



**St Catherine's
Catholic College**

Elective Information

Stage 5

2021

St. Catherine's Catholic College is a Catholic community that fosters a culture of learning and continuous improvement.

AN OVERVIEW OF ELECTIVE SUBJECTS FOR STAGE 5 IN 2021

Dear Students,

The time has come for you to choose the electives that you would like to study in Stage 5 (Years 9 and Year 10). You have experienced a "taste" of some subjects during Years 7 and 8, which may assist and are hopefully able to make informed choices. Remember that the **two** elective subjects are in addition to the core subjects you must study in Years 9 and 10.

A large number of subjects is offered for students, based on the wide experience and interests of the teaching staff. However, not all subjects will run, and whether a subject is available will be determined by the number of students who select it.

The subject selection process will take place during Term 3 and will involve:

1. First Choice online selection by students to determine which subjects will run. This will be done via survey in **early Term 3**.
2. From the results of the First Choice survey, the lines with the final subject offerings will be created. Year 8 students then decide what they would like to study.
3. The Final Choice online selection process will need to be completed by **mid Term 3**. This information will then be given to the CSO for finalisation of staffing. Students who choose courses which do not run will be contacted directly by the Assistant Principal as soon as possible.

It must be stressed that every effort will be made to place students in the subjects highest on their priority, but sometimes circumstances will dictate otherwise. Although the subjects in this booklet are **offered** to students, **unless sufficient numbers choose** a particular subject **we may not be able to teach that subject**.

SOME IMPORTANT POINTS

Every student in Years 9 and Year 10 will be studying the following –

- Religious Education
- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- History/Geography/Civics, and
- PDHPE.

These are mandatory courses which may be quite different to when your parents attended secondary school.

Elective subjects involve extra **FEES** and some have **COMPULSORY EXCURSIONS** as part of their courses.

Subjects studied as electives in Year 9 and Year 10, are not necessarily pre- requisites for study in Year 11 and Year 12. In most cases you can study a subject in Year 11 and Year 12 **without having studied** it in Year 7 – Year 10. On the other hand, some background is always an advantage.

Elective choices do not predetermine a career path and should not be seen as the most important aspect of Stage 5 Study.

Students will not be permitted to change electives after Week 4, Term 1. Students will have an opportunity to change electives when moving from Year 9 to Year 10, provided there is a vacancy in the subject.

The following points should be considered when making your choices:

- **Excursions** are an integral part of many of the courses and attendance at these is compulsory. **The students must meet costs, which are kept to a minimum,** as they arise.
- Students should avoid making selections on the basis of friendship groups or possible teachers, as these can change from year to year. It is often good for students to take a subject they enjoy or have an interest in, rather than one which is thought to be more advantageous for marks.
- Homework and set assignments are very important in **ALL** electives. Students who intend taking an elective must be prepared to devote the time to these electives.
- There is no such thing as a “soft” elective. **ALL** subjects involve theory and assignment work.

Elective classes can only be formed if sufficient numbers of students choose to study particular subjects. **Unless class sizes are viable, subjects cannot be timetabled.**

COURSE FEES

All elective subjects have fees, however, some maybe higher in order to pay for consumable materials. Fees vary depending on the subject chosen. Accounts for elective subjects are forwarded for payment with the tuition fee account. Where no payment is made for materials used by a student studying an elective, the **student may forfeit the position in that elective**. It is not fair that other students pay for non-paying students.

The fees for 2020 are itemised in the table below. There may be slight changes for 2021/2022.

Subject	Year 9	Year 10
Agriculture	\$135	\$135
Commerce	\$105	\$105
Dance	\$100*	\$100*
Design & Technology	—	\$150
Drama	\$210*	\$210*
Food Technology	\$150	\$150
Geography	\$105	\$105
Graphics Technology	\$60	—
History Elective	\$60	\$60
Industrial Technology – Timber & Metal	\$150	\$150
Information Software & Technology (IST)	\$75	\$75
ISTEM	\$165	\$165
Languages - Japanese	\$90*	\$90*
Music	\$135*	\$135*
Photographic & Digital Media (PDM)	\$210*	—
Physical Activity & Sports Studies (PASS)	\$150*	\$150*
Textiles Technology	\$150	\$150
Visual Arts	—	\$210*

* Some elective costs include compulsory excursions or licences for specific software

COMBINATIONS OF SUBJECTS YEAR 9 INTO YEAR 10

In recent years, the College has combined similar elective courses together from Years 9 into 10 to give students a wider experience. This means that rather than studying a subject of 200 hours in Years 9 and 10, students undertake complementary courses for 100 hours in each of Years 9 and 10.

Courses that will be combined:

Year 9		Year 10
Photographic & Digital Media	—————→	Visual Arts
Graphics Technology	—————→	Design & Technology
Industrial Technology – Timber	—————→	Industrial Technology – Metal