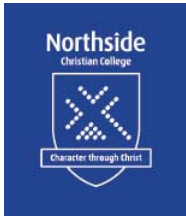


Northside Subject Selection Booklet for Year 9 students in 2021





Northside Christian College

MIDDLE SCHOOL

for Year 9 students in 2021

Introduction

The following pages present information on the subject offerings for Year 9 students currently studying at Northside Christian College and planning to continue. A general overview is presented here to enable the Parent/s, and/or, Guardian/s, to work with their child/ren in deciding which subject combination best provides for their future prospects, whether that be tertiary studies, apprenticeships/ traineeships or part/full-time work.

Selecting Subjects – General Principles

The College acknowledges the difficulties that secondary students experience in choosing subjects, particularly in earlier year levels. Throughout their senior secondary years of education and beyond, a student may undergo any number of preference changes from a series of potential careers, or destination-institution course choices, or preferred tertiary educational institutions. In Year 10, students will undergo a much more intensive planning process to produce a Senior Education & Training (SET) Plan to help guide their subject choices for Years 11 and 12.

Subject Offerings

All subjects (excluding Christian Foundations) are based on the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) Syllabuses.

Students must determine any **PREREQUISITE** subjects required for further study of that subject. These are predominantly the languages (Japanese and French), Design subjects and certain levels of Mathematics subjects leading into Year 10 or 11 subjects the student may wish to pursue.

Selecting Subjects

All subjects are designed to develop in students the skills required as they move into the senior secondary schooling subject offerings.

Movement between subjects during the year may affect a student's achievement, so subject selection should be considered carefully, following consultation between the student, parents and teaching staff. (See the section of this booklet entitled "Subject Change".)

Several factors should be considered when choosing elective subjects, including:

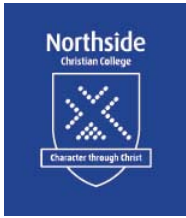
Achievement	Current results will provide a good indication of future success, although this may not always be a true reflection of the student's ability, rather their effort, or lack thereof.
Aptitude	What is the student's natural aptitude in this field of study?
Interest	Students are more likely to succeed in subjects which hold some interest for them.
Attitude	A positive attitude towards a subject including a willingness to commit to the hours of homework required is a necessary or preferred prerequisite.

In choosing a course of study, a student needs to:

- consider some of the goals they are beginning to aspire to;
- investigate the possible paths to those goals;
- talk to people who know something about the goals and the subjects needed to be undertaken;
- examine possible pathways in the light of his/her abilities, personality and commitment level;
- prayerfully decide on which path seems right.

Students should neither make subject choices on the grounds of the subjects being chosen by their friends, nor on the basis of their perceptions about any teacher they think might be teaching the subject.

The important guiding principle is that students are placed in a position, through the subject selection process, so that they are most likely to experience academic success now and into the future. This is often determined by what they are good at and what they enjoy studying.



Northside Christian College

MIDDLE SCHOOL

for Year 9 students in 2021

A National Curriculum: Queensland Implementation

The Alice Springs (Mparntwe) Education Declaration

ACARA's work in developing the Australian Curriculum is guided by the Alice Springs (Mparntwe) Education Declaration.

The Alice Springs (Mparntwe) Education Declaration commits "to supporting all young Australians to become successful learners, confident and creative individuals, and active and informed citizens", and to promoting equity and excellence in education. The Australian Curriculum will "equip all young Australians with the essential skills, knowledge and capabilities to thrive and compete in a globalised world and information-rich workplaces of the current century." The Australian Curriculum will be accessible to all young Australians, regardless of their social or economic background or the school they attend. The Australian Curriculum has been implemented over several years at the College.

The idea of developing a 21st Century curriculum to engage 21st Century students and embrace new technologies for the purpose of improving learning strategies, spaces and locations are all very attractive and commendably forward-looking notions. The national assessment program with data collection and reporting is less appealing to many schools for a wide range of reasons. NAPLAN will continue to test and report on student and school performance in literacy and numeracy. Northside will continue to cooperate with the National Assessment Plan, under the direction and advice of the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority and Independent Schools Queensland.

