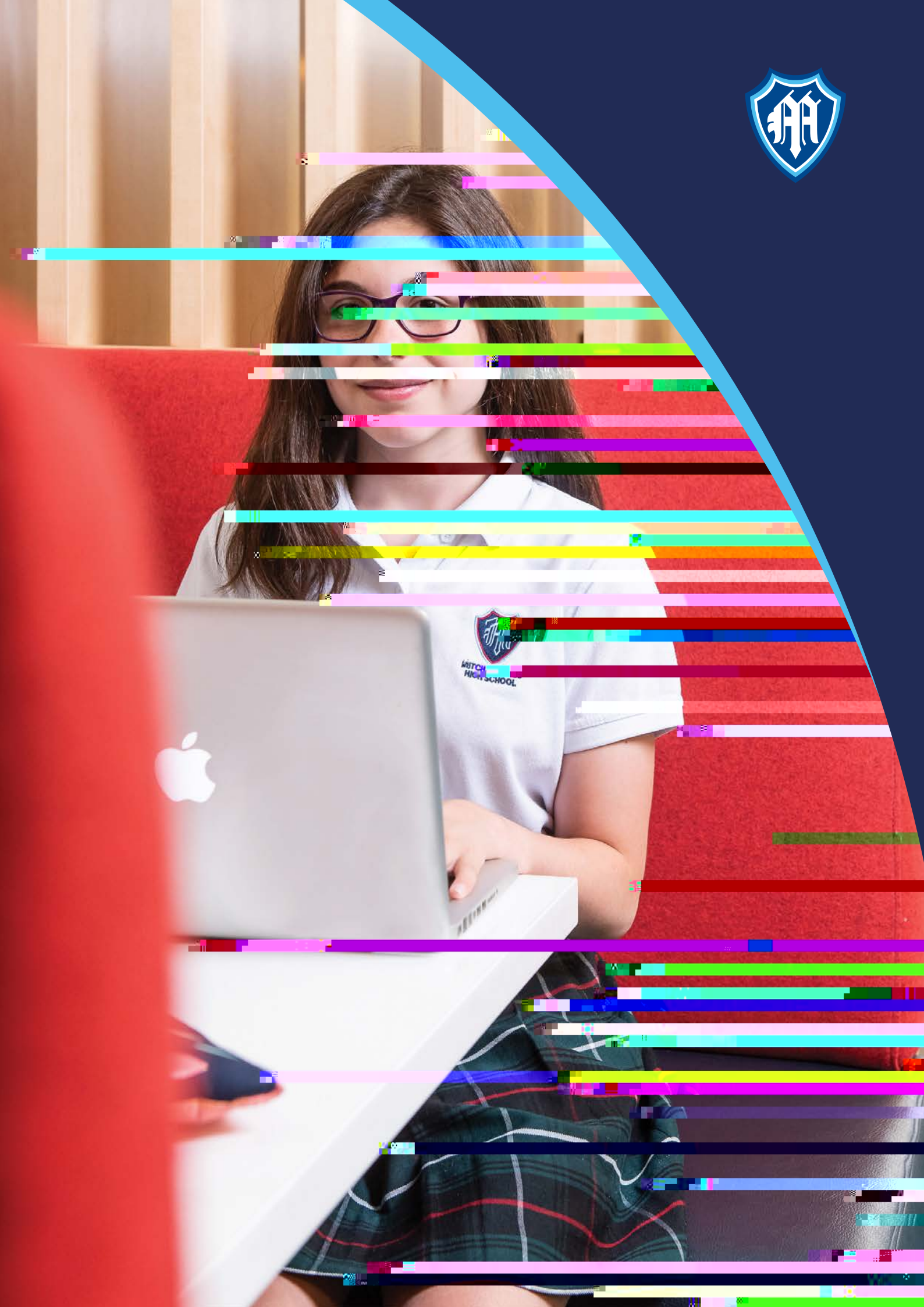

Contents

Middle School

At Mitcham Girls High School, we are committed to high quality teaching and learning so that all students can reach their personal best.

This Curriculum Guide is designed to guide students, with the support of parents, in selecting the most appropriate subjects as they progress from Year 7 to Year 12 and beyond.

The Australian Curriculum is the basis of the offerings in Year 7 to Year 10. All subjects across all Learning Areas address the 'General Capabilities and Cross Curriculum Priorities'. The General Capabilities include Literacy, Numeracy, ICT, Critical and Creative Thinking and Ethical and Intercultural Understandings. The Cross Curriculum Priorities focus on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures, Asia and Australia's Engagement with Asia, and Sustainability.

The senior secondary curriculum, the SACE (South Australian Certificate of Education), addresses the same capabilities. As students undertake the SACE, they are required to select from subject outlines and be aware of the 200-point curriculum structure and the compulsory aspects of the SACE. The compulsory requirements include achievement in literacy, numeracy, the Personal Learning Plan (PLP) and the Research Project.

When selecting subjects at Year 10, 11 and 12 students are encouraged to seek information and advice from teachers, counsellors, past students, Year Level Leaders, staff at TafeSA, the universities, Careers Centres and other post school education and training providers. The job and career guides including the SATAC (South Australian Tertiary Admission Centre) can assist in planning pathways through secondary schooling and beyond.

Informed choices should be made based on students' preferences, information delivered in Care Group sessions, subject classes, and areas of strength.

When choosing subjects, students should keep the following points in mind:

> What are my past achievements and will I enjoy studying this subject?
> Will I be challenged by this subject?
> Will this subject provide the future pathway I am interested in?
> Will the combination of subjects I choose keep my options open?

We look forward to working with students to tailor their learning to develop independent, resilient and globally aware young adults of the future.

