

Stage 5 Handbook
Years 9-10

2016

KEIRA HIGH SCHOOL

Great traditions, a confident future.



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INTRODUCTION

This booklet contains information about the subjects students may choose to study in Years 9 and 10 in order to satisfy the requirements for the Record of School Achievement (ROSA). Of course, this will be the first opportunity, since beginning school, for students to actually shape their curriculum. Therefore, the decision-making process will be new, exciting but fraught with fears about whether the course of study is appropriate. To those students who may be anxious about the process of choosing electives, I offer the following advice.

In general, senior courses (Years 11 and 12) leading to the Higher School Certificate do not require an allied subject to have been studied in Years 9 and 10. One exception may be the level of Mathematics studied in the junior school. Therefore, when considering your subjects, choose those courses that you anticipate you will enjoy. If you enjoy the activities, you are more likely to engage in the learning. Secondly, choose those subjects that will be challenging. If you set high expectations for yourself, you have a goal to reach. Choosing a subject in which you simply 'coast', can lead to boredom and a lack of motivation.

In my experience, it is not sensible to be overly interested in what your friends are choosing. Each person has different interests, different skills and different goals. To choose a subject based on friendship, often leads to at least one of the friends being misplaced and unhappy in a subject. Indeed, you may change your friendship groups during Years 9 and 10 but you will not be able to change your subjects. Similarly, try not to anticipate which teachers will be teaching or not teaching a particular subject. The allocation of teaching staff to particular classes will change from year to year.

Another factor that is often over emphasised is that certain subjects lead to specific careers. This is simply unfounded. There is very little evidence of a direct link between subjects studied and employment gained. Rather, it is far wiser to choose a range of subjects that will maximise your final results and allow you to develop a set of generic skills that give you flexibility when applying for jobs or seeking further study.

Other factors to consider might include whether you will need to pay costs associated with a particular subject. Please check these costs before you make your final selection.

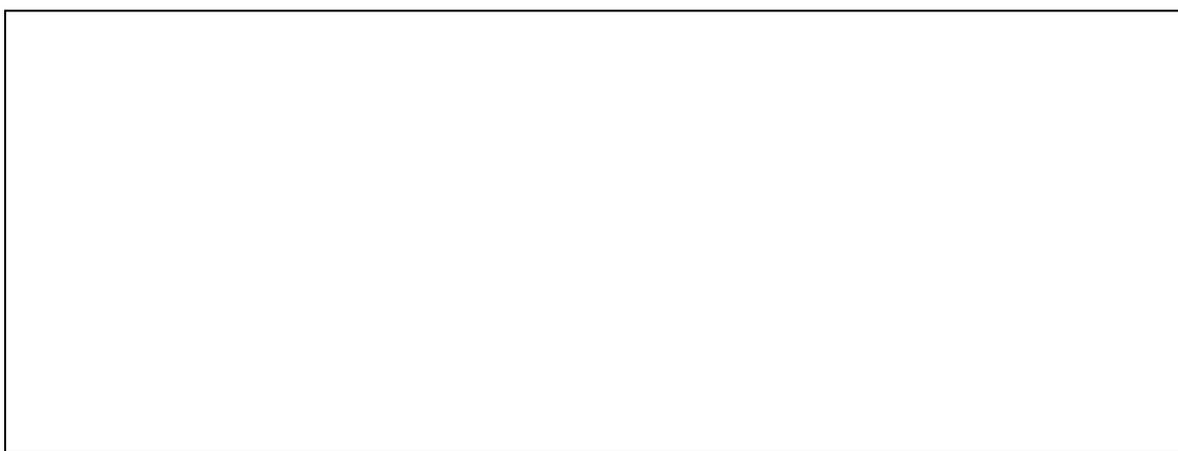
I urge all students to talk to a range of staff, to visit the Board of Studies website for subject specific information and to involve parents/caregivers in the process. I wish all students the very best for Years 9 and 10 and hope that they successfully meet the challenges that they will encounter.

Mr D Robson
Principal

SELECTION OF YEAR 9/10 ELECTIVES

In addition to study in the compulsory core subjects of Mathematics, English, Science, Geography and History and P.D.H.P.E., students have the opportunity to select an additional pattern of subjects that best suits their needs and interests. These general elective subjects are offered in 200-hour modules that run for 4 periods per week for two years. Over the two year period all students will complete two 200-hour modules.

