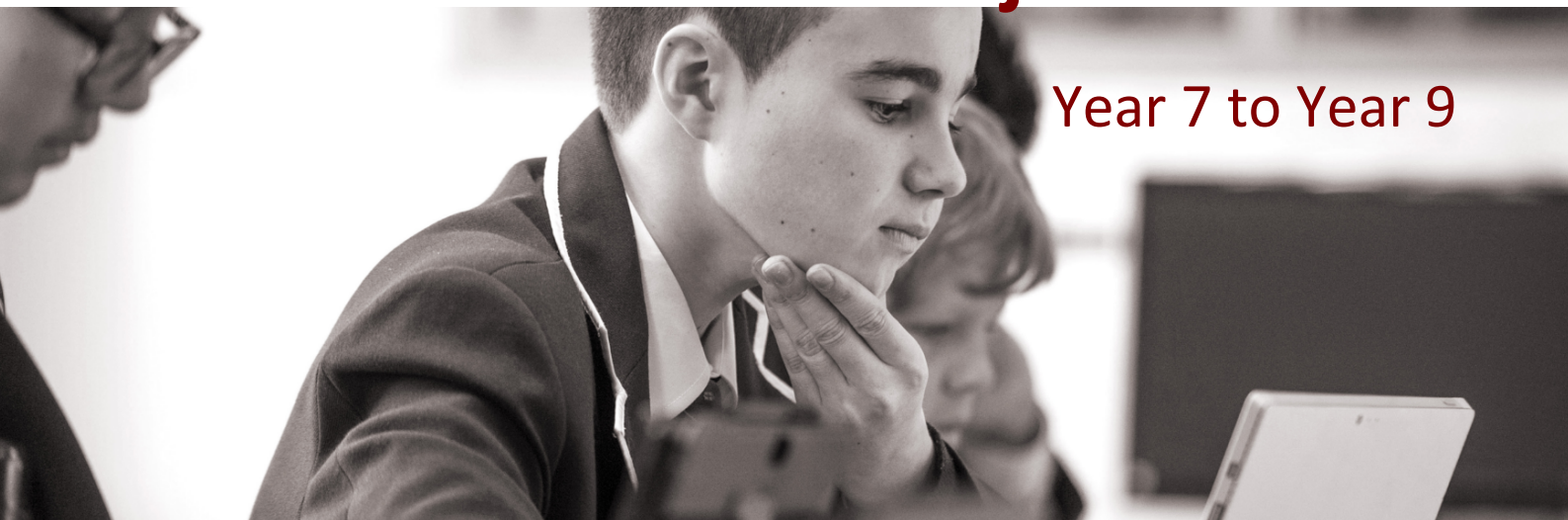




Subject choices

Year 7 to Year 9



This booklet provides information regarding Languages and Arts 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 and Arts choices 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.

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 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.

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 communicative competence across the four core skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening, while learning about francophone cultures. Students will move from language reception to production as they familiarise themselves with target vocabulary and structures. 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.

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. Over the course of their Chinese studies, students will improve their communicative competence across the four core skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening, while learning about Chinese culture. Students will move from language reception to production as they familiarise themselves with target vocabulary and structures. 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.

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. Over the course of their Italian studies, students will improve their communicative competence across the four core skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening, while learning about Italian culture. Students will move from language reception to production as they familiarise themselves with target vocabulary and structures. 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

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 are 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. These subjects will be studied for a semester each.

The choices for 7 to 8 are:

- *Arts*
- *Drama*
- *Music (general or advanced)*

In Year 9, students have a chance to reselect their electives. However, they will now choose two of four Arts domains, now including Technology. In year 7 and 8 Technology is a compulsory subject. The two elective subject are studied for an entire year each. Therefore, the choices for Year 9 are:

- *Arts*
- *Drama*
- *Music (general or advanced)*
- *Technology*

More information for the specific subjects can be found listed below.

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.

Design & Technology

Design and Technology is compulsory in Year 7 and 8 and is only an elective at Year 9. In Year 9, students participate in 4 x 1 term rotations (Wood/Metal/CAD/Coding & Electronics), which over the year provides an experience and a clear pathway for subject selection into their senior years.

These rotations are comprised of the following:

Materials Technology - Wood

Aim: To gain an understanding of design and production techniques relevant to the creation of traditional and contemporary jointing techniques and product development. This course is related to the fields of carpentry, cabinetmaking, construction, manufacturing, industrial design, interior architecture, and engineering. This practical subject teaches specific skills for a range of framing joints, related hand and power tools, woodworking machines and workshop safety. Students produce a design folio documenting their work in the major project, comprising investigation tasks, preliminary drawings, concepts and technical drawings, production planning, as well as an evaluation of the major project and its construction.

Materials Technology - Metal

Aim: To gain an understanding of design and production techniques relevant to the production of fabricated and welded steel products. This course includes construction, manufacturing, industrial design, architecture and engineering, while teaching specific skills in gas and electric arc welding techniques, steel cutting and processes, finishing techniques, and workshop safety.

Computer Aided Design - CAD

Aim: To develop an understanding of the processes involved in the design, engineering and production of consumer products. This includes exposure to advanced 3D CAD processes and techniques in engineering and product design, using advanced features of industry-standard 3D Parametric Modelling software (Autodesk Inventor). Students practically engage with the Product Design Cycle to generate representations and prototypes of designed and engineered products. Students gain experience and understanding of advanced CAD modelling tools and processes, technical drawing conventions, and digital presentation techniques.

Coding & Electronics

Aim: Students will use coding to gain an understanding of controlling systems in real world contexts. Project based practical work will challenge students to generate complex prototypes to solve engineering challenges. Students practicably focus on automated control through the coding of an Arduino (micro controller) using C++ and gain an understanding of control principles to design and engineer custom parts. The realisation of several smaller projects will require the use of digital and manufacturing technologies, such as programming, 3D printing and laser cutting/engraving. This course is related to the fields of ICT, mechanical engineering, electric engineering, manufacture, industrial design and digital media production.



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