

COURSE SELECTION HANDBOOK 2020



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INTRODUCTION

This course book contains details of our school curriculum offerings. The purpose of this course guide is to provide information that will help pave the way for a successful school year, answer key questions on course selections and enable you to plan for your high school years. It is important that you know and understand the course requirements and that you choose your courses with care. Details include both core (compulsory) and elective subjects and the selection process. Please use this course guide thoughtfully to help select courses. Grade leaders, Connect teachers and course teachers can provide you with information and insight.

Selection will take place digitally and is web based. Students will be provided with a unique user code to access <https://www.selectmysubjects.com.au/Student>. Selections may be made from home or at school. All of our courses reflect the Australian Curriculum. There is a clear focus on individual motivation and student interest. While the majority of courses contained in this course guide will be offered, it should be noted that some may not be scheduled due to insufficient enrolment numbers. Every effort is made to construct a schedule of classes that will allow students to take the courses they choose.

NEW iLEARN

iLEARN is a new program being offered in 2020 for Year 7 students. iLEARN will provide an alternative style of learning which is highly personalised. iLEARN students will have a “base” classroom where approximately 60% of their learning will take place and a specialised iLEARN teacher who will oversee: English, History and Social Sciences, Mathematics, Science and Technology. In addition to this iLEARN students will participate in Health and Wellbeing, as well as, 3 option subjects.



Pieta McKay
PRINCIPAL

KEY DATES FOR 2020 SELECTIONS

November

Receive copy of Course Guide
ONLINE COURSE SELECTIONS OPEN

Monday 9 December

Option Selection Due

THE JUNIOR SCHOOL

CONNECT INNOVATE EDUCATE

In the Junior School students look continuously at building upon personal and social capacity. They undertake a number of activities aimed at upskilling and improving their understanding of what it takes to become a happy, resilient and productive member of a rapidly changing society. Students explore what it means to have a balanced life, including developing strategies around decision making and valuing difference. In working through the MyEducation curriculum, students gain an insight into the connections between school, work and personal futures. They learn the concept of backward planning, understand that learners create a vision for their future and start to plan their preferred pathways.

GRADE 7

Our Grade 7 program is the foundation year of high school. It is an exciting time for students as they embark on their secondary education pathway. At Montrose Bay High we provide a structured transition program to give Grade 7 students the best possible start.

PASTORAL CARE

Grade 7 has a Grade Leader who is the key teacher and mentor of the Year 7 Cohort. To ease the transition between primary and high school, Montrose Bay High has developed a unique grade 7 program that finds a middle-ground between these two vastly different school experiences. Each student is allocated to a Connect group and their Connect teacher is their first point of contact at the start of each day.

We believe that the involvement and support of parents in educating their children is crucial. We encourage parents to maintain regular contact with their child's CONNECT teacher. Parents are invited to meet Connect teachers and Grade 7 teachers early in Term 1. Connect teachers are happy to meet or talk with parents if there are any concerns about a student's welfare or progress.

Each student will be allocated to one of the four houses, named after prominent local historical figures, Faulkner (Blue), O'Brien (Orange), Dowsing (Green) or Austin (White). The allocation is based on a need to maintain a gender balance, spreading talents across the four houses and a family connection with the house.

ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING

Assessment tasks are undertaken throughout the year and reports are issued three times a year, as a progress (Term 1), mid-year and end of the year report.

The progress report is a quick snapshot of how your child is settling into high school. The second report, at mid-year, is a detailed assessment of your child's subject results so far and the third report is a record of assessment ratings achieved and key concepts covered.

There are advertised opportunities for parents to meet with Connect and subject teachers during the year, however parents are encouraged to contact teachers throughout the year as required to discuss any issues of concern.

COMPUTERS

Montrose Bay High has a school wide WiFi network and information technology will be incorporated into most learning areas. Every Grade 7 student will have a dedicated laptop computer. Guidelines for the proper use of computers will be a component of the students' program and all students will take part in an orientation program designed to help them understand and learn how to use and care for their computer. Students are required to sign an ICT Acceptable Use Agreement in order to have access to the schools' information technology resources.

LEARNING SUPPORT

Support is provided for students with additional learning needs who require specific intervention with their learning program. Supports can include one to one and small group work that target areas of focus, such as in literacy, numeracy, life skills or social skills.

CURRICULUM STRUCTURE

In Grade 7 students will experience a wide range of subjects enabling them to make informed choices for years 8 -10. Core classes will cover, English, History, Maths, Science, Health and Wellbeing and Geography. Elective classes include the Arts, Languages and Technology. Throughout Grade 7, the focus will be on building fundamental literacy and numeracy skills, social skills, organisational skills and thinking processes for deeper learning.

