



Year 9

# Curriculum Handbook

Drouin Secondary College



DROUIN  
SECONDARY  
COLLEGE

# OUR VISION AND VALUES

Drouin Secondary College is committed to ensuring every student develops the knowledge, skills and behaviours needed to positively contribute as responsible and caring citizens of a changing, global community.

We believe each core value can be expressed simply in the following statements:

## ACHIEVEMENT

- We value and pursue excellence
- We encourage critical thought and questions
- We have a growth mindset
- We are risk takers and problem solvers
- We make connections between learning in different contexts

## RESPECT

- We build positive relationships
- We are not afraid to express ourselves
- We show compassion for ourselves and others

## COMMITMENT

- We value effort and endeavour
- We are resilient
- We seek joy in learning
- We seek to understand ourselves as learners

## COMMUNITY

- We build partnerships with our community
- We embrace diversity
- We help each other
- We are lifelong learners

## Principal's Message



Dear Students, Parents, Guardians and Carers,

At Drouin Secondary College we are committed to providing all students with a high-quality education which prepares them to be successful in a global community. Student learning and wellbeing are at the centre of everything we do. We emphasise the power of a strong partnership between our students, staff, parents and the local community. Drouin Secondary College prides itself on developing an enduring enthusiasm for learning, together with a strong work ethic and community spirit. Our four core values of Achievement, Respect, Commitment and Community are integral in our day-to-day life at the College.

Students should use the information within this handbook to plan their future pathway by selecting combinations of subjects that meet their interests and lead to their intended career and post-school studies at tertiary institutions. As a parent or guardian, you can assist your child with this process.

For parents, it is crucial that you discuss the options available with your child to support the selection process. An essential element of these course discussions is the consideration of all options and potential pathways through the final years of secondary education and beyond.

We wish all our students well in their course selection process and look forward to working with all our students and families in 2026.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Elizabeth Godwin'.

**Elizabeth Godwin | College Principal**

## Assistant Principal's Message



Dear Students, Parents, Guardians and Carers,

At Drouin Secondary College we offer a variety of academic programs to cater for the individual learning needs of our students. Our goal is to ensure every student who leaves Drouin, achieves a quality destination. We define a quality destination as tertiary study, apprenticeships, traineeships or employment with a long-term future. Our role as educators is to help students, with the support of their families to make choices and develop skills that will assist them to find their own fulfilling pathway.

Year 9 is an important year for our students as it is the transition year between junior and senior pathways and provides the building blocks for a successful senior school experience. The process of subject selection can be an exciting but challenging time. Students should use the information within this handbook to plan their pathway and should consider the following questions when thinking about their options:

- *What are my strengths and interests?*
- *What am I good at?*
- *What careers am I interested in?*

We always recommend opting for a course that keeps your options open. As always, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at the College or our expert Careers & Pathways Team. I wish you well in your choices.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Leokardia Lilikakis'.

**Leokardia Lilikakis | Assistant Principal**

# Year 9 Learning Programs 2026

The Year 9 program provides students with a choice of subjects to suit their individual preferences. The program encourages students to select subjects based on their interests, so to increase their engagement at school.

**Students undertake core studies in English, Health and Physical Education, Humanities, Mathematics and Science.**

Students also select a variety of Semester-based electives where they pursue their areas of interest.

Students need to choose **SIX** electives from any faculty. Students must complete three electives each semester.

*If Languages is selected it must be undertaken for the whole year period. \**

Subjects for Year 9	Classes per week
English	5
Mathematics	4
Science	3
Humanities	3
Physical Education	3
Electives	2
Electives	2
Electives	2
Learning Group	1

## Overview

English	Health/PE	Humanities	Mathematics	Science	Electives (3 x Semester)
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# Year 9 Core Subjects

## English

The Year 9 English course emphasizes on developing critical literacy skills through reading, writing, speaking and listening.

### Students will:

- Explore a variety of texts through individual, paired and collaborative learning.
- Make a range of connections with selected texts.
- Prepare and present speeches based on recent issues; as well as analyse print materials on similar issues.

