2027 Subject Handbook

Year 7

Lift Up Thine Eyes

VERMONT SECONDARY COLLEGE

Integrity, Respect, Excellence

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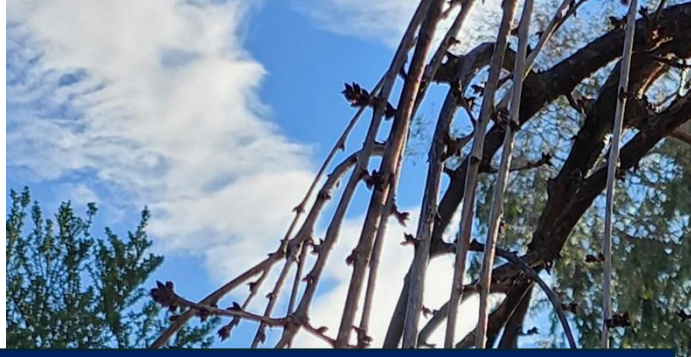

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Subject Overview

The curriculum at Vermont Secondary College in Years 7 and 8 is rich, varied and challenging. The curriculum is based on the Victorian Curriculum and the understanding that the early years of secondary education should provide a solid intellectual grounding in all subject areas.

Year 7 Subjects

Year Long Subjects	Semester Length Subjects
Digital Technologies	Commerce
English	Geography
Health & Physical Education	History
Language: German or French	Materials Technology
Mathematics	Music
Science	Visual Arts

Digital Technologies

In Digital Technologies, students build ICT skills and appreciation of how to design, create, manage and evaluate innovative digital solutions to meet needs. Students will explore an understanding of online safety, privacy and protocols.

Subject Content

- **How to set up their computer to work effectively, including password management.**
- **Appropriate codes of conduct when communicating online and managing digital footprints.**
- **Digital systems and how data can be represented.**
- **How to retrieve data from databases and use spreadsheets to manipulate data.**
- **Coding, programming, and robotics.**

Assessment Tasks

- **Effective use of software functions in PowerPoint**
- **Choosing a mobile phone**
- **Creating a video to provide advice on managing digital footprints**
- **Spreadsheet data analysis**
- **Coding challenges with Sphero robots**

Additional Costs

Excursions and/or Incursions and will be charged prior to the activity.

English

Students are engaged in reading, viewing, listening to, writing, creating, comparing, researching and talking about a range of text types. Students will explore the meaning of texts and how meaning is conveyed. They will develop critical understanding about the ways writers and speakers control language to influence their listeners, readers and viewers.

Assessment Tasks

- **Assessment**
- **Writing tasks**
- **Speaking tasks**
- **Reading and responding tasks**

Additional Costs

Excursions and/or Incursions and will be charged prior to the activity.

Languages

Students choose between:

French

Students use French to describe their personal worlds and to interact and collaborate with their teachers and peers within and beyond the classroom. Listening, speaking, reading, writing and viewing activities are supported by scaffolding, modelling and feedback. Covered topics include personal introductions, family, pets, school, food, French villages - shops and facilities, houses, rooms, furniture, daily routine, telling the time, hobbies, holiday activities and chores.

Assessment Tasks

- **Listening**
- **Reading**
- **Writing**
- **Speaking**

Additional Costs

Competition (optional), excursions and/or Incursions and will be charged prior to the activity.

or

German

Students use German to describe their personal worlds and to interact and collaborate with their teachers and peers within and beyond the classroom. Listening, speaking, reading, writing and viewing activities are supported by scaffolding, modelling and feedback. Covered topics include personal introductions, school, family, pets, clothes, telling the time, daily routine, hobbies, food, drinks, the weather, buildings, giving directions, house types, rooms and furniture.

Assessment Tasks

- **Listening**
- **Reading**
- **Writing**
- **Speaking**

Additional Costs

Competition (optional), excursions and/or Incursions and will be charged prior to the activity.

Mathematics

Students develop useful mathematical skills applicable to numeracy across the curriculum, solve practical real-life problems, build up specialist knowledge that provides for further study in the discipline and strengthen their confidence in their personal knowledge of mathematics.

Assessment Tasks

- **Topic tests**
- **Assignments**
- **Semester tests**

Additional Costs

Competition (optional), excursions and/or Incursions and will be charged prior to the activity.

Science

Students in Year 7 explore the nature and development of science and how it influences our society whilst learning essential scientific skills and understandings. They are introduced to the strands of Biology by exploring classification of living things, Chemistry via separation techniques, Physics through exploring the effect of forces on an object and simple machines, and Earth and Space sciences by studying the sun, earth and moon, and how this affects seasons and tides.

Assessment Tasks

- **Scientific reports**
- **Research tasks**
- **Tests**

Additional Costs

Excursions and/or Incursions and will be charged prior to the activity.

Health and Physical Education

Year 7 Health and Physical Education is a coeducational program incorporating a wide range of activities designed to develop movement, coordination, control, as well as interpersonal skills enabling students to function effectively as a part of a group or team and to promote knowledge and understanding of the importance of physical activity and optimal health and wellbeing. Physical Education activities focus on movement skills including dance, gymnastics and athletics, invasion, net/wall, striking games and sports. The Year 7 Health unit covers a variety of topics including Social and Emotional Wellbeing, Mental Health and Wellbeing, Food and Nutrition, Puberty and Reproduction, Safe Behaviours and Drugs and Alcohol. Across Health and Physical Education, students develop personal and social capabilities including managing respectful relationships, resilience, empathy for others, emotional literacy and teamworking skills.

Assessment Tasks

- **Movement skills**
- **Strategic application and teamwork**
- **Goal setting task**
- **MasterChef assignment**
- **Test**

Additional Costs

Excursions and/or Incursions and will be charged prior to the activity.

Commerce

Students will identify ways that they can be active and informed citizens who are able to contribute and act in life and in society. A broad overview of civics and citizenship is provided, including the following topics:

- **Australia's system of government and how citizens elect their representatives**
- **How laws are made and the principles underpinning our legal system**
- **Citizenship, diversity & identity**
- **Consumer & financial literacy and preparation of a budget**
- **Work and financial goals**
- **Economics, cost-benefit analysis and consumerism**

Assessment Tasks

- **Issue analysis**
- **Research project**
- **Class tests**

Additional Costs

Excursions and/or Incursions and will be charged prior to the activity.

Geography

Year 7 Geography students learn the basics in geographical skills, such as mapping and interpreting data. Students will first study place and liveability, then investigate their local area. Students will do local fieldwork at Bellbird Dell and write a report on their findings. The second unit is water in the world, with a focus on water as a resource in Australia. Students will have the opportunity to compare water in Australia to Africa, examining water scarcity in these regions.

Assessment Tasks

1. **Geographical skills test**
2. **Bellbird Dell fieldwork**
3. **African choropleth map**
4. **African water scarcity group presentation**

Additional Costs

Competition (optional), Excursions and/or Incursions and will be charged prior to the activity.

History

Students are introduced to the ancient world, sequencing and analysing significant events in pre-colonised Australia, Ancient Egypt and one other ancient society. Students explore historical concepts and patterns of change relating to the formation of civilisations and reflect on their importance in modern times. They are exposed to a variety of sources and interpret historian perspectives to evaluate history.

Assessment Tasks

- **Ancient Australia source analysis**
- **Ancient Egypt source analysis and extended response**
- **Ancient society historical inquiry**

Additional Costs

Excursions and/or Incursions and will be charged prior to the activity.

Materials Technology

Students work with a range of resistant materials - wood, metal and plastic. They are introduced to the design process and different tools, techniques and processes. Students use design thinking skills to generate ideas and evaluate their work. They use the skills learnt to create a self-directed problem-solving project at the end of the unit.

Assessment Tasks

- **Wooden Toy**
- **Plastic Wind Spinner**
- **Metal Arthropod**
- **LED Light Sculpture**
- **Materials Investigation**

Curriculum Link

Victorian Curriculum Design and Technologies
Pathway to VCE Product Design & Technologies Units 1 - 4

Additional Costs

Costs may be applied if students request materials that are over above the standard curriculum offered. Excursions and/or Incursions and will be charged prior to the activity.

Music

Students actively participate in experiencing the enjoyment of music-making by developing basic performance skills, as well as fostering an understanding and appreciation of the elements of music. Much of the subject understanding is achieved through an integration of practical and theoretical activities. Students also recognise the expressive and musical characteristics of a wide range of music through listening and creative work.

Assessment Tasks

- **Theory**
- **Composition**
- **Research tasks**
- **Appreciation**

Additional Costs

Costs may be applied if students request materials that are over above the standard curriculum offered. Excursions and/or Incursions and will be charged prior to the activity.

Visual Arts

Students work in a variety of art genres, exploring how artists use a range of materials to express different ideas in art making. Exposure to drawing and printing techniques are complemented with sculptural experiences in fibre and clay. Students explore different ways of producing art and how to look at art with different lenses. Students look at the art of others and use design thinking skills to broaden their knowledge and understanding of art.

Assessment Tasks

- **Collaborative Village**
- **From Observation to Print**
- **Soft Sculpture**
- **Portraiture as Identity**
- **Art Analysis Journal**

Additional Costs

Costs may be applied if students request materials that are over above the standard curriculum offered. Excursions and/or Incursions and will be charged prior to the activity.