Time will play out the changes and directions of an Australian National Curriculum, but parents can be assured that Northside's Senior Staff and its Curriculum Leaders and Coordinators, along with our classroom teachers, are endeavouring to keep abreast of all new developments. This is both through the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA), and our moderation of standards between schools. Northside Christian College, as an independent school, also is kept informed through the Independent Schools of Queensland and Australia educational bodies.

Key web addresses: http://www.acara.edu.au/home_page.html
<http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au>
<https://www.isq.qld.edu.au/>

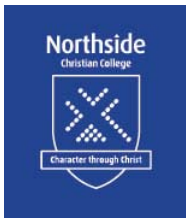
Parents should also note that reporting in Australian Curriculum subjects addresses the learning strands and standards which have been set in place by ACARA. The means of reporting is a school-based decision and must reflect a five-point scale.

A Developmental Curriculum

Core subjects are compulsory. They expose students to important learning experiences for children in this age group. These include the development of information and research skills, effective use of technology, problem solving skills and exposure to learner-centred and open-ended, negotiated tasks.

Elective subjects provide an opportunity for students to begin to pursue areas of specific interest, some of which may become important elements of their career aspirations.

Our curriculum is structured to gradually progress students from a broad, core curriculum in Year 7 towards a broader exposure to elective subjects by Year 9. By Year 10, students follow an elective program similar to that in Years 11 and 12. This makes Year 10 an important preparatory year for the senior years of schooling.