Course Descriptors - CORE

ENGLISH

The study of English is central to the learning and development of young Australians and is studied 4 periods per week. It helps create confident communicators, imaginative thinkers and informed citizens. Throughout the year, students will study, reflect upon, and respond to texts. They will develop their vocabulary and explore structure and styles of writing with the aim of becoming competent and sophisticated writers. There is a particular emphasis on developing skills and understanding of text types including sentences structure, paragraph structure and text purpose.

HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

All students in Grade 7 study History and Social Sciences (HASS) for 3 periods per week. HASS encompasses Geography, Civics and Citizenship and Economics and Business, along with History, in line with the Australian Curriculum. Students will be introduced to the study of the ancient world and how to use historical sources to piece together the past. They will explore concepts of place and liveability through a range of learning sequences. Water as a resource features heavily in this program, allowing students to think deeply about human and natural geographical concepts.

MATHEMATICS

Students in Grade 7 study Mathematics for 4 periods per week for the whole year. Students use the four main number operations to develop number sense in topics such as Probability, Pattern and Algebra and an introduction to index notation. They use interpretation and analysis (finding the mean, mode and median) to determine trends in data in the form of linear graphs, charts and tables. Students also use formulas to find the area and perimeter of rectangles and calculate volume of rectangular prisms. This is all underpinned by a strong emphasis on deepening their knowledge of fractions, decimals and percentages.

SCIENCE

Students in Grade 7 study Science for 4 periods per week, for the whole year. During the year students will be introduced to science laboratory equipment and safety procedures. They will also have the opportunity to study the chemistry of mixtures and solutions, how scientists organise and classify living organisms into the five Kingdoms, the physics of forces and how the movements of the Earth create seasons. Students also investigate the effect of human activity on the environment.

TECHNOLOGY

Students in Grade 7 will study Technology for 1 period each week to incorporate the Australian Digital Technologies curriculum. Through this program students will further develop their technology knowledge, skills and confidence. Ethical and respectful communication is explored through the cyber safety unit of work.

HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Our Health and Wellbeing program focuses on the five components of Health: Mental, Social, Emotional, Spiritual and Physical. Each of the five elements is a fundamental building block for a healthy lifestyle. Being healthy is a learned behaviour and like any learning it needs a scaffold. The five dimensions of health underpin learning throughout our school and they give students a language and process that enables them to be positive and learn effectively when making successful health choices.

GRADE 7 OPTIONS

ADVANCED MATHEMATICS

This elective is designed for students who wish to challenge and extend their Mathematical understanding. The concepts covered will be mainly the extension components of the Grade 7 Mathematics course, with a focus on problem solving, STEM, reasoning and enrichment.

ADVANCED ENGLISH

Advanced English offers a place to dig deep into interesting and challenging texts, and examine the ways we use the English language to communicate ideas. We'll examine a variety of text-types and search for hidden themes and meanings. We'll learn how texts can be used to influence the way we think and communicate important ideas. Advanced English is perfect for you if you...

- Love reading deeply and digging into the meaning of texts
- Want to enhance your reading and writing skills
- Enjoy exploring complex ideas

ENGLISH: SEVEN STEPS TO WRITING SUCCESS

Seven Steps to Writing Success makes writing easy by breaking it down into the seven main skills used to create narrative and persuasive writing. The course will focus on fun ways to practice and develop each skill to be able to make interesting and engaging texts for a variety of purposes.

HEALTH AND WELLBEING

GAME SKILLS (Fundamental motor skills)

Game skills will introduce you to ways that you can apply gateways and the 5 elements of health within small games. You have opportunities to develop and improve your gross motor skills such as catching and throwing. An emphasis on fair play and strategy with an introduction to body systems as the theory component. You need to be willing to participate in physical activity in mixed social health groups.

WELLNESS

This subject focuses on feeling well and doing well. We will explore wellness through yoga, meditation and mindfulness as well as doing well in our community. You will be given the opportunity to improve knowledge, skills and techniques for body awareness, place and leading a balanced and calm lifestyle. Throughout this course, you will build strategies to deal with stress, concentration, helping others and an overall sense of wellbeing.

THE ARTS

In Grade 7, students are given the opportunity to study Dance, Drama, Circus Performance, Music and Visual Arts. This is a critical time to learn basic skills and concepts. For many, these creative experiences will be both new and exciting and for others, it is an opportunity to expand their previous knowledge base. Students will then be able to make informed judgements as to their elective subjects in Grade 8, 9 and 10.

ART

In this practical course students will develop technical and expressive skills in the areas of drawing, painting and sculpture. Students will try a variety of two-dimensional and three-dimensional media like pencil, paint, clay, pastels, printmaking and ink. They will use these to create imaginative and inspiring artworks.

DANCE

Dance is essentially a skill building course focussing heavily on increasing self-confidence, working cooperatively in group situations and developing an understanding of basic dance techniques and genre. The dance framework provides a structure for students to create their own work. They are encouraged to reflect on both their own work as well as the shared work of others. Students are expected to make a commitment to specific tasks and commit to a whole group presentation.

DRAMA

Grade 7 Drama is essentially a skill building course focussing heavily on increasing self-confidence, working cooperatively in group situations and developing an understanding of basic dramatic techniques. Students learn through co-operative games, improvisation and movement, how to communicate both verbally and non-verbally. The drama framework provides a structure for students to create their own work. They are encouraged to reflect on both their own work as well as the shared work of others. Through participation, students are expected to make a commitment to specific tasks and commit to a whole group presentation.

CIRCUS PERFORMANCE

Roll up, roll up! In Circus Skills you can learn juggling, spinning, balancing, clowning, performing and creating your own circus props. These skills further developed your hand eye coordination, dexterity, spatial awareness and public speaking. We will focus on acquiring skills and move through to presenting mastered skills in individual and group performances.

GRADE 7 BEGINNER MUSIC (CONCERT BAND) (NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED)

Grade 7 Beginner Music offers all students the opportunity to play Music on a woodwind, brass or percussion instrument with a focus on producing good sound and technique. Students are taught to read music notation including rhythm and harmony. Each student will learn elements of musicianship in small groups as well as part of a large ensemble. All students have the opportunity to be extended beyond classroom music as a member of the Montrose Bay High Concert Band.

GRADE 7 CONCERT BAND (EXPERIENCE IN GRADES 5/6 BAND)

CONTINUATION OF PRIMARY BAND - to build on your current skills

Grade 7 Concert Band offers all students the opportunity to play Music on a woodwind, brass or percussion instrument with a focus on producing good sound and technique. Students are taught to read music notation including rhythm and harmony. Each student will learn elements of musicianship in small groups as well as part of a large ensemble. All students have the opportunity to be extended beyond classroom music as a member of the Montrose Bay High Concert Band.

VIDEO MAKING

Students will learn to create videos using video and still cameras. They will learn to draft their projects using storyboards, create live action videos and stop motion animations. They will develop skills manipulating media using video editing software. Students will gain an understanding of copyright material and permission for video release.

TECHNOLOGIES

The Year 7 Technology courses have the following main aims: To introduce and stimulate an interest in the many areas of technology; To enhance the technological skills of designing, making and appraising; To encourage the transferral of skills learned in one area of the curriculum to another.

FOOD STUDIES

This course will enable students to experience Design Technologies through the use of foods as a medium to complete practical tasks. The use of design briefs will be a feature of the course, with students investigating preparation techniques, food design and styling as well as ingredients studies. Practical work will be complemented by appropriate written and theoretical tasks to enhance both knowledge and learning. Working as a member of a team will also feature prominently. Work completed during this introductory course will provide a sound base for further study in individual Design Technology areas in future years.

MATERIALS DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

Materials Design and Technology gives students challenges in problem solving, design and innovation. It teaches them skills and techniques for working with resistant materials. The learning opportunities will be framed within a project-based context, where each project builds on the skills learnt and techniques developed. The theory component includes the safety requirements involved with working in the workshop and also looks at timber as the main natural resource that is used in our workshop.

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

The Digital Technologies course will provide students with experience in how to use and maintain their own laptop, gaining skills in operating system use and office applications. They will also gain exposure to many types of application programs, chosen from a range including publishing, website design, animation and drawing packages. Student's will engage in programming tasks and learn the basics of coding with Python and Blockly.

INSTRUCTIONS: GRADE 7 OPTION CHOICES

NEW: iLEARN Program please indicate if you wish to nominate your child for the iLEARN program in 2020

All year 7 students will study 3 options yearlong. We encourage students to pursue areas of interest and passion, each of our year 7 options are a starting point for year 8, 9 & 10 option pathways.

GRADE 7 OPTIONS SUMMARY 2019

iLEARN PROGRAM 2020

YES

NO

English	Advanced English
	Literacy Seven Steps
Maths	Advanced Maths
Arts	Art
	Dance
	Drama
	Circus Performance
	Music Beginner
	Music Band
	Video Making
Design and Technology	Food Studies
	Materials and Design Technology
	Digital Technologies
Health & Wellbeing	Game Skills
	Wellness

When making choices on line in *Web Preferences*, no matter which of the three combinations a student wishes to choose, they will still need to select 6 preferences, numbered from 1 – 6 in order of preference. The extra choices only apply if one of your more preferred choices are not available.

PREFERENCE PLANNER - Start your planning for 2020 here. Write only ONE elective per row.

CHOICE	
1 (Most preferred)	
2	
3	
4 (Reserve)	
5 (Reserve)	
6 (Reserve)	