

2027
Lower School

Course Information Booklet







COURAGE · COLLABORATION · CONNECTION · COMMUNICATION

NORTHAM
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL
A COMMUNITY UNITED

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Eight Learning Areas

All subjects are divided into eight learning areas. Each learning area has its own set of outcomes that cover all years of schooling. Northam Senior High School delivers curriculum in line with the Western Australian Curriculum and Assessment Outline and the Western Australian Curriculum Framework.

The eight learning areas are:

- Mathematics
- English
- Science
- Humanities and Social Sciences
- Languages other than English (LOTE)
- Health and Physical Education
- Technologies (Home Economics, Design and Technology, STEM)
- The Arts (Visual Art, Dance, Drama, Music, Media)

Lower School courses

Through the Year 7 and 8 program at Northam Senior High School students have the opportunity to participate in a broad and balanced curriculum. At the beginning of their secondary schooling, students undertake learning experiences that provide students the knowledge and experience to identify, develop and appreciate their own gifts and unique qualities of others, encouraging participation and student retention.

Year 9 extends students' progress and allows them more choice in optional subjects, which are suited to their interests and career goals.

Year 10 is seen as preparation for Senior School and allows more options to be chosen and the academic subject pathways reflect post school destinations.

Year 7 and 8 courses

All students study a broad curriculum that incorporates all learning areas. This gives a taste of the 'option' areas and develops the core subjects of English, Mathematics, Humanities and Social Sciences and Science. Please note that the options available to students may change.

Choices for Year 9 and 10

In Terms 3 and 4 students begin the process of choosing the best subjects for the following year. Whatever options are chosen, students continue to study English, Mathematics, Science as well as Humanities and Social Sciences along with subjects from other learning areas.

Students can choose the subjects they would like to continue to study in The Arts, Health, Physical Education and Technologies. Subject summaries are found later in this book.

Senior School courses

To be successful in tertiary entrance subjects in Years 11 and 12, students in Year 10 generally need to be in Pathway One or performing very well in Pathway Two classes.
The school provides a comprehensive subject selection process in Year 10 to assist students in their subject choices for Year 11 and 12. Individual counselling on course selection is part of this process. The range of courses includes Courses of Study and Vocational Education Training programs. This selection provides options for all students wanting to further their education.

Reporting and Assessment

Reporting

The school conducts parent-teacher interviews for all years (7 to 12), usually in Term 1. During the year, every effort is made to contact those parents whose children are experiencing particular difficulties. Parents who are concerned about their children can arrange with Student Services to have a progress report prepared.

Formal reports are provided twice a year at the end of each school semester. This report is one of a number of strategies used by the school to communicate with you about your child's progress. Parents will be notified by the teacher if the student is experiencing difficulties, has behaviour problems or is at risk of not achieving at their expected level of achievement.

Lower School Reporting – Years 7 to 10

The information contained in the report is a summary of your child's achievement, attitude, behaviour and effort. Formal reports are provided twice a year at the end of each school semester.

Student Achievement

The knowledge, skills, understandings and values that students need to have learned are defined as learning area outcomes in the Western Australian *Curriculum* or the Western Australian Curriculum and Assessment Outline.

Achievement Strands in each Learning Area

Your child's achievement is reported by a **tick (√)** against a scale (A to E) for each learning area strand. Achievement of each learning area strand has contributed to your child's overall learning area grade. On your child's report the shaded box shows the overall learning area grade.

Learning Area Grades

Your child's overall achievement for each learning area is reported using a description of achievement.

Attitude, Behaviour and Effort

The attitude, behaviour and effort demonstrated by your child is shown on the following scale: Consistently, Sometimes, and Seldom. Not Assessed indicates that this aspect was not a significant part of your child's learning program.

Comments

A general comment will be included in formal reports that directs parents/carers to further information available through Compass Academic Progress Updates. Please take the opportunity to follow up with any of your child's teachers once you have reviewed all available Compass information.

Further Information

You can ask the school to provide you with written information that clearly shows your child's achievement in the learning areas studied in comparison to that of other children in the child's peer group at the school.

This information will show the number of students who achieved grades A to E in each of the learning areas. To ensure that the privacy of any individual student is respected, in those schools where a cohort of student numbers is less than ten, information regarding a child's achievement relative to the achievement of the child's peer group at the school will not be made available.

Year 7

Mathematics

For further explanation on course information, contact HoLA Lyn McClellan - Phone 9621 6300 or email lynette.mcclellan@education.wa.edu.au

The primary focus for the Year 7 Mathematics course is the implementation of the Western Australian Curriculum and the successful transition into secondary school. All classes operate on the same coursework, with provision for extension and remediation for students. All students will be exposed to a variety of computer technologies including Mathletics, which students can access from home. The skills and knowledge attained are easily transferred across the curriculum.

English

For further explanation on course information, contact HoLA Georgia Sharpe - Phone 9621 6300 or email georgia.sharpe@education.wa.edu.au

Students will begin their English studies at Northam Senior High School with a review of their understanding and progress from Primary school and consolidation of their skills.

Their course will then focus on the further development of their reading and writing skills. Students will read a range of fiction and non-fiction texts, focusing on recall, literal comprehension, drawing inferences and evaluating ideas. During the course, students will write narratives, research reports, and a variety of informational texts, using appropriate form and language for the intended purpose. Media and electronic texts will also be explored and evaluated.

As NAPLAN testing occurs in this year of their schooling, the program will include some preparation for these tests. In line with the Western Australian Curriculum, there will be a focus on understanding that texts and language are products of the culture they are produced and used in.

Science

For further explanation on course information, contact HoLA Kimberley Annear - Phone 9621 6300 or email kimberley.annear@education.wa.edu.au

Year 7 Biological Sciences learn to classify living things, understand the flow of energy through ecosystems, and investigate the impacts of human activity on ecosystems.

Year 7 Chemical Sciences starts with foundation knowledge about the properties of the three states of matter that make up everything around us. Students continue to investigate the difference between pure substances and mixtures, and the range of methods that can be used to separate mixtures.

