



Years 9 and 10
Pathways Courses
Information Booklet



Semester 1 2017



Dear parents, carers and students

At Gold Creek School, we are pleased to be able to offer the wide range of educational choices displayed in this booklet, for selection in semester 1. Each course is of a high standard, in both a practical and academic sense, and we are sure your child will enjoy and appreciate the range available to them. Pathways courses are aimed at providing students with the opportunity to explore multiple options that support their personal academic and career goals as well as areas of talent/interest.

Students have 8 lines or classes. Their studies consist of a number of curriculum areas: English, Mathematics, Science, Physical Education and Health, Humanities, Languages and two Pathways classes each semester.

Students are required to choose one Arts and/or one Design subject each year. All courses may only be studied once in the two years.

Please help your child to make their selections carefully, based on their academic and career pathways and special areas of interest. Once students are placed into their selected classes no class changes may be made. All classes have a limit to the number of students that can enrol, however, every effort will be made for students to be placed in their first or second preference class. Careful Pathways' choices can help lead your child to make informed, happier and healthier life choices, further study at the end of Year 10, CIT or work placements.

Finally, it is important that you understand that some courses can only be offered if we include a modest charge for the materials and resources students will use. Each course clearly states what the associated cost will be for that course and if we are unable to recoup these costs, we may only be able to offer theoretical classes, not practical, hands-on courses which the students truly enjoy. Course costs will be invoiced at the beginning of semester 1 once students have begun work in these classes.

The Pathways guide will be made available to students and parents via the school website from Friday 25 November. Students will then be given an opportunity to complete their selections in class on Tuesday 29 November or can complete these online before COB 29 November 2016 using the link on the school website.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

Regards

Priscilla Wray and Michelle Morthorpe
Associate Principals
Senior Site

The Arts

Drama - Gothic Tales

Beginning with the study of theatrical practitioners (Ibsen, Strindberg and Chekov), this unit explores classic gothic texts, such as Edgar Allan Poe's 'Tell-Tale Heart'. Students discover how lighting and sound can be used to create suspense and how dramatic pauses can be used to build tension. Abstract and documentary drama techniques are introduced and students develop their knowledge, skills, and understanding through performance and scriptwriting. Students have the opportunity to extend their understanding of gothic genre elements through writing their own scripts for potential inclusion in the 'Acting Up' Festival of One Act Plays at the Canberra Theatre Centre in May 2017.

All You Need Is Music (Bah Ba Dadah Baah)

All You Need Is Music helps you get back, through the long and winding road, to the beginnings of pop music.

Using famous popular music musicians and songwriters as an influence, students develop their listening, performing, composition, and evaluation skills. They create and perform music in ensemble and solo settings, developing practical skills and demonstrating an understanding of something about how music works.

Students also embrace new technologies within their music making. They experience a day in the life of an audio engineer, by sequencing audio and MIDI files, recording live instruments and vocals, creating arrangements of their favourite songs, engineering and producing their own music/songs, and developing a holistic understanding of technical processes and principles; essentially, getting better, and developing the skills to be here, here and everywhere. Come together people, we can work it out!

(House points available if you can find all eight Beatles songs in this course description)

Digital Photography 1

Students are introduced to the digital camera, the principles associated with digital photography and the history of how digital photography came to be. Students explored landscape, portrait, candid, action, macro, architecture and food photography among others and how to achieve a clear focal point. They look at using and applying different rules, perspectives, lines and textures in their photographs. Students also use Photoshop to enhance, alter and apply different effects to their photographs. They learn colour theory and how use Photoshop to create eye catching posters and advertisements. Students also have an excursion which takes them to several key locations in Canberra where they get the opportunity to practice their skills in a variety of settings. On completion of this course, students are able to create professional quality images for print and multimedia.

Digital Photography 2.0

In Digital Photography 2 you will be using the knowledge and skills learnt in Digital Photography 1 to improve the quality of your photographs, creativity, design and critical appraisals. You will learn to use the more advanced functions of the editing software, Adobe Photoshop. This second unit will enable you to explore different ideas and techniques of interest to you. At the end of the unit you will have produced a portfolio and several self-directed projects.

A Year In The Life (this is an annual unit)

Students explore the production qualities of film, documentary, podcasting/audio, text, and graphic media styles, with an emphasis on developing and understanding the technical skills and knowledge required to produce these various forms to a high standard. They work on documenting, in a variety of different formats, everything that takes place throughout the school year. Further to this, the students become part of a Gold Creek School media team, and use their skills in promoting the school, and events, to our local and wider community.

As well as developing Journalism skills, by the end of the course, students in A Year In The Life compile a portfolio, showcasing skills in a number of different media formats, and will be responsible for the publications of the annual whole-school Yearbook, and Year 10 Farewell book.

Sculpture - Creations in Clay

Cost: \$20

This unit allows students to learn and develop specific skills and language necessary to create and explain three-dimensional art works, using clay. Through practical projects and theoretical studies of Australian and international artists, students will build critical, cultural and symbolic understanding of their own and others' artworks.

