

Prospect High School Option Subject Course Selection Guide

Year 8 2026



INTRODUCTION

The curriculum offered to students in Year 8 at Prospect High School is closely aligned to the Australian Curriculum. Students study English, Mathematics, Science, Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS) and Health and Physical Education (HPE) as compulsory subjects. Students in Year 8 also need to select two full year and two half year option courses.

Important Points to Consider when Choosing Option Subjects:

- Students are encouraged to choose option subjects that align with interests, skills and possible future pathways
- It is expected that students consult with their parents before choosing option subjects
- Students are reminded to make their own subject choices – it is not appropriate for students to choose the same option subjects for the purpose of being with their friends
- It is important to note that option subjects will only run if sufficient students select the option, class numbers are viable and resources are not over-extended

FULL YEAR COURSES

Students are required to study two courses from the below full year option subjects. Each subject runs twice a week for 70 minutes per lesson.

Arts: Dance

Arts: Drama

Arts: Music

Arts: Visual Art

Design Tech: Design in Metal

Design Tech: Design in Wood

Design Tech: Digital Technologies

Design Tech: Food Specialisations

Languages: Japanese

ARTS: DANCE

During Year 8 Dance, there is a learning focus on the elements of dance (body, space, time, energy, and action). You will use these elements to assist you in learning and creating for a range of units throughout the year. Students further develop their contemporary dance techniques, focusing on how dance can convey powerful messages and communicate in various social contexts to tell a story. Students will also engage in warm-up routines and strength and conditioning exercises.

Dance is a practical subject with small written reflective components associated with reviewing various pieces of work. Throughout the year, students will have the opportunity to engage in dance workshops and attend local productions and competitions. In Year 8, selecting dance means you'll work cooperatively, be creative, and have numerous performance opportunities throughout the year.

Any enquiries please contact: Mrs Clark



ARTS: DRAMA

Students undertaking this course will explore how the elements of Drama work together to create and convey meaning in different contexts and will experiment with working within different forms and styles. Students will learn about creating characters, building sets, devising scenes, working with scripts and mime work, as well as some technical theatre (lights, sound and projection). While most of the work is practical, there is a theoretical element with students required to undertake planning and reflective writing and to explore drama history. The students will travel to view a college production and learn to write a theatre review. Term 1 will begin with preparation for the Launceston Drama Competitions, while later in the year, students can present at the annual PHS Arts Evening.

If you like creating characters, theatre-sports, collaborating with others and viewing performances, then Drama is for you!

Equipment required: Plain black clothes (theatre blacks) – trousers and long-sleeve top.

Any enquiries please contact: Mrs Viney



ARTS: MUSIC

Music Year 8 is a full year course that helps students develop an understanding of music literacy and practical development. It follows the ACF Arts curriculum and provides a pathway into Year 9/10 music. Whether you are a beginner student or a student that is further developing their craft, music is an option for all and can be joined at any level. As a music department we have access to a wide range of instruments from creating digital music on computers to brass and woodwind, as well as contemporary band instruments.

Students will develop skills in music through learning about the following:

- Music fundamentals and the theory behind rhythms, melody, harmony, scales and key signatures
- Practical skills needed to develop technical skills, interpretation, expressiveness and stage presence
- Music composition and arrangement through creating original music, arranging existing music and experimenting with music ideas

Students will also develop an appreciation of past and current music through looking at the evolution of musical styles, prominent composers and cultural influences. Through learning all of the above the students will develop performance skills while learning teamwork, synchronisation, adaptability and musical communication. Assessment methods will include practical evaluations of instrumental or vocal skills, written assignments on music theory concepts, analysis of musical compositions and participation in class discussions and performances.

If you have a passion in music and want to learn how to develop skills in any chosen area of the above, please join Year 8 full year music in 2025.