Year 7 Earth and Space Sciences journeys into space to understand how celestial objects are classified, and how different properties such as size, orbit, rotation, and axial tilt result in phenomena such as the seasons, tides, and phases of the Moon.

Year 7 Physical Sciences is a speedy start to understanding the forces that drive our world. Students then explore how forces can be manipulated through the use of simple machines that are designed to make tasks easier, leading to the technologies and machinery that support many aspects of modern life.

Languages

For further explanation on course information, contact HoLA Danielle Morache - Phone 9621 6300 or email danielle.morache@education.wa.edu.au

The Languages curriculum for Western Australia has been written on the basis that schools provide a languages program, in at least one language subject, from Pre-primary to Year 10. As a minimum, all students will study a Language subject from Year 3 to Year 8.

Students enrolling at Northam Senior High School in Year 7 will study either Japanese or Noongar, continuing this language into Year 8. In Year 9 and 10, the study of Languages is optional.

Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS)

For further explanation on course information, contact HoLA Mark Cluning - Phone 9621 6300 or email mark.cluning@education.wa.edu.au

Year 7 Humanities is an exciting and engaging course that brings together the key learning areas of HASS (History, Geography, Civics & Citizenship, and Economics) and English. Designed around student interests, this course invites learners to explore the world around them, through a series of five-week units.

Each unit is carefully crafted to meet the requirements of the curriculum, while allowing students the freedom to investigate topics they care about. Whether examining ancient civilisations through archaeology, analysing social issues such as water and resource availability, or exploring the role of justice in our society, students develop essential skills in critical thinking, communication, and inquiry. Rather than focusing on separate subjects, students will experience Humanities as an interconnected journey. Reading, writing, research, and discussion are all woven into the learning process, with purposeful tasks such as persuasive speeches, historical narratives, and creative projects helping students develop confidence and clarity in expressing their ideas.

Health and Physical Education

For further explanation on course information, contact HoLA Derek Ringrose - Phone 9621 6300 or email derek.ringrose@education.wa.edu.au

Health Education

Year 7 Students will investigate and evaluate strategies to promote health and manage transition as well as seek assistance and reliable health information. Students will plan positive health behaviours, analyse the factors that influence relationships and emotions and examine the benefits of these relationships and community diversity. The general subject content will include identity and self-esteem, drugs, healthy eating and fitness, protective behaviours and resilience, puberty, smoking, cyber safety and communication and an introduction to Outdoor Education.

Physical Education

This program helps students reach their movement potential by understanding the structure of movement, moving confidently and competently in structured and unstructured activities, developing and maintaining fitness, meeting new demands by setting goals and interacting positively with others. This includes developing good sporting behaviour and accepting responsibility. Students are encouraged to perform and refine specialised movement skills in increasingly challenging situations.

The Arts

For further explanation on course information, contact HoLA Danielle Morache - Phone 9621 6300 or email danielle.morache@education.wa.edu.au

In Year 7 and 8 students rotate through semester courses in each of the Arts subject areas. Studying each of the subject areas once over the two years.

Drama

Students in Year 7 will learn a variety of skills and be given the opportunity to plan and present drama to their peers. These will be taken from published scripts or improvised. Students will also explore and gain knowledge about the different forms of theatre including circus.

Media Arts

Students in Year 7 are inspired to imagine and collaborate to product challenging and exciting media artworks that tell their own stories and explore their future in a digital and interconnected world.

Working individually and collaboratively, students are inspired to imagine, collaborate and take on responsibilities in planning, designing, and producing media artworks that engage, challenge and excite.

Visual Arts

Students in Year 7 will create engaging 2D and 3D artworks, experimenting with a range of media, such as painting, drawing and ceramics, as they begin exploring the Elements and Principles of Art.

Year 7 Classroom Music

Students are given opportunities to apply their music skills and knowledge when performing, composing and listening to music.

Year 7 Instrument Hire

Instrumental music students complete:

- Technical studies commensurable to their expertise in a particular musical instrument
- A wide range of suitable repertoire

The half hour Instrumental Music lessons for students who choose to be included are arranged with the music teacher. These lessons occur on Wednesdays, with the Ensemble band rehearing after school from 3-4pm.

Technologies

For further explanation on course information, contact HoLA Kim Holten - Phone 9621 6300 or email kim.holten@education.wa.edu.au

Design & Technology

Students will be introduced to the basic skills and systems used in Design & Technology in the context of Woodwork and Metalwork. They will produce small models that encourage and develop practical skills, and the ability to work safely and cooperatively in a workshop setting.

Digital Technologies

Year 7 Digital Technologies introduce students to developing the understanding and skills required in computational thinking, engaging students with a wider range of information systems that are used in regional, national, and global activities. This is a compulsory course and will give students a foundation in the global digital world. Students have opportunities to create a range of solutions, such as the use of interactive web applications, basic game design, graphic design and explore the properties of computer networks and big data.

Home Economics

Students will be introduced to the knowledge, skills, equipment and processes used when working with Foods and Textiles. They will produce a range of products to develop practical skills and the ability to work safely and cooperatively.

Introduction to STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics)

Learning in STEM focuses on further developing understanding and skills in computational thinking.
Students explore the properties of different types of networks, including the hardware components and software technology required to operate them effectively. The course develops an understanding of the vital role that data transmission plays in our modern lives.
Using wide variety of software platforms, students will create, design and modify products such as infographics, game software, and use emerging technologies such as CAD and 3D printing.

Textiles

Students develop the knowledge and skills to create textile items such as cushions, soft toys and fashion items. A range of techniques are used such as machine sewing, hand embroidery, weaving and tie dye and fabric printing.

YEAR 8

Mathematics

For further explanation on course information, contact HoLA Lyn McClellan - Phone 9621 6300 or email lynette.mcclellan@education.wa.edu.au

The Year 8 course continues to build on the achievements from the Western Australian Curriculum. Classes all have a common core in terms of the coursework with opportunities for extension in an academic class. All students have the opportunity to be promoted according to how they are progressing at any time. All students will be exposed to a variety of computer technologies including Mathletics, which students can access from home. The skills and knowledge attained are easily transferred across the curriculum.

