



MACLEOD COLLEGE  
A STATE P~12 SCHOOL



# YEAR 7 SUBJECTS 2022

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**Victorian Curriculum** is the curriculum from Prep to Year 10 for all Victorian schools. The Standards outline what is important for students to learn and develop during their time at school.

Designed to encourage a deep understanding of essential knowledge, skills and behaviours, the Standards are also be used to plan student learning, assess student progress and report to parents.

The Standards have been developed after national and international research by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA). Expectations for young people are changing: it is important to continue to explore how students learn and what they need to be successful learners.

The Standards aim to meet the challenges of preparing young people for a world in which knowledge is highly valued and constantly changing, a world in which work, society, community and personal relationships are subject to increasingly complex pressures.

Young people need a broad range of knowledge and social, personal and thinking skills to be successful.

The Standards will prepare them for their final years of study in the:

- Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE)
- Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL).
- Vocational Education and Training (VET) programs can also be undertaken as part of either VCE or VCAL.

The **Victorian Curriculum** is set in three main strands or areas.

They are:

- knowledge and understanding from the key subjects of English, Science, Mathematics,
- Humanities, Languages and The Arts
- physical, personal and social skills such as being active and healthy, developing self-confidence managing personal learning and working with others
- other essential skills that apply across curriculum areas such as thinking, design, problem solving, communicating, and using information and communications technology.

## Statement of Courses

The Year 7 Curriculum is organised into 5 periods per day, each of 60minutes. The timetable is a 10-day cycle and Information Technology is integrated throughout the curriculum.

There is also a focus upon integrated learning across the Key Learning Areas. As well as developing a range of knowledge and skills, students become directly connected with an aspect of their local community. All Year 7 students play sport together for one afternoon per week to assist in creating a team feeling in the year level and to promote a healthy lifestyle.

During Year 7, students will undertake a semester of Art/Technology units. All Year 7 students follow a common course based upon the Victorian Curriculum.

Year 7 students should be working to achieve a Level 7 within the Victorian Curriculum structure.

### The Arts: Art

Length of Course: **Full Year**

The Year 7 Art curriculum helps students to develop a strong foundation in the arts, with a focus on developing practical skills. Students are introduced to a range of art forms, including drawing, painting and ceramics.

Students are introduced to the Art Elements - the visual components that can be seen in all artworks – including line, shape and colour. Students analyse, identify and discuss how artists from different times and cultures have used the Art Elements to communicate ideas and meaning.

Students learn the foundational skills of creating artworks and develop their understanding of the Art Elements by applying them to their art making. They are nurtured in their own creativity, as they are encouraged to express individual ideas. They also develop their technical skills in a range of materials and techniques and learn ways to manipulate them for artistic expression.

Students develop a visual folio by completing in-class exercises and artworks, which provides a visual record of their learning. The folio will document their experimentation with materials and techniques, exploration of concepts, and their thoughts and ideas.

Students are provided with opportunities to visit galleries and apply their visual thinking skills. This is dependent on the types of exhibitions on display at the time and year of study.

Student art works are displayed at the Spring Arts Gala in Term 4 of every academic year.

#### **Assessment:**

Technical exercises, writing tasks, quizzes and finished artworks.

#### **Victorian Curriculum Level 7:**

Explore and Represent Ideas, Visual Arts Practices, Present and Perform, and Respond and Interpret.

## **Class Music**

Length of Course: **Full Year**

In Year 7 students make and respond to music independently and collaboratively, with their peers, teachers and communities.

They use listening skills to identify and make decisions about how they can manipulate, rhythm, pitch, dynamics and expression, form and structure, and timbre and texture to achieve expressive outcomes or realise specific intentions when composing and performing.

All students learn an instrument as part of the curriculum and techniques will be applied in a practical manner.

### **Assessment:**

Contexts/music appreciation, Aural, Technical Work, Performance

### **Victorian Curriculum:**

The Arts Strand: Music

## **Digital Technology**

Length of Course: **Full Year**

The Digital Technologies curriculum enables students to become confident and creative developers of digital solutions through the application of information systems and specific ways of thinking about problem solving.

