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Costs indicated in this handbook are the costs for 2015. They are an indication of the cost per unit. Actual costs will appear on the Charges and Contributions sheets sent out by the College before the end of the school year.

The college cannot guarantee any course or combination of courses will appear on the timetable due to the availability of resources or insufficient students selecting the course.
Introduction

PURPOSE OF THIS CURRICULUM GUIDE

This *Curriculum Guide* provides information to parents and students on the nature of compulsory and elective courses available to students in Year 9. It provides information on the content of the many courses available and details of the costs associated with each course.

While this guide is comprehensive in its coverage, students and their parents are encouraged also to seek answers to their questions from other sources, including teachers at the College, the College careers consultant, the internet and the various special programs coordinators.

COURSE CONTRIBUTIONS AND CHARGES

Please note that the course charges listed in this handbook are an approximate cost only (ie 2015 costs). During Term 4, a College account will be sent to each parent or guardian detailing the contributions and charges to be paid for their child. Payment is due at the beginning of the school year.

ORGANISATION OF YEAR 9 CLASSES

COMPULSORY COURSES

**English**
Students will be grouped into a pathway at the beginning of Year 9 as directed by the Head of Learning Area.

**Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS)**
Students work in classes as directed by the Head of Learning Area.

**Science**
Students will be grouped into one of two pathways, as directed by the Head of Learning Area.

**Mathematics**
Students will be grouped into one of two pathways at the beginning of Year 9 as directed by the Head of Learning Area.

**Health Education and Physical Education**
All students except Golf and Hockey Specialists are required to complete a full year course in Physical Education.

OPEN CHOICE COURSES

All students will have the opportunity to select some courses that cater for their interests or special skills and talents. These courses can be divided into two categories - Electives and Specialist Studies.
Electives

These are courses available to all students. The College offers its students the opportunity to complete courses in a diverse range of courses from The Arts, Health and Physical Education, Languages and Technologies learning areas. The choices available offer students the chance to develop their interests and skills. **Elective courses generally last for one semester, however students may choose each course in both semesters as the context of the studies in each course will change.** Many have a cost component in them for materials, travel costs, special equipment, etc. which should be considered when making a choice of electives.

The College endeavours to place students into their choices. However, some reselections may be required if a selected course does not run because it is selected by too few students, or the classes available are full at the time of enrolment.

Specialist Studies

These courses are only available to students who have been through the selection process and been offered a place. At Como, Specialist Studies Programs are offered in Golf Studies, Hockey Studies, Contemporary Music Studies and Enriched Mathematics, Information Technology And Science (EMITS). Usually, students enrolled in a specialist course in Year 9 will be continuing on from their studies in the same course begun in Year 8.

In summary, each student will find himself or herself in a Program of Study that will vary in its requirements according to the type of enrolment. The different requirements of each program are outlined on page 4.

SELECTING A PROGRAM OF STUDY

OVERVIEW

For the great majority of students entering Year 9, the General Studies Program will be the basis of their course selection. However, students specialising in Enriched Mathematics, Information Technology and Science (EMITS), Golf, Hockey or Music will need to be aware that there are certain constraints on their course selections. These constraints are outlined below and again in the section of this book that explains how to complete the course selection form.

Students entering Year 9 need to recognise that they are moving towards Senior School and that their course selections for Year 9 may have an impact on their ability to pursue their desired programs of study in Year 10 and then Years 11 and 12. Thus, every student should take every step to ensure they make the best decisions possible about their Year 9 program by seeking as much advice as possible and by giving consideration to their abilities, talents, interests and aspirations for the future.

THE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS FOR YEAR 9

For every student there will be courses that are compulsory and a varying number of periods in each week available for Elective courses. Students enrolled for any Specialist Studies Program have certain compulsory courses associated with the relevant program, as summarised on page 4.
The Compulsory Program

General Studies Program

Refer to the table below which indicates the compulsory subjects for students involved in the General Studies Program.

Elective Courses

All students must also choose from the available elective courses. The number of electives a student is permitted to choose will depend on the type of program in which he/she is enrolled. Elective courses are offered by the following Learning Areas:

- The Arts
- Health and Physical Education
- Languages
- Technologies

Specialist Studies Programs

Each specialist course is available only to a student whose enrolment in that course has been approved by the College. The College offers several Specialist Courses to approved students. Entry into a program offering a specialist studies course is by either practical or written testing.

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Number of semester long courses from Arts, Language, Physical Education and Technology & Enterprise Learning Areas

- 3 Modules
- 2 Modules
- 2 Modules
- 2 Modules
- 2 Modules
THE COURSE SELECTION SCHEDULE

Along with this Curriculum Guide is the Year 9 Program Selection form. Please ensure you adhere to the date for return of the Year 9 Program Selection form. Students not meeting the deadline may find themselves placed in elective courses that are not of their choosing.