English

For further explanation on course information, contact HoLA Georgia Sharpe - Phone 9621 6300 or email georgia.sharpe@education.wa.edu.au

Students will review previous understanding and progress in order to consolidate their skills. The course will then focus on the further development of their reading and writing skills. Students will read a range of fiction and non-fiction texts focusing on recall, literal comprehension, drawing inferences and evaluating ideas. During the course, students will write narratives, research reports and a variety of informational texts, using appropriate form and language for the intended purpose. Media and electronic texts will also be explored and evaluated. In line with the Western Australian Curriculum, there will be a focus on understanding that texts and language are products of the culture they are produced and used in.

Science

For further explanation on course information, contact HoLA Kimberley Annear - Phone 9621 6300 or email kimberley.annear@education.wa.edu.au

Year 8 Biological Sciences introduces students to the microscopic world of living things, exploring cells and the specialised structures that make up a cell. Students continue by investigating how reproductive systems differ between flowering plants and vertebrate animals, while developing an understanding of the important body systems that enable survival.

Year 8 Chemical Sciences builds on students' understanding of matter to explore what atoms are made of and how they combine to form elements and compounds. Students become chemists as they investigate the periodic table and the different properties of metals and non-metals. They also begin identifying physical and chemical changes in substances and explore the importance of these changes in everyday life.

Year 8 Earth and Space Sciences return students to Earth to learn about the theory of plate tectonics and how the movement of tectonic plates explains global patterns of geological activity such as earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, and the formation of island arc chains. Students continue their exploration by investigating what makes up the rocks beneath our feet and the key processes of the rock cycle that create the minerals and rocks we extract and use as resources every day.

Year 8 Physical Sciences moves on from forces and focuses on energy instead. Students learn about the different forms of energy and how energy can be transferred and transformed into forms that are useful in our homes, workplaces, and society. In particular, they explore heat energy and electrical energy, two important forms of energy that we rely on and manipulate throughout our daily lives in this technological age.

Languages

For further explanation on course information, contact HoLA Danielle Morache - Phone 9621 6300 or email danielle.morache@education.wa.edu.au

The Languages curriculum for Western Australia has been written on the basis that schools provide a languages program, in at least one language subject, from Pre-primary to Year 10. As a minimum, all students will study a Language subject from Year 3 to Year 8.

Students enrolling at Northam Senior Hight School in Year 7 will study either Japanese or Noongar, continuing this language into Year 8. In Year 9 and 10 the study of Languages is optional.

Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS)

For further explanation on course information, contact HoLA Mark Cluning - Phone 9621 6300 or email mark.cluning@education.wa.edu.au

Term 1 – History "Ancient to Modern World"
Term 2 – Geography "Landscapes and Landforms"
Term 3 – Business and Economics "Participation and influences in the marketplace"
Term 4 – Civics and Citizenship "Democracy and law in action"

Health and Physical Education

For further explanation on course information, contact HoLA Derek Ringrose - Phone 9621 6300 or email: derek.ringrose@education.wa.edu.au

Health Education

Students will investigate and evaluate strategies to promote health and manage transition as well as seek assistance and reliable health information. Students will plan positive health behaviours, analyse the factors that influence relationships and emotions and examine the benefits of these relationships and community diversity. The general subject content will include identity and self-esteem, drugs, healthy eating and fitness, protective behaviours and resilience, puberty, smoking, cyber safety and communication.

Physical Education

This program helps students reach their movement potential by understanding the structure of movement, moving confidently and competently in structured and unstructured activities, developing and maintaining fitness, meeting new demands by setting goals and interacting positively with others. This includes developing good sporting behaviour and accepting responsibility. Students are encouraged to perform and refine specialised movement skills in increasingly challenging situations.

The Arts

For further explanation on course information, contact HoLA Danielle Morache - Phone 9621 6300 or email danielle.morache@education.wa.edu.au

In Year 7 and 8 students rotate through semester courses in each of the Arts subject areas. Studying each of the subject areas once over the two years.

Drama

Looking at pre-19th century drama, Readers Theatre and Youth Theatre, students will be given the opportunity to plan, refine and present drama to their peers. Drama will be improvised or taken from published scripts using selected drama forms and styles.

Media Arts

Students in year 8 continue to develop their creative skills, appreciation and knowledge of media techniques and technologies for storytelling and filmmaking fun.

Working individually and collaboratively, students are inspired to imagine, collaborate and take on responsibilities in planning, designing, and producing media artworks that engage, challenge and excite.

Visual Arts

Students in Yer 8 expand their command of visual arts language and techniques which they apply to 2D and 3D artwork of their own and other artists.

Year 8 Classroom Music

Students are given opportunities to apply their music skills and knowledge when performing, composing and listening to music.

Year 8 Instrument Hire

Instrumental music students complete:

- Technical studies commensurable to their expertise in a particular musical instrument
- A wide range of suitable repertoire

The half hour Instrumental Music lessons for students who choose to be included are arranged with the music teacher. These lessons occur on Wednesdays, with the Ensemble band rehearsing after school from 3-4pm.

Technologies

For further explanation on course information, contact HoLA Kim Holten - Phone 9621 6300 or email kim.holten@education.wa.edu.au

Design & Technology

Students will be introduced to the basic skills and systems used in Design & Technology in the context of Woodwork and Metalwork. They will produce small models that encourage and develop practical skills, and the ability to work safely and cooperatively in a workshop setting.

Digital Technologies

Year 8 Digital technologies focus on developing understanding and skills in computational thinking, engaging students with a wider range of information systems that are used in regional, national, and global activities. This is a compulsory course and will give students a foundation in the global digital world.
Students have opportunities to create a range of solutions, such the use of interactive web applications, basic game design, graphic design and explore the properties of computer networks and big data.