The way these modules are combined to form a course of study depends on individual needs and interests. Most subjects are offered as module A and module B each requiring 100 hours of class time. Subjects may be studied once for 100 hours or for a longer period by combining a module A and a module B from the same subject to form a 200 hour course. The second module for a 200-hour course would normally be studied in Year 10. The modular system allows for flexibility in the patterns of study that students can select.



A number of course combinations are therefore possible depending on student preference i.e.

- Two 100 hour courses and One 200 hour course
- Two 200 hour courses

The following subjects will be offered during 2016. However, subject availability will depend on sufficient numbers of students choosing a subject to enable the school to staff it.

Commerce	Industrial Technology - Wood
Dance	Information and Software Technology (IST)
Drama	International Studies
Elective History	Japanese
Engineering Technology	Marine and Aquaculture Technology
Environmental Studies	Music
Film Making	Personal Development Child Studies
Food Technology	Photography and Digital Media
Graphics Technology	Sports Studies
Home Economics – Basic Catering	Textiles and Design
Industrial Arts – Transition to Trades	Visual Arts
Industrial Technology – Art Metal Jewellery	Work Education
Industrial Technology – Electronics	

N.B. There is a \$50 learning materials and resources fee, which covers all subjects in Year 9 and also Year 10.

CREATIVE ARTS KLA

DRAMA

Drama is a dynamic course which involves both performance and theory about dramatic processes. It prepares students for effective and responsible participation in society, taking into account moral, ethical and spiritual considerations. Drama students are challenged through imaginative dramatic experiences created in cooperation with others.

This course uses contemporary drama and theatre practices of making, performing and appreciating drama. Students work with others to grow in self-confidence and self-esteem as they experiment and reflect on ideas and performances. They learn about the work of actors, directors, playwrights, designers and technicians in productions. They learn to manipulate traditional, electronic and digital applications used during performances.

Students will make drama that explores a range of situations, perform devised and scripted drama using a variety of techniques and conventions and learn to appreciate the meaning and function of drama and theatre.

There will be performances in front of audiences which will be part of the assessment procedure. Students will be assessed on their ability to perform the duty they have been assigned; it will not always be acting. Other aspects of assessment will involve keeping a log and writing about performances, there may be reports and essays to complete.

NB the fee for this course is \$10 which covers purchase and copying of scripts, lighting, makeup, costumes and materials used in mask making.

MUSIC

The Music course gives students the opportunity to perform in both large and small ensembles. Students will also develop an understanding of music from other cultures and in a variety of styles.

Participation in this course involves performance, composition and listening components.

Students who wish to participate in this course do not need previous musical experience but **do** need a genuine interest in at least one of the following:

KEYBOARD	- Piano, Electric Piano or Synthesiser
BRASS	- Trumpet, Trombone, Euphonium/Tuba
WOODWIND	- Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone
STRINGS	- Violin, Cello, Double Bass
PERCUSSION	- Drum Kit, Percussion
VOCAL	- Solo and backing vocals

School instruments will be available for hire throughout this course.

NB the fee for this course is \$10 which covers the cost of replacing such things as guitar strings, reeds, and copying of scores and other music needs.

PHOTOGRAPHIC AND DIGITAL MEDIA

This course offers students the opportunity to explore and gain expertise in traditional and contemporary photographic practices through experiences in wet photography, video and digital media. Within themes, and with instruction in both studio and field trip experiences, students will use a choice of media to create and develop skills in creating imagery.

The course is designed to enable students gain independence and accomplishment in media by developing knowledge, skills and understanding through the making of photographs and/or digital media and/or video.

Critical and historical investigations will inform student practice in their chosen media and enable them to develop their own ideas and techniques.

N.B. The fee for this course is \$80 per year which covers chemicals, film, photographic paper and printing inks.

VISUAL ARTS

Students will experience a variety of media areas in this course. This could include any combination of drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, digital media, textiles and fibre and ceramics. Using themes as a starting point, students will investigate and explore ideas and media to create objects and images that reflect their own understanding of the world. This will help them become creative and confident in the use of traditional and contemporary artforms.