## Health and Physical Education

Year 9 Health and Physical Education places great importance on several key areas including applying and transferring movement concepts and strategies to new and challenging movement situations. We explore how nutrition can promote an individuals and population overall health, the benefits of physical activity and linking various ways we can move our body, the dangers of risk-taking behaviour such as smoking, vaping and binge drinking & exploring our own personal strengths and having the tools to cope with a different range of situations.

### Students will:

- Participate within practical lessons and contribute to discussion in theory classes.
- Be able to apply theory-based learning into practical based learning.
- Investigate how to promote health and wellbeing across all dimensions of health.
- Begin to develop leadership and collaboration skills across a variety of movement challenges.

## Humanities

In Year 9 Humanities we investigate democratic processes and explore diversity and identity. As part of our studies in Geography we unpack the causes and impacts of global food security, whilst in History we analyse the causes, differing perspectives and the historical significance of events between 1750 and 1918. We also explore the intended and unintended effects of economics, explain relationships and make predictions around business trends.

### Students will:

- Examine Australia's political system and how it enables change.
- Investigate the challenges in feeding the world now and into the future.
- Analyse the different perspectives of people in the past and the causes and effects of significant historical events.
- Analyse the risk and rewards around business decisions.

## Mathematics

Mathematics provides students with essential knowledge in Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry, and Statistics and Probability.

### Students will:

- Develop mathematical, ICT and numeracy skills that address individual student pathways.
- Apply mathematical knowledge and skills to investigate, analyse and solve practical problems through problem solving.

## Science

Science generates solutions for everyday life and helps us to answer the great mysteries of the universe. This subject gives students the opportunity to answer questions that affects the world around them by using a range of experimental and research skills. Critical and creative thinking will be embedded throughout the course.

### Students will:

- Explore topics, such as biology, ecology, chemistry, electricity, magnetism and more!
- Conduct research and hands-on experiments.

# Year 9 Electives

The elective program allows students to explore a wide range of electives whilst engaging in the core subjects, allowing them to investigate their choices and strengths before committing to a senior pathway.

## Languages

### French

Year 9 French continues the cultural and language journey from Year 8. You will explore the language skills and knowledge that you have already started, and study topics that are relevant to your life, whilst discovering and comparing them to life in France and other Francophone nations.

Each unit will comprise of the core language skills; listening, speaking, reading and writing, all intertwined with culture to develop your language in authentic ways and learning the cultural links between the people and the language they speak. The class will incorporate a range of activities including, reading, writing, speaking and listening tasks, as well as games, songs, and videos designed to help you retain vocabulary and to gain valuable insight into the global community.

#### Students will:

- Explore French food and shopping.
- Compare French vs Australian lifestyle.
- Discover how to navigate the world.
- Reflect and comment on our daily routine.
- Investigate leisure and social activities.

#### Recommended Skills:

- Curious mind to expand your view of the world
- An inquisitive attitude towards new languages and skills
- A love for all things French

#### Future Pathways

- Year 10 Elective: French
- VCE French

#### Additional Information

- Course levy: \$0
- **French is a year- long elective.**

## Japanese

Japanese at Year 9 level continues to develop the skills of speaking and listening, with students being expected to create their own dialogues. The work builds on the topics introduced in Year 8, such as self-introduction, food and drinks, hobbies, and interests. Students will be introduced to an aspect of Japanese culture such as calligraphy, J-Pop music, anime/manga, cooking and much more!

#### Students will:

- Express time & daily routine
- Explore Japanese school subjects & student life in Japan
- Compare Japanese and Australian lifestyle
- Describe 4 seasons & weather in Japan
- Demonstrate shopping trends and skills

#### Recommended Skills:

- A positive and curious mind
- Willingness to explore new aspects of Japanese language and its culture
- Students should have a good understanding of Hiragana characters and to be able to demonstrate their Hiragana recognition and active use of Hiragana in writing.

#### Future Pathways

- Year 10 Elective: Japanese
- VCE Japanese

#### Additional Information

- Course cost: \$0
- This elective includes the possibility of an excursion/incursion.
- **Japanese is a year- long elective.**

## Science

# Agriculture and Horticulture

This elective aims to give you an overview of the animal and plant management skills needed to run a livestock or horticultural enterprise, become a farm manager or study Agriculture at TAFE or University.

