**KEY DATES FOR SUBJECT SELECTION 2015**

2015 VCE / VCAL Subject Selection Timeline

Monday 14 July 2014  
Year 9 Handbook available online at the College website

Monday 18 August 2014  
Year 9 2015 Subject Selection Assembly (Period 1)

Wednesday 20 August 2014  
Student Options Module opens for data

Thursday 21 August to Sunday 30 August 2014  
Students enter preferences online, print-out a copy to be signed off by parents. Signed sheet returned to central collection box. Options module closes at 11.59pm on Sunday August 30.

Monday 1 September 2014  
Deadline for return of signed preferences.
ACK Year 9 FYI Program

The Year 9 FYI (Follow Your Interest) Program aims to give students the opportunity to become enthusiastic learners who are engaged and connected to their own learning. Through academically challenging, relevant and diverse curriculum offerings the students are presented with exciting learning opportunities that enable each student to achieve success. The elective offerings assist students to be creative, independent learners who are secure in the knowledge they will be well prepared for the rigours senior studies and life beyond.

Some extension electives have been included, providing more opportunities for those who wish to challenge themselves academically, and to develop skills, particularly their thinking and creative skills, and to enter selected academic competitions.

The following document provides a brief outline of each of the FYI offerings. Students should choose according to their interests, strengths and challenge provided. They should also consider trying courses with a view to senior studies.

In addition to FYI, students will study the following core program in Year 9:

- RELIGION
- ENGLISH
- HUMANITIES
- MATHEMATICS
- PHYSICAL EDUCATION
- SCIENCE

FYI REQUIREMENTS/ORGANISATION

Students should choose four FYI electives during their Year 9 year; two in each semester.

If students choose to study French or Italian (Cert. II in Applied Language), this will be studied in both semesters and therefore will count as two electives. They will only have space in their program for two other electives.

Whilst every effort will be made to allocate students to their top four choices, places in some classes will be limited. Depending on numbers, electives may be offered in either one or both semesters. This means that your preferred options could be offered in one semester, creating a clash. For this reason it is essential that you list your top six preferences (four with two reserves).

Students will enter their preferences through Web Preference online. Details and access codes will be provided by Pastoral Care Teachers.
LANGUAGES (VET Certificate II in Applied Languages)

LEARNING AREA: LANGUAGES

Why? Travel and exchange, cultural and intellectual enrichment, breadth, depth, thinking skills, unique learning experiences, communication skills enhancement, enjoyment…

STUDENTS HAVE A CHOICE OF EITHER FRENCH OR ITALIAN. The course must be studied over the full year and therefore both Semester 1 and 2 Units must be taken. It is important to plan ahead when thinking about studying Italian and French to VCE level. Continuation of language studies through to the end of Year 10 (VET Applied Language Studies) permits students to keep their options for language studies open in VCE.

Successful VCE language studies require sequential learning from Years 8-12.

The emphasis in Year 9 is on spoken language skills. However, students will also have the opportunity to further develop their reading, writing, and listening skills.

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will receive a Certificate II in Applied Languages – which is a nationally recognised certificate. Applied Language courses are designed to provide individuals with language skills and cultural knowledge to enable them to communicate in social and workplace situations in a language other than English (LOTE) both in Australia and overseas.

Assessment Tasks follow VET guidelines and may include:
Role-plays
Oral presentations
Comprehension tasks
Written work

Students may also apply to continue their VET Applied Language Studies in Year 10. Following this, they may then wish to be considered for VCE French or Italian studies in Years 11 and 12.
CAFE CREATIONS

LEARNING AREA: DESIGN CREATIVITY AND TECHNOLOGY (FOOD)

Australia’s café culture is at the core of this subject, the practical exercises explore the world of café cuisine. In the theory component, students will gain an understanding of many different aspects of their diet and what influences it. Students will be able to create a minimum of three of their own products during this term, as they gain a better understanding of the design process. Year 9 Food Technology in a great pathway into either Year 10 Food Technology or VET Hospitality. The units covered are Safety and Food Hygiene, Sensory Evaluation, Design Process, Influences on Diet and Marketing of Food and Food Labelling.

Assessment tasks:

- Design Folio – Pancake Design
- Menu Investigation
- Food Labelling Assignment
- Sensory Evaluation

PRODUCT DESIGN

LEARNING AREA: DESIGN CREATIVITY AND TECHNOLOGY

Plastic, glass and wood are used to make a number of different products. Students are given the opportunity to make 2 or 3 smaller products over the semester such as a table lamp/light, clock, frame (mirror or picture), cutting board and a beautiful wooden container. The products must look good and function well, which means students will come up with creative ideas, draw them using both pencils and computer aided design (CAD) and make them. A range of materials, tools and equipment are safely used and the final products are evaluated for appearance and function. The use of creativity and innovation are encouraged. Students are helped to enjoy drawing as well as the safe and confident use of tools and machines whilst making useful products out of a variety of different materials.

