FREMANTLE COLLEGE

Course Handbook

Year 7 and 8, 2025

Introduction

This handbook contains course subjects and electives information for students (split into Learning Areas) who will be in Years 7 and 8 in 2025. It is designed as a reference to the courses and subjects offered at Fremantle College. The School Curriculum and Standards Authority (SCSA https://www.scsa.wa.edu.au/) provide additional information about assessment and certification.

In addition, SCSA has issued a directive requiring all students in Years 7 and 8 spend a minimum number of hours studying courses from The Arts, Technologies and Languages as well as from Health and Physical Education and the core subjects of Mathematics, Science, English and HASS (Humanities and Social Sciences). Consequently, students in Years 7 and 8 will complete a semester of the elective courses in this handbook (unless in an Academy or Specialist Program). Advice and information is also available from the Associate Principals, Heads of Learning Area and the teaching staff.

Good partnerships between teachers, parents and students are essential to your child's success. Good communication and feedback are also important. We are using technology to improve communication to parents and students this year. These initiatives include:

College Website – https://fremantlecollege.wa.edu.au

Facebook® and Instagram – Fremantle College has an official Facebook and Instagram Page. These will be used as a tool to communicate with parents and the broader community about what is happening in our school. You will be regularly updated about all the great things that happen in our College. Be sure to like our page and subscribe to the notifications.

Compass is our school management system that allows parents and carers to access up-to-date and meaningful information about the school and your child's progress. Compass includes many different features, including the ability to monitor your child's attendance, communicate with your child's teacher, view your child's timetable, monitor your child's homework and assessment tasks, pay and provide consent for events.

Email - We have been using email for some time in an attempt to reduce paper usage and to speed up communications. Parents are encouraged to provide and update the school with their most current email address so that you do not miss out on important information.

SMS Test Messaging – We will continue to send text messages to parents regarding student absenteeism, and on occasion, for important news. Please ensure we have your current mobile phone number and update the school with new numbers for these key communications.

Fremantle College operates on a five sessions per day timetable. The Western Australian Department of Education requires that the breadth of course is covered by all students in Years 7 and 8. They must complete one Performing Arts, one Visual Arts, one Digital Technologies and one Design and Technologies class in both Years 7 and 8 as well as a language in both years.

Hours for each course in a week are as follows for Year 7:

Hours	Course	Details	Specialist/Academy
4	Mathematics		GATE* or Academic Excellence**
4	English		GATE or Academic Excellence
4	Science		GATE or Academic Excellence or Marine Science
4	HASS		GATE or Academic Excellence
2	Italian		#
2	Physical Education		or PE Marine or AFL
1	Health Education		
	The Arts:		
2	Visual Arts	Visual Art; one semester	Or Specialist Music (Yearlong)
2	Performing Arts	Music or PFA; one semester	Or Specialist Music (Yearlong)
	Technologies:		
2	Digital Technologies	One semester	Or Specialist ICT (Yearlong)
2	Design and Technologies	Metalwork/Woodwork; one semester	Or Specialist ICT (Yearlong)

Hours for each course in a week are as follows for Year 8:

Hours	Course	Details	Specialist/Academy
4	Mathematics		GATE* or Academic Excellence**
4	English		GATE or Academic Excellence
4	Science		GATE or Academic Excellence or Marine Science
4	HASS		GATE or Academic Excellence
2	Italian		#
2	Physical Education		or PE Marine or AFL
1	Health Education		
	The Arts:		
2	Visual Arts	Media Arts; one semester	Or Specialist Music (Yearlong)
2	Performing Arts	Drama or Music; one semester	Or Specialist Music (Yearlong)
	Technologies:		
2	Digital Technologies	One semester	Or Specialist ICT (Yearlong)
2	Design and Technologies	Food one term and Textiles one term	Or Specialist ICT (Yearlong)

• Gifted and Talented program – Centrally selected
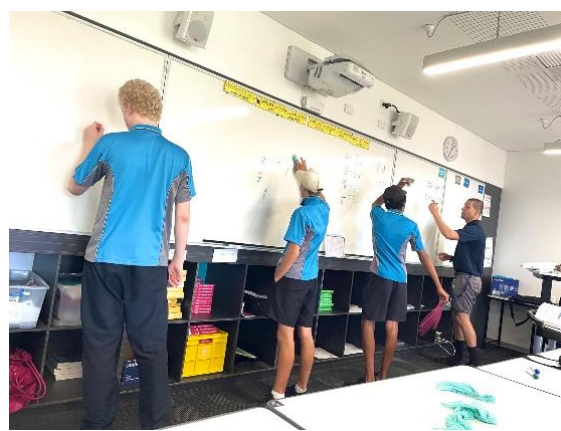** Academic Excellence Academy – School based Academic Extension classes   #
Specialist Music Students will be exempt from Italian

LEARNING AREA: MATHEMATICS

The mathematics content covers understanding, fluency, problem-solving and reasoning across number and algebra, measurement and geometry, and statistics and probability. The skills reinforce the significance of working mathematically within maths and describe how it is explored or developed. They provide the language to build in the developmental aspects of the learning of mathematics. The achievement standards reflect the content and encompass the proficiencies.

