

How Teaching Works at Warrnambool College

YEAR 7 OVERVIEW

Warrnambool College aims to provide students with a wide range of relevant and stimulating academic, cultural and practical experiences. The subjects you study may vary more than in primary school and for each subject you may have a different teacher.

Warrnambool College have introduced year level themes to assist in the smooth transition year to year within the College. The theme for Year 7 is based on **STUDENT CONNECTION** to the College under the banner **IDISCOVER**. Focus skills include CONFIDENCE, FRIENDSHIPS, VALUES and SAMPLING what secondary school has to offer each individual.

LITERACY AND NUMERACY IN CLASS SUPPORT PROGRAM

Warrnambool College believes literacy and numeracy are the cornerstones for academic success throughout life. Additional classroom support is offered to teachers and students from years 7 – 10 and is integrated into all curriculum areas and plays a vital role in the school.

Year 7 Core Course Information

The aim of Warrnambool College's curriculum at Year 7 is to provide students with a balanced, broad education and to assist them in making a smooth transition from Primary to Secondary school. The school year is divided into two semesters, with subjects organised in accordance with the table on the final page.

ENGLISH

All students undertake a common course in English. Students learn to analyse a range of texts including plays, short stories, non-fiction, poetry and film. Students build a foundation of analytical skills and a critical understanding about the ways writers and speakers control language to influence their listeners, readers and viewers. Skills built include text study, narrative writing, language analysis and media analysis.

MATHEMATICS

The Mathematics program aims to ensure that students can develop useful mathematical and numeracy skills for everyday life and can apply mathematical concepts, skills and processes to solve problems in mathematics and in other contexts. The curriculum focuses on developing mathematical understanding in the areas of Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry and Statistics and Probability. Students will utilise the online software, *'Math Pathways'*, to provide an individualised learning program for each student.

SCIENCE

The Science course introduces students to basic scientific concepts and practices. Student's study being a scientist, mixing and separating, water as a resource, ecosystems and classification, force and space. In Year 8, students study topics which include consumer science, cells of life, systems for survival, matter, chemical reactions, geology and renewable and non-renewable energy.

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The areas of Health, Physical Education and Sport are all covered to give students the basic understanding and skills within each discipline. Health focuses on physical health and development, nutrition, problem solving and making informed decisions about personal health. Physical Education develops motor skills, strategic thinking and tactical knowledge through the introduction of games, athletics and fitness. Students learn to identify factors that influence their motivation to be physically active. Sport Education aims to deliver extensive opportunities for all students to experience a wide variety of sporting and recreational activities.

LANGUAGES

An introductory course in each of French and Indonesian is taught in Year 7. At the end of Year 7, students are required to choose one language for study – French or Indonesian – which is compulsory until the end of Year 8. At Warrnambool College, we use a communicative approach to language study, combining listening, speaking, reading and writing skills that focus on everyday life situations. The focus is students developing meaning and understanding both the culture and the language.

Year 7 topics covered in Indonesian and French include basic greetings, numbers, family, colours, food, culture and introductory grammar.

HUMANITIES

Year 7 humanities incorporate the four disciplines of History, Geography, Economics and Civics and Citizenship. The disciplines are introduced and explored through various topics. Students are encouraged and guided to develop their understanding of each discipline and how they are interconnected. Students start to question different views of history before they look in-depth at the ancient civilizations of Egypt and Rome. Students investigate qualities of Australian of the Year recipients, build mapping and timeline skills, reflect on the importance of water for humanity's survival, and investigate why people choose to live where they do.

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

The aim of Digital Technology is to ensure students recognise the rights, responsibilities and opportunities of living, learning and working in an interconnected digital world, and they act and model in ways that are safe, legal and ethical. Students develop the necessary skills to use digital technology efficiently, effectively and responsibly across all learning areas. These are essential skills for success in the 21st century.

Topics covered include: coding, cyber safety, personal learning styles and multiple intelligence's, effectively using technology for learning and reflective writing for authentic audiences.

VISUAL ARTS

The Arts at Warrnambool College provide students with the opportunity to express themselves creatively. Through the performing arts and visual arts, students challenge themselves to respond to new ideas and develop knowledge of other people, places and time periods. They learn critical thinking skills through the analysis and interpretation of their own and other's ideas, engaging their minds to sort out their own reactions to new and innovative ideas, techniques and mediums. The Arts allows students to express and explore creative concepts, develop communication skills for the modern age, and build confidence in themselves and their ideas.

PERFORMING ARTS

As part of their core subject's students take three arts-related subjects: Art, Drama and Music. Students also have the option of studying Instrumental Music. These subjects expose students to diverse creative opportunities and enable personal expression and build confidence. Students who find a passion for these subjects have the opportunity to pursue this passion throughout their schooling experience and explore further options available.

FOOD STUDIES

Food Studies introduces students to the basics of food hygiene and safety, nutrition and food preparation. Food Technology gives students an insight into their food and the choices they make as valuable life skills. Students then have the opportunity to put this into practice by developing their own cooking abilities to demonstrate skills and knowledge while working in a safe manner.

SPORTING PATHWAYS PROGRAM

The program aims to develop the 'whole athlete' with a focus on applied science Strength and Conditioning Programs along with advanced fitness sessions using the latest advances in fitness styles, techniques and equipment. Students do not attend Physical Education and Health classes as this core content is taught whilst undertaking their three sessions per week in the High Performance Centre and two sport specific training sessions per week.

Reporting at Warrnambool College

The ability to provide feedback to Parents/Guardians and students on learning progress in a timely manner is imperative to ensure that students learn from their mistakes and demonstrate improvement. As a result, reports will be completed **SIX** times per year and will be accessible in the Compass online learning management system. In these reports teachers will utilise set rubrics to assess students' 'Attitude and Effort' and 'Academic' achievement across all subjects enabling comparisons to be made between subjects and cycles. At Warrnambool College, we believe that by emphasising the value of a students' Attitude and Effort towards their learning, we are able to improve their academic outcome.

How the Curriculum at Warrnambool College is Structured

Subject	7Core	7SEAL	7SPP
<u>Year length – lessons per week per subject</u>			
English	3	3	3
Maths	3	3	3
Science	2	3	2
Humanities	2	2	2
Languages	2	2	2
Physical Education	2	2	
Visual Art	2	1	2
Health	1	1	
SPP			4
<u>Semester Length – lessons per week per subject</u>			
Music	1	1	
Drama	1	1	
Digital Technology	2	2	2
Food Studies	2	2	2