



Year 8 - 2020 Electives

In 2020, most Year 8 students will undertake a semester each of one Creative Arts elective and one Digital and Design Technology elective. Students are asked to identify which subjects are their first and second preference for **both** the Arts and Technology in the table below.

Please find below a brief description of the elective subjects your child may choose to study next year.

Creative Arts Elective Options:

Year 8 Visual Art

The imagination can be a powerful tool and the world of the future will need people who can use their imagination to be creative, divergent problem-solvers. By studying Visual Art, students will enhance their abilities to think, create and question. They will be encouraged to interact with the world around them, communicate their own ideas and learn to appreciate those expressed by others. Studying Visual Art does not require a 'right and wrong' philosophy but encourages students to take a discovery approach to learning. Individual growth and self-expression will be actively encouraged.

Students will:

- learn the skills and techniques necessary to create artwork using a variety of media eg. Drawing, Painting, Printmaking, Sculpture, Design/Multimedia;
- be encouraged to solve problems in a creative and self-expressive way; learn how to use the Elements and Principles of Art;
- develop their ability to 'self-manage' individual tasks and collaborate with others on group tasks;
- gain a greater awareness of their world by questioning what they see and how they interpret it; and
- learn to appreciate the artwork of others, within different cultures and throughout history.

Year 8 Music

Music is a worldwide language. It helps students express how they are feeling and want to feel. In Music, students will get to work independently, as well as participate in making music with others. Music is something students can enjoy creating, performing and listening to throughout their life. A wide range of styles is studied, which means that there is something for everyone. Students also learn to appreciate and respect others ideas, performances and backgrounds.

Possible learning experiences in Music include:

- development of instrumental skills – own instrument, guitar and keyboard;
- singing - recent popular choices, and world songs;
- writing basic rock bass lines and drum rhythms;
- working as a team in an ensemble;
- aural recognition of rhythm, melodies and major/minor chords; and
- visual recognition of keys, intervals and rhythm patterns.

Year 8 Drama

Drama encourages students to experience a range of different styles and techniques, through active participation and involvement, in a range of exciting and dynamic activities. Drama focuses on expressing and communicating insight into human issues and experiences through the enactment of real and imagined events. People who study drama are complex thinkers, responsive creators, active investigators and effective communicators and participants in an interdependent world.

Drama helps students to:

- express themselves creatively, artistically and clearly;
- improve their performance, communication and public speaking skills;
- enhance their social, inter-personal skills and self-confidence; and
- foster decision-making and self-management skills allowing them to work effectively in groups.

Drama is a practical subject that provides students with learning experiences such as creating role plays, improvising scenes, rehearsing scripts, performing, responding to and analysing and interpreting performances.

Year 8 Dance

The focus of this class is to introduce students to dance. Students will be trained to execute a range of technical, physical skills and body actions, which enables safe execution of a diverse range of movements. As a group, students will reach the mutual goal of a dance performance, which will be performed at the end of the semester.

Throughout the course, students have the opportunity to work closely with their peers, to encourage further development of teamwork skills. Students will benefit physically, increasing fitness levels. Personal skills such as confidence, self-esteem, self-motivation and self-discipline prosper as students work collaboratively towards performing in front of an audience.

Students will experience:

- individual performance in class and participation when working in a team;
- demonstration of warm-up techniques and skills at the start of each lesson to prepare for the dance requirements;
- applying the dance making process: choreography, rehearsal and performance;
- the learning, refining and performing of a learnt group dance work;
- safe dance practices.

Year 8 Performing Arts Excellence Program

The Performing Arts Excellence Program is an in depth study of Performing Arts from Year 7-12. The program aims to challenge and extend students who excel and have a keen interest in the Performing Arts.

Students who are interested in applying and who are accepted into the program will study Dance, Drama and Music. Use of technologies associated with each Arts area will be taught and integrated into class work. Students will also participate in larger performing arts projects including writing, staging and producing their own class show which will be performed to friends and family at an evening event.

Students currently enrolled in the Year 7 Performing Arts Excellence Program may continue their enrolment in the Year 8 Arts Excellence Program without audition. Students not already enrolled in the Year 7 program, but wish to enrol in Year 8 program will be required to complete an application and audition process.

To be eligible students must demonstrate talent within one of the following areas.

- Dance
- Drama
- Music

Digital & Design Technologies Elective Options

Year 8 Digital Technologies

Learn about the exciting world of Digital Technology and how your favourite devices and apps really work! Did you know that the phone in your pocket is 100,000 times faster and has 10,000,000 times more memory than the first wave of home computers used in the early 1980s? Continual advancements in digital technologies such as computers, software, apps and the Internet, are changing the way we live, shop, work and interact socially. Soon our houses will be controlled with software, our medical care will be delivered online and your car will drive itself.

Digital Technologies include computer hardware and software, digital media and media devices, digital toys and accessories and communication technologies. Learn to code, use computational thinking (maths + logic algorithms) and information systems to design and implement digital solutions to current and future problems. Projects could include creating functional programs, websites, interactive programs and apps.

Year 8 Industrial Technology

In an ever changing world, human kind has always endeavoured to change and manipulate its environment for the betterment of society. Up and coming generations must be empowered to confront and overcome these challenges with ability, creativity, innovation and enthusiasm. Essential skills in creative and analytical thinking have become highly sought after qualities in our young learners. Therefore learning units in Industrial Design and Technology subjects encapsulate these skills and processes preparing students to take on the challenges of the future. Our technology program aims to provide opportunities for students to develop their technological expertise, knowledge and understanding within a practical related context. They will develop problem solving and practical skills through experiencing a range tasks incorporating materials, processes and related theory.

As part of their ongoing learning they will engage in work related to tool identification and use, safe work practices, hand tool and machine safety, joining processes, basic finishing techniques, common wood, metal and plastic materials, sheet metal fabrication, common metals and alloys, thermoplastics, acrylic, PVC, reading technical drawings and sketching, materials preparation, fasteners and hardware, technical numeracy and literacy, introduction to design.

Creative and analytical thinking qualities of our young learners are supported by introducing students to graphical expression and presentation. This allows them to take full advantage of the designing and creative processes and marries them with technical knowledge and digital expertise.

Year 8 Home Economics

The central focus of Home Economics is the wellbeing of people within the context of their personal, family, community and work roles. Home Economics is about becoming independent, connecting with others and taking action towards preferred futures that support individual and family wellbeing. This course is based on developing students' awareness of, and response to, important issues such as sustainability (in both the food and textiles industry), healthy eating, food preparation, workplace health and safety, as well as literacy and numeracy. Students will participate in 10 weeks of Food and Nutrition and 10 weeks of Textiles.

Food & Nutrition: Learning experiences will include investigating Australian Dietary Guidelines and the functions of food, as well as participating in a 6 week practical cookery course, focused on healthy family meals. Students will investigate, identify constraints and justify decision making when creating a healthy family meal, which comprises of three of the five food groups.

Textiles: Learning experiences will include researching the elements and principles of design and investigating a range of embellishing techniques. Students will learn a variety of practical sewing skills and will design their own projects (e.g. pencil case, make-up case, USB Case) incorporating the design principles studied throughout the term.

If you have any questions regarding the selection of Year 8 - 2020 electives, please do not hesitate to contact Deputy Principal Carolyn Burke on 5547 9333 or cburk33@eq.edu.au.