Curriculum Information Session

YEAR 8
2015

Decision time Year 9 2016
Stages of Learning

- **Stage 4 - Years 7 and 8**
- **Stage 5 - Years 9 and 10**
  (Yr 10 - 1x Acc Prelim)
- **Stage 6 - Year 11 and 12**
Mandatory BOS Requirements
Stage 5

- **English, Mathematics and Science** in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10. By the end of Year 10 all students must complete 400 hours in each of these subjects.

- **Human Society and Its Environment (HSIE)** – In Stage 5 (Years 9-10) all students study 100-hours each of Australian History and Australian Geography. (Humanities and Social Science)

- **Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE)** - All students study PDHPE in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10. By the end of Year 10 all students must complete 300 hours of PDHPE.

- A minimum of 1 elective study of 200 hrs.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course / Subject</th>
<th>Yr 9 2016</th>
<th>Yr 10 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>periods/ fortnight</td>
<td>Periods fortnight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>English</strong></td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Mathematics</strong></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Science</strong></td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>History</strong></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Geography</strong></td>
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<td><strong>PDHPE</strong></td>
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<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>200 hour elective</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>100 hour elective</strong></td>
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<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Academic Enrichment - Inquiry Based Learning</strong></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Accelerated Course</strong></td>
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<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Careers</strong></td>
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<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sport</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td>56</td>
<td>56</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Future Pathways

- **Year 10** – mandatory studies
  - 1 x 200 hr elective study
  - 1 x accelerated Preliminary course

- **Year 11** – completion of 2 Units of accelerated HSC course
  - 10 units - 5 other Preliminary HSC courses

- **Year 12** – Completion of a minimum of 10 Units of HSC courses

- More detail on this will be shared as students progress through the relevant stages of learning
Academic Enrichment

Inquiry Based Learning

- Creative by design
- Students will study their area of passion / essentially every student gets their first elective choice.
- Problem finding
- Point in time resolutions
Building skills for high achieving stage 6 learners

- Major project works
  - English Extension
  - Geography
  - History
  - Textiles
  - Drama
  - Music
  - Community and Family
  - Society and Culture
  - Business Studies
  - Visual Arts

- Independent Research
  - Physics, Chemistry
  - Biology, Earth and Environmental Science
Academic Enrichment

4 distinct modules

- Skill development academic writing and ethics in research. Learning styles, intelligences and strengths
- Research skills - the driving question as a basis for innovation
- Empirical, quantitative and social reasoning through a case study analysis of real world problems and resolutions. Point in time project management techniques.
- Independent problematic research task, through to a full presentation.
How is this different?

- Real world problematic knowledge with high standards of academic rigour.
- Collaborative group work → Independent Research
- External display of work – Experts, Peers, parents, Yr 8
- Designed to further develop skills for advancement into stage 6 learning projects.
- Knowledge integration across the curriculum.
- Teachers from a cross faculty team supporting as project facilitators.
- Recognised and graded on the BOS - ROSA credential
Tightly Scaffolded Learning

Students will:
- Be taught skills in project management
- Provided resources to assist and guide them in their journey
- Be held accountable to project milestones along the way

This will involve:
- Explicit teaching
- Guided Project Teams
- Mentored Individual Projects
The value of choice

- Choice in curriculum enhances student learning outcomes

  engagement
  relevance
  Significance
  Passion
  Talents
  Extension
  challenge
Decision Time

- Responsibility
- Opportunity
- Success
- Feedback
- Partnership
- 21st century
- Enjoyment
- Early commencement - GAT
Wise course Selections

- Consider your strengths / Academic profile
- NEEDS
- INTERESTS
- ABILITIES

- Select courses you like or think you would enjoy studying
Don’t select a course because.....

• Your friends are doing that course

• It is rumoured to not involve a great deal of work

• Mum / Dad / Brother / Sister / someone, did that course
Courses to be offered

- Commerce
- Design and Technology
- Drama
- Food Technology
- French
- Geography
Courses ....

- History
- Industrial Technology – Engineering
- Information and Software Technologies
- International Studies
- Japanese
- Music
Courses ....

- Photographic and Digital Media
- Physical Activity and Sport Studies
- Textiles Technology
- Visual Arts
- Visual Design
What courses will run?

- This depends on your selections.

- The number of students selecting a course determines whether or not the course is included as part of the line structure.

- Original choices are critical.
Line Pattern is NOT predetermined.

At Merewether High School, student choice determines the curriculum.
Class Sizes?

- How many students need to select a course before it will run?

- At this point we don’t know, our existing resources will allow us to run approximately 8 classes. Some may be full classes of 30 meaning that others are able to run with less students.
If your selections are compatible

If your selections are NOT compatible

We will meet with you and discuss a suitable selection from the established line pattern.
Elective Course Fees.

Expectation

Course fees will be paid

Programs must be resourced to operate effectively

Any issues – confidential contact with the Principal
Student Success.....

- Good course selection
- Effort and application
Personal Best

KEEP CALM AND AIM FOR PERSONAL BEST
Process for subject selection

- After reading the booklet, asking questions and discussing with your family

- Please select 1 x 100hr elective (to be studied in Year 9 only)

Above the line

- Please select 1 x 200hr elective (to be studied in Year 9 and Year 10)

Below the line
Further Details …

- Selection sheet (last page of booklet) has been issued to students

- Student selections require a parent signature

- Selections to be returned to school by 14th August to the box outside Mr Kelty’s office.
Head Teachers

- HT's are now available to answer course specific questions in K Block and the Library this evening

- Mr E Kelty (Administration)
- Ms K Sutherland (CAPA)
- Mrs E Comey (English)
- Mr S Gibb (Humanities)
- Mr N Glover (ICT/Languages)
- Mr D Singh (Mathematics)
- Ms R Morrison (PDHPE)
- Mr S Smith (Science)
- Mrs L Burnett (Social Sciences)
- Mrs V McCudden (Technology)
Subject Information Evenings: Faculty Locations

KC6
CAPA (Creative and Performing Arts)

KC5
PD HEALTH PE

KC4
TAS (Technology and Applied Studies)

KC3
HUMANITIES

KC2
SOCIAL SCIENCES

ICT
Languages

LIBRARY
Thank you for coming

[Image of children outdoors with a teacher]

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