Linda Richardson
Principal

The transferrable skills of working in teams, critical and creative thinking, problem-solving and confidence building are beneficial not only to those who aspire to a career in dance, acting, musical theatre, choreography, teaching, costume design, stage design, stage managing, directing, music performance, writing or conducting, but for all students regardless of career goals.

All Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 Performing Arts courses are designed to build on skills and knowledge to prepare students for the rigors of SACE Stage 1 and 2 Performing Arts courses.

In all Performing Arts courses, there may be opportunities to attend performances or workshops at the students' own expense.

Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 Dance

Students develop movement skills using physical strength, flexibility, coordination and balance through skill-based classes in jazz and/or contemporary technique.

Guided by a theme, they create their own movement compositions individually and in collaboration with others. They develop confidence by performing and reflecting on their own work and the work of other dancers and choreographers. Students study the requirements of safe dance practice, basic anatomy, injury prevention, and dance specific injuries. They gain an appreciation of dance from other cultures, communities and time periods.

Research and homework tasks are included in the theoretical component and participation in performances is compulsory.

GifT Dance

In Year 7, 8, 9 and 10, GifT Dance is offered to students who successfully audition for the program. Genres studied include jazz, contemporary, classical ballet, musical theatre and a cultural dance form.

Students study theoretical topics including safe dance practice and anatomy, dance in historical and contemporary contexts and choreographic processes. Participation in performances is compulsory.

SACE Stage 1 and 2 Dance

At SACE Stage 1, students study dance technique, composition, choreography, performance and the critical analysis of dance works.

At SACE Stage 2, students develop creative, technical and physical understandings and appreciation of dance as an art form.

Through the analysis of dance theatre performance, students

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Year 7, 8 and 9 Drama

Students are involved in both group and individual performance to develop a wide range of skills including improvisation and communicating a character on stage through the interpretation of play scripts and play building. They also learn about off stage roles which may include lighting, sound, costume and set design.

Students discuss and reflect on their own performances, and how others express dramatic ideas through performance and design. They are assessed on skills, knowledge and understanding in practical and written tasks.

Year 10 Drama

At Year 10, students begin to develop independent skills as theatre makers – students will plan, rehearse and perform a dramatic work as a class ‘company’, taking on various roles to get the production to the stage or screen. Students will also learn how to analyse their dramatic and creative choices and/or the creative choices of others through reflective practices.

SACE Stage 1 and 2 Drama

At Stage 1, students plan, rehearse and perform a dramatic work. They write and perform or design a production based on an investigation into a dramatic innovator or a style of drama. Students learn how to analyse their own dramatic and creative process, performance outcomes and the creative choices of

The transferrable skills of working in teams, critical and creative thinking, problem-solving and confidence building are beneficial not only for those who aspire to a career in the Visual Arts, Graphic Design, Arts/Humanities, Science, Technology, Engineering, Architecture, Industrial Design or other related pathways, but for all students regardless of career goals.

Year 7, 8 and 9 Visual Arts

Year 7 and 8 students can choose to study Visual Arts gaining experience with a wide range of art materials to create drawings, prints, paintings, sculptures and other art works.

In Year 9, students hone their skills in portraiture, painting and pottery. They are introduced to ‘Design Thinking’ and creative problem solving in a Graphic Design based task.

In all Visual Arts courses, students discuss and write about their own work and that of other artists, to learn about how they express their ideas. They are assessed on their skills, knowledge and understanding in practical and written tasks.

All Year 7, 8 and 9 courses in Visual Arts equip students with the skills and knowledge to achieve success in SACE Stage 1 and 2 Visual Arts courses. It is recommended that if students wish to pursue this course of study in Year 11 and 12 that they

Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 English

Students engage with a variety of texts to develop an understanding of how texts differ in style, form, purpose and audience. They also develop a critical understanding of contemporary media texts and the ways they target particular audiences. Students complete a variety of tasks that involve listening, reading, writing, viewing, speaking and creating a range of texts.

Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 EAL

In order to study EAL, English must be an additional language or dialect for the student.

Students in EAL study both fiction and non-fiction texts, acquiring skills in listening, reading, analysis and communication. They participate in structured activities, learning how to interact,

SACE Stage 1 and 2 EAL

SACE EAL subjects focus on the development and use of skills and strategies in communication, comprehension, research, language and text analysis, and text creation. Students explore information, opinions and experiences through writing and speaking in a range of contexts. Students analyse personal, social and cultural perspectives presented in texts.

Both Stage 1 and 2 EAL are available to students who speak

Health & Physical Education

Year 7 and 8

Students complete a compulsory full year of Health and PE in Year 7 and 8. Throughout these years, students will develop their fitness, skills and coordination in a range of sports including:

> Swimming
> Gymnastics
> Baseball
> Athletics
> AFL
> Soccer
> Badminton
> Netball
> Fitness

Within Health, students develop their knowledge in a number of topics including nutrition, mental health, relationships, sexual health, healthy choices and wellbeing.

Year 9 and 10

Students complete one compulsory semester of Health and Physical Education in Year 9 and 10. Throughout these years, students will develop their fitness, skills and coordination in a range of sports including:

> Fitness
> Volleyball
> Football codes
> Basketball

Within Health, students develop their knowledge in several topics including fitness, mental health, alcohol and other drugs and sexual health.

Year 9 Physical Education – Extension

This course is designed for students who are particularly interested in Physical Education and prepares students for SACE stage 1 and 2 PE. Students develop their skills and performance in a variety of negotiated practical sports. Students develop their knowledge and understanding of theory topics including biomechanics, energy systems and skill

SACE Stage 2 Physical Education

Through Physical Education, students explore the participation in and performance of human physical activities. It is an experiential subject in which students explore their physical capacities and investigate the factors that influence and improve participation and performance outcomes, which lead to greater movement confidence and competence.

