

Year 8 & 9 ELECTIVE Program 2021



Aims of the Years 8 & 9 Elective Program

The elective program aims to:

- Allow students to have a greater choice and variety in subject selection
- Prepare students for their Year 10 studies
- Encourage a progressive development of skills across key learning areas
- Motivate students and promote resilience
- Consider student interest when negotiating, developing and implementing units
- Build into the units, rigorous assessment that is task-oriented, relevant, purposeful, and connected to real life
- Encourage students to develop their passions and expertise in particular subjects while at the same time allowing them to take calculated risks, exploring and trying subjects they may not have tried before.
- Greater homogeneity and community between Year 8 and 9 students.

The teaching and learning focus for the Year 8 and 9 elective program is underpinned by the school's **Life-long Learning Attributes**, which include the Inner Learner, Collaborative Learner, Community Contributor, Creative/Critical Thinker, Effective Communicator and Quality Producer.

The electives units are often **inquiry-based** with student and teacher questions guiding student learning. An inquiry approach allows students to develop a greater depth and understanding of the topics being explored.

Service-learning is a feature, not only in the elective program but also in the academic program across the school, P-12. Such an approach involves students recognising a need in the community (school, local, national or global) and using their own skills and talents to meet the needs of others. This may take the form of: taking action and planning to make a change or difference in the community; researching information about justice issues; or, being an advocate for a group in the community.

Another feature of the elective program is the idea of **integration** across some key learning areas. For example, an Arts elective may include content and skills from Drama, Music or Visual Arts. Integration allows for a holistic approach to learning where students can develop meaningful links between subject areas.

Lastly, the elective program for Year 8 and 9 is a **vertically grouped** program, where students from both year levels will be in the same classes and have an opportunity to interact and work together on assessment tasks and projects.

Curriculum Structure (Core and Elective Subjects)

In Year 8 and 9, students study core and elective subjects. Students select two electives per semester. In designing the Year 8 and 9 curriculum, LORDS has kept two basic principles in mind, *Delay of Specialisation* and a *Balanced Curriculum*.

Delay of Specialisation means that students do not have to make educational decisions that may disadvantage them in course selection or employment opportunities later in life. Students have a chance to do a broader curriculum for longer, thus not shutting them off from certain subjects should they need to study them as a prerequisite for a particular university course or employment pathway.

While the Core subjects studied in Year 8 and 9 ensure that each student is studying a programme that develops the core skills, the electives allow students to explore and develop skills in a number of other Learning Areas, such as the Arts, Technology, Business Studies and ICT. This ensures a **Balanced Curriculum**.

<i>Year 8 and 9 Core Subjects</i>	
Christian Studies	History
English	Geography
Mathematics	Physical Education/Sport
Science	

Electives – students choose one per semester from

Line 1
Business, Drama, Art, Design Technology/Graphics, Japanese, Psychology, STEM

Line 2
Independent Research Task, Music, Textiles, ICT/Robotics, Hospitality, HPE, Legal Studies

Selecting Subjects for Year 11 and 12.

Students who are 12 or 13 years old naturally find it very difficult to know which career they wish to pursue. It is important to realise, therefore, that this curriculum structure allows those crucial decisions to be delayed a little longer. Our Careers Counsellor, Mrs Amy Dyer, is available for interviews if parents or students have any queries on this matter.

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Although your son or daughter is only going into Year 8 or 9, some thought should be given to courses which might be studied in Year 10 or later in Year 11 and 12. In general, students are able to select a senior subject even if the corresponding junior secondary subject has not been studied. Students will find it easier, however, to take subjects further into the secondary school if they have done at least one of the electives in Year 8 or 9 and continued that subject in Year 10.

Guidelines for Students in Choosing Elective Subjects

Some considerations:

- Will my choice of electives help me reach my Year 10, Year 11 and post Year 12 goals?
- Have I chosen subjects that I think I will want to continue with in Year 10 and beyond?
- Have I chosen some subjects that will encourage me to learn new and challenging things?
- Have I considered alternative subjects in case I am not able to study my first few preferences?

Step 1: Choose the electives you'd most like to study in Line 1 and 2 for both semesters

Step 2: Choose a second preference in each line for each semester, in case you don't get your first preference.

Step 3: Open the **email** sent by Mr Huth to all parents of students going into Yr 8 and 9, 2021

Step 4: Click on the **link** and complete the online options form

Step 5: You're finished!

Line 1 Electives		
Learning Area	Semester 1	Semester 2
Business Studies	Scams and Dodgy Deals	The World's Your Oyster
Drama	The Art of Improvisation	Physical Challenge
Visual Art	Dine with Me	To the Streets
Design Technology/ Graphics	Get Your Hands Dirty	Grand Designs
Japanese	Yum!	Fun!
Psychology/Health	Body and Mind Matters	Mental Health Matters
STEM	Forensic science	Forensic Engineering
Line 2 Electives		
Learning Area	Semester 1	Semester 2
Independent Research Task	Big Life Fixes	Big Life Fixes
Hospitality	Food on Trend	Food Science
Physical Education	Get Active	Leading the Way
Music	Music of the Media	Jazz Music
ICT/Robotics	Our Connected World	Our Automated World
Legal Studies	Jury Duty	Call of the Law
Textiles	Concept to Catwalk	Fashion Culture

Subject Descriptions

Big Life Fixes

In this elective, you have an opportunity to explore your passions, gifts and talents while helping meet a need in the community. A problem-based learning unit with social innovation and service learning at its core, you will have the chance to explore the TRACE process and design a product or service that provides a solution to an authentic need in your community. For example, you might design an 'app' to help people with mobility issues, build a balloon that will gather meteorological information for a school weather station, design a walkway to allow students to explore our natural environment, or make a robotic helper for a vision impaired person. Your entrepreneurial skills will be pushed, your creativity unleashed and most importantly, you'll be helping others.

Business

This subject provides opportunities for students to develop practical business knowledge, understanding and skills for use, participation and work in a range of business contexts.

Scams and Dodgy Deals

Become educated in how use your money well and not be scammed by the undesirables in the business world. You will create a brochure to teach others about consumer credit and being responsible with your money. These is also an opportunity to become a sales consultant and warn clients about the potential scams that exist out there in the real world.

The World's Your Oyster

Dream of making your mark on the world by looking at how Australia trades with countries around the world and then investigate how to know your rights responsibly and participate in the workplace. You will produce a business report on one of Australia's main trading partners in SE Asia.

Design and Technology

Design and Technology involves the design and manufacture of products. Students engage in product design to solve real-world problems, satisfy human needs and wants, and capitalise on opportunities. The communication of designs and products through sketches, annotations, documentation and graphical representations is an integral aspect of this design process.

Get Your Hands Dirty

If you want to design and make products and start to work with different machines and tools, this is the elective for you. In the workshop, you will learn how to shape, form, join different pieces of material. You will learn how to use different finishing materials and how to solve problems. Just imagine, you might make a toolbox, camping stool or make a car for an obstacle course with the help of the laser cutter. At the end of the course, you will be able to take all your products home. See you in the workshop!

Grand Designs

If you want to design your own beach house or logo, this is the elective for you. Learn how the design process takes a plan from concept to reality while learning how to represent three-dimensional objects by using different sketching techniques. Who knows, you may even build an architectural model with the help of the laser cutter.

Drama

Drama explores dramatic forms and styles, and the ways they are used to express and communicate human experience in different cultures, times and places. Students will use and develop their creativity, thinking skills and technical understandings about drama to imagine and explore behaviour, relationships, emotions and beliefs in different situations and contexts.

The Art of Improvisation

Improvisation is a valuable tool for exploring and developing drama skills and performances. In this unit you will focus on creating and sustaining character throughout impromptu performances, polished performance and play building.

Physical Challenge

This elective is made up of two parts. In the first part you will look at the developing the techniques of voice and physical theatre to create character and dramatic meaning. Using the skills developed, the second part is an inquiry into comedy and Italian masked drama Commedia Dell Arte.

Hospitality

In this subject, students will experience an introduction to the hospitality industry, which includes learning about workplace health, hygiene and safety requirements, communication, and event management, as well as food and beverage production and service.

Food on Trend

There are many trends that are influencing the hospitality industry. From the ingredients (chia, kale, superfoods) to the cuisine (Mexican and Spanish) to the way we present food (deconstructed, food trucks, etc.). In this unit, we will explore a variety of food trends and use these trends to design and produce quality food suitable for the hospitality industry.

Food Science

Throughout this unit, students will gain a greater understanding of the concepts and practices related to cooking. Knowing why we cook and how we can improve the quality of the food, is an important skill to possess in the hospitality industry. Students will develop a range of skills to produce quality food suitable for the hospitality industry.

Information Communication Technologies

Information Technology is a course of study that provides students with an understanding of how computers work and explores the many ways in which information technology is used in society.

Our Connected World

Would you like to build interactive websites? Want to learn more about computer technology by learning coding skills? Choose Our Connected World. We will be using multiple software technologies to create interactive, websites with back-end databases.

Japanese

Students of Japanese will continue to develop their Japanese reading, writing, listening and speaking skills and widen their understanding of the Japanese culture. They will also complete a 'Script Bootcamp' to build their ability to read and write in Hiragana and Katakana.

おいしい! (Yum!)

Like to talk about yourself over a delicious meal? In this semester of study, you will develop language skills to discuss your everyday activities, your personal achievements and your favourite foods and sports. Tell us all about your first time on plane, your busy schedule, your best subject at school and even the fast food you can't go without. Look forward to an end-of-semester cooking class for Japan's ultimate fast food – okonomiyaki!

たのしい! (Fun!)

Seen any good movies lately? Been on a holiday? Bought anything cool at the shops? We want to hear all about it in Japanese this semester, as you learn how to make plans with your friends to go shopping, watch a movie or simply hang out. You will become a whiz at counting your yen, knowing your Anime from your Manga, and describing famous Japanese festivals. Be rewarded for your hard work learning Japanese with an excursion to the Japan Film Festival to see a popular Japanese movie with your classmates!

Legal Studies

Legal Studies focuses on the interaction between society and the discipline of law. Students study the legal system and how it regulates activities and aims to protect the rights of individuals, while balancing these with obligations and responsibilities. An understanding of legal processes and concepts enables citizens to be better informed and able to constructively question and contribute to the improvement of laws and legal processes.

Call of the Law

All societies need laws and organisations to protect and care for all members. Laws affect everything that you do. You will examine some of the political, democratic and legal structures and organisations to help you become active and responsible participants in our Australian Society. Comparing types of laws from other countries and cultures also gives us a perspective on the need for us to be aware of our legal rights.

Jury Duty

Learn about how laws are made and how the court system works. Now you have a chance to investigate the difference between criminal and civil matters and how they have shaped and influenced our legal system. This is your chance to see how your voice can make a difference in our democratic society and discover through inquiry how to change laws.

Music

Students will study music from a wide variety of contexts and styles and be involved in music making through experiences as composers, performers and audience members. This subject seeks to develop in students an openness to all music, a critical ear, musical knowledge and awareness, technical ability and a desire to be involved with music throughout their lives.

Music of the Media

In this unit, students look at how composers use the elements of music to reflect and enhance movie scenes. Students will explore the early styles from the Silent film era to the contemporary styles of today. They are engaged in composing, orchestrating and performing film music to further their understanding and knowledge of the genre.

Jazz Music

Students learn about the historical background of jazz and its links to classical and traditional African music genres. Students will analyse the evolution of the genre into the early styles of jazz to the end of the 1950s. They focus on the characteristics of jazz through performance and composition including: Improvisation, 12 bar blues progression, blues scale, call and response, syncopation, swing rhythm.

Physical Education

Physical Education involves the study of physical activity and engages students as intelligent performers learning in, about and through physical activity. This subject focuses on the complex interrelationships between leadership, psychological, physiological and sociological factors which influence individual and team physical performances. Students are engaged not only as performers but also as analysts, planners and critics in, about and through physical activity.

Get Active

This unit is predominantly about looking at ways of how you can improve your sports performance in general fitness and athletics. You will research some aspects of sport science and apply this learning in a practical sense. This is an excellent opportunity to develop fitness and prepare for your personal sport through video analysis and self-reflection.

Leading the Way

In this unit you will learn the importance of leadership by organising competitions based on the sporting areas focused on in practical lessons. Risk management, competition formats and tactical awareness will be taught in games activities.

Psychology

Psychology provides opportunities for students to engage with concepts that explain behaviours and underlying thinking. Psychologists study everything about the human experience from the basic workings of the human brain to consciousness, memory, reasoning and language to personality and mental health.

Body and Mind Matters

Would you like to explore how people think, feel and behave? How helpful would it be to have an insight into how your mind, brain and body work together and how this may influence human behaviour. In this elective you will be introduced to the study of psychology in perspective to understanding physical, social and emotional health and well-being. There will also be an opportunity to develop attitudes that include curiosity, open-mindedness and empathy as you gain a greater insight into how the body and mind connect.

Mental Health Matters

Is there such a thing as normal and abnormal when it comes to human behaviour? What is your personality type? Do you want to know more about the psychology behind this? In this elective you will continue to study the relationship between the mind, brain and behaviour. Through knowledge and understanding of the concepts covered you will be able to explain the difference between mental health and mental illness. You will explore the interactive nature of hereditary and environmental factors on a person's psychological development and a brief look into types of psychological disorders. Mental health awareness and stigma will also be investigated throughout this elective. You will be assessed on your application and communication of psychological information and understandings based on evidence.

STEM

Forensic science – Crime Scene Investigators

Learn how crime scene investigators collect and analyse information at a crime scene. Term 1 will focus on how chemists help solve crimes; by studying chemicals, toxins and fire dynamics. Term 2 will focus on biology, including how a forensic anthropologist and entomologists can work together to solve murders. This STEM subject is a hands-on, academic subject which goes beyond the Year 8 and 9 Science and Math curriculum. Some

materials in this course can be distressing for sensitive students, including dissections and a visit to Queensland Police Museum where students will investigate real-life murder cases.

Forensic Engineering – Crash Test Unit

Learn how forensic scientist collect and analyse information at the site of an accident. In Term 3 you will use your technology and engineering skills to investigate structural integrity and internet fraud. In Term 4 you will use physics when analysing car crashes and engineering to create crash-safe vehicles. This STEM subject is a hands-on, academic subject which goes beyond the Year 8 and 9 Science and Math curriculum. Some materials in this course can be distressing for sensitive students including references to car crashes.

Robotics

This subject explores the emerging world of robotics through a hands-on, problem-solving approach that develops students' ability to find solutions to robotics challenges through research, teamwork and trial and error.

Our Automated World

If tinkering with electronics is something you'd really like to try, then Our Automated World is the elective for you. Arduino is an open-source electronics platform based on easy-to-use hardware and software. Arduino boards are able to read inputs - light on a sensor, a finger on a button, or a Twitter message - and turn it into an output - activating a motor, turning on an LED, publishing something online. You will get to use Arduinos alongside 3D printing and laser cutting technologies to build and program a small robot.

Textiles

In this subject, students will learn to investigate, design, create, construct and evaluate a range of textiles products to meet design challenges. They will also learn how to use a range of associated technologies to assist them in these design challenges.

Concept to Catwalk

This unit will investigate the role of a Fashion Designer and the process required to develop concepts into collections suitable for wearing. Students will learn a variety of basic textile construction and embellishment techniques whilst developing their ideas into a fashion collection. The student collections will be showcased at an event.

Fashion Culture

What influences fashion movements? Why do we see trends reinvented? Who has had an impact on the fashion world? This unit will explore the cultural and historical influences on fashion movements and designs. Influences from the era of punk in the 80s and the role of Vivienne Westwood to the 70s flower power movement in response to the war, to the role of advertising and social conscience will be explored. Students will learn a variety of basic textile construction and embellishment techniques with a variety of textiles and technologies to create garments as part of a collection.

Visual Art

Learning in this subject relates to the creative thinking, critical analysis and problem-solving processes involved in producing, displaying and appreciating artworks. Students work with a range of media, forms and contexts to create a range of artworks and will also learn about the historical contexts within which different movements and styles emerged.

Dine with Me

Art that is good enough to eat! Explore how food is used in art from drawing and painting to sculptures, installations, photography and wearable art. Learn about Thiebaud's sweet tooth and Oldenburg's soft sculptures by creating our own binge worthy food art creations!

To the Street

Immerse yourself in street culture, learning how to wield a spray can using stencils, create your own tag using markers and become a guerrilla artist. Discover how to stencil like a pro using Photoshop and aerosol paints to make your own Street Art inspired creation. Make a social statement by creating art for the public!

Additional Subject: Dance

In 2021, students in Year 7-10 will again be able to take dance as an alternative to school AGCC sport, which is held on Thursday afternoons. Dance will incorporate both the practical and theoretical aspects of the subject. The students will learn safe dance techniques, choreography, performance techniques, anatomy, costume design, set design, lighting design and music editing.

Working on performance routines for school events throughout the year, as well as the units mentioned above will ensure the students enjoy a well-rounded and balanced subject. Students in Year 7-10 will work together in the one dance troupe.

Please register your child's interest in taking this subject on the elective form.