

2017 EDITION



APPLECROSS

SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL
INDEPENDENT PUBLIC SCHOOL

Curriculum Handbook

YEAR | 8

Achieve

Compulsory Subjects

Subject	Number of Hours
English	4 hours per week for the year
Mathematics	4 hours per week for the year
Science	4 hours per week for the year
Humanities and Social Sciences	4 hours per week for the year
The Arts	2 hours per week for the year
Health Education	1 hour per week for the year
Languages	2 hours per week for the year
Physical Education (or Specialist Tennis)	2 hours per week for the year (4 hours per week for Specialist Tennis)
Technologies	2 hours per week for the year
Total Compulsory Subjects	25 hours per week

Note

This arrangement may vary for students in some specialist programs:

Specialist Tennis students will only do two hours per week in the Arts and Technology and Enterprise for a semester.

All course costs are given as a guide only. These are based on the 2016 pricing structures and are subject to change in 2017.

The Arts

MUSIC

Important General Information

- Students who choose the Class, Instrumental and Ensemble Music units are those who wish to (i) continue School of Instrumental Music (SIM) tuition or (ii) learn an instrument privately. It is School of Instrumental Music Policy that students learning an instrument privately are not normally able to join SIM Classes.
- Each year, students wishing to study the Class, Instrumental and Ensemble Music units must enrol in both units for that year (Year 8 = 8MUS & 8MUSB). That is, the units may not be chosen separately.
- Instrumental and Ensemble Music cannot be studied separately from Class Music.
- Students learning an instrument at school will attend these lessons on a withdrawal basis from other classes. The maximum instrumental lesson length is 40 minutes. The instrumental timetables are "rotating" to minimise disruption to other classes.
- All students are required, as part of their Instrumental course, to participate in at least one of the following ensembles:
 - Concert Band 1 (senior) or Concert Band 2 (junior) – woodwind, brass and percussion.
 - Scimitar String Orchestra (senior) or Cygnet String Orchestra (junior) – Violin, Viola, Cello and Double Bass.
 - Junior or Senior Classic Guitar Ensemble (classical guitar only)
 - Chamber Choir – Vocal students.
- Students may only move from the junior ensembles to the senior ensembles via the Music Department's AUDITION process.
- Pianists are encouraged to participate in concerts and other performances by accompanying soloists and playing solos. Occasionally, senior pianists may be invited to rehearse and perform with the school's ensembles. The Chamber Choir is an ideal ensemble for pianists who enjoy singing. There is a "try-out" process, which may be discussed with the Teacher in Charge of Music or the Chamber Choir conductor.
- Additional costs: (i) Students who are eligible to hire an instrument will have to pay an annual fee of \$160.00, (ii) there may be special extra rehearsals organised for the Junior Ensembles, which will attract a fee of approximately \$20.00, (iii) Camp Fees of approximately \$280.00 for the Senior Ensembles only (Concert Band 1, Scimitar String Orchestra, Senior Guitar Ensemble and Chamber Choir). The Music Department undertakes tours approximately every 3 years (for Senior Ensembles only). The cost of the 2009 Tour to the Australian International Music Festival in Sydney was approximately \$2,600 per student.
- CONCERT UNIFORM: All students enrolling in Class, Instrumental and Ensemble Music are required to purchase a Concert Shirt from **Uniform Concepts**. In 2016 the cost of the Concert Shirt was \$36.00. In addition, boys are required to purchase a (i) pair of black dress trousers (no corduroy or denim), (ii) a black belt, (iii) black leather shoes (no sports shoes) and (iv) black socks. Girls are required to purchase (i) long black pants (no corduroy or denim – and no skirts), (ii) low heeled plain black leather shoes (no canvas, sports, high heels or strappy styles) and (iii) black socks or knee-highs. There are simple and practical requirements for hair and jewellery, which are available through the Music Parents Handbook, which is published in Term 1 each year by the Music Support Group.

Class, Instrumental and Ensemble Music - 8MUS

In this course, students will develop skills in listening awareness (aural perception) and basic music knowledge (theory). They will also express themselves through composition and arrangement activities, as well as gaining an understanding of what makes us listen to and enjoy music of different eras, cultures and styles (Music in Society). Practical music-making activities are integral to all music courses.

The cost of this course is \$45.00 per semester

Special Conditions: Completion of courses 7MUS and 7MUSB is a prerequisite for studying these Year 8 music courses. *If these courses have not been completed, an interview with the Teacher in Charge - Music is required.* Students must learn a musical instrument at school or privately.