It covers animal breeding, feeding and nutrition, disease control and management. Studies of horticulture include maintaining a vegetable garden and the study of plant management and usage. Students assist with the school's calf raising program; participate in a Cows Create Careers major project (Victoria wide) and general operation of the school farm.

Students achieve "hands on" experience with a number of farm operations including worming, vaccinating and tagging. This unit builds on the scientific learning of Year 9 Science and adds to it the study of ecosystems, photosynthesis & respiration and reproduction.

### Students will:

- Care for animals (chickens, calves and cows)
- Grow vegetables
- Participate in Practicals, excursions and incursions

### Recommended Skills:

- A love of animals
- A curious mind
- Love of the outdoors

### Future Pathways

- Year 10 Elective: Agriculture and Horticulture
- VCE Agriculture

### Additional Information

- Course cost \$0

## Forensic Science

This subject is a science elective designed to broaden students' scientific knowledge and investigative skills. In Forensic science, students develop skills through case studies with hands on investigations into DNA profiling, fingerprinting, blood spatter analysis, hair and fibre analysis and chemical and physical identification of unknown evidence. Students will learn the basics of crime scene identification and are challenged through deductive reasoning and clear-thinking exercises.

### Students will:

- Cover a range of areas including Anthropology, Fingerprinting, DNA
- Undertake Blood analysis, Hair and Fibre analysis, understand Entomology.
- Study Impressions (cast making), Forensic Psychology

### Recommended Skills:

- Investigative and problem-solving skills
- A strong stomach
- A curious mind"

### Future Pathways

- Year 10 Elective: Psychology in Action
- VCE Biology
- VCE Psychology
- VCE Chemistry

### Additional Information

- Course cost: \$0

## Humanities

### Murder and Mayhem

Do you long to lurk in the shadows and investigate the darkest corners of history's criminal past? Do you care to decode the casefiles from the world's most prolific and notorious serial killers? From Jack the Ripper to The Zodiac Killer, wade through the murky murders of the past, and comb through history's most famous murderers.

#### Students will:

- Investigate popular murder cases throughout time.
- Examine victims of murder and their characteristics.
- Explore the reasons why murderers commit these heinous offences.

#### Recommended Skills:

- A creative and curious mind.
- The capacity to think critically and engage with interesting content
- A strong stomach

#### Future Pathways

- Year 10 Elective: Law and Order
- Year 10: Humanities Historical Studies
- Year 10 Elective: Sociology
- VCE Legal Studies
- VCE Modern History
- VCE Sociology

#### Additional Information:

- Course cost: \$0
- This elective includes sensitive topics that some students might find distressing. Due to the intense nature of homicide, other related crimes and gruesome details may come up in the class. Students and parents should be aware of and comfortable with this when choosing this elective.

## The Arts

### Dance

In Dance, students learn basic choreographic devices to create their own dance routines. The 6 Body Actions and Elements of Dance are also explored. Students are also required to view and write a performance evaluation on both a professional performance and peer performances.

#### Students will:

- Create and develop dance works.
- Explore and experiment with dance choreography.

#### Recommended Skills

- Willingness to participate in practical workshops.
- Willingness to create dance routines in small groups.
- Ability to document work relevant to the practical activities.
- Ability to demonstrate an understanding of the importance of planning, rehearsal and performance works.
- An ability to work independently and in teams.

#### Future Pathways:

- Year 10 Elective: Dance
- VET Dance

#### Additional Information

- Course cost: \$0
- This is a practical subject. Students should come prepared to physically participate.
- A performance out of school hours is the main assessment and is therefore compulsory.

# Drama

In Drama students will put on a play. They study acting and develop their use of acting skills. This subject is for anyone who wants to be on the stage.

