

*Known
and loved.*
dignity for all

**COURSE OVERVIEW
YEAR 8 2023**



UNDERSTANDING THE CURRICULUM IN YEAR 8

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 8 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 Technologies (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 8, students' study five main subjects in core classes where they learn to be an effective learning community. Students will typically have specialist teachers for English, Geography, History and also for Mathematics and Science. These specialist teachers get to know the students well and understand their learning needs specific to the subject area. They meet within their departmental teams to 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. This specialist approach allows for students to transition from the model used in Year 7 to an approach that prepares them for Year 9 timetable constructs.

Teachers use a common language of learning with their core classes. This shared expression includes language for explicit instruction (based on Ybarra & 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 accessible for every student.

Teachers work in partnership with parents/caregivers, keeping them informed through email notifications and term newsletters, so that they 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/caregivers to understand what their child is learning and to assist in an effective learning partnership.

In Year 8, 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 2022). 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 8 Religion students learn about various ways in which humans understand and express the mystery of God or 'the Other', including insights from the major world religions. The content reflects a Catholic Christian world view that integrates faith, life and culture.

Health and Physical Education

Students also study Health and Physical Education 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 9.

ELECTIVE SUBJECTS

Languages, Technologies and The Arts

Students have the opportunity to choose some subjects from Languages, Technologies and The Arts learning areas for semester long courses. Details of these subjects and how to select them are detailed in further pages of this booklet.

SUBJECT SELECTION

Please read the options carefully and select the desired course using the Web Preferences process explained in this booklet. Please use the Username and Password provided.

To be considered for the most sought-after preferences, students need to have their preferences entered online by Thursday 1 September 2022. Web Preferences will be closed after this date. If you do not have access to the internet at home, you are welcome to enter your child's preferences at the College. The Library is open before and after school (until 3:30 pm) and your child and you may use his/her laptop in the Library for this purpose.

There are also instructions and a subject selection form attached to the back of this booklet if you cannot get access to the internet. **If using the manual form, return to the Student Desk no later than Thursday 1 September 2022.**

Todd Riggs
Assistant Principal Curriculum





YEAR 8 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.

ELECTIVE SUBJECTS

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

Languages

- Japanese.

Technologies

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

The Arts

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

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





ELECTIVE SUBJECTS

LANGUAGES

JAPANESE (JPN)

Year 8 Japanese is an introductory course designed to give students a basic understanding of Japanese history, geography, culture and language. During their studies, students are afforded opportunities to investigate aspects of Japanese society which interest them. The study of Japanese language and culture is very important as Japan is one of Queensland's biggest trading partners and one of Australia's biggest export markets.

There are many career possibilities for students who have studied Japanese. These include hospitality, tour guiding, import and export managing positions, teaching, research, etc. Many students who have studied Japanese go to Japan to work in a variety of positions. Some of these include interpreting for large car firms such as Toyota and Mazda or even acting in Japanese movies requiring foreigner roles. Ipswich's close relationship with its sister city Nerima has also created jobs for local residents.

At St Peter Claver College, one of the main aims of learning Japanese is to develop communicative competence. Rather than just learning structures and grammar (although very important), emphasis is placed on assisting students to develop a working knowledge of the language. Students have many opportunities to interact with Japanese people and to use Japanese in an authentic manner. In this course, emphasis is also placed on developing literacy. Japanese in Year 8 is suited to those students who studied Japanese in Year 7 and wish to gain proficiency in the language to enhance future employment or travel prospects.

TECHNOLOGIES

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGIES – MATERIALS (FASHION) (DTFM)

Design and Technologies – Materials (Fashion) is suited to all students who wish to investigate and explore textiles and use design skills to produce useable textile items. Students considering a career in the fashion industry should consider selecting DTFM.

Fashion enables students to develop knowledge, understanding and skills to be creative, explore functional and aesthetic aspects of textiles and produce textile items. Students learn how to identify and use a variety of sewing equipment items safely, thread and operate a sewing machine and use it to produce an applied textile item. Students will also justify their selection of textile materials and evaluate their task performance and final textile product.

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 (FOOD SPECIALISATIONS) (DTFS)

Design and Technologies (Food Specialisations) explores basic nutrition by introducing the Healthy Eating Pyramid. Students explore food to determine how it is used by the body, the different nutrients found in foods and how foods are broken into groups according to nutritional content and values.

