



JUNIOR COURSE GUIDE 2027



WELCOME

Junior Course Guide

The Emmanuel College Junior Course Guide outlines our learning and teaching program for Years 8 and 9, which focuses on building strong foundations in literacy and numeracy while supporting students' personal, social, and presentation skills.

Our courses are aligned with the Victorian Curriculum and are designed to meet the developmental needs of students at each stage of junior secondary school.

Inside this guide, you'll find:

- An overview of core subjects for Years 7–9
- Information on Year 9 elective options
- Details about our Literacy and Numeracy

Support Program

This guide is designed to help students and families understand the learning programs offered in the junior years at Emmanuel College. It provides an overview of the core curriculum from Years 7 to 9, and an introduction to the elective choices available in Years 8 and 9.

LEARNING PATHWAYS



VICTORIAN PATHWAYS CERTIFICATE [VPC]

The VPC is a flexible certificate for students in Years 11 and/or 12 who need a more individualised program.

The VPC is:

- Based on applied learning principles.
- A standalone foundation Course.
- A pathway to Entry Level VET courses.
- Standards based with school-based assessment.

The VPC is not a VCE equivalent, it has no external assessments or exams, and students do not receive an ATAR.

VICTORIAN CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION [VCE]

The VCE is a senior secondary certificate designed to be completed by students over a minimum of two years.

Units 1 & 2 can be completed as single units.

Units 3 & 4 are designed to be taken as a sequence.

VCE [SCORED OR UNSCORED]

Students study units based on interest and pathways prerequisites. Approved VET courses or VM subjects are an option. Standards based assessments and/or external examinations and ATAR (if scored).

VCE VOCATIONAL MAJOR

Students study units with a vocational and applied learning focus. A VET course must be included. Students may choose a general VCE study within their VM program.

Standards based assessment, no external exams, no ATAR.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING [VET]

VET courses can be scored or unscored. A VET course is compulsory if undertaking a VCE VM pathway.

LIFE TO THE FULL!

VICTORIAN CURRICULUM F-10

Our Emmanuel College Curriculum aligns with the Victorian Curriculum.

The Victorian Curriculum F–10 sets out what all students should learn from Foundation to Year 10, across both learning areas and general capabilities. It provides a clear framework that supports students' academic progress, personal development, and preparation for life beyond school.

Learning is organised into distinct learning areas, such as English, Mathematics, Science, and the Arts, as well as general capabilities, including Critical and Creative Thinking, Ethical Understanding, and Intercultural Understanding. Together, these support the development of well-rounded learners.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education in Years 7–9 supports students to deepen their understanding of the Catholic faith, explore life's important questions, and respond through dialogue, prayer and action for a more just and compassionate world.

VCAA LEARNING AREAS

Learning Areas are the core subject disciplines that provide the essential knowledge and skills students are expected to develop.



THE ARTS



ENGLISH



HEALTH & PHYSICAL
EDUCATION



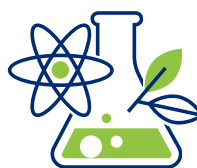
HUMANITIES



LANGUAGES



MATHEMATICS



SCIENCE



TECHNOLOGY

CAPABILITIES

Capabilities are cross-curricular skills that support students to thrive as learners and active citizens across all learning areas.



CRITICAL & CREATIVE
THINKING



ETHICAL CAPABILITY



INTERCULTURAL
CAPABILITY



PERSONAL &
SOCIAL CAPABILITY



YEAR 7 SUBJECTS

OVERVIEW

The Year 7 program complies with the expectations of The Victorian Curriculum which sets out what every student should learn during their first eleven years of schooling. The Year 7 program includes a common set of knowledge and skills required for life-long learning, social development and active and informed citizenship.

The subjects studied in Year 7 provide students with the essential knowledge and skills that prepare them for continued learning in Year 8.

YEAR LONG SUBJECTS

All year 7 students will study these subjects in Semesters One and Two.

- Religious Education
- English
- English as an Additional Language (by invitation)
- Mathematics
- Science
- Humanities
- Health and Physical Education

SEMESTER SUBJECTS

All Year 7 students will study these subjects in either Semester One or Two.

- The Arts
- Design and Technologies
- Digital Technologies
- Languages: Italian
- Languages: Japanese

Numeracy and Literacy Support are available only to students who are invited to participate in place of the compulsory language study. This can be semester-based or year-long support.

English as an Additional Language [EAL] - if a student meets the criteria, they will be assigned to the EAL curriculum within their English subject.



YEAR 8 SUBJECTS

OVERVIEW

The Year 8 program builds on the foundations established in Year 7, offering students a balanced mix of core subjects and introducing elective experiences in the languages. While continuing to strengthen essential knowledge and skills, students also engage in a variety of 'taster' subjects across Languages, Arts, and Technology. This broad exposure helps students uncover their interests and passions, laying the groundwork for informed subject choices in the years ahead.

YEAR LONG SUBJECTS

All year 8 students will study these subjects in Semesters One and Two.