VISUAL ARTS

Funky Photography – 8DES

Graphics

DO you want to learn how to take a great photograph or make those iphone photo's really work. Do you want to check out the latest graphics and design trends? Then this course would be great for you! You will learn how to use photo editing software, how to save them onto your computer and how to print out.the very best quality images.

The cost of this course in 2016 was \$46.00.

Special Art – Advanced Drawing – 8SPA (Semester 1)

This course is designed to extend the skills developed in the Foundation Drawing course. Students will explore, in depth, the drawing „Principles“ using classic and contemporary drawing media as a vehicle. They will develop an understanding of Art Language and the importance of Drawing in arts practice. Students will create complex drawings that reflect a mixed-media approach, and produce at least one major work for display.

The cost of this course in 2016 was \$48.00.

NOTE: This course is available only to selected Gifted & Talented Visual Art students.

Special Art - Ceramics/Sculpture – 8SPAB (Semester 2)

This course is designed to extend the skills developed in the Foundation Drawing course. Students will explore, in depth, the drawing 'Principles' using classic and contemporary drawing media as a vehicle. They will develop an understanding of Art Language and the importance of Drawing in arts practice. Students will create complex drawings that reflect a mixed-media approach, and produce at least one major work for display.

The cost of this course in 2016 was \$46.00.

NOTE: This course is available only to selected Gifted & Talented Visual Art students.

DRAMA

Starting Drama – 8DRA

This introductory Drama course aims to develop students' self-confidence, creativity and spontaneity. The focus is practical and students will learn the basic skills of movement, mime and voice. These skills will be further developed in **mask and mime** workshops. A performance at the end of semester will showcase students' newly-acquired skills. Students will have the opportunity to attend a performance by a visiting theatre company.

The cost of this course in 2016 was \$23.00.

English

Students learn about the English language and how to use it effectively. The study of English plays a vital role in the development of literacy, enhances students' learning in all areas of the curriculum and provides them with the communication skills and critical understanding of language necessary for active participation in society. All students will cover the Australian Curriculum English Course. Creativity, Critical thinking, Grammar and English skills of communication are the basis of all courses. Wide reading is encouraged through all courses to improve literacy.

English – 8ENG

Students study a general course of English, focusing on **Language, Literacy** and **Literature**. They study traditional tales, speaking skills, poetry, short stories and the novel. The overarching theme of “Heroes and Villains” in Semester One will allow students to make connections between styles and concepts. There is a strong focus on grammar and IT skills. In Semester Two students continue to study a general course of English under the theme of “Other Worlds”, studying newspapers, film, novels, short stories, speaking and the use of persuasive language in essay writing. Grammatical skills are further developed. Students will participate in regular common task assessments throughout the year.

Academic Extension – 8ENGE

In addition Academic Extension students will use their journals to engage with a wide range of short stories exploring figurative language. They will apply this to creating poetry and short stories using a number of techniques including flashbacks, denouements, symbolism and point of view. They will begin learning skills to analyse film and employ multi-modal skills to present themes and create their own multi-modal texts.

In Semester Two they will focus on contextual concepts and work with Bloom's Taxonomy and how to embed evidence in written response to a number of text types. They will develop the skills required for constructing persuasive essays. The text types studied will include detailed study of a Shakespearian play focusing on voice, set design, costume, lighting and symbolic interpretation. These students will be encouraged to participate in Debating and Writing competitions.

The cost of this course in 2016 was \$32.00.

English as an Additional Language/Dialect - 8ESL

This course is based on the Australian Curriculum English Course (see English courses for more details) but is tailored to suit the needs of Non-English Speaking Background students who have been in Australia, or any English speaking country for fewer than three years. Some students who have been here longer may also be accepted into the courses if numbers permit. Entry to these courses is on approval from the EAL/D Teacher in Charge or the Lower School Deputy. In all EAL/D courses, students will demonstrate the skills through reading and viewing, speaking, listening and writing.

The cost of this course in 2016 was \$32.00.

Health and Physical Education

Health Education – 8HED/8HEDB

In this course, Year 8 students will identify skills and strategies to manage change and promote all aspects of their own and others' health, including making informed decisions, using assertive responses and making contingency plans to avoid and prevent risks to health. Students will identify the impact of negative behaviours on relationships and describe a range of factors that impact on a person's emotional response and behaviour.

The cost of this course in 2016 was \$3.75 per semester.