Students will investigate the current eating habits of adolescents and look at some health consequences of these habits. They will also design and prepare food products that demonstrate an understanding of nutrition and comply with the principles of the Healthy Eating Pyramid.

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.

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGIES - MANUFACTURING (DT)

Design Technologies - Manufacturing is suited to students who enjoy a practical workshop/design space environment. The course teaches students a problem-solving methodology using a design thinking process. It is predominantly a hands-on course. The solutions students create vary from a graphical response to a physical prototype.

The skills required to respond to a given problem are taught and refined throughout the course. Students will spend time learning how to investigate problems, communicate ideas via sketches and computer models, and in some instances produce a prototype using wood, metal or plastics.

This course is a shift away from the traditional manual arts type of learning. It is a course intended to prepare students for situations where they can respond to problems with practical solutions that makes sense. The learning in this course will help students in their ability to communicate their solution to the given audience.

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)

Digital Technologies is suited to students who enjoyed the short DIGTEC course in Year 7, especially the coding of Scratch projects and wish to pursue this interest further and gain an appreciation of the importance and relevance of digital technologies in an increasingly digital world.

Learning in Digital Technologies will focus on the improvement of practical coding skills through the development of fun apps for Android phones and tablets, including games, media boards, art tools and quizzes. There are a wide range of online tutorials that students can work through and they will each be allocated an Android tablet for testing and building their app creations. Mobile devices rely heavily on networking technologies, so the theoretical component of the course will primarily involve an investigation of networks and how components impact on their operation.

Students will learn how to manage their app development projects, design algorithms to plan how their app will work and evaluate their final app solutions. In the process they will acquire a range of thinking skills, such as the ability to decompose problems, which can be applied across their other school subjects. By the end of the course students will have gained technical and professional skills that will have them better prepared for future changes in the world of Information Technologies.





THE ARTS

DANCE (DAN)

This unit is for students who are interested in Dance and want to experience different styles of Dance. They will study Musical Theatre, develop performance and useful technical skills, as well as theoretical elements of dance. Students of Dance will analyse performances and choreograph their own dance routines.

DRAMA (DRA)

Drama is suited to those students who have an interest in Drama and want to develop their skills of performance, expression and confidence. Drama develops verbal and physical skills and will be of immeasurable benefit to those who would like a career in a field that requires confidence, public presence and/or empathy.

Students learn skills of vocal and physical performance and methods for developing self-discipline and focus, whilst still having fun. They will study different forms of dramatic expression including Theatre in Education and Comedy. Students will act in groups for their peers and public audiences, using published scripts and writing their own. They will engage in a mixture of theory and practical work. Drama is fun, academically enriching, creatively satisfying and personally challenging.

MEDIA (MEDA)

Media is suited to those students who have an interest in the Media Arts and want to analyse, evaluate and create works of their own. Students who enjoy working with cameras, audio, or creative ICTs are particularly encouraged to consider Media. With the variety of industries today that require creative media produced as part of their day-to-day business, studying Media has never been more relevant or timely.

Students will learn how various kinds of Media work, ranging from photography and advertising to animation. They will interact with a variety of technologies and examine how people, places and cultures are represented in the Media. Students will learn how to make products for particular audiences and analyse existing Media products for understanding. Media students will become more organized, efficient collaborators with skills of creative thinking and the capacity to work better with unfamiliar technologies – and have fun while they are at it.

MUSIC (MUS)

Music is suited to students who have a passion for, or an interest in Music. Students who already play an instrument are particularly encouraged to consider the study of Music, but even those with limited experience will develop the skills and experience that will enable them to succeed. Students work in a tactile, active studio environment where they collaborate, interact, perform and critically engage. Skills of confidence, creativity, literacy and numeracy are enhanced by the study of Music.

Students will build on their skills from Year 7 and use their knowledge, alongside newly taught skills, to create their own work. They will compose in popular music styles and learn to recognise the musical elements that make these styles work. Some of the work will include aurally and visually analysing musical elements and musical notation, ensemble and solo performance work, song writing skills and musicology through listening and responding. Students will gain skills of technique and co-ordination, problem solving and self-expression, whilst using higher order thinking.





