

Year 10 Handbook



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Introduction

The purpose of this handbook is to provide parents and students with information about the academic subjects offered at HillSide Christian College. This information will help students make informed decisions about their subject choices and future career goals. In Year 10, students will study a combination of subjects that align with the Australian Curriculum, as mandated by the School Curriculum and Standards Authority (SCSA). These core subjects include English, Mathematics, Science and Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS). Additionally, all students will take Christian Living, Health and Physical Education (Sport) along with a selection of elective courses in The Arts, Technologies, and Languages.

Students will choose four electives from a list of twenty-one possible offerings; each taught over two periods per week for the entire school year. It is important for students to choose their electives thoughtfully, as this year will serve as a critical stepping stone to help them prepare for future studies in senior school.

While Years 11 and 12 may still seem far away, it is important for students to start considering the prerequisites for Year 11 subjects now. For example, some courses in Year 11 require a minimum C grade, and others a B grade in Year 10. We have had students in the past who were disappointed because they did not adequately prepare in Year 9 or Year 10, which impacted their ability to select certain Year 11 subjects. Choosing subjects that align with your interests and abilities and committing to your studies will help set you up for success in future years.

Pathways Summary

It is never too early to start thinking about the future pathways you will have available to you in Years 11 and 12. At HillSide, we offer three main pathways for Senior Secondary students:

- 1. ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admission Rank) Pathway: This is for students who are aiming for direct university entrance after Year 12. It involves selecting academically challenging courses that will contribute to an ATAR score. However, it's important to note that ATAR is not the only way to enter university.
- 2. **General Pathway:** This pathway is for students who may not wish to go directly to university but are considering TAFE, vocational training, or entering the workforce. Students on this pathway may still pursue university studies through alternative routes such as bridging courses or portfolio entry.
- 3. **VET Pathway:** This pathway is suited to students who prefer hands-on learning and are looking to gain practical skills in specific industries. TAFE courses provide direct entry into the workforce or further vocational studies and are ideal for those aiming to enter trades, technical fields, or other hands-on professions.

Year 7 to Year 10 as a platform

All subjects from Year 7 through to Year 10 are designed to lay a firm foundation for Year 11 and Year 12 courses, with students gradually specialising as they progress.

Years 9 and 10

Students study all core subjects. The selected electives run for the whole year. Students have a choice to study electives from The Arts, Technologies, Health & Physical Education, and Languages.

Years 11 and 12

Students studying ATAR subjects may be offered direct entry into university by successfully completing a minimum of 4 ATAR subjects in both Years 11 and 12.

To achieve a WACE, students must attain a minimum of 14 'C' grades, or better and pass the required Literacy and Numeracy levels. Students may also qualify for university entrance with 4 ATAR and 2 General courses. It is possible to study a combination of General and ATAR courses to achieve a WACE.

Year 11 ATAR Courses currently on offer

- English
- Mathematics Applications
- Mathematics Methods
- Applied Information Technology
- Chemistry
- Human Biology

- Modern History
- Outdoor Education
- Physics
- Psychology
- Visual Art

Year 11 General Courses currently on offer

- English
- Mathematics Foundation
- Mathematics Essentials
- Applied Information Technology
- Human Biology

Students studying VET may also complete:

- Certificate II or III in Community Services
- Certificate III in Business.

- Material Design Technology Wood
- Media Production & Analysis
- Outdoor Education
- Psychology
- Visual Art

Year 10 Subject Selection Process

At HillSide, we aim to provide students with a broad range of elective subjects to foster their interests and help prepare for future academic pathways. While the four core subjects – English, Mathematics, HASS, and Science – constitute approximately 50% of total instructional time, the remaining 50% is dedicated to electives chosen from The Arts, Technologies, Health and Physical Education, and Languages.

Compulsory Subjects

The core subjects that all Year 10 students will study include:

- Christian Studies, Chapel & Emerge
- English
- Science
- Mathematics

Elective Selection

Students will choose one elective from each of the four lines provided, ensuring a balanced and diverse learning experience across their subjects. These electives run for two periods per week for the entire year.

The 2025 elective selection process will be conducted via an online portal, and login details will be provided to students separately. It is important to carefully read the subject descriptions in this handbook when making your selections.

