

2026 YEAR 9 CURRICULUM GUIDE

KEEBRA PARK
STATE HIGH SCHOOL



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General Information

This handbook offers information to assist Keebra Park State High School students make informed decisions about their subject selections for Year 9.

Year 9 is a period of increasing independence for students as they strive to develop an identity for themselves and make responsible educational choices that will assist them in making decisions for their future senior pathway. Students learn best when they are given varied, rich, and challenging learning experiences and opportunities that align with their abilities and interests.

Students are encouraged to use the advice and guidance received from discussions with parents and carers, teachers and Heads of Departments when making informed decisions about elective subjects.

Year 9 students will study five (5) core subjects and select two (2) elective subjects. Each core and elective subject are studied for a full semester.

- **Core subjects:** English, Maths, History, Science and Health and Physical Education (HPE)
- **Elective (select two):** Business, Materials and Technologies, Digital Solutions, Robotics and Programming, Food Technologies, Visual Arts, Dance, Drama and Music.

Some of the most important school decisions concern the subject choices you select in Year 9 and 10, and later in Year 11 and 12 as these decisions may affect the career path you follow when you leave school.

What will students choose?

To guide you through the selection process, it is suggested that you read and examine each of the subject overviews in this handbook and choose subjects that:

- you are interested in and enjoy
- you feel you can be successful in
- will help you reach your chosen career path
- will develop new skills and knowledge useful in later life

It is also important to remember that the subjects you select are unique to you and may be quite different from your peers. This means it is important to select the subjects of your choice and avoid selecting a subject because:

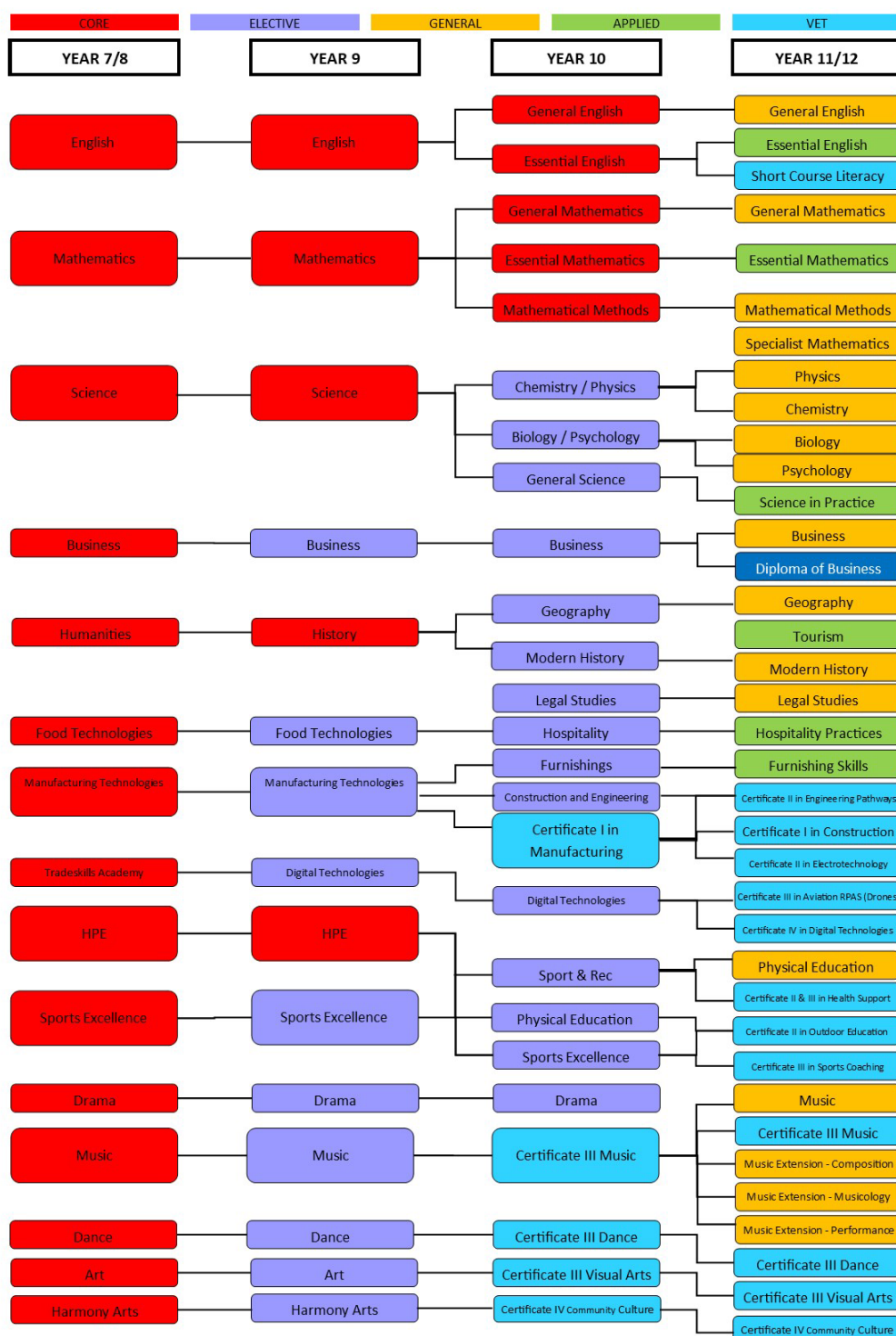
- a friend wants you to take the same subjects
- you do not like the subject teacher
- someone said “only the girls take this subject”