General Physical Education 8PES / 8PESB

Students will perform a variety of individual movement skills and sequences, demonstrating improved control, accuracy and efficiency in their performance. In competitive contexts they will implement a variety of tactics to achieve an intended outcome. When faced with movement challenges, students select and implement simple tactical responses. Over the course of Years 7-10 students will cover a broad range of sports developing fundamental movement skills, both land and water based.

The cost of this course in 2016 was \$9.00 per semester.

Specialist Tennis – 8TEN1 / 8TEN2 (Semester 1)# 8TEN3 / 8TEN4 (Semester 2)#

Students will focus on maintaining and improving correct training techniques, as well as developing technical and tactical aspects of their tennis game. Students will also further develop their movement and mental skills. Advanced doubles tactics will be developed during this course. These aims will be achieved through on court drills, match play, fitness and off court sessions.

The cost of this course in 2016 was \$146.00.

NOTE: The course is available for students selected into the Specialist Tennis program only.

Humanities and Social Sciences

In Year 8, Humanities and Social Sciences consists of Civics and Citizenship, Economics and Business, Geography and History.

In Civics and Citizenship students continue to build on their understanding of the concepts of the Westminster system, democracy and participation. They investigate the types of law in Australia and how they are made. They consider the responsibilities and freedoms of citizens, and how Australians can actively participate in their democracy including studying identity.

In Economics and Business, students study interdependence, making choices and allocation. They consider how markets work and the rights, responsibilities and opportunities that arise for businesses, consumers and governments. Work and work futures are also explored. Students focus on national and regional issues, with opportunities for the concepts to also be considered in relation to local community, or global issues where appropriate.

In Geography concepts of place, space, environment, interconnection, sustainability and change continue to be developed as a way of thinking and provide students with the opportunity to inquire into the significance of landscapes to people and the spatial change in the distribution of populations. Students apply this understanding to a wide range of places and environments at the full range of scales, from local to global, and in a range of locations.

In History, concepts are investigated within the historical context of the end of the ancient period to the beginning of the modern period, c. 650 AD (CE) – 1750. They consider how societies changed, what key beliefs and values emerged, and the causes and effects of contact between societies in this period.

Academic Extension – HASSE

Students meeting the selection criteria will also be offered extension activities in Humanities and Social Sciences in a dedicated Academic Extension class with a focus on higher order thinking skills and innovative use of information and communications technology. Students will engage in the study of How/Why Societies Change. Throughout second semester students will review legal processes and participate in Mock Trials. They will also produce a collaborative assignment with English. The students will interpret, analyse and evaluate the unit producing an English text based on S&E content – What is Democracy? How democratic are we?

The cost of this course in 2016 was \$32.00.

Languages

Students learn to communicate effectively in languages and further develop their skills and understandings in English and literacy in general. They gain an understanding of other societies, the ability to interact with people and cultures other than their own, and practical skills which they can use in future social, cultural and vocational areas. We have exchange programs to France and to Takarazuka, Japan. Students from Years 9 to 11 may participate in these programs.

French – 8FRE/7FREB

Students will talk about the school systems in France and Australia, leisure activities and daily routines. They will also learn how to ask for and give directions and how to describe the house they live in. They will learn to use regular and irregular verbs. Students will use a range of adjectives and learn about the relationship between nouns and adjectives. This course is designed for second language learners. Background speakers of French will be required to enrol in Japanese. If in doubt, please contact the Head of the Languages Learning Area.

The cost of the course in 2016 was \$16.00 per semester.

Japanese – 8JAP/8JAPB

Students will master hiragana script and be introduced to katakana and a range of kanji. They will learn to talk about the things they enjoy, such as sport. They will talk about school and school subjects, after school and leisure time activities and transport. Students will participate in group work and cultural activities. This course is designed for second language learners. Background speakers of Japanese will be required to enrol in French. If in doubt, please contact the Head of the Languages Learning Area.

The cost of this course in 2016 was \$16.00 per semester.

Mathematics

Mathematics – 8MAT

Students will use ideas about number, algebra, measurement, geometry, statistics and probability and mathematical ways of representing patterns and relationships, to describe, interpret and reason about their social and physical world. Mathematics plays a key role in the development of students' numeracy and assists learning across the curriculum.

Year 8 students will be placed into streamed classes based upon their Year 7 results. Even with the streaming, the majority of students will study a common course throughout the first semester of Year 8. Only the least able students are selected for a slower paced course. Further pathway division will occur in Semester 2 but teaching at Pathways E, 1, 2 and 3 will follow a common core with some extension and added depth at Pathway E and 1. Students in Pathways 2 and 3 who make very strong progress will have the opportunity to attempt Pathway 1 in Year 9 without substantial disadvantage.

