

ASQUITH BOYS HIGH SCHOOL



ELECTIVE COURSE BOOKLET

An Information Package for Students

Entering Year 8 in 2024

Exceptional Learning Opportunities for Boys

Dear Students and Parents of Year 7,

This information booklet contains all the information that you require to make the correct elective subject choice for next year.

For Year 7 this subject selection process is important as it is the first opportunity for you to pursue a subject/elective of your choice at Asquith Boys High School.

I would also like to share some important considerations with respect to your subject selection. It is important to consider two factors when electing your subject. I believe that you should select the course that **you are good at** and **enjoy**. 'Success equals success and enthusiasm creates interest'. So, it is important to explore the opportunities that are available to you in Year 8.

I also have two strong recommendations on how **not** to select subjects. Your subject choices **should not** be based on:

- what your friends are choosing – they may not end up in the same class and their interest may not be the same as yours, and
- who you think the teacher may be – as that can all change.

It is important to select correctly when you submit your choices, as this will enable us to map the best possible pattern of study that we can for you. Ideally, creating a broad and extensive pattern of electives for you – with a broad range of creative, academic and practical opportunities. Year 8 is an important educational development and building block, and while the subject that you elect now does not necessarily bind your future pattern of study for you in Year 9 and 10 or the HSC, it can have an influence.

Thank you for continuing your studies at Asquith Boys High School with all the wonderful teachers and subjects that are available to you. We look forward to you transitioning successfully to Year 8, and continuing your education journey and academic success next year.

Regards,
Bryce Grant
Principal

Information for Parents and Students

The elective subjects have been designed to offer dynamic and practical learning experiences suited to the needs and interests of boys, which may not be available elsewhere in the Year 8 curriculum.

In the elective subjects, Year 8 students will build on the creative thinking and planning processes started in Year 7. They will further develop their creative thinking skills and have the opportunity to work in collaborative teams around a number of activities. As well as contributing to group projects as part of their course work, students will also complete one Personal Interest Project (PIP) within their chosen subject.

The electives offered for 2024 will be:

Creative Technology Design (\$20 course fee)

Drama (\$20 course fee)

Football Development Squad (\$20 course fee)

Introductory Japanese (\$20 course fee)

Music (\$20 course fee)

Photography and Digital Media (\$20 course fee)

Parents will receive an email containing a personalised code for the online subject selection. When completing the online course selection, students must nominate all six electives in priority order. Whilst we will do our best to give as many students as possible their first priority, the number of students in each class is limited so there is no guarantee that you will receive your first priority.

Please note:

Six electives have been offered but only the five most popular will run.

CREATIVE TECHNOLOGY DESIGN

Course Outline

Year 8 Creative Technology Design is about building 21st Century skills using the STEM approach. STEM is an approach to learning and development that integrates the areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Some key skills that will be addressed in this course will be problem solving, creativity, critical analysis, teamwork and digital literacy.

Boys will engage in project-based learning using technology to solve problems and challenges. Some projects may involve using traditional technologies while other projects may include design software, 3-D printing, laser cutting, coding, data-logging and robotics.

Students may have the opportunity to attend excursions or workshops to offsite locations.

	Task	Date	Details
Semester 1	Course work	Continual T1 – T2	Logbook journal
	Group project 1	Term 1	Design and build project using traditional technologies
	Group Project 2	Term 2	Design and build project using traditional and digital technologies
Semester 2	Course work	Continual T3 – T4	Logbook journal
	Group Project 3	Term 3	Problem solving project using technology
	Individual Project	Term 4	Personal interest project in consultation with teacher

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION! - DRAMA

Course Outline

Let your creative side shine! In this course, you will explore Animation, Circus Skills, develop your Improvisation Skills and participate in Theatresports.

Teamwork is important in Drama as in the workplace or on a sporting team. Drama is a physical, active subject that involves using your whole body to communicate ideas, messages, and stories. We use all our senses in Drama to collect information and communicate to audiences.

You will build dramatic skills to enable you to explore different roles and aspects of Drama. Plays and performances selected come from your world, helping you to question and understand communication, advertising, and culture.

Let your imagination take you on a journey as you explore roles such as directing, acting, and filming in Semester 1 and related aspects such as set and costume design, writing plays and screenplays, and creating films in Semester 2.

	Task	Term	Details
Semester 1	Practical	T1	Circus Skills
	Practical with reflection	T2	Improvisation and Theatresports
Semester 2	Animation	T3	Create a story to and animate
	Group Project	T4	Playbuilding – with performance

FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT SQUAD

Course Outline

In 2024, Asquith BHS will be offering students of all levels the opportunity to be part of a Football development squad.

The focus of this squad is to build technical skills and confidence as well as interpersonal and leadership qualities in a sporting context.

Key areas include:

- Skill development
- Tactical knowledge and application
- Fitness principles and training
- Sport Nutrition
- Match Simulation

Note: It is expected/hopeful that this squad will be able to play matches against local schools as well as receive coaching from outside agencies (development officers) on occasions. Therefore, travel will be necessary and costs may be incurred. Further information will be disseminated as required.