Visual Arts (2D) - Costume and Culture

Cost: \$20

This unit allows students to realise their creative potential through the exploration and manipulation of the world of visual expression. Students study the elements and principles of design, and gain knowledge of art through both practical projects and theoretical studies of Australian and international artists. Students build critical capacities in creating a sense of meaning and connectedness with oneself, others and the environment.

The Humanities

Business Studies

Business Studies is a practical subject in which students develop skills in computing, administration, office work and touch typing. Students learn the necessary skills to prepare/present assignments and use a range of office applications. For students wishing to gain additional industry experience, vocational placements can be arranged during school time. This course provides students with the relevant skills, knowledge and attitude required for entry into further employment, training, or education in the office and clerical field.

Terror and Religious Extremism

As terrorist events occur in increasing number and extremist ideals taking root closer to home this subject seeks to answer the following questions. What makes people become terrorists? 'One man's terrorist is another's freedom fighter'-Who is in the right and how do we know? What are the origins of terrorism and extremism? How much is terrorism a product of religion or are there politico-social or economic forces at play? How do we respond to the threat of terrorism? To answer these questions we will look at the origins of terrorism and religious extremism through topics including the Crusades, Anti-colonial and Independence movements and the rise of religious extremism. We will then move to more contemporary topics including September 11 and Al Qaeda, ISIS and Boko Haram, suicide bombings and contemporary forms of religious extremism both Islamic and Christian.

Science

Psychology

This unit is offered as a pre-college taster for future study. Students will examine a range of topics (through both guided and independent study) including, but not limited to:

- Psychological theorists and theory
- Structures and functions of the human brain
- Social psychology
- Comparative studies
- Child psychology and development
- Abnormal psychology
- Ethics of psychological research

Course content includes a combination of theory and limited practical research and experiments.

Design Technology

Design a Diet

Cost: \$20

For those who have already studied Food Technology, Design a Diet focuses on designing your diet for optimal nutritional and health benefits. This unit is aimed at those who are looking at eating and cooking for peak performance in both body and mind, and complements Physical Education electives units such as Boot Camp and Sport Science. Students learn the nutritional makeup of foods and food groups and explore how to apply a range of cooking methods to best effect. Course costs cover the ingredients for some of the core recipes every student is required to cook. Students will need to bring their own ingredients for some assignments which they may design themselves.

Hospitality

Cost: \$20

The focus of this unit is to develop the knowledge and skills used in the hospitality industry which will then be showcased in various catering settings. Students will acquire skills in food preparation and presentation through a range of experiences using a variety of equipment pieces. They focus on the design process and they will practise research skills to further develop their content knowledge to complete a portfolio of their work throughout the semester. Communication and inquiry skills will be a large focus of the course.

Course costs will cover for some of the core recipes. Students will be required to bring their own ingredients in for some recipes, particularly those that they design themselves.

Textiles and Fashion Design

Cost: \$20

This course develops confidence and proficiency in the design, production and evaluation of textile items. Students engage in learning about the properties and performance of textiles, textile design, and the role of textiles in society. Textiles students undertake project work throughout the course as they move from undertaking teacher-guided work to a more independent mode. The program culminates in a fashion show, with finalised projects displayed on the catwalk.

Wood/Metal Design

Cost: \$20

This course is predominantly a 'hands on' unit focusing on developing and extending the individual skills, knowledge and experiences of student wishing to work and explore their abilities and interests in Wood/Metal Technology. Students will have the opportunity, through a number of practical exercises and safety tests, to work with tools (both handheld and fixed), materials and a range of processes to gain experience and produce artefacts from wood and metal. Classes are diverse environments with all students welcome and individually catered for according to their abilities and experiences.

Students who have previously completed a Wood/Metal Design course will have the opportunity to build on their experiences and to design, create and assess their own projects with staff direction and supervision. Students will have the opportunity to showcase their abilities to research and safely produce quality products.

Sustainable Creations - Advanced Woodwork

Cost \$20

For students wanting to expand on their knowledge and skills, this elective will give practical furniture making and joinery skills, whilst gaining an understanding of sustainable techniques and materials.

Through hands on learning, students enhance their already obtained skills to develop their own individual project designs. They will continue with woodworking techniques using tools and machines and learn new joinery techniques. Students will have opportunities to put their enhanced knowledge and skills to prepare their minor and major projects for completion.

Computer Science

This course is aimed at creating enterprising individuals who can make discerning decisions about the development and use of technologies and who can independently and collaboratively develop solutions to complex challenges and contribute to sustainable patterns of living. Technologies can play an important role in transforming, restoring and sustaining societies and natural, managed and constructed environments.

Health & Physical Education

Sports Leadership

This course is designed for those students wishing to develop skills in leadership and risk taking. The course will focus on developing skills in the area of sports leadership and coaching across a variety of different sports. They will learn to develop programs and how to break down skills into teachable components. A key component of the course will be working closely with peers and teaching skills to younger students, for example at the Primary Site. Communication and reflective skills will be a large focus of the course. There will be the opportunity to participate in sports development and coaching courses.