Evidence of learning is demonstrated through:

> Assessment Type 1: Diagnostics – weighting 30%
> Assessment Type 2: Improvement Analysis – weighting 40%
> Assessment Type 3: Group Dynamics – weighting 30%

SACE Stage 1 Health and Wellbeing

Students investigate factors that shape the behaviours and attitudes of individuals and groups in relation to health and wellbeing. They develop skills to consider and recognise how social structures, community values, environmental issues and new technologies affect the health and wellbeing of individuals and communities.

Evidence of learning is demonstrated through:

> Practical Action (mental health and health behaviours among adolescents)
> Issue Inquiry

SACE Stage 2 Health and Wellbeing

Students develop the knowledge, skills, and understandings required to explore and analyse influences and make informed decisions regarding health and wellbeing. They consider the role of health and wellbeing in various contexts and explore ways of promoting positive outcomes for individuals, communities, and global society.

Key focus areas students investigate include:

> Health Promotion in the Community
> Current health trends and issues
> Health and Environment
> Health and Relationships
> Risks and Challenges to Health

Evidence of learning is assessed through:

> Initiative (Individual Practical Initiative and Group Investigation and Presentation)
> Folio (Global Health task and Issues Analysis)
> Inquiry

SACE Stage 1 Child Studies

Students focus on the growth and development of children from conception to 8 years and look at issues related to the growth, health and wellbeing of children. Students critically examine the diverse range of values and beliefs about childhood and the care of children and the nature of contemporary families.

This subject enables students to develop a variety of research, management and practical skills.

SACE Stage 2 Child Studies

Students in Year 12 focus on attitudes and values about parenting/caregiving and gain

Languages French or Italian

In years 7 and 8 students study either French or Italian. In years 9 to12, students may elect to continue either French or Italian as a full year choice subject. Students who successfully complete study in Years 7 to 10 are encouraged to undertake languages as part of their SACE studies. Students studying languages in Years 9 to 11 purchase Education Perfect, a study program used in all classes. In addition, all Language students will need to bring earphones/headphones to all language lessons.

Year 7

Students begin their studies of French or Italian with an emphasis on listening, speaking, reading and writing. Studies in this area include: introducing ourselves, school and family. Cultural units of learning underpin broader understanding of Global Citizenship making connections between our diverse cultures. This is achieved in a variety of ways, using both English and the language being studied. Students access the online learning activities program Education Perfect as an essential part of their study.

Year 8

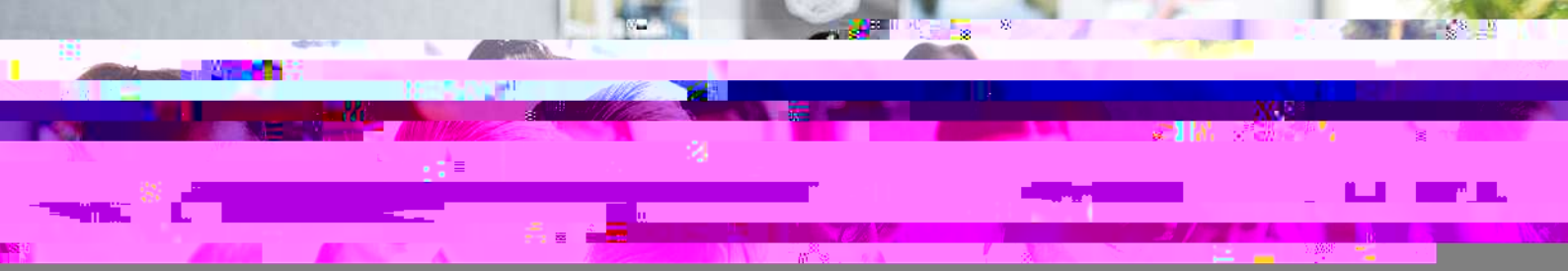
The French and Italian courses in Year 8 focus on further developing students' knowledge, skills and understanding in the areas of reading, writing, viewing, speaking and creating in either French or Italian. Studies in this area include weather, shopping and pastimes. Students have the opportunity to participate in cultural activities related to celebratory days and festivals, National days and film festivals. Students access the online learning activities program Education Perfect as an essential part of their study.

Year 9

Students undertake a full year of study, building upon the foundation skills of spoken, written and creative language developed during Years 7 and 8. Students engage with several text types including plays, songs, poems, stories and conversations. Students also focus on the cultural aspects of either Italian or French society. Studies in this area include fashion, health and nutrition, home, family and festivals. This may involve some excursions or in-school activity work with a small fee associated with the task.

Year 10

Language study involves the continuation of the core forms of written, spoken and creative tasks whilst greater emphasis is placed upon written and spoken response work. Studies in this area may include technology and social media, the environment and migration, all topics relevant to current concerns. Students engage with texts more deeply to discuss and analyse the language and cultural significance of the texts studied. Film study, including analysis, is also introduced at this year level. Students are encouraged to participate in the competitive ACER and Education Perfect activities available to them. This occurs in both written and spoken examination formats.



Mathematics

Year 7, 8 and 9 Mathematics

Year 7, 8 and 9 Mathematics are compulsory full year subjects in each year level. Throughout these years, students develop skills in the three substrands of ‘Number and Algebra’, ‘Measurement and Geometry’ and ‘Statistics and Probability’. Wherever possible, the learning is linked with other curriculum areas and focussed on inquiry or problem-based-learning so students see the ‘bigger picture’ and importance of maths when solving a wide range of

Science

Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 Science

Students develop an understanding of scientific theories and concepts used in a real-world context. Using an inquiry approach, students utilise practical skills to design scientific investigations to further develop their understanding of scientific concepts, in preparation for further study in Science. They also develop STEM skills through a project-based learning approach.

