



Curriculum Handbook

Year 7 2025



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Siena
CATHOLIC COLLEGE

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Information for Students and Parents

Year 7 Curriculum

Students in Year 7 study a combination of core subjects across the full year or in 13-week (trimester) rotation blocks.

Curriculum Offerings

Core Subjects

All students in Year 7 will study **six core academic subjects**. The core academic subjects include:

- Religion
- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Humanities and Social Sciences – Geography/History
- Health and Physical Education

Students also participate in the weekly Sport and Recreation program.

Rotation Subjects

Students also study the following Rotation Subjects:

- Technologies
 - Design Technology and Industrial Design
 - Food and Textile Design
 - Digital Technologies
- Languages
 - Italian
- The Arts
 - Performing Arts
 - Visual & Media Arts

These are designed to give experience in a broad range of subjects outside those designated as Core. Students study these subjects two at a time for 13-week blocks. At the end of Year 7 students will be required to select four single semester electives to be studied in Year 8.

Rotation subjects have a time allocation of six periods per cycle (two weeks).

Timetable Schedule

The timetable is structured as a 10-day (two week) cycle consisting of 60 periods.

Curriculum Offerings

Year 7 Subjects	Semester Length	Type
07RE – Religion	2	Core
07ENG – English	2	Core
07HPE – Health and Physical Education	2	Core
07HUM – Humanities and Social Sciences (Geography/History)	2	Core
07MAT – Mathematics	2	Core
07SCI – Science	2	Core
07SPO – Sport and Recreation	2	Core
Technologies		
07DTMAT – Design Technology and Industrial Design	1	Rotation
07DTFPS – Food and Textile Design	1	Rotation
07DIGTEC – Digital Technologies	1	Rotation
Languages		
07ITL Italian	1	Rotation
The Arts		
07ARTDD – Performing Arts	1	Rotation
07VAR – Visual & Media Arts	1	Rotation

Further Information

Homework/Study

Each student should endeavour to complete approximately 1 to 1½ hours of homework/study each night during Year 7. This can take the form of work set by the teacher, a review of the day's work or general revision of work completed earlier in the semester. Homework/study should be done under conditions where distractions, such as television, are kept to a minimum.

Assessment Policy and Guidelines

During the course of students' schooling, they will be required to complete assessment tasks and submit work to teachers for evaluation. The assessment tasks may include research or practical assignments, performances, essays and formal examinations. Please refer to the **Assessment Policy and Guideline** document on the Parent Portal for further details.

Subjects (Core and Rotation)

Religion

Core Subject

Subject Title: 07RE – Religious Education

Subject Overview

Catholic schools offer an educational foundation for life to the full. They encourage students to develop their relationship with their God and to live the enduring values needed in an ever-changing world.

Religious Education in the contemporary Catholic School comprises two distinct but complementary dimensions – teaching people religion and teaching people to be religious.

Themes to be studied include:

Term 1 Unit – Sacraments and Sacramentality; Why do Catholics have so many Sacraments?

Key concepts: The Siena story, the Patrons of Siena, the Church’s Liturgical Year, Indigenous Australia and the Christian story, symbols and rituals, sacraments, the Diaconate and the Priesthood.

Term 2 Unit – The Power of Words; Are the words of the creeds and the ‘10 Commandments’ still relevant to me?

Key concepts: Words are powerful, words from the past and their importance today, context of famous speeches, New Testament Gospels and cultural context; occupations, laws and activities of Jesus’ time, meaning today within scriptural texts and how creeds connect believers across time.

Term 3 Unit – Hebrew Scriptures; How come we share the core stories of our religion with others?

Key concepts: Books of the Hebrew Scripture and Christian Scriptures, the stories of the tradition, the story of God, the story of Abraham and monotheism.

Term 4 Unit – Doing Good and Avoiding Evil; Doing Good, what’s in it for me?