- Religious Education
- English
- English as an Additional Language (by invitation)
- Mathematics
- Science
- Humanities
- Health and Physical Education

ELECTIVES – YEAR LONG

Students will choose a language to study for the year:

- Languages: Italian
- Languages: Japanese

SEMESTER SUBJECTS

All Year 8 students will study these subjects in either Semester One or Two.

- The Arts
- Design and Technologies
- Digital Technologies

Numeracy and Literacy Support are available only to students who are invited to participate in place of the compulsory language study. This can be semester-based or year-long support.

English as an Additional Language [EAL] - if a student meets the criteria, they will be assigned to the EAL curriculum within their English subject.



YEAR 9 SUBJECTS

OVERVIEW

Year 9 marks an important transition in a student's learning journey, as the broad foundation established in Years 7 and 8 begins to develop into greater depth and specialisation. At Emmanuel College, the Year 9 program maintains a strong focus on the core curriculum, enabling students to deepen their knowledge, skills and understanding across essential learning areas. Alongside this core program, students can select from a wider range of electives in the Arts, Languages and Technologies, providing opportunities to explore individual interests, develop new capabilities and begin shaping future learning pathways. This balanced approach supports the Victorian Curriculum emphasis on breadth in Years 7 and 8 and increasing depth in Years 9 and 10.

YEAR LONG SUBJECTS

All year 9 students will study these subjects in Semesters One and Two.

- Religious Education
- English
- English as an Additional Language (by invitation)
- Mathematics
- Science
- Humanities
- Health and Physical Education

LANGUAGE OPTION

Students are required to take a language in Year 9 and can choose from a Year Long or Semester Subject.

- Languages: Italian (Half Year or Full Year)
- Languages: Japanese (Half Year or Full Year)
- Languages: Spanish (Full Year Only)

**If a student intends to continue with languages in Year 10 and VCE they must choose a full year option.*

Numeracy and Literacy Support are available only to students who are invited to participate in place of the compulsory language study. This can be semester-based or year-long support.

English as an Additional Language [EAL] - if a student meets the criteria, they will be assigned to the EAL curriculum within their English subject.

SEMESTER ELECTIVES

All Year 9 students will study a variety of elective subjects in Semester One or Two from both the Arts and Technologies.

- The Arts: Drama
- The Arts: Music
- The Arts: Visual Arts
- The Arts: Media
- The Arts: Visual Communication and Design
- Design and Technologies: Jewellery and Metalwork (NDC Only)
- Design and Technologies: Textiles (NDC Only)
- Design and Technologies: Food Studies (NDC Only)
- Design and Technologies: Metal Work (SPC Only)
- Design and Technologies: Wood Technology
- Digital Technologies
- Digital Technologies: AI and Machine Learning (NDC Only)
- Design and Technologies: Autonomous Vehicles (SPC Only)
- Digital Technologies: Robotics (SPC Only)



YEAR 9 ELECTIVE DESCRIPTIONS

On the following pages, you'll find general descriptions of the subjects available for students to choose from when choosing their Year 9 electives. These summaries are designed to give an overview of each subject's focus, key learning, and style of assessment. To help make informed choices, students are encouraged to speak with their current class teachers or relevant learning area staff for more detailed advice and guidance.

THE ARTS

In Year 9 Arts, students explore their creativity through a range of exciting subjects including Music, Visual Art, Media, Drama, and Visual Communication and Design. They learn how to express ideas in different ways—through performing music, creating artworks, producing films, designing for real-world projects, and acting on stage. Students build confidence as they experiment with materials, digital tools, and performance techniques, and they develop important skills in planning, creating, and reflecting on their work. Whether working independently or in a team, students explore how the arts can tell stories, share messages, and make an impact on the world around them.

ELECTIVES (CHOOSE ONE):

Music

Build skills in music performance, sound design, and live audio. Learn how to rehearse, perform and work with audio gear like a pro.

Visual Art

Experiment with a variety of materials and techniques while exploring themes of identity. You'll create artworks that express your ideas through painting, drawing, sculpture, and more.

Media

Discover how media shapes the world around you. Use photography, film, and editing tools to create engaging media and build analysis skills.

Drama

Step into the world of Theatre, through acting, costume design and performance. Explore dramatic conventions while producing your own performances.

Visual Communication and Design

Create practical design solutions using digital and manual techniques. Learn to use Adobe tools while developing design ideas in response to real briefs



LANGUAGES

In Year 9 Languages, students continue to develop their speaking, listening, reading and writing skills in Italian, Japanese or Spanish while exploring the cultures and communities where these languages are spoken. They learn to communicate about everyday life, express ideas and opinions, engage in practical conversations, and build vocabulary and grammar knowledge while deepening their understanding of how language and culture are connected.

Note: To meet the compulsory language requirement in Year 9, students have two options. Those who wish to fulfil the requirement without continuing language studies beyond Year 9 are advised to select a semester-based language course. In contrast, students who intend to continue their language learning throughout Year 9 and into future years are encouraged to enrol in the full-year language study of their choosing.

ELECTIVES (CHOOSE ONE):

Italian: Semester-based

Explore Italian fashion and music while learning vocabulary and grammar. Discover iconic brands and the influence of music from opera to pop.