Outdoor Education

Cost: camp costs (camps cost on average approximately \$150 per term)

This class is limited to 24 students. This learning sequence focuses on students who want to inquire into the basic components of outdoor education. The unit will cover activities such as team building, indoor rock climbing, basic caving, adventure bushwalking, camping, orienteering and bush cooking. The course will follow the 'leave no trace – minimal impact' principal of outdoor education and students will become balanced learning how to co-exist, work and enjoy the outdoors with. There will be the opportunity to be risk takers by participating in overnight camping trips. The first will be a beach camp at the South Coast, where the students will participate in surfing, stand up paddle boarding and coastal education. The second camp will be a bush camp at Wee Jasper, where the students will participate in caving, rock climbing, abseiling and bush cooking.

Students are expected to attend at least 1 camp per semester as part of their assessment. Camp costs are always made as affordable as possible.

Advanced Outdoor Education (*This is an annual unit.*)

Prerequisite: Students must have completed a semester of Outdoor Education.

Cost: camp costs (each camp costs on average approximately \$200 per term)

This class is limited to 24 students. Those who wish to be included will need to apply in writing to ensure they understand that this will be a demanding course both physically and academically. Year 10 Advanced Outdoor Education works on extending the students roping, camping and bushcraft skills that they previously have learned during standard Outdoor Education in Year 9. Students need to be open minded as they will be pushed beyond their previous comfort levels. In Semester 1, students will be extending their coastal understanding in Term 1 and doing advanced caving in Term 2. The unit will also introduce the students to the alpine environment through theory during class and a Cross Country skiing trip to Perisher Blue in Term 3. During Term 4, students will participate in a canyoning expedition. Students will be expected to become increasingly reflective learners as the year progresses.

This unit is for Year 10 students who have previously studied Outdoor Education. Students are expected to attend at least 1 camp per semester as part of their assessment. Camp costs are always made as affordable as possible.

Boys Only Boot Camp

Cost: excursion costs

This course is designed to develop the student's mental and physical capacity for challenge and extreme physical fitness. Students will participate in individual and group fitness exercises designed to increase leadership skills and overall fitness to a high level. The choice of completing a service in action Personal Training assignment or Group Fitness presentation is available for students to demonstrate their knowledge, communication and reflection skills. Only students who want to be pushed to their limits should apply to do this course. It will be extremely physically demanding. (Depending on numbers this may be a mixed gender class.)

Girls Only Boot Camp

Cost: excursion costs

This course is designed to develop the student's mental and physical capacity for challenge and extreme physical fitness. Students will participate in individual and group fitness exercises designed to increase leadership skills and overall fitness to a high level. The choice of completing a service in action Personal Training assignment or Group Fitness presentation is available for students to demonstrate their knowledge, communication and reflection skills. Only students who want to be pushed to their limits should apply to do this course. It will be extremely physically demanding. (Depending on numbers this may be a mixed gender class.)

English

Film Studies

Films are the looking glass of our culture, the way we examine ourselves, our past and our future. Film allows our imaginations to create, to instruct, to protest and to entertain. By examining this medium more closely and by understanding the subtle roles that filmmakers play in directing our consciousness, we are better able to understand ourselves and the world in which we live.

This course is for students who have a love of film, or who have been intrigued by it and wish to explore it further. This course will include investigation of some or all of the following:

- the history of film-making
- genre study
- screenplay and writing, including adaptation
- direction

- production
- cinematography
- acting and characterisation
- special effects

English as an Additional Language or Dialect (EALD) *(This is an annual unit.)*

EAL/D is for students, new to living within an English speaking culture, to develop competence in the English language. It includes speaking, listening, reading, writing, grammar and viewing activities. Students develop skills in writing for a variety of purposes such as journals, letters, film, book reviews, reports, essays as well as creative and analytical responses. They improve in critical thinking, understanding and vocabulary in their reading and viewing. Students develop confidence in oral presentations and interviews and will gain an appreciation of Australian culture and history. Students are also given support as they undertake assessment projects for their courses across the school.

Student Support

Student Leadership

Students must discuss entry into this class with Mr Zac Hain, the Director of School Culture, prior to selecting this as an option.

This elective is for the 2017 School Captains and Vice Captains plus students who display and model school values and who wish to contribute to the development of the School. Student leaders will be required to lead and be involved in a variety of activities that allow them to develop and practice leadership styles and functions to improve the school community. These skills involve planning, reflecting on procedures, designing and managing activities and reviewing all of these within the Middle Years Programme and the global context of the broader school community. Year 9 students thinking of running for school captain in 2018 are highly encouraged to choose this elective.

Students will be required to:

- Work successfully as part of a team and as a motivated individual.
- Develop effective decision-making processes
- Contribute in a meaningful way to leadership within the broader school community.
- Demonstrate initiative in managing often complex social and community projects.
- Act as positive role models within the school community.

Please note that these courses can only run if enough students are enrolled.

**Some practical courses have smaller class sizes, according to
Occupational Health and Safety recommendations.**