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the relevant Head of Department of individual subjects. If you are enrolled in an excellence program in Year 8 you will continue with your program next year. If you would like to apply for an excellence program you can see the relevant curriculum Head of Department and collect an application form from the office. For more information regarding our excellence programs, please refer to the links on the previous page

The best general advice about subject selections is to choose widely and come to understand the subjects you enjoy and in which you achieve well.



Year 7 – 12 Subject Flowchart





Core Subjects

English

Department: English

Core

COURSE DESCRIPTION

By the end of Year 9 English, students analyse the ways that text structures can be manipulated for effect. They analyse and explain how images, vocabulary choices and language features distinguish the work of individual authors. They evaluate and integrate ideas and information from texts to form their own interpretations. They select evidence from texts to analyse and explain how language choices and conventions are used to influence an audience. They listen for ways texts position an audience.

Students understand how to use a variety of language features to create different levels of meaning. They understand how interpretations can vary by comparing their responses to texts to the responses of others. In creating texts, students demonstrate how manipulating language features and images can create innovative texts.

Students create texts that respond to issues, interpreting and integrating ideas from other texts. They make presentations and contribute actively to class and group discussions, comparing and evaluating responses to ideas and issues. They edit for effect, selecting vocabulary and grammar that contribute to the precision and persuasiveness of texts and using accurate spelling and punctuation.

COURSE OUTLINE	ASSESSMENT
Topics may include:- - Indigenous poetry and texts - Novel and Character studies - Film and Documentary studies - Narrative genres	A variety of assessment techniques will be used including:- - Imaginative written - Persuasive spoken - Writing for a public audience - Analytical written essay
ESSENTIAL RESOURCES/POSSIBLE EXCURSIONS	SUBJECT LEADS TO:
- USB - BYOD personal device (optional)	- General English - Essential English



Mathematics

Department: Mathematics

Core

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Mathematics aims to instil in students an appreciation of the elegance and power of mathematical reasoning. Mathematical ideas have evolved across all cultures over thousands of years, and are constantly developing. Digital technologies are facilitating this expansion of ideas and providing access to new tools for continuing mathematical exploration and invention.

Mathematics aims to ensure that students:

- are confident, creative users and communicators of mathematics, able to investigate, represent and interpret situations in their personal and work lives and as active citizens;
- develop an increasingly sophisticated understanding of mathematical concepts and fluency with processes, and are able to pose and solve problems and reason in Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry, and Statistics and Probability;
- recognise connections between the areas of mathematics and other disciplines and appreciate mathematics as an accessible and enjoyable discipline to study.

COURSE OUTLINE	ASSESSMENT
Topics may include:- • Number • Algebra • Measurement • Probability • Graphing • Statistics	A variety of assessment techniques will be used including:- • Exams • Problem solving tasks
ESSENTIAL RESOURCES	SUBJECT LEADS TO:
• Scientific calculator (CASIO fx-82AU PLUS II) • Exercise book • HB pencil, pens • BYOD personal device (optional)	• Essential Mathematics • General Mathematics • Mathematical methods • Specialist Methods



Science

Department: Science

Core

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Students will explain how body systems provide a coordinated response to stimuli. They describe how the processes of sexual and asexual reproduction enable survival of the species. They explain how interactions within and between Earth's spheres affect the carbon cycle. They analyse energy conservation in simple systems and apply wave and particle models to describe energy transfer. They explain observable chemical processes in terms of changes in atomic structure, atomic rearrangement and mass. Students explain the role of publication and peer review in the development of scientific knowledge and explain the relationship between science, technologies and engineering. They analyse the different ways in which science and society are interconnected.