Home Economics

Students will be introduced to the knowledge, skills, equipment and processes used when working with Foods and Textiles. They will produce a range of products to develop practical skills and the ability to work safely and cooperatively.

Introduction to Stem (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics)

Learning in STEM focuses on further developing understanding and skills in computational thinking.
Students explore the properties of different types of networks, including the hardware components and software technology required to operate them effectively. The course develops an understanding of the vital role that data transmission play in our modern lives.
Using wide variety of software platforms, students will create, design and modify products such as infographics, game software, and use emerging technologies such as CAD and 3D printing.

Textiles

Students develop the knowledge and skills to create textile items such as cushions, soft toys and fashion items. A range of techniques are used such as machine sewing, hand embroidery, weaving and tie dye and fabric printing.

Academies

For further explanation on course information, contact Program Coordinator – Paige Ludwig - Phone 9621 6300 or email paige.ludwig@education.wa.edu.au

Big Picture Year 8

What is Big Picture Learning?
Big Picture's philosophy is grounded in educating "one student at a time" in a community of learners. To this end, Big Picture promotes the creation of personalised educational programs that are uniquely tailored for each student. Underpinning Big Picture Education's approach is the belief that each student has a unique set of interests, needs and capabilities around which personalised learning can take place.

How is it different from the usual experience of secondary school?
Big Picture Learning at Northam Senior High School is an entirely different way of 'doing' school. Learning is not organised around subjects, timetables, multiple classrooms and teachers, or exams. Instead, students develop their own personalised learning plans in consultation with their family and their advisory teacher.

Instead, students:

Learn through Interests
Students pursue a range of different personal interest projects, and also participate in social action initiatives, field trips and internships. Their curriculum is a personal one that reflects and expands their interests and aspirations. They connect their learning to the 6 Big Picture Learning Goals which are designed to broadly cover the key areas of learning that a young person needs to be successful in life.

Learn in Advisory groups
Students learn in a small group of 17 students known as an 'advisory', with a single advisory teacher. This becomes their learning community, and a major contributor to their sense of wellbeing. Every student feels known, supported and respected for who they are.

Their advisory teacher guides and scaffolds their learning while helping them to identify opportunities for learning outside school. Advisory teachers also have their own specialty areas and are highly trained in the Big Picture Learning Design.

Learn through Internship
Students leave school one to two days a week to learn through an internship in the community with an expert mentor in an organisation, business, art, sport, industry or trade that interests them. This allows them to test out their interests in real-world settings, to interact with a variety of adults and to start to build their networks of useful contacts for life after school.

Are Assessed by Exhibition
As every student is pursuing individual interests, there are no standardised exams. Instead, at the end of each term, students present what they have learned at an exhibition. They invite family, peers, mentors and teachers to attend. It's often a joyous event (though daunting at first for students) as they get to share their strengths and achievements with a variety of people as they reflect upon how they have progressed against their personal learning plan.

Reengagement Year 8

RATIONALE

The Reengagement program is an invitation-based program, where students are selected based on their literacy and numeracy results through primary school and at the beginning of their high school career, through transition and through referral from teachers.

Typically, such students may:

- Have had some absence from school and have some “gaps” in their learning.
- Require additional reinforcement of the “rules of literacy” through hands on techniques.
- Show the willingness to take control of their own learning.
- Be easily distracted by their peers in the classroom.
- Have difficulty in relating to as many as ten different teachers per week
- Lack self-confidence in their ability to learn
- Have barriers which have limited their success in education in the past.

Students who exhibit some of the above, may well benefit from participating in SAER.

HOW DOES REENGAGEMENT WORK?

- After assessing the suitability of Reengagement to a particular student-
- The student is tested for reading age level and data is gathered from teachers, previous reports and NAPLAN tests.
- The parents/carers and students are invited to attend a meeting with the Alternative Program Coordinator, through invitation.
- Upon acceptance of the invitation to join Reengagement the students are enrolled in the program.
- Curriculum Plans are negotiated between the teachers, the student and parent to determine how best to meet the needs of that individual student. This involves combining tasks with a literacy and numeracy focus with broader learning areas studies to ensure the students have exposure to all subjects.
- The student engages in the program, and his/her progress is monitored.
- Progress Reviews are conducted each term. This involves at least one meeting between student, parent and Program Coordinator - Academies. The outcome of these meetings will determine whether the student-
    - Continues in the program, either unaltered or with some agreed modifications, or,
    - Exits Reengagement. This will occur if the student has shown the ability to move into mainstream, with the support of the staff in the Reengagement program, or if the student is not complying with Reengagement requirements.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Like other support programs the *Northam Senior High School Reengagement* will only produce beneficial results for participating students if there is an effective partnership between the stakeholders – school, student and parent. Each needs to accept responsibility in supporting the student to achieve relevant and worthwhile outcomes. Specifically, this includes the Program Coordinator - Academies, teachers, education assistants and students.

YEAR 9

Mathematics

For further explanation on course information, contact HoLA Lyn McClellan - Phone 9621 6300 or email lynette.mcclellan@education.wa.edu.au

The Year 9 course continues to build on the achievements from the Western Australian Curriculum. Classes all have a common core in terms of the coursework with opportunities for extension in an academic class. All students have the opportunity to be promoted according to how they are progressing at any time. All students will be exposed to a variety of computer technologies including Mathletics, which students can access from home. The skills and knowledge attained are easily transferred across the curriculum.

English

For further explanation on course information, contact HoLA Georgia Sharpe - Phone 9621 6300 or email georgia.sharpe@education.wa.edu.au

The Year 9 students will consolidate their learning from the Year 8 course. As the NAPLAN testing occurs in this year of their schooling, the program will include preparing students in readiness for testing. They will complete a range of punctuation, spelling and grammar activities. Students will practice reading for literal meanings, drawing inferences and evaluating ideas. Narrative and persuasive writing will also be closely studied. Students will work on programs that look at language and cultural contexts and they will learn to use language in more sophisticated ways to communicate with a variety of audiences. These foci are drawn from the Western Australian Curriculum.