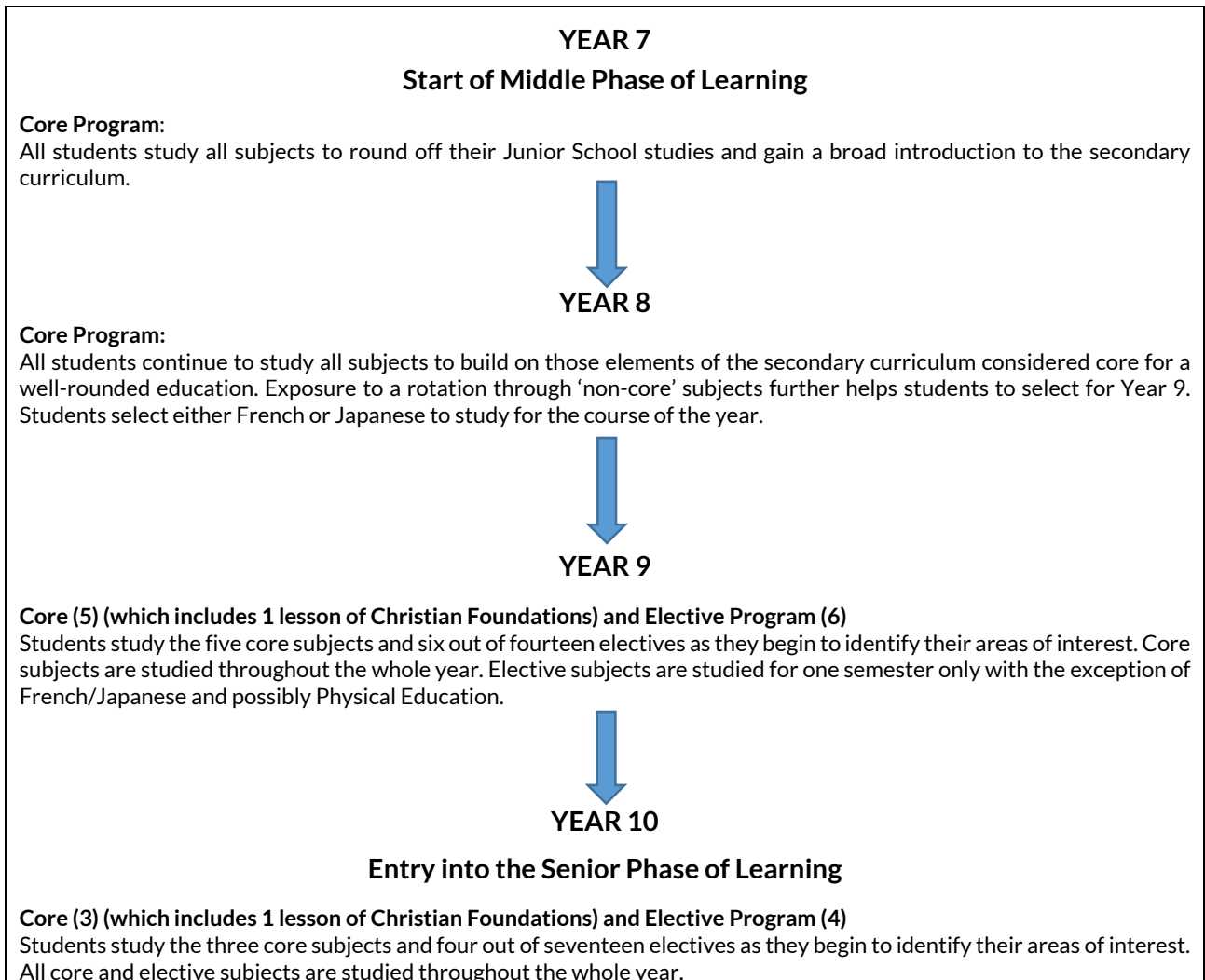


Northside Christian College

MIDDLE SCHOOL

for Year 9 students in 2021

A Developmental Curriculum (contd)



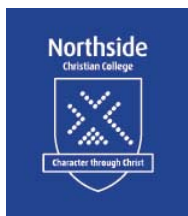
A Rationale for the Year 9 Program

Since 2015, Junior Secondary has been a phase of education in Queensland secondary schools for Years 7, 8 & 9, which ensures the bridge between primary and secondary school is safe, strong and consistent. At Northside Christian College a middle years of schooling model has been in place since 1999 and is an effective bridge in this regard. The Senior Secondary phase remains as Years 10, 11 and 12.

Year 9 is the final year of Middle School and, as such, is intended to give students the chance to continue with their core studies, whilst maximising their opportunity to explore a range of electives in preparation for the senior phase of learning. In Years 7 and 8, students will have been exposed to some of these elective subject areas on a compulsory, rotational basis.

In Year 9, however, students are offered the choice of six elective units of study, excepting languages and possibly Physical Education, each a semester in length (2 lessons per week), to make up their program of study. It is the first time in their secondary schooling that students are given real choice over at least a component of their study program. The student's choice of elective study should be adopted with the intent of maximising their exposure to possible future courses of elective study in the senior phase of learning.

Year 9 is an important time for students to experiment with, and experience in more depth, specialist subject electives so that they are making more informed choices of subjects to be undertaken in Years 10, 11 and 12.



Northside Christian College

MIDDLE SCHOOL

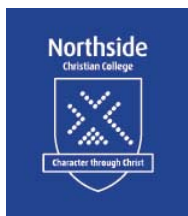
for Year 9 students in 2021

Transition Subjects

It **may** be possible for a student to take up an elective subject in Years 10-12 that they had not studied in the previous year but, clearly, this places a student at a disadvantage. Generally, students need to follow lines of study as follows:

YEAR 9		YEAR 10			YEARS 11 & 12
English	→	English	→ → →	G G A	English Literature Essential English
Mathematics	→	Mathematics (Sem. 1)	→ → → →	G G G A	Specialist Mathematics Mathematical Methods General Mathematics Essential Mathematics
	→	General Mathematics (Sem. 2)	→ →	G A	General Mathematics Essential Mathematics
	→	Mathematical Methods (Sem. 2)	→ → →	G G G	Specialist Mathematics Mathematical Methods General Mathematics
Science Science Extension	→ →	Science	→ → → →	G G G G	Biology Chemistry Physics Psychology
Visual Art	→ →	Visual Art Certificate I in Visual Arts <i>CUA10315</i>	→ →	G V	Visual Art Certificate III in Visual Arts <i>CUV30111</i>
Drama Dance	→ →	Drama Dance	→	G	Drama
Music	→	Music	→ →	G	Music Music Extension (<i>2 semesters only in Yr 12</i>)
Social Science	→	Social Science	→ →	G G	Ancient History Modern History
Physical Education	→	Physical Education	→ →	G A	Physical Education Sport and Recreation
Design Technologies – Engineering and Materials	→ →	Design – Engineering and Materials Manufacturing	→	V	Certificate II in Engineering Pathways <i>MEM20413</i>
Challenge Based Design	→	Design	→ →	G G	Design Engineering
Design Technologies – Food and Fibre	→ →	Design – Food & Fibre Certificate II in Hospitality	→	A	Hospitality Practices
Digital Technologies	→	Digital Solutions	→	G	Digital Solutions
Business	→	Business and Economics	→ →	G G	Business Legal Studies
Japanese	→	Japanese	→	G	Japanese
French	→	French	→	G	French
				G	Film, Television and New Media
				V	Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care <i>CHC30113</i>

Some senior (11/12) courses may be offered as a Year 11/12 composite class based on student preferences.