Any enquiries please contact: Mr Gutierrez



ARTS: VISUAL ART

The Year 8 Visual Art course allows students the opportunity to create artworks with a focus on personal identity, understanding of self and the world around them. Students are guided by a process of creation that requires them to 'Think', 'Make' and 'Respond'. Lesson time is made up of whole class instruction, small group and individual learning. Participation in this course will allow students to develop independence and confidence when expressing ideas using a range of materials, techniques and stimulus.

Students are encouraged to explore a range of materials from drawing, printing, painting, small scale sculpture, digital drawing and photography. Students have the opportunity to visit the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery (QVMAG) to explore exhibitions including *ArtRage*. Students are also required to keep a visual art journal as a place to develop ideas and to explore their own art making process.

Any enquiries please contact: Miss Wilson



DESIGN TECH: DESIGN IN METAL

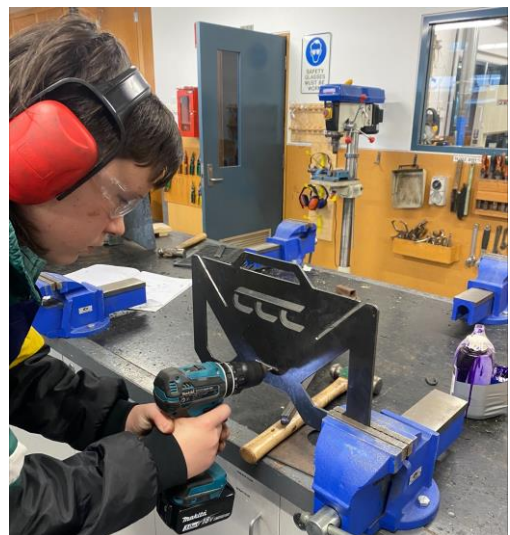
Students in the Design and Technology subject create ideas and develop workshop skills with hand and machine tools. Students will be introduced to creating designed solutions from ideas (including sketches) to using various software to manufacture projects. Through understanding ICT, students will have the opportunity to appreciate modern industrial skills within the metal workshop, which include, the CNC Plasma Cutter and Laser Cutter.

Students are introduced to basic practical skills and associated theory as part of the design process. A safe working environment will be promoted at all times.

The design and technology projects will have a major focus on using metal, however, wood and plastics will also be used.

If choosing this subject, students will be required to provide their own leather boots to use when welding. All other PPE will be provided.

Any enquiries please contact: Mr Colson



DESIGN TECH: DESIGN IN WOOD

In Year 8 Design in Wood, you will plan, design and create timber-based projects for a variety of purposes. You will develop many skills using a variety of hand tools, as well as battery powered tools and machinery. This can lead to further studies in this area throughout your time at Prospect High School, as well as future career pathways.

At Prospect High School we have a well-equipped workshop, with access to digital facilities including the use of a laser printer. Design in Wood is part of the National Curriculum and is assessed against the Technologies Framework. We look forward to seeing you in the workshop.

Any enquiries please contact: Mr Colson or Mr Dikkenberg



DESIGN TECH: DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

Year 8 Digital Technologies is designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of digital systems, data management and the fundamentals of computer programming. This course aims to develop students' problem-solving skills, foster creativity and enhance their ability to work collaboratively on technology-based projects. Students will engage in practical activities that integrate theory with hands-on experience, preparing them for future studies and careers in the digital world.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of Year 8, students will:

- Understand and apply the basic principles of digital systems, including hardware, software and networks
- Develop proficiency in using digital tools to create, manage and share information
- Learn to design, implement and evaluate digital solutions to real-world problems
- Gain foundational skills in programming, including the use of algorithms and coding
- Develop critical thinking skills to analyse and solve complex problems using technology
- Understand the ethical, legal and social implications of digital technologies