Science

For further explanation on course information, contact HoLA Kimberley Annear - Phone 9621 6300 or email kimberley.annear@education.wa.edu.au

Year 9 Biological Sciences continues to build on Year 8 learning by exploring how living things respond to changes in both their external and internal environments. Students investigate the range of structural, behavioural, and physiological adaptations that help plants and animals survive and thrive in changing conditions.

Year 9 Chemical Sciences deepens students' understanding of atoms and explores how differences in atomic structure can result in vastly different properties, from unreactive noble gases to highly reactive metals and radioactive elements. Students also investigate how substances react to form new substances and learn how to represent these reactions using word and chemical equations.

Year 9 Earth and Space Sciences take a global approach to understanding Earth's interconnected systems and how they interact with one another. Students explore the impacts of human activity on these systems and investigate the evidence for and consequences of global climate change.

Year 9 Physical Sciences builds on the Year 8 study of energy by investigating how energy is transferred through waves. Students explore sound and light waves in particular, examining how these forms of energy influence our ability to hear and see the world around us. They also investigate how an understanding of wave behaviour allows us to manipulate energy transfer for a range of practical applications and technologies.

Languages

For further explanation on course information, contact HoLA Danielle Morache - Phone 9621 6300 or email danielle.morache@education.wa.edu.au

Japanese

Students who studied Japanese in Year 7 and 8 can continue studying this Language in Year 9. In Year 9, students continue to build on their skills, knowledge and understanding. They use the Japanese language to exchange and compare information about Japan and the culture. Students use their literacy knowledge to engage with, and convey information from Japanese texts, including authentic sources, such as audio and video clips, online magazines, advertisements, songs, stories and articles. They adapt familiar and modelled language to create and present more detailed, informative, imaginative and personal texts for specific purposes.

Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS)

For further explanation on course information, contact HoLA Mark Cluning - Phone 9621 6300 or email mark.cluning@education.wa.edu.au

Term 1 – History "The making of the Modern World"
Term 2 – Geography "Biomes and food security"
Term 3 – Business and Economics "Australia and the Global Economy"
Term 4 – Civics and Citizenship "Our Democratic rights"

Health and Physical Education

For further explanation on course information, contact HoLA Derek Ringrose - Phone 9621 6300 or email derek.ringrose@education.wa.edu.au
NB: Not all subjects are guaranteed to run.

Health Education

Students evaluate factors that shape identity and look at the impact of change and their own ability to make healthy choices. In the context of relationships, lifestyle diseases, cannabis and alcohol, students will practice managing situations and propose appropriate responses to risk situations. Students will also implement and be able to critique strategies and factors that enhance and influence their health and wellbeing, with regard to mental health, first aid and goal setting. In Year 10, students participate in the 'Keys 4 Life' driver education and the 'Promotion of Adolescent Sexual Health' programs.

Physical Education

This program helps students reach their movement potential by understanding the structure of movement, moving confidently and competently in structured and unstructured activities, developing and maintaining fitness, meeting new demands by setting goals and interacting positively with others. This includes developing good sporting behaviour and accepting responsibility. Students are encouraged to perform and refine specialised movement skills in increasingly challenging situations.

Physical Education Electives

Physical Recreation

This course is designed to engage students in alternative recreational activities compared to traditional sports taught in Physical Education. This may include Archery, Squash, Pickle Ball, Water Polo, Golf, Frisbee Golf, Lawn Bowls, Table Tennis, Darts, Hiking, Skatepark/Pump Track, Gym etc. The activities offered each semester will be determined by student interest, the availability of facilities and resources, and seasonal considerations.

Specialised Basketball

Specialised basketball is a class for years 7 to 10 that supports the development of students' basketball skills whilst building teamwork, discipline and confidence. Theory is combined with structured training and competition to explore tactics, fitness, rules and leadership. These lessons help students deepen their understanding of performance and personal development. Opportunities to coach, referee, lead and mentor also fosters responsibility and pride, making this class ideal for students who are passionate about sport and growth, both on and off the court.

Specialised Sport

Specialised Sport is a practical based elective that focuses more in depth into the skill development and rules of each sport. Sports that maybe be delivered are Raquet, all types of Football, Netball, Volleyball or Cricket. The sports chosen each semester will be based on student interest.

Sport Science- Court Sports

Sport Science will hone in some Functional Anatomy (bones and muscles), sports psychology considerations and Motor Learning and Coaching to improve athletic performance. The main focus will be on sports played on a court. Basketball and Netball will be a large focus in this elective. Students will develop skills, understanding of rules and develop their capacity in umpiring these sports too. This will develop student's capacity for upper school General Physical Education studies and Sport Coaching courses.

The Arts

For further explanation on course information, contact HoLA Danielle Morache - Phone 9621 6300 or email danielle.morache@education.wa.edu.au
NB: Not all subjects are guaranteed to run. Students can choose to do Arts subjects in both Semester 1 and 2 to continue their skill development.

Drama

Students will explore non-realist drama, including Absurdism, Devising and Poor Theatre. Students are given opportunities to refine their knowledge and skills to present drama as an event. Students develop drama based on devised drama processes and appropriate published script excerpts.

Media

Students view media work, photography, film and posters from contemporary and past times to explore viewpoints from Australian and/or international media work. They consider and explore the impact of trends and how audiences use media. Students extend and refine the media skills they developed in the Year 7 or 8 taster course, working as a team, to follow timelines and use processes and strategies to ensure safe and responsible use of media equipment.

Photography

Students in Year 9 and 10 will explore the media, materials and technologies of Photography. They will look at the history, techniques, aesthetics and practice of using a digital camera well as the editing and manipulation of images using Photoshop.

Visual Arts
Students in Year 9 will explore a range of visual arts processes and use a variety of media as they work in various studio areas such as painting, drawing, ceramics and printmaking.