Elective Line Structure

In designing the subject lines, we have done our best to separate options so that students with particular interests have multiple choices. For example, a student interested in Visual Arts will find Drawing on Line 1, Textiles on Line 2, Ceramics on Line 3 and Fibres and Printmaking on Line 4. This allows students to pursue a broad focus within their area of interest. However, due to staffing and resource limitations, it is not always possible to avoid clashes, and we understand that some students may be disappointed if two of their favourite subjects fall on the same line. Unfortunately, we are unable to change the structure of the lines, and students will need to make their selections based on their first preference.

Elective selections and core subjects need to be correlated with the Booklist for the year level. Students may need books for all subjects.

- Humanities & Social Sciences
- Physical Education
- Health

Elective Subjects

Line 1

- Design & Technology Wood
- Digital Photography
- Food Technology
- Performing Arts Drama
- Visual Arts Drawing

Line 2

- Design & Technology Alternative Energy
- Design & Technology Textiles
- Digital Technology
- Languages Spanish
- Music Performance
- Sport Science, Strength & Conditioning

Line 3

- Childcare
- Design & Technology Small Engines
- Outdoor Education
- Robotics
- Visual Arts Ceramics

Line 4

- Design & Technology Fibres & Print
- Design & Technology Metal
- Media Studies
- Physical Recreation
- STEAM

Prerequisites for Year 11/12 Courses

Below is a table outlining the minimum and recommended prerequisites for the Year 11 courses offered at HillSide. These prerequisites ensure that students have the necessary foundation to succeed in their chosen subjects.

ATAR Courses

Course Name	Prerequisites
Applied Information Technology	Minimum: 'C' grade in Year 10 English for Semester One Recommended: 'B' grade or higher in English for Semester One
Chemistry	Minimum: 'B' grade in Year 10 Maths and Science for Semester One Recommended: 'A' grade in Year 10 Maths Science for Semester One
English	Minimum: 'C' grade in Year 10 English for Semester One Recommended: 'B' grade or higher in English for Semester One
Human Biology	Minimum: 'B' grade or higher in Year 10 Science for Semester One
Modern History	Minimum: 'C' grade in HASS and English for Semester One Recommended: 'B' grade in HASS and English for Semester One.
Mathematics Applications	Minimum: 'C' grade in Year 10 mainstream Maths for Semester One Recommended: 'B' grade in Year 10 mainstream Maths for Semester One
Mathematics Methods	Minimum: B' grade in Year 10 mainstream Maths for Semester One Recommended: 'A' grade in Year 10 mainstream Maths for Semester One
Outdoor Education	Recommended: 'C' grade in either Year 9 or 10 OED. Reasonable fitness & swimming ability.
Physics	Minimum: 'B' grade in Maths and Science in Year 10 Semester One Recommended: 'A' grade in Maths and Science in Year 10 Semester One
Psychology	Minimum: 'C' grade in English and Science in Year 10 Semester One Recommended: 'B' grade in English and Science in Year 10 Semester One Notes: Passed OLNA Literacy and Numeracy. Sound writing and research skills required.
Visual Arts	Minimum: 'C' grade in Year 10 English for Semester One Recommended: 'B' grade in Drawing, Ceramics, Fibres & Printmaking or Textiles

General Courses

Course Name	Prerequisites
Materials Design & Technology	Year 10 Woodwork
Music	'C' grade in Year 10 Music Performance. Preferably undertaking vocal or instrumental tuition.
Outdoor Education	'C' grade in either Year 9 or 10 OED. Reasonable fitness & swimming ability.
Visual Arts	C' grade in Year 9 or 10 Drawing, Ceramics, Print & Fibre or Textiles

Compulsory Subjects

CHRISTIAN STUDIES

Christian Education

At HillSide, students will be taught about Jesus Christ and guided to find meaning in walking with Him. The curriculum builds on Biblical Literacy, prayer, worship and moral instruction. The College uses CEP resources for its content. Students will have three periods per week involving Chapel, Emerge, and Christian Studies.

