



YEAR 9—2019
STUDENT
COURSE
HANDBOOK

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Costs indicated in this handbook are the costs for 2018. They are an indication of the cost per unit. Actual costs will appear on the Charges and Contributions sheets sent out by the College before the end of the school year.

The college cannot guarantee any course or combination of courses will appear on the timetable due to the availability of resources or insufficient students selecting the course.

Introduction

PURPOSE OF THIS CURRICULUM GUIDE

This *Curriculum Guide* provides information to parents and students on the nature of compulsory and elective courses available to students in Year 9. It provides information on the content of the many courses available and details of the costs associated with each course.

While this guide is comprehensive in its coverage, students and their parents are encouraged also to seek answers to their questions from other sources, including teachers at the College, the Year Coordinator, the internet and the various special programs coordinators.

COURSE CONTRIBUTIONS AND CHARGES

Please note that the course charges listed in this handbook are an approximate cost only (ie 2018 costs). During Term 4, a College account will be sent to each parent or guardian detailing the contributions and charges to be paid for their child. Payment is due at the beginning of the school year.

ORGANISATION OF YEAR 9 CLASSES

COMPULSORY COURSES

English

Students will be grouped into a pathway at the beginning of Year 9 as directed by the Head of Learning Area.

Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS)

Students work in classes as directed by the Head of Learning Area.

Science

Students will be grouped into one of two pathways, as directed by the Head of Learning Area.

Mathematics

Students will be grouped into one of two pathways at the beginning of Year 9 as directed by the Head of Learning Area.

Health Education and Physical Education

All students except Golf and Hockey Specialists are required to complete a full year course in Health & Physical Education.

OPEN CHOICE COURSES

All students will have the opportunity to select some courses that cater for their interests or special skills and talents. These courses can be divided into two categories - Electives and Approved Specialist Programs.

Electives

These are courses available to all students. The College offers its students the opportunity to complete courses in a diverse range of courses from The Arts, Health and Physical Education, Languages and Technologies learning areas. The choices available offer students the chance to develop their interests and skills. **Students cannot choose to repeat Technologies contexts but may choose an extension and a general version of the same context but in different semesters.** Many have a cost component in them for materials, travel costs, special equipment, etc. which should be considered when making a choice of electives.

The College endeavours to place students into their choices. However, some reselections may be required if a selected course does not run because it is selected by too few students, or the classes available are full at the time of enrolment.

Approved Specialist Programs

These courses are only available to students who have been through the selection process and been offered a place. At Como, Approved Specialist Programs are offered in Golf, Hockey, Contemporary Music and Enriched Mathematics, Information Technology and Science (EMITS). Usually, students enrolled in a specialist course in Year 9 will be continuing on from their studies in the same course begun in Year 7. In summary, each student will find himself or herself in a Program of Study that will vary in its requirements according to the type of enrolment. The different requirements of each program are outlined on page 4.

SELECTING A PROGRAM OF STUDY

OVERVIEW

For the great majority of students entering Year 9, the General Studies Program will be the basis of their course selection. However, students specialising in Enriched Mathematics, Information Technology and Science (EMITS), Golf, Hockey or Music will need to be aware that there are certain constraints on their course selections. These constraints are outlined below and again in the section of this book that explains how to complete the course selection form.

Students entering Year 9 need to recognise that they are moving towards Senior School and that their course selections for Year 9 *may* have an impact on their ability to pursue their desired programs of study in Year 10 and then Years 11 and 12. Thus, every student should take every step to ensure they make the best decisions possible about their Year 9 program by seeking as much advice as possible and by giving consideration to their abilities, talents, interests and aspirations for the future.

THE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS FOR YEAR 9

For every student there will be courses that are compulsory and a varying number of periods in each week available for Elective courses. Students enrolled for any Specialist Studies Program have certain compulsory courses associated with the relevant program, as summarised on page 4.

The Compulsory Program

Curriculum Program

All students are required to study a curriculum set by the Schools Standard and Curriculum Authority. Students are required to complete year long courses in English, Mathematics, Science and Humanities and Social Sciences

Elective Courses

All students choose from the available elective courses. The number of electives a student is permitted to choose will depend on the type of program in which he/she is enrolled. Elective courses are offered by the following Learning Areas:

- | | |
|-----------|-------------------------------|
| The Arts | Health and Physical Education |
| Languages | Technologies |

To cover the breath of studies students must complete a course in The Arts, Technologies and Health and Physical Education each semester.

Approved Specialist Programs

Each specialist course is available only to a student whose enrolment in that course has been approved by the College. The College offers several Specialist Courses to approved students. Entry into a program offering a specialist studies course is by either practical or written testing.

GENERAL STUDIES	GOLF	HOCKEY	MUSIC	EMITS
Compulsory Courses				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> English Mathematics Science Humanities and Social Sciences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> English Mathematics Science Humanities and Social Sciences Golf Studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> English Mathematics Science Humanities and Social Sciences Hockey Studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> English Mathematics Science Humanities and Social Sciences Contemporary Music 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> English Mathematics Science Humanities and Social Sciences EMITS Computing
Students choose <u>semester</u> long courses from Arts, Language, Physical Education and Technologies Learning Areas to cover the breadth of studies.				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arts Technologies Health and Physical Education Languages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arts Technologies Languages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arts Technologies Languages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health and Physical Education Technologies Languages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arts Health and Physical Education Languages.

Subject Selection Online

In 2018, Year 8 students will use the website Subject Selection Online to select electives. A direct link is available on the Como Secondary College website. Click the link and this will take you to your selection pages. Parents will have received an email containing their Pin number. This is very important as the generated PIN is to be used when you see and approve your child's selected Course choices. SSO will not allow you to complete the process of subject selections until this approval has been done. Students will need to login using their school email address Firstname.Lastname@student.education.wa.edu.au, they will be given their own PINs which they will use to access their own selections. Just follow the instructions when you land on the website.

Students will need to choose from the electives on offer – choose one from each line and choose a reserve from each line. There are no prerequisites to studying these electives in Year 9. However, there are class size limits, which will be shown online. Students may add their names to a waiting list but should still choose in case their name does not rise to the top of the list in the event of students opting out.

We encourage students and parents/guardians to discuss the selections together and to read the subject selection handbook and view the subject grid prior to logging on to make your selections. These provide valuable information about each subject and will help you to make informed decisions. We suggest you make a note of your preferences separately and then log on to finalise your selections.

Extra information may also be available where needed on Connect.

Please note

It is government policy that parents should contribute towards the cost of educating their children. Given that all students benefit from the pool of collected fees, it is fair to expect that all parents should pay the balance of contributions and charges. Because students are able to choose the courses that will offer them the learning outcomes they desire, it is considered fair and equitable that all parents should pay for the courses that their children select. Parents of students who choose the more expensive option subjects need to consider the costs during the subject selection process

High cost subjects incurring a proposed cost of greater than \$50 are considered high cost and payment of a 50% deposit is required to confirm acceptance and placement in these classes. (All subject charges are proposed for 2019 and are subject to change.) You will be re-directed to CommBank BPoint to finalise your subject selections should high cost subjects be selected.

Key Learning Areas

Compulsory Courses

ENGLISH

Cost: \$30.00

Students should recognise that their studies in Year 9 English will impact on their class allocation for Year 10. At the end of Year 10, students need to achieve a B grade in English to be eligible for recommendation to study at ATAR level in Year 11. The program is essentially a continuation of the regular English offering, albeit with additional demands and challenges. One aim of the lower school English program is to prepare students for the demands and challenges of the senior school English curricula.

Students will be required to work through programs designed to enhance their proficiency in four key areas: Reading; Writing; Speaking and Listening, and Viewing. The program will encourage an inclusive approach to language. This means that students will be required to develop their proficiency in the key areas in an integrated way, using a range of texts designed for different purposes, contexts and audiences. The study texts are drawn from the following areas: Non-fiction; Fiction; Media; Drama and Poetry. In second semester, transition courses for Senior School may be offered.

Assessment in English is on-going. Teachers will be observing, assessing, and recording students' learning and classroom behaviour all the time. All students will receive a letter grade at the conclusion of each semester. The first is interim, the second is final.

A student's performance in any formal test or examination held in Year 9, together with his, or her, class performance and semester grade, will be used to determine which English course a student will be recommended to pursue in Year 10.

Students are expected to arrive at lessons properly resourced. Students should have adequate stationery, including writing and correction equipment, A4-sized file paper and file.

MATHEMATICS

Cost: \$30.00

Students are placed in a pathway based on their achievement at the end of Year 8. Their progress is continually monitored and adjustments to the classes are made at the end of each assessment period.

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

Student learning in Mathematics in Year 9 will provide the grounding for the study of Mathematics in Year 10. In broad terms, only students in Year 10 Pathway 1 Mathematics and Pathway 2 Mathematics should consider ATAR units in Year 11, however, students should be aiming at achieving A and B grades for all outcomes. Only those in Pathway 1 or EMITS Mathematics with a final grade of A should consider higher level ATAR units in Year 11. It is recommended that students discuss their proposed choice of Senior School Mathematics subject with their teacher during Year 10.

SCIENCE

Cost: \$40.00

Students are placed in a pathway based on their achievement at the end of Year 8.

This course is delivered in four term-long modules. Each term will focus on one the unifying areas of study from the content strand of the Western Australian Curriculum, Biological Sciences, Chemical Sciences, Earth and Space Sciences and Physical Sciences. The other two strands from the Western Australian Curriculum, Science as a Human Endeavour and Science Inquiry Skills will be integrated into each of the four terms.

Success will allow students to select any of the Science ATAR courses in Year 11 – those Courses being: Human Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Selection of these courses will require a certain level of achievement in Science. Teachers will make course recommendations for each student towards the end of Year 10. As a general guide for success in these courses, students would need to achieve a B Grade.

HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Cost: \$30.00

In Year 9, Humanities and Social Sciences consists of Civics and Citizenship, Economics and Business, Geography and History. Students develop increasing independence in critical thinking and skill application,

which includes questioning, researching, analysing, evaluating, communicating and reflecting. They apply these skills to investigate events, developments, issues and phenomena, both historical and contemporary. Unit titles cover: Biomes and food security and Geographies of interconnections, Our democratic rights, Australia and the global economy, The making of the modern world.

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

These courses are compulsory for all students except those in the Golf Studies and Hockey Studies courses.

Students are required to complete one module in each semester.

Students are required to change into the college approved Physical Education uniform for all practical lessons.

Content

The Health and Physical Education curriculum comprises two strands: Personal, social and community health; and Movement and physical activity. The content in each strand is organised under three interrelated sub-strands.

Personal, social and community health:

- Being healthy safe and active
- Communicating and interacting for health and wellbeing
- Contributing to healthy and active communities

Movement and physical activity:

- Moving our body
- Understanding movement
- Learning through movement

Students identify attitudes and values for a healthy, active lifestyle and demonstrate values consistent with the prevention of ill-health, the acceptance of personal responsibility for their health and physical activity levels, respect for social justice principles and a commitment to personal achievement. The Health & Physical Education curriculum provides opportunities for students to develop, enhance and exhibit attitudes and values that promote a healthy lifestyle.

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION (GENERAL)

Cost: \$26.00

Do not select this course if you have already selected Health and Physical Education – Extension, Health and Physical Education – Outdoor Education, Hockey or Golf Courses

Course Details

This unit is for students participating in Extension Arts and Technologies courses and/or Specialist Programs.

Students will participate in a range of physical activities both individual and team orientated in order to develop their skills and understanding of movement and physical activity within the concepts of: Moving our body, understanding movement and learning through movement in contexts such as: Aerobics/Fitness, Athletics, Basketball, Teeball/Softball, Volleyball as well as Indigenous games.

Students will engage in healthy lifestyle concepts including but not limited to: Being healthy safe and active, communicating and interacting for health and wellbeing and contributing to healthy and active communities.

Approved Specialist Programs

These courses are not available to students enrolled for the General Studies program.

CONTEMPORARY MUSIC STUDIES

Cost: \$180.00

Required prior study: Students must be enrolled for the Contemporary Music specialist program and must have completed Contemporary Music Studies in Year 7 and 8 or its equivalent.

Students other than those who enrolled in the Specialist Music program in Year 7 may enter the program by successful audition. Students enrolled in the Contemporary Music Specialist Studies Program **MUST** select this course for study in both semesters for Year 9. Other elective courses should be chosen from the list of electives available to all Year 9 students.

This year long course is designed to develop musicianship, including skills and knowledge in composition, aural development, music software, theory and history with an emphasis on improvisation and the disciplines required for high quality ensemble performance work.

Students studying this course **MUST**:

- Enrol for tuition on an approved musical instrument;
- Join **at least one** College Band or College Ensemble group.

Rehearsals for college bands are conducted after college hours. This course will prepare students for entry into the ATAR Music course or for VET Certificate I and II in music industry qualifications.

GOLF STUDIES

Cost: \$850.00

Recommended prior study: Golf Studies in Year 7 and 8 is desirable, but not essential. Students entering the program are selected by application and trial.

This unit is for students to develop their movement and physical activity skills and their knowledge of Personal, social and community health issues while focusing on Golf.

Students who choose this course should be looking to choose Golf Studies in Year 10.

Course Details

Students enrolled in the Golf Studies courses will study some elements of the schools basic Health & Physical Education course incorporated as part of their specialist course.

Students will participate in physical activities related to golf in order to develop their skills and understanding of movement and physical activity within the concepts of: Moving our body, understanding movement and learning through movement. Development of the necessary skills, strategies and tactics, knowledge of game play and rules within the sport. Coaching and officiating skills are an essential part of this course. Other activities may include: Aerobics/Fitness, Athletics and Swimming.

Club professionals from Collier Park Golf Club perform golf specific coaching.

Students will engage in healthy lifestyle concepts including but not limited to: Being healthy safe and active, communicating and interacting for health and wellbeing and contributing to healthy and active communities.

Extension: Students in this course will explore elements of Physical Education Studies topics of: Developing physical skills and tactics; Functional Anatomy; Motor Learning and Coaching; Biomechanics; Sports Psychology; and Exercise Physiology.

Extra-curricular opportunities: World Schools Golf Challenge (Bi-Annual event), Golf Australia Competitions, School Sport WA Golf Competitions, Como Golf Academy Competitions, Coaching Primary Schools, Officiating.

It is an expectation of students within the Specialist Sport Programs of Golf and Hockey that they attend and participate in ALL Interhouse competitions and Interschool teams if SELECTED.

HOCKEY STUDIES

Cost: \$320.00

Recommended prior study: Hockey Studies in Year 7 and 8 is desirable, but not essential. Students entering the program are selected by application and trial.

This unit is for students to develop their movement and physical activity skills and their knowledge of Personal, social and community health issues while focusing on Hockey.

Students who choose this course should be looking to choose Hockey Studies in Year 10

Course Details

Students enrolled in the Hockey Studies courses will study some elements of the schools basic Health & Physical Education course incorporated as part of their specialist course.

Students will participate in physical activities related to hockey in order to develop their skills and understanding of movement and physical activity within the concepts of: Moving our body, understanding movement and learning through movement. Development of the necessary skills, strategies and tactics, knowledge of game play and rules (umpiring) within the sport. Coaching and officiating skills are an essential part of this course. Other activities may include: Aerobics/Fitness, Athletics and Swimming.

Students will engage in healthy lifestyle concepts including but not limited to: Being healthy safe and active, communicating and interacting for health and wellbeing and contributing to healthy and active communities.

Extension: Students in this course will explore elements of Physical Education Studies topics of: Developing physical skills and tactics; Functional Anatomy; Motor Learning and Coaching; Biomechanics; Sports Psychology; and Exercise Physiology.

Endorsed Programs within this course:

Other qualifications undertaken within this course:

Extra-curricular opportunities: International Tour (Bi-Annual event), South West Tour (Bi-annual event), School Sport WA Hockey Competitions, Coaching Primary Schools, and Officiating.

It is an expectation of students within the Specialist Sport Programs of Golf and Hockey that they attend and participate in ALL Interhouse competitions and Interschool teams if SELECTED.

ENRICHED MATHEMATICS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY and SCIENCE (EMITS) Cost \$200.00

<p align="center">MATHEMATICS</p>	<p>EMITS students will complete an enriched and extended version of the Pathway 1 Mathematics course with particular emphasis on the higher order concepts of Algebra . All students will study content from Number, Measurement, Chance & Data, Space and Algebra. Students participate in a range of national assessments and competitions such as the Australian Mathematics Competition, and ICAS exams. Those students with an interest and aptitude in informatics can participate in the Australian Informatics Olympiad. Participation in out of school problem solving competitions such as Have Sum Fun. Talented EMITS mathematics students are encouraged to nominate for the esteemed National Mathematics Summer School held in Canberra each year.</p>
<p align="center">SCIENCE</p>	<p>EMITS students will complete an extended and enriched Pathway I Science course. This will include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More complex science content that is intellectually challenging and taught at a higher level. This includes more quantitative science, more abstract science theory including mathematical equations and deeper explorations into student and teacher selected science domains. • Explorations into current science research. Students will be required to read current science journals and present topics of interest to peers. Public speaking and literature reviews are crucial aspects of the scientific method. • More difficult assessments. As well as specialised school based assessments, students will also complete national and state based exams. • Excursions and guest speakers. Students will be exposed to the latest local research by engaging in a range of excursions and public lectures to places such as UWA, Curtin University and Scitech. In addition to this, the college has invited practising scientists and research students into the school. The College is also a registered SPICE school with both DET and UWA and this has allowed the students to meet important science luminaries such as Professor Jim Gates and Sir Roger Penrose as well as attend special science workshops such as the enormous Square Kilometre Array (SKA) project.
<p align="center">INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY</p>	<p>Digital Design (Semester 1) introduces students to the graphic design and motion graphic capabilities of Macromedia Flash, Freehand and Fireworks, and Dreamweaver. This course will explore in-depth graphic design methods at an advanced level. Projects assigned during the course will increase students' skill with both the creative and the technical challenges posed by design graphics. A creative portfolio will be maintained using various multimedia presentations as well as a print copy.</p> <p>Computers & Connections (Semester 2) is a comprehensive program that concentrates on the areas in the Creative Industries Media..</p> <p>The curriculum, which includes a large amount of hands-on experience in individual and team based projects, is designed to encourage the student to develop critical thinking skills and a well-rounded knowledge of the Multimedia and its applications.</p>

Elective Courses

THE ARTS

VISUAL ARTS GENERAL

Cost \$30.00

Focuses on the self, portraits and ideas from personal values and beliefs, students will apply their drawings and Designs through painting, printmaking and sculpture, ceramics and textiles.

VISUAL ART EXTENSION

Cost: \$60.00

Students may select Visual Art for one or two Semesters. Therefore, across the course of the academic year, four completely different art projects will run, chosen from the various studio areas.

This course is intended to introduce students to the creative process, giving them the opportunity to explore a range of media and drawing techniques to inspire the development of ideas leading to the creation of exciting artworks.

Students will develop creative skills and expressive techniques selected from the studio areas of Painting, Ceramics, Sculpture, Textiles and Printmaking.

Each project will investigate artists and art movements relevant to an original theme in order for students to develop critical appreciation and knowledge of the present and past role of the arts in our community.

MEDIA ARTS - PHOTOGRAPHY EXTENSION

Cost: \$50.00

This course is an introduction to digital photography using digital cameras and basic image editing software. This course includes print production for making black-and-white and color photographs and studio techniques that include portrait lighting and still life photography. Topics include camera and lens operation, memory cards, file formats, exposure, white balance, composition, lighting, creativity, image editing software and output. No prior photography experience is required. Students use digital photography for the production of a photographic portfolio.

Students extend and refine their skills and processes for problem-solving, working as a team, following timelines and using processes and strategies to ensure safe and responsible use of media equipment.

CONTEMPORARY GUITAR

Cost \$35.00

Learn to play the chords used in rock classics to modern contemporary songs. This course will provide you with the basic guitar theory to play along with 100's of songs and to start you on your guitar journey. Classical guitars are provided, or you can bring your own. If you want to learn to play guitar, or add more songs to your repertoire, this is the subject for you!

DANCE GENERAL

Cost \$35.00

The General Dance course caters for a greater diversity of dance styles and greater degree of difficulty than previous dance courses.

Students will have the opportunity to explore contemporary, hip hop and jazz genres. Time will be allocated for students to develop their own choreography with a view to performing the finished works. The courses are different in each semester.

This course prepares students for Dance Studies in Years 11 and 12.

Specialist teachers will be incorporated into the program for the latest dance genres. Students will experiment with their own choreography and will have the opportunity to learn about stagecraft, lighting and costumes.

DANCE EXTENSION

Cost: \$ 45.00

Recommended prior study: nil

The Dance Extension course has been developed for students who have a strong interest in Dance and wish to pursue this subject as part of their senior school subject selections. This course provides a targeted focus on technique and dance genres. Providing opportunities for students to perform for a wider community.

DRAMA EXTENSION

Cost: \$45.00

Recommended prior study: nil

In Year 9, Drama students will be given opportunities to refine and extend their knowledge and skills to present drama and design projects as an event, by safely using processes, techniques and conventions of drama.

Areas studied include:

- Script interpretation of a scene or section through the elements of drama to shape and manipulate mood and communicate themes to an audience
- Forms and styles of theatre such as Realism, Group Devised Drama, Melodrama and Commedia dell' Arte
- Performance and direction
- Viewing a live or digital performance
- Stage craft – lighting, sound, costume, make up and set/scenography

Semester 1 and Semester 2 units will study different contexts, styles and forms of theatre

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION (SPORT EXTENSION)

Cost: \$50.00

Do not select this course if you have already selected Health and Physical Education - General

Recommended prior study: nil

This unit is for students to develop, enhance and exhibit attitudes and values that promote a healthy lifestyle within the two strands: Personal, social and community health; and Movement and physical activity while focusing on individual and team sports in the practical aspect of the course.

Students who choose this course should be looking to choose Health and Physical Education (Sport Extension) in Year 10.

Course Details

Students will participate in a range of physical activities both individual and team orientated in order to develop their skills and understanding of movement and physical activity within the concepts of: Moving our body, understanding movement and learning through movement in contexts such as Aerobics/Fitness, Athletics, Basketball, Football (Soccer), Netball, Tennis, Touch Rugby, Volleyball as well as Indigenous games. Students will focus on further development of skills and the necessary strategies and tactics within each sport.

Students will engage in healthy lifestyle concepts including but not limited to: Being healthy safe and active, communicating and interacting for health and wellbeing and contributing to healthy and active communities

Extension: Students in this course will explore elements of Physical Education Studies topics of: Developing physical skills and tactics; Functional Anatomy; Motor Learning and Coaching; Biomechanics; Sports Psychology; and Exercise Physiology.

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION (OUTDOOR EXTENSION)

Cost: \$85.00

Do not select this course if you have already selected Health and Physical Education - General

Recommended prior study: nil

This unit is for students to develop, enhance and exhibit attitudes and values that promote a healthy lifestyle within the two strands: Personal, social and community health; and Movement and physical activity while focusing on outdoor pursuits in the practical aspect of the course. The course is not limited to outdoor pursuits as it also incorporates elements of skill and tactic acquisition within individual and team sports delivering a well-rounded physical activity course

Students who choose this course should be looking to choose Health & Physical Education (Outdoor Extension) in Year 10.

Course Details

Students will participate in a range of physical activities both individual and team orientated in order to develop their skills and understanding of movement and physical activity within the concepts of: Moving our body, understanding movement and learning through movement in contexts such as: Aerobics/Fitness, Athletics, Basketball, Camp Craft, Climbing, Fishing, Netball, Roping, Snorkelling, Soccer, Swimming. Students will focus on further development of skills and the necessary knowledge and understanding within the selected outdoor contexts.

Students will engage in healthy lifestyle concepts including but not limited to: Being healthy safe and active, communicating and interacting for health and wellbeing and contributing to healthy and active communities

Extension: Students in this course will explore elements of Outdoor Education topics of: outdoor experiences; self and others; and environmental awareness.

LANGUAGES

Students who select a Language must study it for both semesters.

A "language bonus" is offered by all WA universities to boost tertiary entrance scores when studied in Years 11 and 12 ATAR Courses.

FRENCH GENERAL

Cost: \$30.00 per year

Students will continue to develop the ability to comprehend and communicate in French through listening and responding, and speaking. They will view and read a variety of French texts and respond, plus write texts in French. Students will develop understandings about aspects of the culture of French speaking countries; recognise patterns and rules when using French, and use different strategies to make meaning of the French language.

To make progress towards achieving the outcomes above, we will study how to: order food and drink, discuss food preferences, describe people, describe a series of events, use numbers to 1000, travel around France and other French speaking countries and communities.

INDONESIAN GENERAL

Cost \$30.00 per year

How do you find out where the nearest shopping center is? What do you say when you need to direct a taxi or describe where to meet? What are the must-visit places in Perth, and why should our sister school students go there? Wow, there's a hip-hop scene in Indonesia? And each region has a different style of music, and food? Let's explore!

Year 9 Indonesian is a year-long course (2x per week) in which students build on and extend their Indonesian language skills. The emphasis is on developing speaking, writing, and comprehension skills with highly practical, hands-on activities.

Students will be involved in developing the itinerary for our sister school's visit in Semester 1 and will be responsible for a designing a city tour for them. In Semester 2, the focus shifts to music and then cooking to broaden students' understanding of Indonesian pop culture and culinary arts. There is a strong media and technology component involved and the course is open to beginners through to background speakers.

ENGLISH AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE

This course is essential for eligible students from a non-English language background. Enrolment is made in consultation with teaching staff on enrolment and maintained from the previous year.

The English as an Additional Language/Dialect course is designed to enhance the acquisition of standard Australian English for students who come from non-English speaking backgrounds.

RUNNING YOUR OWN BUSINESS EXTENSION

Cost: \$20.00

'Running Your Own Business' elective will develop the knowledge and skills of researching and establishing a small business enterprise. You will learn about business structures, business planning,

marketing and financial requirements for small business. You will apply these skills to a real life small business venture that you will create, establish and run as a part of this elective.

This elective will prepare students to continue with Accounting & Finance in Years 11 & 12, Business Management & Enterprise in Years 11 & 12 and a Certificate II in Business in Years 11 & 12.

TECHNOLOGIES

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES GENERAL

Cost: \$20.00

Students develop their skills in digital technologies by planning and managing projects using the technology process. They will design, implement and evaluate their own solutions to a wide range of problems using modern hardware systems and a wide range of industry standard software packages.

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES EXTENSION

Cost: \$30.00

Interested in extending your computer knowledge into hardware and software hacking? Learn how to fix your home computer, configure a new printer, and all those other computer skills that make you highly valuable in the work place.

The Year 9 Digital Technologies Extension program offers students of technology an exciting and challenging program learning to build a solid knowledge and skills base for future Computer Science or AIT studies. The program provides students with an enjoyable, fast paced IT experience with a focus on computer hardware, programming and graphic editing and audio editing. Students will have access to industry-standard software and hardware enabling them to design, create, evaluate and present solutions to information technology problems.

FOOD TECHNOLOGY GENERAL

Cost: \$35.00

Venture into the exciting world of food and cooking. With a focus on learning cookery methods and handling a range of produce, students will continue to develop new skills as they share the fun and passion of cooking. Students will also learn the skills to make good food choices, to enjoy the way they eat and enjoy the social aspect of food.

FOOD TECHNOLOGY EXTENSION

Cost: \$65.00

Students who choose Food Technology for 4 periods per week will undertake a more detailed approach to cookery that should help develop an appreciation and respect for other cultures through the preparation, cooking and serving of a variety of foods from other countries. The emphasis will be on two countries which greatly influenced our cuisine – Italian and Chinese cookery.

This course teaches students how to prepare and serve courses from the formal menu (e.g. hors d'oeuvres, entrees and desserts). Food is a fabulous way to help celebrate special occasions. Students will plan and prepare dishes for various celebrations. There are many applicable and interesting practical cooking sessions for students to develop their culinary skills.

MATERIALS DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY GENERAL

Cost: \$35.00

Students develop knowledge and skills in designing and producing 3D products from wood metal and plastics by:

- Selecting materials based on their mechanical properties and the effects on the environment and community.
- Interpreting plans and technical drawings.
- Safely manipulating materials using a wide range of tools and equipment to produce a product that meets specifications and aesthetic and functional requirements.

The skills and knowledge learnt provide a foundation for Y11 & Y12 courses like MDT Wood.

MATERIALS DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY EXTENSION

Cost: \$65.00

Students who choose Materials Technology for four periods per week undertake a more detailed approach to 3D products and developing solutions to problems by also:

- Investigating mechanical systems, structures, forces and the mechanical properties of materials.
- Learning the skills of freehand concept sketching and interpreting and producing technical drawings and
- Prototyping.

Students then produce a wide variety of 3D products by selecting suitable wood metal and plastics based on their properties and their impact on the environment and community. The materials are then safely manipulated using a wide range of tools and equipment to produce a product that meets specifications, aesthetic and functional requirements.

The extra skills and knowledge gained allow students to be better prepared for Y11 & Y12 MDT Wood.

The skills and knowledge learnt provide a foundation for Y11 & Y12 Cert II Engineering.

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING GENERAL

Cost: \$35.00

Students develop knowledge and skills in designing and producing small scale bridges using materials ranging from pop sticks, timber and other items. They will complete this process by:

- Investigating structural engineering, including hydraulics.
- Selecting components based on consideration of force, motion and energy.
- Interpreting plans and technical drawings.
- Safely creating products that demonstrate force, motion and/or energy.

College Charges and Their Part in School Funding

The Reason for College Charges

The College receives funding each year to cover the basic cost of running the College. These funds are used for a range of whole-of-college expenses, including the following:

- Maintenance and minor repairs of equipment, grounds, classroom furniture and buildings
- Minor structural improvements
- Payment for relief staff during camps and excursions
- Professional development of College staff
- Day-to-day administration costs (eg postage, printing, stationery, College promotion)
- Payment of utilities
- Purchase of major equipment items such as College bus

Teachers and other College staff are paid directly from the government.

The Legal Position

The State Government through the Department of Education provides placement at educational facilities for all students who choose to attend Government colleges. The Government does not provide for many goods and services students use and it is reasonable for parents to meet these costs. Secondary colleges have a legal right to charge for goods and services that are used by students in a course of study which the Student Centred Funding does not cover. Because of this shortfall, the College levies a charge on students taking such courses to cover the cost of those "extras" and ensure the College can offer the best possible education to its students.

Determining College Charges

For Year 7-10 students, the maximum voluntary contributions a college may charge is currently fixed at \$235, however additional compulsory charges above that figure can be requested for consumables, additional resources and extra high cost options. The College endeavours to keep its charges to a minimum while maintaining a high standard of curriculum delivery. The Government endorses the levying of a college charge that covers basic needs associated with teaching the essential curriculum, such as photocopying, access to textbooks and use of specialised equipment. For Years 11 and 12 there are no maximum charges set by the State Government. The College set their own charges for these years and such charges are compulsory. The College can also request a 50% confirmation charge for these years.

Where do contributions and charges go?

Some examples include: ingredients in home economics, transport, photographic equipment and supplies, art materials, timber, metals, and consumable tools, external instructors, sporting equipment, etc.

Who should pay?

It is government policy that parents should contribute towards the cost of educating their children. Given that all students benefit from the pool of collected fees, it is fair to expect that all parents should pay the balance of contributions and charges. Because students are able to choose the courses that will offer them the learning outcomes they desire, it is considered fair and equitable that all parents should pay for the courses that their children select. Parents of students who choose the more expensive option subjects need to consider the costs during the subject selection process. All would agree that it is unfair for those parents who meet their financial commitments to be seen to subsidise the education of those students whose parents do not pay their contributions and charges. Como Secondary College is committed to maintaining an even-handed and responsible approach so that all parents should make contributions towards their children's education.

A Compassionate View

This College is only too aware that the payment of contributions and charges can be a burden for some families. To overcome the problem of paying all the due charges at once, a time payment scheme may be arranged by contacting the College prior to 4 February 2019 as all payments are due end Term 1. Any family wishing to pay by instalments should contact the College to make arrangements to do so as the College will not approach families to organise these payments. Families experiencing problems with payment of charges should contact the College, we do need to talk to you about this. Ignoring accounts and reminders is unhelpful to all parties. The College is also keen to assist parents in selecting options that they can afford. To this end estimated subject charges will always be provided to parents prior to selection of subjects.

The Availability of Subsidies and Assistance

For parents on low incomes, subsidies are available, provided the College receives an application for the subsidy before the deadline (usually the last day of Term One). Holders of Health Care and Pensioner Benefit cards can receive a subsidy of up to \$235 per year for College charges, and a further \$115 for uniforms. Application for a subsidy should be made by collecting an application form from the College (also available on the school website). The Education Program Allowance will be paid directly to the College and will be applied to voluntary contributions for Years 7-10. For those parents/guardians who elect to pay their clothing allowance to the College these funds will be deducted from the compulsory charges first and then voluntary contributions and charges. For Year 11 and 12 students in receipt of the allowance, the funds will be applied directly to compulsory charges.

Collecting Voluntary Contributions and Charges

Paying parents expect not to subsidise non-paying parents. The College takes a positive approach to collecting voluntary contributions from parents/caregivers of students in Years 7 to 10. In particular, the College will highlight the benefits to students if all parents meet their voluntary contributions. With respect to compulsory charges for Years 7 to 12, the College will actively seek full payment of compulsory charges when appropriate. The College Board, in support of this process, has endorsed the following actions:

- Regular statements sent home to parents/guardians
- The College will carry forward any amounts owing to the College for course charges to the debtor family's account for the following year
- Parents who refuse to communicate with the College and have made no effort to pay will be referred to our debt collection agency as permitted in the regulations
- **High cost subjects** (over \$50 per semester) require a **50% confirmation charge** on subject selection
- Until all outstanding amounts owing are paid, the College may choose to:
 - Insist that students choose cheaper options, especially when a family appears to have decided to refuse to pay course charges
 - The College has discretion to exclude students from extra-curricular activities (eg camps, tours, excursions) if fees are not paid in full

Camps and Excursions, Trips and Tours Interstate and Overseas

Camps and excursions are an important part of the educational experiences of our students. In most cases the camp or excursion will be an integral part of the course. It is our policy to obtain parent permission for **all** camps/excursions/tours, along with payment in full of all associated costs prior to students attendance. Without parent permission, students cannot attend a camp or excursion. When attending camps or excursions, students are to abide by the College rules and wear school dress, where appropriate.

Interstate and overseas trips—Specialist Course Students

The College cannot accept monies for these trips until obligations to pay specialist programs and College course charges have been fulfilled. The College has discretion to exclude students from extra-curricular activities (eg excursions, tours) if College course charges are not paid in full.

PLEASE NOTE: payment plans may commence at any time – why not prepare early for next year and start NOW with a monthly direct deposit from your bank account to the College account:

Account Name: Como Secondary College
BSB: 066 102
Account No: 00903523
Ref: student name

GENERAL INFORMATION

The following information is provided in the hope of making the College charges and contributions structure clear for parents and caregivers. Como Secondary College has directed its efforts towards keeping costs as low and as equitable as possible. The Como Secondary College Board has examined the contributions and charges structure in detail and has approved the amounts shown in accordance with the Education Act.

Voluntary Contribution Years 7-10

Revenue collected from your voluntary contributions is used to help cover expenses for students in compulsory learning areas. Examples of these expenses are textbooks ranging in price from \$35-\$50 each, physical education equipment, audiovisual equipment, information technology facilities, graph paper and photocopied materials.

Compulsory Charges

Years 7-10

Extra cost optional courses outside the basic core program incur additional charges above the voluntary contribution of \$235 for Years 7-10 students. For example, Sports, Visual Art, and Food attract compulsory charges for items such as consumable materials and venue hire. Charges relate to items that students consume over and above what is supplied by the Department of Education.

Full charges for optional course charges are required to be paid prior to the end of Term 1

Special Programs

Golf, Hockey, Music and EMITS (Enriched Mathematics and Information Technology) are offered as special programs at Como Secondary College and will incur additional charges above the voluntary contribution.

100% charges for Special Programs are required to be paid prior to 4 February 2019

High cost subjects incurring a proposed cost of greater than \$50 are considered high cost (highlighted in yellow) and payment of a 50% deposit is required to confirm acceptance and placement in these classes. (All subject charges are proposed for 2019 and are subject to change.) You will be re-directed to CommBank BPoint to finalise your subject selections should high cost subjects be selected.

OTHER OPTIONAL COSTS

Como Secondary College Student Diary

Each student is required to have a Como Secondary College information directory and homework diary at a cost of \$5.00 each. These will be issued in the first week of Term 1. Parents are asked to encourage daily use.

College Yearbook

A yearbook for all students is available at the end of the year at a cost of \$20.00 per student.

Library Contribution

The Library contribution is \$50.00 per student. The College is required to purchase a large and expensive range of equipment and books and the Department of Education provides limited funding to provide resources for this centre.

Whole School Activities

The Whole School Activities cost is \$10.00 per student which enables the College to fund special events during the school year eg NAIDOC, healthy choices week, bullying seminars.

Newsletters

A payment of \$10.00 per student is requested to help offset the cost of producing the newsletter, daily crier and other handouts.

VOLUNTARY APPROVED REQUESTS

School Building Fund

The College strongly encourages a donation of \$40.00 per student. These funds are used towards upgrading facilities and various projects within the College eg shade structures, creation of Year 10 quad (*this contribution is tax deductible*).

College Chaplain

A levy of \$25.00 is requested to support the presence of a non-denominational chaplain who is an integral part of the College's Student Services program. The Chaplain provides support for students struggling or dealing with a wide range of pastoral issues and is not an employee of the Department of Education. This position is solely funded by the community and your donations.

P&C Contributions

The P&C Association seeks your continued support for 2018 by appealing to parents for a contribution of \$20.00 per student. This amount appears on the College Charges and Contributions sheet. This contribution enables the P&C to purchase much needed equipment for student use.

OTHER COSTS

Smartrider Cards

Smartrider cards are issued to all students. Smartrider cards can be used for student identification. The cost of the initial card is free. Replacement cards can be issued at a cost of \$5.00 per card. All cards include a photo for identification purposes.

Reprinting of Reports and Student Timetables

Student timetables are printed and distributed to students at the beginning of each term. Semester reports are emailed twice yearly to or collected by parents. For those requiring additional copies of these items the following replacement fee will be applied - Student Reports \$5.00 each, Student timetables 50c each.

Text Books/Workbooks

For some courses the College supplies all materials, textbooks and resources in return for the payment of a hire or resource charge; however, some courses require that students purchase workbooks. A replacement cost will be charged if any textbooks are lost or badly **damaged**. This allows us to keep the cost of school fees down to a **minimum**.

The Course Charges

The family of every student will receive a fully detailed list of the charges associated with their chosen program. This schedule will include:

- Any workbooks that need to be purchased and their listed recommended retail price
- The charges associated with each course selected
- Any other compulsory charges levied by the College
- Any voluntary contributions approved by the College Board

The workbook list and schedule of charges is posted out to families by the end of the school year.

The estimated charge for each course is included with the description in the Student Handbook.