



# YEAR 10

# 2025

## STUDENT HANDBOOK

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Costs indicated in this handbook are the costs for 2025. 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 10. 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 to seek answers to their questions from other sources, including teachers at the College, 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. 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 10 CLASSES COMPULSORY COURSES

**English**  
Students work in classes and will be grouped into one of three pathways, 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 three pathways, as directed by the Head of Learning Area.

**Mathematics**  
Students will be grouped into one of three pathways at the beginning of Year 10, 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 Health and 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 Approved Specialist Programs.

### 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. Students may choose to study an elective all year. 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.

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### Approved Specialist Programs

These courses are only available to students who have been through the selection process and been offered a place. At Como, Approved Specialist Programs are offered in Golf, Hockey, Contemporary Music and Enriched Mathematics, Information Technology and Science (EMITS). Usually, students enrolled in a specialist course in Year 10 will be continuing on from their studies in the same course begun in Year 7. In summary, students will find themselves 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 below.

## SELECTING A PROGRAM OF STUDY OVERVIEW

For the great majority of students entering Year 10, 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 in the section of this book that explains how to complete course selection.

Students entering Year 10 need to recognise that they are moving towards Senior School and that their course selections for Year 10 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 10 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 10

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 Programs have certain compulsory courses associated with the relevant program.

# THE COMPULSORY PROGRAM

## Curriculum Program

All students are required to study a curriculum set by the Schools Standard and Curriculum Authority. Students are required to complete year-long courses in English, Mathematics, Science and Humanities and Social Sciences and Health and Physical Education.

## Elective Courses

All students choose from the available elective courses. The number of electives students are permitted to choose will depend on the type of program in which they are enrolled. Elective courses are offered by the following Learning Areas:

- The Arts
- Languages
- Technologies
- HPE

In Year 10, students may begin to specialise by choosing from any of Languages, The Arts, Technologies and specialised contexts in HPE. Thought should be given to interests, possible Senior School courses and possible destinations beyond Year 12.

## Approved Specialist Programs

For the great majority of students in Year 10, 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, Music or Create@Como will need to be aware that there are certain constraints on their course selections.

# SUBJECT SELECTION ONLINE

In Term 3 2024, Year 9 students will use the website Subject Selection Online (SSO) to express their preferences for electives. A direct link will be available on the Como Secondary College website. Click the link and this will take you to your selection pages when the system is opened. Parents will have received an email containing their PIN. This is very important as the generated PIN is to be used when you see and approve your child's preferred elective choices. SSO will not allow you to complete the process of subject preferences until this approval has been done. Students will need to login using their school email address `Firstname.Lastname@student.education.wa.edu.au`. The student PIN will be identified in an email sent to you prior to the commencement of course selection. Just follow the instructions when you land on the website. If you do not have internet access at home, local libraries have computers and it is possible to use these. You can also use your smart phone.

Students will need to express their preferences from the electives on offer. Make sure the reserve subjects are not the same as the first preference. There are no prerequisites to studying these electives in Year 10. However, there are upper

and lower class size limits. When we have all preferences in, we will adjust our offerings where we can to accommodate as many students as possible. However, you need to know that subjects will not run where there are too few students for them to be viable. Students may also miss out if too many students express a preference for that subject but we don't have the resources to run another class.

We encourage students and parents/guardians to discuss the selections together and to read the subject selection handbook prior to logging on to make your selections. This provides valuable information about each subject and will help you to make informed decisions. We suggest you make a note of your preferences separately and then log on to finalise your selections.

**Important:** Those students who have not made choices online using SSO will be placed into electives as the school can fit them and according to SCSA content requirements.

## Please note

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. Costs indicated here are estimates and will be confirmed later in the year.

**High cost subjects** incurring a proposed cost of greater than \$60 and payment of a 50% deposit is required to confirm acceptance and placement in these classes. (All subject charges are proposed for 2025 and are subject to change.)

**Specialist programs are to be paid in full at the time of the subject selection process.**

You will be re-directed to CommBank BPoint to finalise your subject preferences should high cost subjects be selected. Should students not gain a place in these subjects, payments will be set against other subjects or a refund made where necessary.



# KEY LEARNING AREAS

## COMPULSORY COURSES

Costs for compulsory courses are included as part of the \$235 Key Learning Area cost.

### ENGLISH

**Cost: \$30.00**

At the end of Year 10, students need to achieve a B grade in English to be eligible for recommendation to study at ATAR 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 lower school English 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. The first is interim, the second is final.

A student's performance in any formal test or examination held in Year 10, together with their class performance and semester grade in Semester 1, will be used to determine which English course a student will be recommended to pursue in Year 11.

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.

### MATHEMATICS

**Cost: \$30.00**

Students are placed in a pathway based on their achievement at the end of Year 9. 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 measurement and geometry, statistics and probability 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.

### Future Learning in Mathematics

Student learning in Mathematics in Year 10 will provide the grounding for the study of Mathematics in Years 11 and 12. In broad terms, only students in 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 or EMITS Mathematics with a final grade of A in Number and Algebra 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 10 Science course is offered in three pathways. Based on a student's grades in Year 9, Science teachers will recommend either Pathway 1 or Pathway 2 for study in Year 10.

Students in the EMITS Program will study an enriched Pathway 1 course. Students who aspire to study ATAR Sciences in Years 11 and 12 need to achieve A or B grades in Year 10 Science.

#### Pathway 1

**Cost: \$40.00**

Success in the Pathway 1 modules will allow students to select any of the Science ATAR courses in Year 11. At present, these Courses are Human Biology, Chemistry, Biology, Physics and Psychology. Selection of these courses will require a high 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 will need to achieve a B Grade.

This course is delivered in four term-long modules. Each term will focus on one of 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**

Success in Pathway 2 will allow students entering Senior School to select from the Science in Practice 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.

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: \$30.00**

In Year 10 Humanities and Social Sciences consists of Civics and Citizenship, Economics and Business, Geography and History. Students who aspire to study ATAR Humanities in Years 11 and 12 need to achieve A or B grades in Year 10 HASS.

Students develop increasing independence in critical thinking and skill application, which includes questioning, researching, analysing, evaluating, communicating and reflecting. They apply these skills to investigate events, developments, issues and phenomena, both historical and contemporary.

Unit titles include: Justice at home and overseas, Economic performance and living standards; Environmental Change and Management; and Geographies of Human Wellbeing, the Modern World and Australia.

## HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

### Health and Physical Education

**Cost: \$35.00**

**S1 10HPEG7**

**S2 10HPEG8**

[This course is compulsory for all students except those in the Golf and Hockey Studies courses.](#)

Students who aspire to ATAR Physical Education Studies in Years 11 and 12 need to achieve a B Grade in Health and Physical Education and is it desirable that they select Physical Education (Sport Extension) as an elective course.

In Health and Physical Education, students develop the knowledge, understanding and skills to make decisions and take action to strengthen their sense of personal identity and autonomy, build resilience, manage risk and develop satisfying, respectful relationships. They learn to take a critical approach to questioning physical activity and health practices and to use inquiry skills to research factors that influence the health, safety, wellbeing, and physical activity patterns of themselves, individuals, groups and communities.

Students participate in a range of physical activities in contexts such as: Athletics, Netball, Fitness, Soccer and Volleyball. Students also have the opportunity to complete the Keys for Life – Pre Driver Education Course (PK4L).

## APPROVED SPECIALIST PROGRAMS

Each of these courses incur a compulsory charge. This charge is in addition to the \$235 Key Learning Areas cost. These courses are not available to students enrolled for the General Studies program.

### CONTEMPORARY MUSIC STUDIES

**Cost: \$190.00**

**10MUSP7**

**10MUSP8**

Required prior study: Students must be enrolled for the Contemporary Music Specialist Program and must have completed Contemporary Music Studies in Years 8 and 9 or its equivalent.

Students other than those who enrolled in the Specialist Music program in Year 7 may enter the program by successful audition. Students enrolled in the Contemporary Music Specialist 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 II and III in Music industry qualifications.

### GOLF STUDIES

**\$870.00**

**10GFSP7**

**10GFSP8**

Desirable: Students have participated in Golf Studies in Year 7 to 9. Students entering this program are selected by application and trial.

Students who choose this course should be looking to choose Golf: Certificate II and/or Physical Education Studies in Years 11 and 12.

The course covers all compulsory content under the Personal, Social and Community Health (Health Education) curriculum strand and students have the opportunity to complete the Keys for Life – Pre Driver Education Course (PK4L).

Students will participate in physical activities relating to golf in order to develop their skills and understanding of movement and physical activity and develop the necessary skills, strategies and tactics and knowledge of game play and rules within the sport. Coaching and officiating are an essential part of this course.

Students in this course will receive Coaching from club professionals from Collier Park Golf Club and explore elements of Physical Education Studies topics such as: Functional Anatomy; Motor Learning and Coaching; Biomechanics; Sports Psychology; and Exercise Physiology.

### **HOCKEY STUDIES**

**Cost: \$540.00**

**10HKSP7**

**10HKSP8**

Desirable: Students have participated in Hockey Studies in Year 7 to 9. Students entering this program are selected by application and trial.

Students who choose this course should be looking to choose Hockey: Certificate II and/or Physical Education Studies in Years 11 and 12.

The course covers all compulsory content under the Personal, social and community health (Health Education) curriculum strand and students have the opportunity to complete the Keys for Life – Pre Driver Education Course (PK4L).

Students will participate in physical activities relating to hockey in order to develop their skills and understanding of movement and physical activity and develop the necessary skills, strategies and tactics and knowledge of game play and rules within the sport. Coaching and officiating are an essential part of this course.

Students in this course will have the opportunity to complete the Hockey Australia – Community Umpire and Community Coach Certifications and will explore elements of Physical Education Studies topics such as: Functional Anatomy; Motor Learning and Coaching; Biomechanics; Sports Psychology; and Exercise Physiology.

### **ENRICHED MATHEMATICS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE (EMITS)**

**Cost: \$220.00**

**10EDT7**

**10EDT8**

#### **MATHEMATICS**

EMITS students complete an enriched version of the Pathway 1 Mathematics course. The content of this course is enriched through a range of opportunities including, excursions, national Mathematics competitions, and classroom and STEM activities. Classroom teachers provide opportunities and experiences in Mathematics which develop skills such as creative and critical thinking, logic and reasoning, and overcoming challenges. These are skills which will allow students to apply their mathematical knowledge in a range of situations, in both academic endeavours, as well as the challenges they will face in the real world.

#### **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 and specialised school based assessments.
- 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.

#### **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

(Digital Technology)

Design Technologies, Semester 1, focuses on computer hardware, graphic design and data collection.

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 technical challenges posed by raster and vector graphics. Students will also develop techniques to effectively gather and analyse data.

Digital Technologies, Semester 2, focuses on computer programming, data security and film production.

Students will have the opportunity to extend their skills in the Python programming language, solving a series of challenging problems. Students will also form groups to plan, film and edit short films, using modern technologies.

### **CREATE@COMO**

**Cost \$150**

Year 10 students obtain an enriched and unique English curriculum for alignment with the Senior School ATAR Literature Course, and is provided with the resources, skills and foundations to support this academic pathway. Through the study of Literature, Create@Como students develop as independent, innovative and critical thinkers, while appreciating some of the world's best classic literature.

Mathematics, Science and HASS classes will be based on appropriate pathways determined by a student's grades the previous year in those subjects.

Year 10 students also have the opportunity to develop in The Arts, exploring the Creative Arts (Visual Arts and Media) and the Performing Arts (Dance, Music and Drama), studying each course for 2 periods a week for a semester.

Create@Como students will have exclusive opportunities, such as guest artists and performers, coupled with expert instruction and access to off campus resources, to develop their skills.

## PERFORMING ARTS

**Cost \$33.00 per semester**  
**10ACC7**

As part of the Create program, students will continue their study of dance/drama. All students will be encouraged to participate in performances such as the 2025 school production and YOH fest.

## VISUAL ARTS

**Cost \$30.00 per semester**  
**10ACC8**

Create students will continue to extend their skills in studio drawing, painting, print making and sculpture. All students will exhibit their work and are encouraged to enter their work in competitions.

## ELECTIVE COURSES

General 2 periods per week.

Costs per semester unless otherwise stated.

All costs are given as a guide only. They are based on the 2024 and are subject to change.

These electives incur additional charges to the Key Learning Areas cost of \$235 .

## THE ARTS

### VISUAL ARTS

**Cost: \$33.00**

**S1 10VARG7**

**S2 10VARG8**

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.

[Semester 1 and Semester 2 units will study different contexts, styles and forms of visual art.](#)

### SUSTAINABLE FASHION

**Cost: \$50.00**

**10VASF7**

Fast fashion is a controversial issue. While the low cost and increased accessibility of fast fashion clothing may appear desirable, this industry comes with a high price for our planet and its people. Sustainable fashion is about creating and using fabrics in ways that are better for the environment and the people making them. There are lots of ways to make fashion more sustainable, from rethinking how clothes are produced, to repairing and repurposing and shopping second hand.

This course is not about sewing. It's about sustainable fashion textiles. Students take textiles that already exist and make them into something new.

Students will investigate ethics, and the environment, and apply their skills motivated by sustainability.

### MEDIA ARTS MULTI MEDIA

**Cost: \$55.00**

**10MAME7**

The Media Arts – Multi Media program provides a foundation for students interested in pursuing a career in the professional world of media arts, including journalism, advertising, film production, broadcasting and related fields.

Students have the opportunity to develop skills in radio, film, multi-media and television media. They create, produce and analyse a range of media works and develop their skills in video production, radio broadcasting and journalism.



Media production is an important aspect of this program where students develop and present artistic media works designed for specific audiences. They also take part in excursions and participate in the filming of performance activities to enhance their understanding of media.

This elective provides a pathway into General Media Production and Analysis, and Certificate II in Creative Industries in Year 11.

### **DESIGN: PHOTOGRAPHY**

**Cost: \$55.00**

**S1 10PHOG7**

**S2 10PHOG8**

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.

[Semester 1 and Semester 2 units will study different contexts, styles and forms of photography.](#)

This elective provides a pathway into General Media Production and Analysis, and Certificate II in Creative Industries in Year 11.

### **DANCE**

**Cost: \$40.00**

**S1 10DANG7**

**S2 10DANG8**

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. The courses are different in each semester.

Students will experiment with their own choreography and will have the opportunity to learn about stagecraft, lighting and costumes.

This course prepares students for Dance Studies in Years 11 and 12.

### **DRAMA**

**Cost: \$33.00**

**10DRAG7**

Recommended prior study: nil although having studied Drama in Year 9 would be advantageous.

In Year 10, Drama students will be given opportunities to develop their knowledge and skills to present drama for purposes and wider external audience(s), safely using

processes, techniques and conventions of drama.

Areas studied include:

- Script interpretation, based on a reading of the complete text, of an extended scene or section to manipulate mood and interpret themes for an audience.
- Introduction to Non Realism (history and performance)
- Forms and styles of theatre such as Realism, Australian/ Aboriginal Contemporary Theatre, Youth theatre, Grotowski's Poor Theatre, Theatre of the Absurd and Shakespeare
- Performance and direction
- Viewing a live or digital performance
- Stage craft – lighting, sound, costume and set/scenography

### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

#### **SPORT SCIENCE**

**Cost: \$25.00**

**10PES7**

[This course is in addition to Health & Physical Education, focusing on developing skills in a variety of sports for students with a passion for exercise and health. This course also introduces students practically to topics such as exercise physiology and biomechanics in preparation for upper school PE studies.](#)

Over the course of the unit students in this course will have the opportunity to develop skills in a number of sports and develop their leadership and teamwork skills in coaching and umpiring their peers. Students who participate in this course will also be very well prepared for Senior School PE Studies as they will be undertaking a number of activities related to Exercise Physiology - such as fitness testing and how we can improve the fitness of athletes and Biomechanics - how we can improve the techniques of athletes in a variety of sports.

#### **PHYSICAL RECREATION**

**Cost: \$50**

**10PER7**

**10PER8**

Year 10 focus for Physical Recreation is on the elements which encourages the enjoyment of participating in a broad range of recreational activities. Purpose is to foster the social and mental aspects of health by developing the skills of self-awareness and self-care. The aim is not on competitive sport, but the community social elements which can provide a pathway to lifelong physical activity.

It may include activities such as: Bocce, CrossNet, Fitness, Spike Ball, Table Tennis.

#### **OUTDOOR EDUCATION**

**Cost: \$75.00**

**10PEOG7**

This course provides the opportunity to introduce students who are passionate about the outdoors to activities such as canoeing, biking, archery and sailing. Students also have the opportunity beyond Year 10 to study a Certificate course in

outdoor recreation in Year 11 and 12.

As well as learning key outdoor related skills in a variety of contexts students will also focus on developing their understanding of the environment. This course will also provide students with the opportunity to develop their communication, leadership and teamwork skills when participating in outdoor activities with their peers.

To participate in this course students must be able to: Swim 100 metres fully clothed and then support themselves in water for a minimum of fifteen (15) minutes without the aid of an approved life jacket.

Commit to classes that may take place as a two period block either in period 0 and period 1 in the morning (or the after school equivalent). Should participation in this timetable not be suitable, please select another course offering at CSC.

## 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 at ATAR level.

### FRENCH

**Cost: \$40.00 per year**

**S1 10FREG7**

**S2 10FREG8**

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. Year 10 French is a pre-requisite for Year 11 and Year 12 General or ATAR French studies, or it can be treated as a stand-alone course.

### INDONESIAN

**Cost: \$40.00 per year**

**S1 10INDG7**

**S2 10INDG8**

This is a year-long course (2x per week) in which students apply their Indonesian language skills in authentic contexts. Topics of study focus on social language and work-place language in different contexts with an emphasis on guest relations (hospitality) and leadership. Students will also be increasingly involved in preparation for visits by our Indonesian sister school, Sekolah Alam Insan Mulia Surabaya (SAIMS), and online 'virtual tours' with them.

There is a strong media component in this course and new/emerging technologies are used to complement and enhance students' language learning. Year 10 Indonesian is a pre-requisite for Year 11 and Year 12 General or ATAR Indonesian studies, or it can be treated as a stand-alone course.

## ENGLISH AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE

**Cost: \$30.00 per year**

**S1 10ELD7**

**S2 10ELD8**

These English language support classes in Years 9-10 respond to the individual needs of students requiring additional, explicit instruction in the literacy skills of reading and writing, together with the academic requirements of listening to and speaking formal English. In reading the classes aim to increase speed, word recognition and improve spelling; while in writing students practise their written composition so that it is fast, as neat as possible and only uses academic or formal language. Year 9 students are therefore prepared to sit their NAPLAN tests with more confidence and the year 10s competently approach their OLNA Reading and Writing assessments which commence in year 10. A significant amount of time is spent perfecting students' ability to structure paragraphs which is also essential for success in the ISTs (Internally Set Tasks) and ESTs (Externally Set Tasks) they will undertake as senior students. Students who qualify for English language support will be placed in this subject

## RUNNING YOUR OWN BUSINESS

**Cost: \$25.00**

**10BUSE7**

Business Management and Enterprise elective will develop the knowledge and skills of researching and establishing a small business enterprise. You will learn about business structures, business planning, marketing and financial requirements for small business. You will apply these skills to a real life small business venture that you will create, establish and run as a part of this elective.

This elective will prepare students to continue with Business Management & Enterprise in Years 11 & 12.

## TECHNOLOGIES

### DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

**Cost: \$50.00**

**10DiTG7 - S1 Exploration to Industry**

**10DiTG8 - S2 Real World Application**

Students develop their skills in digital technologies by planning and managing projects using the technology process. They investigate various hardware and software applications, data management and development of industry standard digital solutions. They will design, implement, project manage and evaluate their own solutions to a wide range of problems using modern hardware systems and a wide range of industry standard software and coding packages.

Digital Technologies skills learned and applied in this course are relevant for pathways into AIT General and ATAR in Year 11 and 12 and into various avenues in the Digital Technologies fields beyond.

## **DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES e-SPORT**

**Cost: \$50.00**

**10DiTG9**

The Digital Technology e-sports course investigates this rapidly growing gamification industry through activities designed to teach students teamwork, communication, resilience, respect and problem solving. Students will work on various aspects of the gaming industry, including coding of games, media presence and video filming/editing, and exploration into hardware options. They will apply their research to design and develop webpages and project manage promotional videos for their teams. Students in this course will also have the opportunity to develop their skills through game play and unplugged activities. They will also look at e-sports and ergonomics. Ergonomics is a study of how well we humans fit into the various environments that we work/game in.

Digital Technologies skills learned and applied in this course are relevant for pathways into AIT General and ATAR in Year 11 and 12 and into various avenues not limited to the Digital Technologies, Engineering, Marketing and Media fields beyond.

Note, students are only able to complete a single semester of this course.

## **FOOD SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY**

**Cost: \$60.00**

**10FDG7 Goba Dinner Box**

**10FDG8 Pastry Art**

Students studying Food Science and Technology in Year 10 will explore cooking, hospitality, and indigenous and international flavour profiles. With a focus on learning various cooking 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 consider ethical, environmentally friendly, and healthy food choices. They will work through the technology process to make food for themselves and others that is presented with flair and demonstrates excellent project management skills. In Semester 1 they will focus on international cuisines and use this theme to create flavourful meals and use design digital recipe cards. In Semester 2 students will work with a range of sweet and savoury pastry techniques and artistic methods of presenting these dishes.

Food Technologies skills learned and applied in this course are relevant for pathways into General Food Year 11 and 12 and into various avenues not limited to the Health Sciences, Hospitality, Tourism and Food fields beyond.

## **MATERIALS DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY**

**Cost: \$50**

**10D&TG7 - Semester 1**

**10D&TG8 - Semester 2**

Students will be further developing their skills with resistant materials such as wood, metal, plastics and acrylics. Students will produce their projects using a range of hand tools, more complex power tools and machinery in the workshop. Students will have the opportunity to further investigate materials, local industry, timber in society, fundamentals of design and existing products in order to investigate, devise,

project manage, produce and evaluate a variety of large and small 3D objects. They will analyse existing and created products using the fundamentals of design and the elements of design and will learn to journal their progress and assess where modifications are beneficial to improving the outcome of their project.

Materials Design and Technology skills learned and applied in this course are relevant for pathways into General Wood and Metal in Year 11 and 12 and into various avenues not limited to Carpentry, Joinery, Furniture, Construction, Engineering, Trade, Apprenticeship avenues in fields beyond.

## **MECHANICAL AND STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING SYSTEMS**

**Cost \$50.00**

**10SEG7**

**10SEG8**

Students studying Mechanical Engineering Systems investigate and apply the combination of materials, systems, components, tools and equipment in order to test force, motion and energy of structural and mechanical products according to project management, devising, modifying and strategic development of solutions to problems. As part of this course students will develop the skills to safely using a range of workshop machines and hand and power tools, and the use of different welding and fabrication equipment for specific projects.

Materials Design and Technology skills learned and applied in this course are relevant for pathways into General Metal in Year 11 and 12 and into various avenues not limited to Furniture, Construction, Engineering, Trade, Apprenticeship avenues in fields beyond.

# 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 (eg 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 by 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 its 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 Food Science, 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 before the start of the new year as all payments are due by the end of 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 Charges and Contributions. For those parents/guardians who elect to pay their clothing allowance to the College, again these funds will be allocated to Charges and Contributions.

## 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
- Specialist program costs need to be paid in full at the time of online course selection.
- High cost subjects (over \$60 per semester) require a 50% confirmation charge at time of online course selection.
- 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 and prior payment, 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. Elective costs included here are indicative. They will be confirmed later in the year following due process. You will be notified of any discrepancies.

[Full payment 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.

100% charges for Special Programs are required to be paid at the time of Subject Selection Online (SSO).

**High cost subjects** incurring a proposed cost of greater than \$60 are considered high cost and payment of a 50% deposit is required to confirm acceptance and placement in these classes. (All subject charges are proposed for 2024 and are subject to change.) You will be re-directed to CommBank BPoint to finalise your subject selections should high cost subjects be selected. If fees for high cost courses are not paid, students will be moved to lower cost courses.

## 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 \$10.00 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. Payment for the yearbook must be made before the end of term 3.

### Library Contribution

The Library contribution is \$25.00 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

### 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 funded by the community and your donations in addition to a payment from the state government that is not guaranteed from year to year.

### P&C Contributions

The P&C Association seeks your continued support by appealing to parents for a contribution of \$50.00 per student. This amount appears on the College Charges and Contributions sheet. This contribution enables the P&C to purchase much needed equipment and resources for student use.

### Information Technology

We are requesting \$50.00 to assist with the upgrade, support, management, training and ongoing maintenance of the school's computer network.

### Bus

We are requesting \$10.00 to assist with the upgrade, support, management and ongoing maintenance of the school's 2 buses.

## 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.

### Text Books/Workbooks

For some courses the College supplies all materials, textbooks and resources in return for the payment of a hire or resource charge; however, some courses require that students purchase workbooks. A replacement cost will be charged if any textbooks are lost or badly damaged by a student. This allows us to keep the cost of school fees down to a minimum.

### The Course Charges

The family of every student will receive a fully detailed list of the charges associated with their chosen program. This schedule will include:

- Any workbooks 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 workbook list and schedule of charges is posted out to families by the end of the school year.

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

## For your reference Prerequisite Requirements for Subjects offered to Year 11 2025

### Year 11 and 12 ATAR Courses

Benchmarks apply to the courses in the column below.

Code	Year 10 minimum benchmark for recommendation to study the course	
Applied Information Technology	AEAIT	<b>B grade or higher in Digital Technologies in Year 10 (General or Extension).</b>
Biology	AEBLY	<b>B grade or higher in English and a B grade or higher in Biological Sciences in Year 10. As Biological Science is included in Semester 2 learning, students will be provisionally accepted into ATAR Biology based on their Semester 1 grade which must be a B or higher. This will be reviewed when the Biological Science grades are available.</b>
Business Management and Enterprise	AEBME	<b>C grade or higher in Year 10 Humanities and Social Sciences, and a B grade or higher in English.</b>
Chemistry	AECHE	<b>B grade or higher in English and a B grade or higher in Chemical Sciences in Year 10.</b>
English	AEENG	<b>B grade or higher in Year 10 English Reading and Writing.</b>
English as an Additional Language	AEELD	<b>Students must meet eligibility requirements for EALD.</b>
Geography	AEGEO	<b>B grade or higher in Year 10 Humanities and Social Sciences and in English.</b>
Health Studies	AEHEA	<b>B Grade or higher in English AND a B Grade in Year 10 Health and Physical Education or Golf or Hockey.</b>
Human Biology	AEHBY	<b>B grade or higher in English and a B grade or higher in Biological Sciences in Year 10. As Biological Science is included in Semester 2 learning, students will be provisionally accepted into ATAR Human Biology based on their Semester 1 grade which must be a B or higher. This will be reviewed when the Biological Science grades are available.</b>
Literature	AELIT	<b>B grade or higher in Year 10 English Reading and Writing.</b>
Mathematics Applications	AEMAA	<b>An A or B or C grade in EMITS or Pathway 1 or 2 Mathematics in Year 10 and a B grade in any strand.</b>
Mathematics Methods	AEMAM	<b>An A or B grade in EMITS or Pathway 1 Mathematics in Year 10 and an A grade in Number and Algebra and/or Measurement and Geometry strands.</b>
Mathematics Specialist	AEMAS	<b>An A grade in EMITS or Pathway 1 Mathematics in Year 10, and an A grade in Number and Algebra and Measurement and Geometry strands.</b>
Modern History	AEHIM	<b>B grade or higher in Year 10 Humanities and Social Sciences and in English.</b>
Physical Education Studies	AEPES	<b>B grade or higher in English AND a B grade in HPE Sport focus or Health and Physical Education or Golf or Hockey.</b>
Physics	AEPHY	<b>B grade or higher in English and a B grade or higher in Physical Sciences in Year 10. As Physical Science is included in Semester 2 learning, students will be provisionally accepted into ATAR Physics based on their Semester 1 grade which must be a B or higher. This will be reviewed when the Physical Science grades are available.</b>
Psychology	AEPSY	<b>B grade or higher in English and a B grade or higher in Biological Sciences in Year 10. As Biological Science is included in Semester 2 learning, students will be provisionally accepted into ATAR Psychology based on their Semester 1 grade which must be a B or higher. This will be reviewed when the Biological Science grades are available.</b>
Visual Art	AEVAR	<b>B grade or higher in Year 10 English. Completion of Visual Art subjects in Year 10 will be an advantage</b>
MUSIC ATAR	AEMUSJ	<b>Equivalent theory and practical level of Year 10 Music and achieve a B grade or equivalent AMEB levels.</b>