



PRINCE
ALFRED
COLLEGE



Arts & Language Choices

Year 7-9

This booklet provides information regarding Language, Arts and Technology choices for Year 7-9 Students at Prince Alfred College. In addition to these choices, students study a range of subjects from eight learning areas in accordance with the requirements of the Australian Curriculum. Language, Arts and Technology are studied throughout Years 7 to 9; as such it is important to consider these options carefully and to make positive choices based on interest, enjoyment, previous experience, and potential for future success.

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Languages

Language acquisition is a compulsory subject at Prince Alfred College. Students have the option of either Chinese, French or Italian. Our goal is to produce students who can communicate in both their mother tongue and another language of their choice. To this end, students are advised to choose carefully, as they will be required to study this language in Years 7 and 8 in order to develop functional proficiency. The grounds for this choice could be any combination of the following:

- Interest in the culture(s) - history, literature, film, music, fashion, sports, society, cuisine
- Cultural heritage of the student
- Prior knowledge of the language/culture/countries
- Prevalence of the chosen language in the global arena
- Relevance to future career trajectories

The courses adhere to the expectations of the Australian Curriculum: Languages. Alongside the obvious benefits of communicating in another language, language study provides students with an opportunity to enrich their cultural and social awareness, enhance their memory and problem-solving skills, gain a better understanding of grammatical metalanguage and literacy skills, and develop a highly regarded asset for future employment. Prince Alfred College offers both Asian and European languages.

Students choose ONE language to study. Their study of this language continues through Years 7 and 8.

- Chinese
- French
- Italian

Arts

The Arts is a learning area that draws together related but distinct art forms. While these art forms have close relationships and are often used in interrelated ways, each involves different approaches to arts practices and critical and creative thinking that reflect distinct bodies of knowledge, understanding and skills. The arts have the capacity to engage, inspire and enrich all students, exciting the imagination and encouraging them to reach their creative and expressive potential. At Prince Alfred College, students are encouraged to begin to specialise in their preferred arts forms in either visual or performing arts studies [Australian Curriculum: The Arts]

In Years 7 and 8, Arts subjects are offered on an elective basis. Students choose TWO out of three broad Arts areas to study. These subjects will be studied for a semester each in both Years 7 and 8.

- Visual Art
- Drama
- Music OR Advanced Music

In Year 9, students have a chance to reselect their Arts electives as subjects for the year. Year 9 students will choose THREE of five subjects across various learning areas. The THREE chosen subjects are studied for an entire year. The choices for Year 9 are:

- Continued Language
- Visual Art
- Drama
- Music / Advanced Music
- Technology

More information for the specific subjects can be found on the following page.

Drama

Through Drama, students learn to express their ideas, thoughts and opinions as they discover and understand the world. They learn that creating, making and presenting their work is as essential to learning in Drama as is being involved in a performance. Students develop their dramatic knowledge and understanding through participating actively in creative workshops, while learning the symbols, techniques, processes and skills of Drama. Drama learning provides students with opportunities to engage with creative industries and arts professionals and to learn about the potential for careers in performance and film. Students in Drama will learn about the history of theatre across diverse cultures. Drama contributes to the development of confident and creative individuals by encouraging and nurturing the student's creative, communication, group and movement skills. All students are encouraged to value performing and presenting as part of their learning.

Music

Music: For students with an interest, or limited general knowledge of music.

Advanced Music: For students undertaking tuition with an instrument/voice.

Music gives a child the possibility to use the mind in the most creative way, achieved through focus, intention and intense thought. The subject of Music caters for both the advanced instrumental player/singer and the boy with little or no experience. Through Year 7 to 9 the course allows students to experience creating and modifying music in a contemporary setting using class sets of computers with Garage Band and Sibelius software. Students also have the opportunity to play music in class ensembles appropriate to each individual's standard. Students will learn the fundamentals of music in an engaging setting of practical performance together with relevant and interesting musicianship tasks. Analysis skills are also taught through the study of music context and styles. Students can if they wish, take up an instrument and or singing as part of their study. The more advanced musician is also able to undertake solo performance as a part of course work.

Technology

Technology has students gain an understanding and appreciation for design and production techniques relevant to the creation of traditional and contemporary product development. The subject focus areas are woodwork, metalwork, computer aided design, and electronics. These focus areas relate to fields such as carpentry, cabinetmaking, welding and fabrication, construction, industrial design, digital media production, and engineering. Technology is compulsory in Years 7 and 8 and becomes an elective subject at Year 9. In Year 7, students undertake four single term rotations of Plastics, Wood, Metal, and Electronics. In Years 8 and 9, students participate in four single term rotations of Wood, Metal, CAD, and Coding & Electronics. This combination over the year gives boys the opportunity to build on foundational skills and provides them with a broad experience to pursue a pathway in Technology in their Senior Years.

Visual Art

Years 7 - 9 Art is offered as a broad multi-disciplinary range of aesthetic experiences that encourages a willingness to engage and to create. As such, Visual Art caters for students of relative inexperience right through to those with more extensive visual arts background. This subject encourages risk taking and lateral thinking, whilst extending and developing practical expertise in a range of media including; traditional methods such as drawing, painting and sculpture as well as digital media such as Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator and Sketch-up. Visual Arts has exciting project based experiences such as 3D perspective drawing, logo graphic design, and self-portrait etching, which nurtures each student to explore ideas and create their own art and design works. The courses for Years 7, 8 and 9 focus on creative and critical thinking, and these approaches, as well as their associated practical skills, equip students for further study in Art and Design. University study and associated careers in architecture, fine arts, engineering, marketing, film and television, game design and multimedia all have strong connections to a middle school Visual Arts experience.



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