VISUAL ARTS (VARTS)

Studying Visual Arts allows students the opportunity to further develop their creative intelligence through making original and exploratory works of art. Students work in a fun, fast paced studio setting and are given the opportunity to exhibit their works in the College Gallery and at various exhibitions across the year. Studying Art allows students to express themselves, stretch their imaginations and create artworks they will be proud of.

In Year 8 students will produce drawings, sculptures and mixed media artworks. Students create an expressive drawing where they learn a variety of traditional and contemporary drawing techniques. They create a folio of exciting, experimental artworks where splashes of colour jump off the page and masterpieces happen. Students will examine the work of artists from the Pop Art Movement. They use the key features from this movement as inspiration to design and produce their own bold sculpture which is displayed in a collaborative installation curated by the students. From this, an understanding of the impact the display has on the meaning of the artwork is developed. They will be thrilled with their final results. Students are assessed on their artworks; they complete either an analysis assignment or an exam and they work on a visual diary which shows their planning, small practical tasks, research and experimentation. This course is engaging, enjoyable, relevant and thoroughly creative. It equips students with the necessary creative skills to continue on into Year 9 Visual Arts.





HOW TO ENTER YOUR SUBJECT PREFERENCES ONLINE

Please follow these simple steps:

1. Read your subject book and discuss with your student the subjects they have to study and the choices available.
2. On a computer open the web page: **www.selectmysubjects.com.au**

The Web Preferences Welcome page will appear with the log in box.

From the Web Preferences Access Guide (Supplied with your Subject Selection Book) type in the Student Access Code (including the dashes) and the password.

Web Preferences Log In

Student Access Code

Password

Log In

Ensure correct casing and dashes are used exactly as it appears on the Access Guide

3. Click on the Log In box.

The Add New Preferences page will appear. Your name and year level will appear in the top left hand corner. Also in the top left hand corner of this screen you will notice the 'View Instructions' sign. You can click on this and instructions on how to choose your subjects will appear.

1 Click Add New Preferences

2 Select Your Preferences

3 Submit Valid Preferences

Name: TESTER AAAAA - Year 8 2022

[View Instructions](#)

+ Add New Preferences

4. Click the green Add New Preferences button on the right hand side.





5. The Select Your Preferences page will open.

VIEW INSTRUCTIONS

In selecting elective subjects for **Year 8 in 2023**, please be aware that you must select the number of subjects indicated in each selection box.

Students will be automatically allocated to English, History, Geography, Mathematics, Science, Religion and Health and Physical Education classes.

You choose from the Elective Subjects; all students select four subjects and three reserves (in case that subject is unavailable due to a clash or insufficient enrolments). Give your highest preference to the subjects you want the most.

When selecting Reserve Subjects, these cannot be the same subjects as your initial preferences.

ELECTIVE SUBJECTS

Preference 1 through to 4 – click on the drop down arrow ▼ and choose an Elective subject for each preference.

Reserve Elective 1 through to 3 - click on the drop down arrow ▼ and choose an Elective subject for each reserve.

Note: If you repeat a subject anywhere in your preferences you will not be able to click on PROCEED to submit your preferences.

6. Once all your preferences are in, click on:





Your preferences will appear on the screen. Sample below:

Your Preferences	
Preference No	Preference Name
Preference 1:	Design and Technologies - Materials (Fashion)
Preference 2:	Design and Technologies (Food Specialisations)
Preference 3:	Dance
Preference 4:	Music
Reserve 1:	Japanese
Reserve 2:	Visual Arts
Reserve 3:	Design and Technologies - Manufacturing
Total:	

- If you are happy with your preferences click Submit Valid Preferences, which opens your Preference Receipt.



Sample Preference Receipt:

Preference Receipt: ST608-44232-5181914-2891462

Student Name: TESTER AAAA
 School Name: St Peter Claver College (Year 8 2022)
 Receipt Date: 26/05/2021 11:36:06 AM
 Number of Subjects/Units Selected: 4
 Submission No.: 1

Preference 1: Design and Technologies - Materials (Fashion)
 Preference 2: Design and Technologies (Food Specialisations)
 Preference 3: Dance
 Preference 4: Music
 Reserve 1: Japanese
 Reserve 2: Visual Arts
 Reserve 3: Design and Technologies - Manufacturing

Please print or save (as a PDF) this receipt for your records. Print a second copy and return it to the Student Office. It shows the subjects you have selected. The subjects students are enrolled in will not be available until November.