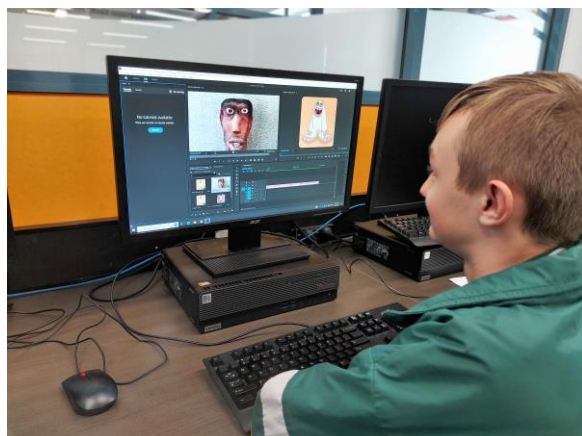
KEY TOPICS AND ACTIVITIES

- Digital Systems
- Data Management
- Data Representation and Storage
- Database Fundamentals
- Digital Solutions
- Problem-Solving with Technology
- Digital Citizenship
- The Future of Technology



Students will be assessed through a combination of practical projects, workbook entry and completion of online tasks.

Any enquiries please contact: Mrs Phillips



DESIGN TECH: FOOD SPECIALISATIONS

This full year subject follows the Australian Curriculum in both Design and Technology and Health strands with a practical and a theory lesson each week. Some of the topics are food safety and hygiene, a wide range of kitchen skills and cooking techniques. There is a focus on nutrition especially the macro and micro- nutrients and how they benefit the adolescent body, an introduction to food allergies and intolerances, sensory properties of food, indigenous and cultural cuisine, family favourites and celebration cooking.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

It is intended that students will:

- become aware of the impact food choices and nutrition has on well-being
- develop confidence and practical skills in the process of following a recipe
- work both independently and co-operatively with others
- demonstrate at all times the ability to work safely and hygienically
- develop inquiry skills in both theory and practical lessons
- study issues associated with nutrition and the adolescent diet

Any enquiries please contact: Mrs McMahon



LANGUAGES: JAPANESE

In Year 8 Japanese you will:

- Learn how to read and write Hiragana and Katakana and some everyday Kanji
- Learn how to introduce yourself in Japanese and talk about your hobbies and family
- Learn how to communicate in everyday settings
- Learn to make simple Japanese sentences using everyday verbs and vocabulary
- Learn about Japanese culture and participate in cultural activities
- Learn to make connections and develop a greater understanding of your own language
- Commence a pathway of language study that will set you up for success to study Japanese throughout high school, college and university

At this level, previous experience in studying Japanese will be an advantage, but it is not a necessary prerequisite for study. It is possible to enrol in this course as a beginner student.

Any enquiries please contact: Miss Baird



HALF YEAR COURSES (HY)

Students need to choose two half year courses from the below subjects. The first course will run in Terms 1 and 4 and the second course will run in Terms 2 and 3. These subjects run twice a week for 70 minutes per lesson. General courses listed below have the potential to run on either line – please take note of the subjects that only occur in certain terms.

General Courses (could run in terms 1/4 or 2/3, dependant on numbers)

Arts: HY Media Production

Arts: HY Music

Arts: HY Visual Art

HaSS: HY Lore and Mythology

Terms 1 and 4 ONLY Courses:

Design Tech: HY Catering Enterprise

Design Tech: HY Makers in the Workshop

HPE: HY Mountain Bike Academy

HPE: HY Sportsworks

Terms 2 and 3 ONLY Courses:

Design Tech: HY Art and Craft

Design Tech: HY Foods by Design

Science: HY STEM

Winter Sport: Football (Boys)

Winter Sport: Football (Girls)

Winter Sport: Netball

Winter Sport: Soccer

ARTS: HY MEDIA PRODUCTION

Media Production is designed to develop knowledge, skills and understanding of different aspects of the media and media production such as:

- Digital photography and professional editing
- Video and film
- Use of social media and its impact on society
- Use a variety of multimedia software including Adobe Premiere, Lightroom, Photoshop and Character Animator

You will also have the opportunity to develop media skills to assist with the recording and documenting of grade and school activities which will be shared with our school community.