Students plan and conduct safe, reproducible investigations to test or identify relationships and models. They describe how they have addressed any ethical and intercultural considerations when generating or using primary and secondary data. They select and use equipment to generate and record replicable data with precision. They select and construct appropriate representations to organise, process and summarise data and information. They analyse and connect data and information to identify and explain patterns, trends, relationships and anomalies. They analyse the impact of assumptions and sources of error in methods and evaluate the validity of conclusions and claims. They construct logical arguments based on evidence to support conclusions and evaluate claims. They select and use content, language and text features effectively to achieve their purpose when communicating their ideas, findings and arguments to specific audiences.

COURSE OUTLINE	ASSESSMENT										
Topics include: • Physics – energy conservation and transfer • Chemistry – atomic structure and reactions • Biology – homeostasis and reproduction • Earth Science – Earth's spheres and the carbon cycle	A variety of assessment techniques will be used including: - • Experimental investigations • Research tasks • Practical demonstrations • Exams										
ESSENTIAL RESOURCES/POSSIBLE EXCURSIONS	SUBJECT LEADS TO:										
• Science Quest 9 textbook • Scientific calculator • Exercise book • HB pencil, pens • BYOD personal device (optional)	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>• Physics</td><td>General</td></tr> <tr> <td>• Chemistry</td><td>General</td></tr> <tr> <td>• Biology</td><td>General</td></tr> <tr> <td>• Psychology</td><td>General</td></tr> <tr> <td>• Science in Practice</td><td>Applied</td></tr> </table>	• Physics	General	• Chemistry	General	• Biology	General	• Psychology	General	• Science in Practice	Applied
• Physics	General										
• Chemistry	General										
• Biology	General										
• Psychology	General										
• Science in Practice	Applied										



History

Department: Humanities

Core

COURSE DESCRIPTION

History is a core subject for all students, running for one semester. This allows them the opportunity to engage in a discipline that is extremely relevant to the world we live in. It encourages 21st century thinking about global citizenship, understanding perspective and lessons to be learnt from the past. History assists students to develop skills that are invaluable, both whilst at school, in further education and in the work force. This subject is about opening students' eyes to the complexity and diversity that our lives inevitably embrace in modern times. There are links to Geography throughout both units to demonstrate the connection between time and place. The Australian Curriculum prescribes the topics covered – see below.

COURSE OUTLINE	ASSESSMENT
• Making a nation • WWI	• Short and extended response exam • Investigation – inquiry task (research)
ESSENTIAL RESOURCES/POSSIBLE EXCURSIONS	SUBJECT LEADS TO
• Exercise book, ruler, highlighters, pens, pencils etc • BYOD personal device (optional) • 1 x A4 document wallet	• Modern History



Health and Physical Education

Department: HPE

Core

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Year 9 and 10 curriculum supports students to refine and apply strategies for maintaining a positive outlook and evaluating behavioural expectations in different leisure, social, movement and online situations. Students learn to critically analyse and apply health and physical activity information to devise and implement personalised plans for maintaining healthy and active habits. They also experience different roles that contribute to successful participation in physical activity, and propose strategies to support the development of preventive health practices that build and optimise community health and wellbeing.

COURSE OUTLINE	ASSESSMENT
Topics may include:- • Alcohol and other drugs (AD) • Food and nutrition (FN) • Health benefits of physical activity (HBPA) • Mental health and wellbeing (MH) • Relationships and sexuality (RS) • Safety (S) • Challenge and adventure activities (CA) • Games and sports (GS) • Lifelong physical activities (LLPA) • Rhythmic and expressive movement activities (RE).	A variety of assessment techniques will be used including:- • Exam • Multimodal presentation • Action research report
ESSENTIAL RESOURCES/POSSIBLE EXCURSIONS:	SUBJECT LEADS TO
• Sports uniform • Stationery	• Physical Education • Health and Psychology • Certificate III in Sports Coaching (Sport Academy students only) • Sport and Rec



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Elective Subjects

Business

Department: Humanities

Elective

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This subject is designed to provide students with a practical introduction to and an awareness of Semester long activities. Students will develop skills and acquire knowledge, which may enable them to become confident and competent participants in the business community. The course also introduces students to financial literacy and teaches the necessary skills, values and behaviours to be responsible consumers in society.

