



CURRICULUM Middle School

Years 6 to 8 Subjects

GENERAL

The Years 6 to 8 programs are designed to enhance student learning in all areas. Curriculum is integrated and biblical principles permeate through everything we do. We seek to grow Godly adolescents who are equipped to cope in the society they live in.

SUBJECTS

Middle School Core Subjects	Middle School Specialist Subjects
English Humanities Mathematics Science Library LOTE: Chinese (Mandarin) or Indonesian Health & Physical Education Sport	Art Graphic Communication Drama Information Technology Music (and Band Program) Textiles Food Technology Metalwork Woodwork

Years 6 to 8 Academic

Extension

EXCEL ENGLISH

Excel English provides a wonderful opportunity for students with a penchant for the languages, to explore and consolidate their skills in the field. Activities include short story writing, poetry and intensive writing workshops. Students are challenged through deliberate and targeted activities in English, in order to refine their expressive communication. Additionally, students work individually and in small groups to build on their critical and creative thinking. Students also submit work to the City of Casey 'Fresh Words' writing competition.

EXCEL MATHEMATICS

In keeping with our vision, Excel Mathematics serves the purpose of discovering and developing your child's mathematical gifts. Students will be withdrawn from their regular class for these lessons and will be taught in small groups. Lessons involve the acquisition of essential problem solving skills and the development of higher mathematical thinking processes. These are then applied to solving a variety of mathematical problems sourced from such organisations as the APSMO and the Australian Mathematics Trust. The mastery of these skills and processes will enhance your child's future success in higher VCE Mathematics.

Support

MATHS TUTORING

This is a free service provided by the school. Students are welcome to attend extra tuition after school. Tutoring provides an excellent opportunity for improvement in Mathematics for all students. It is designed to support those who have difficulty with Mathematics

EDUCATION SUPPORT

All funded students are supported by our outstanding Education support team. In most cases, students are withdrawn from classes and given specific help with their school work at the Student Wellbeing Centre. Students are also taught how to manage their time effectively and how to study. Education Support staff also assist teachers in class. During this time they work with all students who need support in the classroom.

Assessment

HOMEWORK

Years 6 to 8 students are encouraged to establish good work and study habits at home. Homework is also an opportunity for students to extend their understanding of the concepts addressed in class and consolidate their learning. We recommend at least one hour of homework per night to stay engaged and up-to-date with the curriculum covered in class. Revision of work, reading novels and music practice should also be done if homework has been completed in less than an hour. Both the diary and SEQTA are important tools for students to develop good organisation and discipline.

ASSIGNMENTS

Assignments are an opportunity for students to showcase their learning in a variety of ways. Assessment tasks prioritise individual and group work, whilst also aiming to cater to a variety of learning styles. Students' understanding of key topics is strengthened and challenged during the process of completing assignments. For future improvement, students are also given detailed and constructive feedback on assessment tasks.

EXAMINATIONS

All Year 7 and 8 students prepare for, and undertake, examinations during Term 4. These encompass the topics studied throughout the year and enable students to demonstrate the depth and quality of their learning. The study skills and discipline required to excel in VCE need to be intentionally taught and cultivated over a number of years.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

One period a fortnight is devoted to personal development. The program covers a variety of topics to assist with academic, social, emotional and spiritual growth.

Areas include but are not limited to:

Bible Making Choices Perseverance Body Image	Making Friends Getting help Anti-Bullying Digital Reputations	Goal Setting Organisation Study Skills Healthy Eating
---	--	--

Technology

IPAD PROGRAM

At Maranatha, technology holds its rightful place as a tool for learning. It is not treated with either fear or favour, but through clear instructions in Digital Discipleship, our teachers guide students towards using ICT in ways that fulfil Christ's expectations of His people. Thus ICT becomes an exciting and honourable way to investigate the Lord's universe in all subject areas through the whole school day. Students should use technology to enhance, engage and evaluate their learning. For more information and detail regarding the iPad Program in Years 5-7, please click the following link <http://www.maranatha.vic.edu.au/curriculum/technology-ict/ipad-program>