



WOODVALE
SECONDARY COLLEGE

2018 YEAR 8 COURSE HANDBOOK

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Introduction

Woodvale SC is an Independent Public School the Woodvale SC Board, staff and parents at our college are committed to working together to provide a safe and caring environment where each student is given the opportunity to develop academic rigour and to achieve personal excellence in a positive and safe environment.

Woodvale SC has responsively served the Woodvale community for 30 years and we enjoy a very positive relationship with our parents and the wider community. This booklet will tell you about the programs of study available to students. Please take your time to look through it and find out about the college. You can also look at our website. www.woodvale.wa.edu.au

Associate Principal – Year 7 and 8

An important aspect of my role is to ensure that every student makes a smooth transition from Year 7 to Year 8. In this way the foundations are laid for each student to work at their personal best.

Working closely with our parents gives us clear understanding of the celebrations and concerns students bring with them to Year 8 and we are adjusting our programs accordingly.

Woodvale SC has a strong reputation in our community for our high standards. We have a whole college approach to behaviour which trains our students to recognise the difference between social space and learning space and behave accordingly. Every teacher reinforces the behaviour expected in a learning space. In this way, we train each student for the self-discipline and academic rigour that is needed for upper school studies. As a school community we live our values of respect, responsibility and relationships in all our interactions.

Pastoral Care of each student is a whole college priority. A strong team of specialists lead pastoral care through the college. Every teacher is also trained in positive education principles and practices.

We have a number of very successful learning programs developed in Year 8 to build strong learning foundations in all our

lower school students. Each student will learn about their learning style and the power of learning techniques. They will also be supported in developing organisational skills.

At Woodvale we take a whole school approach to our priority of Positive Education. Year 8s will be learning about character strengths, positive thinking strategies, goal setting and relationship skills. Year 8s are taught about these aspects of positive education directly through their Health Education classes. We also reinforce their learning in our whole school approach to character strengths. I discuss interesting articles in all our newsletters. You may wish to reinforce character strengths through going onto the viacharacterstrengths.org site and taking the character strengths survey. I use this as a tool for conversations with my own children and find it very stimulating.

At Woodvale we have prioritised focus areas in our School Development Plan. These have a high focus on teaching and learning.

These college focus areas ensure that we are accountable for developing a high quality schooling experience for all our students.

The best foundation for successful schooling is close parental support. Please contact your child's Year Coordinator or Veronica.Sutton@education.wa.edu.au if you wish to discuss your child's successful lower school secondary schooling.

Ms Veronika Sutton
Associate Principal



Course Costs

All students will be provided with an opportunity to study a program from eight Learning Areas. Every student will complete a year of study in the each of the following courses. The College will place students into classes in Year 8.

Courses	Contribution
Arts – Drama & Visual Art (half year of each) or Specialist Music	\$30.00 \$150.00
English	\$20.00
Health Education & General Physical Education or Specialist Basketball or Specialist Soccer	\$35.00 \$100.00 \$125.00
Humanities and Social Sciences	\$20.00
Language – Chinese or Japanese	\$15.00
Mathematics	\$20.00
Science	\$30.00
Technology – Design Technology & Home Economics (half year of each)	\$65.00

Note: Costs are an indication only.

The Basketball and Soccer Specialist programs are an alternative to General Physical Education. The Music Specialist program is an alternative to Visual Art & Drama.

Year 9 and 10 Elective Subject Pathways

	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
THE ARTS	Art	Cottage Industries Drama Graphic Design Jewellery Media Visual Art	Drama Media Visual Art
	Music	Music (Specialist Program)	Music (Specialist Program)
LANGUAGES	Chinese Japanese	Chinese Japanese	Chinese Japanese
PHYSICAL EDUCATION		Basketball and Soccer (Specialist Programs) are substituted for General Physical Education. Netball Outdoor Education	Basketball (Specialist Program) Netball Outdoor Education Pre Physical Education Studies Soccer (Specialist Program)
TECHNOLOGIES	Design & Technology	Building & Construction Electronics Jewellery Metal Technology Technical Graphics Wood Technology	Building & Construction Electronics Furniture Woodwork Jewellery Metal Technology Technical Graphics
	Home Economics	Child Care Cottage Industries Food Culture & Trends	Child Care Clothing & Fashion Cottage Industries Easy Entertaining
	Computing & Business	Computer Literacy	Commerce Programming Principles

THE ARTS

VISUAL ARTS – 8AV

Visual Art is a one semester course of study that allows students to experience creativity in a range of media. A variety of art techniques are introduced to develop a range of skills.