Emerge

HillSide's "Emerge" program is a unique, high school initiative that supports students' spiritual, personal, and social growth from Years 7-12. Running as a weekly class, 'Emerge' offers a developmental journey that helps students deepen their understanding of themselves, their faith, and their role in the community. Starting with self-identity and personal growth in Christ in the early years, the program gradually encourages students to look beyond themselves, emphasising the value of service and community engagement. In the senior years, students are equipped with skills and insights for life beyond school, reflecting on their faith in a mature, applied way. Each year level follows a tailored curriculum, blending meaningful content with hands-on service experiences, from helping within the school to connecting with local community members. By exploring topics relevant to their developmental stage, students grow in resilience, empathy, and purpose.

In Year 10, the "Emerge" program continues its mission to deepen students' understanding of their faith, while also challenging them to critically engage with complex questions. The learning topics for Year 10 are designed to address 'Big Questions' that students may grapple with regarding their faith, the Bible, and the application of Christianity in the modern world.

As part of their curriculum, students will explore questions that probe the validity and historical reliability of the Bible, the nature of God as depicted in different testaments, and the reasoning behind key Christian doctrines. They'll engage with thought-provoking subjects such as the existence of evil and suffering, the diversity of Christian denominations, and the role of miracles today.

In addition to these intellectual explorations, Year 10 students continue the practice of 'service learning', which is an integral component of the 'Emerge' experience. This element remains consistent with the Year 9 program, wherein students actively participate in service roles within the school, documenting their experiences and contributions towards a 'service award'.

This holistic approach ensures that students are not only contemplating their beliefs but are also applying them in practical ways. By the end of Year 10, "Emerge" students are expected to have developed a well-rounded perspective on Christianity, equipped with both the knowledge and the experiential understanding to navigate their spiritual journeys with confidence and compassion.

ENGLISH

The Year 10 English course is designed to deepen students' understanding, enjoyment and aesthetics of language and appreciation of its power to influence, inspire, and reflect values. The course explores themes such as communication, storytelling, and ethical dilemmas, drawing on a variety of texts to build students' critical thinking and literacy skills. Students will study texts like *Tomorrow When the War Began* by John Marsden, where they will explore themes of friendship, survival, compassion and justice. The course also includes units on short stories and visual texts like film and picture books, fostering an appreciation for diverse perspectives.

Throughout the year, students will engage in a mix of creative, analytical, and research-based assessments. These include creating original narratives, writing analytical essays, and conducting comparative studies of adaptions. Assignments will also involve presenting and defending ideas in both written and oral formats, with a focus on refining communication skills. Exams are conducted each semester, covering a variety of assessment types to measure students' comprehension and analytical abilities.

By the end of the course, students will have developed a strong foundation in language, literature, and literacy, equipped with the skills to communicate effectively, critique media and literature thoughtfully, and approach complex themes with a Christ-centered perspective.

SCIENCE

In Science, students are encouraged in the practical application of their skills through experiments and investigations, and they examine topics like the carbon cycle, atomic structure, genetics and kinematics.

The program is designed to foster a sense of wonder at the marvels of creation. Students study the origin of the universe, biological complexity, chemical reactions, and laws of physics, connecting scientific theories to a broader worldview. Throughout the course, students are expected to develop science inquiry skills, science as a human endeavour, and science understanding by performing practical tasks, evaluating scientific information, and communicating findings.

This approach prepares students for future scientific studies and promotes critical thinking, as they learn to connect the microscopic and macroscopic scales, interpret data, and understand the scientific method's role in society.

MATHEMATICS

The Mathematics course challenges students to develop a comprehensive understanding of mathematical concepts across Numbers and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry, and Statistics and probability. Students enhance their ability to reason, calculate, and apply mathematical techniques in various contexts by focusing on real-world applications and problem-solving, preparing them for senior secondary pathways.

In this course, students will engage in topics such as compound interest in financial mathematics, quadratic equations in algebra, and Pythagoras' theorem and trigonometry in geometry. Practical applications, like interpreting statistical data and calculating probabilities, help students see the relevance of mathematics in daily life and large societal issues. Each unit encourages students to reflect on the order and design evident in God's creation through mathematical patterns and principles.

Assessments include regular tests, extended investigations, and semester exams, ensuring students apply both theoretical and practical knowledge. By the end of the course, students will have built a strong foundation in mathematical skills, equipping them for further studies in Mathematics, whether in the General or ATAR pathway.

HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

In Year 10, students will continue to engage with the four key areas of Civics and Citizenship, Economics and Business, Geography, and History. Students will engage with these subjects through a Christian lens, focusing on values such as justice, stewardship, and community participation. This course emphasises critical thinking and skill development, including questioning, researching, analysing, evaluating, communicating, and reflecting on both historical and contemporary issues.

In Civics and Citizenship, students explore Australia's role in global affairs, its democratic values, and the factors that sustain a resilient democracy. Economics and Business examines economic performance, living standards, and the role of government and business in managing the economy. Geography focuses on resource management and human wellbeing, exploring sustainability and the impact of human activities on the environment. In History, students study Australia's development in the modern world from 1918 onwards, covering key events like the inter-war period, World War II, and their influence on contemporary Australia.

This course will help students build foundational skills essential for further studies in senior secondary years and encourage them to think deeply about their role in a connected, everchanging world.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION & HEALTH

In Year 10, Physical Education & Health focuses on broadening students' understanding of health, well-being and physical activity through both theory and practical sessions. In Health, students explore community health issues, the impact of external influences on their health decisions, and refine communication techniques to foster positive interactions. Topics include analysing health messages, assessing risk behaviour, and studying relationships with a biblical perspective, with units also covering resilience, road safety through the "Keys for Life" program, identity and healthy relationships.

Physical Education emphasises the development of movement skills, teamwork, and ethical behaviour. Students engage in a variety of sports and activities, applying biomechanical principles to enhance their performance. They explore concepts like teamwork, perseverance, and sportsmanship, with a focus on embodying Christian values through athletic participation. Practical assessments and active involvement in class activities encourage students to build confidence, improve physical fitness, and work collaboratively.

Students will be assessed through practical tasks, participation in Physical Education and classwork and formal tests in Health.

Elective Subjects

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY - WOOD Elective Line 1

Students will develop practical skills in woodworking while exploring the design process. This course focuses on creativity, innovation, and problem-solving as students design and create wood-based projects. Through hands-on experience, students will gain a deeper understanding of materials, tools, and construction techniques used in woodworking, with a greater focus on wood joining techniques.

Students will learn essential skills such as cutting, shaping, and finishing wood, while also building their ability to generate detailed production plans. Using both two-dimensional and three-dimensional drawing techniques – including perspective, scale, orthogonal, and exploded views – students will bring their designs to life. Collaboration and independent work will be encouraged as students develop solutions to real-world needs or opportunities.

By the end of the course, students will have gained confidence in using tools and technologies while applying creative thinking to design projects. This course provides students with the opportunity to turn ideas into tangible products and prepares them for further studies in design and technologies.

Year 11 Courses this subject leads to

- Materials, Design and Technology - General

Contact information

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DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY Elective Line 1

Digital Photography introduces students to the fundamentals of photography, with a focus on capturing and editing digital images. Throughout the course, students will learn how to take striking photographs using different techniques such as angles, focus, and lighting. They will also develop skills in using Adobe Photoshop to enhance their images and create a digital portfolio that showcases their creativity.

The course emphasises both individual and group work, encouraging collaboration and teamwork while also considering the ethical implications of image manipulation and the importance of integrity when using editing software.

By the end of the course, students will have a strong foundation in photography and image editing, preparing them for further studies in the creative arts or media production. Assessments will include practical photography projects, research tasks, and a final portfolio that demonstrates the skills they have acquired.

Year 11 Courses this subject leads to

- Media Production & Analysis General
- Applied Information Technology ATAR
- Applied Information Technology General

Further information

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FOOD TECHNOLOGY Elective Line 1

The Food Technology course provides opportunities for students to explore and develop foodrelated interests and skills. Students study food as an essential need for the function of the human body and its relationship with good health, focusing on the role of each food group. Students also learn about the importance of safety and hygiene in the kitchen environment. Students learn through developing their practical skills and being exposed to a range of food items.

In practical classes, students prepare a variety of recipes using a number of different cooking methods, including baking, grilling and frying and begin to develop skills in the kitchen which will become an invaluable tool for the rest of their life. Students will begin to explore themes such as taste, texture, appearance and smell in Food Technology.

