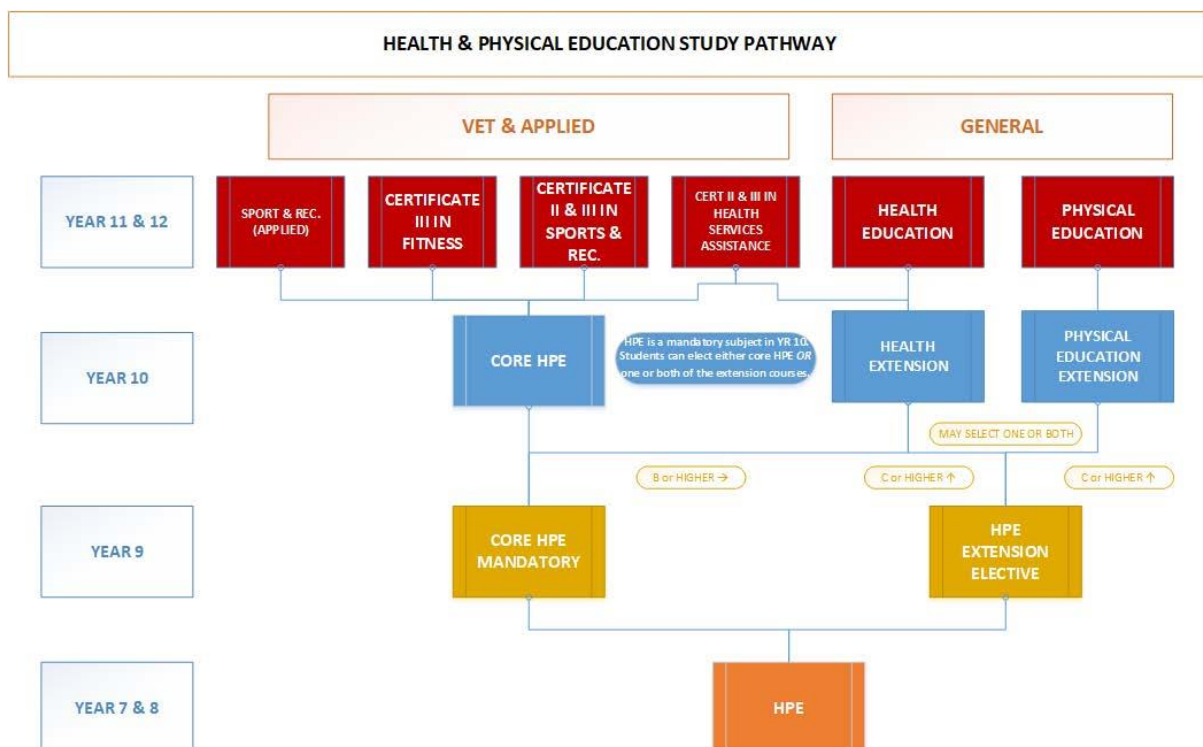
Assessment Outline:

	Course Outline	Assessment Summary
Term One	Health Unit - First Aid Practical Unit - Football/Futsal	Theory Assessment - Exam Practical - Football/Futsal Development
Term Two	Health Unit - Active Aussies Practical unit - Rhythmic Fitness	Theory Assessment – Short Response Practical Assessment – Football Development
Term Three	Health Unit - Cultural Connections Practical Unit - Football	Theory Assessment - Portfolio Task Practical Assessment – Football Development
Term Four	Health Unit - My Decisions, My Life Practical Unit - Football	Theory Assessment - Investigative Report Practical Assessment – Football Development

Cost (if any): Refer to the Fee Matrix on the College website.



Future Pathways:



Food Studies

Prerequisites/Special Requirements: Nil

Outline of the subject:

The year 8 Food Studies program places emphasis on developing students' knowledge and independent skills in cookery, safety and hygiene. Students aim to gain an understanding of appropriate work methods and the use of equipment and utensils as well as recognising the importance of good nutrition throughout life.

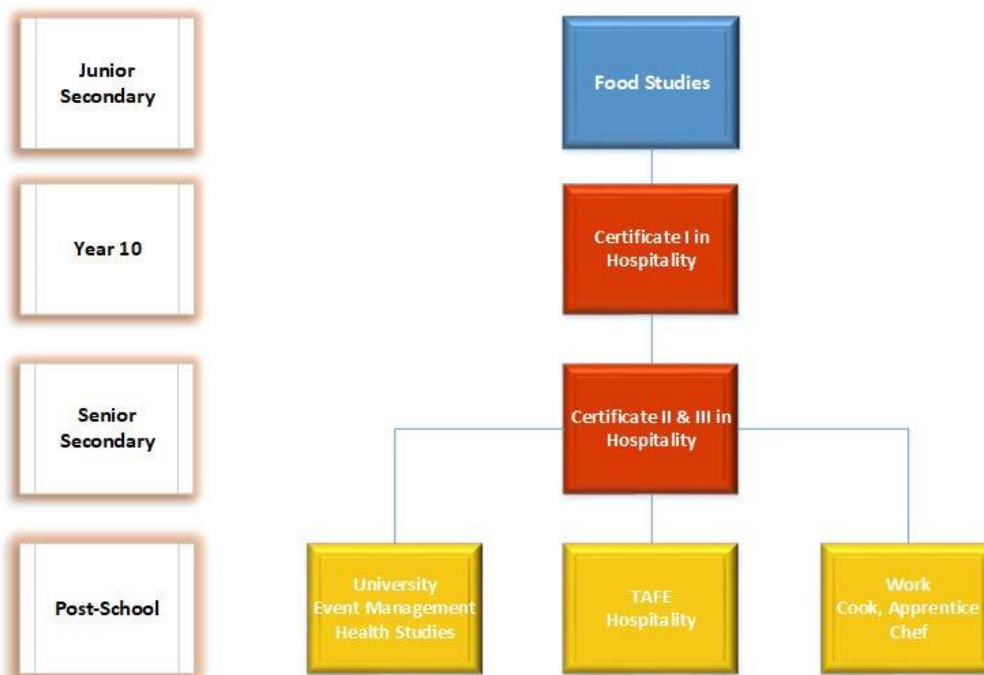
This term focuses on the practical application of nutrition to assist students in supporting their growth and development. Students will develop skills to independently select and create healthy meals based on sound nutritional choices in accordance with Australian Guide to Healthy Eating.

