Middle Years Information

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This Program Guide is designed to provide information about the curriculum programs offered by Carrum Downs Secondary College. Questions regarding any aspect of this program may be directed to the following course counsellors on 9788 9100.

Principal: Marie Walker
Assistant Principal – Year 7, 8 & 9: Lisa Holt
Assistant Principal – Year 10, 11 & 12: Sherallen Smith
Business Manager: Bev Boys
Curriculum Leader: Kate Turner
Literacy Curriculum Leader: Rachel Colvin
Numeracy Program Manager: Melodie Moltzen
Applied Learning Leader: Katrina King
Gilmore Sub School Leader: Nathan Vogt
ANZAC Sub School Leader: Katie Johnson
Flynn Sub School Leader: Michael Melfi
Arts & Society Senior Sub School Leader: Hannah Cunnington
Health & Community Senior Sub School Leader: Jodie Galea
Science & Technology Senior Sub School Leader: Raquel Nixon
Learning Support Coordinator: Athina Caravatas
Careers Education Coordinator: Chris Bell
Careers/Pathways & Senior School Administrator: Nancy Huez

Introduction

A key feature of Carrum Downs Secondary College is that the curriculum and structure have been designed to enable teachers, students and parents to develop close and positive relationships with each other. This is based on our belief that students learn well and teachers teach well when they know each other, respect each other and have the trust and willingness to work together. The role of the Pastoral Care Teacher is an integral part of the program.

Carrum Downs Secondary College is a school acknowledged for the quality of relationships between school community members, its innovative curriculum programs and the extraordinary achievements of its students. Our vision is that students of Carrum Downs Secondary College will become lifelong learners, reflective and creative thinkers and responsible and active citizens.

The College operates a Career Pathways program, which is aimed at assisting students in planning for their future, whether this is completing Post Compulsory studies (courses offered after Year 10) at CDSC and university or pursuing other options such as TAFE or an apprenticeship.
Course Structure

Each course will consist of the following lessons per week:

- **5 X 20 MINS PASTORAL CARE CLASSES** - focusing on relationships, personal development, restorative justice, pathway planning, careers, job skills and study skills.

- **11 X 70 MINS CORE CLASSES** - comprises of a variety of skill development tasks such as Personal Learning Tasks, Literacy, Mathematical Investigation and Maths Skills, Integrated Theme Based/ Investigative Based Learning.

- **3 X 70 MINS ELECTIVE CLASSES EACH SEMESTER** – electives will run for 1 semester and are aimed at providing CDSC students with the opportunity to explore their own educational interests. This will allow our students to make more informed decisions for their Post Compulsory Studies. Music Performance and Japanese are the only subjects that run for a whole year. Electives will change after Semester 1.

Sample Timetable Only (Electives run for 1 semester only):

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<tr>
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<th>MONDAY</th>
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<td>Elective 1</td>
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<td>Elective 3</td>
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<td>Period 3 12:05pm - 1:15pm</td>
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Integrated Investigations

The year will be broken up into various learning investigation units. The investigations Year 9 students engage in and explore, cover various areas of the curriculum. Some of the examples are listed below:

1. **MIND, BODY AND SPIRIT** - Students have an opportunity to explore various cultures in a number of different areas covered by this topic, such as religion and alternative lifestyles.

2. **TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS** - is an opportunity for all students to become mini entrepreneurs. They will work in a team to develop their own business with the aim being to make money at the end of the Enterprise day. The students will see and experience various business settings with an excursion to Mornington Markets and also Frankston to research what makes a good business. The students will create and sell a product or service to make a profit, through the development of a business plan.

3. **BUILDING COMMUNITIES** - Students will broaden their knowledge of the local community and the City of Melbourne with an exploration of the city and surrounds. The students explore the different train lines to research various suburbs in order to make comparisons in various aspects (e.g. housing and density). The finale to this unit of work will be an excursion to Melbourne where students will navigate their way around the city in small groups. Students will conduct an individual research project focusing on a physical or recreational activity with the Carrum Downs community.

4. **GLOBALISATION** - This topic broadens students’ awareness of current world events and allows them scope to investigate issues of personal interest such as poverty, hunger and disease globally. Students are also introduced to various world organisations and their functions, for example the United Nations and the World Health Organisation. Other issues covered in this unit include scarcity of resources, such as water.

*(These topics are flexible and subject to changes)*
The following outlines the College charges for Year 9 students in 2014. The College Council endeavours to keep the costs of your child’s education as affordable as possible while at the same time providing students with the materials and services expected from a high quality program.

This has been achieved by using the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development's grant to purchase in bulk, and at school prices, books, materials, equipment and services necessary for each subject. Our Essential Materials and Services Charge and our Electives Charges are used to purchase materials and consumables provided in subjects where the student consumes or takes possession of the finished article.

All students access, and benefit from, the items listed under the Essential Materials and Services Charge. It is vital that the highest standards of service are maintained at all times and this can be guaranteed by your support in this area. It is a normal and reasonable expectation that these charges are met in full by the parents, guardians or students.

It has been decided that we will not put textbooks on the booklist for Year 9 students. This will result in a saving to parents in excess of $200.00. In lieu of this we have a Text Book Hire Fee of $100.00 for each student. We will use this money to purchase class sets of texts books which will give students access to a wider range of research and learning materials. We believe this is a large saving to parents and of greater benefit to students.

**All payments for electives must be made by Friday 29 November 2013, unless prior arrangements have been made with the Business Manager.**

**PAYMENT PLAN**

Please contact the Business Manager to organise payment arrangements.
Choosing What to Study in Year 9

Some of the most important decisions you make at school include choosing units of study or subjects to take in Years 9 and 10, followed by the selection of a course of study for Years 11 and 12. These are important decisions since they may directly affect your success at school and how you feel about school. They will also affect your career plans when you leave school.

OVERALL PLAN

As an overall plan, it is suggested that you choose subjects or units:

→ you enjoy and are passionate about
→ in which you have already had some success
→ which will help you achieve your chosen career goals, or will keep your career options open
→ which will develop skills, knowledge and attitudes useful throughout your life.

If you follow the guidelines below and ask for help when you need it, you should be able to plan a course of study that is appropriate for you and that you enjoy.

GUIDELINES

1. KEEP YOUR OPTIONS OPEN

At the moment you may not know exactly what you want to do when you finish school. This is normal because at this stage in your life it is important to explore many options. It is wise to keep your options open. This means choosing a variety of units or subjects which make it possible for you to continue exploring your career options before making more definite decisions in the future. Core classes will provide skill development in the following areas:

→ English → Science
→ Mathematics → Studies of Society and Environment (SOSE)

These study areas provide excellent foundation skills for your future career and your personal life. In addition, you will be able to choose from a range of electives that are designed to develop your interests and practical skills. These generally come from the following areas:

→ Technology → Humanities
→ Art and The Arts → Health and Physical Education

A small number of students may want to study an elective for the full year (eg. Japanese or Music). Please discuss this with your Pastoral Care Teacher.
2. THINK ABOUT CAREER OPTIONS

It is helpful to have some ideas about possible career choices, even though these may change as you learn more about yourself and the world of work. In Pastoral Care you will undertake some investigation and begin your career pathway plans. Below are some resources that may be helpful for further investigation:

→ **Myfuture** ([www.myfuture.edu.au](http://www.myfuture.edu.au)) – this website is Australia’s national career information service


  
  *Your School Login*: carrumsc
  
  *Your School Password*: galaxy96

3. FIND OUT ABOUT THE SUBJECTS OR UNITS OF STUDY OFFERED

It is important to find out as much as possible about the subjects or units of study offered. The following ideas will help:

→ Read the subject or unit descriptions in this booklet.

→ Ask your teachers about particular subjects.

→ Listen carefully at class talks

→ Attend course information and selection nights.

4. BE PREPARED TO ASK FOR HELP AND BE REALISTIC ABOUT YOUR ABILITY

If you need more help, then ask for it. Talk to your parents, teachers, Pastoral Care teachers, Sub School Leaders and Principals. Make use of the school course selection program. Look at the resources suggested in this handout. You’ll feel much more confident about your selection of a study program.
Elective Course Descriptions

Art
In Art practical work is based on developing the skills and techniques associated with previously experimented two-dimensional Art media. Students will design and make murals and poster art, working individually or in a group. Theoretical work will include further understanding of the visual elements and the technical aspects of applying media.

Assessment Tasks:
1) Folio of finished works
2) Exploring materials and techniques
3) Theory

Basic Forensic Investigation
Apply scientific knowledge and process to fictional crime style situations using appropriate methods. The subject may include fingerprinting, DNA comparisons, tyre/foot printing, timelines, lip prints, microscopy, looking at transport accidents and other techniques that Forensic Investigators might use. There is a large theory component to this class, along with practical activities to support understanding.

Assessment Tasks:
1) Analytical tasks
2) Creative tasks
3) Research assignment
4) Workbook

Body Science (Introduction to Biology)
This elective will look at the science of the Human Body. Find out how the different systems of the human body function and inter-relate to make you who you are. This may include the digestive, immune, nervous, skin, hormonal, muscular and skeletal systems. Learn how your body systems work together to keep you healthy, and understand what happens when things in the body go wrong. Working independently and in groups, students will have the chance to negotiate what tasks they choose to undertake to stretch their scientific minds and abilities.

Assessment Tasks:
1) Research project
2) Group assignment
3) Research on health issue

Boys’ Health & Physical Recreation
This is a boys only PE/Health class. In practical PE classes boys will experience a wide range of sporting activities. The sport/activity will be changed regularly and give students the opportunity to learn not only the skills used in a game but the roles of coaching and refereeing. There is also a health component where students will study the issues that affect health with a specific focus on improving an awareness of boys’ health.

Assessment Tasks:
1) Research task
2) Self-assessment & rating
3) Skills analysis
**Business Management** (includes introduction to Accounting and Economics)

This subject will give you an introduction to small business. You will learn about the different types of small businesses. You will set up a mini business such as a sausage sizzle or cake stall and raise money for charity. You will learn about all aspects of running a business, including: advertising, interviewing staff and writing a business plan.

**Assessment Tasks:**

1) Business plan for a small business  
2) Entrepreneur assignment (study of a famous business person)  
3) Planning and operating a successful market stall

**Ceramics**

In Ceramics, practical work is based on the manipulative skills and techniques needed to create sculptural and functional forms from clay. Students will participate in clay making activities that aim to continue their experimentation, adaptation and discovery while developing their technical and aesthetic abilities. Theoretical work will concentrate on developing an understanding of the different techniques used by the potter with firing and glazing information.

**Assessment Tasks:**

1) Draft work  
2) Building techniques  
3) Completed folio of work  
4) Evaluation

**Conversational Spanish**

During this elective students will explore the various Spanish cultures of Spain and Latin America. Basic conversational Spanish will be introduced, including greetings, and food and travel vocabulary. They will learn through interactive media, including online resources, iPads, iPods and role-play. Students will also participate in international correspondence with our sister school in Torrelavega, Spain.

**Assessment Tasks:**

1) Tasks & tests  
2) Oral presentations & role-plays

**Debating**

Do you enjoy a good argument? Are you passionate about issues that affect you and the world? When studying debating, you will learn how to voice your opinions logically and effectively. You will learn how to write speeches, research issues and respond to opposing arguments. You will also work with your classmates in teams representing CDSC in an inter-school debating competition outside school time. So come along and stand up for yourself, your beliefs and your school!

**Assessment Tasks:**

1) Research on topic  
2) Preparation for a debate  
3) Presentation in at least 2 debates
Design Technology – Materials

Take a look around you. All man-made products have been designed and manufactured following a similar design process. This unit will explore the design process by furthering the skills you were introduced to in Year 7. It will allow you to design and manufacture products from a combination of wood, metals and plastics. You will be involved in using your imagination and being creative, developing solutions to set design briefs.

Assessment Tasks:
1) Completion of products in woods, metals, plastics
2) Co-operation and group work
3) Theory workbook

Digital Photography

Students who select this subject will study both digital and video cameras. Students will learn various techniques such as red eye elimination and light addition.

Assessment Tasks:
1) Produce a digital portfolio
2) Presentation of finished works
3) Workbook

Fabrics & Design

Are you interested in any part of the fashion industry – designing clothes, making clothes, research into fashion across the ages, modelling and marketing? Develop your own folio full of original designs all created by you. Create and make your own wearable clothing. Funky pyjama pants, original singlets, cool A-line skirts are just a few of the garments you will be able to make.

You will also have the opportunity to design and make jewellery, create appliqué and other decorative techniques for fabric.

Assessment Tasks:
1) Sewing Licence
2) Calico dye bags
3) Fashion illustration
4) T-shirt design
5) Pyjama pants
6) Wheat bags
7) Logo design
8) Fashion designer research
9) Magazine cover

Food Technology

This subject will introduce the concept of a design brief through theory sessions. You will also begin to understand basic nutrition principles and to confidently operate kitchen equipment safely. There is an introduction to basic health and safety principles in the kitchen area, and the chance to improve your general overall food knowledge and cooking abilities.

Assessment Tasks:
1) Design & produce cake
2) Plan party
3) Research international food
Girls’ Health & Physical Education
This is a girls only PE/ Health class. In practical classes students will participate in a variety of sports and activities. Activities in the past have included yoga, hip hop, surfing and dance. The sport/activity will be changed regularly and give students the opportunity to learn not only the skills used in a game but the roles of coaching and refereeing. Students will also study the issues that affect health with a specific focus on improving an awareness of girls’ health.

Assessment Tasks:
1) Research Task
2) Self-Assessment & Rating
3) Skills analysis

History – Saints & Sinners
A historical look at the heroic and notorious figures that helped shaped the world. Find out about freedom fighters such as Ghandi and Mandela, as well as nefarious figures including Stalin and Mussolini.

This subject will help develop your research and reporting skills. Students will conduct research using books and internet resources, and report what they have learned in oral and written forms.

Assessment Tasks:
1) Research project
2) Folio/Workbook
3) Oral presentation

ICT - Programming
Would you like to learn how computer programmers tell a computer how to do the things you see happening? If you said yes, this is the course for you. You will learn basic concepts behind writing computer programs with an emphasis on geometrical shapes. The goal is for students to learn the importance and practical aspects of mathematics, processes, problem solving, and critical thinking. Students will learn how to create a website using HTML codes and FrontPage as well as participate in online forums to discuss various issues in ICT.

Assessment Tasks:
1) Creating a quiz using LOGO
2) Creating a Website
3) Record of completed class tasks

Introduction to Chemistry
This course covers the fundamentals of chemistry with laboratory applications. Topics include states of matter, periodic tables, basic atomic theory, types of atomic bonds, chemical reactions, chemistry of water and sporty substances, as well as lab safety and practical report writing. On completion, students should be able to understand and apply basic chemical concepts and demonstrate basic laboratory skills necessary for success in senior-level science courses.

Assessment Tasks:
1) Practical tasks & reports
2) Written Assessments
3) Extended experiments
4) Completed workbook
Introduction to Music

This subject is a semester-long subject designed to provide a broad range of musical experiences. Students can expect to learn the basics of playing technique on the guitar and piano, and be able to perform simple songs (solo and in a group) on these instruments by the end of the subject. They should also expect to cover the following theory topics: understanding different beat and rhythm in music, reading and writing music notation, intensive aural studies, music theory, music history (classical and popular), music technology and the internet, composition and improvisation, setting up and using PA systems and other electronic equipment.

This subject is ideal for those students who wish to have a go at an instrument and gain a better idea of the hard work it really takes to become a musician.

Assessment Tasks:
1) Development of skills in playing instrument
2) Workbook

Introduction to Psychology

Would you like to learn about the mind and the behaviours of humans? Explore different types of Psychology such as forensic, mental illnesses, personality types and dealing with grief and loss.

Assessment Tasks:
1) Research reports
2) Oral presentation
3) Picture story book
4) Tests

Japanese

This course is for students who have mastered the basics of hiragana recognition or feel that they need an extra challenge in their language learning. It will introduce students to the basics of the katakana and kanji writing systems. Students will be encouraged to use their language skills to communicate via e-mail, letters, and other technologies with each other, and students of their age in Japan. The development of students' speaking and pronunciation skills will be a focus of the course. Exciting opportunities will be available to learn more about the Japanese culture through activities such as cooking, sumo wrestling, and craft. This course will be the perfect preparation for planned future school trips to Japan. (Students will study this elective for the whole year.)

Assessment Tasks:
1) Tasks & tests on basic hiragana, katakana & kanji
2) Oral presentations & role-plays

Literature

Welcome to the world of haunting vampires, tragic death and destruction, and hilarious love stories. Together we will read and explore short stories, novels, Shakespeare, poetry and films. Students will be required to analyse, discuss and write responses to texts, and attempt to write in the styles of their favourite authors. If you like fiction, the chance to escape reality or a bit of romance then this is definitely the subject for you!

Assessment Tasks:
1) Short story writing
2) Analytical text response
3) Creative text response
4) Anthology
Media

This subject introduces students to the fundamental aspects of the mass media and its relationship to society. These include advertising and marketing techniques, and the different forms of writing in the media. It then goes on to examine film techniques, codes and conventions and the purpose/nature of film. It does not involve making short movies, but examines the ways in which movie makers get their message to their audience.

Assessment Tasks:

1) Narrative & Genre study
2) Production piece
3) Print media

Mosaics

During this elective students will learn about the ancient form of mosaic art and how it is used today. Students will learn how to make simple individual projects using ceramic and glass, and be able to extend their knowledge into interest based areas such as making and/or decorating paving stones, the design and production of murals and friezes, plaques, and other indoor and outdoor projects. There may be an excursion to view art works off site and students will be participating in some community projects for the school, developing combined ideas into collaborative projects.

There is a theory component which students will be expected to complete as a major part of the assessment.

Assessment Tasks:

1) Research assignment
2) Folio
3) Practical Work

Music Performance

The semester long Instrumental Music subject is designed only for students who are or will be learning an instrument for the entire year. Classes will be focused around practice and performance strategies on each student’s particular instrument, with the aim of developing their solo and ensemble performing skills.

However, students should also expect to cover the following theory topics: careers in music, reading and writing music notation, intensive aural studies, music theory, music history (classical and popular), music technology and the internet, composition and improvisation, setting up and using PA systems and other electronic equipment.

Please note: *Students who are seriously considering taking Music subjects at senior levels must take this subject.

*It is highly recommended that students take private lessons for their major instruments.

Assessment Tasks:

1) Ability to play musical instrument
2) Performance to audience
Outdoor Education

This unit will allow students to gain a greater understanding of the environment around them through experiencing several different outdoor activities, including bush walking, surfing, orienteering and rock climbing. Students will make choices to develop a flexible program that explores various aspects of their environment. They will learn about different park types and experience challenging situations.

Assessment Tasks:
1) Research tasks  3) Trip participation
2) Reflective journal  4) Leadership skills

Politics and The Law

Students will investigate the political system of Australia including the nature of democracy, elections and political parties. They will explore current issues and run a mock election. Students will also look into the nature of Australia’s legal system, considering the tiers of government, their processes and individual cases. They will run a trial and make arguments on current legal cases.

There may also be the opportunity to visit the Victorian State Parliament and police stations as part of this course of study.

Assessment Tasks:
1) Research project  4) Class participation
2) Analysis of political system  5) Workbook
3) Analysis of legal system

School of Film and Television

Learn to make short film, sit coms, commercials and video clips. Students will produce their own short films that will be entered into Australia’s biggest short film festival, Trop Fest. Students will be taught how to act on film, operate cameras, apply makeup, and write exciting scripts. The course will also teach students editing skills with Imovies software. Students will compete for the grand prize of best short film judged at our film festival.

Assessment Tasks:
1) Research tasks  3) Produce a Movie
2) Write a Script  4) Work in Teams

Team Sports

This subject involves participating and being an active member in various team sports, which may include sports such as basketball, hockey and cricket. Students will learn how to coach, umpire and run activities. The theory component of the subject will involve learning about minor games, sportsmanship, codes of conduct and the different roles and responsibilities of being a part of a team sport. Additional topics will include skill acquisition, diet & exercise and training.

Assessment Tasks:
1) Peer assessment – coaching and teaching a lesson
2) Poster/PowerPoint assignment and presentation on a team sport
3) Term test
The Study of Theatre & Drama

The elective will include topics such as story-telling, mime, improvisation, role play, movement, devised drama, scripted drama, monologue and ensemble work. There will be theoretical aspects of drama such as scriptwriting and performance analysis. Students will develop an understanding of drama from different social, historical and cultural contexts. Students will study a variety of theatrical forms such as non-naturalism and commedia dell’arte and incorporate this theory work into practical performances.

Assessment Tasks:

5) Self-devised ensemble performance
6) Ensemble analysis
7) Solo performance
8) Solo analysis
9) End of semester exam

Understanding Geography

Take a trip around the world with this exciting, geography based elective. From rainforests to deserts, Antarctica to the Amazon, journey into the most spectacular and diverse places the world has to offer. Learn skills to do with mapping, weather and describing physical features. A great elective for those interested in exotic and faraway places, as well as our own doorstep! We hope to organise a fieldwork trip to identify and collect evidence (excursions will incur a cost).

Assessment Tasks:

1) Research project
2) Travel brochure
3) Fieldtrip report CARRUM DOWNS then and now.
4) Workbook

Writer’s Workshop

Do you like to write stories and use your imagination? Would you like to learn about different styles and genres of writing? In this class, you will explore a different style of writing each week, including personal, imaginative, children’s, screenwriting, poetry, horror and more. When you find the one you enjoy the most, you will then write, edit, design and produce a collection of your best work, with all students contributing and becoming published authors. You will gain valuable experience in editing and proofreading your work, learn creative and structural techniques, enter competitions and showcase your writing talents.

Assessment Tasks:

1) Personal Writing
2) Imaginative
3) Poetry
4) Horror
5) Comedy
6) Screenwriting
7) Children’s Stories

Victorian Police Youth Corps (Advance) - Year Long Elective

Students will develop personal skills including leadership, teamwork, self-esteem and good citizenship and will gain a better understanding of the operations of Victoria Police including; Police Stations and Courthouse, Specialised units, such as Police Academy, Air Wing, Mounted Branch and Water Police.

Student will undertake three modules - Community, Communication and Project Management by identifying a project and then seeking support from community partners to implement it.
Some examples:

- Safety Strategies for young people
- Anti-Graffiti
- Safety on Public Transport
- Bike Education
- Driver Education etc.

Assessment Tasks:

1) Successful accreditation of First Aid with CPR
2) Community Project
3) Citizenship Task

Visual Communication

Students in Visual Communication will work on the skills learnt in Years 7 and 8 to create more in-depth pieces of drafting work. Students will be able to competently use perspective and proportion as well as develop their ideas and technical drawing skills. Theoretical work will include further understanding of the visual elements and the technical aspects of applying media.

Assessment Tasks:

1) Theory projects
2) Communication journal
3) Completed workbook
Year 9 Course Selection Sheet

NAME: ................................................................. Pastoral Care: .................

Do you intend to return to Carrum Downs Secondary College? (Please circle)?

Yes / No / Not sure

This form must be returned to Pastoral Care Teacher by **Tuesday 10 September, 2013**.

Your course will consist of the following per week;

- 5 Pastoral Care classes
- 11 Core classes
- 3 x 3 periods of elective classes per week, per semester.

**NOTE:**
- List your top eight elective preferences and top four backup electives of your choice below. If you select Japanese or Music Performance you will have to do these subjects for the whole year.

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**Student Signature:** ............................................. **Date:** ..................

**Parent Signature:** ............................................. **Date:** ..................

**Pastoral Care Signature:** .................................... **Date:** ..................