Students study a range of topics including:

Year 7

> Introduction to the Laboratory/ Scientific Skills
> Earth and Space
> Chemical Change
> Forces and Simple Machines
> Living Diversity and Classification
> Separating Mixtures
> Solving Real World Problems
> Water

Year 8

> States of Matter
> Elements, Compounds and Mixtures
> Energy Transfers and Transformations
> Rocks and The Rock Cycle
> Alternative Energy
> Cells, Tissues, Organs and Systems

Year 9

> Body Systems (responding to external stimuli)
> Sound, Light and Electrical Energy
> Atoms and Nanotechnology
> Chemical Reactions of Acids and Bases
> Geological processes (Natural Hazards and Disasters)
> Natural Radioactivity
> Ecology and Nature's Cycles

Year 7 and 8 students are also involved in developing projects for the Oliphant Science Awards.

Year 9 and 10 students have the opportunity to be involved in Rotary's Science and Engineering Challenge.

Year 10

In Year 10, students focus on Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Psychology in order to prepare them for Year 11 and 12 and to help them make more informed choices as they move further into the SACE.

Topics include:

Physics

> Motion
> Energy Transformations and Efficiency

Chemistry

> Periodic Table
> Chemical Reactions

Biology

> Genetics
> Evolution

Earth & Space Sciences

> Earth Cycles and Global Systems
> Big Bang Theory and The Universe

Psychology

> Introduction to Psychology

SACE Stage 1 and 2 Biology

Students investigate the effect and use of bacteria and their impact on our lives now and in the future. They also look at the need for biodiversity and maintaining the health of ecosystems.

Students study genetic engineering practices and gain an understanding of the changes in gene manipulation.

Students design and conduct biological investigations and gather evidence from their investigations. As they explore a range of biology related issues, students recognise that the body of biological knowledge is constantly changing and increasing through the application of new ideas and technologies.

This is a practical-based subject which introduces students to the following biological concepts:

> Cell Parts and Function
> Ecosystems and Biodiversity
> Immune Systems – Microbes and Disease
> Body Systems

Stage 2 Biology students learn about organisms and their surroundings. They look at the chemicals used and built within the cells and the functions and types of cells in complex multicellular organisms. Students then look at how these cells work together in systems within an organism, finishing with how organisms have evolved and adapted to their changing environments, or died out in the process.

Students design and conduct biological investigations and gather evidence from their investigations from topics including DNA and Proteins, Cells – Structures and Functions, Homeostasis and Evolution.

SACE Stage 1 and 2 Chemistry

Students study matter that makes up materials and the properties, uses, means of production and reactions of these materials. The course includes a critical study of the social and environmental impact of materials and chemical processes.

Students consider how human beings make use of the Earth's resources and the impact of human activity on the environment. Through practical studies, students develop investigation skills and an understanding of the physical world that enables them to be questioning, reflective and critical thinkers.

Click here to go to the Science Curriculum Sequence Chart

This full year practical-based subject introduces students to the concepts of Chemistry through a study of the following topics:

> Bonding
> Chemical Reactions
> Materials
> Stoichiometry
> Organics
> Electrochemistry
> Polymers

Stage 2 Chemistry is organised so that each intended student learning outcome is related to a key chemical idea or concept within topics. Through the study of these key ideas and concepts, students develop their chemistry investigation skills.

Topics:

> Monitoring the Environment
> Managing Chemical Processes
> Organic and Biological Chemistry
> Managing Resources

SACE Stage 1 and 2 Physics

Students have opportunities to understand and appreciate the natural world. As well as applying knowledge to solve problems, students develop skills in experimentation, investigation design, collection of information and communication through practical and other learning activities. Students gather evidence from experiments and acquire new knowledge through their own investigations and research.

In this full year SACE Stage 1 course, students further develop their understanding of interactions that occur in the universe through the following topics:

> Motion
> Sound and Light
> Force
> Nuclear Physics
> Electromagnetism
> Energy

Stage 2 Physics requires the interpretation of physical phenomena through a study of motion, electricity and magnetism, and light and matter.

As well as applying knowledge to solve problems, students develop skills in experimentation, investigation design, collection of information and communication through practical and other learning activities.

SACE Stage 1 and 2 Psychology

Students are enabled to understand their own behaviours and the behaviours of others, as it has direct relevance to their personal lives. Psychological knowledge can be applied to improve outcomes and the quality of experience in various areas of life, such as education, relationships, child rearing, employment and leisure.

Psychology builds on the scientific method by involving students in the collection and analysis of data. By emphasising evidence-based procedures (i.e. observation, experimentation and experience) students develop useful skills in analytical and critical thinking and in making inferences.

In SACE Stage 1, students study:

> Cognitive Psychology
> Neuropsychology
> Lifespan Psychology
> Emotion
> Psychological Wellbeing
> Psychology in Context

In SACE Stage 2, topics include:

> Psychology of the Individual
> Psychological Health and Wellbeing
> Organizational Psychology
> Social Influence
> The Psychology of Learning

SACE Stage 2 Scientific Studies

Students develop the skills and abilities to explain scientific phenomena, and to draw evidence-based conclusions from the investigation of science-related issues. In this way, students develop scientific knowledge and skills to support them in their future, including career pathways that are science-related, and everyday life in a world shaped by science and technology.

Students investigate at least one issue in science of personal, social or environmental relevance. They learn to pose questions about the world around them. They use their observations and gather data and information to generate evidence and test scientific claims.