Year 11 Courses this subject leads to

- Food Science Technology General

Contact information

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PERFORMING ARTS - DRAMA Elective Line 1

In Drama, students will engage in practical activities to sharpen their acting skills and deepen their understanding of theatre. The course offers opportunities to explore various approaches to performance, including acting in character roles from published scripts, creating original group performances, and taking on behind-the-scenes creative roles such as directing, set design, and costume design.

Drama lessons focus on fostering creativity and teamwork, with an emphasis on creating a supportive and encouraging environment. Students will explore techniques for developing characters and working as a team to bring performances to life. Whether through solo performances or group work, students will build their confidence in front of live audiences, including their peers and the wider school community.

Students selecting Drama will also have the opportunity to perform for others, showcasing their creative work through presentations or school productions. With a blend of performance, design, and technical skills, the course provides a well-rounded foundation for those interested in theatre and creative arts.

Further information

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VISUAL ARTS - DRAWING Elective Line 1

The Drawing course is a hands-on, creative subject designed to introduce students to a wide range of artistic mediums and techniques. This course encourages students to explore their creativity, develop their unique artistic voice, and express their personal perspectives through a variety of projects.

A strong emphasis is placed on building drawing skills, which are then applied across other mediums. Students will also explore various art styles and techniques throughout the year, preparing them for future studies in Visual Arts through the ATAR or General pathways. This course can be taken alongside specialised streams such as Ceramics or Fibres and Printmaking or as a stand-alone option.

Throughout the course, students will create art projects that reflect their individual creativity while also studying the works of established artists. The course integrates both practical production and critical analysis, helping students to develop both their technical skills and their ability to interpret and respond to artistic works.

Year 11 Courses this subject leads to

- Visual Arts ATAR
- Visual Arts General

Further information

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DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY – ALTERNATIVE ENERGY Elective Line 2

The Alternative Energy course introduces students to various sustainable energy systems, including hydroelectric, solar power, wind power, and hydrogen fuel cells. Students will explore how these energy sources generate electricity and the importance of transitioning away from fossil fuels to more environmentally friendly alternatives. The course highlights the role of Christians as stewards of God's creation, promoting sustainability and responsible management of the Earth's resources.

Students will learn the fundamentals of electricity, including safety protocols for handling electrical systems. Through hands-on group projects, they will design and build working models based on one of the alternative energy systems studied. The practical components of the course will allow students to apply their understanding of electricity and engineering principles while also considering the environmental and ethical implications of energy use.

Assessments will include research tasks, soldering, the production of a complex electronic circuit, and the construction of a project focused on one of the four energy systems. The course encourages innovation, problem-solving, and critical thinking, preparing students for future studies in design and technology.

Year 11 Courses this subject leads to

- Materials, Design & Technology – General

Further information

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DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY - TEXTILES Elective Line 2

Textiles offers students the opportunity to develop hands-on skills in sewing, design, and problem-solving. Throughout the course, students will work with a variety of fabrics – woven, felt, knits, and recycled materials – to create unique and functional items such as toys, educational games, and everyday objects. With an emphasis on creativity and practicality, students will plan, design, and bring their ideas to life through projects that reflect their personal style and meet specific needs.

Students will also explore the importance of sustainability by incorporating recycled materials into their projects. The course will encourage students to think critically and work collaboratively, developing skills in design thinking, sewing techniques, and creative problem-solving. Projects will include designing and creating embroidered panels, as well as functional items that reflect their growing proficiency in textiles.

This course provides a strong foundation for students who are interested in pursuing future studies in Visual Arts.

Year 11 Courses this subject leads to

- Visual Arts ATAR
- Visual Arts General

Further information

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DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY Elective Line 2

Learning in Digital Technologies focuses on further developing understanding and skills in computational thinking and problem-solving skills. Students will work with a range of hardware and software tools to explore how digital technologies can be used to solve real-world problems. Through hands-on projects, students will design, implement, and evaluate solutions to various challenges using coding, databases, networking, and website development.

