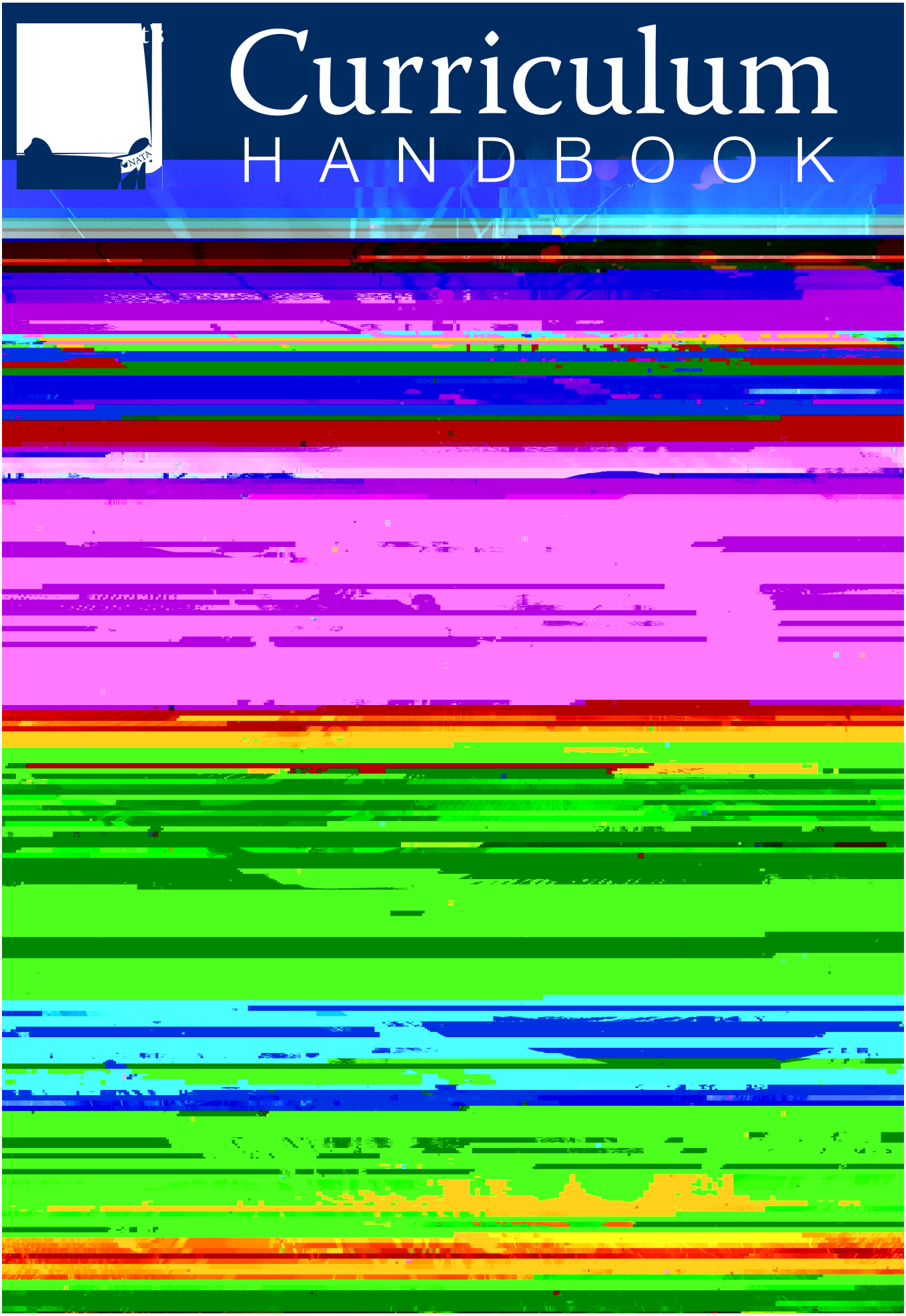
Curriculum
HANDBOOK



In a supportive Christian environment, reflecting the philosophy
of the Sisters of the Society of the Sacred Advent,
St Margaret's Anglican Girls School aims to provide
excellence in teaching and learning
within a broad, balanced and flexible curriculum
complemented by other school activities;
preparing confident, compassionate and capable young
women able to contribute in a global community.

In Term Two, Year 7 students will be required to select two Arts subjects through the online process outlined below.

1. Each student will receive an email with the information required for entering their subject preferences online.

2. For your records, please print a receipt of your subject selections. This is for your reference only - there is no need to submit this receipt to the school as we have an electronic copy of your preferences.

If there are any difficulties with the online process please contact the Executive Assistant to the Deputy Principal on 3862 0771.

Digital Design provides the opportunity for students to explore a range of cutting-edge technologies and develop skills in some of the industry's most popular programs.

Through hands-on activities and projects, they will learn how to design and build their own Apps. This process will include more advanced topics such as cloud computing and user experience, while focusing on cyber safety and best practices to keep their information safe online.

