

Year 8 Subject Selection

The Year 8 program offers students access to a range of curriculum areas that will enable them to make informed choices when deciding on future pathways. As part of their program students may select **one** elective subject from those listed below.

Physical Education and Music are offered as compulsory components of the Year 8 core program as well as in the elective block. Languages are only offered in the elective block. If students do not select a Language they will not study this area in Year 8.

Textiles

Year 8 Textiles introduces students to the exciting world of design, creativity and practical sewing skills. Students develop an understanding of textile materials, equipment and safe work practices while learning the fundamentals of hand sewing and machine sewing. Through a range of engaging practical projects, students build confidence in measuring, cutting, pinning, stitching and constructing textile items. This subject encourages creativity, problem-solving, organisation and resilience while developing valuable lifelong skills in design and textile production.



Invaders and Conquerors

In this unit students will look at four great societies and their conquests. This unit will answer questions like:

The Vikings: How did the conquerors from the north invade places from Kyiv in Ukraine to Nova Scotia in Canada? What was special about Viking gods like Odin, Thor and Loki?

Ancient Rome: How did a small Italian village conquer a quarter of the world and a third of its population? Why do we still use Roman roads, law and language today?

The Japanese Shoguns: What was life like under the Shoguns? Why did the Shoguns stop all contact with the outside world? Who were the Geisha women? What was Bushido (the way of the warrior)?

The Mongol Invasion: Why did the Mongol Empire only last just over 160 years? How did Genghis Khan conquer so much of the world? How did they reach the gates of Vienna?

Language- Italian

Students will study aspects of the Italian language and culture. Emphasis will be placed on developing students' understanding of culture through a variety of learning activities and excursions. Students will gain insight into the Italian food culture and have the opportunity to create their own food items using authentic Italian ingredients.

Students will be able to develop a more advanced knowledge of the language to ensure they can develop their communicating, listening, reading and writing skills in another language. This language development will be most beneficial should they choose to attend the Italy Study Tour.

Lowanna Sports Academy

The Lowanna Sports Academy is committed to providing students with the highest quality specialised sports program including high quality coaching with excellent facilities and equipment available. As the only school-based sporting and academic development program in Gippsland, we are offering students elite coaching and training during school hours while delivering a complete Secondary School curriculum.

We have partnerships with Gippsland Power (Football) and Gippsland United (Basketball), which ensures the quality and provides additional resources for the program. These partnerships complement our program whilst improving sporting pathways for talented student athletes.

Within the program students will complete individual/team skill coaching, skill game analysis, fitness testing, strength and conditioning and game strategies.

Cost - There is a **\$450** charge for this elective which will cover sports specific coaching, excursions, equipment, nutrition consults and guest speakers.

Selection - Selection into this program is based around sporting attributes and ability, academic effort and achievement, and student behaviour and attitude.

Music

This course is designed to focus on music styles of Blues, Rap, Pop and Rock. Students will develop skills in composition, performance, musicianship and ICT. Students perform a range of selected works in class band using a range of instruments available in the class. Students study the selected styles of music and complete a range of analysis of stylistic elements. They will develop specific instrument techniques and stylistic understanding in the preparation and presentation of the selected works. They will develop aural, theory and analytical skills relevant to their year level and will be able to apply knowledge to their performances.



Year 8 Subject Selection

Technology Materials

In this unit students will learn and undertake the steps of the technology process to research, design, produce and evaluate a number of projects that relate to Wood, Metal, and Electrical Systems. Students will undertake theoretical work on their computer using OneNote while being responsible for managing their learning along with the safe use of hand tools, machinery, and other equipment.



Technology - Computing

In this unit students will continue to develop their basic computer skills. Students will work individually and in groups to develop an understanding of safe practices online, use of AI, hardware and software components of a network, and learn the basic skills required to succeed in their schooling.

Students will complete work on their laptops using Office 365 suite, as well as using different specific software for targeted learning, including transitioning from block based to more advanced coding languages. Students will also explore emerging technologies such as drones, robotics and smart devices as well as virtual and augmented reality technologies.

Drama

In Year 8 Drama, students build on foundational performance skills by exploring character development, improvisation and storytelling. They will collaborate to devise, rehearse and present both scripted and original performances. The course encourages creativity, empathy and confidence in self-expression. Students reflect on and evaluate their own work and that of others to improve their understanding of dramatic conventions. Focus is placed on voice, movement, space and performance styles.

Art

Year 8 Art is a year long course where students will explore and experiment with the materials and techniques in the artforms of Drawing, Painting and Visual Communication. Students will explore the subject of Portraiture in the Drawing Unit and Landscape in the Painting Unit. Additionally, students will explore an individual theme by researching and developing ideas to produce a final artwork of their choice following the Creative Practice in the final unit of the course. Students will learn to respond and interpret a variety of historical and contemporary artwork in written and collaborative verbal discussions. Students will reflect on visual exercises in their folio as well as final artworks.



Food Studies

Year 8 Food Studies is a year-long elective subject. In Semester 1, students will study aspects of nutrition and the Australian Guide to Healthy Eating, while also learning about the sensory properties of different foods. Students learn about the sustainability of some food industries, how they thrive in a changing world and the effect they have on the environment. In Semester 2, students will study the design process, and analyse a design brief to solve a problem through the production of a food item. They will study food marketing and labelling, and the cultural influences that impact food production and choices. They will also learn about contemporary food issues, and how these are influenced by migration, technology, production processes and social trends. Throughout the year, students will learn technical skills and vocabulary through their food production tasks. A range of common assessment tasks will be used to assess progress in this subject throughout the year.



LIA

Arts Collaborative Practice is a year-long interdisciplinary arts elective that introduces students to collaborative creative processes across Music, Drama and Visual Arts. The subject is designed as a foundational pathway into the Lowanna Institute of the Arts (LIA) Years 9 and 10 programs.

Students engage in authentic, ensemble-based learning experiences that reflect real-world creative industries such as theatre, film, performance and multimedia production. Emphasis is placed on collaboration, experimentation, creative risk-taking and shared responsibility. Entry into the subject is via application and group audition, ensuring students demonstrate commitment, collaborative skills and readiness to work across multiple arts disciplines.

Semester 1 – Interdisciplinary Stop-Motion Project

Students work in collaborative teams to plan and produce a stop-motion animation project that integrates all three arts disciplines.

Semester 2 – Community Performance Project

Students collaboratively design and present a performance for the college community, drawing on skills developed throughout the year. Performances may include:

- Devised or scripted dramatic scenes
- Live or recorded musical performances
- Music videos or multimedia performance works
- Visual arts contributions such as stage design, costumes, props and backdrops

Where scheduling allows, students may collaborate with Year 9 or 10 LIA students in larger-scale productions (e.g. the school musical), providing valuable experience in authentic production and ensemble contexts.