Students will gain practical skills in areas such as PC building, networking, and coding, with an introduction to advanced software like the Adobe Suite and Microsoft Office applications. Topics covered include building and maintaining computers, developing database-driven websites, and using artificial intelligence engines and simulations. In addition to technical skills, students will learn to work independently and collaboratively, improving their ability to think logically, plan projects, and communicate their ideas effectively.

This course not only prepares students for future vocational training or senior secondary studies but also emphasises responsible use of technology. Throughout the course, students will explore the ethical implications of digital advancements, learning to approach technology from a biblical worldview that values integrity, creativity, and stewardship.

Year 11 Courses this subject leads to

- Applied Information Technology General
- Applied Information Technology ATAR

Further information

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LANGUAGES - SPANISH Elective Line 2

Our Advanced Spanish Language Program for Years 9-10 is designed to challenge and inspire students as they build on their existing knowledge to reach new levels of fluency and cultural understanding. This dynamic curriculum includes immersive activities, real-world applications, and excursions that provide authentic opportunities to use Spanish in meaningful contexts. Through advanced grammar and vocabulary, students deepen their language skills while studying the unique cultures, histories, and traditions of the 21 Spanish-speaking countries.

Spanish is the second most spoken language in the world by native speakers, enabling communication with over 460 million people worldwide. Mastering Spanish not only fosters a richer understanding of global perspectives but also opens doors to international career opportunities and life-changing experiences abroad.

This comprehensive approach ensures that students develop high proficiency in Spanish, preparing them to converse confidently with native speakers, understand nuanced cultural contexts, and navigate practical situations with ease. Whether discussing social issues, exploring arts and literature, or preparing for overseas travel, students emerge from this program with both linguistic fluency and a broad appreciation of the Spanish-speaking world.

Further information

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Music Performance Elective Line 2

The Music Performance course is designed for students passionate about music, whether they specialise in instrumental or vocal performance. The course offers experience that immerses students in the world of music through practical learning, group collaboration, and individual performance. Students will focus on developing their musical techniques while building a solid foundation in music theory, composition, and aural skills.

In-class sessions will include both solo performances and group activities, where students collaborate on small ensembles and develop their ability to play or sing in harmony with others. The course encourages creativity and confidence, with regular opportunities for students to showcase their skills in a supportive environment.

This course provides an important foundation for students aiming to continue their musical studies into senior school and beyond.

Year 11 Courses this subject leads to

- Music - General

Further information

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SPORT SCIENCE, STRENGTH & CONDITIONING Elective Line 2

The Sports Science and Strength and Conditioning elective introduces foundational concepts in human biology and physical education, combining theory and practical applications to deepen students' understanding of body mechanics, fitness, and athletic performance. The course provides an introduction to human biology, focusing on anatomy and physiology to explore body structure and the musculoskeletal system. Students will examine essential principles of physical training, including strength, endurance, and flexibility, while hands-on activities reveal the physiological effects of exercise. This immersive approach enhances students' knowledge and skills in health and fitness.

In addition, students gain insight into coaching philosophies and learn effective techniques for communication, motivation, and strategy development. A section on injury prevention covers the importance of safe exercise practices, recognising common sports injuries, and implementing preventive techniques. The course encourages students to apply scientific principles to real-world training scenarios, fostering an appreciation for structured workout programs and personalised training plans. It builds a solid foundation for further study in sports science, physical education, or fitness coaching, equipping students with skills and knowledge essential for lifelong health and fitness.

Contact information

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CHILDCARE Elective Line 3

The Year 10 Childcare course provides students with foundational knowledge and practical skills to understand child development and care. The course explores important aspects of family life, pregnancy, and early childhood, focusing on the physical, emotional, and developmental needs of children. Students will learn about the different types of families, the qualities of good parenting, and essential health guidelines during pregnancy. Additionally, they will explore various methods of feeding, dressing, and caring for newborns and young children.

Practical components of the course include creating baby clothing items, such as beanies and track pants, and designing baby mobiles. Students will also delve into the basics of childcare equipment and safety, understand the developmental milestones of infants, and learn how to care for a sick child. Through hands-on activities, students will engage in tasks such as planning nutritious meals for pregnant mothers, investigating essential nursery equipment, and making toys for toddlers.

This course also emphasises the importance of creating a safe and nurturing environment for children, including lessons on hazards around the home, as well as strategies for managing common health issues in children. The knowledge and skills gained in this course prepare students for future responsibilities in childcare and parenthood, with opportunities for continued learning in related fields.

Year 11 Courses this subject leads to

- Certificate II or III in Community Services

Further information

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DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY – SMALL ENGINES Elective Line 3

Small Engines introduces students to the theory and practical workings of internal combustion engines. Students will explore how fuel is converted into mechanical energy and gain an understanding of the components and mechanisms that allow engines to function efficiently. This course offers a unique blend of practical skills and theoretical knowledge, helping students develop their technical abilities in a workshop setting.

Students will learn to safely use tools, handle materials such as oils and fuels, and follow workshop safety protocols while working on small engine projects. The course will cover engine assembly, maintenance, and troubleshooting, with opportunities for welding and mechanical repairs. Students will have a greater focus on the basics of electrical systems, fuel systems and power transmission gearbox, which are crucial for engine operation.

By the end of the course, students will have developed a strong foundation in mechanical systems and practical skills, preparing them for future pathways in design

Year 11 Courses this subject leads to

- Materials, Design & Technology – General

Further information

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OUTDOOR EDUCATION Elective Line 3

This course immerses students in both practical and theory-based learning, centred around exploring the natural world and understanding the relationships that shape our experiences within it. Through a series of outdoor pursuits and other practical life skills, students will develop skills essential for outdoor survival and environmental awareness, as well as for other areas of life. The course features multiple excursions throughout the year, along with a camp and an expedition, offering students the chance to practice their skills in real-world settings.

In addition to outdoor competencies, students will cultivate valuable life skills, such as effective communication, leadership, problem-solving, and self-management. These skills are transferable beyond the classroom and can benefit students in a variety of future contexts. Outdoor Education fosters not only an appreciation for nature but also equips students with the resilience and interpersonal skills needed for personal and professional growth.

Year 11 Courses this subject leads to

- Outdoor Education ATAR
- Outdoor Education General

Time off campus

Please note that students will spend time off campus weekly as well as participate in a camp and expedition across the year and need to be able to keep up with their other studies.

Contact information

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ROBOTICS Elective Line 3

The Year 10 Robotics course equips students with essential STEM skills to navigate and contribute to a world increasingly driven by automation. Using Lego Mindstorms EV3 kits, students will design, build, and program robots to solve real-world problems. The course is project-based, allowing students to apply problem-solving, design thinking, and coding skills in hands-on scenarios that bring their creations to life.

Throughout the course, students will develop a strong foundation in coding, enabling them to program robotic movement and automated tasks. They will tackle challenges that require precision, logical thinking, and creativity, working both independently and collaboratively. In addition to technical skills, students will learn the importance of perseverance and innovation as they test, troubleshoot, and refine their robotic solutions.

Further information

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VISUAL ARTS - CERAMICS Elective Line 3

Ceramics offers students practical experience in creating 3D artworks using clay, with an emphasis on creativity, skill development, and personal expression. Throughout the course, students will learn foundational techniques in hand-building and wheel-throwing and explore a variety of glazing and decorating methods to create both functional and decorative ceramic pieces. Each project is designed to encourage students to think critically about art.

Assessment in this course will include design journals, studio pieces, artist research, and critical analysis tasks. By the end of the course, students will have gained a solid foundation in ceramics, preparing them for further studies in Visual Arts through both the ATAR and General pathways.

Year 11 Courses this subject leads to

- Visual Arts ATAR
- Visual Arts General

Further information

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DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY – FIBRES & PRINT Elective Line 4

Fibres and Printmaking introduces students to the fundamentals of both textile and printmaking arts, focusing on creative expression and sustainable practices. Students will explore various fibre techniques, such as weaving, felting, and fabric manipulation, alongside printmaking methods like lino printing, screen printing, and collography. The curriculum encourages students to draw inspiration from Art Deco and Art Nouveau styles, applying these themes to their work as they study the elements and principles of design.

A significant aspect of the course is developing stewardship skills by learning to repurpose materials and create functional or decorative items from recycled fabrics. Students will design unique items such as table runners, cushion covers, and other home décor pieces. This course also emphasises the responsibility of using sustainable practices and materials in art.