COURSE SELECTION COUNSELLING

While there is no formal course selection counselling process for students moving into Year 9, students and their parents may seek advice about course selection from the college staff at any time. Parents may seek formal appointments to discuss their son's/daughter's course selections by contacting the relevant staff member. Students may approach any staff member they think may be able to help them and either discuss the matter immediately or make an appointment with the teacher for another time.
Key Learning Areas

Compulsory Courses

ENGLISH

Cost: $38.00

Students are placed on a pathway based on their achievement at the end of Year 8.

Students should recognise that their studies in Year 9 English will impact on their class allocation for Year 10. At the end of Year 10, students need to achieve a B grade in English to be eligible for recommendation to study at Stage 2 level in Year 11. The program is essentially a continuation of the regular English offering, albeit with additional demands and challenges. One aim of the program is to prepare students for the demands and challenges of the senior school English curricula.

Students will be required to work through programs designed to enhance their proficiency in four key areas: Reading; Writing; Speaking and Listening, and Viewing. The program will encourage an inclusive approach to language. This means that students will be required to develop their proficiency in the key areas in an integrated way, using a range of texts designed for different purposes, contexts and audiences. The study texts are drawn from the following areas: Non-fiction; Fiction; Media; Drama and Poetry. In second semester, transition courses for Senior School may be offered.

Assessment in English is on-going. Teachers will be observing, assessing, and recording students' learning and classroom behaviour all the time. All students will receive a letter grade at the conclusion of each semester.

A student’s performance in any formal test or examination held in Year 9, together with his, or her, class performance and semester grade, will be used to determine which English course a student will be recommended to pursue in Year 10.

Students are expected to arrive at lessons properly resourced. Students should have adequate stationery, including writing and correction equipment, A4-sized file paper and file and an approved dictionary.

MATHEMATICS

Cost: $38.00

Students are placed in a pathway based on their achievement at the end of Year 8. Their progress is continually monitored and adjustments to the classes are made at the end of each assessment period.

In Mathematics students learn to use ideas about number, space, chance and mathematical ways of representing patterns and relationships to describe, interpret and reason about their social and physical world. Mathematics plays a key role in the development of students’ numeracy and assists learning across the curriculum.

All students in Year 10 will study content from Number, Measurement, Chance & Data, Space and Algebra. The Working Mathematically outcomes are assessed in conjunction with outcomes from the other strands.

In EMITS Mathematics, particular emphasis is placed on the higher order concepts of Algebra.

At the completion of a course in Mathematics, students will be awarded a grade. This assessment will reflect their achievements of the outcomes. Assessment will be based on tasks that include tests, projects, assignments, investigations and class work.
Future Learning in Mathematics

Student learning in Mathematics in Year 9 will provide the grounding for the study of Mathematics in Years 10. In broad terms, only students in Year 10 Pathway 1 Mathematics and Pathway 2 Mathematics should consider ATAR units in Year 11, however, students should be aiming at achieving A and B grades for all outcomes. Only those in Pathway 1 Mathematics with a final grade of A should consider higher level ATAR units in Year 11. It is recommended that students discuss their proposed choice of Senior School Mathematics subject with their teacher during Year 10.

SCIENCE

The Year 9 Science course is offered in two pathways. Based on a student's grades in Year 8, Science teachers will recommend either Pathway 1 or Pathway 2 for study in Year 9. Students in the EMITS Program will study an extended Pathway 1 course.

**Pathway 1**

**Cost:** $40.00

**Content**

Success in the Pathway 1 modules will allow students to select any of the Science ATAR courses in Year 11 – those Courses being: Human Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Selection of these courses will require a certain level of achievement in Science. Teachers will make course recommendations for each student towards the end of Year 10. As a general guide for success in these courses, students would need to achieve a B Grade.

**Course Details:**

This course is delivered in four term-long modules. Each term will focus on one the unifying areas of study from the content strand of the Australian Curriculum, Biological Sciences, Chemical Sciences, Earth and Space Sciences and Physical Sciences. The other two strands from the Australian Curriculum, Science as a Human Endeavour and Science Inquiry Skills will be integrated into each of the four terms.

**Pathway 2**

**Cost:** $40.00

**Content**

Success in the Pathway 2 will allow students entering Senior School to select from the Integrated Science General course or the Human Biology ATAR course. Students wishing to select Human Biology for study in Year 11 will need to have achieved an A or B Grade. Senior school General courses can be selected with a level of achievement of C or higher. Further studies in Science are not recommended for students with lower levels of achievement in Science.