Assessment Tasks:

- Design Folio/workbook – including drawings, research and evaluation related to the products design briefs
- Production of 2 to 3 products from this range: electric table lamp/light, frame (mirror or picture), clock, cutting board or a small wooden container.
TEXTILES

LEARNING AREA: DESIGN CREATIVITY AND TECHNOLOGY

This unit offers students an exciting and engaging variety of textiles products to choose from as well as providing the opportunity to undertake design ideas of their own. Products include: A bag to suit any purpose (eg. Skateboard bag); a wall hanging; a knitted garment of choice; a simple sewn garment of choice (eg. A hoodie); jewellery made from fabrics and found objects; a recycled/upcycled product; free motion embroidery as well as a rag doll/soft toy.

The focus is on both traditional and contemporary textiles’ techniques and the opportunity to explore and experiment with many of these. The products made are evaluated for functionality, quality and appearance. The completion of a design folio/workbook that relates to the final products is a part of the course. The folio includes a number of different drawing methods.

Assessment Tasks:
- Design Folio/workbook - including drawings, research and evaluation related to the design briefs
- Production of a number of textiles products from this range: A bag, wall hanging, knitted garment, simple sewn garment, jewellery, upcycled product, soft toy.

DESIGNING AND CREATING WITH WOOD

LEARNING AREA: DESIGN CREATIVITY AND TECHNOLOGY

Students work with wood, using colour, shape and form as important design elements to design and make a small table that is uniquely their own. This means working through the design brief to come up with design options and drawing ideas using drawing boards and computer aided design (CAD), safely using a range of different tools and machines and evaluating the finished table to see if it does the job it was designed to do. Use of creativity and innovative ideas are encouraged as well as developing an understanding of some of the environmental issues related to wood as a resource to be valued.

Students will be helped to enjoy drawing as well as the safe and confident use of tools and machines whilst they make the table that they designed.

Assessment Tasks:
- Design Folio/workbook - including drawings, research and evaluation related to the table design brief
- Production of a small table
**AGRICULTURAL ENTERPRISE**

**LEARNING AREA: SCIENCE (AGRICULTURE/ HORTICULTURE)**

This unit is a hands-on one semester course where students have the opportunity to develop animal husbandry and plant production skills. Students will be introduced to various components that make up a farming enterprise. They will plan, implement, manage and then evaluate an enterprise project that involves raising an animal or growing a plant product. Students who enjoy working with animals or growing and caring for plants would find this course rewarding.

**Assessment Tasks:**
- Enterprise Project: assessment and analysis.
- Investigation of local agricultural/horticultural enterprises

**LITERATURE**

**LEARNING AREA: ENGLISH**

This is a great subject for students who enjoy reading, writing, and all things literary. Students will have the opportunity to read a range of differing types of literature, and will learn to closely analyse poetry, novels, and scripts.

Students will also have the chance to further their own writing skills by learning about different forms of writing and a variety of genres. By completing the ‘Author Investigation’ project, students are also able to further their knowledge of a writer of their own choosing.

This subject differs from English in that it focuses more on the appreciation and enjoyment of texts, and pushes students to pursue their own interests as a reader.

It’s a must for any keen reader or budding novelist.

**Assessment Tasks:**
- Author Investigation Project
- Adapting a Literary Text
- Writing an Opening Chapter
SPORT & RECREATION

LEARNING AREA: PHYSICAL EDUCATION

This elective combines theory and practice. The aim of this elective is to develop an understanding of the meaning and application of healthy and active lifestyles for various people within the community. This includes the need to experience a variety of activities to maintain regular participation in moderate to vigorous activity.

This elective investigates fitness components and ways of being active for various abilities and fitness levels; links to nutrition and government campaigns to assist people to live healthy and active lifestyles; recreational activities v sport, and major and minor games.

Assessment Tasks:
- Design a major or minor game
- Tests
- Examination

ART EXPLOSION

LEARNING AREA: VISUAL ARTS

This subject is designed to allow students to explore a wide range of art forms. Students will be encouraged to extend personal skills while exploring a wide range of media including printmaking, photo montage, collage, mixed media and computer aided design as well as the traditional oil, acrylic or watercolour painting and drawing with pastels or pencils. The course allows each participant to extend their practice in their chosen media and explore a range of techniques and processes, developing skills and understanding of creative expression. Students will be able to undertake studies in both three dimensional and two dimensional media. Students undertaking this course will be developing their personal skills through a range of art processes. Students learn to reflect on their own art works and those of others, discussing, analysing, interpreting and evaluating visual art from past and present times.