Key concepts: Morality and values, Christian values in the Bible, introduction to Jewish, Buddhist and Muslim values and ethics, conscience; living a good life, the Ripple Effect and Good and Evil in the Bible and today.

Terms of work are outlined above. In addition, attention will be given to the major church events throughout the year – Lent, Easter, Pentecost and Advent.

Assessment

Students’ understanding of Religion will be assessed through a variety of methods, including but not limited to:

- Letter
- Project (spoken & product)
- Response to Stimulus Exam
- Weebly

Further Comments

Religious Education is compulsory for all students in all year levels.

Cost

Costs associated with this subject will be included in the College Fees.

English

Core Subject

Subject Title: 07ENG – English

Subject Overview

The English curriculum is built around the 3 interrelated strands of Language, Literature and Literacy. Together, the 3 strands focus on developing students' knowledge, understanding and skills in listening, reading, viewing, speaking, writing and creating.

A range of texts will provide opportunities to:

- Understand audience, purpose and context of texts
- Investigate the impact of language and images on meaning
- Explain issues and ideas
- Analyse evidence and meaning
- Select details from texts
- Identify different perspectives
- Use personal knowledge and experiences to express a point of view
- Create texts for a range of purposes and audiences
- Refine editing skills – spelling, grammar, vocab
- Take part in class and group discussions, presentations

Units and Assessment

- Visual Literacy – TEEL paragraph writing in response to the covers of fictional texts
- Screen to Page – Narrative extract based on a scene from a film
- Motivational Speaking – TED talk
- Creative writing – Short story based on a key theme from the novel

Further Comments

The Year 7 English course also assists students in their use of language across other humanities subjects in the school curriculum and in activities beyond the school community.

Cost

Costs associated with this subject will be included in the College Fees.

Health and Physical Education

Core Subject

Subject Title: 07HPE – Health and Physical Education

Subject Overview

Students engage in learning under the strands of the HPE National Curriculum: personal, social and community health and movement and physical activity. Contact time amounts to 3 single lessons and one double lesson per fortnightly cycle.

The following is covered in Year 7:

Personal, Social and Community Health Strand:

- Creating Connections
- Study Skills
- Bullying
- Communication Strategies
- Helpful Thinking
- Life Problem Solving
- Dealing with Peer Pressure
- Daniel Morcombe Child Safety Curriculum

Movement and Physical Activity Strand:

- Invasion Game
- Athletics
- Striking and Fielding
- Oztag

Assessment

Students submit a work booklet demonstrating their learning of the elements under the Personal, Social and Community Health Strand. Students also complete an assessment task each term to demonstrate their progress in achieving the Health and Physical Education Australian Curriculum Achievement Standards.

Students undergo continuous assessment of the elements of the Movement and Physical Activity Strand. This assessment culminates in an authentic context physical activity eg. Athletics – complete an 800m run, take part in small-sided games.

Cost

Costs associated with this subject will be included in the College Fees.

Humanities and Social Sciences (Geography/History)

Core Subject

Subject Title: 07HUM – Humanities and Social Sciences (Geography/History)

Subject Overview

Students complete a semester course of History and a semester course of Geography.

Humanities help students to understand the world and their place within it. Students learn how to interact with each other and with environments. It involves investigations of issues and promotes critical thinking as regards to the past, present and possible future. This subject encourages students to be active participants in their world. Students develop the ability to reflect on the values of democratic process, social justice, economic and ecological sustainability and peace, to make decisions about issues regarding society and environments.

Humanities draw on disciplines including History, Geography, Economics and Civics and Citizenship.

Units to be studied include:

Term 1

- What is Geography?
- Place and Livability

Term 2

- Water in the World

Term 3

- What is History?
- Ancient Greece

Term 4

- Ancient China

Assessment

Students will be assessed through the following instruments:

- Field Reports
- Short Response Tests
- Stimulus Response Tests
- Extended Written Responses
- Practical Exercises
- Oral Presentations

Cost

Costs associated with this subject will be included in the College Fees.