Music – Introduction to DJ skills
Students will learn the fundamentals of song structure, mixing songs and the basics of setting up and audio system. Students will have the chance to play a set at the swimming and athletic carnivals and other events. You can start your DJ career here in Introduction to DJ.

Instrumental Music - only available via the School of Instrumental Music
Year 9 Instrument Hire
In Year 9, students will further develop their technical skills in instrumental performance through individual lessons and ensemble rehearsals.

Technologies
For further explanation on course information, contact HoLA Kim Holten - Phone 9621 6300 or email kim.holten@education.wa.edu.au
NB: Not all subjects are guaranteed to run.

Digital Technologies
Year 9 Digital Technologies focuses on understanding and skills in computational thinking, engaging students with a wider range of information systems that are used in regional, national, and global activities.

Students have opportunities to create a range of solutions, such as:

- The development of Web applications,
- Advanced game design using programs such as Unity 3D,
- Virtual Reality
- Hands on application of basic computer networks
- Hands on application of big and small data.

Foods
Students develop the knowledge and skills to prepare food for themselves and others. Students will learn to select ingredients and follow recipes using the correct techniques and equipment.

Jewellery
Students will be introduced to the basic skills and systems used in jewellery creation and will develop metal working skills. They will produce small items to encourage and develop practical skills and the ability to work safely and cooperatively in a workshop setting.

Metalwork
Students develop skills in reading drawings, task planning, using a range of tools and machines to produce models in a metalwork setting. They will use technology processes in various tasks to develop design skills.

Robotics
Robotics is a course intended to develop skills for students interested in joining the school Robotics team. It will involve learning a wide range of skills in team development. This will include learning about the components of a robot, designs off different robot components, how movement is achieved in a robot, circuit design, and non-robotics related skills. Other skills include conducting market research, gathering data, advertisement of the school team, graphics design to support a team, and more.

If you are part of the Year 9 and 10 Robotics class, you will be offered the opportunity to participate in the after school FRC club.

The FIRST Robotics Competition is the flagship competition of FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology). This afterschool club worked toward entry into a large-scale robotics competition. First Robotics brings together students and Curtin student mentors to build robots that perform in a competitive but gracious environment against teams from all over the world.

Textiles
Students develop the knowledge and skills to create textile items such as cushions, soft toys and fashion items. A range of techniques are used such as machine sewing, hand embroidery, weaving and tie dye and fabric printing.

Woodwork

Students develop skills in reading drawings, task planning, and using a range of tools and machines to produce models in a woodwork setting. They will use technology processes in various tasks to develop design skills.

Academies

For further explanation on course information, contact Program Coordinator – Paige Ludwig - Phone 9621 6300 or email paige.ludwig@education.wa.edu.au

Big Picture Year 9

What is Big Picture Learning?

Big Picture's philosophy is grounded in educating "one student at a time" in a community of learners. To this end, Big Picture promotes the creation of personalised educational programs that are uniquely tailored for each student. Underpinning Big Picture Education's approach is the belief that each student has a unique set of interests, needs and capabilities around which personalised learning can take place.

How is it different from the usual experience of secondary school?

Big Picture Learning at Northam Senior High School is an entirely different way of 'doing' school. Learning is not organised around subjects, timetables, multiple classrooms and teachers, or exams. Instead, students develop their own personalised learning plans in consultation with their family and their advisory teacher.

Instead, students:

Learn through Interests

Students pursue a range of different personal interest projects, and also participate in social action initiatives, field trips and internships. Their curriculum is a personal one that reflects and expands their interests and aspirations. They connect their learning to the 6 Big Picture Learning Goals which are designed to broadly cover the key areas of learning that a young person needs to be successful in life.

Learn in Advisory groups

Students learn in a small group of 17 students known as an 'advisory', with a single advisory teacher. This becomes their learning community, and a major contributor to their sense of wellbeing. Every student feels known, supported and respected for who they are.

Their advisory teacher guides and scaffolds their learning while helping them to identify opportunities for learning outside school. Advisory teachers also have their own specialty areas and are highly trained in the Big Picture Learning Design.

Learn through Internship

Students leave school one to two days a week to learn through an internship in the community with an expert mentor in an organisation, business, art, sport, industry or trade that interests them. This allows them to test out their interests in real-world settings, to interact with a variety of adults and to start to build their networks of useful contacts for life after school.

Are Assessed by Exhibition

As every student is pursuing individual interests, there are no standardised exams. Instead, at the end of each term, students present what they have learned at an exhibition. They invite family, peers, mentors and teachers to attend. It's often a joyous event (though daunting at first for students) as they get to share their strengths and achievements with a variety of people as they reflect upon how they have progressed against their personal learning plan.

Reengagement Year 9

RATIONALE

The Reengagement program is an invitation-based program, where students are selected based on their literacy and numeracy results through primary school and at the beginning of their high school career, through transition and through referral from teachers.

Typically, such students may:

- Have had some absence from school and have some "gaps" in their learning.
- Require additional reinforcement of the "rules of literacy" through hands on techniques.
- Show the willingness to take control of their own learning.
- Be easily distracted by their peers in the classroom.
- Have difficulty in relating to as many as ten different teachers per week
- Lack self-confidence in their ability to learn
- Have barriers which have limited their success in education in the past.

Students who exhibit some of the above, may well benefit from participating in SAER.

HOW DOES REENGAGEMENT WORK?

- After assessing the suitability of Reengagement to a particular student-
- The student is tested for reading age level and data is gathered from teachers, previous reports and NAPLAN tests.
- The parents/carers and student are invited to attend a meeting with the Alternative Program Coordinator, through invitation.
- Upon acceptance of the invitation to join Reengagement the students are enrolled in the program.
- Curriculum Plans are negotiated between the teachers, the student and parent to determine how best to meet the needs of that individual student. This involves combining tasks with a literacy and numeracy focus with broader learning areas studies to ensure the students have exposure to all subjects.
- The student engages in the program, and his/her progress is monitored.
- Progress Reviews are conducted each term. This involves at least one meeting between student, parent and

Program Coordinator - Academies. The outcome of these meetings will determine whether the student-

- Continues in the program, either unaltered or with some agreed modifications, or,
- Exits Reengagement. This will occur if the student has shown the ability to move into mainstream, with the support of the staff in the Reengagement program, or if the student is not complying with Reengagement requirements.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Like other support programs the *Northam Senior High School Reengagement* will only produce beneficial results for participating students if there is an effective partnership between the stakeholders – school, student and parent. Each needs to accept responsibility in supporting the student to achieve relevant and worthwhile outcomes. Specifically, this includes the Program Coordinator - Academies, teachers, education assistants and students.