## Students will:

- Perform (act) in a play, produced in class, documenting this process.
- Begin to make directorial decisions to influence the audience
- Evaluate their performance for use of their expressive skills

## Recommended Skills:

- Willingness to participate in practical workshops and perform for an audience (after significant rehearsal time!)
- Ability to demonstrate an understanding of the importance of planning, rehearsal and performance works
- An ability to work independently and in teams

## Future Pathways

- Year 10 Elective: Drama
- VCE Drama
- VCE Theatre Studies

## Additional Information

- Course cost: \$0
- This is a practical subject. Students should come prepared to physically participate.
- A performance out of school hours is the main assessment and is therefore compulsory.
- There may be an excursion to see professional theatre. Approximate cost \$25 plus myki.

# Visual Communication & Design

Type when combined with imagery is the main source used to communicate ideas, meanings and messages. In this communication design subject you will look at typographic conventions and ways to manipulate typography to create mood or emotion. Opportunities will be given for you to explore the design elements, develop a design process, discover different layouts, various materials, methods and media in the creation of final presentations such as logos, business cards, posters such as promotion for our school production or other key DSC events.

## Students will

- Study the historical background of type and develop a subject specific vocabulary in relation to typographic anatomy and layout formats
- Understand the importance of target audiences and how they can shape the final outcome of visual communications
- Analyze and evaluate selected design movements, their characteristics and how they can be connected and linked to current print and digital presentations
- Develop a design process that explores creative thinking techniques and communication design conventions
- Produce final presentations

## Recommended Skills:

- An interest in print and digital presentations
- An eagerness to explore a range of typographic and visual alternates in order to find the most suitable outcome to a design problem
- Preparedness to create final presentations at the conclusion of a design process
- Willingness to learn about design movements and the history of typography and to analyse and evaluate.

## Future Pathways

- Year 10 Elective: Visual Communication Design
- Year 10 Elective: Media
- VCE Visual Communication & Design

## Additional Information

- Course cost: \$0

# Media

Who doesn't love films? Ever wanted to make your own?'. In this class you will explore skills and techniques to understand film production processes. The pre-production processes include studying genre, researching film, learning to write screenplays, and creating storyboards. The filmmaking process you will learn camera techniques, lighting, sound and editing processes to create your own short film.

## Students will:

- Understand Media Codes and how they are manipulated to meet audiences expectations of genre through practical workshops.
- Use and explore Adobe Premiere Pro to edit and manipulate video files.
- Create a pre-production process to develop a film that follows industry standards.

## Recommended Skills:

- An interest in film and filmmaking processes.
- A want to learn digital film design skills

## Future Pathways

- Year 10 Elective: Media
- VCE Media

## Additional Information

- Course cost \$0
- Headphones required for this course.

# Art

Students will explore artworks in various forms. Students will learn the processes involved in the creation of artworks in several different mediums. Students will maintain a sketch book recording notes, diagrams, sketches and preliminary designs related to the various topics introduced throughout the semester. A written research report will also be undertaken.

## Students will:

- Use and explore a range of artmaking practices to create artworks
- Display and curate artwork in a space to communicate emotive and decorative aesthetics
- Explore stories of other artists told through art that inspires the creation of the students own work.

## Recommended Skills:

- A willingness to explore new art methods such as mixed media
- Ability to work through the design process and ability to collaborate with others in creating displays

## Future Pathways

- Year 10 Elective: Art
- Year 10 Elective: Media
- VCE Creative Practice
- VCE Making and Exhibiting

## Additional Information

- Course cost: \$0

# Technology

## PDT STEM

"Do you like engineering and creating solutions to complex problems? Do you want to use new and interesting technologies like 3D printers, Laser printers and Electronic Wiring? Do you enjoy engineering content like electronics circuits, the physics of motion and the design process? STEM is using a problem solving and creative view to solve complex design problems!

### Students will:

- Understand Electrical Circuits, the Physics of Motion and the Design Process.
- Develop skills and knowledge around a range of new tools and technologies.
- Develop problem solving and teamwork skills in product creation.

### Recommended Skills:

- Science and Engineering skills.
- Capacity to solve engineering problems in a team.