Students have the opportunity to investigate areas of interest and are involved within J0and tes(prac

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SACE Stage 2 Technologies

Business Innovation

Students learn, explore and develop the tools to undertake theoretical and practical solutions to businesses who are ether starting or already established. They develop skills in decision-making and project management, financial literacy and information management, innovation and the understanding of global, local, and digital perspectives.

Digital Media

This course provides a pathway for students who have studied Stage 1 Digital Media. Students can choose either photography, graphic design, web-design, film or multi-media as the context for their major project. They select the most relevant and appropriate techniques to effectively communicate their projects. Students have the option to produce a range of different media products using industry standard software.

Food & Hospitality

VET courses are available to Year 10, 11 and 12 students as Taster courses, Prevocational (Certificate 1 level), and Skills clusters (Units packaged at Cert II or III only) in a variety of industry areas. These courses are available at TAFESA, private RTO's, and Department for Education RTO's.

Flexible Industry Pathways (FIPS) which are Industry Skills Council endorsed are available to Year 10, 11 and 12 students in various ways: cadetships, traineeships, or full courses, dependent on the industry.

Year 9 Curriculum

Students in Year 9 study subjects from the Australian Curriculum. They need to complete 14 units of study across the year. This

Senior School

Years 10, 11 and 12

Expectations of Senior Students

Students:

> are expected to do a minimum of 1 to 2 hours of homework each night, depending on year level

> are expected to be committed to their studies and show initiative in order to attain success

> are expected to use diaries or other electronic means for the recording of homework, deadlines and tests

> must follow the school and SACE Board deadline policies for completing and handing in work

> must take more responsibility for the planning and completion of all work.

Subject Selection at Year 10

Students in Year 10 move from the Middle School to the Senior School with a focus on preparing for the South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE). They need to complete 14 units of study across the year. They need to complete

Year 10 Curriculum

Compulsory Subjects *	SACE Credits
English or English as an Additional Language (EAL) – Full Year	N/A
Health and Physical Education – 1 Semester	N/A
History – 1 Semester	N/A
Mathematics A & B or Mathematics 10A A & B – Full Year	N/A
Science – Full Year	N/A
SACE Personal Learning Plan (PLP)	10 Credits

Year 10 Choice Subjects *	SACE Credits
Creative Arts	N/A
Dance A	N/A
Dance B	N/A
GifT Dance A, B & C (replaces 1 semester of compulsory H&PE)	N/A
Design and Technologies A	N/A
Design and Technologies B	N/A
Digital Technologies A	N/A
Digital Technologies B	N/A
Drama A	N/A
Drama B	N/A
Engineering A	N/A
Engineering B	N/A
Fashion and Textiles	N/A
Food Technologies A	N/A
Food Technologies B	N/A
French A & B (studied for a full year – 2 units)	N/A
Health	N/A
Italian A & B (studied for a full year – 2 units)	N/A
Mathematics 10A C	N/A
Musical Theatre	N/A
Music A & B (studied for a full year – 2 units)	N/A
Physical Education – Extension	N/A
Visual Arts – Art A	N/A
Visual Arts – Art B	N/A
Visual Arts – Design A	N/A
Visual Arts – Design B	N/A
Visual Arts – Photography	N/A