Students examine artists and artworks from different cultures and periods of time. This course of study is designed to be accessible and enjoyable for students with varied abilities, and to develop an understanding of their own creative interests.



DRAMA – 8ADR

This one semester course will offer students an opportunity to develop skills in areas such as;

1. Working effectively with others
2. Creatively expressing individual thoughts and ideas
3. Process Drama
4. Improvisational skills or “Thinking Spontaneously”
5. Script work.

SPECIAL PROGRAM - CLASS AND INSTRUMENTAL/ENSEMBLE MUSIC

This course is made available to students who have been selected into the Specialist Music Program. If places are available, auditions are offered at the end of each semester for the following semester.

Students will have an instrumental lesson once a week and this will be supported by classroom music studies in aural perception, music literacy, vocal skills and ensemble performance. The instrumental lesson will be conducted during school hours while the ensemble component will be taken out of school hours. Students studying these courses are credited with an extra subject, over and above the usual nine, because the instrumental and ensemble music courses are completed outside the normal school timetable.

CLASS MUSIC – 8AMUC

The course develops skills in aural awareness, music theory and the literature of music through music making activities. This course continues the development of musicianship skills developed in Year 7 or equivalent study.

INSTRUMENTAL AND ENSEMBLE MUSIC - 8MUI

This course is designed for group tuition lessons on a student's specific instrument. The classes are held either on a rotating basis throughout the timetable or out of school hours with a private tutor specialising on the student's chosen instrument. This course also involves participation in weekly ensemble and choir rehearsals, concerts, and possibly one camp per year.

ENGLISH

ENGLISH – 8EN

Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 students extend their Reading and Viewing, Writing, and Listening and Speaking skills, and are expected to explore challenging and unfamiliar works and ideas. Students also develop a critical understanding of the print and electronic media. Class work is directed towards ensuring that students become both confident and competent in comprehending, composing and that oral skills are developed through a range of formal and informal activities. Students are expected to work effectively, both as individuals and collaboratively with others. They will explore a balanced range of text types from fiction, non-print media, poetry, drama and non-fiction.

Each lower school course will be part of a pathway leading to appropriate subjects in Senior School. Beginning in Semester 1 Year 8, students will be placed in pathways according to their ability, as demonstrated in Year 7 class performance as well as tests such as NAPLAN. The pathways are Enrichment, Core and Essential.

The English courses in Years 8 are Western Australian Curriculum based, and students are numerically assessed on the three learning strands of Reading and Viewing, Writing, and Listening and Speaking

English courses are engaging and dynamic with the focus very much on students striving to achieve their best in environments that accommodate individual learning styles and abilities.



HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

HEALTH EDUCATION

HEALTH EDUCATION - 8PH

This course investigates health and personal development issues specifically related to the developing adolescent. The physical, emotional and social aspects of health are identified and discussed in detail. Health Education aims to develop within students the knowledge and understanding, skills and attitudes that will enable them to make informed health-enhancing decisions. The importance of developing interests, feelings, resilience, self-management and interpersonal skills is explored so students can learn to cope with the stresses and influences facing them as they move through their adolescent years. Issues related to puberty and the adolescent's developing sexuality will be studied and whilst abstinence is promoted, the importance of safer sex will be discussed. Students will explore the brain and the importance of making decisions to protect and develop this organ so they can realise their potential. The importance of making wise diet and nutrition choices and participating in regular exercise will be stressed and students encouraged to make life plans. The dangers associated with drug use will be analysed and students given opportunities to develop and practise skills that will enable them to resist pressures and seek safe alternatives. Students will participate in a compulsory fitness testing unit involving the students completing a number of tests. Students will record their individual results and analyse their areas of strength and weakness. At the end of the unit students will then research strategies to improve individual fitness levels. Within Year 8 Health Education students will be able to identify their character strengths (an aspect of Positive Education) and be able to identify where they can effectively utilize these within their life. Their character strengths are considered in relation to goals setting and their future direction.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

