Subject name: Visual Arts

Contact person: Ms Margaret Spiropoulos

Board Endorsed Course

Course description: Visual Arts in Years 9 and 10 is about creating art works. The course is about learning new techniques, expressing ideas and concepts and studying artists and their work.

- This course allows students to develop work in visual areas of their own choosing. Some of these areas include Painting, Drawing, Sculpture, Ceramics, Photography, Printmaking, Digital, Media, Film, Video, Computer Graphics, Performance, Installation, Design, Textiles and Fibre Designed Objects, etc.
- Any visual area can be used by the student to develop skills and express ideas. Students can move between areas as the course progresses.

Course structure: To satisfy the requirements of the syllabus, students must undertake a range of practical experiences that occupy the majority of course time. Practical experiences will be used to develop knowledge and understanding of and skills in designing, producing and evaluating.

Assessment summary: Assessment is carried out on completion of each unit of work. Components usually assessed include:
- Planning and experimentation in the visual diary or journal
- Critical and historical studies
- Completed artwork
Subject name: Cartooning & Animation

Contact person: Ms Margaret Spiropoulos

Board Endorsed Course

Course description:
This is a course for the student interested in developing skills in cartooning animation, graphic rendering.

Cartooning animation and graphics have become key expressive tools in popular culture. It is a vehicle for the expression of ideas and concepts. Through the study of such an area students will be exposed to educational processes which should have a continuing and lasting impact on their development.

The aim of this course is to develop knowledge and skills in the areas of cartooning and animation programs and to develop an understanding that these areas are a valid area to communicate and express ideas.

Course structure:
Students will learn about:

- The history and appreciation of cartooning and animation.
- Creating cartoons, comic strips and animations with “Flash” programs.
- Storyboarding, scripting and narration.
- Animation techniques including single frame, cell and 3-D modelling.
- Computer graphics, pixel paint programmes and their application in cartooning and animation with Adobe Photoshop CS.
- Recording and applying sound tracks, sound bites, sound effects and editing sound.

Students will learn to:

- Create cartoon characters.
- Gain skill and technical expertise in cartooning, animation and graphics.
- Render characters and settings.
- Appreciate the practices of cartooning and computer programs in animation.
- Understand the techniques used to express ideas through cartooning.
- Develop cartoons and animation as an expressive tool.
- Value cartooning and animation in its historical context.

Assessment summary:
Assessment is carried out on completion of each unit of work. Components usually assessed include:

- Planning and experimentation in the visual diary or journal
- Critical and historical studies
- Completed artwork
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- Planning and experimentation in the visual diary or journal
- Critical and historical studies
- Completed artwork
Subject name  
Ceramics

Contact person  
Ms Margaret Spiropoulos

Board Endorsed Course

Course description  
A hands-on course for the student interested in developing skills in the production of both functional and sculptural forms. Knowledge and techniques in the areas of building forms in clay with hand built, mould and wheel skills, along with properties and characteristics of clay, glazes and kilns will be developed.

Course structure  
Students are encouraged to develop knowledge skills and understanding in:

- The making of ceramic work that leads to conceptual and technical accomplishments.
- Skills will be developed in hand built, wheel thrown and mould techniques. The properties of a variety of clay types, glaze, oxides, incised and applied designs and kiln firing techniques will be developed.
- Utilitarian objects and decorative works such as sculpture and relief panels will be developed into imaginative and aesthetically pleasing works.
- Critical and historical investigation of ceramic functional and sculptural forms will be undertaken.

Assessment summary  
Assessment is carried out on completion of each unit of work. Components usually assessed include:

- Planning and experimentation in the visual diary or journal
- Critical and historical studies
- Completed artwork
Subject name: Visual Design

Contact person: Ms Margaret Spiropoulos

Course exemption: Students who choose to study this course cannot study Cartooning and Animation.

Board Endorsed Course

Course description: This course provides students with the opportunity to explore the many aspects of design from Graphics (drawing, cartooning, rendering), Computer Imaging, Desktop Publishing, Wearable Design, Interior/Exterior Design, Animation and Product Design.

Through designing and making, students learn to interpret the requirements of a design brief and use their perceptual and conceptual knowledge, skills and imagination to give form to their ideas.

Course structure: To satisfy the requirements of the syllabus, students must undertake a range of practical experiences that occupy the majority of course time. Practical experiences will be used to develop knowledge and understanding of and skills in designing, producing and evaluating.

Assessment summary: Assessment is carried out on completion of each unit of work. Components usually assessed include:

- Planning and experimentation in the visual diary or journal
- Critical and historical studies
- Completed artwork
Subject name: Film Video & Digital Imaging

Contact person: Ms Margaret Spiropoulos

Course Exemption: Students who choose to study this course cannot study Photographic and Digital Media – Photography

Board Endorsed Course

Course description: Students in this course are provided with the opportunity to develop their skills and interests in a wide variety of film, video and digital assignments. Skills and knowledge will be developed in the areas of camera operation, pre-production, sound and lighting, production design, digital video editing, special effects, animation, documentary making, short film, music video clips, television commercials and much more.

Students are encouraged to critically analyse their work and that of others, so that they develop confidence in their artistic decisions. Students’ understanding of the influences of the media and new technologies are also enhanced as they learn how to reflect on the traditions and conventions of the past. It is expected that students will also prepare their work for public display and understand the importance of marketing and audience expectations.

Course structure: To satisfy the requirements of the syllabus, students must undertake a range of practical experiences that occupy the majority of course time. Practical experiences will be used to develop knowledge and understanding of and skills in designing, producing and evaluating.

Assessment summary: Assessment is carried out on completion of each unit of work. Components usually assessed include:

- Planning and experimentation in the visual diary or journal
- Critical and historical studies
- Completed artwork
Subject name: Photography & Digital Media

Contact person: Ms Margaret Spiropoulos

Course Exemption: Students who choose to study this course cannot study Film Video and Digital Imaging.

Board Endorsed Course

Course description: In this course, students are introduced to the principles and practices of film (wet) and digital photography. Students learn to use SLR (film) cameras and to make prints in the darkroom. They learn how cameras work and how to work with light to produce successful images. Students' understanding of the principles of SLR camera is also applied to digital photography and students also gain competence in digital editing techniques. In year 9, units of work explore the genres of movement, studio and landscape photography with specific skills practiced in each of these areas. Year 10 involves the genres of portraiture and still life, a series of digital postcards is produced and students complete a final “exhibition series”. Historical and contemporary photographers are studied within each unit of work. Access to film cameras at home is an advantage but not essential, as is access to a digital compact or SLR camera.

Course structure: As in visual arts based courses, units of work are structured around the three areas of content:
- Practice – art making
- Critical/historical
- Frames and conceptual framework
- These three areas provide for a structured approach to practical and theoretical aspects of the study of photography.

Assessment summary: Assessment is carried out on completion of each unit of work. Components usually assessed include:
- Planning and experimentation in the visual diary or journal
- Critical and historical studies
- Completed artwork

Fees: Subject fees are used to pay for materials used by the student. Fees should be partially or fully paid by the end of Term 1.
Subject Name  Drama

Contact Person  Ms Marisa McEwan & Ms Margaret Spiropoulos

Board Developed Course

Course description  Drama encourages a co-operative approach to exploring the world through enactment. Students take on roles, portray aspects of human experience and explore familiar and unfamiliar aspects of their world.

The study of drama engages and challenges students. It helps them communicate in complex and powerful ways. They learn to investigate, shape and symbolically represent ideas, interests, concerns, feelings, beliefs and their consequences.

Drama aims to develop self-confidence, motivation and self-esteem through the devising, workshopping, rehearsing and performing of individual and group works.

Learning experiences are provided which engage the intellect, emotions, imagination and body, and engage the whole person.

Students will develop skills in:
- Co-operation, trust and group work
- Concentration, imagination and spontaneity
- Voice
- Movement
- Improvisation
- Elements of Drama
- Character / Role
- Play building
- Interpreting and enacting scripts
- Basic stage design
- The actor–audience relationship

Throughout the course, students will be provided with a number of opportunities to view and be involved in theatre and performance.

Course structure  Students will develop knowledge, understanding and skills, individually and collaboratively, through:
- Making drama that explores a range of imagined and created situations in a collaborative drama and theatre environment.
- Performing devised and scripted drama using a variety of performance techniques, dramatic forms and theatrical conventions to engage an audience.
- Appreciating the meaning and function of drama and theatre in reflecting the personal, social, cultural and political aspects of the human experience.

Assessment summary  Each unit has its own evaluation tasks specific to the skills being developed. A log book is essential to this subject for research and reflection on class material.
Subject name: Music

Contact person: Mr Jason Fletcher & Ms Margaret Spiropoulos

Board Developed Course

Course description: The elective music course is a course where the emphasis is on making music, with theoretical facts learned as needed. All elective Music students have the opportunity of learning to play in class some of the following instruments, all of which the school has available:
- Keyboards
- Piano
- Guitar - electric bass or acoustic
- Percussion
- Drum Kit

In addition a selection of orchestral instruments such as flutes, clarinets, violins, trumpets, trombones, saxophones are available on loan from the school to interested hard-working students who intend joining the school’s Concert Band.

Course structure: In the Music course students also learn how to arrange music - particularly songs and instrumental pieces which can be performed by the class. Besides playing, singing and composing, students listen to and learn about all types of music - everything from classical to jazz to pop.

It is important to realise that no previous experience in learning music is necessary in order to do elective Music as a subject. However, the rudiments of theory must be learned to get the most out of the course. Students are given the opportunity to discover and develop their own particular musical talent through a wide range of interesting musical activities.

Assessment summary: Students are assessed in the three areas of performance, composition and aural (listening). Skills are tested in each of these areas in the form of class and solo performances, arrangements and improvisations, compositions and aural recognition tests.