Senior School

Year 12 Curriculum

Compulsory Subjects	SACE Credits	Units
Independent Study	N/A	6

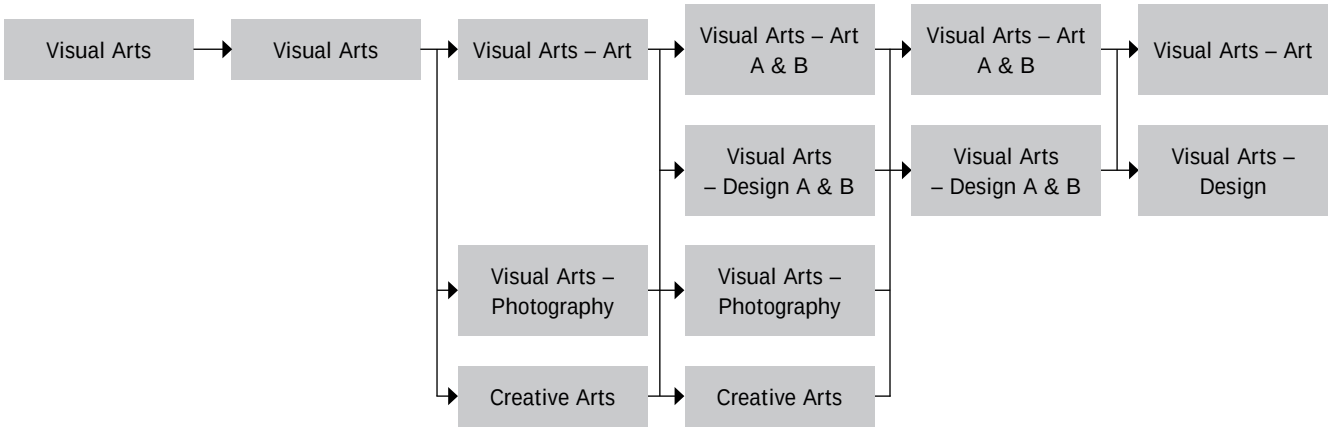
Year 7 – 12 Subject Costs

Curriculum Sequence Charts

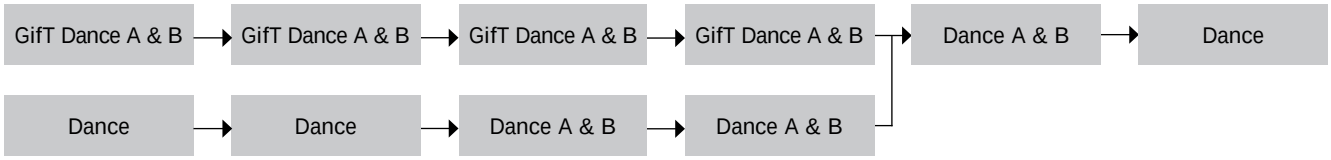
Arts

YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10	STAGE 1	STAGE 2

