

Year 82024 Subject Guide



Year 8 2024 Subject Guide

This document details the subjects taught at Brighton Grammar School to Year 8 (2024) students. Each individual subject has a one page summary on the proceeding pages.

Overview of Subject Offerings

Students take a range of subjects to offer them a breadth of experiences to explore, discover and develop their interests.

Subject	Compulsory	Full year
Chinese	Select at least one. The language must have been studied in Year 7. A second language can be taken but it is optional.	
Chinese (Advanced)		
French		
Japanese		

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Year 8 Art

Overview

Students expand on their practical and theoretical understanding of art. They explore Art more deeply through a variety of equipment, technologies and techniques to create works of personal significance. This involves folio development through Year 8-9 (m)-6 (om.7 (or)



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Year 8 Drama

Overview

Year 8 Drama is a fun and practical approach to creating performance that extends on the foundation skills developed in Year 7. Students participate in activities and workshops that arm them with the skills and knowledge they need in order to express themselves and create their own Drama performances. In addition to this, they learn about theoretical approaches to Drama and how to critically analyse their own work.

The primary focus of Year 8 Drama is to build up the boys' self-confidence and their ability to work in teams as these skills are vital throughout their schooling and as they enter the workforce.

Exploring Comedy as a style, from the ancient Commedia dell'Arte through to modern day clowning, the boys learn to use their expressive and performance skills creatively in order to create a range of characters and tell stories in various different ways.

SKILLS TO BE DEVELOPED

- Self-confidence
- Self-expression
- Public speaking
- Inter-personal skills
- Creativity
- Working in teams
- Critical thinking

Assessment

Assessment tasks may include:

- Class work
- Performances
- Performance analyses

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Year 8 English as an Additional Language (EAL)

Overview

The English as an Additional Language (EAL) curriculum supports students to enhance their knowledge, understanding and skills in relation to spoken English. At this level, students learn to negotiate topics when speaking in English in a range of contexts.

Students explore a wide range of familiar and unfamiliar texts, including visual and interactive texts. They learn to identify the main ideas in texts, and they can paraphrase their understanding in spoken English. The EAL curriculum covers strategies that help students to read new texts and deduce meaning of unfamiliar words.

EAL provides students with opportunities to write for a range of purposes on different topics. Students learn to organise their ideas and use more complex sentence structures, as well as to incorporate punctuation into their writing to increase the fluency of their texts.

SKILLS TO BE DEVELOPED

- Annotation of texts
- Note-taking
- Writing for a range of purposes
- Understanding literary devices
- Building and presenting argument
- Working collaboratively

Assessment

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Year 8 English

Overview

In Year 8 English, students continue to study written, visual and multimodal text, and further develop their writing, reading and speaking skills to help create confident communicators, imaginative thinkers and informed citizens. The texts chosen support students to identify language features, ideas and issues. In preparation for further study, students continue to

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Year 8 Food Technology

Overview

Students explore food, with an emphasis on extending food knowledge and skills and building individual understanding of food nutrition through the application of practical food skills.

This starts with an introduction to the kitchen and culinary skills along with the basics of food nutrition, preparation and production.

Using these skills, they then learn to prepare a range of quick and easy nutritious meals and snacks, both sweet and savoury. This may include: Sushi, Pizza, Pasta, Salads, Cakes, Biscuits, Scones, Healthy Burgers and Family Dinners.

SKILLS TO BE DEVELOPED

- Developing skills with a range of utensils
- Planning and preparing nutritious meals
- Conducting investigations and research into food related concepts, themes and topics
- Use of Food Technology terminology

Assessment

Assessment tasks may include:

- Visual diary
- Taste Tests
- Skill competency tests
- Meal presentation
- Evaluation

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Year 8 Humanities

Overview

In Semester One, students study History, examining the end of the ancient period to the beginning of the modern period, c.650 AD (CE) – 1750. Students further develop their understanding and use of historical concepts and skills, including sequencing chronology, using historical sources as evidence, identifying continuity and change, analysing cause and effect and determining historical significance. Students also develop their capacity to undertake historical inquiry, including skills in the analysis and use of sources, and in explanation and communication of arguments.

In Semester Two, students turn their attention to the study of Geography, examining the topics 'Landforms and Landscapes' and 'Changing Nations'. Students explore, analyse and understand the characteristics of the places that make up our world, using the concepts of place, space, environment, interconnection, sustainability, scale. Students also learn to question why the world is the way it is, reflect on their relationships with and responsibility for that world, and propose actions designed to shape a socially just and sustainable future.

In addition, during the course of the year, students study Civics and Citizenship, examining the Australian Constitution and how its features, principles and values shape Australia's democracy. They explore the responsibilities and freedoms of citizens and how citizens can participate.

SKILLS TO BE DEVELOPED

- Sequence significant events in chronological order
- Analyse sources and ask questions about their accuracy, usefulness and reliability
- Explain different historical interpretations
- Identify and explain patterns of continuity and change
- Analyse the causes and effects of significant events
- Explain processes that influence the characteristics of places
- Identify, analyse and explain interconnections and spatial characteristics and identify their implications
- Collect, record and analyse relevant geographical data and information
- Explain how citizens can participate in Australia's democracy
- Describe the process of constitutional change through a referendum
- Demonstration of literacy skills reflected in concise, accurate written responses with specific attention to grammar and spelling

Assessment

Assessment tasks may include:

- Presentations
- Projects
- Skills tests
- Extended response writing
- Field report
- Essay writing
- End of year examination

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Year 8 Latin

Overview

As the primal language of the ancient Romans, masters of the Mediterranean Sea for over 500 years, Latin is one of the ancient languages which continues to influence our Western culture. Considered a lingua franca (or a Mother Language) for much of Western civilization's culture, Latin's legacy, both linguistically and syntactically, is evident in a variety of other subjects such as modern languages (i.e. Romance Languages), politics, law, history and architecture, to all branches of science, music and art.

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Year 8 Classroom Music

Overview

During the Year 8 Classroom Music course, students will explore and perform music through the 'Blues Brothers' and 'Pop Stars' units. Over the semester, students will acquire the theoretical knowledge and practical skills to perform as a class ensemble.

During the study of the 'Blues Brothers' unit, students will explore theoretical components that underline the 12 Bar Blues. As a class ensemble, the students will apply their theoretical knowledge to perform a famous jazz piece on their keyboards.

Throughout the investigation of the 'Pop Stars' unit, students will perform famous pop charts as a class ensemble and in smaller group settings using their keyboard skills along with other pop instruments that they will be introduced to throughout the unit.

Students who study an instrument to a certain level of proficiency are involved in the enrichment pathway. While this course also studies the 'Blues Brother' and 'Pop Stars' units, this course is designed to extend the students' musical knowledge and practical skills through the involvement of their instrument.

SKILLS TO BE DEVELOPED

- Correct keyboard technique
- Notating and reading music literacy
- Choral and auditory skills
- Ensemble skills in large and small settings
- Responding to a musical excerpt using the elements of music
- Linking theoretical skills acquired and applying it in practical setting

Assessment

Assessment tasks may include:

- Performance as a class and small ensemble on keyboards and other instruments relating to the 'Pop Stars' unit
- Demonstrating the ability to perform key concepts from the 12 Bar Blues structure
- Responding to musical excerpts to explore and express the different elements of music
- Musicianship and auralia quizzes
- End of term tests
- Choral Performance



