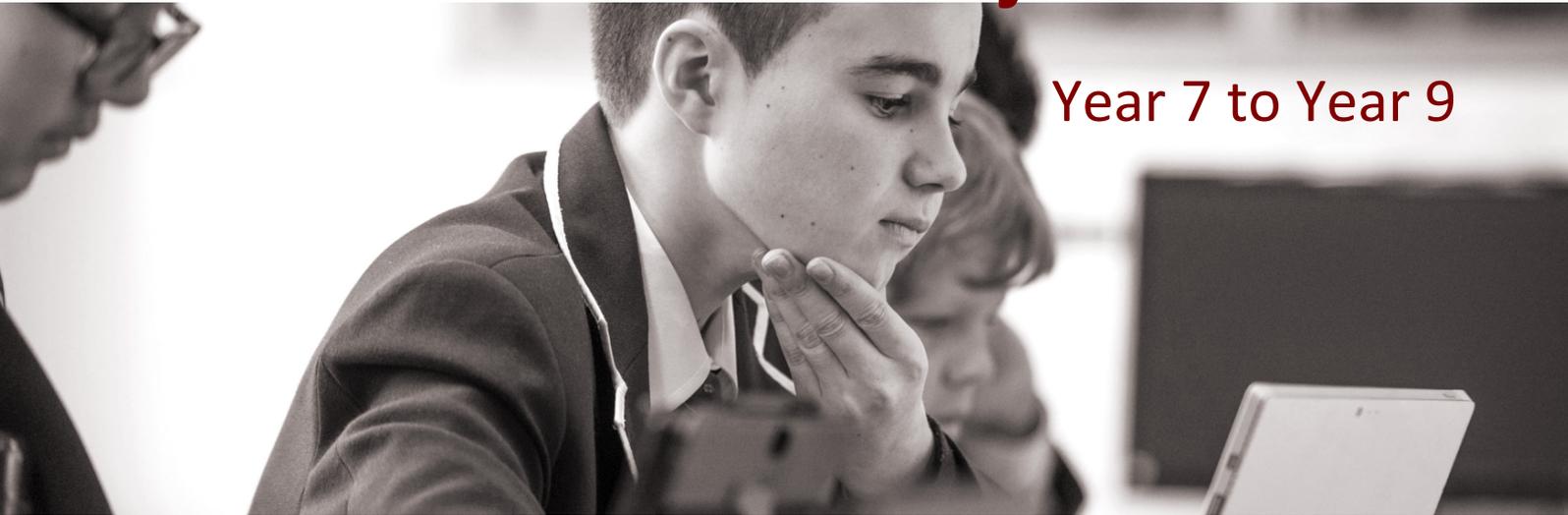




Subject choices

Year 7 to Year 9



This booklet provides information regarding Languages and Arts choices for new 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 and Arts choices are a commitment for a student through 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.

Any enquiries should be directed to:

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Languages

Language acquisition is a compulsory elective core subject at Prince Alfred College. 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 from Years 7-9 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 speaking another language, language study provides students with an opportunity to enrich their cultural and social awareness, gain a better understanding of grammatical metalanguage and literacy skills, enhance their memory and problem-solving skills and develop a highly regarded asset for future employment. Prince Alfred College offers both Asian and European languages.

Every student can learn a language- they already have.

Students choose ONE language to study. Their study of this language continues through Years 7-9.

French | Français

More than 220 million people speak French worldwide. Over the course of their French studies, students will improve their lexical base, grammatical understanding and cultural knowledge through the use of games, songs and authentic cultural artefacts. By the end of Year 9, students should be able to identify, understand and communicate facts, ideas, attitudes and opinions in both written and spoken texts. Students are tested across the four core skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening.

Chinese | 中文

Chinese is spoken by more than a billion speakers around the world and is a particular advantage in the Asia-Pacific region. Students will learn to read and produce both pinyin and Chinese characters, enriching their lexical base each year. They will explore Chinese culture within the context of improving their communicative competence. By the end of Year 9, students should be able to identify, understand and communicate facts, ideas, attitudes and opinions in both written and spoken texts. Students are tested across the four core skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening.

Italian | Italiano

The Italian language continues to be a significant heritage language in South Australia, as well as being the language of architecture, fashion and industrial design. Students will use games, song and authentic cultural artefacts to inform their knowledge of the Italian language and culture. By the end of Year 9, students should be able to identify, understand and communicate facts, ideas, attitudes and opinions in both written and spoken texts.

Arts

Arts in Years 7-9 is offered on an elective basis. Students choose two out of three broad Arts areas to study, allowing them to make positive study choices and providing the opportunity to develop expertise in particular Arts areas.

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*]

Students choose TWO Arts areas to study. It is intended that studies in these Arts areas continue through Years 7-9.

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 Arts 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 Photoshop, 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 in both SACE and the IB. 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.

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

general: no previous experience in instrumental or ensemble performance necessary.

advanced: undertaking tuition on 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.



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