Italian: Full Year

Study Ancient Rome and modern Italy through language, history, and culture. Deepen your grammar skills and explore life as a local and a tourist. This is a rigorous languages course which leads to Year 10 and VCE Language studies.

Japanese: Semester-based

Build basic Japanese language skills and explore daily life, school, food, and traditions. Learn how to communicate about hobbies, travel, and activities.

Japanese: Full Year

Dive deeper into Japanese language and culture. Explore daily routines, school life, shopping, and the seasons while developing your reading, writing, and speaking skills. This is a rigorous languages course which leads to Year 10 and VCE Language studies.

Spanish: Full Year

Embark on a journey from Spain to Latin America. Explore history, culture, and modern society while developing your Spanish language skills. This is a rigorous languages course which leads to Year 10 and VCE Language studies.



TECHNOLOGIES

In Year 9 Technologies, students explore how creative ideas and practical skills can solve real-world problems. Through a range of hands-on subjects—such as coding, robotics, food, fashion, metalwork, woodworking, and design—students learn to plan, test, and refine solutions using the design thinking process. They build skills in using tools, digital technologies, and materials safely and effectively, while learning to evaluate their work based on function, sustainability, and user needs. Whether building an autonomous robot, designing jewellery, developing a video game, or creating a cultural food experience, students combine creativity with critical thinking to bring their ideas to life.

ELECTIVES (CHOOSE ONE):

Digital Technologies

Create your own video game while learning coding, design thinking, and how smart devices are shaping the world.

Design and Technologies: Wood

Design and build your own toys or puzzles using woodwork skills, mechanisms, and CAD tools. Bring your ideas to life!

Digital Technologies: Robotics (SPC)

Build and program your own robots. Use inquiry learning to solve real-world challenges and explore engineering ideas.

Digital Technologies: AI and Machine Learning (NDC)

Discover how AI works — and build it yourself. Train machine learning models with free online tools, explore the ethics of bias and privacy, and create real digital projects. No coding experience needed. A great pathway into VCE Applied Computing, or as a standalone unit.

Design and Technologies: Jewellery and Metalwork (NDC)

Learn to work with metals and tools while creating a collection for a chosen occasion.

Design and Technologies: Metalwork (SPC)

Learn to work with metals and tools while creating a collection for a chosen occasion.

Design and Technologies: Autonomous Vehicles (SPC Only)

Design and build a small self-driving rover. Learn basic electronics and programming through hands-on projects using Arduino.

Design and Technologies: Textiles (NDC Only)

Design and create textiles inspired by iconic fashion and sustainability. Learn sewing techniques, study fashion history, and build a personal portfolio.

Design and Technologies: Food Studies (NDC Only)

Develop practical cooking skills while exploring nutrition, food sustainability, and global cuisines through hands-on cooking and creative food design.

LITERACY SUPPORT

This subject is by invitation only.

Students in Year 7 will be identified through the Academic Assessment Services data and information gathered from the primary school. For Year 8 and 9 students will be identified through data from their Year 7 NAPLAN, and PAT-R testing conducted in Year 7 and 8.

The aim of the LAN program is to work with students who have identified significant need in the development of their literacy skills and knowledge. This program is not designed to be a boost to the normal curriculum but instead a supplement to support students who find the pace, tasks or concepts in their normal classes challenging. In these classes, students will engage in activities that enable them to practice skills they need to improve their level of competence in Literacy. In Years 7, 8, and 9, this program replaces the Languages program.

LAN also utilises the QuickSmart Program, which is an evidence-based basic skills intervention program designed for middle-school students who experience persistent difficulties in literacy. The intervention program focuses on the automaticity of word recognition, fluency in reading connected texts, and the development of vocabulary. Students will also engage in the Spelling Strategies Program. This is a spelling program that has been endorsed by SPELD SA. Lastly, students will engage in a Vocabulary Intervention Program that has been designed by our Emmanuel College Speech Language Pathologist.

NUMERACY SUPPORT

This subject is by invitation only.

The Numeracy program aims to close learning gaps that students may face in their mainstream mathematics classes. Based on previous years' data and teacher recommendations, students in Years 7 to 8 are invited to enrol in Numeracy which runs in conjunction with their main mathematics class.

The focus of Numeracy is to build student confidence and preparedness in mathematics. This program is not designed to be a boost to the normal curriculum, but instead a support for students who find the pace, tasks and concepts in their main mathematics class challenging.

With smaller class sizes, students can access more targeted assistance to fill any learning gaps from previous years. Students will engage in regular and diverse exposure to key curriculum, which can involve a mixture of worksheets, hands-on activities, games, online learning platforms, and quizzes. This diversified learning can enable them to practice skills that they need, to improve their overall level of competency in mathematics.





LIFE TO THE FULL

Emmanuel College

ST PAUL'S CAMPUS

423 Blackshaws Road, Altona North VIC 3025
(03) 8325 5100
principal@ecmelb.catholic.edu.au

NOTRE DAME CAMPUS

2-40 Foxwood Drive, Point Cook VIC 3030
P.O. Box 5, Altona North VIC 3025
(03) 8325 5100
principal@ecmelb.catholic.edu.au



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ecmelb.catholic.edu.au