PHYSICAL EDUCATION - 8PE

This course is designed to increase the student's understanding of the principles of human movement in a broad range of physical skills. This course includes fundamentals of basic movement and games, which are seen as essential elements in the further development of more specialised aspects of physical education and sport within the college and local community. Activities include introductory softball, netball, softcosse, athletics, volleyball, and hockey. Students will have the opportunity to compete in Swimming, Athletics and winter sports carnivals as well as selected extracurricular sporting competitions.

SPECIALISED BASKETBALL PROGRAM (by application only) **BASKETBALL – 8PBF/8PBM**

The college operates a Department of Education Approved Specialised Basketball class in each of the lower school years for students with a special interest and talent in Basketball. These classes operate instead of Physical Education in Years 7, 8, 9 & 10. A small number of vacancies may occur in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10, and students who may be interested in these places can apply mid-year for entrance into semester 2. Entry to the course is by way of application and selection processes conducted by the Program Coordinators and Executive staff. Course costs apply.



SOCCER SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE (by application only) **SOCCER – 8PSF/8PSM**

The college operates a Department of Education Approved Specialised Soccer class in each of the lower school years with a special interest and talent in Soccer. These classes operate instead of Physical Education in Years 7, 8, 9 & 10. Entrance to these specialised classes is competitive in Year 7. A small number of vacancies may occur in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10, and students who may be interested in these places can apply mid-year for entrance into semester 2. Entry to the course is by way of application and selection processes conducted by the Program Coordinators and Executive staff. Course costs apply.

HUMANITIES and SOCIAL SCIENCES

COURSE STRUCTURE

	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10
Semester 1 or 2	History Ancient to Modern World Economics and Business Participation and influences in the market place	Economics and Business Australia and the global economy Geography Biomes and food security	Civics and Citizenship Justice at home and overseas Economics and Business Economic performance and living standards
Semester 1 or 2	Geography Landforms and landscapes Civics and Citizenship Democracy and law in action	History The Making of the Modern World 1750 – 1918 Civics and Citizenship Our democratic rights	History The Modern World and Australia 1918 – present. Geography Environmental change and management

The humanities and social sciences are the study of human behaviour and interaction in social, cultural, environmental, economic and political contexts. The humanities and social sciences have a historical and contemporary focus, from personal to global contexts, and consider challenges for the future.

In the Western Australian Curriculum, the Humanities and Social Sciences learning area comprises four subjects: History, Geography, Economics and Business, Civics and Citizenship. Through studying humanities and social sciences, students will develop the ability to question, think critically, solve problems, communicate effectively, make decisions and adapt to change. Thinking about and responding to issues requires an understanding of the key historical, geographical, political, economic and societal factors involved, and how these different factors interrelate.



The humanities and social science subjects 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.

HUMANITIES and SOCIAL SCIENCES - 8SE

Comprises the four main areas described below:

HISTORY (Ancient to Modern World)

This topic provides a study of history from the end of the ancient period to the beginning of the modern period (c500CE-c1750)

ECONOMICS and BUSINESS (Participation and influences in the market place)

In this topic the concept of markets is introduced to further develop students understanding of the concepts of interdependence, making choices and allocation. They consider how markets work and the rights, responsibilities and opportunities that arise for businesses, consumers and governments.

GEOGRAPHY (Landforms and landscapes)

This unit focuses on investigating geomorphology through a study of landscapes and their landforms.

CIVICS and CITIZENSHIP (Democracy and law in action)

In this unit students continue to build on their understanding of the concepts of the Westminster system, democracy and participation. They investigate the types of law in Australia and how they are made. They consider the responsibilities and freedoms of citizens, and how Australians can actively participate in their democracy. Students explore the different perspectives of Australian identity.

LANGUAGES

Students continue the language they studied in Year 7. However, it is highly recommended that students enrolling who have **not** come from a school where they have studied Japanese, study Chinese language. This enables them to be in classes with other beginning level students. Students who would like to commence studying Chinese, after studying Japanese in primary school, may choose to do so.