Critical and historical investigations will enable students to develop insights into the field of art and the ways they can develop conceptual strength and media skills in their own artmaking.



ENGLISH KLA

FILM MAKING

Lights! Camera! Action!

Everyone loves to watch films. This interesting and engaging course offers you the incredible opportunity to make your own films.

You will gain a deeper understanding of how films are actually made and the roles and responsibilities of all people on a film set. You will work as an integral part of a team to create, develop and produce short films. You will also have the opportunity to enter your short films in a variety of competitions.

This subject will deepen the knowledge gained in film studies in the Stages 4 and 5 English syllabuses. The understanding of film genres and techniques are important to the understanding of visual texts such as films.

This course will give you the opportunity to explore and refine your knowledge of and skills using the available software and technology.

Your work will be assessed throughout the year by presenting scripts, storyboards, shooting schedules and editing ideas and examples. There will also be formal written assessment tasks to provide you with other opportunities to demonstrate your understanding of film as a text. The final presentation will be in front of an audience at the Keirafest Film Festival and will be assessed on audience engagement.

Could **you** be the next Steven Spielberg or Jane Campion?

N.B. There is a fee of \$10 per year, which covers consumables in this course.

HUMAN SOCIETY AND ITS ENVIRONMENT KLA

COMMERCE

Commerce prepares you to take an active role in the wider commercial environment. Commerce affects every aspect of your life – earning an income, saving, investing, budgeting, buying a bike/car, being a wise consumer, preparing for employment as well as understanding the law as it applies to you.

Two highlights of the course are:

- Running a Business. A hands-on experience where students work in groups to run their own enterprise.
- Investing - \$50,000 to invest on the Australian Stock Exchange. An interactive Internet based game run by the ASX.

Excursion, visits and guest speakers are integral to this course.

ELECTIVE HISTORY

If you love history and you are interested in looking at the world throughout time, this is your opportunity to study those aspects of history you don't normally get to look at in class.

Students will value and appreciate: history as a study of human experience and have the opportunity to develop a life-long interest and enthusiasm for history. They will also examine the nature of history as reflecting differing perspectives and viewpoints. Students also gain the opportunity to contribute to a just society through informed citizenship and the contribution of a past and present peoples to our shared heritage.

Students will also learn about identity and past mistakes so that they are not repeated. This course will allow students to become independent learners, independent thinkers, open minded individuals and problem solvers. They will learn to think and argue and pick the essential from the trivial.

Are you inquisitive and do you like to discover why things happen?
Are you prepared to investigate and find things out for yourself?
Do you like to form your own opinion and do you often debate with your peers?
Do you like to have fun or enjoy a challenge?
If you answered yes to any of the above, then this subject is for you!

Students have to study 3 topics by looking at a selection of the options below.

Topic 1 Constructing History allows students to study history through options such as: biography, family history, Film as History, Historical fiction, Heritage and Conservation, History and the Media, local history, museum and/or archives studies, oral history, historical reconstructions, a history website/CD-ROM .

Topic 2 Ancient, Medieval and Early Modern Societies allows students to study history through options such as: Archaeology of the Ancient World, Literature of the Ancient World, Medieval and Early Modern Europe, The Ottoman Empire, An Asian Study, The Americas, The Pacific Africa, a 19th century study, a 20th century study.

Topic 3 Thematic Studies allows students to study history through options such as: Children in History, Heroes and Villains, Religious Beliefs and Rituals through the Ages, Sport and Recreation in History, War and Peace, World Myths and Legends, Crime and Punishment, Music through History, Slavery, Terrorism, Women in History.

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

This is a 100 or 200 hour Board Endorsed Course which has been created especially for Keira High School. Students who select Environmental Studies will be engaged in hands on, collaborative, student designed environmental action.

ELECTIVE modules	Hours
1. Local Environmental Issues	30
2. Australian Environmental Issues	20
3. Global Environmental Issues	20
4. Environmental Debates	20
5. Survival in the Wild	20
6. Disasters	20
7. Water and Marine Environments	20
8. Green Business	15
9. Sustainable Futures	15
10. Group Action Research Project	15
11. Organic Produce Project	15
12. Weed Warriors	15

Excursions: The course work is built around authentic experiences and includes overnight excursions to local environmental education centres, as well as day trips and outdoor activities at school and in the community. There will be costs associated with the excursions which will be advised throughout the school year.