Academic Extension – 8MATE

The Academic Extension class will complete all the coursework as well as engaging in extension work.

Academic Extension students will study problem solving strategies, which will be introduced and explained in class by the teacher. The strategies will be developed conceptually throughout lower school. All AE Mathematics students will be prepared to participate in the numerous competitions throughout the year. Some require time outside of class to prepare and also to complete.

In Year 8, activities will include the Mathematics Talent Quest, Have Sum Fun Competition and the Australian Mathematics Competition.

Pathway Description

Pathway E is the Academic Extension pathway which covers Pathway 1, but incorporates the extension activities into their course work including problem solving strategies. It is a very demanding but rewarding course.

Pathway 1 is the course that prepares students for the study of any Mathematics course in Years 11 and 12. It can incorporate some of the extension work covered in the Academic Extension course.

Pathway 2 provides a solid grounding in the essentials of Algebra and Number, Measurement and Geometry and Statistics and Probability, for students who wish to study any ATAR courses of study. It is however not rigorous enough to allow the successful study of the Mathematics Specialist courses in Year 11 & 12.

Pathway 3 is slower paced than Pathway 2 but still covers a lot of the rudiments of the higher pathway. For the more successful student in this pathway, the course still offers sufficient preparation for the study of the lower stage ATAR Mathematics course in Year 11.

Pathway 4 is a "focus" class designed to cater for students in need of special help in this subject. It endeavours to maintain basic numeracy skills which will be of use to students in their everyday lives. Students at this pathway will not normally study Mathematics beyond Year 10.

The total cost of all Mathematics pathways in 2016 was \$36.00.

Science

Students investigate, understand and describe the physical, biological and technological world and value the systems and processes that support life on our planet. Science helps students to become critical thinkers who use evidence to construct conclusions.

The Australian Science Curriculum provides opportunities for students to develop an understanding of important science concepts and processes, the practices used to develop science knowledge, science's contribution to our culture and society, and its application to our lives. The curriculum supports students to develop the scientific knowledge, understandings and skills to make informed decisions about local, national and global issues and to participate if they so wish, in science related careers.

Year 8 students study a common course of topics:

YEAR 8 – 8SCI

Chemical Sciences

In this topic students will learn about the periodic table, elements, compounds, chemical and physical changes.

Biological Sciences

In this topic students will study the differences between living and non-living things, the characteristics, classification and importance of plants and animals.

Physical Sciences

In this topic, students will study forces and types of energy, temperature and its measurement and types of fuels.

Earth and Space Sciences

In this topic, students will study the earth, its structure, rock cycle, the atmosphere and our solar system.

Academic Extension – 8SCI

The academic extension class in Year 8 completes the course work at a faster pace so that they can engage in enrichment activities. Students may be moved in and out of the extension classes during Years 8, 9 and 10. All students are encouraged to participate in a broad range of science enrichment opportunities and competitions.

Academic extension students will have an opportunity to study cell structure and function in detail by observing pre prepared slides as well as mounting and staining their own slides. They will study the history and development of the microscope with a field trip to look at the most modern microscopes in action. They will also have the opportunity to complete dissections of some organs.

The cost of this course in 2016 was \$45.00.

Technologies

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

Students apply knowledge, skills and resources in the development of practical solutions to problems. Through this process they learn to be innovative, adaptable and reflective as they select and use appropriate materials, information and systems to achieve worthwhile results.

Information Computer Technology – 81CT

Would you like to know more about computers and see how they can improve the layout of your school assignments? Impress your teachers by presenting assignments that look professional, are more inviting to read and easier for them to mark than handwritten assignments.

Information Computer Technology shows you how to operate a variety of computer programs, and provides you with sound skills in information computer technology. Efficient use of the keyboard and mouse to develop speed and accuracy are components of the course.

The cost of this course in 2016 was \$10.00.

HOME ECONOMICS

Home Economics is a fun, hands-on subject area encompassing many life skills. Using a technology and health focus, students are encouraged to use their own initiative to solve problems while working cooperatively with others, using appropriate equipment, and managing time effectively. The cost of the food courses includes all the food and equipment requirements.

Food Awareness – 8FAW

Food Awareness is a fun course where you will learn to safely prepare a variety of healthy and nourishing foods suitable for breakfast, lunch, dinner, dessert and snacks. Students will plan and prepare a morning/afternoon tea for invited guests and demonstrate the skills they have learnt.

The cost of this course in 2016 was \$60.00.