



MacKillop
St Mary MacKillop College Canberra

Year 8 Electives Handbook

**ELECTIVE COURSES FOR
YEAR 8 2020**



Our Vision

St Mary MacKillop College is a dynamic welcoming community based on the gospel values of Faith, Hope and Love and upon the legacy of the Sisters of St Joseph.

It is a learning environment where excellence in education is valued.

Members of the community are nurtured and empowered to face the future with faith and courage.

Introduction

About This Handbook

The purpose of this handbook is to provide information to parents and students about the courses of study available at St Mary MacKillop College in Year 8. Over Year 8 students study a range of core subjects and 2 elective subjects.

Compulsory Subject Requirements

All students in Year 8 at MacKillop are required to study Religious Education, English, Mathematics, Science, History, Physical Education and Health, Languages and STEM and Project Based Learning (PBL).

Elective Subjects

Students may choose to study units in the elective areas of Food and Textiles, Mathematics, Performing Arts, Technology and Visual Arts.

Students are able to select one elective unit for each semester in Year 8.

Pattern of Study

In Year 8 students will study:

- Religious Education (Semesters 1 and 2)
- English (Semesters 1 and 2)
- Mathematics (Semesters 1 and 2)
- Science (Semesters 1 and 2)
- History
- HASS (Geography, Economics and Business, and Civics and Citizenship)
- Physical Education and Health (Semesters 1 and 2)
- STEM and PBL (Semesters 1 and 2)
- Two elective subjects (over Semesters 1 and 2- one each semester)

Selecting Units

Electives offer the opportunity to try new content, skills and approaches to learning. When selecting elective units, students should consider choosing subjects they enjoy and are good at, as well as considering a variety of subject areas. Selection of subjects should reflect a balance of breadth and depth. Unit selections should be based on the unit descriptions in this handbook, in consultation with staff and discussion with parents.

Food + Textiles

Course: FOOD TECHNOLOGY
Unit Title: Food Technology 1
Pattern of Study: Semester 1 or 2

Outline:

This unit enables students to gain confidence in developing their manipulative skills and in using specialised kitchen technology. Students are offered a wide range of hands-on practical experiences. Problem solving and decision-making processes are also developed.

This unit is built around a basic foundation of health promoting food habits and entertaining at home. Hygiene practices and the skills and knowledge to be able to prepare nutritious foods will be developed.

Assessment:

Assessment will be progressive and feedback will occur with each assessment task. A range of strategies will be used to measure achievement. They will include such tasks as:

- Demonstrated practical skills
- Idea development and participation in class discussion
- Class activities
- Assignments
- Tests

Course: TEXTILES
Unit Title: Textiles and Design 1
Pattern of Study: Semester 1 or 2

Outline:

This unit provides students with the opportunity to develop their skills and confidence when cutting and machining. Emphasis is placed on responsible and safe work practices. A positive self-image is fostered by using simple construction processes to create individualised garments.

Students will be expected to construct a bag, decorated t-shirt with matching shorts and a winter fleecy jumper. This unit is an ideal introduction to garment construction processes.

NOTE: This course has additional costs. Parents are responsible for providing the student's choice of fabric, thread and accessories (zips, elastic, buttons etc.).

Assessment:

Assessment will be continuous and feedback will occur with each assessment task. A range of strategies will be used to measure achievement. They will include such tasks as:

- Participating in practical sessions
- Class activities and written work
- Research
- Garment construction and finishing
- Tests

Mathematics

Course:	MATHEMATICS
Unit Titles:	Creative Mathematics
Pattern of Study:	Semester 2

Outline:

This unit is designed to provide students with an opportunity to explore Mathematics in creative and entertaining ways. Students who undertake this elective opportunity (while still undertaking Year 8 Mathematics) will investigate additional interesting mathematical concepts which are not the main focus of the Australian Curriculum. Students who enrol in this elective are encouraged to have an appreciation of Mathematics in a real world context.

Some of the topics include:

- Geometry construction
- Code breaking and encryption
- Origami and the mathematics of paper folding
- Logic
- Interesting mathematical facts
- Other number systems

Assessment:

Assessment will consist of a variety of tasks related to each topic studied. Tasks may include:

- Portfolios
- Creative tasks
- Oral presentations
- Investigations
- Assignments
- Tests

Performing Arts

Course: MUSIC
Unit Titles: Just Keep the Beat
Pattern of Study: Semester 1 or 2

Outline:

This unit is designed to help students develop skills on the instruments of popular music: guitar, bass guitar, ukulele, keyboard, drums and vocals. Students learn the basics of each instrument and are introduced to a variety of popular musical styles through performance, listening, composition and arrangement. Students learn to read basic traditional notation and guitar TAB and utilise computer and iPad software like Garage Band, Finale Notepad and Acid Xpress to create their own popular music. No previous note reading skills needed.

Level of difficulty: Beginner to advanced.