Links to future study and employment: Increasing global understanding of the necessity of environmental sustainability and addressing climate change has led the University of Wollongong to introduce a core topic in its Bachelor of Commerce degree called *Principles of Responsible Commerce*. This compulsory unit addresses the environmental issues associated with business and finance and students who select Environmental Studies would be well positioned for entry into tertiary studies. Environmental studies would also fit well into a pattern of study for students who are considering environmental and biological sciences, as well as humanities and human geography courses. Most importantly, with over one hundred and twenty hours of course time devoted to student directed projects, group action and collaboration with experts, Environmental Studies develops the essential time management, social and communication skills that are regarded highly by future employers.

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

Look around you, the world is a fascinating place. Whether you chose to travel, or stay in the Illawarra, this course is relevant to you.

Many choices are available within the course. Some are –

- Cultural tourism
- Culture, recreation and sport
- Religion and culture
- Gender differences
- The media, religion, politics and human rights
- Culture and family life
- Culture in work and the workplace

Excursions, guest speakers and primary research are an important part of this course.

WORK EDUCATION

Work Education provides students with an opportunity to develop knowledge and understanding of work. Students will develop employability and pathways planning skills. These skills will improve students' ability to succeed in the labour market.

Community and work based learning opportunities are provided throughout the course.

The course structure involves a core and options that can be studied as 100 or 200-hour course. Core topics are Preparing Futures and Working Communities.

Optional topics include:

- Workplace safety
- Using technology in the workplace
- Learning about the workplace
- Workplace communication
- Managing Finances
- Learning in the workplace
- Workplace issues

A significant feature of the course is the community and work based learning opportunities including work site visits, work experience and guest speakers.

This course fully prepares students for the transition from school to work and will provide them with skills to be active and informed citizens.

LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH (LOTE) KLA

JAPANESE

A foreign language is extremely valuable for students interested in commerce and trade, tourism, hospitality, journalism, interpreting...

Travelling around the world becomes easier and more rewarding as you can communicate with other people in their language.

Languages are useful. They help breakdown social barriers by making us more sensitive to and aware of cultural differences. We begin to understand the nature of Australian society and its place in world affairs.

Your knowledge of the structure of English and the nature of languages generally will be greatly increased through the study of languages.

Your appreciation of music, film, literature and art in general will be enriched.

Languages are fun! Technology now makes it easier to acquire another language.

The course comprises the four aspects of learning - speaking, listening, reading & writing.

Students will learn the culture of the target language through both the language itself and its use in everyday situations. Students will work with computers and in the language laboratory. They will watch TV programs and listen to recordings of Japanese native speakers. Students will enjoy pretending to be travellers in Japan and will join in activities such as visiting a restaurant, a cafe or even going on a picnic.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT, HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION KLA

DANCE

Dance will be offered in Year 9 and 10 to those students wishing to extend on their knowledge and skills in Dance. The Dance syllabus provides the opportunity for students to extend themselves in Dance performance, composition and appreciation through study of the various styles of Dance. Students will be encouraged to express ideas creatively, using their skills and imagination to work towards both public and in-class performances. Many methods of Dance will be investigated from classical to modern/contemporary and street funk.

The Dance elective will consist of a theoretical component involving analysing and appreciating Dance as well as a practical component.

There are three parts to this course:

- Practices of performance, composition and appreciation.
- Study of the elements of Dance.
- Studying Dance as an art form.

Students will not need prior outside dance experience to study this course. Depending on availability of a performance space at the school there may be fees for this course.

NB There is a cost of \$30 per year which covers materials for dance and costumes.

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY & SPORT STUDIES

Sport plays a major role in the lives of many Australians. It can provide personal satisfaction, active leisure, a source of employment and a subject for tertiary study.

The Physical Activity & Sport Studies course is suited to any student for whom sport is important in their lives. The course aims to provide opportunities for students to enhance their knowledge and skills in the many different facets of sport.

Physical Activity & Sport Studies has theory and practical components. The classroom sessions explore the functions of the body and how they relate to sport, sport injuries and associated rehabilitation, ways of training and improving performance. Later the course moves on to examine social issues related to sport such as the origins of sport and sport psychology.