Through a mix of practical and theoretical work; students will build skills in design thinking, problem-solving, and artistic craftsmanship, preparing them for further studies in Visual Arts in Years 11 and 12.

Year 11 Courses this subject leads to

- Visual Arts ATAR
- Visual Arts General

Further information

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DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY - METAL Elective Line 4

The Year 10 Metalwork course introduces students to the basics of metallurgy and the skills needed to shape and manipulate metal safely and effectively. Through projects, students will learn how metal responds to processes such as heating, cooling, drilling, and bending. Safety is a top priority, with students gaining a solid understanding of tool use, care, and workshop safety protocols when working with materials like oils and industrial cleaners.

Throughout the course, students will design and create small to medium-sized projects, focusing on hand skills such as cutting, shaping, filing, drilling, and riveting. Projects will also involve welding, giving students a taste of more advanced metalworking techniques. These practical skills will be supported by theoretical knowledge about metal properties and the science behind metalworking.

This course provides an excellent foundation for students interested in pursuing further studies in Design and Technology, particularly in fields related to automotive work. Due to the nature of the projects, students are required to bring a suitable change of clothes for workshop sessions.

Year 11 Courses this subject leads to

- Materials, Design & Technology – General

Further information

Mr Adrian Phipps adrian.phipps@hillside.wa.edu.au Media Studies is designed to help students understand the media they consume and the impact it has on society. Through both theoretical study and practical projects, students will explore a variety of media formats, including social media videos, advertisements, short films, and video games. They will learn how media texts are constructed, the messages they convey, and the techniques used to influence audiences.

Students will develop essential skills such as filming, editing, and media production using software tools like Adobe Premiere Pro and iMovie. Throughout the course, they will create their own media projects, including videos and advertisements, with a focus on the second semester's practical project of developing a video game. Additionally, students will critically analyse media texts, exploring ethical considerations and the power of media in shaping public opinion.

This course provides a strong foundation for students interested in continuing their studies in Media courses in Years 11 and 12. It also helps to enhance skills that are valuable in English and other subjects requiring analysis and critical thinking.

Year 11 Courses this subject leads to

- Media Production & Analysis General
- Applied Information Technology General
- Applied Information Technology ATAR

Further information

Mr Matthew Skipworth matthew.skipworth@hillside.wa.edu.au

PHYSICAL RECREATION Elective Line 4

The Year 10 Physical Recreation elective uses the Sport Education in Physical Education Program (SEPEP) model, where students take on roles such as officiating, coaching, scorekeeping, and team management. This approach allows students to be more than just participants; they become active contributors, gaining responsibility in organising teams and managing gameplay. SEPEP promotes leadership, teamwork, and decision-making, creating a richer understanding of each sport while encouraging students to take ownership of their learning and involvement.

Our aim for this unit is to create a positive, supportive environment where students build confidence, improve skills, and develop respect and responsibility through teamwork. By blending athletic development with roles and responsibilities, the Physical Recreation elective promotes sportsmanship, accountability, and collaboration. These values help students grow not only in sport but also in personal character, preparing them for life beyond the classroom.

Further information

Mr Joshua Riches joshua.riches@hillside.wa.edu.au

STEAM Elective Line 4

STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math), is a class where you get to solve problems using technology, logic, creativity, and collaboration. You will develop and use problem solving skills to investigate and solve problems that are not simply in the science area. You will use Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths, along with creative and artistic skills, to create projects, both individually and collaboratively.

The course is project-based where the focus is not just the result, but the process of getting there. The journey is as important as the destination. Think about a building. The planning and construction matter as much as the finished result. How we get somewhere is important and the STEAM course will focus on the journey. You might think, "I'm not creative, I'm not good at building stuff, I can't solve problems!" but you can ask questions. The STEAM course will help take those questions and facilitate your journey to answering some of them.

If you like thinking things through, creatively working things out, asking the "what if" questions, then this is the option for you. Just think, 2 periods a week to brainstorm, be creative and solve problems. STEAM in action!

Year 11 Courses this subject leads to

- This course will prepare students for studies in Science, Mathematics, The Arts and Technologies.

Further information

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