LEARNING AREA: ENGLISH

The English curriculum is built around the three interrelated strands of language, literature and literacy. Teaching and learning programs balance and integrate these which develop students' knowledge, understanding and skills in listening, reading, viewing, speaking, writing and creating. Learning in English builds on concepts, skills and processes developed in earlier years, and teachers will revisit and strengthen these as needed.

In Years 7 and 8, students communicate with peers, teachers, individuals, groups and community members in a range of face-to-face and online/virtual environments. They experience learning in familiar and unfamiliar contexts that relate to the school curriculum, local community, regional and global contexts.

LEARNING AREA: HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES (HASS)

Humanities and Social Sciences consists of Civics and Citizenship, Economics and Business, Geography and History.

Students develop increasing independence in critical thinking and skill application, which includes questioning, researching, analysing, evaluating, communicating and reflecting. They apply these skills to investigate events, developments, issues, and phenomena, both historical and contemporary.

LEARNING AREA: SCIENCE

Students explore the diversity of life on Earth and continue to develop their understanding of ordering and organising information. They use and develop models such as food chains, food webs and the water cycle to represent and analyse the flow of energy and matter through ecosystems and explore the impact of changes within these systems. They explore the notion of renewable and non-renewable resources and consider how this system depends on the timescale considered. They investigate relationships

in the Earth-sun-moon system and use models to predict and explain events. Students make accurate measurements and control variables to analyse relationships between system parts. They explore and explain relationships and consider the role of science in decision making processes.

LEARNING AREA: HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Students identify attitudes and values for a healthy, active lifestyle and demonstrate values consistent with the prevention of ill-health, the acceptance of personal responsibility for their health and physical activity levels, respect for social justice principles and a commitment to personal achievement. The Health & Physical Education curriculum provides opportunities for students to develop, enhance and exhibit attitudes and values that promote a healthy lifestyle.
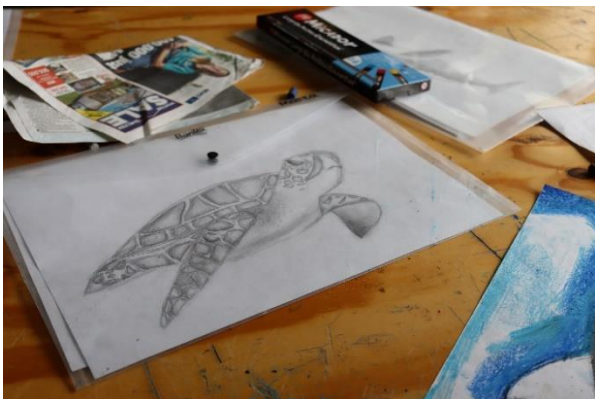

LEARNING AREA: THE ARTS

Students in Year 7 and Year 8 will study a combination of subjects from the Arts curriculum. Our goal is for all students to do at least one of each (Music, Drama, Visual Arts and Media Arts) over the 2 year period; this can't be guaranteed however

VISUAL ARTS

Visual Arts incorporates several Arts disciplines including Drawing, Painting, Design, Ceramics, Sculpture, Textiles, Jewellery and Fashion Design.

Students are encouraged to use visual communication to challenge their own original ideas, and the ideas of others, both as arts practitioners, and members of an audience. They will develop and extend conceptual and perceptual knowledge and understanding, critical analysis and practical skills, through the exploration of the world in which they live and experience and the world of the imagination.

The Visual Arts course encourages students in an exciting journey of self-discovery, experimentation, and practical problem solving embedded in visual inquiry, analysis, creative problem solving and Visual Arts practice.

The Visual Arts course extends students' critical thinking skills in the analysis and interpretation of artworks, encouraging cultural appreciation of the arts in both a historical and a contemporary context, through the exploration of artists and their works.

VISUAL ARTS YEAR 7

In Year 7, students will have opportunities to use and apply visual language and arts conventions to inform their design production process. They will have the opportunity to create both 2D and 3D artworks through projects that encourage the making and responding aspects of the Western Australian Curriculum, as well as analysing and critiquing their own work. Fundamental to the course is the understanding of the elements and principles of design in the development of visual language as a means of visual communication to convey a concept or idea across a variety of different studio disciplines. Students are urged to follow safe work practices when in a studio environment. Student works produced will be exhibited at the Fremantle College Arts Fest at the conclusion of the school year in Term 4.

MEDIA ARTS YEAR 8

In Year 8, students are provided with opportunities to view media work within the context of the selected focus. Students build on media concepts from previous years, through expansion of the basic communication model to include new and emerging media technologies. They apply their understanding of intended audience, purpose and context in their productions and in their response to their own and others' media work. They explore current trends in how audience(s) use media.