### Future Pathways

- Year 10 Elective: Metalwork
- Year 10 Elective: Woodwork
- Year 10 Elective: PDT STEM
- VCE Product Design & Technologies
- VET Building and Construction

### Additional Information

- Course cost \$0

## PDT Metalwork

In this course you will learn the fundamentals of metal fabrication through the construction projects using various types of metal. We will learn to safely use specialized equipment including Mig, Arc and Oxygen Acetylene welding equipment, Guillotines, sheet metal folders and a wide variety of other large equipment and hand tools.

### Students will:

- Develop their skills and knowledge of the range of tools and equipment
- Design and build metal projects

### Recommended Skills:

- Creativity and Design
- Problem solving
- Willingness to learn to use new Technologies

### Future Pathways

- Year 10 Elective: PDT Woodwork
- Year 10 Elective: PDT Metalwork
- Year 10 Elective: PDT STEM
- VCE Product, Design & Technologies

### Additional Information

- Course cost \$30

# PDT Woodwork

This subject will include completing investigations, designs and planning of their productions. This investigation work will be done individually and in teams. Possible projects include Pot plant holder, coasters, chopping board, bowl, mallet and many others. You will be introduced to plenty of new hand tools, power tools and techniques. You can expect to get lots of opportunities to flex your creative muscle in this class. There is a heap of flexibility, and the work is refined to suit the individual student. The course is broken down into 75% practical and 25% theory.

## Students will:

- Develop an understanding of the product design process
- Develop skills and knowledge of the range of tools and equipment
- Research and develop an understanding of many materials
- Develop a design brief.
- Use selected tools, equipment and materials safely.
- Design a project and solve problems associated with it.

## Recommended Skills:

- Creativity and Design
- Problem solving
- Willingness to learn to use new Technologies

## Future Pathways

- Year 10 Elective: PDT Woodwork
- Year 10 Elective: PDT Metalwork
- Year 10 Elective: PDT STEM
- VCE Product, Design & Technologies
- Tradesperson

## Additional Information

- Course cost \$30

# Food Technology

## Food Around the World

Do you enjoy trying different foods from all around the world? Do you want to learn more about the cultural life of other countries? Then.... Food Around the World is for you! You will investigate foods from around the world, while developing food preparation skills and knowledge from other cultures. Focus will also be on culturally based ingredients, cooking techniques and equipment. You will be challenged with Creating Design Solutions, where you will research a country and produce a dish or meal from that country and evaluate your finished work.

## Students will:

- Develop and maintain safe and hygienic work practices
- Develop food preparation skills making dishes from across a range of cultures
- Research what exactly is our Australian cuisine
- Research of traditional recipes and cultural events and festivals across a range of cultures

## Recommended Skills:

- Basic understanding of kitchen hygiene and safety expectations.
- Time management and organisational skills.

## Future Pathways

- Year 10 Elective: Global Foods
- Year 10 Elective: Café Cuisine
- VCE Food Studies
- VET Hospitality
- Study or career in Hospitality and Nutrition

## Additional Information

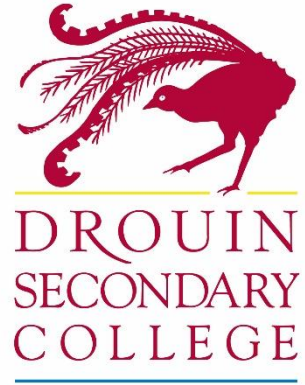
- Course cost \$100

# Food Glorious Food

Do you have an interest in fresh quality foods, and learning about a sustainable future focusing on using local fresh foods? Then... Food Glorious Food is the subject for you!" You will develop a variety of cooking techniques, as well as further knowledge on kitchen food hygiene and safety. You will be challenged with a variety of Creating Design Solutions, where you will investigate a topic or scenario, produce a dish or meal and then evaluate your finished work. You will use a range of tools and equipment and a wide variety of new and interesting ingredients to produce high quality foods.

## Students will:

- Study nutrition and the key nutrients we need for good health
- Identify foods which are grown and produced in our backyard and how we can use these in our food preparation
- Examine Food miles - how far does food travel to arrive on my dinner plate? Local produce and food miles
- Analyse current food trends across Australia, focusing on health and wellbeing, and convenience



## Contact Us

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