

Curriculum Provision at Sunbury Downs College

Years 7 – 9

In Years 7 – 9, students experience a broad range of subjects through which they develop skills and habits for the future. Students engage in core subjects as well as enjoying a series of specialist subjects that expand their developmental and hands-on learning experiences. Our curriculum at Sunbury Downs College is developed and taught incorporating the Victorian Curriculum standards and priorities. This ensures that all students are able to access a high quality curriculum regardless of their chosen path.

Subjects Offered

All students complete the core subjects of English, Mathematics, Humanities, Science, and Health and Physical Education throughout the year. During Years 7 and 8, students complete a range of semester-based subjects that include Arts, Technology, Music, Performing Arts, Food Technology and Digital Technology. Languages – Italian is offered as a semester-based subject in Year 7 and a year-long subject in Year 8.

In Year 9 students are able to select elective subjects based on their interests. Some of the options that are available include; Literature, Art, Introduction to Outdoor Education, Media, Music, Philosophy, Design Technology Materials, Drama, and Languages (Italian).

Accelerated Curriculum and Enrichment (ACE) Program

Our ACE Program is a dedicated pathway for high-ability students who want explore our Curriculum in greater depth and breadth. The ACE Program has been designed to cater to the special learning and wellbeing needs of students with strong work ethics, operating on the principles of an Accelerated and Enriched curriculum.

An Accelerated Curriculum - We acknowledge and celebrate that all high-ability students have different strengths. Throughout Year 7, our teachers work with our students and parents to develop an Individualised Learning Plan (ILP) for the core subjects—English, Mathematics, Humanities, and Science. This ILP enables teachers to support students at their point-of-need to progress through the Victorian Curriculum at a faster pace. Based on their progress at the end of Year 9, students receive tailored counselling regarding the early commencement of their VCE studies. This approach assists ambitious students to maximise their Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) for University entrance. Some students go on to qualify for University-level subjects during Year 12.

An Enriched Curriculum - Given the unique composition of the ACE cohort, teachers are able to expand on both the level of depth and breadth within the Victorian Curriculum. In classes, this is student-driven. Further, ACE students; enjoy additional inter-disciplinary subjects, compete in national academic competitions, attend extra incursions and excursions, and take part in team-building and problem-solving camps.

Sample Year 7 Program

Students have 30 sessions across the week to complete both Core and Semester-Based Subjects.

Core Subjects

English	Mathematics	Humanities	Science	Health & PE
5 sessions per week	5 sessions per week	4 sessions per week	4 sessions per week	4 sessions per week

Semester-Based Subjects

Art (Semester 1)	Italian (Semester 1)		Drama (Semester 2)	Design Technology (Semester 2)
4 sessions per week	4 sessions per week		4 sessions per week	4 sessions per week



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Years 10 – 12

In the final three years of secondary schooling, students are able to choose a learning program that takes into account their skills, interests and future aspirations.

At Sunbury Downs College, there are two pathways options available to students:

- **VCE – Victorian Certificate of Education.**

VCE enables students to continue their studies into further education, often university or TAFE studies. This option allows students to develop their analytic skills as well as their problem-solving skills.

- **VCAL – Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning**

VCAL enables students to complete a more 'hands on' approach to learning and will often lead students to apprenticeships or further studies at TAFE.



Students are supported in their choice of pathway (and subjects/course) through a scaffolded counselling process. This enables students to select their pathway based on their future career options. Careers advice is always available to students through the Student Services Team.

Year 10

Sunbury Downs College offers a broad curriculum that is designed to develop students' skills and capacities across all fields. In Year 10 students intending to follow the VCE pathway all study; English, Mathematics, Humanities, Science and Physical Education. Students can also select from a range of elective subjects that include: Art, Design Technology, Digital Technologies, Drama, Food Studies, Health and Human Development, Languages (Italian), Literature, Media and Visual Communication Design. For selected students, there is the option to complete an early commencement subject (i.e. starting a VCE or VETiS subject in Year 10).

VCAL 10 to 12

Students intending to follow the applied learning pathway or VCAL complete the following subjects; Literacy, Numeracy, Personal Development Skills, Work Related Skills.

VETiS

At Sunbury Downs College we offer a range of Vocational Education and Training in Schools programs (VETiS) to expand the opportunities and pathways available to our students. These nationally recognised VET qualifications can contribute towards the completion of VCE or VCAL. The College is fortunate to offer a range of VETiS subjects including; VCE/VETiS Music, VCE/VETiS Sport and Recreation, VETiS Automotive Studies, VCE/VETiS Business, VCE/VETiS Community Services and VETiS Outdoor Recreation.



VCE

Sunbury Downs College prides itself on being able to offer students a range of subjects to cater for a wide range of student aspirations. Some of the subjects that are offered to VCE students include:

- Biology
- Chemistry
- English
- English as an Additional Language (EAL)
- Environmental Science
- Health and Human Development
- History
- Legal Studies
- Literature
- Mathematics
 - General and Further Maths
 - Maths Methods
 - Specialist Maths
- Media
- Outdoor and Environmental Studies
- Physical Education
- Physics
- Product Design and Technology
- Studio Art
- Visual Communication Design

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Activities, Support and Awards

Year Level Activities

- Year 7 Camp
- Year 8 Camp
- Year 9 Urban Experience
- Year 10 Formal
- Year 11 Debutante Ball
- Year 12 Retreat (Camp)
- Year 12 Valedictory Dinner



Extra-Curricular Activities

- Student Voice
- Debating and Public Speaking
- Production
 - Performance
 - School Band
 - Set Design
 - Back stage support
- Interschool Sports
- Instrumental Music
- Maths Olympiads
- College Choir
- Student Leadership



Student Support Services

- Wellbeing Coordinator
- Youth Worker
- School Nurse
- Chaplain
- Inclusion Coordinator
- Learning Support for Funded Students
- Careers Counselling
- English as an Additional Language (EAL)
- International Student Program (ISP)



Awards and Scholarships

- Pierre de Coubertin Award
- The University of Melbourne Kwong Lee Dow Scholarship
- Top Arts-Visual Communication and Studio Arts
- Caltex Allrounder
- Australian Defence Force Long Tan Award
- National Serviceman's Award
- Academic Excellence
- Leaders and Community Spirit
- Instrumental Music
- Sporting Excellence
- College Colours