There are many benefits to learning languages. Here are the main highlights from recent research:

- Media (journalism) and film
- Tourism and travel services, including airlines and hotels
- Banks and insurance
- Local, state and federal government
- International non-profit organisations
- Publishing companies
- Departments of defence and international embassies
- Health services
- Social services
- Immigration services
- Primary, high schools, universities and colleges

JAPANESE – 8LJ

SEMESTER 1

Students continue to develop their understanding of spoken and written Japanese language. The traditional way of learning Japanese characters using pen and paper has been complemented by using a variety of online tools, “apps” and websites, making it more enjoyable to learn basic Japanese writing. Students compare greetings and how to introduce friends in this semester. The Food topic involves a restaurant simulation. After researching celebrities, students discuss profile information which results in a celebrity interview task.

SEMESTER 2

In Semester 2 students further extend their understanding of Japanese culture and language. The two main topics for this semester are Daily Life and Fashion. They will discuss likes and dislikes, tell the time and describe their everyday activities. They will do creative tasks such as the ‘My Day’ project, which uses Windows Movie Maker, to show and describe their particular day in Japanese. Fashion is another main focus and will involve students exploring the differences between Japanese and Western fashion. The final challenge for the Year 8s is to run a fashion show themselves in Japanese.

CHINESE – 8LC

SEMESTER 1

Students continue to build the foundation in the understanding of the spoken language and recognition of some Chinese characters. The stroke order of Chinese writing will also be covered, also partly through “apps”. The interesting background of particular Chinese characters will also be covered. Students practise a range of vocabulary and sentence structures around the topics of friendship, clothing and home. Chinese students will be accessing short video-clips, multi-media texts and online quizzes as part of an ICT focus.

SEMESTER 2

Students further extend their written skills in Chinese, as well as their speaking skills, using a variety of strategies designed to engage students in their learning. They will also gain an understanding of special festivals such as the Mid-Autumn Festival. Topics include Shopping, Sports and Transport. This will include shopping simulations and learning the important Chinese art of bartering. The transport topic will include researching past, present and future transport methods in China, as well as covering the language features involved.

MATHEMATICS

Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 students will study a year long course. Each course will be part of a pathway leading to appropriate mathematics courses in upper school. The recommended course (academic enrichment, core, essentials) for all students will be matched to their achievement from the previous year's study.

MATHEMATICS – 8MA

The Year 8 course follows the Australian Curriculum, which is compulsory from 2015. The course will cover the topics of Number and Algebra; Measurement and Geometry; and Statistics and Probability. The use of information technology is embedded into all areas of mathematics.

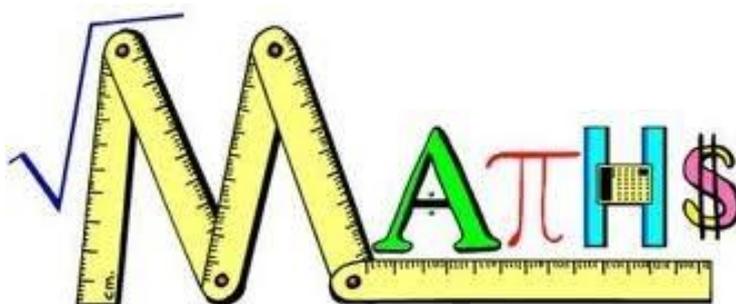
There are three pathways at Year 8 level – accelerated, core and essentials. All programs are based on the Australian Curriculum and provide students with the prospect of achieving a minimum of a C grade.

Students in the accelerated pathway may have access to opportunities to be involved in regional, state and international mathematics competition throughout the year.

At the end of the year, the Semester 2 report will indicate the achievement of your child in relation to the national standards in mathematics. Achievement in Year 8 will determine which pathway (academic enrichment, core, essentials) your child is placed in for Year 9.

