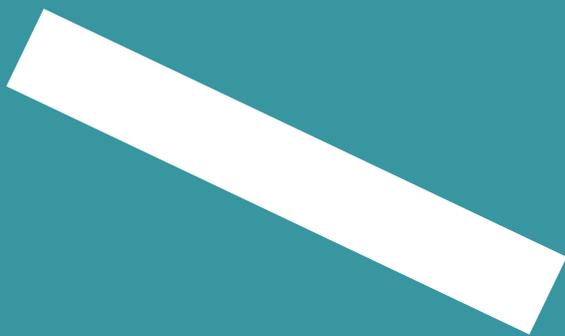




# Year 7



**2023**  
Course Guide  
Traralgon





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## Welcome

Starting secondary school is a big step for many students. At St Paul's we understand and work hard to make the change as smooth as possible and aim to ensure that our students feel safe, happy, and respected.

Early in Term 3, students are invited to a Friendship Morning at the School, which helps them to get to know other Year 7 students at St Paul's and learn their way around. Later in the year, students will be visited at their Primary School by either their Head of Year or the Head of Secondary. This visit is another opportunity for us to get to know your child and gives them a forum to ask any questions that may have arisen from the Friendship Morning.

Later in the year, a three-day Early Commencement Orientation Program will take place and students will learn more about their classes and meet many of their teachers, as well as a group of Peer Support Leaders. During this time, students will spend time with their Mentor, a staff member and subject teacher who will be responsible for the pastoral care of the students in their class. By the time they start Year 7, our aim is that students will feel comfortable with their new environment and excited about starting secondary school at St Paul's.

## Year 7 Curriculum

Our commitment to delivering a vibrant and varied curriculum, which will prompt each child to enquire about and investigate the world around them, starts from day one. In addition, at St Paul's, we are committed to assisting all students to achieve their personal best. Our curricular and co-curricular programs assist our students to become discerning, inquiring, articulate and creative learners. These enduring qualities will serve them well throughout their lives.

All Year 7 students will have the opportunity to study subjects in the following areas of learning:

- Christian Studies
- Computer Skills and Coding
- English
- Health and Physical Education
- Humanities
- Japanese
- Mathematics
- Science
- Sport
- The Arts - Performing and Visual
- Technology - Food and Hard Materials

Our aim is to ensure that each student has a strong foundation of skills on which to build further success in the secondary years of education.

We look forward to welcoming all students and their families to an exciting year at St Paul's.



**Mrs Leonie Clark**  
Head of Secondary



**Mr Andrew McGrath**  
Head of Year 7 and 8



**Mrs Donna Bryne**  
Director of Learning and  
Teaching



**Mr Chris Ambrozy**  
Director of Studies



## Overview

### Assessment and Reporting

At St Paul's, assessment is regarded as an integral part of teaching and learning. In each subject, when students receive a major work requirement, the criteria against which they will be assessed will be explained. They will also receive regular and timely feedback about their progress and their level of achievement will be assessed at the end of each semester. The School will keep parents regularly informed about students' progress through formal reports, issued at the end of each semester, as well as Parent-Student-Teacher Interviews that will occur at the beginning of Term 2 and the beginning of Term 4.

### Homework and Study

Homework includes a range of activities that are purposeful and relevant and that will enable students to benefit from the School's educational program. Homework seeks to foster good, lifelong learning and study habits as well as provide an opportunity for students to be responsible for their own learning. There are many different reasons why students receive homework.

At St Paul's, we believe the main reasons are:

- To practise skills already learnt or modelled in the classroom
- To revise work covered within the classroom
- To have an opportunity to learn independently
- To learn independent study skills
- To develop sound organisation and time management skills
- To prepare for classroom activities
- To provide opportunities for students to reflect on classroom learning

Homework may comprise the completion of assignments, specific tasks and activities set by the teacher, or work tasks allocated as part of group work. In Year 7, we have a policy that no formal grades or homework will be set for students in Term 1, thus allowing them to transition smoothly and calmly into their secondary education. Rather, students are encouraged to take on board their teacher's formative feedback to shape their learning and the quality of their work. During this time, students will be introduced to the expectations of their subjects and teachers.