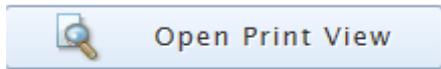
Student Signature: _____
 Parent/Caregiver Signature: _____





8. You can **PRINT YOUR PREFERENCE RECEIPT** by clicking ‘Open Print View’ and clicking ‘Print Receipt’.

UPDATE BELOW WITH NEW SAMPLE FOR YEAR 8 2023



Print Receipt Download PDF Close

Web Preferences Receipt

St Peter Claver College (Year 8 2022)

Student Name: TESTER AAAA

Home Group:

Date: 26/05/2021 11:36:06 AM

No. of Subjects/Units Selected: 4

Receipt Code: ST608-44232-5181914-2891462

Submission No.: 1

Preference List:

- Preference 1: Design and Technologies - Materials (Fashion)
- Preference 2: Design and Technologies (Food Specialisations)
- Preference 3: Dance
- Preference 4: Music
- Reserve 1: Japanese
- Reserve 2: Visual Arts
- Reserve 3: Design and Technologies - Manufacturing

Please print or save (as a PDF) this receipt for your records. Print a second copy and return it to the Student Office. It shows the subjects you have selected. The subjects students are enrolled in will not be available until November.

Student Signature: _____

Parent/Caregiver Signature:

9. Exit Web Preferences by clicking the Log Out button.





HOW TO CHOOSE YOUR SUBJECT PREFERENCES MANUALLY IF YOU DO NOT HAVE ACCESS TO THE INTERNET

MANUAL SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

- Complete the form in the back of this book.
- Tick the preference box for your subject/reserve choice.
- Student and parent/guardian to sign the form.
- Return the form to the Student Desk no later than **Thursday 1 September 2022**.

Students will be automatically allocated to **English, History, Geography, Mathematics, Science, Religion** and **Health and Physical Education** classes.

You choose from the Elective Subjects; all students select **four** subjects and **three** reserves (in case that subject is unavailable due to a clash or insufficient enrolments). Give your highest preference to the subjects you want the most.

When selecting Reserve Subjects, these cannot be the same subjects as your initial preferences.

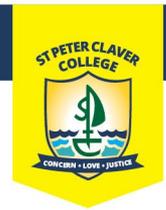
Elective Subjects

Preference 1 through to 4 – all students select **four** elective subjects. Give your highest preference to the subjects you want the most.

Reserve 1 through to 3 – all students select **three** reserve elective subjects (in case that subject is unavailable due to a clash or insufficient enrolments).



YEAR 8 2023 SUBJECT SELECTION FORM



Student Name:	
Parent/Caregiver Name:	
Parent/Caregiver Signature:	

Subject Selection Instructions:

- Students will be automatically allocated to **English, History, Geography, Mathematics, Science, Religion and Health and Physical Education** classes.
- You choose from the **Elective Subjects**; all students select **four elective subjects** and **three reserves** (in case that subject is unavailable due to a clash or insufficient enrolments).
- Give your highest preference to the subjects you want the most.
- Your **three reserve preferences** will be allocated should your first choice not be available.

ELECTIVE SUBJECT PREFERENCES	
Preference 1, 2, 3 and 4: Number boxes 1 to 4 in order of preference.	
Preferences 1 to 4	Dance
	Drama
	Design and Technologies - Materials (Fashion)
	Design and Technologies - Food Specialisations
	Design and Technologies - Manufacturing
	Digital Technologies
	Japanese
	Media
	Music
Visual Arts	
Reserve Preferences: Number boxes 1 to 3 in order of preference (cannot be the same as the subjects you selected above).	
Reserve Preferences 1 to 3	Dance
	Drama
	Design and Technologies - Materials (Fashion)
	Design and Technologies - Food Specialisations
	Design and Technologies - Manufacturing
	Digital Technologies
	Japanese
	Media
	Music
Visual Arts	

**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO THE STUDENT DESK NO LATER THAN
THURSDAY 1 SEPTEMBER 2022**

Office Use Only:			
Date Received:	/ /	Time Received:	am/pm
Processed by:		Date Processed:	/ /