Practical sessions are designed to improve physical skills, interpersonal skills and knowledge of a wide range of activities, many of which are not included in the core Physical Education program.

In practical sessions students will be given the opportunity to examine how to improve their own and other student's performance. Example activities would be squash, games from other cultures, badminton, orienteering, swimming and fitness methods.

Many of the practical activities are completed outside the school at public venues. Use of these facilities will involve additional costs to course participants.

NB There is a cost of \$40 per year which covers entry to the swimming pool and gym as part of practical learning for this course.

TECHNOLOGY AND APPLIED STUDIES KLA

ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY

This is a new elective that has been designed to allow students to discover the world of engineering. Using metal, timber, alternative energy and a variety of engineered structures, students will develop knowledge and skills about the following topics:

- Small structures eg: Bridges & Trebuchet's
- Robotics-NXT programming
- Electronics and mechanical control systems
- Aeronautics and racing cars.
- Graphical Communication – CAD and 3D graphics

This course will provide an excellent transition into the stage 6 Engineering Studies course and Design & Technology course, offered in years 11 & 12.

N.B. There is a fee of \$80 per year, which covers the use of consumables in this course.

FOOD TECHNOLOGY

This is an exciting course, which provides an outlet for those who have an interest in the food area both from a recreational point of view and also from a career perspective. Study in year 9 & 10 forms a sound basis for future study in Years 11 & 12 and for career training in the food and hospitality industry.

Students will learn through practical experiences how to design, produce and evaluate foods.

Students will develop good food preparation skills and will enjoy learning about a variety of food and nutrition issues.

Topics covered in this course include:

- Food service and catering
- Food for special occasions
- Food preparation and processing
- Nutrition and consumption
- Food trends

GRAPHICS TECHNOLOGY

Graphics is a language used worldwide in industry, business and at home. This new course allows students to learn and develop techniques used in product illustration, home architecture, interior design and the communication of technical information. Students develop technical drawing skills related to both 2D and 3D forms using industry standards to develop images, models and pictures. They will also be converting the 3D drawings into a model using the 3D printers.

Students will utilise CAD design and modelling software including Solid Edge, Archicad and Sketchup Pro to design and produce professional quality drawings. This course allows students to develop skills that can be used in the future beyond school, including trade courses, architecture, drafting and engineering. The skills developed also provide an excellent basis for students who wish to undertake the Stage 6 Engineering Studies, Industrial Technology and Design & Technology courses.

Fees \$ 10 per year



HOME ECONOMICS – CATERING

The Hospitality industry continues to experience significant growth worldwide. This course offers an introduction to basic catering and students will develop skills and knowledge across a broad range of areas. Practical food preparation is the focus of the course and students will learn about catering for functions and the hospitality industry.

The course will also provide a work readiness component that will ensure students have a broader range of employability skills prior to work experience.

This course will provide an excellent progression into the stage 6 VET course, Certificate II in Hospitality - Multiskilling, offered in year 11 & 12.

Exclusions: Students cannot select Food Technology and Catering in the same year.

INDUSTRIAL ARTS – TRANSITION TO TRADES

There is a recognised shortage of qualified tradespeople in Australia. This new course is being offered for those students who have an interest in pursuing a career in a trade or want to find out more about what is involved in this employment field.

This elective provides an introduction to the knowledge and skills needed to work as a tradesperson beyond school. The course will focus on a variety of trade areas including carpentry, landscaping, bricklaying, furniture restoration, metalworking and drafting. The course will also provide a work readiness component that will ensure students have a broader range of employability skills prior to work experience.

This course will provide an excellent pathway into the stage 6 VET course, Certificate II in Construction Pathways offered in years 11 & 12.

N.B. There is a fee of \$50 per year, which covers the use of consumables in this course.

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY – ART METAL JEWELLERY

This exciting course involves an interesting blend of the theory of design and jewellery making. Students will learn and develop skills in both the traditional and modern techniques of designing and making jewellery. As part of the design process students will research the jewellery worn by ancient and modern cultures around the world. Students will produce numerous pieces of fine jewellery including a wide range of rings, earrings, pendants, bracelets and items of their own design. The course involves the use of such materials as sterling silver, fine silver, brass, copper, acrylic, shells and semiprecious cabochon stones.