The subject includes a dive into the world of virtual and augmented reality,

The Year 8 Health and Physical Education program supports students in refining their decision-making skills in relation to their health and provides them with opportunities to develop, movement competence in a range of physical activities. Health contexts include personal fitness, nutrition, respectful relationships and making healthy and safe choices. Movement contexts include aquatic activities, games and sports and movement and expressive activities. Students have three HPE lessons per week – two concentrating on the practical elements and one on the theoretical components. The following table illustrates the foci areas Year 8 students may participate in during the year.

	Optimising Performance Decision Time	Aquatic Activities – Swimming & Rowing AFL
	Nutrition Mental Health and Wellbeing	Striking Sports – Cricket / Softball / Tennis Artistic swimming

- Planning and implementing strategies, using health resources, to enhance their own and others' health, safety, relationships and wellbeing
- Refining

Humanities Learning Enhancement is a supported small-group subject, where assistance is provided on study skills, assistive technology and support for assessment. This subject is offered on an invitation only basis to students who require additional support in their learning.

Students still complete the core work of the Humanities subject, but it is simplified and with a reduced workload, and at least two lessons a week are provided to the students to catch up on homework, get support with difficult subjects and assessment tasks, and learn about different technology and study strategies that may assist them with their academic workload.

This subject was introduced to relieve some of the pressure of the transition to high school. Students in this subject will not be graded in this subject but will receive a comment on their end of semester report cards about their progress and effort.

The Year 8 Chinese course is designed to build on the skills developed in the Year 7 Chinese course. Students will continue working towards fluency in the world's most spoken language. They will be engaged in a variety of carefully curated learning experiences to boost their knowledge of both Chinese language and culture. There will be a strong emphasis on building core vocabulary and grammar as well as the development of analysis and evaluation skills. Students will also begin to develop more independence in their learning by utilising new tools such as online dictionaries. At St Margaret's, the study of either French or Chinese is compulsory in Year 8.

Support is available to assist students who begin the study of Chinese in Year 8.

Did you know that most Chinese students start school at about 7am and finish classes at about 10pm? In this unit students will examine the difficulties Chinese students face in their school life. They will also express opinions about the st2 Tc Tpm0(o)3.1 (a)3.8eTtim udxamh

- Learning from the Sisters of the SSA: Ordinary people, changing lives
- The Power of Rituals
- Women in the Bible: their story, our story
- Women bearing witness: women of faith changing lives today

- Reading: excerpts from Religious texts, religious and secular stories
- Watching: excerpts from film, documentary and television to learn about faith at home and overseas
- Discussion: pair and small group, whole class exchange of ideas
- Writing: personal reflection on the connection between ourselves and others
- Visiting: The School Chapel, the Sisters Chapel

There is no formal assessment in Religious and Values Education

The study of Science at St Margaret's develops the six overarching ideas of the Australian Curriculum in Science: patterns, order and organisation; form and function; stability and change; systems; scale and measurement; and matter and energy. The curriculum provides opportunities for students to develop an understanding of the important scientific concepts and processes, as well as the practices used to develop scientific knowledge, or science's contribution to our culture and society, and its application to our lives. The curriculum supports students in gaining an understanding of science to develop the necessary skills to make informed decisions, and so to participate in science related careers if they wish.

The topics of study for Year 8 Science include:

- Cells
- Rocks/Geology
- Living Systems
- Energy
- Substances & Chemical Change
- Reproduction

Students will develop their scientific skills and understanding through the following learning experiences during Year 8 Science:

- Practical laboratory classes – including student-led experiments
- Kinaesthetic activities
- Multimodal presentations
- Inquiry-based learning activities
- Exercises involving analysis and interpretation of data
- Exercises involving evaluation of data

Students will be given Formative Assessment Tasks throughout the Semester.

The Year 8 Science Assessment Plan includes the following tasks per semester:

- 1 x Student Experiment Task/Data Analysis Task
- 1 x End of Semester Examination (assessing all three units covered in the semester).

End of Semester Examination will be assessing the following criteria:

- Science Understanding (60%)
- Analysing, Applying and Interpreting Data (40%)

In Year 8 Drama students will begin to explore the Elements of Drama as the foundation for shaping, performing and responding to drama. The course is mostly practical, providing students with performance skills to confidently and effectively engage an audience. Focf.05 Tw 0a2.7 (r)-2.9l 51.859x4e

Students live in a world in which music has an important and persuasive presence. Whether actively engaged in music by listening, performing or composing, or incidentally encountering music, students have an individual experience, and the Year 8 course builds on this. Music contributes to the holistic development of the individual through aspects such as memory, co-ordination, concentration and creativity. Students studying Music are empowered by the medium of music to gain insight into their ever-changing world, to develop self-(i8 e2p0)yeelf(g)029

The Year 8 Visual Art Course develops students' understanding of the visual world by making and appreciating

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