



Years 9 and 10
Pathways Courses
Information Booklet



Semester 2 2016



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 2. 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 these include: English, Mathematics, Science, Physical Education and Health, Humanities, Languages and Pathways classes each semester (two Pathways choices for year 9 and three selections for year 10 2016).

Students are required to continue in their language choice into semester 2 and at least 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 2 once students have been placed into classes.

The Pathways guide will be made available to students and parents via the school website from Friday 20 May. Students will then be given an opportunity to complete their selections in class on Tuesday 24 May or can complete these online before COB 26 May 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

Year 9/10 Drama

In this unit, students develop their knowledge, skills, and understanding of physical and verbal language through scriptwriting and analysing the dramatic elements in theatre. The unit focuses specifically on symbolism, relationships, mood, character, tension and contrast. Students have the opportunity to extend their understanding of the elements of drama through writing their own scripts for potential inclusion in the 'Come Alive' Festival of Museum Theatre, 'Limelight – 'Stories' and Summer Showcase.

Year 9/10 Music

Music focuses on providing students with opportunities to create and perform in ensemble and solo settings, developing skills and demonstrating understanding on various instruments. We study the practical application of theoretical musical concepts, focusing on developing listening, performing, composition, and evaluation skills. Students also study music from cultures different from our own, as well as exploring music from different times, and various genres, ensuring that a rich and diverse musical understanding develops. Units studied include Blues, Film Music, Popular Music, and Minimalism.

Year 10 Music Technology

This class focuses on embracing new technologies within music making. Music technology, like other forms of technology, advances rapidly. This class provides opportunities to embrace recent developments in the field.

Music Technology involves much practical work and encourages the cultivation of a wide range of skills. Students have opportunities to sequence MIDI, sequence audio, record live instruments, engineer and produce music/songs, compose using music technology, and develop an understanding technical processes and principles

Students will build understanding of the technical processes and principles that underpin effective use of music technology, and evaluate their effectiveness.

Year 9/10 Photography

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.

Year 9/10 Dance

This unit will explore the key elements of composition in preparation for a large dance performance at the Canberra Theatre – DanceFest 2016. They will explore, compose, practice and refine their skills to put together a five minute piece which includes costumes, lighting and music. In term 4 students will perform different dances to a range of different audiences and complete a film comparison study on musical theatre.

Year 9/10 Sculpture

Cost: \$20

This unit allows students to learn and develop specific skills and language necessary to create and explain three-dimensional art works. 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.

Year 9/10 Visual Arts (2D)

Cost: \$20

This unit allows students to realise their creative potential through the exploration and manipulation of the world of visual expression. Students will study the elements and principles of design. Students will gain knowledge of art through both practical projects and theoretical studies of Australian and international artists. Students will build critical capacities in creating a sense of meaning and connectedness with oneself, others and the environment. Enrolment in further semesters will provide opportunities for students to extend their creativity and abilities through individual major projects and portfolios.

Year 9/10 YouMedia

As the world continues to change, it becomes increasingly important to understand how marketing, online profiling and use of media influences our global view. In this class, students investigate, explore and evaluate concepts and aspects that differentiate high and low quality media forms.

Students explore the production of music, film, documentary, animation and graphic media styles with an emphasis on understanding the technical skills used to produce these forms of media. Students have an opportunity to become a part of a Gold Creek Media team which will use these skills in servicing the community by creating promotional media.

The Humanities

Year 9/10 Around the world in 60 days

Tourism has become one of the world's biggest industries and its potential impact on societies and their economic and ecological futures is enormous. The tourism sector is one of Australia's fastest growing industries and has assumed increasing importance in Australian society. This unit will investigate the movement of people to different destinations around the world to provide insight into the tourism and travel industry. Students will investigate the characteristics of tourism, with particular emphasis on where it has developed, its various forms, how it has changed and continues to change and its impacts on people, places and environments. Students will explore the different sectors of the industry including sustainable and ecotourism, voluntourism and religious tourism. This unit will equip students with the planning, budgeting and research skills involved in the planning of travel on local and international scales.

Year 10 Terror and Extremism: A Stateless Enemy

As terrorist events occur in increasing number and extremist ideals taking root closer to home this subject seeks to answer the following question. 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.

Year 9/10 Philosophy and the world

To understand the ever changing world around us, we need the ability to evaluate, analyse, and understand a variety of complex thoughts. This is what Philosophy offers. This subject intends to introduce and outline various branches of philosophy. Political, Aesthetic and Logic strains of philosophy will be investigated. This course will delve into significant thinkers and texts associated with each strand. Students will be required to explain, analyse and evaluate different strands of thought and the significance of their impact.