Assessment:

Assessment may include:

- Solo and small group performances
- Listening tasks
- Composition and/or arranging tasks using computer software/iPad apps
- Theory worksheets
- Class work

Course: DRAMA
Unit Titles: What's the Drama!
Pattern of Study: Semester 1 or 2

Outline:

Do you like being on stage in front of people? Do you want to get better at standing up in front of people? If so, this is the course for you. In Year 8 Drama, you will bring stories and ideas to life through improvisation and playbuilding. You will learn the art of improvisation through exploring Theatre Sports games and learning how to develop them into performance. You will also explore how to rehearse and perform scripted theatre. At the end of the unit all students perform their work on stage for others.

Assessment:

Students will be assessed on:

- Participation in class workshops
- Performances
- Portfolio entries
- Script/Research assignment

Performing Arts

Course: DANCE
Unit Titles: Dance, Prop, Rock
Pattern of Study: Semester 1 or 2

Outline:

Did you know you can use a basketball to make up a dance? The beat it makes when it hits the ground can complement the music or even become the music to dance to. This unit explores different ways to use props like basketballs when performing and making up dances. Some of the other props we use are chairs, ribbons, skipping ropes, fans, hats and canes. You will discover how we communicate meaning to an audience using the elements of dance: space, time, dynamics and relationships.

Assessment:

Students will be assessed on:

- Participation in class workshops
- Performances
- Composition
- Evaluation of their own and others work

Technology

Course: TECHNOLOGY
Unit Titles: Woodworking Systems
Pattern of Study: Semester 1 or 2

Outline:

This unit is based on practical work which allows students to build on the hand processes studied in Year 7 Technology. Students learn simple construction techniques using wood. They may investigate how we use timber and the effects this has on our environment. Using a planned process, students will develop problem-solving skills and learn simple drawing and planning techniques. Practical projects for this course will be a timber footstool and a lolly dispenser.

This unit also examines a variety of mechanical and electronic systems including mechanical and electronic. In completing the main project, students will be asked to construct an electronic circuit consisting of a series of lights and other electronic components. Their challenge is to be creative in the application of this circuit. Possible outcomes could be Christmas tree lights, flashing signs or a flashing bike light etc.

Assessment:

Assessment will be progressive and feedback will occur with each assessment task. A range of strategies will be used to measure achievement. They will include such tasks as:

- Demonstrated practical skills
- Idea development and participation in class discussion
- Research skills
- Class activities
- Tests

Course: TECHNOLOGY
Unit Titles: Materials and Design
Pattern of Study: Semester 1 or 2

Outline:

This unit is based on practical work which encourages students to develop both hand and machine skills using a number of construction materials. Students will develop an understanding of different material types by working with various materials. Using acquired knowledge and the design process, students will develop problem solving and independent thinking skills in the design and construction of various practical projects. These practical projects may include a storage box, treasure chest, jewellery box and a variety of decorative jewellery pieces.

Assessment:

Assessment will be continuous and feedback will occur with each assessment task. A range of strategies will be used to measure achievement. They will include such tasks as:

- Demonstrated practical skills
- Idea development and participation in class discussion
- Research skills
- Class activities
- Tests

Visual Arts

Course: VISUAL ARTS
Unit Titles: Art 2D
Pattern of Study: Semester 1 or 2

Outline:

This unit is a specific introduction to two-dimensional art forms. Techniques to be covered include drawing, painting, printmaking and mixed media.

Students will research art history and explore ideas using a visual diary, structured drawing lessons and literacy tasks.

Assessment:

Students will be assessed on:

- Practical skills
- Ideas development
- Research
- Drawing exercises
- Use of class time and equipment

Course: VISUAL ARTS
Unit Titles: Art 3D
Pattern of Study: Semester 1 or 2

Outline:

This unit is a specific introduction to three-dimensional art forms. Techniques to be covered include ceramics, assemblage and mixed media.

Students will research art history and explore ideas using a visual diary, structured drawing lessons and literacy tasks.

Assessment:

Students will be assessed on:

- Practical skills
- Ideas development
- Research
- Drawing exercises
- Use of class time and equipment

Visual Arts

Course: VISUAL ARTS
Unit Titles: Media Arts
Pattern of Study: Semester 1 or 2

Outline:

This unit is a specific introduction to media art forms. Techniques to be covered include film, documentary and print media. Students will research film and graphic design history and explore ideas using a visual diary and literacy tasks.

ICT Requirements:

Video editing software or app such as Adobe Premiere or iMovie.

Assessment:

Students will be assessed on:

- Practical skills
- Ideas development
- Research
- Use of class time and equipment



Executive Staff

Principal	Michael Lee
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Padua Campus Head (W)	Paul O'Callaghan
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Assistant Principal Academic Care	Maria O'Donnell
Assistant Principal Pastoral Care	Lachlan McNicol
Assistant Principal Faith Leadership	Jonathan Moyle

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Science	Tristan Burg (I), Kate Goolagong (W)
Visual Arts	Tamara Murdoch
Industrial Technology	Garry Seary
Performing Arts	Bella van Doorn
Food and Textiles	Janelle Maas
Inclusive Learning/Learning Support	Donna Anderson
Physical Education	Jennifer Fahey (I), Ben Antoniak (W)
Modern Languages	Joe Ciccarone
Vocational Education and Careers	Karen Hundy
Senior Studies Coordinator	Colby Cruwys
Teaching & Learning Coordinator	Jane Cronan (I), Clare Fletcher (W)
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Enrolment Enquiries

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