Assessment Tasks:
- Visual Diary including trials, annotations and evaluations
- Folio including all finished artworks
- Art Explorations including evaluating and responding to a variety of art styles and artists
**SEEING IS BELIEVING**

**LEARNING AREA:** THE ARTS (VISUAL COMMUNICATION AND DESIGN)

This area of study focuses on Visual Communication and Design and allows students to explore their ideas in the fields of graphics, advertising, multimedia and architecture design. Tuition in all aspects of Visual Communication and Design will be explicit, ensuring that each student will develop a broad range of skills and extend on their understanding of process and creativity. The Design Folio includes a range of design alternatives that are outlined in the brief and responds to the intended audience. The course will allow students to create successful and effective design solutions within a commercial setting utilising a variety of media and approaches.

**Assessment Tasks:**
- Design Folio
- Analysis of Visual Communications

**MOVE WITH THE TIMES**

**LEARNING AREA:** THE ARTS (DANCE)

This course will allow students to participate, learn, develop and explore various dance styles and techniques e.g. ballet, contemporary, hip-hop, break, tap and improvisation in order to develop a greater understanding of the choreographic processes. Students will respond to these perspectives through analysis and evaluation.

The course aims to provide students with an understanding of what is expected at VCE level and prepare them with beginning to analyse dance works using appropriate terminology. Students will also begin developing their dance technique and choreography which will assist them immensely in preparing for VCE.

**Assessment Tasks:**
- Practical Work/Group Composition
- Written Task
- Workbook
THE POWER OF THE MEDIA

LEARNING AREA: THE ARTS (MEDIA)

Studies are divided into 3 separate units. Animation is explored in the form of stop motion animation. In this unit students make sets and characters to animate for a short film. The Digital Photography unit requires students to gain knowledge in the use of digital SLR cameras and post production technologies. The Computer Aided Design unit covers the influence and representation of the Media to its audience in society.

Assessment Tasks:
- Animation Assignment
- Digital Photography
- Computer Aided Design

LIGHTS, CURTAIN, ACTING

LEARNING AREA: THE ARTS (DRAMA)

Create, Make and Explore new possibilities through Drama. Work onstage as a performer as well as learn the tricks of the trade backstage. Discover different styles and ways of making an effective performance. Improve your confidence and develop skills while having fun ‘playing the fool’.

Assessment:
- Performance
- Class work (Practical and Written)
- Test
ICT IN ACTION!

LEARNING AREA: TECHNOLOGY (ICT)

Students explore the evolving nature of technology in our society and learn to use a range of applications in real life situations. In this course students will be using computers to organise themselves, to evaluate ideas and programs, and to present solutions to problems. At the completion of this semester students should be able to:

* Understand the basic architecture of a PC
* Understand the uses of software and apply these uses. Programs that are used include Outlook, Office, Dreamweaver, Visual Basic and Photoshop.
* Gain an understanding of the history of computers
* Work with other students to create projects

This subject is designed to enable students to further develop their presentation skills and record keeping. Students will also use a range of different software for presenting information. They should also develop problem-solving strategies and specifically solve problems using a programming language such as Visual Basic.

Assessment:

- Web Page Assessment
- Web Page Creation
- Use of MS Office Tests

MUSIC: PLAY, SING, RECORD

LEARNING AREA: MUSIC

You will be working in small groups, performing some of the great pop and rock standards in music history. You will be learning about how to use microphones, and how operate PA equipment safely and correctly. You will also learn how to use Garageband as a recording tool, and how to create mixes to then use for multimedia devices such as iPods and CDs. In addition, you will be enhancing your theory and aural musicianship skills – as all good musicians should!

Assessment:

- Performances
- Recording Assessment
- Music Styles assignment
- Music Theory exam
**WHO’S THE BOSS**

**LEARNING AREA: HUMANITIES**

A new elective in 2014, Who’s the Boss is an introduction to how businesses run and the way the Australian government and legal system work in Australia. You will find out who exactly is the boss in business and government. Here’s a hint:

The first unit will cover the following topics:
- Product Development
- Marketing & Advertising
- Business Layout and Promotional Activities
- Different Styles of Management

The second unit will cover the following topics:
- Forms of Government/Leadership
- History of Australian Legal System – Prime Ministers
- Structure of the Legal System – Voting, Bicameral System
- You and the Police – Role of Police in Society today

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**SPECTRUM**

**LEARNING AREA: MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE (Extension)**

A practical, interactive subject that utilises students interests in the Maths and Science fields to investigate and explore topics. The wide variety of hands on activities will give students opportunities to mathematically engage in concepts relating to Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Electronics. Students will solve complex problems that relate to these fields and critically evaluate their ideas. Activities will aim to develop creative, flexible thinking and reflective abilities.

**Assessment Tasks:**
- Practical Reports
- In-class Projects