Students who are successful in gaining placement into the squad are also expected to play Football in Winter Grade Sport.

	Unit	Date	Details
Semester 1	Skill development/Fitness training	Term 1/2 (ongoing)	Training sessions Class work
	Tactical knowledge and application	Term 1/2 (ongoing)	Match Simulation
Semester 2	Sport Nutrition	Term 3/4 (ongoing)	Training sessions Class work
	Skill development/Fitness training sessions	Term 3/4 (ongoing)	Match Simulation

JAPANESE 日本語

Course Outline

こんにちは！ 元気ですか。

In Year 8 Japanese, we focus on the Language and Culture of Japan and explore opportunities in the local area to experience and support understanding of course content.

Throughout the year, content is a combination of set coursework combined with the opportunity for students to diverge and choose topics of personal interest which they would like to investigate and explore in more detail. The amount of time and depth spent on all topics will be influenced by students' interest.

Set coursework focuses on communicative tasks which aims to develop skills for travelling and talking about everyday experiences. This is combined with cultural content and hands-on activities to deepen understanding.

Assessment tasks give students the opportunity to demonstrate what they have learnt at various stages throughout the year.

	Task	Date	Details
Semester 1	Course work	On completion of chosen tasks. T1 – T2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lesson reflection• Workbook - Language and Cultural activities
	Class work	Continual T1 – T2	Class participation. This may be active and/or passive.
	Task 1 Student choice	T2	Students are presented a task board with assessment criteria, marking guidelines and a wide range of task options which may be completed as a group or individually and presented via their choice of modality.
Semester 2	Course work	On completion of chosen tasks. T3 – T4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lesson reflection• Workbook: Language and cultural activities
	Class work	Continual T3 – T4	Class participation. This may be active and/or passive.
	Task 2 Student choice	T4	Students are presented a task board with assessment criteria, marking guidelines and a wide range of task options which may be completed as a group or individually and presented via their choice of modality.

MUSIC

Course Outline

Year 8 Elective Music is a hands-on, practical subject that builds on skills explored throughout Year 7. This course is for both experienced musicians and those with less experience but have an interest in developing their skills in music. It is a predominantly performance-based course, with opportunities to also engage in composition and listening activities. The goal of the subject is for each student to grow their individual musical skills and appreciation for Music as an artform and an integral part of society.

Students are given freedom to choose areas of music they want to learn more about, repertoire they want to learn, instruments they want to learn, and much more. Ensemble skills are developed in Term 2 where students will play in a band setup, performing repertoire of their choosing. Recording equipment and music production software will be utilised to develop skills in music composition and sound production in Task 3.

Students will be required to select at least one instrument as their choice for performance activities and commit to developing their skills on that instrument. It is also a requirement for students to participate in the annual MAD Night showcase.

	Task	Term	Details
Semester 1	Personal Interest Project	1	Students pick any instrument or musical skill they want to learn and work towards a performance of one or more songs. They work independently and have complete freedom of choice.
	Like A Version Group Task	2	Students form their own bands and, in the style of Triple J's "Like A Version", turn a chosen song into a different style of music.
Semester 2	Sampled Sounds Remix	3	Students learn how to use professional sound recording equipment to record and sample sounds, that will be turned into a composition using music production software.
	Music from the Movies	4	Students prepare a series of performances of repertoire from film and television on a variety of instruments.

PHOTOGRAPHY AND DIGITAL MEDIA

Course Outline

Photographic images fill our world. We use all sorts of devices to capture “the decisive moment”; compact cameras, DSLR, video, GO PRO and our phones. In the 21st century we are able to exhibit our work in different ways and we will investigate the online world and social media.

This course will explore the different forms of photography and Digital Media. Students will experiment with analogue (digital cameras) and wet photography (the darkroom). They will use digital photography to document school events and create photo stories. Studio photography will provide the opportunity to experiment with lighting and learn about commercial photographic practices at a beginner level. Students will also be provided with opportunities to experiment with manipulation of images using Photoshop and Lightroom. These experiences will be both individual and group projects.

Students will have the opportunity to attend excursions to offsite locations for photographic experiences beyond the school.

	Task	Term	Details
Semester 1	Course work	Continual T1 – T2	Google Classroom/Google Website Portfolio
	Project 1	Continual T1 – T2	Photographic skills – analogue and digital
	Project 2	T2 W5	Photographic series
Semester 2	Individual	T3 W10	Photographic skills – analogue and digital. Series of photographs depicting a genre.
	Course work	Continual T3 – T4	Google Classroom/Google Website Portfolio
	Group Project 2	Continual T3 – T4	Photographic skills – analogue and digital. Series of photographs depicting a genre.
	Individual Project - PIP	T4 W9/10	You choose the project related to your subject in consultation with your teacher.

