



**COURSE OVERVIEW**  
**YEAR 7 2022**





# UNDERSTANDING THE CURRICULUM IN YEAR 7

St Peter Claver College is part of Brisbane Catholic Education which has set as the overarching goal for education in Catholic schools:

**Empowering learners of all ages to shape and enrich their changing world, by living the Gospel of Jesus Christ.**

The achievement of this overarching goal involves students learning to become lifelong learners. In all courses, teachers plan for students to learn through the **Brisbane Catholic Education Learning and Teaching Framework**.

All subjects offered in Year 7 follow the Australian Curriculum. Religion is developed from the Brisbane Catholic Education Religion syllabus.

The Australian Curriculum emphasises the common teaching of seven general capabilities across all learning areas. These are Literacy, Numeracy, Information and Communication Technology (ICT), Critical and Creative Thinking, Personal and Social Capability, Ethical Understanding and Intercultural Understanding capabilities. These form a common curriculum that connects all subjects.

## MIDDLE YEARS FOCUS

St Peter Claver College places an emphasis on high expectations for learning in the Middle Years (Years 7 - 9). We are responding to the 2019 Alice Springs Declaration on Educational Goals for Young Australians which stated that:

‘The middle years are an important period of individual growth and learning when a balanced set of cognitive, social and emotional skills are developed. Students are finding a sense of self and require investment in their emotional wellbeing and a voice in and influence over their learning. This is also a time when they are at the greatest risk of disengagement from learning. Through directly addressing each student’s range of needs, schools must focus on enhancing motivation and engagement.’ Alice Springs (Mparntwe) Education Declaration 2019 - Page 13.

The College supports the two clear goals in the declaration:

- **Goal 1:** The Australian education system promotes excellence and equity.
- **Goal 2:** All young Australians become:
  - Confident and creative individuals.
  - Successful lifelong learners.
  - Active and informed members of the community.





Claver Middle Years emphasises the following strategies as important for learning in the Middle Years:

- Strong teacher-student relationships.
- Parental involvement in learning.
- Integrated and multi-disciplinary curricula that are negotiated, relevant and challenging.
- Use of higher order thinking strategies.
- Co-operative learning and collaborative teaching.
- Authentic and reflective assessment with high expectations.

## CORE SUBJECTS

### English, Geography, History, Mathematics and Science

Our curriculum is structured so that in Year 7, students study five main subjects in core classes where they learn to be an effective learning community. Students have two main teachers: one for English, Geography, History and the other for Mathematics and Science. These teachers get to know the students well and understand their learning needs. They meet as a core teaching team and discuss observations on students and available data, such as results in standardised tests to assist them to plan how best to meet the needs of the students in their class. Having a stable core class for 60 percent of lessons enables students to form a settled social group. There may be a need for a specialist teacher arrangement if timetabling constraints dictate this.

**Teachers use a common language of learning with their core classes.** This shared expression includes language for explicit instruction (based on Ybarra and Hollingsworth) and the language of responsible thinking (based on perception control theory). It extends to common terminology and formats associated with literacy, numeracy and text types. The aim is to make learning assessable for every student.

The core class works in partnership with parents, keeping them informed through email notifications and term newsletters, so that parents are better able to discuss learning with their child. **Home learning is important**, as effective learning requires full engagement with learning at school as well as some focused home learning. Teachers work with students to set a variety of opportunities for home learning. In some cases, this home learning is purely optional. However, there will be some learning tasks that are expected to be completed at home. Home learning enhances learning, provides good habits for Senior years and lifelong learning. It also assists parents to understand what their child is learning and to assist in an effective learning partnership.

In Year 7, while most assessment occurs during class time, some assessment is completed at home in order to develop organisational skills for Senior studies. Students learn most effectively when they are engaged and determined. If students find tasks difficult, they are encouraged to persist and if required seek help from teachers and peers (as appropriate). Students need to be organised to meet due dates (seeking extensions in the case of illness or other special circumstances). Success for students develops from effective goal setting and reflection.

## OTHER CORE SUBJECTS

### Religion

#### The Vision for Religion at St Peter Claver College

As a Catholic community, we educate all to live the gospel of Jesus Christ as successful, creative, confident, active and informed learners empowered to shape and enrich our world. (BCE 2019). At St Peter Claver College, Religion allows students to develop religious literacy in light of the Catholic Christian tradition, so that they might participate critically and authentically in contemporary Australian culture.