Assessment Outline:

	Course Outline	Assessment Summary
Term One	Introduction to Food & Nutrition	Exam
Term Two	Food and Packaging Design	Design Folio

Cost (if any): Refer to the Fee Matrix on the College website.

Future Pathways:



High Performance Music

Prerequisites/Special Requirements:

Entry via the application process which includes an audition.

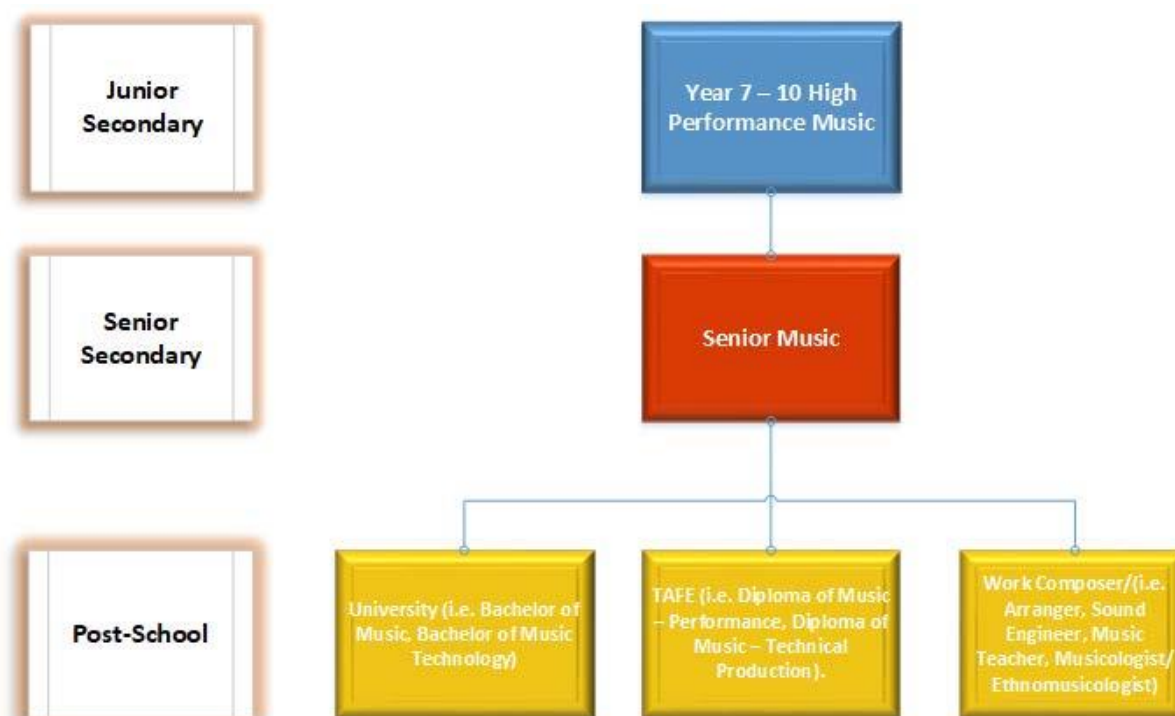
Students must be prepared to fully commit to both class requirements and their chosen performance ensemble.

Outline of the subject:

High Performance Music is designed to assist in the development of students' all-round musicianship as well as using their passion for music to enhance their academic success. A strong emphasis will be placed on both the practical and theoretical side of music and offer students many opportunities to develop their skills, providing students in the Murrumba area access to specialised teaching and performance opportunities. All students are to complete an application and audition for successfully entry into this program.

Assessment Outline:

	Course Outline	Assessment Summary
Unit One	Music of the Screen	Term 1: Exam (Short and Extended Response) Term 2: Composition with Statement
Unit Two	Jazz it up!	Term 3: Performance with Statement
Unit Three	Me as a Musician	Term 4: Composition with Statement



Dance Academy

Prerequisites/Special Requirements:

Entry is determined by a review of submitted application form, report cards and behaviour/effort information. An audition and subsequent interview will also be conducted to determine suitability.

Students must be prepared to commit to both class requirements and their extra-curricular dance program- including participation in Eisteddfods.

Outline of the subject:

The Murrumba Academy of Dance delivers a high standard of dance education focused on achieving both physical and academic success. The program strives to develop students' overall technique, with a focus on their performance skills (expressive and technical). Our expert teaching team is committed to providing our students with authentic learning experiences through exposure and strong connections to a wide variety of high calibre industry professionals, and valuable relationships with higher education institutions. These valuable partnerships within the dance community are integral to supporting and encouraging students in the continued development of their individual performance style.

Assessment Outline:

	Course Outline	Assessment Summary
Term One	Dance Technique Workshops with guest choreographers	Dance performance
Term Two	Mental health and wellbeing	Assignment
Term Three	Health benefits of physical activity First aid	Assignment Exam
Term Four	Alcohol and other drugs	Brochure

Cost (if any): Refer to the Fee Matrix on the College website.

Future Pathways:

