



Brighton
Secondary
School

2027

Curriculum Guide

Year 8





Year 8 Curriculum Pattern

General Course

In Year 8 you will study a full year of English, Humanities and Social Sciences, Mathematics, and Science, as well as one semester of HPE.

You will study at least one Arts and one Technologies subject and have the choice to continue learning the language (French or Japanese) that you studied in Year 7.

Your pattern of subjects is shown below, with each full row representing a full year subject and each half row representing a semester subject.

Home group	
English	
HASS	
Mathematics	
Science	
HPE	Arts choice
Technologies choice	Additional choice (from Arts, HPE, or Technologies)
PLUS	
Additional choice (from Arts, HPE, or Technologies)	Additional choice (from Arts, HPE, or Technologies)
OR	
Language (French or Japanese)	



Year 8 Special Interest Music (SIM)

In Year 8 Special Interest Music you will study a full year of English, Humanities and Social Sciences, Mathematics, Science and one semester of Health and Physical Education.

The Arts and Technologies curriculum is incorporated into the program.

You will continue with the language you studied in Year 7 for one semester – choose French or Japanese.

Home group	
English	
HASS	
Mathematics	
Science	
Special Interest Music (incorporating Arts and Technologies)	
HPE	Language (French or Japanese)



Year 8 Special Interest Volleyball (SIV)

In Year 8 Special Interest Volleyball you will study a full year of English, Humanities and Social Sciences, Mathematics, and Science subjects.

The Health and Physical Education curriculum is incorporated into the program. This extra semester of HPE takes the place of one choice subject.

You will need to select Art and Technology options and/or continue to study French or Japanese.

Home group	
English	
HASS	
Mathematics	
Science	
Special Interest Volleyball (incorporating HPE)	
Arts choice	Technologies choice
PLUS	
Additional choice (from Arts, HPE, or Technologies)	Additional choice (from Arts, HPE, or Technologies)
OR	
Language (French or Japanese)	



LIST OF ELECTIVE SUBJECTS

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Art for our Life



Length: Semester

Contact: Yasmin.Paterson519@schools.sa.edu.au

Prerequisites:

None

Learning Area: The Arts

Recommended

background: None

Student Experience

In Art for our Life, you will be introduced to the fundamental skills and processes of artmaking (practical work) and responding (talking and writing about art).

You will explore themes of the 'self' incorporating your own special personal interests, stories and experiences in your artworks.

You will develop your artistic journey through folios and final products (both 2d and 3d) and reflective practitioner's statements.

Assessment

- Folios
- Products and Practitioner's Statements

Leads to:

- Year 9 Building with the Elements of Art
- Year 9 Creative Principles of Art



Art in our World



Length: Semester

Contact: Yasmin.Paterson519@schools.sa.edu.au

Prerequisites:

None

Learning Area: The Arts

Recommended

background: None

Student Experience

In Art in Our World, you will explore the role that art plays in our world linked to cultures and societies. This will include exploring cultural artefacts, traditions and methods used by different societies.

A special focus will include studies of Aboriginal and Torres Strait artists and their cultural traditions.

You will learn to develop your ideas and skills through folios, 2d and 3d final products and reflective practitioner's statements.

Assessment

- Folios
- Products and Practitioner's Statements

Leads to:

- Year 9 Building with the Elements of Art
- Year 9 Creative Principles of Art



Drama - Performance



Length: Semester

Contact: Yasmin.Paterson519@schools.sa.edu.au

Prerequisites:

None

Learning Area: The Arts

Recommended

Background: None

Student Experience

In Drama - Performance, you will explore performance techniques through drama games and activities. You will create characters and learn how to improvise to develop original plays.

We will experiment with film techniques and collaborate to create a short film. You will learn about the history of theatre and the magic of story

Assessment

- Performance and Practical Skills
- Collaborative and Creative Process
- Critical Reflection

Leads to:

- Year 9 Drama - Performance
- Year 9 Technical Theatre and Design



Drama – Musical Theatre



Length: Semester

Contact: Yasmin.Paterson519@schools.sa.edu.au

Prerequisites:
None

Learning Area: The Arts

**Recommended
background:** None

Student Experience

How do musical theatre performers integrate acting, singing and dancing all at once?

Musical Theatre is an incredibly popular artform because of the elaborate designs, socially progressive plots, and highly skilled performers. We will collaborate to learn these skills and create original musical theatre performances.

We will view Musical Theatre shows and integrate these skills into our own performance work.

The semester will culminate in a public performance for families and friends.

Assessment

- Performance and Practical Skills
- Collaborative and Creative Process
- Critical Reflection

Leads to:

- Year 9 Drama – Performance
- Year 9 Technical Theatre and Design



Physical Education: Movement and Performance



Length: Semester

Contact: Matt.Fuss906@schools.sa.edu.au

Prerequisites:

None

Learning Area: Health & Physical Education

Recommended Background: Genuinely interested and highly motivated to learn a range of sports and activities.

Student Experience

Physical Education is an elective subject designed for students who are genuinely interested and highly motivated to learn a range of sports and activities. Individuals must be committed to develop their sporting skills and maintaining a physically active lifestyle.

In this subject, you will build your skills, learn more about different sports, and improve how you play. You will have the opportunity to analyse your performance and provide feedback to your classmates. This will help everyone improve by working together and reflecting on what they do well and improve.

This subject is a great starting point if you are thinking about studying Physical Education in Senior School. You will explore a variety of sports, including:

- Invasion sports
- Net and wall sports
- Striking and fielding sports

Assessment

- One **individual practical** to demonstrate skills in net and wall sport situations with awareness of space, effort, and teamwork.
- One **individual practical with data analysis** to apply striking and fielding strategies and evaluate performance using simple data.
- One **individual practical and reflection** to design and test a team strategy in an invasion sport, focusing on performance, fair play, and inclusion.
- One **individual performance and reflection** to apply invasion sport strategies and reflect on communication and adaptability.
- One **collaborative practical** to create and apply inclusive strategies that show fair play and teamwork.

Leads to:

- Year 9 Physical Education



French



Length: Full Year

Contact: Tracey.Holt418@schools.sa.edu.au

Prerequisites:

None

Learning Area: Languages

Recommended Background: Year

7 French

Student Experience

In Year 8 French you will build upon your understanding of the beautiful French language and culture.

In particular, you will learn how to communicate in French about yourself and your family, your daily routine and school life in more depth.

You will also learn about animals and New Caledonia and how to speak about locations and give directions. You will also have the chance to plan your dream trip to a French region.

Assessment

- Text Analysis – Reading and Listening
- Text Production – Writing in French
- Interactions – Interviews in French
- Cultural Research tasks
- Language Study Tasks – Vocabulary and grammar games, exercises and quizzes

Leads to:

- Year 9 French



Japanese



Length: Full Year

Contact: Tracey.Holt418@schools.sa.edu.au

Prerequisites:
None

Learning Area: Languages

Recommended Background:
Year 7 Japanese

Student Experience

In Year 8 Japanese you will continue to build upon your understanding of the fascinating Japanese language and culture.

As you continue to develop your working knowledge of the Japanese writing scripts, you will also learn to communicate in Japanese about your busy life, school life and your hobbies in more depth.

You will also have the chance to learn about Japanese modern and traditional school events, festivals and celebrations.

Assessment

- Text Analysis – Reading and Listening
- Text Productions – Writing in Japanese
- Interactions – Conversations in Japanese
- Cultural Research tasks
- Language Study Tasks – Vocabulary and grammar games, exercises and quizzes

Leads to:

- Year 9 Japanese



Core Music (required for SIM students)



Length: Full Year

Contact: Chip.Diamond149@schools.sa.edu.au

Prerequisites:

None

Learning Area: Music

Recommended Background:

None

Student Experience

In Core Music, you will have the opportunity to play in a class band, string ensemble or percussion ensemble.

You will have access to free instrumental music lessons every week to support your learning.

Instruments can be hired from the school so there is no need to own an instrument.

Choosing Core Music will also allow you to participate in the many co-curricular ensembles and choirs available before school, at lunchtime and after school.

Core Music students are also eligible for the incredible local and international music tours.

Students will celebrate their learning each semester at a Showcase concert.

Assessment

- Part testing on your chosen ensemble instrument each term.
- Part testing of your level choir each semester.
- Musicianship assessment on the concepts taught throughout the semester.

Leads to:

- Year 9 Core Music



Material Technologies



Length: Semester

Contact: Narelle.Brennan461@schools.sa.edu.au

Prerequisites:

None

Learning Area: Design Technologies

Recommended Background:

None

Student Experience

You'll design and make projects that respond to real sustainability challenges. Along the way, you'll get hands-on experience using tools and equipment in a safe workshop environment.

You'll develop and adapt your ideas, explain your choices using the right terms, and keep track of your progress through planning, reflection, and practical tasks. Each project gives you the chance to apply your creativity while building real-world skills.

Assessment

Type 1 – Skills Tasks

You'll complete **two practical tasks** using tools and machines.

For each task you'll:

- Show your hands-on skills
- Explain what you did and how you did it
- Talk about any problems you faced and how you solved them
- Reflect on how successful you were

Type 2 – Major Project

This is your big project, where you design and make something using the skills you learnt in the Skills Tasks.

Part 1 – Plan Your Project

- Investigate and research ideas
- Plan and design something you're interested in
- Think about what's possible with the tools, materials and time available

Part 2 – Make and Review Your Project

- Build your final project using the skills you've learned
- Show how you worked through problems and made decisions
- Evaluate how well your project turned out

Leads to:

- Year 9 Material Technologies



Digital Product Design



Length: Semester

Contact: Narelle.Brennan461@schools.sa.edu.au

Prerequisites:

None

Learning Area: Design Technologies

Recommended Background:

None

Student Experience

In this course, students will use technology to design and create innovative solutions to real-world problems.

Building on the skills developed in Year 7 Digital Technologies, students will apply design thinking to investigate challenges, understand user needs, and develop creative solutions. Using industry-standard software such as Autodesk Fusion 360, alongside tools including 3D printers, laser cutters and web/app development software, students will bring their ideas to life.

Through hands-on projects, students will develop curiosity and creativity while learning to design for real users and authentic contexts. Depending on the project, students may create physical products, digital solutions, or a combination of both.

Students will collaborate, test ideas, respond to feedback and refine their designs throughout the design process, developing the skills and confidence to become innovative problem-solvers.

This course provides a practical and engaging foundation for future pathways in Digital Product Design and emerging technologies.

Assessment

- **Assessment Type 1: Skills Tasks**
Short practical tasks that allow students to demonstrate new skills and techniques they have learned using a software application, digital technology or specific machinery skills.
- **Assessment Type 2: Design Process and Solution**
Students develop a design portfolio that documents their design process, including research, sketches, planning, prototyping, testing and evaluation. This assessment culminates in the creation of a final product or solution.

Leads to:

- Year 9 Digital Product Design



Food and Fabrics



Length: Semester

Contact: Narelle.Brennan461@schools.sa.edu.au

Prerequisites:

None

Learning Area: Design Technologies

Recommended Background:

None

Student Experience

Build on the skills developed in Year 7 as you explore the world of cooking and sewing through engaging learning and hands-on practical lessons. Deepen your understanding of kitchen safety, hygiene, nutrition, and food preparation while expanding your cooking skills. In the sewing unit, you'll apply the design process to develop your hand-sewing skills and create projects to take home with creativity, confidence, and pride.

Assessment

- Design Portfolios – Document your ideas, planning, and evidence of the design process for your practical tasks.
- Practical Assessments – Demonstrate your cooking and sewing skills by preparing a range of delicious dishes and designing and creating textile projects.
- Reflections – Reflect on your practical work, the skills and technologies you have used, and your progress.

Leads to:

- Year 9 Food for Life
- Year 9 Sew Make Create



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