In Year 7 Religion students learn about various ways in which humans understand and express the mystery of God or 'the Other' and God's relationship with human persons, including the foundational cultural and historical influences for the monotheistic religions - Christianity, Judaism and Islam. The content reflects a Catholic Christian world view that integrates faith, life and culture.

## Health and Physical Education, Japanese and Literacy/Numeracy

Students also study Health and Physical Education and Japanese as part of their set studies but these are not necessarily with the same class group as the core subjects. It is beneficial for students to become more familiar with working in a range of class groupings in preparation for Year 8.

Some students will be required to participate in Literacy/Numeracy intervention classes across the year. Students reading levels are assessed, and these results are used in combination with their Primary School results to allocate them to targeted Literacy/Numeracy classes in Year 7. Literacy is an intervention program designed to rapidly raise students literacy and numeracy levels to a sufficient standard for them to succeed in Secondary School.

## ELECTIVE SUBJECTS

### Technologies and The Arts

Students have an opportunity to choose some subjects from the College's broad offerings in Technologies and The Arts learning areas for semester long courses. Details of these subjects and how to select them are outlined in further pages of this booklet.

## SUBJECT SELECTION FORM

Please read the options carefully and select the desired course using the Subject Selection Form on the back page of this booklet. Students are required to study at least **one Arts subject** and **one Technology subject**.

**Parents are to return this completed form to the College before Friday 12 November 2021, which is one week after Orientation Day.**

Todd Riggs  
Assistant Principal Curriculum





# YEAR 7 CURRICULUM STRUCTURE

Students study eight subjects each semester as well as Pastoral & Vocational Learning and Sport.

## COMPULSORY SUBJECTS

Students will study these subjects all year:

- English and Humanities (History and Geography).
- Mathematics and Science.
- Religion.
- Health and Physical Education.
- Japanese.
- Literacy/Numeracy (for Identified Students).

## ELECTIVE SUBJECTS

Students study three or four semester units from the following subject options within the learning areas below:

### Technologies

- Design and Technologies (Food Specialisations).
- Design and Technologies - Manufacturing.
- Digital Technologies.

### The Arts

- Dance.
- Drama.
- Music.
- Visual Arts.

**Please note that individual elective subjects will only be offered if there is sufficient demand.**





# ELECTIVE SUBJECTS

## TECHNOLOGIES

### DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGIES (FOOD SPECIALISATIONS) (DTFS) 'FARM, FOOD, FUN'

#### What you will do and learn.

'Farm, Food, Fun' is a hands-on course that teaches real-world skills and knowledge. Students will establish and care for the College kitchen garden. They will use the fresh produce they grow to design, prepare, cook and assemble meals that are innovative and solve design issues. Students will also explore the 'Paddock to Plate' concept by participating in a number of virtual excursions and weekly practical cooking sessions. A large proportion of 'Farm, Food, Fun' is practical based and students learn by doing.

#### How 'Farm, Food, Fun' will make a difference to you?

'Farm, Food, Fun' allows students to become familiar with and develop their understanding of the design process in a fun interactive manner. Students will investigate, design, plan, manage, create and evaluate design solutions. The practical nature of 'Farm, Food, Fun' allows for the progressive development of practical skills which form a foundation for future study in this area.

**Other Relevant Information:** Students who wish to study this subject are required to comply with specific WH&S policies relevant to the subject. This may include policies on personal hygiene, specific Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for the workspace and/or uniform requirements.

### DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGIES – MANUFACTURING (DT) 'DESIGNING AND MAKING IN WOOD, METAL AND PLASTICS'

#### What you will do and learn.

'Designing and Making in Wood, Metal and Plastics' is suited to students who enjoy being creative with a range of materials. This subject encourages students to use the design process and be creative in developing their own unique projects. The students will work with wood, metal and plastics in a workshop environment.

#### How 'Designing and Making in Wood, Metal and Plastics' will make a difference to you.

On completion of this subject, students will have studied in a workshop environment and gained some knowledge of its operation and a safe work attitude. They will have improved skills in using hand and power tools using wood, metal and plastics. Additionally, students will have gained knowledge around basic design principles which they can use to become more creative thinkers. This subject is an important building block for those students looking to choose Design and Technology subjects in higher year levels.

**Other Relevant Information:** Students who wish to study this subject are required to comply with specific WH&S policies relevant to the subject. This may include policies on personal hygiene, specific PPE for the workspace and/or uniform requirements.





## **DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES (DIGTEC)**

### **What you will do and learn.**

Some of you may have done some Digital Technology learning in Primary School where you were introduced to the concept of coding. Coding just means preparing instructions on what you want a program inside a computer to do. Coding can be fun and is the way we build apps and all sorts of digital processes we use every day.

The DIGTEC course gives you the opportunity to develop your coding skills using Blockly and Scratch visual programming languages. With Scratch, you can code your own interactive stories, games and animations – and share your creations with others in the online community.

You will learn about other important process skills related to coding such as designing flowchart algorithms and evaluating final solutions. You will also take a deep look at how numbers, text and image data is stored as binary code inside computer programs.

### **How will Digital Technologies make a difference to you?**

Digital Technologies will help you to learn to think creatively, reason systematically and work collaboratively - essential skills for life in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. You will develop a range of thinking skills that can be applied to many of your subjects.

The ability to code computer programs is an important part of literacy in today's society. When people learn to code, they learn important strategies for solving problems, designing projects and communicating ideas. Learning to code will equip you for a future where digital technologies will drive nearly every aspect of daily life.





# THE ARTS

## DANCE (DAN)

### What you will do and learn.

Dance is an exciting, creative and dynamic performing art. It uses the body as a means of expression to convey meaning to an audience. It involves the communication of experiences, ideas and stories through movement. Classes often involve performing and creating dance in groups, viewing dance performances, a mix of practical and theory content and a lot of fun.

In Year 7 Dance you will study Hip Hop, developing performance skills and useful technical skills, as well as theoretical elements of dance. You will complete making and responding tasks – that is, you create and perform works of dance and examine existing works for deeper meaning. By the end of the semester you will have completed a series of practical and written tasks exploring the elements of dance, created your own group routine in the style of Hip Hop and performed a teacher choreographed Hip Hop routine. You will also have the opportunity to be a part of the Year 7 Hip Hop team and perform learnt choreography at dance competitions around South East Queensland.

### How Dance will make a difference to you.

Through Dance you will develop critical and creative thinking skills and gain confidence through self-expression, acceptance and teamwork. Literacy is embedded in the Dance curriculum and is an important contributor to developing reading and writing skills. Claver Dance has an engaging curriculum supported by a highly successful co-curricular program. Selecting Dance as a subject will teach you team work and leadership skills, perseverance and collaboration in a supportive and fun environment.

## DRAMA (DRA)

### What you will do and learn.

Drama is a fun, creative and active performing art. It uses the body and the voice as a means of expression to communicate meaning to an audience. It involves the representation and re-enactment of experiences, ideas and stories. Classes often involve game play, fast paced and exciting experiences, a mix of practical and theory content and a lot of laughter.

In Year 7 Drama you will explore characters, issues and ideas through role-play and performance. You will learn skills like vocal control and projection, dramatic movement, improvisation and advanced communication. You will complete making and responding tasks – that is, you create and perform in works of drama and examine existing works and scripts for deeper meaning. By the end of the semester you will have completed a series of practical and written tasks exploring the elements of drama, created your own group performance in the style of Collage Drama and prepared a scripted performance.

### How Drama will make a difference to you.

Through Drama, you will gain higher levels of confidence and self-expression and gain technical skills that aid you throughout your life – from presenting better in English orals now, to nailing job interviews in the future. Literacy is enhanced by studying Drama and creativity is nurtured and developed. Claver Drama students have frequently been College captains and leaders and show heart and empathy, coupled with confidence and drive. Selecting Drama as a subject will teach you emotional intelligence, quick creative thinking, empathy, collaboration, improvisation and literacy.





## **MUSIC (MUS)**

### **What you will do and learn.**

Music is a fun, creative and active performing art. Musicians use instruments, or their own bodies and voices, to create and perform music that is designed to excite, entertain and engage. Classes involve a mixture of practical work, playing on instruments and learning how to produce music from them; as well as some theory work, coming to understand how music works.

In Year 7 Music you will learn to play songs on instruments both familiar and unfamiliar. You will learn to hear and interpret different kinds of music and gain some skills of reading music on the page. You will complete making and responding tasks – that is, you compose and perform music and also examine existing music, both recorded and written, for deeper understanding. By the end of the semester you will have performed in a small group, composed some of your own music, learned new theory and skills (tailored to your experience, if you are a beginner, or if you are experienced we will have something for you) and come to appreciate a wide variety of different music from around the world.

### **How Music will make a difference to you.**

Through Music you will get new skills of critical and creative thinking. Music is an excellent way to express yourself and to share some of your thoughts, ideas, feelings and stories. As a subject Music enhances your work in other areas, including growing your confidence and developing your literacy and numeracy. Scientific research has proven that if you achieve highly in Music or dedicate yourself to learning an instrument, you will tend to have higher levels of achievement in all your other areas of schooling. Choosing Music will give you opportunities to perform, to grow and to be creative.

## **VISUAL ARTS (VARTS)**

### **What you will do and learn.**

In Year 7, students will imagine new possibilities, be inventive with materials and re-think artworks. To begin each artwork, an artist, artwork, or art movement will be explored. Students then 're imagine' a bolder more vibrant version of this artwork or style of artwork. During the unit, sculptures, paintings, drawings and large-scale collaborative artworks will be made. Media will be playfully explored allowing the young artist to develop creative skills, their own ideas and gain the confidence to make creative decisions. Students are assessed on their artworks; they complete written analysis and interpretation tasks and they work on a visual diary which shows their planning, small practical tasks, research and experimentation. Opportunities are also provided for students to exhibit their artworks in the College gallery and at various exhibitions across the year. This is a fast-paced, hands-on and energetic class designed to keep young artists engaged and inspired.

### **How Visual Arts will make a difference to you?**

Studying Visual Arts provides the opportunity to develop creative thinking, problem-solving skills and the capacity to successfully work in teams. Students learn to understand artworks, improve literacy skills, extend their thinking and develop informed opinions. A natural sense of curiosity is encouraged and students develop the skills to make sense of what they see and experience. In Year 7 Visual Arts allows students to express themselves, stretch their imaginations and create artworks they will be proud of. This course equips students with the necessary creative skills to continue on into Year 8 Visual Arts.





# HOW TO CHOOSE YOUR SUBJECTS

## INSTRUCTIONS TO SELECT ELECTIVE SUBJECTS

- Complete the form in the back of this book.
- Students will be automatically allocated to **English, History, Geography, Mathematics, Science, Religion, Health and Physical Education, Japanese and Literacy/Numeracy** classes.
- Students choose **four (4)** Elective subjects (two for each semester).
- Students are required to study at least **one Arts subject** and **one Technology subject**. **Japanese** is optional for one of the two semesters only.
- Select **four (4) first preferences** and **four (3) reserve preferences** (in case that subject is unavailable due to a clash or insufficient enrolments).
- Give your highest preferences to the subjects you want to study the most.
- Write **1 to 4** to show your **first preferences**. Your **first preferences** must contain a **minimum of one (1)** or a **maximum of two (2)** from each of the Arts or Technology subjects.
- Write **5 to 7** to show your **reserve preferences**. These reserve preferences will be considered if we cannot place you in your main preferences.
- Student and parent/caregiver to sign the form.
- Please return this form to St Peter Claver College by **Friday 12 November 2021**. Students will be allocated to their elective classes soon after that date.

**To assist, please refer to the example on the following page of a completed Year 7 Subject Selection Form.**





# EXAMPLE OF COMPLETED FORM

YEAR 7 2022 SUBJECT SELECTION FORM	
PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO ST PETER CLAVER COLLEGE BY FRIDAY 12 NOVEMBER 2021 FOR STUDENTS TO BE ALLOCATED THEIR ELECTIVE CLASSES	
Student: <b>PETER CLAVER</b>	Signature: <i>Peter Claver</i>
Parent/Caregiver: <b>MARY CLAVER</b>	Signature: <i>MClaver</i>
Date: <b>30 / 10 / 2021</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students will be automatically allocated to English, History, Geography, Mathematics, Science, Religion, Health and Physical Education, Japanese and Literacy/Numeracy classes.</li> <li>Students choose four (4) Elective subjects (two for each semester).</li> <li>Students are required to study at least one Arts subject and one Technology subject. Japanese is optional for one of the two semesters only.</li> <li>Select four (4) first preferences and three (3) reserve preferences (in case that subject is unavailable due to a clash or insufficient enrolments).</li> <li>Give your highest preferences to the subjects you want to study the most.</li> </ul>	

PREFERENCES FOR ELECTIVE SUBJECTS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Write 1 to 4 to show your first preferences.</li> <li>Your first preferences must contain a minimum of one (1) or a maximum of two (2) from each of the Arts or Technology subjects.</li> <li>Write 5 to 7 to show your reserve preferences.</li> <li>These reserve preferences will be considered if we cannot place you in your main preferences.</li> </ul>	
Indicate Preferences 1 to 7 Below	1 to 4 for first preferences. 5 to 7 for reserve preferences.
THE ARTS SUBJECTS	
5	Dance - Working in groups to create and perform Hip Hop and other routines.
2	Drama - Using voice and movement to create exciting performances in groups.
7	Music - Learning to play instruments and understand interesting types of music.
1	Visual Arts - Be inventive with paint, materials and clay sculptures.
TECHNOLOGY SUBJECTS	
4	Digital Technologies - Developing fun apps for mobile phones and tablets.
3	Design and Technologies (Food Specialisations) - Planning and cooking delicious meals using our kitchen garden.
7	Design and Technologies – Manufacturing - Designing and making interesting objects in wood, metal and plastics.

EXAMPLE





# YEAR 7 2022 SUBJECT SELECTION FORM

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO ST PETER CLAVER COLLEGE BY FRIDAY 12 NOVEMBER 2021 FOR STUDENTS TO BE ALLOCATED THEIR ELECTIVE CLASSES

Student:

Signature:

Parent/Caregiver:

Signature:

Date:                    /                    / 2021

- Students will be automatically allocated to **English, History, Geography, Mathematics, Science, Religion, Health and Physical Education, Japanese** and **Literacy/Numeracy** classes.
- Students choose **four (4)** Elective subjects (two for each semester).
- Students are required to study at least **one Arts subject** and **one Technology subject**. **Japanese** is optional for one of the two semesters only.
- Select **four (4) first preferences** and **three (3) reserve preferences** (in case that subject is unavailable due to a clash or insufficient enrolments).
- Give your highest preferences to the subjects you want to study the most.

## PREFERENCES FOR ELECTIVE SUBJECTS

- Write **1 to 4** to show your **first preferences**.
- Your **first preferences** must contain a **minimum of one (1)** or a **maximum of two (2)** from each of the Arts or Technology subjects.
- Write **5 to 7** to show your **reserve preferences**.
- These reserve preferences will be considered if we cannot place you in your main preferences.

Indicate Preferences 1 to 7 Below	1 to 4 for first preferences. 5 to 7 for reserve preferences.
	<b>THE ARTS SUBJECTS</b>
	<b>Dance</b> - Working in groups to create and perform Hip Hop and other routines.
	<b>Drama</b> - Using voice and movement to create exciting performances in groups.
	<b>Music</b> - Learning to play instruments and understand interesting types of music.
	<b>Visual Arts</b> - Be inventive with paint, materials and clay sculptures.
	<b>TECHNOLOGY SUBJECTS</b>
	<b>Design and Technologies (Food Specialisations)</b> - Planning and cooking delicious meals using our kitchen garden.
	<b>Design and Technologies - Manufacturing</b> - Designing and making interesting objects in wood, metal and plastics.
	<b>Digital Technologies</b> - Developing fun apps for mobile phones and tablets.

# HOW TO RETURN THE YEAR 7 2022 SUBJECT SELECTION FORM



**By Post:**

St Peter Claver College  
PO Box 6060  
RIVERVIEW QLD 4300



**By Email:**

SRIV\_Curriculum@bne.catholic.edu.au



**In Person:**

8.00 am to 4.00 pm  
Administration  
Champagnat Building  
St Peter Claver College  
10 Old Ipswich Road  
RIVERVIEW QLD 4300