Any enquiries please contact: Mr Blundell or Mr Rodrigues



ARTS: HY MUSIC

Year 8 Music as a half year course that helps students develop their understanding of basic music theory, technique and the practical skills needed to perform. Half year music provides students with the knowledge they need to develop skills and be part of a band.

Students will develop skills in music through learning about the following:

- Music literacy needed to develop skills on their chosen instrument, such as, the theory behind rhythms, melody, harmony and scales/key signatures
- Developing performance skills while learning teamwork, synchronisation, adaptability and musical communication. This will allow students to work together as a band to practice and develop a set list to perform.
- Technical skills: students will learn about what is required to further develop skills on their instruments through technical exercises, etudes and scales and chords.

Assessment methods will include practical evaluations of instrumental or vocal skills, written assignments on music theory concepts, analysis of musical compositions and participation in class discussions and performances.

If you are a beginner student or a student that is further developing their craft, music is an option for all and can be joined at any level. Therefore, if you have a passion for music and want to learn how to develop skills in any chosen area of the above, please join half year music in 2025.

Any enquiries please contact: Mr Gutierrez



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Students are encouraged to explore a range of materials from drawing, printing, painting, small scale sculpture, digital drawing and photography. Students have the opportunity to visit the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery (QVMAG) to explore exhibitions including *ArtRage*. Students are also required to keep a visual art journal as a place to develop ideas and to explore their own art making process.

Any enquiries please contact: Miss Wilson



HaSS: HY LORE AND MYTHOLOGY

Unlock the secrets of the ancient world...

Uncover the hidden stories that shape our world in Lore and Mythology! This engaging course delves into the rich tapestry of myths, legends, and folklore from diverse cultures across time. Explore the fascinating narratives that have been passed down through generations, examining the origins of gods and heroes, monsters and magic.

Through in-depth analysis, captivating storytelling, and stimulating discussions, you'll gain a deeper understanding of the cultural values, beliefs, and anxieties reflected in these timeless tales. We'll study mythologies from ancient Greece and Rome to Celtic, Norse, and Eastern traditions. Expand both your story telling and understanding of the world through their known myths and beliefs.

Whether you're fascinated by monsters, enchanted by heroes, or intrigued by ancient rituals, *Lore and Mythology* will challenge your thinking and ignite your imagination.

Get ready for vivid storytelling, rich discussions, and creative exploration as you uncover the timeless tales that still influence our world today.

Any enquiries please contact: Ms Barwick



DESIGN TECH: HY MAKERS IN THE WORKSHOP (TERMS 1 & 4)

Makers in the Workshop is an exciting new subject to Prospect High. It is a half year subject offered in terms 1 and 4, available to students in Year 8. It is a hands-on, collaborative space where creativity meets community. Open to all skill levels, this program invites participants to explore tools, techniques, and ideas while building real-world projects together. Whether you're crafting with wood, tinkering with tech, or dreaming up designs, you'll find support, inspiration, and shared purpose in a welcoming environment that celebrates learning by doing. It is designed to introduce you to working with hand and power tools and to learn skills to create a number of small individual projects, as well as some group projects. We will explore the use of timber and metal, as well as some negotiated materials.

There will be opportunities to use the Laser Cutter to create and enhance projects, with the possibility of creating a small enterprise from some of our projects. I look forward to seeing you in the workshop.

Any enquiries please contact: Mr Colson



DESIGN TECH: HY CATERING ENTERPRISE (TERMS 1 & 4)

Half Year Catering Enterprise is a practical program which gives you an insight into the skills and knowledge required to be successful in food preparation, cooking and customer service. Students will consolidate these skills in our food-based business located in *The Nest Café*.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

It is intended the students will:

- develop confidence and practical skills in the process of following a recipe
- work both independently and co-operatively with others
- demonstrate the ability to always work safely and hygienically
- be introduced to customer service skills
- build enterprise skills including research of ideas, client consultation, costing, marketing and promotion
- participate in functions, marketing and promotion of business opportunities
- learn drink making basics

Any enquiries please contact: Mrs McMahon



DESIGN TECH: HY ART AND CRAFT (TERMS 2 & 3)

Arts and crafts is a fun subject where students will develop basic skills and use simple artistic principles to create their own artwork. Learners will have the opportunity to develop confidence and creativity and communicate their unique perspectives on the world as they create and respond using a range of medium including ink, paint, textiles, clay and pencils.