As all fields of employment involve at least some contact with aspects of business, studying this subject will enable students to make informed decisions and work effectively in a variety of career paths.

COURSE OUTLINE	ASSESSMENT
Topics may include: • Australia as a Trading Nation • Global Economy • Financial Risk and Reward	A variety of assessment techniques will be used including: • Short response • Extended response • Assignment
ESSENTIAL RESOURCES/POSSIBLE EXCURSIONS	SUBJECT LEADS TO
• Class resources – exercise book, ruler, highlighters, pens, pencils etc • Possible visits to local businesses • Possible meetings with business mentors • BYOD personal device (optional)	• Business • Diploma in Business



Materials and Technologies

Department: Technologies

Elective

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Materials and Technologies is a practical, hands-on subject designed to build students' knowledge and confidence in working with a range of technologies. Students will learn to make informed decisions when selecting tools, machines, hardware, and materials to develop solutions to real-world problems. The subject is structured around the design process, guiding students through the stages of investigating, designing, and making as they bring their ideas to life.

COURSE OUTLINE Topics may include: • Workshop, Tool and Machine • Hardware justification/selection • Material and tool justification/selection • Joining methods and techniques	ASSESSMENT A variety of assessment techniques will be used including: • Practical Project • Design Portfolio
ESSENTIAL RESOURCES • 2H pencil • Eraser • Pencil sharpener • Note pad	SUBJECT LEADS TO: Senior Subjects • Certificate II Furniture Making Pathways VET • Certificate II Engineering Pathways VET • Certificate I Construction VET • Certificate III Aviation (Drones) VET



Engineering Principles

Department: Technologies

Elective

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Engineering Principles is a practical, hands-on subject that develops students' understanding of how engineering concepts are applied to solve real-world problems. Students will build confidence by learning to make informed decisions when selecting tools, machines, hardware, and materials to design and construct effective solutions. The subject emphasizes the engineering design process, guiding students through the stages of investigating, designing, and creating, providing structure to their problem-solving journey.

COURSE OUTLINE	ASSESSMENT
Topics may include: • Workshop, Tool and Machine • Hardware justification/selection • Material and tool justification/selection • Jointing methods and techniques	A variety of assessment techniques will be used including: • Practical Project • Design Portfolio
ESSENTIAL RESOURCES	SUBJECT LEADS TO:
• 2H pencil • Eraser • Pencil sharpener • Note pad	Senior Subjects • Certificate II Furniture Making Pathways VET • Certificate II Engineering Pathways VET • Certificate I Construction VET • Certificate III Aviation (Drones) VET



Digital Solutions

Department: Technologies

Elective

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Digital Solutions provides students with a practical, hands-on learning experience where they will explore ideas, develop digital solutions, and evaluate their components, impacts, and effectiveness. Students will engage with real-world problems and create meaningful solutions through processes such as game development in Unity, 3D modelling, coding, virtual and augmented reality, SQL, and product design and development.

COURSE OUTLINE	ASSESSMENT				
Topics may include: - Gaming - Augmented reality - Virtual reality - SQL	A variety of assessment techniques will be used including: - Short answer exam - Digital folio - Response to stimulus - Multimodal response				
ESSENTIAL RESOURCES/POSSIBLE EXCURSIONS:	SUBJECT LEADS TO:				
16GB USB - A4 sketch pad 2B and HB pencil - Black felt tip pen - Digital exhibition excursions as they appear per calendar year - BYOD personal device	Senior Subjects <table> <tr> <td>• Certificate IV IT</td><td>VET</td></tr> <tr> <td>• Certificat III Aviation (Drones)</td><td>VET</td></tr> </table>	• Certificate IV IT	VET	• Certificat III Aviation (Drones)	VET
• Certificate IV IT	VET				
• Certificat III Aviation (Drones)	VET				



Food Technologies

Department: Technologies

Elective

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Food Technology offers students the opportunity to explore where food comes from, how it is produced, and how it can be prepared. Students will make informed choices about selecting ingredients and designing menus for a variety of situations. A strong focus is placed on equipping students with the skills to plan, prepare, and produce food that is healthy, nutritious, and appealing for themselves, their friends, and their families, while applying the Design Process.

The subject emphasizes the development of practical skills and the acquisition of new techniques in food preparation. Students will also build a broad knowledge base across diverse elective topics, including food, health and nutrition, hygiene and safety, and the effective use of equipment to develop food preparation skills and techniques.