**Course Details:**

This course is delivered in four term-long modules. Each term will focus on one the unifying areas of study from the content strand of the Australian Curriculum, Biological Sciences, Chemical Sciences, Earth and Space Sciences and Physical Sciences. The other two strands from the Australian Curriculum, Science as a Human Endeavour and Science Inquiry Skills will be integrated into each of the four terms.
HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES  
Cost: $38.00
All students in Year 9 will be completing 3 mainstream units: Geography, Economics and History. Each unit will run for approximately 13 weeks.

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

These courses are compulsory for all students except those in the Golf Studies and Hockey Studies courses.

Students are required to change into the college approved Physical Education uniform for all lessons.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION  
Cost: $26.00

Course Details
Students are required to complete one module in each semester.

Content
Through this integrated course students are encouraged to develop their skills for physical activity, knowledge and understanding, self-management skills and interpersonal skills.

Students will participate in a range of physical activities including but not limited to: Aerobics/Fitness, Athletics, Badminton, Basketball, Softball/Teeball.

Students will engage in healthy lifestyle concepts including but not limited to: the great outdoors; mental health and wellness; physical activity plans; eat well, live well; the dangers of alcohol and other drug use.

Specialist Courses
These courses are not available to student enrolled for the General Studies program.

CONTEMPORARY MUSIC STUDIES  
Cost: $150.00

Required prior study: Students must be enrolled for the Contemporary Music specialist program and must have completed Contemporary Music Studies in Year 8 and 9 or its equivalent.

Course Details
Students other than those who enrolled in the Specialist Music program in Year 8 may enter the program by successful audition. Students enrolled in the Contemporary Music Specialist Studies Program MUST select this course for study in both semesters for Year 10. Other elective courses should be chosen from the list of electives available to all Year 10 students.

This year long course is designed to develop musicianship, including skills and knowledge in composition, aural development, music software, theory and history with an emphasis on improvisation and the disciplines required for high quality ensemble performance work.

Students studying this course MUST:

- Enrol for tuition on an approved musical instrument;
- Join at least one College Band or College Ensemble group.
Rehearsals for college bands are conducted after college hours. This course will prepare students for entry into the ATAR Music course or for VET Certificate I and II in music industry qualifications.

**GOLF STUDIES**  
**Cost:** $550

**Recommended prior study:** Golf Studies in Year 8 and 9 is desirable, but not essential. Students entering the program are selected by application and trial.

This unit is for students to develop their skills for physical activity, knowledge and understanding, self-management skills and interpersonal skills while focusing on Golf.

Students who choose this course should be looking to choose Golf Studies in Year 10.

**Course Details**  
Through this integrated course students are encouraged to further develop their skills for physical activity, knowledge and understanding, self-management skills and interpersonal skills.

Students will participate in physical activities related to Golf in order to further develop skills, strategies and tactics, knowledge of game play and rules within the sport. Coaching and officiating skills are an essential part of this course. Other activities may include: Aerobics/Fitness, Athletics and Swimming.

Club professionals from Collier Park Golf Club perform golf specific coaching.

Students enrolled in the Golf Studies courses will study some elements of the schools basic Health & Physical Education course incorporated as part of their specialist course.

**Extension:** Students in this course will explore elements of Physical Education Studies topics of: Developing physical skills and tactics; Functional Anatomy; Motor Learning and Coaching; Biomechanics; Sports Psychology; and Exercise Physiology.

Other qualifications undertaken within this course:

Extra-curricular opportunities: World Schools Golf Challenge (Bi-Annual event), Golf Australia Competitions, School Sport WA Golf Competitions, Como Golf Academy Competitions, Coaching Primary Schools, Officiating.

It is an expectation of students within the Specialist Sport Programs of Golf and Hockey that they attend and participate in ALL Interhouse competitions.

**HOCKEY STUDIES**  
**Cost:** $320

**Recommended prior study:** Hockey Studies in Year 8 and 9 is desirable, but not essential. Students entering the program are selected by application and trial.

This unit is for students to develop their skills for physical activity, knowledge and understanding, self-management skills and interpersonal skills while focusing on Hockey.

Students who choose this course should be looking to choose Hockey Studies in Year 10.
Course Details
Through this integrated course students are encouraged to further develop their skills for physical activity, knowledge and understanding, self-management skills and interpersonal skills.

Students will participate in physical activities related to Hockey in order to further develop skills, strategies and tactics, knowledge of game play and rules (umpiring) within the sport. Coaching and officiating skills are an essential part of this course. Other activities may include: Aerobics/Fitness, Athletics, Floorball, Indoor Hockey and Swimming.

Students enrolled in the Hockey Studies courses will study some elements of the school’s basic Health & Physical Education course incorporated as part of their specialist course.

Extension: Students in this course will explore elements of Physical Education Studies topics of: Developing physical skills and tactics; Functional Anatomy; Motor Learning and Coaching; Biomechanics; Sports Psychology; and Exercise Physiology.

Other qualifications undertaken within this course: Hockey Australia – Community Umpire

Extra-curricular opportunities: International Tour (Bi-Annual event), South West Tour (Bi-annual event), School Sport WA Hockey Competitions, Coaching Primary Schools, and Officiating.

It is an expectation of students within the Specialist Sport Programs of Golf and Hockey that they attend and participate in ALL Interhouse competitions.

ENRICHED MATHEMATICS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY and SCIENCE (EMITS)  Cost: $200.00

| MATHEMATICS | EMITS students will complete an enriched and extended version of the Pathway 1 Mathematics course with particular emphasis on the higher order concepts of Algebra. All students will study content from Number, Measurement, Chance & Data, Space and Algebra. The Working Mathematically outcomes are assessed in conjunction with outcomes from other strands. There is a focus on technology enhanced and cross-curricula tasks and students participate in a range of national assessments and competitions such as the Australian Mathematics Competition, and ICAS exams. Those students with an interest and aptitude in informatics can participate in the Australian Informatics Olympiad. Participation in out-of-school problem solving competitions such as Have Sum Fun. Talented EMITS mathematics students are encouraged to nominate for the esteemed National Mathematics Summer School held in Canberra each year. |
| SCIENCE | EMITS students will complete an extended and enriched Pathway I Science course. This will include the following:
- More complex science content that is intellectually challenging and taught at a higher level. This includes more quantitative science, more abstract science theory including mathematical equations and deeper explorations into student and teacher selected science domains.
- Explorations into current science research. Students will be required to read current science journals and present topics of interest to peers. Public speaking and literature reviews are crucial aspects of the scientific method.
- More difficult assessments. As well as specialised school based assessments, students will also complete national and state based exams. |
Excursions and guest speakers. Students will be exposed to the latest local research by engaging in a range of excursions and public lectures to places such as UWA, Curtin University and Scitech. In addition to this, the college has invited practising scientists and research students into the school. The College is also a registered SPICE school with both DET and UWA and this has allowed the students to meet important science luminaries such as Professor Jim Gates and Sir Roger Penrose as well as attend special science workshops such as the enormous Square Kilometre Array (SKA) project.

EMITS students get preference for sponsorship to enter the prestigious National Science Youth Science Forum held in Canberra each year and Murdoch University’s WA Science and Engineering Summer School.

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<td>ICT Design (semester I) introduces students to the graphic design and motion graphic capabilities of Macromedia Flash, Freehand and Fireworks, and Dreamweaver. This course will explore in-depth graphic design methods at an advanced level. Projects assigned during the course will increase students’ skill with both the creative and the technical challenges posed by design graphics. A creative portfolio will be maintained using various multimedia presentations as well as a print copy. Computers &amp; Connections (semester II) is a comprehensive program that concentrates on the areas in the Creative Industries Media. The curriculum, which includes a large amount of hands-on experience in individual and team based projects, is designed to encourage the student to develop critical thinking skills and a well rounded knowledge of the Multimedia and its applications. At the culmination of the course, students have the opportunity to gain accreditation in National Competencies and the achievement of Certificate II in Creative Industries (Media).</td>
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Elective Courses

THE ARTS

VISUAL ART

Visual art courses at this level are going to introduce students to upper school structures and practices. Students will be introduced to art criticism and analysis and start to use writing as part of their expression. Maintaining a representative folio and collecting visual resources will be an important part of the student’s regime.

VISUAL ART EXTENSION  
Cost: $60.00

Focuses on the self, portraits and ideas from personal values and beliefs, students will apply their drawings and Designs through painting, printmaking and sculpture, ceramics and textiles.

The extension course expands on the general course by exploring methods of developing interesting ideas through experimentation and varied design processes, students will explore various ways of working toward their final productions, employing painting, ceramics, collage, printmaking and sculptural techniques.

VISUAL ART GENERAL  
Cost: $30.00

Focuses on the self, portraits and ideas from personal values and beliefs, students will apply their drawings and Designs through painting, printmaking and sculpture, ceramics and textiles.
GRAPHIC ART EXTENSION  Cost: $68.00

This extension course links the outcomes and practice from Visual Arts and Photography together to create a holistic view of digital and traditional graphics. Students will learn how photographic technology can be used to produce well designed images and make links to more traditional art techniques.

PHOTOGRAPHY GENERAL  Cost: $38.00

Photography is a course about how photographic technology can be used to produce well-designed images using close up equipment, electronic flash, telephoto lens and digital imaging. This course provides an opportunity for the student to pursue their ideas in the areas of portraits, landscapes and digital design. Photographic excursions are included in this course. Opportunities are provided to design and produce advertising photographs and model outdoor fashion on location.

PERFORMING ARTS EXTENSION  Cost: $65.00

This course is a combination of the Performing Arts where students will gain skills in both Dance and Drama Studies.
Students will have the opportunity to explore contemporary, hip hop and jazz genres. Time will be allocated for students to develop their own choreography with a view to performing the finished works. Students will also have the opportunity to explore different styles of theatre and the course challenges students to develop their own dramatic performance.

DANCE GENERAL  Cost: $35.00

The General Dance course caters for a greater diversity of dance styles and greater degree of difficulty than previous dance courses.
Students will have the opportunity to explore contemporary, hip hop and jazz genres. Time will be allocated for students to develop their own choreography with a view to performing the finished works.

This course prepares students for Dance Studies in Years 10. Specialist teachers will be incorporated into the program for the latest dance genres. Students will experiment with their own choreography and will have the opportunity to learn about stagecraft, lighting and costumes.

DRAMA GENERAL  Cost: $30.00

This course explores different styles of theatre and challenges students to develop their own dramatic performance. Areas studied include:

- Individual and group scripted performances
- Introduction to Greek Theatre (history and performance involving mask work)
- Forms and styles of theatre such as Greek Theatre and Shakespearian Theatre
- Performance and direction
- Viewing a live performance
- Stage craft – lighting and design.
MUSIC GENERAL  
Cost: $25.00

Recommended prior study: nil

Students are given the opportunity to develop or commence their studies of music by playing a range of instruments including guitar, keyboard, drums, and bass. Students will learn songs from some of the most popular artists as well as having access to computer generated accompaniment. Each module is studied for one semester. Students may enrol for either or both modules.

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION (SPORT FOCUS)  
Cost: $100.00

This unit is for students to develop their skills for physical activity, knowledge and understanding, self-management skills and interpersonal skills while focusing on individual and team sports in the practical aspect of the course.

Students who choose this course should be looking to choose Health and Physical Education (Sport Focus) in Year 10.

Course Details
Through this integrated course students are encouraged to further develop their skills for physical activity, knowledge and understanding, self-management skills and interpersonal skills.

Students will participate in a range of physical activities both individual and team orientated including but not limited to: Aerobics/Fitness, Athletics, Basketball, Football (Soccer), Tennis and Volleyball. Students will focus on further development of skills and the necessary strategies and tactics within each sport.

Students will engage in healthy lifestyle concepts including but not limited to: the great outdoors; mental health and wellness; physical activity plans; eat well, live well; the dangers of alcohol and other drug use.

Extension: Students in this course will explore elements of Physical Education Studies topics of: Developing physical skills and tactics; Functional Anatomy; Motor Learning and Coaching; Biomechanics; Sports Psychology; and Exercise Physiology.

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION (OUTDOOR FOCUS)  
Cost: $85.00

This unit is for students to develop their skills for physical activity, knowledge and understanding, self-management skills and interpersonal skills while focusing on outdoor pursuits in the practical aspect of the course. The course is not limited to outdoor pursuits as it also incorporates elements of skill and tactic acquisition within individual and team sports delivering a well rounded physical activity course.

Students who choose this course should be looking to choose Health & Physical Education (Sport Focus) or Health & Physical Education (Outdoor Focus) in Year 10.

Course Details
Through this integrated course students are encouraged to develop their skills for physical activity, knowledge and understanding, self-management skills and interpersonal skills.

Students will participate in a range of physical activities including but not limited to: Aerobics/Fitness, Athletics, Basketball, Camp Craft, Climbing, Fishing, Netball, Roping, Snorkelling, Soccer, Swimming.
Students will engage in healthy lifestyle concepts including but not limited to: the great outdoors; mental health and wellness; physical activity plans; eat well, live well; the dangers of alcohol and other drug use.

Extension: Students in this course will explore elements of Outdoor Education topics of: outdoor experiences; self and others; and environmental awareness.

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION (GENERAL)  
Cost: $26.00

This unit is for students participating in Extension Arts and Technologies courses and/or Specialist Programs.

Course Details

Through this integrated course students are encouraged to develop their skills for physical activity, knowledge and understanding, self-management skills and interpersonal skills.

Students will participate in a range of physical activities including but not limited to: Aerobics/Fitness, Athletics, Netball, Soccer, and Volleyball.

Students will engage in healthy lifestyle concepts including but not limited to: safety; participating and performing in games and sports; positive relationships; healthy people; healthy communities; fit to dance.

LANGUAGES

Students who select a Language must study it for both semesters.

A “language bonus” is offered by all WA universities to boost tertiary entrance scores when studied in Years 11 and 12.

FRENCH  
Cost: $16.00

Course Details

Students will continue to develop the ability to comprehend and communicate in French through listening and responding, and speaking. They will view and read a variety of French texts and respond, plus write texts in French. Students will develop understandings about aspects of the culture of French speaking countries; recognise patterns and rules when using French, and use different strategies to make meaning of the French language.

To make progress towards achieving the outcomes above, we will study how to: order food and drink, discuss food preferences, describe people, describe a series of events, use numbers to 1000, travel around France and other French speaking countries and communities.

INDONESIAN  
Cost $15.00

Course Details

This is a year-long course (2x per week) in which students build on and extend their Indonesian language skills. The emphasis is on developing speaking, writing, and comprehension skills through highly practical activities. We begin by exploring travel in Indonesia, and then flip it to travel in Perth in order to make recommendations for the SAIMS students’ visit. After their departure, we explore the world of sport and
cheer Indonesia on in the 2016 Olympics. We end the year with a focus on bargaining and shopping - essential for any visit to Indonesia!

This course has something for everyone and there is a strong media and technology component involved.

Background and heritage speakers of Indonesian are also encouraged to join this course. They will engage in activities at a higher level than those with Indonesian as a Second Language, providing a pathway to study advanced Indonesian in Year 11 and 12. Beginners may join the course in consultation with Ibu Penny and Mr Brookes.

TECHNOLOGIES

MATERIALS TECHNOLOGY EXTENSION Cost: $80.00

Students who choose Materials Technology for 4 periods per week undertake a more detailed approach to 3D products and developing solutions to problems by also:

- Investigating mechanical systems, structures, forces and the mechanical properties of materials.
- Learning the skills of freehand concept sketching and interpreting and producing technical drawings and
- Prototyping.

Students then produce a wide variety of 3D products by selecting materials (timber, plastic and metal) based on their mechanical properties and their impact on the environment and community. The materials are then safely manipulated using a wide range of tools and equipment to produce a product that meets specifications, aesthetic and functional requirements.

MATERIALS TECHNOLOGY GENERAL Cost: $40.00

Students develop knowledge and skills in designing and producing 3D products from metals, timbers and plastics by:

- Selecting materials based on their mechanical properties and the effects on the environment and community.
- Interpreting plans and technical drawings
- Safely manipulating materials using a wide range of tools and equipment to produce a product that meets specifications and aesthetic and functional requirements.

FOOD TECHNOLOGY EXTENSION Cost: $80.00

Students who choose Food Technology for 4 periods per week will undertake a more detailed approach to cookery that should help develop an appreciation and respect for other cultures through the preparation, cooking and serving of a variety of foods from other countries. The emphasis will be on two countries which greatly influenced our cuisine – Italian and Chinese cookery.

This course teaches students how to prepare and serve courses from the formal menu (e.g. hors d'oeuvres, entrees and desserts). Food is a fabulous way to help celebrate special occasions. Students will plan and prepare dishes for various celebrations. There are many applicable and interesting practical cooking sessions for students to develop their culinary skills.
FOOD TECHNOLOGY GENERAL  
Cost: $40.00

Venture into the exciting world of food and cooking. With a focus on learning cookery methods and handling a range of produce, students will continue to develop new skills as they share the fun and passion of cooking. Students will also learn the skills to make good food choices, to enjoy the way they eat and enjoy the social aspect of food.

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES GENERAL  
Cost: $32.00

Students develop their skills in digital technologies by planning and managing projects using the technology process. They will design, implement and evaluate their own solutions to a wide range of problems using modern hardware systems and a wide range of industry standard software packages.
College Charges and Their Part in School Funding

The Reason for College Charges
The College receives funding each year to cover the basic cost of running the College. These funds are used for a range of whole-of-college expenses, including the following:

- Maintenance and minor repairs of equipment, grounds, classroom furniture and buildings
- Minor structural improvements
- Payment for relief staff during camps and excursions
- Professional development of College staff
- Day-to-day administration costs (e.g. postage, printing, stationery, College promotion)
- Payment of utilities
- Purchase of major equipment items such as College bus

Teachers and other College staff are paid directly from the government.

The Legal Position
The State Government through the Department of Education provides placement at educational facilities for all students who choose to attend Government colleges. The Government does not provide for many goods and services students use and it is reasonable for parents to meet these costs. Secondary colleges have a legal right to charge for goods and services that are used by students in a course of study which the Student Centred Funding does not cover. Because of this shortfall, the College levies a charge on students taking such courses to cover the cost of those “extras” and ensure the College can offer the best possible education to its students.

Determining College Charges
For Year 7-10 students, the maximum voluntary contributions a college may charge is currently fixed at $235, however additional compulsory charges above that figure can be requested for consumables, additional resources and extra high cost options. The College endeavours to keep its charges to a minimum while maintaining a high standard of curriculum delivery. The Government endorses the levying of a college charge that covers basic needs associated with teaching the essential curriculum, such as photocopying, access to textbooks and use of specialised equipment. For Years 11 and 12 there are no maximum charges set by the State Government. The College set their own charges for these years and such charges are compulsory. The College can also request a 50% confirmation charge for these years.

Where do contributions and charges go?
Some examples include: ingredients in home economics, transport, photographic equipment and supplies, art materials, timber, metals, and consumable tools, external instructors, sporting equipment, etc.

Who should pay?
It is government policy that parents should contribute towards the cost of educating their children. Given that all students benefit from the pool of collected fees, it is fair to expect that all parents should pay the balance of contributions and charges. Because students are able to choose the courses that will offer them the learning outcomes they desire, it is considered fair and equitable that all parents should pay for the courses that their children select. Parents of students who choose the more expensive option subjects need to consider the costs during the subject selection process. All would agree that it is unfair for those parents who meet their financial commitments to be seen to subsidise the education of those students whose parents do not pay their contributions and charges. Como Secondary College is committed to maintaining an even-handed and responsible approach so that all parents should make contributions towards their children's education.

A Compassionate View
This College is only too aware that the payment of contributions and charges can be a burden for some families. To overcome the problem of paying all the due charges at once, a time payment scheme may be arranged by contacting the College prior to 1 February 2016 as all payments are due end Term 1. Any family wishing to pay by instalments should contact the College to make arrangements to do so as the College will not approach families to organise these payments. Families experiencing problems with payment of charges should contact the College, we do need to talk to you about this. Ignoring accounts and reminders is unhelpful to all parties. The College is also
keen to assist parents in selecting options that they can afford. To this end estimated subject charges will always be provided to parents prior to selection of subjects.

The Availability of Subsidies and Assistance
For parents on low incomes, subsidies are available, provided the College receives an application for the subsidy before the deadline (usually the last day of Term One). Holders of Health Care and Pensioner Benefit cards can receive a subsidy of up to $235 per year for College charges, and a further $115 for uniforms. Application for a subsidy should be made by collecting an application form from the College (also available on the school website). The Education Program Allowance will be paid directly to the College and will be applied to voluntary contributions for Years 7-10. For those parents/guardians who elect to pay their clothing allowance to the College these funds will be deducted from the compulsory charges first and then voluntary contributions and charges. For Year 11 and 12 students in receipt of the allowance, the funds will be applied directly to compulsory charges.

Collecting Voluntary Contributions and Charges
Paying parents expect not to subsidise non-paying parents. The College takes a positive approach to collecting voluntary contributions from parents/caregivers of students in Years 7 to 10. In particular, the College will highlight the benefits to students if all parents meet their voluntary contributions. With respect to compulsory charges for Years 7 to 12, the College will actively seek full payment of compulsory charges when appropriate. The College Board, in support of this process, has endorsed the following actions:

- Regular statements sent home to parents/guardians
- The College will carry forward any amounts owing to the College for course charges to the debtor family’s account for the following year
- Parents who refuse to communicate with the College and have made no effort to pay will be referred to our debt collection agency as permitted in the regulations
- High cost subjects (over $50 per semester) require a 50% confirmation charge prior to 1 February 2016
- Until all outstanding amounts owing are paid, the College may choose to:
  - Insist that students choose cheaper options, especially when a family appears to have decided to refuse to pay course charges
  - The College has discretion to exclude students from extra-curricular activities (eg camps, tours, excursions) if fees are not paid in full

Camps and Excursions, Trips and Tours Interstate and Overseas
Camps and excursions are an important part of the educational experiences of our students. In most cases the camp or excursion will be an integral part of the course. It is our policy to obtain parent permission for all camps/ excursions/tours, along with payment in full of all associated costs prior to students attendance. Without parent permission, students cannot attend a camp or excursion. When attending camps or excursions, students are to abide by the College rules and wear school dress, where appropriate.

Interstate and overseas trips—Specialist Course Students
The College cannot accept monies for these trips until obligations to pay specialist programs and College course charges have been fulfilled. The College has discretion to exclude students from extra-curricular activities (eg excursions, tours) if College course charges are not paid in full.

PLEASE NOTE: payment plans may commence at any time – why not prepare early for next year and start NOW with a monthly direct deposit from your bank account to the College account:

Account Name: Como Secondary College  
BSB: 066 102  
Account No: 00903523  
Ref: student name
GENERAL INFORMATION

The following information is provided in the hope of making the College charges and contributions structure clear for parents and caregivers. Como Secondary College has directed its efforts towards keeping costs as low and as equitable as possible. The Como Secondary College Board has examined the contributions and charges structure in detail and has approved the amounts shown in accordance with the Education Act.

Voluntary Contribution Years 7-10
Revenue collected from your voluntary contributions is used to help cover expenses for students in compulsory learning areas. Examples of these expenses are textbooks ranging in price from $35-$50 each, physical education equipment, audiovisual equipment, information technology facilities, graph paper and photocopied materials.

Compulsory Charges
Years 7-10
Extra cost optional courses outside the basic core program incur additional charges above the voluntary contribution of $235 for Years 7–10 students. For example, Sports, Visual Art, and Food attract compulsory charges for items such as consumable materials and venue hire. Charges relate to items that students consume over and above what is supplied by the Department of Education.

Full charges for optional course charges are required to be paid prior to the end of Term 1

Special Programs
Golf, Hockey, Music and EMITS (Enriched Mathematics and Information Technology) are offered as special programs at Como Secondary College and will incur additional charges above the voluntary contribution.
50% charges for Special Programs are required to be paid prior to 1 February 2016

Years 11-12
Charges will depend upon the course chosen. Some specific courses will incur higher costs dependent upon such items as text, subject specific resources, materials, excursions, certificates and work placement. Students involved in work placement must pay the associated fees prior to commencement of the work placement.
50% charges are required to be paid prior to 1 February 2016.

OTHER OPTIONAL COSTS

Como Secondary College Student Diary
Each student is required to have a Como Secondary College information directory and homework diary at a cost of $5.00 each. These will be issued in the first week of Term 1. Parents are asked to encourage daily use.

College Yearbook
A yearbook for all students is available at the end of the year at a cost of $20.00 per student.

Library Contribution
The Library contribution is $50.00 per student. The College is required to purchase a large and expensive range of equipment and books and the Department of Education provides limited funding to provide resources for this centre.

Whole School Activities
The Whole School Activities cost is $10.00 per student which enables the College to fund special events during the school year eg NAIDOC, healthy choices week, bullying seminars.

Newsletters
A payment of $10.00 per student is requested to help offset the cost of producing the newsletter, daily crier and other handouts.
VOLUNTARY APPROVED REQUESTS

School Council Building Fund
The College Board strongly encourages a donation of $40.00 per student. These funds are used towards upgrading facilities and various projects within the College eg shade structures, creation of Year 10 quad (this contribution is tax deductible).

College Chaplain
A levy of $25.00 is requested to support the presence of a non-denominational chaplain who is an integral part of the College’s Student Services program. The Chaplain provides support for students struggling or dealing with a wide range of pastoral issues and is not an employee of the Department of Education. This position is solely funded by the community and your donations.

P&C Contributions
The P&C Association seeks your continued support for 2016 by appealing to parents for a contribution of $20.00 per student. This amount appears on the College Charges and Contributions sheet. This contribution enables the P&C to purchase much needed equipment for student use.

OTHER COSTS

Smartrider Cards
Smartrider cards are issued to all students. Smartrider cards can be used for student identification. The cost of the initial card is free. Replacement cards can be issued at a cost of $5.00 per card. All cards include a photo for identification purposes.

Reprinting of Reports and Student Timetables
Student timetables are printed and distributed to students at the beginning of each term. Semester reports are printed twice yearly and either mailed to or collected by parents. For those requiring additional copies of these items the following replacement fee will be applied - Student Reports $5.00 each, Student timetables 50c each.

Text Books
For some courses the College supplies all materials and resources in return for the payment of a hire or resource charge; in other subjects there is a reduced charge, but a requirement that students purchase textbooks. Some textbooks are provided on a class set/hire basis. A replacement cost will be charged if any textbooks are lost or badly damaged. This allows us to keep the cost of school fees down to a minimum.

Course Charges
The estimated charge for each course is included with the description in the Student Handbook.

The Course Booklist
The family of every student will receive a fully detailed list of the charges associated with their chosen program. This schedule will include:
- Any textbooks that need to be purchased and their listed recommended retail price
- The charges associated with each course selected
- Any other compulsory charges levied by the College
- Any voluntary contributions approved by the College Board
The booklist and schedule of charges is posted out to families by the end of the school year.

Student Laptops
The College Board will advise in due course of their recommendations for Como students in Years 7–12 to purchase their own Como Secondary College approved laptop/tablet for use on the College network.
The Program Selection Form

Contents of the Form

The Year 9 Program Selection form provides the information necessary for the College to complete the enrolment details for the chosen program of study of each student. It is very important that the following information is completed and accurate:

- Personal details
- The preferred elective courses

Steps for Completing the Form

The following steps need to be taken to properly complete the form.

Step 1: Provide Student Identity Information

Print the information for Family Name, Given Name and Form Class in the spaces provided.

Step 2: Choose Elective Courses

If you have not already done so, refer to the “Electives” section of the Guide for information about each course. If choosing a Language, it must be the language studied from Year 8.

Step 3: Complete the checklist

Each student, depending on any specialist programs in which they are currently enrolled, will receive a slightly different form. This is to streamline their selection process. Ensure that the checklist is completed before submitting the form.

Step 4: Sign Off

Parent and student must sign and date the form in the spaces provided.

Step 5: Return the Form to the College

Failure to return the form to the college by the required date may result in a student being unable to enrol in a particular course of their choosing because the course is full or unavailable due to it being selected by too few students.