YEAR 10

Mathematics

For further explanation on course information, contact HoLA Lyn McClellan - Phone 9621 6300 or email lynette.mcclellan@education.wa.edu.au

The Year 10 course operates on two broad pathways. The ATAR bound pathway is intended for those students who have demonstrated a high level of achievement by the end of Year 9. The course is primarily focused on the competency needed for success in tertiary entrance Mathematics. The non- tertiary bound pathway is focused more on consolidating and developing life skills in Mathematics and passing OLNA in numeracy.

***Calculators* - All students need to have a calculator as part of their normal equipment. Good quality inexpensive scientific calculators can be purchased from the booklist at the beginning of the year.**

English

For further explanation on course information, contact HoLA Georgia Sharpe - Phone 9621 6300 or email georgia.sharpe@education.wa.edu.au

The Year 10 course is specifically designed to assist students to make informed study choices for their Upper School courses for the following year and to prepare them for the demands of study in ATAR and non-ATAR courses. In line with the Western Australian Curriculum, the programs will focus on evaluating the way groups and individuals are represented through language and the construction of texts for differing audiences and purposes. Students may need to undertake OLNA testing this year and will be offered support where necessary. The course is also constructed with a study and task structure similar to the Upper School English courses.

Science

For further explanation on course information, contact HoLA Kimberley Annear- Phone 9621 6300 or email kimberley.annear@education.wa.edu.au

Year 10 Biological Sciences rounds out students' learning by exploring the theory of evolution and how it helps explain changes in biodiversity over time. Students also investigate how genetic variation occurs within populations and develop an understanding of the role of DNA, genes, and inheritance in passing characteristics from one generation to the next.

Year 10 Chemical Sciences deepens students' understanding of chemical reactions by exploring the different types of chemical bonds that exist between atoms. Students investigate factors that affect the rate of reactions and explore the real-world implications of controlling reaction rates in everyday life, industry, and the environment.

Year 10 Earth and Space Sciences return students to space to learn about the formation of stars, galaxies, and our solar system. They explore the Big Bang Theory (not the television show!) and investigate how the life cycle of stars is linked to the formation of different celestial bodies. Students also examine the importance of space exploration and how discoveries about the universe have contributed to technologies and innovations that improve life on Earth.

Year 10 Physical Sciences wraps up students' study of Physics by exploring Newton's three laws of motion. Students investigate the factors that influence motion and learn how speed, velocity, and acceleration can be measured and analysed. These concepts are applied in contexts ranging from everyday travel and road safety to elite sporting performance. Finally, students explore the law of conservation of energy and how it can be used to determine the efficiency of energy use, an increasingly important consideration in a world striving for greater sustainability.

Science Investigation Elective

Students who demonstrate high skills, interest and ability in science will be given the opportunity for extension in the academic pathway class focused on developing their Science Investigation skills. This class prepares students for the rigours of Senior School ATAR curriculum as well as preparation for tertiary studies. They will focus on the design of experiments to safely design and plan experiments to collect reliable and accurate data. This provides opportunities for developing their data analysis skills to then analyse the significance of their results.

Students in this elective must adhere to safety instructions and evaluate risk as this is a critical part of science experiments. Unsafe behaviours may result in a course change.

Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS)

For further explanation on course information, contact HoLA Mark Cluning - Phone 9621 6300 or email mark.cluning@education.wa.edu.au

Term 1 – History "The modern world and Australia"
Term 2 – Geography "Environment change and management"
Term 3 – Business and Economics "Economic performance and living standards"
Term 4 – Civics and Citizenship "Justice at home and overseas"

Health and Physical Education

For further explanation on course information, contact HoLA Derek Ringrose Phone 9621 6300 or email derek.ringrose@education.wa.edu.au
NB: Not all subjects are guaranteed to run.

Health Education

Students evaluate factors that shape identity and look at the impact of change and their own ability to make healthy choices. In the context of relationships, lifestyle diseases, cannabis and alcohol, students will practice managing situations and propose appropriate responses to risk situations. Students will also implement and be able to critique strategies and factors that enhance and influence their health and wellbeing, with regard to mental health, first aid and goal setting. In Year 10, students participate in the 'Keys 4 Life' driver education and the 'Promotion of Adolescent Sexual Health' programs.

Physical Education

This program helps students reach their movement potential by understanding the structure of movement, moving confidently and competently in structured and unstructured activities, developing and maintaining fitness, meeting new demands by setting goals and interacting positively with others. This includes developing good sporting behaviour and accepting responsibility. Students are encouraged to perform and refine specialised movement skills in increasingly challenging situations.

Physical Education Electives

Outdoor Education

This is a specialised course with both theory and practical components, encompassing activities such as camping, bushcraft and hiking. Includes overnight excursions and focuses on outdoors skills development and interpersonal skills in preparation for upper school General Outdoor Education.

Specialised Basketball

Specialised basketball is a class for years 7 to 10 that supports the development of students' basketball skills whilst building teamwork, discipline and confidence. Theory is combined with structured training and competition to explore tactics, fitness, rules and leadership. These lessons help students deepen their understanding of performance and personal development. Opportunities to coach, referee, lead and mentor also fosters responsibility and pride, making this class ideal for students who are passionate about sport and growth, both on and off the court.