Year 9/10 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

Year 9/10 Food Technology

Cost: \$20

This elective focuses on the design process, in particular students have the opportunity to develop research skills in the development of their own recipes based upon a design brief. Students will be given the opportunity to select some recipes enabling them to cook various sweet and savoury dishes through an effective and safe use of relevant equipment. The theory component will cover research and design process skills, as well as understanding

the cooking methods used in relevant dishes. During the semester students will be expected to utilise their research, design and practical skills to complete a portfolio.

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 will design themselves.

Year 9/10 Sustainable Landscapes

If you are a visual, or hands-on learner this course may well be perfect for you!

This elective comprises a wide range of units, all of which have large practical components, identifying ways to address sustainability for a viable future. 'Reduce, reuse, recycle' is expanded to 'rethink, refuse, reduce, reuse, repair, and recycle'.

Considering our purchases based on need or reusability instead of perceived recyclability, means we can start at 'rethink' and not at 'recycle'. Not only is this great for the environment but it can save us money and may improve our lifestyle too.

During the semester, you will learn new skills, develop techniques, and expand your knowledge and understanding in many ways; all of which will be done in an outdoor setting or the design workshops. Instructables will be utilised to help provide inspiration; we'll also focus on involving our local community in sharing our successes and encouraging them to join our programs. Examples of units may include, but are not limited to - trash into treasure; principles of plant science; establishing and maintaining outdoor areas; introduction to plant selection; principles of organic horticulture, and propagation techniques.

Year 9/10 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.

Year 10 Food Technology

Cost: \$20

With a focus on the design process, students practise research skills, gain an understanding of cooking methods, and learn how to apply them through the development of their own recipes. Students demonstrate their ability to produce their planned dishes through an effective and safe use of relevant equipment. They investigate the 'theory behind the practical' - building upon current research and their design process skills, as well as further developing their understanding of ingredients and cooking methods. With a focus on international foods, students utilise their research, design, and practical skills to compile a comprehensive portfolio throughout the semester

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

Year 10 Certificate 1 in Information, Digital Media and Technology

This subject aims to provide students with the following:

- A qualification in Information Technology
- An understanding of VET training packages and competency based assessment
- The opportunity to consolidate and develop their practical Information Technology skills
- Assisting students in preparing for college, career or study pathways
- An option for students in line with their pathways planning

Students will have the opportunity to complete the following competencies:

- Operate a Personal Computer
- Operate a Word Processor
- Operate a Spreadsheet Application
- Operate a Database Application
- Operate a Presentation Package
- Send and retrieve information over the Internet using browsers and email.

Year 9/10 Robotics

Cost: \$20

This course is aimed at introducing students to programming challenges using the LEGO Mindstorms RCX robotics kit. Working in groups, students should learn to build various robots and program them with a computer to move, react and make sounds in order to solve challenges. Students who excel in this unit should be able to demonstrate either originality or elegance in construction and programming. A research aspect will also be incorporated into this unit which will examine employment possibilities in careers related to robotics as well as the global developments in robotics in recent times.

Year 9/10 School Magazine

Students in School Magazine will be responsible for the publications of the annual school magazine and Year 10 Farewell book. Students will develop their skills in publishing a school magazine through written and visual texts and marketing knowledge, ICT skills to collate and create a magazine and the photography skills for inclusion in the magazine. Students will work across all elements in the development and production of the magazine and farewell book, however, students' areas of interest and special skills will be taken into account when sharing the work to produce the high quality magazine.

Health & Physical Education

Year 9/10 Sports Science

The Year 10 Sports Science elective studies how the healthy human body works during exercise, and how sport and physical activity promote health from cellular to whole body perspectives. The study of Sports Science traditionally incorporates areas of Physiology (Exercise Physiology), Psychology (Sports Psychology), Anatomy, Biomechanics and Biochemistry (Kinesiology). Sport Scientists and performance consultants are growing in demand and employment numbers, with the ever-increasing focus within the sporting world on achieving the best results possible. Through the study of Science and Sport, researchers have developed a greater understanding on how the human body reacts to exercise, training, different environments and many other stimuli. This elective will be mainly theory based, with minimal practical activity.