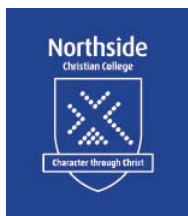
Northside Christian College

MIDDLE SCHOOL

for Year 9 students in 2021

Subject Offerings

YEAR 9	YEAR 10
<p>Core: Christian Foundations English Mathematics Social Science Science Sport (non-graded)</p> <p>Electives: Choose 6 from: Business Challenged Based Design Dance Design Technologies – Engineering and Materials Design Technologies – Food and Fibre Digital Technologies Drama French <i>(both semesters-equates to 2 of 6 electives)</i> Japanese <i>(both semesters-equates to 2 of 6 electives)</i> Music Physical Education <i>(one semester or both semester options)</i> Science Extension Visual Art</p>	<p>Core: Christian Foundations (1 lesson) English Mathematics Sport (non-graded)</p> <p>Electives: Choose 4 from: Business and Economics Certificate I in Visual Art <i>CUA10315</i> Certificate II in Hospitality <i>SIT20316</i> Dance Design Design – Engineering and Materials Design – Food and Fibre Digital Solutions Drama French Japanese Manufacturing Music Physical Education Science Social Science Visual Art</p>
YEAR 11 – 12	
<p>Core Subjects Christian Foundations (1 lesson)</p> <p>Electives within Core English <i>or</i> Essential English <i>and</i> General Mathematics <i>or</i> Mathematical Methods <i>or</i> Essential Mathematics <i>and</i> Choose 4 Electives from: Ancient History Biology Business Chemistry Certificate III in Early Childhood Education & Care <i>CHC30113</i> Certificate III in Visual Art <i>CUV30111</i> Certificate II in Engineering Pathways <i>MEM20413</i> Design</p>	Digital Solutions Drama Engineering Film, Television and New Media French Hospitality Practices Japanese Legal Studies Literature Modern History Music Music Extension (2 semesters Year 12) Physical Education Physics Psychology Specialist Mathematics Sport and Recreation Visual Art



Northside Christian College

MIDDLE SCHOOL

for Year 9 students in 2021

Year 9 Subjects across the Key Learning Areas

Under the Federal Government's National Curriculum (ACARA) Learning Areas (LA's) have been identified for Australian students. The subjects offered in Year 9 at Northside Christian College cover these LA's in the following way:

THE ARTS	Dance Drama Art Music
ENGLISH	English (Core)
LANGUAGES	French Japanese
HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION	Physical Education
MATHEMATICS	Mathematics (Core)
SCIENCE	Science (Core) Science Extension
HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES	Social Science (Core)
TECHNOLOGIES AND DESIGN	Challenge Based Design Design Technologies – Engineering and Materials Design Technologies – Food and Fibre Digital Technologies
BUSINESS	Business

Subjects changes

Students may wish to change subjects after having studied one for a period of time. It is important for students to realise that any change must be thought through carefully, since changes can affect performance and, therefore, results in that subject.

Changes can **only** be made at the following times:

Year 9 Students:

- within the first **three weeks** of a semester (or at the Head of Middle School's discretion)
- at the **end of a term / semester**.

Costs:

For Year 9 subject changes, at this stage, there will be no charges from the Accounts Department apart from subject levy adjustments that may be required following a subject change.

There will need to be approval by the **Head of Middle School** before the student is allowed to change to the new subject.

Process for Changes to Subjects

1. Subject change is approved by the student's parent or guardian via the elected means of correspondence.
2. Subject change is approved by the Head of Middle School.
3. If the subject change is approved, all parties involved will be notified by email and paper records kept in the student's file.

The student is allocated a new timetable with the subject changes and new room allocations. At this point, the student can have permission to start the new subject immediately at the beginning of the new term.