Mathematics

Core Subject

Subject Title: 07MAT – Mathematics

Subject Overview

This course complies with the requirements of the Australian Curriculum. The strands covered are:

- Number and Algebra
- Statistics and Probability
- Measurement and Geometry

By the end of Year 7, students will be exposed to curriculum which allows them to,

- Solve problems involving the comparison, addition and subtraction of integers.
- Make the connections between whole numbers and index notation and the relationship between perfect squares and square roots.
- Solve problems involving percentages and all four operations with fractions and decimals.
- Compare the cost of items to make financial decisions.
- Represent numbers using variables.
- Connect the laws and properties for numbers to algebra.
- Interpret simple linear representations and model authentic information.
- Describe different views of three-dimensional objects.
- Represent transformations in the Cartesian plane.
- Solve simple numerical problems involving angles formed by a transversal crossing two parallel lines.
- Identify issues involving the collection of continuous data.
- Describe the relationship between the median and mean in data displays.
- Use fractions, decimals and percentages, and their equivalences. Express one quantity as a fraction or percentage of another.
- Solve simple linear equations and evaluate algebraic expressions after numerical substitution.
- Assign ordered pairs to given points on the Cartesian plane.
- Use formulas for the area and perimeter of rectangles and calculate volumes of rectangular prisms.
- Classify triangles and quadrilaterals.
- Name the types of angles formed by a transversal crossing parallel line.
- Determine the sample space for simple experiments with equally likely outcomes and assign probabilities to those outcomes.
- Calculate mean, mode, median and range for data sets.

Assessment

Students will be assessed through unit tests and an assignment.

The following criteria will be assessed:

- Understanding and Fluency – recall and routine application of knowledge
- Problem solving and reasoning – application in sometimes unfamiliar situations

At the end of each semester, grades will be given that summarises a typical result in each criterion.

Cost

Costs associated with this subject will be included in the College Fees.

Science

Core Subject

Subject Title: 07SCI – Science

Subject Overview

In Year 7 students explore the diversity of life on Earth and continue to develop their understanding of the role of classification in ordering and organising information. They use and develop models to represent and analyse the flow of energy and matter through ecosystems and explore the impact of changing components within these systems. They investigate relationships in the Earth-sun-moon system and use models to predict and explain events. They extend their understanding of the particulate nature of matter and explore how interactions of matter and energy at the sub-microscopic scale determine macroscopic properties. They consider the effects of multiple forces when explaining changes in an object's motion. Students make accurate measurements and analyse relationships between system components. They construct and use models to test hypotheses about phenomena at scales that are difficult to study directly and use these observations and other evidence to draw conclusions. They begin to understand the relationship between science and society and appreciate the need for ethical and cultural considerations when acquiring data.

Inquiry questions we use can help excite students' curiosity and challenge their thinking in science. The following are examples of inquiry questions that may be used to prompt discussion and exploration:

- Mosquitoes are so annoying! What would the impact be if we got rid of them?
- What would Australian ecosystems look like without fire?
- How do simple machines make our lives easier?
- Why is being able to separate mixtures important?
- How have systems of classification changed over time? How do they differ across cultures?

Assessment

Assessment includes both formative and summative assessment techniques including:

- Student Experiments
- Supervised Exams/Data Tests
- Research Investigations
- Group Presentations

The assessment criteria will be based on two dimensions:

Understanding

- Science Understanding
- Science as a Human Endeavour

Skills

- Questioning and predicting
- Planning and conducting scientific investigations
- Evaluating
- Processing, interpreting and analysing data and information
- Communicating

Student Resources

- Pearson Science 2nd Edition Textbook
- Pearson Activity Book
- Teacher-prepared units and Teams pages/One Note notebooks
- Stile online program and Stile X workbook

Cost

Costs associated with this subject will be included in the College Fees.