Students learn about digital systems for communication, collaboration and the processes involved in creating solutions for today's and future job markets using current software and hardware.

Students establish legal, safe practices for online learning with both known and unknown audiences.

The course will be taught in multiple contemporary formats including online modules, face-to-face and online collaborative spaces.

### **Assessment:**

Technical exercises, Online tutorials, 2D and 3D creations and research tasks.

### **Victorian Curriculum:**

Digital Systems, Data and Information, and Creating Digital Solutions.

## **English (& EAL)**

### **Course Description**

The study of English is central to the learning and development of all young Australians. It helps create confident communicators, imaginative thinkers and informed citizens. It is through the study of English that individuals learn to analyse, understand, communicate and build relationships with others and with the world around them.

The study of Year 7 English is built around three interrelated strands of **Language** (the study of knowing about the English language), **Literature** (the study of understanding, responding to, analysing and creating literature) and **Literacy** (the study of English usage leading to the mastery of using language).

In Year 7 English students are grouped into iLEAP classes based on students' literacy levels. This allows our teachers to target our students' points of need. Students are challenged and stretched according to their individual needs, as well as being scaffolded and nurtured in their study. These classes are fluid and we move students throughout the year to ensure that they are in a learning environment that will allow them to thrive.

**Assessment:** To meet the expected Year 7 achievement standards, throughout Year 7, students will be involved in reading, viewing, listening, writing, creating, researching, reflecting and talking about a range of text types. Students learning throughout the year includes the study of:

- Autobiographies
- Novels - *Holes* or *Pharaoh* in term one, and a novel of student/teacher choice in term four
- Film Texts
- Fairytales from different cultures and eras
- Persuasive language
- Oral Presentation Conventions
- Poetry

We teach and report under the following headings:

- **Reading and Viewing:** Students read a variety of texts each term. They interpret, analyse and evaluate the texts by considering text structure, language features, characterisation and thematic connections.
- **Writing:** Students construct a range of responses to texts to articulate ideas including analytical, imaginative and persuasive responses. They continue to build on their grammar, vocabulary, punctuation and spelling skills by reviewing, editing and refining their work.
- **Speaking and Listening:** This area focuses upon student performance in formal oral presentations and debates, role plays, speeches and dramatic readings, whole class and small group discussions.

### **Aims:**

The Year 7 English curriculum aims to ensure that students:

- learn to speak, listen, read, view and write with enjoyment, purpose, effect and confidence
- discuss different perspectives on issues and themes and justify interpretations in selected texts
- develop the capacity to discuss and analyse texts and language critically;
- develop, through literature and other texts, cultural awareness and intercultural understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and Asian cultures and their influences upon Australian culture;
- have an awareness of ethical issues in order to cultivate open-mindedness and reasonableness;
- have the ability to work effectively in teams and develop strategies to manage challenging situations constructively;
- reflect upon their learning and approaches to tasks; review information and refine ideas and beliefs, explaining conscious changes that may occur in their own and others' thinking

## German

Length of Course: **Full Year**

Year 7 German is a full-year course. It is an introduction to the language with topics such as greetings, numbers, colours, talking about yourself and your family, hobbies, pets and days of the week. In addition, various grammar points are covered.

### **Assessment:**

Classwork, homework, research and other assignments and tests.

The **Victorian Curriculum strands** of Listening, Speaking, Reading & Writing are incorporated in the course.

## Health

Length of Course: **Full Year**

Health covers a variety of topics particularly important to young adolescents:

- physical, social and emotional changes during puberty
- transition & friendships
- bullying & cyber safety
- healthy relationships with others
- first aid
- aspects of healthy living and lifestyles
- sun safety

### **Assessment:**

Participation, class work and assignments.

### **Victorian Curriculum: Health and Physical Education**

Personal, Social and Community Health Level 7 & 8.

## Humanities

Length of Course: **Full Year**

The Humanities includes Civics and Citizenship, Economics and Business, Geography and History.

Humanities provides a framework for students to examine the complex processes that have shaped the modern world and to investigate responses to different challenges including people's interconnections with the environment.