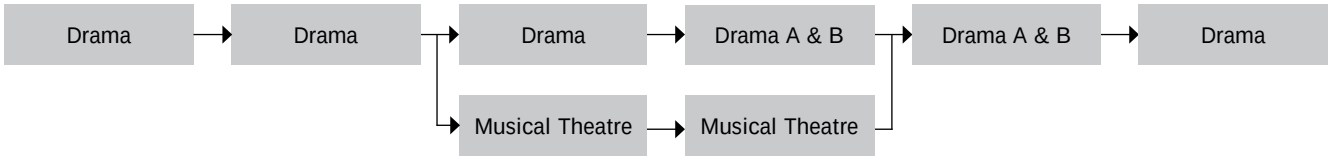
Art



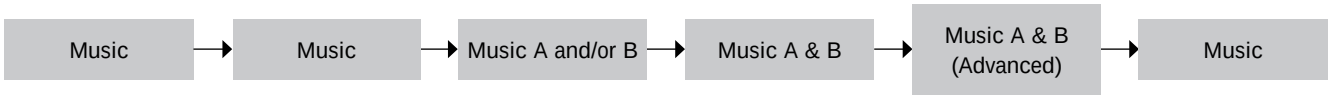
Dance



Drama



Music



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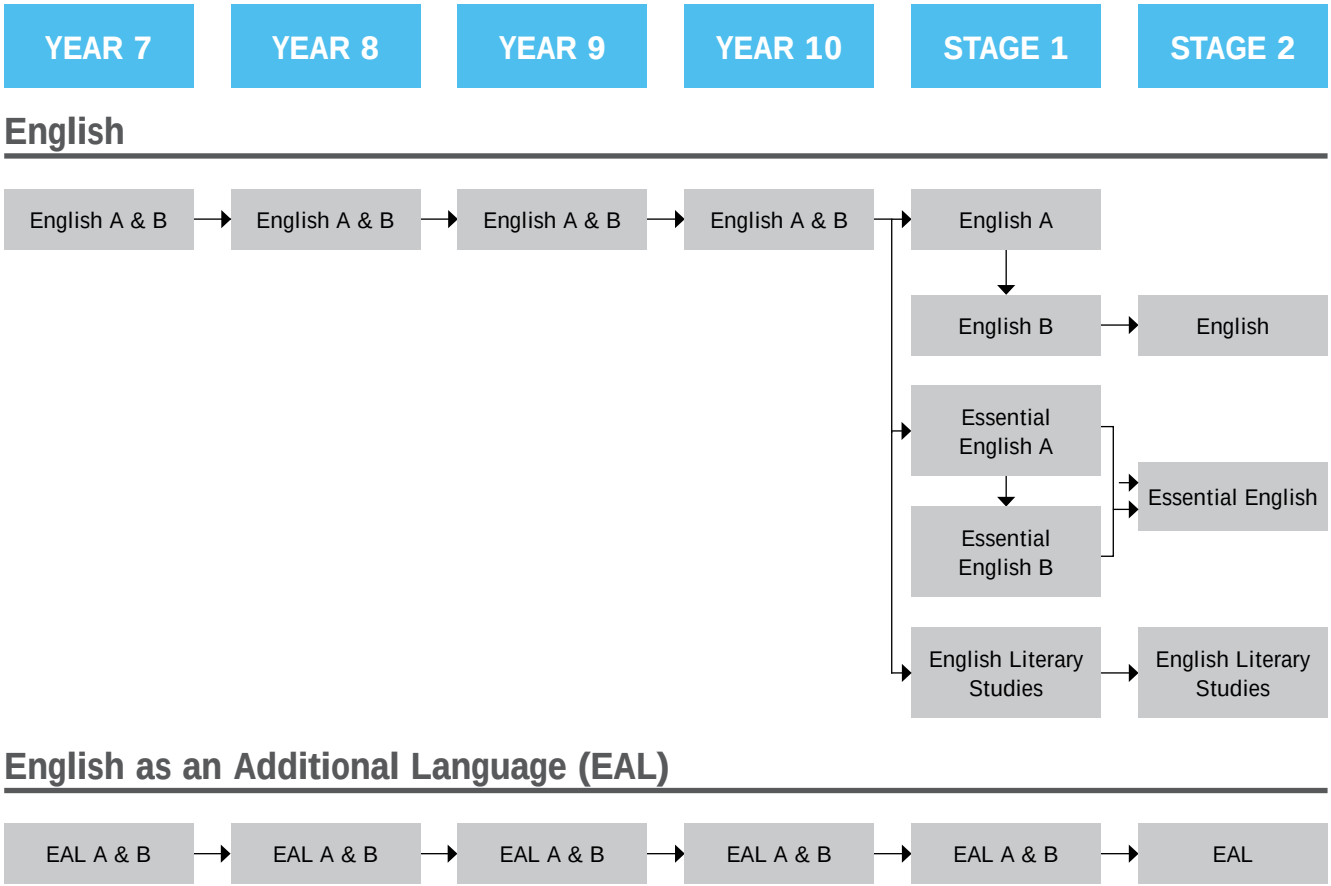
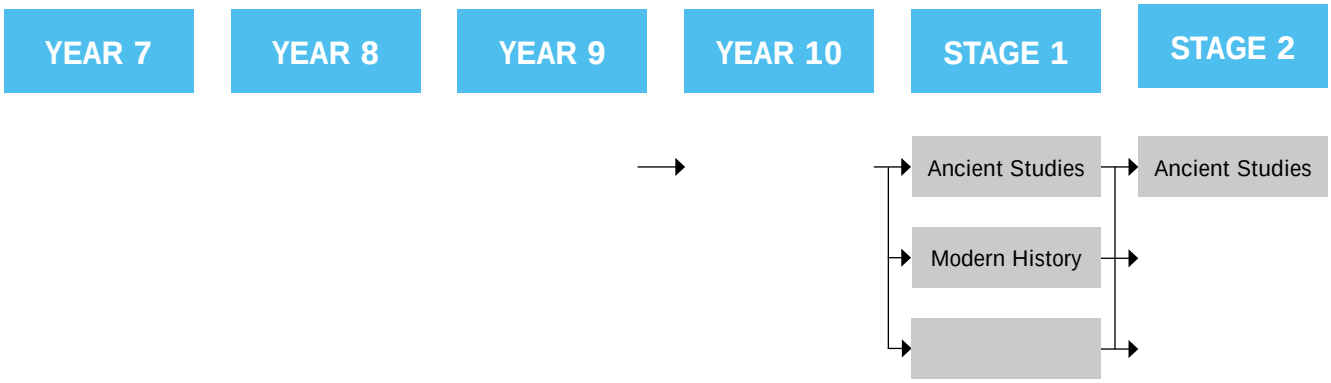
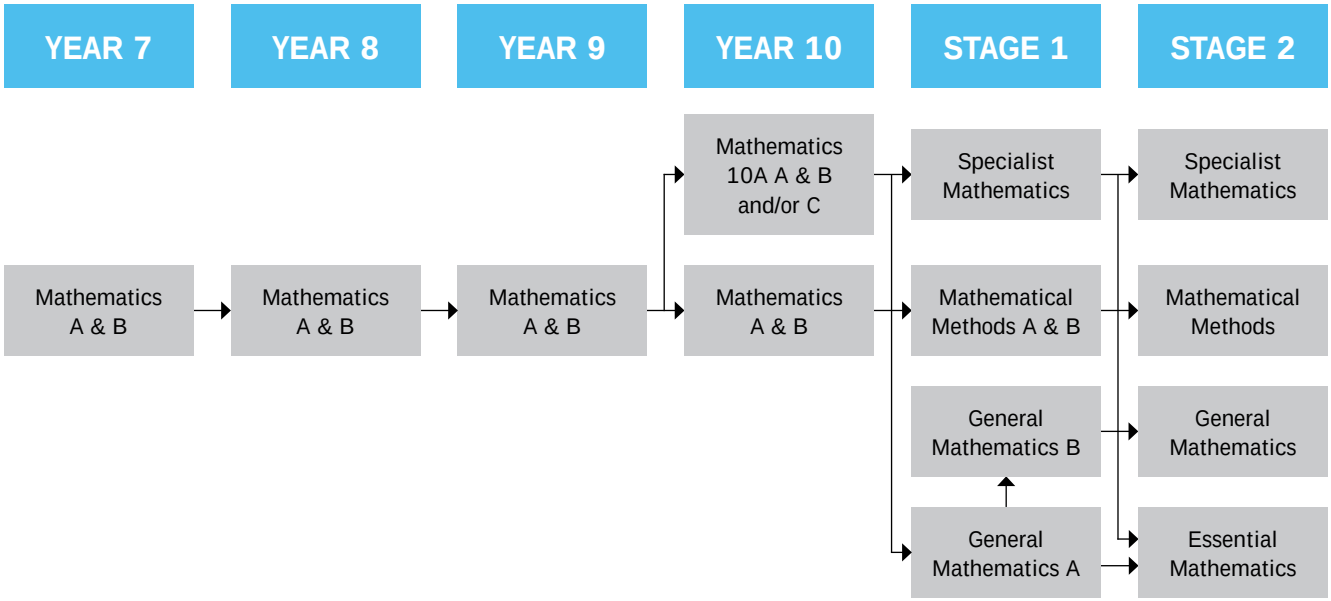
English