Year 9/10 Sports Leadership

This course is designed for those students wishing to develop skills in leadership. 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 skills will be a large focus of the course. There will be the opportunity to participate in sports development and coaching courses.

Year 9/10 Outdoor Education

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

This learning sequence focuses on students who want to partake in 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' philosophy of outdoor education and students will learn how to co-exist, work and enjoy the outdoors with minimal impact. There will be the opportunity to participate in two major trips as part of the unit. The first will be a beach camp at the South Coast, where the students will participate in surfing, snorkelling and outdoor climbing. 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.

Year 10 Advanced Outdoor Education (*This is an annual unit.*)

Cost: camp costs (each camp costs on average approximately \$150)

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. 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 hiking trip to the Budawangs where they will be self-sufficient and carry their own food, clothes and camping equipment for three days.

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.

Year 9/10 Boys Only Boot Camp 2 (In 2016, priority will be given to year 10 students.)

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. 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.)

Year 9/10 Girls Only Boot Camp 2 (In 2016, priority will be given to year 10 students.)

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. 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.)

Maths

Year 10 Maths Extension

Costs: Competition costs

This course is available to students currently studying Advanced Mathematics. It will enable students to develop the skills required for advanced Mathematics Courses at College. Students will receive additional teaching and support to solve complex problems in Mathematics with a variety of algebraic techniques being taught and practised. Students will be taught how to use technology to support independent learning and model complex systems to solve problems. Students will be given the opportunity to demonstrate their skills in a number of external Mathematics competitions.

English

Year 9/10 American Literature

Students will engage with American culture through a variety of text types created by Americans, including a novel study. Through the study of these texts, students will gain an understanding about the American experience across a range of historical and cultural perspectives. They will listen to, read, view, interpret, evaluate and perform a range of spoken, written, visual and multimodal texts. Students will create a range of reflective and analytical texts demonstrating an understanding of the American experience as explored in the texts studied, as well as contrasting this experience with Australia. The course also includes a public speaking component in informal and more formal contexts, such as debates or class discussion to demonstrate understanding.

Year 9/10 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.

The Languages

Students selecting a language in Year 10 are required to select that language in both semesters. Learning to speak a Language Other Than English is increasingly important for effective participation in a globalised world. As the language courses grow, students might be given an opportunity to visit the countries to experience the real culture and to use their language skills.

Year 10 Japanese (This is an annual unit.)

This learning sequence focuses on providing opportunities to be immersed in both traditional and modern Japanese culture and to develop communication skills in this language through a variety of activities. Speaking Japanese and understanding the culture can give you the advantage as a job skill and it is of benefit to the country especially in the areas of business and tourism. Through learning Japanese language, students will develop their cultural understanding of a unique culture and different lifestyle including traditional arts, historical heritage, martial

arts, anime, delicious Japanese food, cool Japanese fashions and advanced technology. There is so much to learn about this fascinating country. Possible excursion venues would be Japanese Embassy, Japanese restaurants and the immersion language centre in Sydney.

Year 10 French (*This is an annual unit.*)

The French pathway will provide further opportunities for students to engage with French language. Students will focus on developing and improving their oral and written fluency through studies of the various aspects of French culture alongside the programs offered through the Alliance Francaise and French Network. Students will be required to commit to the whole year, and this will be an academically demanding subject.

Year 10 Indonesian (*This is an annual unit.*)

The Indonesian pathway will provide students with opportunities to develop and deepen their Indonesian communication skills through a variety of activities and language immersion. Indonesia is Australia's closest neighbour and features heavily in media and current affairs. Australia and Indonesia's relationship is forever growing, providing great opportunities for students studying the language. Speaking Indonesian and understanding the culture can give you an advantage for future job prospects and travel opportunities. Students will focus on developing and improving their oral and written fluency through studies of the various aspects of Indonesian culture alongside the programs offered through the ACT Indonesian Network. This will be an academically demanding subject and students will be required to commit to the whole year.

Student Support

Year 9/10 Study Skills

Study Skills is offered to students who require extra time to undertake their studies. This may be due to significant external commitments such as representing the ACT or Australia in sporting, academic or social endeavours across a significant time. It may also be due to family commitments, such as being a young carer. Students requiring extra support in their learning may also apply to undertake Study Skills. Entry into this course is by application to the Associate Principals.

Year 9/10 Student Leadership

Students must discuss entry into this class with Mr Zac Hain, the Pastoral Care Coordinator, prior to selecting this as an option.

This elective is for the 2016 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 2017 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.**