In **Civics and Citizenship, Economics and Business** (students study these topics alternating every two years), students explore the systems that shape society, with a specific focus on political and economic systems. Students learn about Australia's role in global systems, and are encouraged to appreciate democratic principles and to contribute as active, informed and responsible citizens.

In **History and Geography**, students explore the processes that have shaped and which continue to shape different societies and cultures, to appreciate the common humanity shared across time and distance and to evaluate the ways in which humans respond to different challenges.

## **Learning about world views and religions**

The Victorian Curriculum F–10 includes multiple opportunities for students to learn about world views and religions.

This enables students to be more informed and engaged at both a local and global level, understanding the perspectives of diverse local communities and being informed about the beliefs and practices of different groups and cultures.

## **Mathematics**

Length of Course: **Full Year**

The Year 7 Mathematics course aims to reinforce the basic numeracy skills taught in primary school and develop new mathematical concepts, which students can then use to solve problems in a variety of different situations.

Students will have access to the student textbook and/or e-book, guided examples, digital activities, skill sheets, review questions and a summary for each topic available on line.

Concepts are discovered, ideas explored and investigation and problem solving tasks are provided to promote the use of mathematics in real life.

The proficiency strands of Understanding, Fluency, Problem Solving and Reasoning are integrated into the content of each unit of work and individual pathways cater for differentiation through graded exercises and activities.

Students will also be encouraged to use calculators and computer technology where appropriate.

### **Assessment:**

Students' skills will be assessed by Tests, Assignments & bookwork.

### **Victorian Curriculum:**

Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry, Statistics and Probability.

## **Physical Education**

Length of Course : **Full Year**

Year 7 Physical Education aims to teach the skills of minor and major games with particular emphasis on teamwork and strategies using a variety of equipment.

Students gain knowledge and understanding of the components of fitness, develop body awareness and refine fundamental motor skills.

Physical Education is a practical based subject that develops both physical and social aspects of students' performance.

### **Assessment:**

Participation in PE units, athletics, fitness testing, Game sense units (Invasion, Net/Wall, Striking).

**Victorian Curriculum:** Level 7 Movement & Physical Activity

## Positive Education

Length of Course: **Full Year**            1 period per cycle

Positive Education is based on the science of Positive Psychology, through which a focus on strengths and virtues, enables individuals, communities and organisations to flourish.

Positive Education, supported by brain science, proves we can learn to be more optimistic and by doing so, experience greater levels of happiness, engagement and purpose in life.

This program focuses on the specific skills that enable students to practice mindfulness, build positive relationships, experience more positive emotions and enhance personal resilience and wellbeing.

## Science

Length of Course: **Full Year**

The Year 7 science course aims to help students gain scientific knowledge and develop skills so that they understand better the world in which we live. The course also aims to show students how to apply scientific knowledge to their everyday life.

Students will be required to learn scientific information, helped to understand scientific concepts and expected to complete set class work, homework and assignments. It is expected that students will participate in practical work and class discussions.

Students will learn about:

- Biology: Classification of living things and the relationship between organisms.
- Chemistry: Using laboratory equipment safely, mixtures and properties of substances.
- Earth Science and Astronomy: Gravity, seasons and models of the solar system.
- Physics: Forces and simple machines.

**Assessment:** Tests, Practical Investigations and assignments.

**Victorian Curriculum Level 7:** Science Understanding and Science Inquiry Skills

## Technology

Length of Course: **Full Year**

At Year 7, students are introduced to the various tools, machinery and processes involved when working with plastics, metal and wood. They build confidence and develop the appropriate knowledge, skills and techniques through workshop-styled lessons.

Classes cover the areas of research, design, production and evaluation whilst upholding strict safety standards explored through demonstrations, practical tasks and written work.

Students are to keep a record of all class notes, research tasks and design work in a display folder, which documents and demonstrates their exploration of concepts, and their thoughts and ideas.

**Assessment:** Research, Design, Production, Evaluation

**Victorian Curriculum Level 7:** The Arts: Design and Technologies – Technologies and Society, Technologies Contexts, Creating Designed Solutions,