Physical Recreation

This course is designed to engage students in alternative recreational activities compared to traditional sports taught in Physical Education. This may include Archery, Squash, Pickle Ball, Water Polo, Golf, Frisbee Golf, Lawn Bowls, Table Tennis, Darts, Hiking, Skatepark/Pump Track, Gym etc. The activities offered each semester will be determined by student interest, the availability of facilities and resources, and seasonal considerations.

Specialised Sport

Specialised Sport is a practical based elective that focuses more in depth into the skill development and rules of each sport. Sports that maybe be delivered are Raquet, all types of Football, Netball, Volleyball or Cricket. The sports chosen each semester will be based on student interest.

Strength and Fitness

This is a specialised course with both theory and practical components, encompassing a range of strength and fitness components appropriate to adolescent development, nutrition, focusing on strength, flexibility, power and endurance in preparation for the upper school General Physical Education Studies and the Certificate II Sports Coaching.

The Arts

For further explanation on course information, contact HoLA Danielle Morache - Phone 9621 6300 or email danielle.morache@education.wa.edu.au
NB: Not all subjects are guaranteed to run. Students can choose to do Arts subjects in both Semester 1 and 2 to continue their skill development.

Drama

School Production (Endorsed Program) ADSP is a SCSA-endorsed program that recognizes the valuable learning students gain through active participation in a theatrical school production. Whether you're passionate about performing on stage or working behind the scenes, this course offers a unique opportunity to develop real-world skills in a creative and collaborative environment.

Students can choose to focus on a wide range of roles, including:

- Performance (acting, singing, dancing)
- Technical Production (lighting, sound, set design)
- Design (costumes, props, makeup)
- Backstage Support (stage management, crew)

This is a yearlong course working alongside Senior School students.

Media

In Year 10, students explore media elements, develop their creative and critical analysis skills and apply these to create their own magical media productions.

Photography

Students in Year 9 and 10 will explore the media, materials and technologies of Photography. They will look at the history, techniques, aesthetics and practice of using a digital camera well as the editing and manipulation of images using Photoshop.

Visual Arts

Students in Year 10 explore artistic influences, develop their creative skills and critical appreciation, and create visual art that expresses their individualism in their application and materials.

Music – Introduction to DJ

Students will learn the fundamentals of song structure, mixing songs and the basics of setting up an audio system. Students will have the chance to play a set at the swimming and athletic carnivals and other events. You can start your DJ career here in Introduction to DJ.

Instrumental Music - only available via the School of Instrumental Music

Year 10 - Instrument Hire

In Year 10, students will further develop their technical skills in instrumental performance through individual lessons and ensemble rehearsals.

Technologies

For further explanation on course information, contact HoLA Kim Holten - Phone 9621 6300 or email kim.holten@education.wa.edu.au

NB: Not all subjects are guaranteed to run.

Children, Family, Community

This course is designed for students interested in caring for or working with children and community. Students will explore development and the wellbeing of individuals, families and communities through practical activities.

Digital Technology

Year 10 Digital Technologies focuses on further understanding and skills in computational thinking, engaging students with a wider range of information systems that are used in regional, national, and global activities.

Students have opportunities to create a range of solutions, such as:

- The development of Web applications,
- Advanced game design using programs such as Unity 3D
- Virtual Reality
- Hands on application of basic computer networks
- Hands on application of big and small data.

Foods

Students develop the knowledge and skills to prepare food for themselves and others. Students will learn to select ingredients and follow recipes using the correct techniques and equipment.

Jewellery

Students will be introduced to the basic skills and systems used in jewellery creation and will develop metal working skills. They will produce small items that encourage and develop practical skills and the ability to work safely and cooperatively in a workshop setting.

Home Workshop

Students develop skills in reading drawings, task planning, using a range of tools and machines to produce models in a workshop setting. They will use technology processes in various tasks to develop design skills.

Hospitality

This course will allow students to develop food preparation and presentation skills that are essential to the Hospitality Industry. Students will produce a range of products that encourage and develop a high level of food skills.

Metalwork
Students develop skills in reading drawings, task planning, using hand and power tools and machines to produce models in a metalwork setting. They will use technology processes in various tasks to develop design skills.

Robotics
Robotics is a course intended to develop skills for students interested in joining the school Robotics team. It will involve learning a wide range of skills in team development. This will include learning about the components of a robot, designs of different robot components, how movement is achieved in a robot, circuit design, and non-robotics related skills. Other skills include conducting market research, gathering data, advertisement of the school team, graphics design to support a team, and more.

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Textiles
Students develop the knowledge and skills to create textile items such as cushions, soft toys and fashion items. A range of techniques are used such as machine sewing, hand embroidery, weaving and tie dye and fabric printing.

Woodwork
Students develop skills in reading drawings, task planning, using hand and power tools and machines to produce models in a woodwork setting. They will use technology processes in various tasks to develop design skills.

Academies
For further explanation on course information, contact Program Coordinator – Paige Ludwig - Phone 9621 6300 or email paige.ludwig@education.wa.edu.au

Big Picture Year 10
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Their advisory teacher guides and scaffolds their learning while helping them to identify opportunities for learning outside school. Advisory teachers also have their own specialty areas and are highly trained in the Big Picture Learning Design.

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Reengagement Year 10

RATIONALE

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Typically, such students may:

- Have had some absence from school and have some “gaps” in their learning.
- Require additional reinforcement of the “rules of literacy” through hands on techniques.
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- Be easily distracted by their peers in the classroom.
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- Curriculum Plans are negotiated between the teachers, the student and parent to determine how best to meet the needs of that individual student. This involves combining tasks with a literacy and numeracy focus with broader learning areas studies to ensure the students have exposure to all subjects.
- The student engages in the program, and his/her progress is monitored.
- Progress Reviews are conducted each term. This involves at least one meeting between student, parent and Program Coordinator - Academies. The outcome of these meetings will determine whether the student-
    - Continues in the program, either unaltered or with some agreed modifications, or,
    - Exits Reengagement. This will occur if the student has shown the ability to move into mainstream, with the support of the staff in the Reengagement program, or if the student is not complying with Reengagement requirements.

RESPONSIBILITIES

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