After Term 1, there is an expectation that students will complete approximately five to six hours of homework and study each week. We suggest that the study should comprise the revision of work and activities addressed in classes during the day. The study could also include the undertaking of self-directed extension exercises and activities to further the depth of understanding and learning. There will be deadlines that are set for homework, as per the "Homework Policy" in their student diaries. If, for some reason, students are unable to complete the homework by the due date we ask that they provide a suitable explanation to the relevant staff member prior to or at the start of the lesson. When organising homework and study, students must ensure they organise their time allocation efficiently in order to maximise study time, whilst also taking into account family, sporting and cultural commitments as well as unforeseen events.

Staff will assist in regularly monitoring students' long-term tasks and assignments to ensure submission by the due date. Teachers will regularly review homework and study work habits with students, using the student diary and MyStPauls as part of this review. Staff may notify parents/guardians if either the quantity and/or quality of homework needs to be discussed.

### Communication

#### Direct Communication

If, at any stage, parents or students have a question, please feel free to contact the School. Such contact can be made firstly through the classroom or Mentor Teacher and then through the Head of Year 7 and Year 8. This can be achieved via an email, a phone call, or a written note from home.



### Fortnightly Newsletters

The fortnightly newsletter (The Grammarian) will be distributed electronically. This includes an array of information, important dates and interesting information about life at the Whole School and the Traralgon Secondary School. Published on the alternative week is the "What's On" publication which provides a list of important upcoming dates.

### MyStPauls

All students have access to the School's portal called MyStPauls where they are provided with a rich array of learning resources, submit work and receive grades. Co-curricular information, the daily bulletin, House updates and messages from the Head of Year are also available on MyStPauls. Parents, too, have access to help them stay informed on a range of School matters. All members of the community are also welcome to visit the St Paul's Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/StPaulsAnglicanGrammarSchool>.

### Spiritual Life at St Paul's

St Paul's is an Anglican school, founded on the ethos and values of the Anglican Church. We are committed to affirming and valuing all people, promoting respect for others, particularly those of different racial, ethnic, faith or cultural traditions, as well as those who are marginalised in society. All members of the St Paul's Community are encouraged to adopt a perspective that encompasses dignity for all persons.

The School provides opportunities for worship and growth in understanding of the Christian life, whilst respecting each person's right to their own belief system.

A robust Christian Studies Curriculum educates students whilst regular chapel services provide opportunities for students to experience and participate in a worshipping community. Our Easter and Christmas Carol services bring the whole campus together and our School Anniversary service gathers close to the entire student body in celebration and thanksgiving.

The appointment of School Chaplains is made by the School, in consultation with the Bishop of Gippsland. Our school has close links with the local parishes of St Paul's Warragul and St James' Traralgon, and our students are encouraged to be active participants in local and global community service.

### Co-curricular Life at St Paul's

St Paul's offers many other activities outside the classroom, and we strongly encourage students to involve themselves in some of these at the earliest opportunity. It is a great way to meet new friends and to learn and practise a whole range of new skills. Students might like to try out for one of the SEISA (South Eastern Independent Schools Association) teams, represent their House in Swimming or Athletics, or become a member of the Student Representative Council. If music interests them, we offer a wide range of options which include: learning an instrument, joining a band or Choir, playing in a small group, or school production. Some more choices available include being involved in House Music and Inter-House sport, or after-school Debating and Public Speaking programs. The main aim is for students to do all that they can to become involved in the life of the School and the opportunities offered.

### Orientation: Peer Support Camp

A great way for students to get to know the teaching staff and to form friendships will be through participation in the Year 7 Camp, held early in Term 1. The camp is packed full of fun and activities, all designed to help them make friends and learn to work together as a group. Year 11 Peer Support Leaders work closely with the students before, during and after the camp program. At the end of Year 7, students will also be introduced to Outdoor Education; Peer Support Leaders will also be involved in the preparation for this camp.

### Friends of St Paul's (FOSP)

The Friends of St Paul's (FOSP) group is an active parent body that aims to organise a variety of fun, social and community events. FOSP aims to raise funds in support of the School but, most importantly, also aims to arrange events that bring the school community together. Please consider joining FOSP, either as a participant in the various events or as a helping hand for the many jobs involved in bringing the events to fruition.



### **Information and Communications Technology (ICT)**

Students will be using a laptop as a part of their learning at St Paul's. These laptops will form part of the basic equipment they will bring to school every day and will soon become an essential part of their day-to-day life. In addition to a suite of educational applications, they will be able to use their computer to access the internet and to send and receive emails from their St Paul's email account. The MyStPauls portal provides an online resource for parents and students to communicate with teachers, access their calendar and timetable, access resources and activities, complete and submit work online, receive feedback and grades, and collaborate and interact with classes.

Information and Communications Technology is integrated into all subject areas but there are some clearly identifiable activities within the curriculum. The laptop program allows students to explore alternative ways of learning using technologies embodied in databases, spreadsheets and other multi-media software.

At all times, it is a student's responsibility to ensure that their laptop is in good working order, charged in preparation for every school day and that the password is kept private. Further information regarding this program will be provided at the start of the school year. Students also complete a semester of study in Computer Skills, as well as the industry-supported initiative Computer Science (CS) in Schools where they develop basic programming skills.

Ultimately, we are here to support and encourage all of our students. Their growth – emotionally, socially, spiritually and academically – is of utmost importance. We hope to enhance their learning within an atmosphere of challenge and fun.



## Christian Studies

### Course Description

Year 7 Christian Studies introduces students to the Bible and the person of Jesus. Students will gain an understanding of how the Bible is structured and how to find their way around it. Key topics include who wrote the Bible, when it was written, the different genres of writing it contains and how to look up a Bible reference. Following this, students will explore some of the life and teachings of Jesus. They will develop a basic understanding of the events of his life, his teaching, and his influence. The course concludes with an exploration of Christian values represented in a contemporary movie.

### Areas of Study

- Learning how to use the Bible
- The ways an individual may contribute to the broader community
- The radical life of Jesus.

### In this course students will:

- Investigate a range of Biblical texts
- Develop skills in the use of conventions of Bible referencing
- Engage in personal reflection on their spiritual life.



## Computer Skills

### Course Description

Students develop their skills and capabilities by learning to use IT effectively and appropriately to manage, create and communicate textual and visual information. Students use key contemporary software packages to learn and apply practical skills useful in other subjects, now and in the future. As well as efficient computer usage, basic theoretical terminology and computing concepts are covered along with basic coding language through the Computer Science (CS) in Schools industry-affiliated program. Students learn about applying IT and smart devices in a safe manner.

### Areas of Study

- Interacting with Windows
- File management
- Document editing (including Word for Windows)
- Email
- MyStPauls platform usage
- Webpages
- Microsoft programs
- Designing and modifying digital documents
- Understanding and applying device security.



## English

### Course Description

The Year 7 English course is designed to help students appreciate the way in which language shapes their view of the world. Throughout the year, the students explore a range of texts that are carefully selected to engage and challenge them. These include various types of media texts, novels, non-fiction, poetry and films. Through their exploration, they develop their understanding of how texts are influenced by context, purpose and audience.

Students create a variety of imaginative, analytical and persuasive texts in response to literature and rich concepts. They read for pleasure and learn to evaluate texts through the wider reading program. Students also develop their ICT skills by producing texts in a variety of forms, including multimodal texts.

### Areas of Study

- Responding to literature
- Imaginative writing
- Persuasive writing
- Speaking and listening.

### In the course students will:

- Explore a range of novels, short stories and poems
- Develop their comprehension skills
- Write in a variety forms for different purposes
- Develop their understanding of grammatical structures
- Use laptops to draft and edit written work
- Contribute to a range of discussions
- Deliver prepared and impromptu speeches
- Learn about the language required in different situations
- Participate in the Wider Reading Program.



## Health and Physical Education

### Course Description

Health and Physical Education (HPE) have a unique and significant contribution to make to education. They play a very important role at St Paul's as they contribute to the total development of the individual. Learning through physical activity is a distinguishing feature in the practical component of the course. Health and Physical Education is concerned with more than sports and games. Its clear goal is to contribute to the development of a student's physical, intellectual, emotional and social maturity. Health and Physical Education at St Paul's also aims to cultivate a healthy lifestyle for students and therefore advocates activities that are enjoyable and that also contribute to healthy living.

### Areas of Study

#### Theoretical

The course is designed to develop an awareness, knowledge and understanding of behaviours that contribute to a healthy lifestyle.

- SunSmart strategies
- First Aid and CPR
- Smoking
- Physical growth and development
- Food and nutrition.

#### Practical

The practical element of the HPE program encourages the development of physical, mental and social skills by introducing students to a wide range of sporting and recreational activities. Students experience a range of individual and team activities to improve their teamwork, fitness, skills and personal development. Activities are structured so that all can achieve some success and help in the development of a positive self-image with a strong emphasis on participation, good conduct and fair play. Through such participation, students are able to appreciate the benefits of physical activity and a healthy lifestyle.

Sports included are:

- Swimming
- Basketball
- AFL
- Soccer
- Softball.



## Humanities

### Course Description

The humanities curriculum provides a study of history, geography, governance and economics. This course invites students to be detectives in investigating historical sources and mysteries as they explore the development of Rome and China and the legacies of these ancient civilisations in the world today. The course also questions how humans use landscapes and the impact of nature on human activities. Finally, the theme of 'liveability' extends to governance and the role of economics in modern-day Australia.

### Areas of Study

#### Semester 1

- Unit 1: History: A Gallop Through Time
- Unit 2: Geography: Water in the World
- Unit 3: Government and Democracy
- Unit 4: History: Ancient Rome

#### Semester 2

- Unit 5: Entrepreneurs
- Unit 6: History: Ancient China
- Unit 7: Geography: Place and Liveability
- Unit 8 – Interdisciplinary Project / Incursion
- Unit 9: Laws and Citizens

### In this course students will:

- Reconstruct historical and geographical events
- Communicate views and experiences from our past and present
- Interpret and describe sources
- Collect and organise data for research
- Create and interpret models of governance and economics.



## Languages: Japanese

### Course Description

Through aural, oral, reading and writing skills acquired during the course, Year 7 Japanese students will explore Japanese customs, places in Japan and Japanese food. While studying the Obento Deluxe textbook series, students will develop a strong grounding in each of the four areas of language acquisition and have the skills to introduce themselves and hold basic conversations in Japanese. The Obento Deluxe books are used through to the end of Semester 2 in Year 8. Therefore students must retain all books used in Year 7 Japanese. Education Perfect, an online digital platform, is an additional tool used to see technology improve student learning outcomes.

### Areas of Study

#### Listening and Speaking

- Identifying key information from audio texts
- Distinguishing and repeating sounds accurately
- Demonstrates verbal and non-verbal language including gesture and cues
- Questioning and responding, using simple statements
- Performing role-plays.

#### Reading

- Read for the purpose of selecting specific information or main ideas
- Read aloud with attention to pronunciation and intonation
- Recognise Hiragana, the most common Japanese script, and develop understanding of Katakana (the script for foreign words) and Kanji pictographs
- Identify short words and particles in sentences and demonstrate an understanding of Japanese text.

#### Writing

- Write all of the Hiragana script
- Demonstrate the ability to use grammatical forms studied in class
- Use common statement patterns to create your own personal text
- Write the most fundamental Kanji characters
- Use the computer to write in Japanese.



## Mathematics

### Course Description

Mathematics is the study of function and pattern in number, logic, space and structure. It provides both a framework for thinking and a means of symbolic communication that is powerful, logical, concise and unambiguous and a means by which people can understand and manage their environment.

As well as the four basic functions, Mathematics involves using graphs and other visual aids to represent data. Students will develop mathematical skills for everyday living, employment and further study. Students have the opportunity to enhance and monitor their overall mathematical skills by completion of maths online tasks.

The Mathematics program provides the opportunity for students to be challenged beyond the standard course through the Australian Mathematics Competition and other extension maths activities.

### Areas of Study

As outlined in the Australian Curriculum, mathematics consists of the following areas of study:

- Number and Algebra
- Measurement and Geometry
- Statistics and Probability.

### In this course students will:

- Understand and apply key concepts related to the above areas of study
- Learn how to use calculators effectively
- Use problem solving techniques
- Use mathematical software such as Maths Online.



## Science

### Course Description

The Year 7 Science program is designed to build upon the excitement and enthusiasm that most Year 7 students naturally bring to Science. Students learn about the range of scientific disciplines that impact daily life through many practical experiments and activities. They are asked to develop thinking skills that demonstrate a clear understanding of the concepts under investigation.

Students explore the diversity of life on Earth and develop their understanding of the role of classification in ordering and organising information. They use and develop models such as food chains and food webs to represent and analyse the flow of energy and matter through ecosystems and explore the impact of changing components within these systems. They consider the interaction between multiple forces when explaining changes in an object's motion. They explore the notion of renewable and non-renewable resources and consider how this classification depends on the timescale considered. They investigate relationships in the Earth, Sun, Moon system and use models to predict and explain events. Students look at mixtures including solutions and how they can be separated using a range of techniques. Students make accurate measurements and control variables to analyse relationships between system components; exploring and explaining these relationships through increasingly complex representations.

### Areas of Study

#### Working Scientifically

- Introduction to Science
- Laboratory Safety and procedures
- Measurement and use of equipment.

#### Biological Sciences

- There are differences within and between groups of organisms; classification helps organise this diversity
- Interactions between organisms can be described in terms of food chains and food webs; human activity can affect these interactions.

#### Chemical Sciences

- Mixtures, including solutions, contain a combination of pure substances that can be separated using a range of techniques.

#### Earth and Space Sciences

- Predictable phenomena on Earth, including seasons and eclipses, are caused by the relative positions of the Sun, Earth and the Moon
- Some of Earth's resources are renewable, but others are non-renewable
- Water is an important resource that cycles through the environment.

#### Physical Sciences

- Change to an object's motion is caused by unbalanced forces acting on the object
- Earth's gravity pulls objects towards the centre of the Earth.



## Sport

### Course Description

The Sport program at St Paul's is designed to have a positive effect on each participant's confidence, self-esteem and social interaction through a program with the main emphasis on individual skill development, cooperative play and enjoyment. The program includes House Sports and Interschool Sport.

### House Activities

Each student will be allocated to a House and will then compete in a variety of activities including those listed below. Students will play these sports during the summer season (Terms 1 and 4) and a separate winter season (Terms 2 and 3).

#### Summer Sports

- Lacrosse
- Basketball
- Softball
- Tennis
- Cricket.

#### Winter Sports

- Soccer
- Netball
- Football
- Volleyball
- Table Tennis.

### Interschool Sport

In addition to House Sports, students will also be eligible to represent St Paul's in the South Eastern Independent Schools Association (SEISA) sports competitions. St Paul's enters teams in the following sports:

- Athletics
- Basketball
- Cricket
- Cross Country Running
- Football
- Netball
- Tennis
- School Skiing Championships
- Soccer
- Softball
- Sport Aerobics
- Swimming.



## 2023 Elective Subject Selection Process

In 2023, Year 7 students will undertake two elective subjects each semester, a total of four over the year. The electives listed below are available for selection. It may not be possible to give students their four preferred subjects, but every effort will be made to do so. Students are asked to select reserves just in case.

There is a requirement that students must choose at least one subject from Performing Arts and at least one subject from Visual Arts across the course of their Year 7 and 8 elective programs.

Subject selections are made online. Individual instructions will be emailed to students in due course.

### Elective Options

Students are able to choose from the following elective options in Year 7:

#### Performing Arts

- All the World's A Stage
- Music Technology and Audio Editing

#### Visual Arts

- Architecture and Design
- A Slice of Art

#### Technology

- Get Cooking
- Sweet Blocks (Hard Materials)

Please note, in Year 8 students will have the additional choices of Robotics and Musical Performance & Composition.



## Performing Arts – All the World’s A Stage

### Course Description

Would you like to know what it means to be an actor on stage, with a focus on script writing and developing an understanding of “stock characters”? In this unit, students will develop their skills in acting and scriptwriting by learning about commedia dell’arte and melodramatic performance. This is a wonderful class for students who are wishing to build on their self-confidence, as well as build stagecraft and performance skills.

### Areas of Study

- Work in a practical way with techniques of voice production
- Understand role taking, role play and role creations and demonstrate this in a practical way
- Perform cooperatively with large and small groups
- Demonstrate understanding of storytelling using verbal and/or nonverbal communication.

## Performing Arts – Music Technology and Audio Editing

### Course Description

Do you have an interest in how music can be created using different musical technologies (both hardware and software)? If so, in this unit you will learn about how the world of music is changing through the increased accessibility to computers and how audio can be recorded and manipulated through editing functions (including live audio recording and mixing).

### Areas of Study

- Compose melodies for voice and/or a selection of percussion instruments
- Use recorded sounds as musical inspiration in compositions
- Listen to, and discuss, a range of musical styles, their characteristics and traditions
- Develop and extend personal aural and musicianship skills
- Manipulate audio through editing techniques used to aid musical outcomes.



## Visual Arts – Architecture and Design

### Course Description

In this subject, students are given specific projects to learn to think creatively and to find new solutions to design problems. Students create perspective drawings, draw environments in isometric and learn the importance of rendering digitally on the computer. Students design and create 3D models using a variety of media and materials.

### Areas of Study

#### Perspective

- Students learn to draw a room interior in one-point perspective and understand the use of scale and the application of design elements and principles in their drawings.

#### Paraline Drawing Systems

- Students will learn to draw objects in a variety of drawing systems, such as oblique and isometric, and learn to apply these in various drawing exercises.

#### Illustration and Rendering Styles

- Students learn to use rendering style, through a variety of set creative illustrative tasks, to understand light and textural surfaces on objects.

## Visual Arts – A Slice of Art

### Course Description

In this subject, students embrace the 'landscape' by drawing and creating collages of the environment around them and looking at other artists who have created artworks of their surroundings. Painting allows students to learn the importance of the value of still-life objects. Students create prints with a focus on self-portraits, paying close attention to line, pattern and contrast.

### Areas of Study

#### Painting

- Students will develop skills in refined subtle colour mixing, brush layering and textured techniques
- Students will develop skills and experience in using atmospheric perspective to create depth.

#### Drawing

- Students develop their own drawing styles by experimenting with different materials
- Students will apply the art elements of texture and line to develop their work.

#### Printmaking

- Students will design work using the art elements and principles of shape and pattern
- Students will investigate a variety of different forms of printmaking.



## Get Cooking

### Course Description

Welcome to the world of food. Set yourself up to learn the valuable skill of preparing food safely, hygienically and efficiently. Be creative and present your dishes with flair to enhance their presentation. You will discover a range of cooking processes by preparing a selection of tasty recipes. Healthy eating models and sustainable food production will also be investigated.

### Areas of Study

#### Safety and hygiene

- Safe and hygienic use of tools and equipment during food preparation
- Effective and efficient work habits
- Effective communication and interpersonal skills.

#### Preparation, production and presentation techniques

- Development and demonstration of organisational skills, practical competencies and presentation techniques during food preparation
- Completion of a design task
- Development of food preparation processes.

#### Preparation, production and presentation techniques

- Sustainable food production and influences on food choices
- Food selection models – introduction to The Healthy Eating Pyramid and The Australian Guide to Healthy Eating.



## Sweet Blocks

### Course Description

Learn basic woodworking techniques such as marking and sawing accurately, whilst making small games and a treat dispenser. Activities include learning to saw accurately, nailing, using a scroll saw and using correct techniques to apply finishing products. Show your creative side by adding designs through various methods including wood burning and transfers.

### Areas of Study

#### Designing Projects

- Drawing skills
- Creative ideas
- Making objects functional
- Measurement and scale
- Shapes and strengths.

#### Working Materials: Wood

- Safety
- Marking out
- Cutting with accuracy
- Joining methods
- Finishing methods.

#### Theoretical

The course is designed to develop a student's ability to recognise their needs and research possible designs which will cater to their need. A design book is maintained which shows research and modifications made to produce a design of their own project.

#### Practical

Completion of one project: Project designed to enhance the ability and skills and students.



**St Paul's**  
ANGLICAN GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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