Students begin to solve problems, work as a team, follow timelines and use processes and strategies to ensure safe and responsible use of media equipment.

PERFORMING ARTS

MUSIC YEAR 7 and/or Year 8

Over the course of the Music (General) program, students are introduced to the elements and concepts of music through learning musical instruments and playing songs as part of a band. Students use the Calvert Music Centre's state of the art Music Technology Lab to learn about recording and sequencing. As students progress through the program and skills are acquired, they start to learn to compose and record their own music.

DRAMA YEAR 8

In Year 8, Drama students will be given opportunities to plan, refine and present drama to peers by safely using processes, techniques and conventions of drama, including design. Drama will be based on extended improvisations, or taken from appropriate, published script excerpts, using selected drama forms and styles, such as readers theatre, children's theatre, non-verbal theatre, puppetry, naturalism or realism. Student work in devised and/or scripted drama is the focus of informal reflective processes using more detailed drama terminology.

LEARNING AREA: TECHNOLOGIES

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES   YEAR 7 and YEAR 8

The Digital Technologies program at Fremantle College calls on a suite of modern technology to develop students' information technology skills for an increasingly interconnected world. Hardware topics studied as part of the course may include robotics, microprocessors, and single-board computing. Learning how modern computers work and have developed over time are also examined, as is the link between computers and electronics.

Students also look at the interface between technology and users through the study and use of software. Here students are taught how to program using a variety of development tools such as Logo, Python, C+, HTML/CSS and JavaScript.

Objectives.

Work within Digital Technologies gives students the opportunity to:
- Work responsibly online and using information technology.
- Use a variety of techniques and resources to design hardware solutions.
- Use a variety of techniques and resources to develop and use software applications.
- Think critically and become problem solvers.
- Evaluate a pathway at university or vocational studies in information technology.

Students plan and manage individual and team projects with some autonomy. They consider ways of managing the exchange of ideas, tasks and files, and techniques for monitoring progress and feedback. When communicating and collaborating online, students develop an understanding of different social contexts, for example acknowledging cultural practices and what it means to be a responsible online citizen.

MATERIALS TECHNOLOGIES YEAR 7

Materials Technology actively engages students in creating quality designed solutions for identified needs and opportunities across a range of technologies contexts. At Fremantle College students work within the wood, metals and advanced materials contexts, with a developing focus in design and engineering.

Through Materials Technologies students manage projects independently and collaboratively from conception to realisation. They apply design and systems thinking and design processes to investigate, generate and refine ideas, plan, produce and evaluate projects. They develop a sense of pride, satisfaction, and enjoyment from their ability to make things.

Students consider the economic, environmental and social impacts of technological change and how the choice and use of materials contributes to a sustainable future.

Our course is intended to provide students with the time and resources to experience work with materials across their college career. We want to give students a "taste" of materials work in Year 7, help them to explore a deeper understanding of wood, metals and other contexts in Years 9-10 before potentially entering a Certificate pathway in upper school. The working environment provides authentic experience to students and exposes them to the types of courses offered in the future as well as knowledge of the professions which work with materials.

FOOD and TEXTILES TECHNOLOGY YEAR 8

This course offers an introduction to Food and Textiles studies. Students work individually and collaboratively in a practical environment, utilising learnt skills to complete tasks which demonstrate their understanding of key concepts and technological expertise.

In Food Technology (one term), students are given the opportunity to develop their food preparation skills through the use of a variety of cooking techniques and careful food selection, in an effort to promote healthy eating.

Textiles studies (one term) develop students' capacity to make decisions, solve problems and develop critical thinking skills. The aim is to develop students' knowledge of the techniques required to construct various textiles items such as shopping bags, pencil cases and cushion covers. Students are provided with the opportunity to demonstrate their creativity to items they sew.

ITALIAN YEAR 7

The Year 7 Italian course is a year-long beginners' course and is compulsory for all students. It introduces the students to the basic elements of the language thus enabling them to communicate with Italian speaking people in everyday situations which would be encountered when travelling in Italy. The course covers a number of different topics which enable students to communicate at a basic level in the following topics:

- All about Italy
- Greetings
- Talking about yourself (name, age, nationality, birthday, address)
- Facts and figures: numbers, dates
- Months of the year and days of the week
- Your family – (physical and personality descriptions)
- Colours
- Hobbies and past-times

Assessment

Students demonstrate their progress throughout the year through written responses, listening tasks, practical and authentic tasks, and performances or oral presentations.

ITALIAN YEAR 8

The Year 8 Italian course is a year-long course and is compulsory for all students. It allows students to build on the communicating skills developed in the Year 7 Italian. The course covers several different topics which enable students develop their cultural understanding and the ability to communicate at a basic level in the following topics:

- Daily routines
- School timetables
- Talking about preferences
- Telling the time
- Talking about style
- Shopping requests
- Food and recipes
- Going out

Assessment

Students demonstrate their progress throughout the year through written responses, listening tasks, practical and authentic tasks, and performances or oral presentations.