Sport and Recreation

Core Subject

Subject Title: 07SPO – Sport and Recreation

Subject Overview

In Terms 2 and 4, Year 7 students have the opportunity to represent the school in the Coastal District Interschool Sport Competition.

Term 2		Term 4	
Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
AFL	Netball	Basketball	OzTag
Volleyball	Volleyball	Cricket	Softball
Rugby League	Touch	Tennis	AFL
Soccer	Soccer	Baseball	Basketball
		Touch	Tennis

Students not involved in the interschool sport competition participate in a school based sport program, which aims to develop students' interest and skills in a variety of sports.

In Terms 1 and 3, Year 7 students choose from a variety of sport and recreation options such as golf, diving, judo, yoga, gym, surfing and sailing.

Proficient students are eligible to trial for District and Regional sporting teams at designated trial days throughout the year.

Further Comments

Inter-House carnivals are held throughout the year:

- Swimming in Term 1
- Cross Country in Term 2
- Athletics in Term 3

Selected students represent the school at District or Regional carnivals and are eligible for District, Regional and State selection.

Cost

Costs associated with this subject will be included in the College Fees.

Some activities have an extra cost, which is billed with the term fees. Students are not required to take an activity with a surcharge.

Technologies – Design Technology and Industrial Design

Rotation Subject

Unit Title: 07DTMAT – Design Technology

Unit Overview

Design Technology involves the design and manufacture of products and graphical representations. Innovation and technological developments continually expand the range of materials, tools, processes and techniques that can be used in the development of industrial technology and design products.

Students use a variety of hand and power tools to solve design problems using: metal, plastics, and timber products and related technology.

Topics covered include:

- Design Process
- Safety
- Material

Possible projects could include creating an Identification Tag (plastics), Box with Lid (timber, ply and acrylic).

Assessment

Students will be assessed through their ability to engage with the Design Process to produce a product to solve a set problem-

Further Comments

Year 7 Design Technology is offered as a 13-week rotation.

Cost

Costs associated with this subject will be included in the College Fees.

Technologies – Food and Textile Design

Rotation Subject

Unit Title: 07DTFS – Food and Textile Design

Unit Overview

Year 7 Food and Textile Design (FTD) aims to develop students' knowledge, skills and understanding of the importance of food in ensuring the well-being of all Australians. Students develop food skills and an understanding of, food preparation, food safety, nutrition and consumption.

FTD recognises the importance of a practical approach to solving everyday living problems and of providing students with the opportunity to develop the practical and management skills involved in the selection and manipulation of resources and the planning and execution of practical tasks.

Food Technology explores the fundamentals of food preparation in our contemporary, fast paced society in order to form a firm foundation for simple, nutritious and delicious meals and snacks for themselves and others. Food hygiene and food safety will be investigated.

Textile Technology will enable students to explore the use of textile products in their daily lives. The characteristics of fibres and fabrics, construction techniques of textiles will be investigated. Students will consider others when deciding what and for whom their project will be constructed for; simple practical skills in textiles will be practiced. This then culminates in enabling students to investigate, design, produce and evaluate a textile product for an end purpose.

Assessment

Students will be assessed through interesting research assignments, practical food preparation and textile projects.

- Safe and hygienic participation in weekly practical lesson: both food cookery and textiles production.
- Practical Cookery: Snacks, Breakfasts, Lunches, Dinners
- Textile items: design and construction packaging for food presentation and delivery
- Students are also required to bring / purchase some ingredients or textile items from home

Further Comments

Year 7 Food and Textile Design is offered as a 13-week rotation.

Cost

Costs associated with this subject will be included in the College Fees.