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INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY – ELECTRONICS

The course is designed to give students who have no background in electronics the opportunity to investigate and experience the exciting world of microelectronics. Students will learn the functions of electronic components, analogue and digital systems, and integrated circuits so that they will be able to design their own circuits. Projects may include a miniature 'spy bug', timing devices, roulette wheel, sirens a metal detector, security systems, a CB radio and for advanced students a robotic vehicle. Students will as the course progresses also be able to design projects of their own choice.

The application of electronics CAD software will allow students to experiment with a wide range of circuit designs which can be tested on the computer. This electronics course will help students interested in discovering a fun new hobby or following a career in security systems, engineering, telecommunications, computing or electronics. The quality of the models constructed by the elective students indicates that they should do very well in the HSC electronics course.

N.B. There is a fee of \$80 per year, which covers the use of consumables in this course.

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY – WOOD

This is a very popular subject and comprises cabinetwork, woodcrafts and wood machining. Students make a series of timber projects.

All students design and construct major projects of their own choice such as cabinets, computer desks, chairs, large wooden bowls, lamp stands, coffee tables and outdoor furniture. Every opportunity is given to encourage freedom of expression in designing such projects and many students include other materials such as acrylics, glass, metal fittings and fabrics.

Students are taught to safely use a wide variety of woodworking machines such as the lathes, band saws and various portable power tools.

N.B. There is a fee of \$80 per year, which covers the use of consumables in this course.

INFORMATION AND SOFTWARE TECHNOLOGY (IST)

This course is designed to further the knowledge and skills of students with an interest in information technology.

Throughout the duration of this course students study a number of optional topics such as:

- Artificial intelligence
- Networking
- Multimedia
- Robotics
- Website development
- Digital media
- Database design
- Software development

The optional topics are integrated with compulsory core content that develops each student's knowledge and skills in areas such as:

- Producing, and evaluating information technology solutions
- Hardware and software
- Legal, social, and ethical issues related to IT.

Coursework is supported by relevant practical work.

MARINE AND AQUACULTURE TECHNOLOGY

This course is designed for students with recreational and / or future vocational interest in the ocean. It allows students interested in environmental issues to further this interest.

There are compulsory core modules and optional modules.

The first compulsory core module involves water safety and first aid. It involves specified water skills including swimming 200m in still water.

Other core modules include topics such as:

- Marine plants
- Marine disasters
- Mangroves and estuaries
- Marine mammals
- Dangerous marine creatures
- Antarctica's marine ecology
- Shipwrecks and salvage
- The abyss

There are forty eight optional modules that allow students to further develop particular skills and interests.

Course work is supported by relevant practical and fieldwork. Fieldwork often involves excursions to appropriate venues.

N.B. There is a fee of \$10 which covers the use of consumables in this course.

CHILD STUDIES

The increasing need for childcare within our community has sparked major interest amongst students towards gaining an understanding of the growth and development of the child, and the necessity for child care workers. This course aims to provide students with an overview of child growth and development and an opportunity to consider this on an individual, family and community level.

Aspects of study include: prenatal development, the birth process, growth and development of children, food for infants and toddlers, safety at home, toys and clothing, how children learn, the importance of play, multicultural influences, being a parent and services available to assist parents. Investigations will be into employment in the childcare field.

Activities will include research assignments, depth studies, development and making toys, games and activities suitable for children, planning meals, safety surveys, desktop publishing, story writing and study of the childcare field with a view to employment.

This is an exciting and rewarding course, which has the potential to provide interesting study and an avenue for future employment.

TEXTILES AND DESIGN

This course has been designed to encourage students to be creative through investigating textiles and their many uses. Project and practical work forms a major part of the course and this allows students to become competent using textile technology, which is employed to make a wide range of items.

Students will become confident in design as they learn to apply design principles to all practical projects, which are tailored to suit their own individual interests.

As well as design, students will develop skills in fabric selection and pattern and garment construction where a clothing item, of the student's choice, is to be completed. Cultural considerations are also investigated where a project is to be completed involving the study of textiles from another culture.

This course allows students to develop and display their creativity and individuality by allowing them to follow their ideas and interests.

N.B. There is a fee of \$60 per year which covers the use of consumables in this course.