CALCULATORS IN THE MATHEMATICS CLASSROOM

A calculator is a tool integral to the teaching of the Australian Mathematics curriculum. They are used in a variety of situations including problem solving, investigating and of course in routine calculations. They are an essential item for all students, irrespective of the pathway studied. The college recommends a suitable calculator to purchase and this will be suitable for use in Year 7, 8, 9 and 10. All students must have their own calculator.



SCIENCE

SCIENCE – 8SC

All Year 8 Science students at Woodvale SC study the Australian Curriculum: Science.

The Australian Curriculum: Science is designed to develop students' interest in science and an appreciation of how science provides a means of exploring and understanding the changing world in which they live. It provides an understanding of scientific inquiry methods, a foundation of knowledge across the disciplines of science; and develops an ability to communicate scientific understanding and use evidence to solve problems and make evidence based decisions.

How the Australian Curriculum (Science) is structured.

The Foundation to Year 10 Australian Curriculum: Science is organised into three interrelated strands:

- *Science Understanding* - which focuses on the important science concepts from across different areas of science,
- *Science Inquiry Skills* - which focuses on skills essential for working scientifically and
- *Science as a Human Endeavour* - which focuses on the nature and influence of science.

The following table identifies the key content areas, concepts and skills covered throughout Year 8.

Science Understanding	Science Inquiry Skills	Science as a Human Endeavour
Biological sciences	Questioning and predicting	Nature and development of science
Chemical sciences	Planning and conducting	Use and influence of science
Earth and Space sciences	Processing and analysing data and information	
Physical sciences	Evaluating and communicating	

All Year 8 students will study all of the four *Science Understanding* strands throughout the year. *Science as a Human Endeavour* and *Science Inquiry Skills* are to be embedded within the *Science Understanding* strands.

Woodvale SC Year 8 Science has two pathways. The Accelerated (A) pathway students have been selected for this program based on high level of performance in Year 7. The core (C) pathway includes all other students.

In each pathway the essential coursework is the same, however, the A pathway provides an opportunity for students to be engaged in Science Enrichment (see below for details).

Each student's achievement in their course will be assessed and reported at the end of each semester (in line with College policy). There is a possibility that students may move between the A and C pathways depending on their academic performance and scientific aptitude.

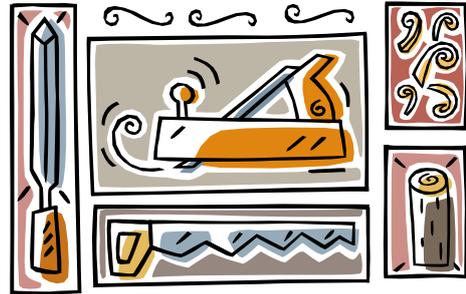
Science Enrichment:

The Science Enrichment Program is designed to enrich and extend students' knowledge, application and inquiry skills in Science. The program offers students access to a range of learning experiences, opportunities and challenges including: individual written competitions (e.g. ICAS Science competition, Rio Tinto Big Science Competition, RACI Chemistry competition), group/team competitions (e.g. STAWA Science IQ quiz online, Aurecon Bridge Building Competition, in school "Big Crystal" competition), Investigations (e.g. STAWA Science Talent Search, CSIRO CREST Awards), Excursions (e.g. Scitech, Perth Zoo, AQWA) and Incursions (e.g. guest speakers, Scitech Beyond the Beaker presentations, National Science Week).

TECHNOLOGIES

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY - 8DT

This one semester course is an exciting and satisfying program of learning which develops creativity in Technical Graphics and the production of projects in wood and metal workshops. Projects will concentrate on learning the basic skills in manipulating metal and wood materials. Technical graphics is CAD based, all students having their own computer workstation/laptop to draw objects. Students are introduced to the safe use of machines, power tools and materials through the mediums of wood and metal.



Please note: due to timetable constraints it may not be possible to introduce all students to all work areas.

HOME ECONOMICS - 8HE

In this exciting one semester course students will gain knowledge and skills to produce food products that meet people's needs and desires. The choice of food available to us is increasing all the time; in order to make informed choices about these foods the study of food technology is increasingly important. The range of practical skills which students develop will be a good grounding for further studies in Home Economics. Parents will be invited to join us for a morning/afternoon tea towards the end of their course.



NOTES: