



CAVENDISH ROAD

State High School

2026 YEAR 9 SUBJECT SELECTION BOOK

Read through all sections of this handbook carefully and consider the options available to you before you decide on your subject choices. This handbook provides essential information for you to begin to shape your plan for academic success. The Year 9 curriculum at Cavendish Road SHS is designed to implement the mandated Australian Curriculum v9.0 as well as catering for the needs of all students. It aims to provide a broad general education and a foundation for further learning.

Electives are more specialised strands or subjects offered from within the key learning areas of the Australian Curriculum. The elective subject choices are designed to keep future options open. There is no subject mix in the compulsory phase of schooling that pre-determines a post-school outcome such as a job, profession or course of study. A simple rule is to consider subjects which interest you and those that you have been successful in the past.

Compulsory subjects for two semesters

The following subjects must be studied for two semesters in Year 9:

- English
- Mathematics or Accelerated Mathematics (Continuing from Year 8 program).
- Science
- Year Level Care (YLC)
- Wednesday afternoon inter-school sport or recreational activity

Compulsory subjects for one semester

The following subjects must be studied for one semester in Year 9:

- History
- Health and Physical Education - For Sporting Academy students, this will be incorporated into their full year subject.

Elective subjects:

Students will select **four additional subjects** for the following one semester course offerings:

The Arts – Media Arts, Music, Visual Art, Drama

Humanities – Academy of Ideas: Philosophy, Geography, Economics and Business

Technologies – Digital Technology, Design and Technologies (Graphical Design), Food and Fibre Production, Material and Technologies Specialisations 2

Languages – Students who wish to continue to study the language that was studied in Year 8 must choose two semesters of this language in Year 9.

Student can select multiple electives from the same Learning Area.

Compulsory Subjects for Two Semesters

Subject title	Description	Assessment
English	The Year 9 English course provides students with the opportunity to engage with a variety of texts for enjoyment. They analyse, interpret, evaluate, discuss, create and perform a wide range of texts. Texts may include various types of media texts including film, digital and online texts, novels, non-fiction, poetry, dramatic performances and multimodal texts. Themes and issues may involve levels of abstraction, higher order reasoning and intertextual references. Students are beginning to develop a critical understanding of how texts, language, and visual and audio features are influenced by context.	Narrative, Multimodal Persuasive Presentation, Analytical Essay under exam conditions, Informative Multimodal Presentation
Mathematics	The Year 9 Mathematics curriculum aims to ensure that students are confident, creative users and communicators of mathematics. It develops an increasingly sophisticated understanding of mathematical concepts and fluency with process, and an ability to pose a solved problem and reason in Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry and Statistics and Probability.	Examinations, Problem Solving & Modelling task
Accelerated Mathematics Entry is by invitation only.	The Year 9 Accelerated Mathematics course covers element of the Year 10 Australian Curriculum. Students currently in the Year 8 Accelerated program will be automatically enrolled into this course	Examinations, Problem Solving & Modelling task
Science	Students will explore how the human body responds to both internal and external stimuli and are introduced to how species survive through asexual and sexual reproduction. They analyse energy conservation and apply wave and particle models to develop a more sophisticated view of energy transfer. They use their notion of motion and use them to predict motion of objects in systems. They are introduced the notion of the atom as a system of protons, electrons and neutrons and observe how chemical processes can change atomic structure, arrangement and mass. They are introduced to the theory of the Big Bang and the origin of the universe. They describe trends and patterns of global climate change and causal factors.	Examination, Student Experiment

Compulsory Subjects for One Semester

Subject title	Description	Assessment
Health & Physical Education	The aim of the subject is to develop healthy and physically active young people who can advocate for their own and others health. Students are provided with opportunities to develop their knowledge and understanding of key health issues. Health and Physical Education focuses on the developing of cooperation and leadership skills and well as physical and tactical skills in sport.	Response to stimulus blog, Performance based assessment, Case Study
History	The Year 9 history course provides a study of the history of the making of the modern world from 1750 to 1918. This was an era of nationalism and imperialism, and expansion of European power, which had significant effects on First Nations Peoples globally. Students will explore the impact on First Nations people in Australia as well as Australia's involvement in World War I (<i>1914–1918, the 'war to end all wars'</i>). The content provides opportunities to develop historical understanding through key concepts, including evidence, the usefulness and reliability of sources, continuity and change, cause and effect, perspectives, empathy, significance and contestability. History in Year 9 builds on the skills taught in Years 7-8 and requires students to be critical about the information they receive.	Response to stimulus exam, Historical essay based on research

Elective Subjects for Two Semesters

Subject title	Description	Assessment
German	The Year 9 German course aims to enhance the 4 macro skills: speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills. Communication is developed by composing written texts, and creating multimedia presentations, and comprehension is improved by engaging with diverse texts including letters, diary entries, games, puzzles, and authentic German films and TV programs. By emphasising cultural events and engaging in excursions, the course helps students understand the importance of language and culture. Year 9 German is a prerequisite for continued study into Year 10 and Senior German courses.	Listening, reading, writing & speaking tasks
Japanese	Year 9 Japanese students will build on their language skills to engage with a variety of texts in Japanese such as comics, letters, diaries, travel itineraries and multi-media presentations. Students learn to communicate effectively: speaking, listening, reading and writing in a range of genres for a variety of purposes. Through participation in excursions and cultural events, students will enhance their understanding of Japanese language and culture and	Listening, reading, writing & speaking tasks

	develop the skills necessary for inter-cultural understanding in a globalised society. Year 9 Japanese is a pre-requisite for continued study into Year 10 and Senior Japanese courses.	
Football Academy	The Football Academy, which is endorsed and supported by Football Queensland, is conducted as a school subject under the umbrella of Health and Physical Education. Through a football context this subject aims to develop healthy and physically active young people who can advocate for their own and others' health. Students are provided with opportunities to develop their knowledge and understanding of key health issues.	Response to stimulus -Blog, Performance based assessment, Examination
Netball Academy	The Netball Academy, supported by Queensland Netball, is conducted as a school subject under the umbrella of Health and Physical Education. Through a Netball context, this subject aims to develop healthy and physically active young people who can advocate for their own and others' health.	Written responses, Performance based assessment, Case Study response
Touch Football Academy	The Touch Football Academy, which is endorsed and supported by Queensland Touch, is conducted as a school subject under the umbrella of Health and Physical Education. Through a touch football context this subject aims to develop healthy and physically active young people who can advocate for their own and others' health.	Response to stimulus -Blog, Performance based assessment Case study response

Elective Subjects for One Semester

Subject title	Description	Assessment
Academy of Ideas: Philosophy	Philosophy introduces students to key areas of logical and metaphysical inquiry. Students will explore how philosophical thought influences human understanding, values, and actions, and how it responds to enduring questions and contemporary challenges. Throughout the course of study students will be explicitly taught critical thinking and inquiry skills as they engage with philosophical concepts. Students will begin by learning the fundamentals of philosophical reasoning, including the parts of an argument, distinctions between deductive and inductive logic, and common formal and informal fallacies. In the first unit, <i>Time Travel and Logical Possibility</i> , students will examine the coherence and implications of time travel as a philosophical concept, drawing on logic and thought experiments. The second unit, <i>Who Am I?</i> , centres on the metaphysics of identity, to investigate whether something can remain the same despite change. Students do not need to have participated in the Academy of Ideas in Year 7 and 8 to select this subject.	Project – Is Time Travel Logically Possible?, Extended Response Assignment.

Design and Technologies (Graphical Designs)	Students will develop a range of graphical techniques to communicate with different audiences, generate and represent original ideas and production plans and produce a range of technical drawings including orthographic, exposed and sectional representations. They will also use software to produce rendered pictorials for the marketing of virtual products. Students work independently and collaboratively.	Design projects, Exercises
Digital Technology	This course will focus on 3 areas: computer network system, data mining and computer programming. Students will first learn about computer hardware and software which then leads into understanding of how a network works. The second unit allows students to collect and compare data. They then turn the data collected into information. Finally, students will learn about python programming to develop a basis text-based adventure game. All work covered in this subject aligns to the Australian Curriculum – Digital Technologies.	Examination, Project-interactive infographic
Drama	Year 9 Drama explores social issues through contemporary plays and social media publications. The course will explore a minimum of three play texts for teenagers. Students will explore contemporary issues through dramatic forms such as; improvisation, role-play, directing and performance skills. Students will also write in role and view live theatre. Students will develop confidence in oral communication, problem solving and working in both small and large groups to develop scenes, video projects and character analysis. Drama students create, perform and reflect on life!	Performance, Examination, Project- script writing, multimodal Presentation
Economics and Business	Students will explore how businesses operate at various levels and how they respond to changing conditions and emerging opportunities. Economics and Business Studies introduces students to the roles of consumers, businesses, and governments within both the Australian and global economies, through two engaging units of work. In the first unit, Managing Financial Risks and Rewards, students will examine sources of income, explore different types of savings, and learn about credit, loans, interest rates, and associated fees and charges. The second unit, Understanding the Economy, focuses on the key participants in the Australian economy and investigates how global events can influence economic performance and decision-making.	Written examination, Extended Response assignment
Food and Fibre Production	Students will participate in theoretical and practical activities in world cuisine areas of food and nutrition and textiles. For term one students will be studying healthy food choices and developing their skills through practical cookery lessons. For the second term, students will develop their skills with the sewing	2 Project Folios

	machine and make an 'Eco-bag' with embellishments and a sustainability message. Activities are based on the food specialisations and materials and technologies strands of the Design and Technologies curriculum.	
Geography	Students are involved in two units of study – Biomes and Food Security and Geographies of Interconnection – with a focus on Australian, Asian and international aspects of these studies. Biomes and Food Security focuses on investigating the role of the biotic environment and its role in food and fibre production. These distinctive aspects of biomes, food production and food security are investigated using studies drawn from Australia and apply it to land use in Mount Tamborine. Geographies of Interconnection focuses on investigating how people, through their choices and actions, are connected to places throughout the world in a variety of ways. Students focus on globalisation and how it affects Australia and the world, as well as technological advances which have led to the rise in globalisation.	Field Report, Combination Response Examination
Materials and Technologies Specialisations 2	Students will explore aspects of advanced manufacturing (2D laser cutting, 3D modelling and 3D printing) within the context of the Technology Australian Curriculum. For one term students will project manage their design and manufacture of small prototypes. In the other term of study, students will have opportunity to use a range of materials and processes to solve design problems.	Individual and group assessments across the semester
Media Arts	Media Arts enables students to analyse past technologies, and use existing and emerging technologies as they explore imagery, text and sound to create meaning. Students participate in, experiment with, and interpret cultures, media genres and styles, and different communication practices	Multimodal Presentation, Script construction
Music	Students will be studying music in a range of popular music styles from 1950's to present days through performing, composing and responding. Students will have the opportunity to perform individually and/or in small groups using a range of instruments. They will compose using music technology such as notation programs and/or GarageBand which can record their own compositions.	Performing Task, Composing Task, Responding Task
Visual Art	This elective provides students with the opportunity to develop and refine techniques and processes to represent ideas and subject matter in their art works. Exposure to painting, drawing, printmaking and some sculptural processes form the basis of this elective.	Visual journal entries, Practical folio, Personal reflection, Analysis of an artwork