COURSE OUTLINE	ASSESSMENT
Topics may include: • Food hygiene and safety • Food selection • Food preparation methods and techniques • Food for health • Sustainability	A variety of assessment techniques will be used including: • Process journal • Written project • Practical tasks
ESSENTIAL RESOURCES/POSSIBLE EXCURSIONS:	SUBJECT LEADS TO:
• Ingredients and course supplies will be provided each week as part of the Resource Levy.	Senior Subjects • Certificate II Hospitality Practices VET



Visual Arts

Department: The Arts

Elective

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Visual Art uses a variety of design techniques to explore the elements and principles of Art to create drawings, paintings and sculptures. Students create visual art works that communicate, challenge and express their own and others' ideas. They develop critical reasoning and practical skills through exploring and expanding their understanding of their world. Furthermore, students learn about the role of the artist and his/ her contribution to society.

In Junior Visual Art, a range of activities will assist students in:

- acquiring skills appropriate to the making of artworks;
- developing creativity in processes; and
- developing an appreciation and understanding of the work of others.

COURSE OUTLINE Topics may include:- • Abstract portraits • Pop art • Relief printing • Clay	ASSESSMENT A variety of assessment techniques will be used including:- • Folio and final portrait • Responding essay • Acrylic painting
ESSENTIAL RESOURCES/POSSIBLE EXCURSIONS: • Visual diary	SUBJECT LEADS TO: • Cert III in Visual Arts



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Dance

Department: The Arts

Elective

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Dance is expressive movement with purpose and form. Through Dance, students express, question and celebrate human experience, using the body as the instrument and movement as the medium for personal, social, emotional, spiritual and physical communication.

Like all art forms, dance has the capacity to engage, inspire and enrich all students, exciting the imagination and encouraging students to reach their creative and expressive potential.

COURSE OUTLINE	ASSESSMENT
Topics may include:- • Popular dance • Hip hop • Social dance • World dance	A variety of assessment techniques will be used including:- • Performance • Responding to dance – essay • Choreography
ESSENTIAL RESOURCES/POSSIBLE EXCURSIONS	SUBJECT LEADS TO:
• Dance workshop	• Cert III in Dance



Music

Department: The Arts

Elective

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Music learning combines listening, performing and composing activities. These activities, developed sequentially, enhance students' capacity to perceive and understand music.

As students progress in their study of Music, they learn to value and appreciate the power of music to transform the heart, soul, mind and spirit of the individual. In this way students develop an aesthetic appreciation and enjoyment of music.

COURSE OUTLINE	ASSESSMENT
Topics may include:- • Music for Film • Gaming Music • Popular Music • World Music	A variety of assessment techniques will be used including:- • Performance • Analytical essay • Composition • Musicology exam
ESSENTIAL RESOURCES/POSSIBLE EXCURSIONS	SUBJECT LEADS TO:
• Student workbook • BYOD personal device	• Cert III in Music • General Music • Music Extension



Harmony Arts Program

Department: The Arts

Elective

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Harmony Arts Program (**HAP**) is an innovative program designed to provide students from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds with opportunities to learn and participate in cultural experiences from other countries. **HAP** values the learning of other cultures and languages that can assist students with the breaking down of barriers facing young people from culturally diverse backgrounds, and enables them to feel heard, valued, supported, and empowered. **HAP** also provides an opportunity for increased engagement from our wider school community in connecting and welcoming families from culturally diverse backgrounds into a broader range of school activities.

General Capabilities

- understand the importance of maintaining and celebrating cultural traditions for the development of personal, group and national identities.
- explore ways that culture shapes the use of language in a wide range of contexts.
- make a realistic assessment of their abilities and achievements and prioritise areas for improvement.
- plan school and community projects, applying effective problem-solving and team-building strategies, and making the most of available resources to achieve goals.
- assess the extent to which individual roles and responsibilities enhance group cohesion and the achievement of personal and group objectives.
- acknowledge the values, opinions, and attitudes of diverse groups within society and compare to their own points of view.

Note: This subject will require a levy to be paid.
Students will engage in various cultural workshops.

ASSESSMENT	SUBJECT LEADS TO:
A variety of assessment techniques will be used including:- • Performance: Song and Dance exploring various cultures • Costume Making: Various Cultures • Language: Common Language terms and greetings across various cultures	• Cert IV in Community Culture Year 10 – 12