This course supports the principles of access, agency, excellence, support and achievement to enable students to access a diverse and flexible range of learning opportunities suited to their level of readiness, interests and aspirations.

Any enquiries please contact: Miss Wilson



DESIGN TECH: HY FOODS BY DESIGN (TERMS 2 & 3)

This subject centres on the design process. It is practical in nature and has a significant focus on mastering more complex (methods requiring higher technical level) and traditional cookery and presentation techniques.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

It is intended that students will:

- experience a sense of enjoyment and achievement when designing and producing items
- develop skills in preparing foods from scratch (making pastry, yeast doughs, biscuit making, cake making and pasta making)
- develop an understanding of various ingredients and how to prepare them to utilise a range of methods and techniques
- Learn about diverse cultures and the importance of food in these cultures
- the ability to always work safely
- work both independently and collaboratively with others

Any enquiries please contact: Mrs McMahon



HPE: HY MOUNTAIN BIKE ACADEMY (TERMS 1 & 4)

This program is targeted at students who are intermediate and advanced mountain bike riders that want to build upon their skills, both with riding and bike maintenance. It involves both practical and theoretical aspects of riding, goal setting and participation in the Tasmanian School Mountain Bike Championships. The practical aspects will involve riding both at school and through the Kate Reed Reserve.

Students may use their own bike, however, bikes can also be provided.

Any enquiries please contact: Mr Colson



HPE: HY SPORTSWORKS (TERMS 1 & 4)

Sportsworks is designed for students as a lead into the subject of Sports Science. Students will learn about the cardiovascular, muscular and skeletal systems. Topics such as heart rate and exercise, nutrition, fitness training, angle of release and reaction time will be studied through a practical and theoretical lesson each week.

Through an inquiry-based learning approach, students will choose a specific sport to investigate. This includes designing a training program, keeping a personal reflection journal and applying their understanding of the training principles to sporting performance.

Any enquiries please contact: Mr Andrews



SCIENCE: HY STEM (TERMS 2 & 3)

The HY STEM elective provides students with the opportunity to engage with the disciplines of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) to solve real world problems and provide innovative solutions to these challenges. Lessons will be hands-on and require collaboration using critical and creative thinking, to work through the range of STEM modules.

Students will explore a range of technologies and applications, which can include:

- Renewable technologies (solar energy, wind and water turbines and their applications: such as solar cars, solar boats, turbine efficiency etc)
- Innovation in flight (the science and technology of gliders and drones)
- Sustainability (exploring solutions to challenges faced locally and globally)

Students will use the Engineering Design Process to work through the STEM challenges. They will identify a problem or challenge, design a solution, test, re-test and evaluate solutions.

It is hoped that students will enter the Tasmanian Science Talent Search with an 'Engineering Innovation' from this half year course. HY STEM will require teamwork, determination and innovation. We look forward to sharing our work with you in 2025.

Any enquiries please contact: Mrs Carnell



WINTER SPORT (TERMS 2 AND 3)

Various sports teams are selected to represent the school to play against other high schools in a weekly roster. Players will be selected based on their ability, enthusiasm, dedication and merit. Players are therefore expected to play in the team determined by the coaches from selection training. In 2025 it is proposed (subject to numbers) that the following teams will be entered into the Winter Sport Year 8 roster.

- Australian Rules Football (Boys)
- Australian Rules Football (Girls)
- Netball
- Soccer