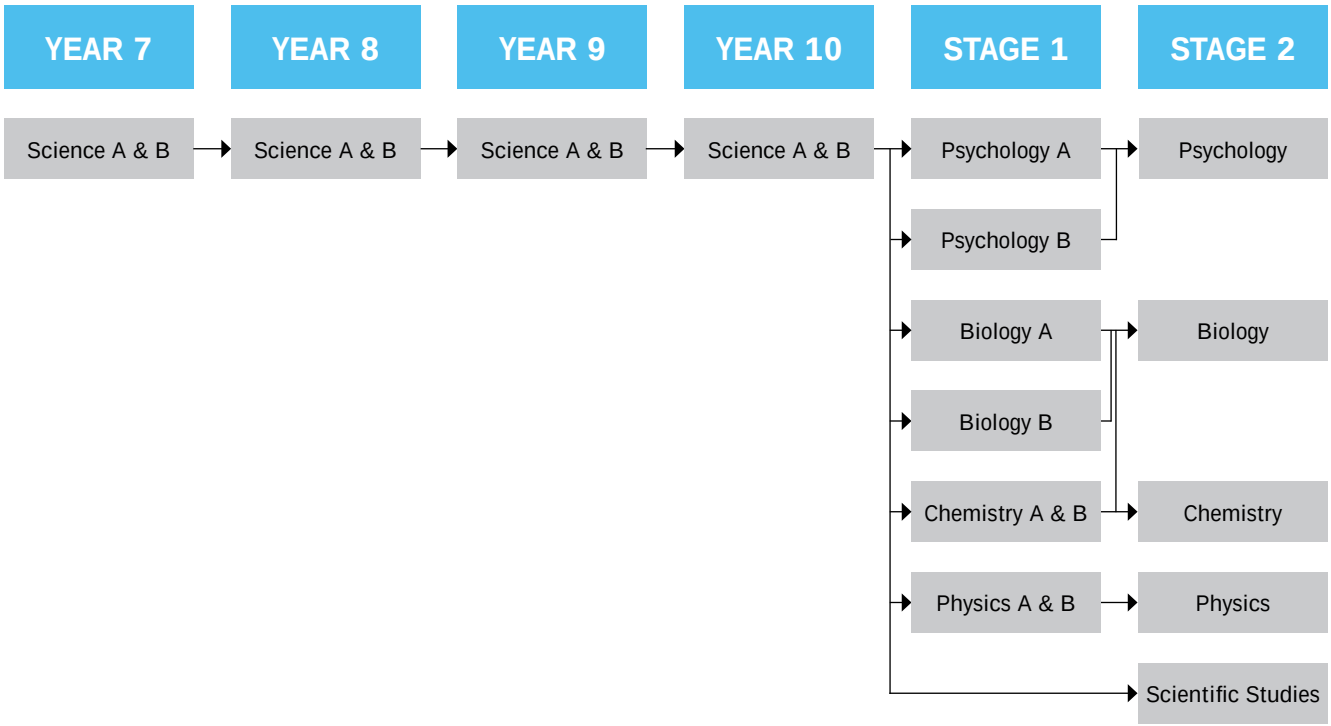
Humanities & Social Sciences (HASS)



Mathematics



Science



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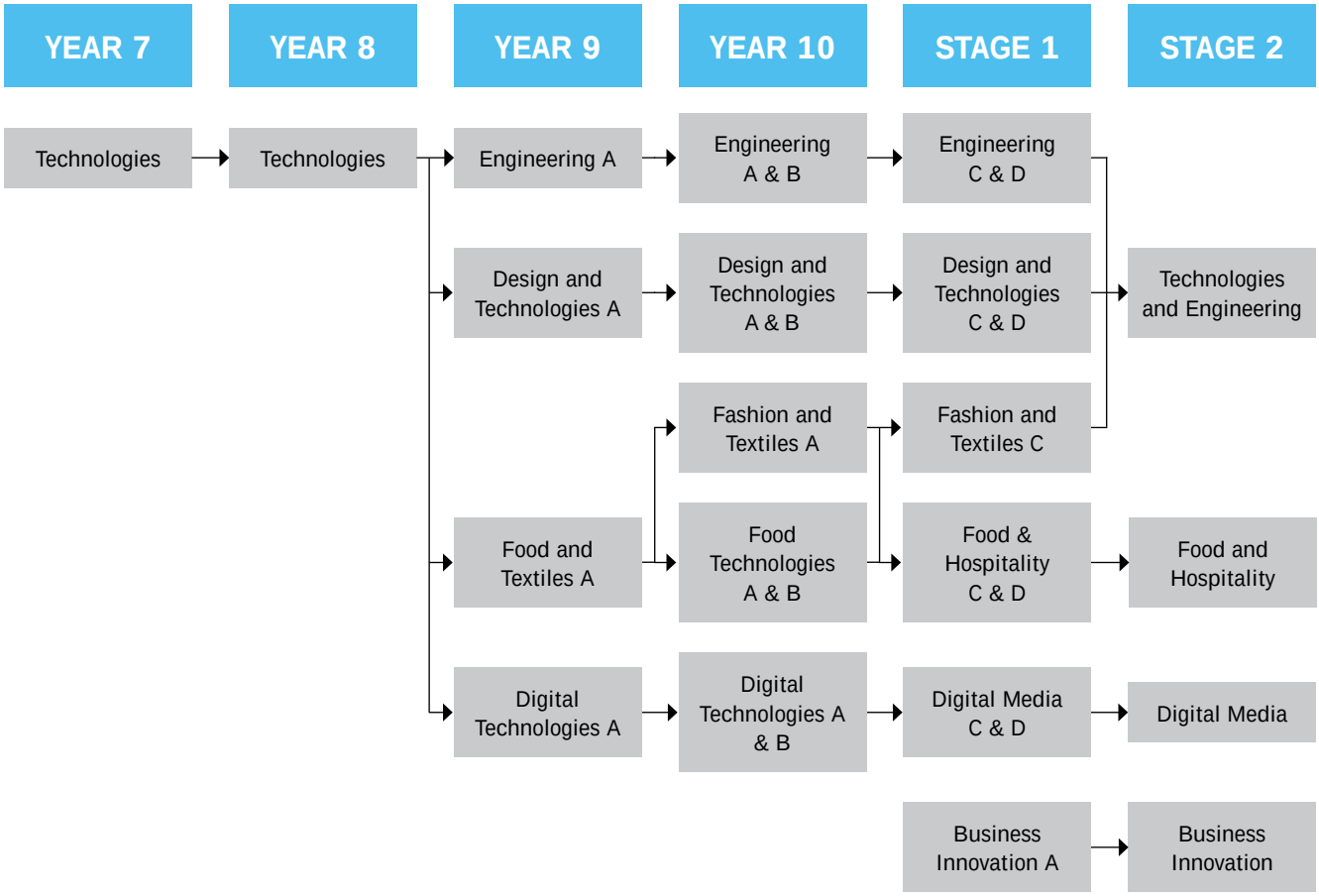
Curriculum Sequence Charts

Technologies



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Department for