Technologies – Digital Technologies

Rotation Subject

Unit Title: 07DIGTEC – Digital Technologies

Unit Overview

Digital Technology centers around the idea of transmitting data across the Internet. Students will understand what happens when they send text and images to others using the Internet. The topics covered include:

- What the Internet is and how it work
- What Wi-Fi is and how it relates, yet differs to the Internet
- How mobile phone towers combine to provide mobile data

To provide context to the knowledge and understanding, students will follow the processes that occur when social media applications are used, describing where their data goes and how it is sold and used by social media companies. In addition, students will analyse how and why people use social media and determine the potential social and emotional impacts of all users, regardless of age and gender.

With this information in hand, students will determine the best practices of setting up wifi and the Internet and the most appropriate tools for online collaboration in the workplace.

Assessment

Students will be assessed through an in-class assignment, creating a multimodal Keynote presentation to help people use the Internet effectively, efficiently and in a way that protects their mental health.

Further Comments

Year 7 Digital Technology is offered as a 13-week rotation.

Cost

Costs associated with this subject will be included in the College Fees.

Languages – Italian

Rotation Subject

Unit Title: 07ITL – Italian

Unit Overview

In Year 7, Italian introduces students to the language and culture of Italy, with an emphasis on the city of Siena and the influences of this city on our College.

Students learn about the famous Palio race, the Contradas, and the story of Romulus and Remus.

Topics include conversational Italian, development of dialogue and basic greetings, in addition to a unit on food “A Tavola” (at the table) which develops an appreciation of the way in which food is considered an essential part of social life for Italians.

Assessment

Students will be assessed with a variety of instruments including:

- An interactive role play
- A reading and writing test

Further Comments

Year 7 Italian is offered as a 13-week rotation.

Cost

Costs associated with this subject will be included in the College Fees.

The Arts – Performing Arts

Rotation Subject

Unit Title: 07ARTDD – Performing Arts

Unit Overview

In the integrated rotation students experience dance, drama and music. They will learn how to identify and analyse the elements of dance, drama and music through specific practical learning activities. Students will apply this knowledge as they take on the role of a character; come together as a rock band and recall and perform choreography with expressive and technical skill.

Students will collaborate to interpret script excerpts, learn new instruments and perform and adapt movement by working in groups to entertain an audience with a polished performance.

Students will also evaluate how they and others communicate meaning through different styles of popular dance, contemporary music and theatre for young people.

Assessment

Students will be assessed in the following areas:

- Making
- Responding

Further Comments

Year 7 Performing Arts is offered as a 13-week rotation. The course will provide students with a range of engaging learning activities that will prepare them for the Dance, Drama & Music elective subjects in Year 8 and beyond. Units are designed to cater for a variety of interests and levels of experience. Performing Arts promotes self-confidence for performance and self-expression through movement.

Cost

Costs associated with this subject will be included in the College Fees.

The Arts – Visual Arts & Media Arts

Rotation Subject

Unit Title: 07VAR – Visual Arts & Media Arts

Unit Overview

In Visual & Media Arts students learn through direct engagement with two-dimensional, three-dimensional and four-dimensional art practices and concepts. Students will learn how to manipulate materials and techniques to develop, refine and represent ideas and subject matter in their artworks.

The Visual Art program focuses on developing a knowledge and understanding of the elements of design. Students will examine the purpose of art and how art and design are used in the world around them. They will complete a series of design exercises which examine each artistic element. Students will also learn how to interpret and analyse visual qualities of artwork relevant to each element of design.

In Media Arts students consider viewpoints – forms and elements of photography. Through photographic techniques students will create a mood and communicate a meaning. They will apply image manipulation software to enhance the mood and strengthen a point of view.

Students will study the following unit

- Creating a Feeling – The elements of design

Assessment

Students will be assessed in the following areas:

- Making
- Responding

Students will be assessed through art and media making, their art journal and written tasks.

Further Comments

Year 7 Visual Arts & Media Arts is offered as a 13-week rotation. Students will engage with a range of learning activities that will prepare them for the Visual Art & Media Arts elective subject in Year 8 and beyond.

Cost

Costs associated with this subject will be included in the College Fees.