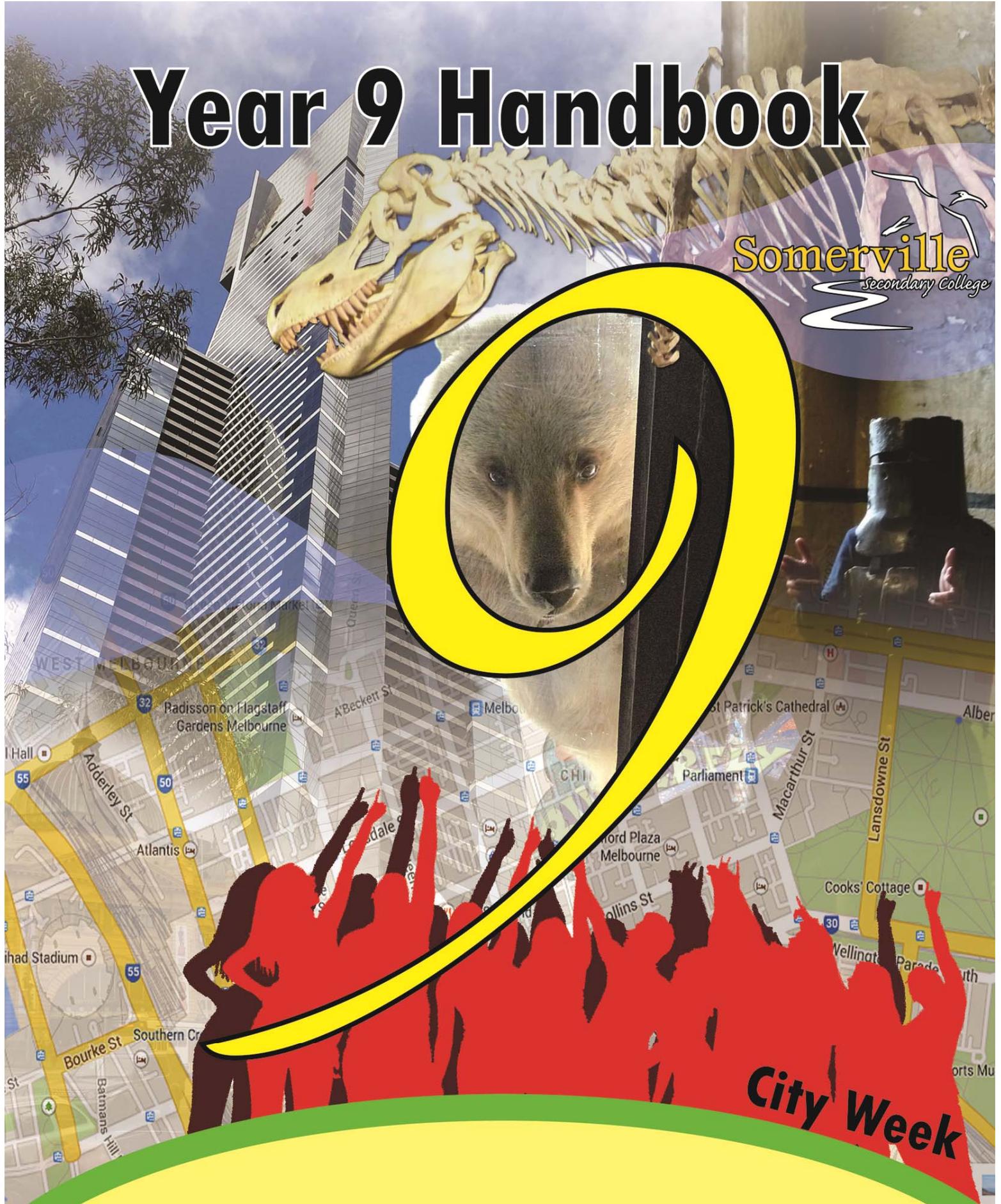


Year 9 Handbook

Somerville
Secondary College



City Week

Somerville Secondary College
2015



Year 9
Course Selection
Handbook 2015

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Principal's Message

Welcome to Year Nine at Somerville Secondary College.

This Course Selection Handbook provides a reference as part of the process for students to make choices for their education, laying a foundation for future work or study.

There are many choices to be made in developing the most appropriate course of study for the future. Students may choose from a range of electives, which may seem quite daunting, but students will receive a great deal of advice and support in helping them to make their choices. They will also have opportunities to revise their path as they proceed through the program. Some of the choices offered may be unfamiliar to parents and students. To assist you, we have an Information Evening for the courses on offer at Somerville Secondary College. If you wish to seek further advice then please contact the Careers Advisor.

This Course Selection Handbook describes only the academic program of the school. Other aspects of school life are also very important. A balance of the academic, social, sporting and leadership elements of life is one of the key elements to success in the middle years at Somerville Secondary College.

All students are encouraged to participate in school sporting programs and there are many other opportunities for a range of activities, including musical and theatrical activities and College leadership. It is our experience that the students who become involved in these other aspects of school life are the ones who enjoy the most academic success. I urge you to remain aware of the full potential of the program offered at Somerville Secondary College.

It is important that each student constructs a course that best suits the individual. We have tried to maintain a wide range of subject offerings but, as with all subjects, final decisions as to whether they proceed in 2015 will depend upon numbers and staffing.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact the College.



Chris Lloyd
Principal

Welcome to Somerville Year Nine

Forward

This Course Selection Handbook outlines the Year Nine Teaching and Learning Program at Somerville Secondary College. The Handbook is divided into two sections:

1. Introduction to the Year Nine Teaching and Learning Program
2. Elective descriptions and selection processes.

The Year Nine Program

We aim to provide opportunities so all students are continually challenged to perform at their best, are engaged in their work and encouraged to regularly attend classes. Our commitment to you is to provide students with access to programs that suit their interests and are directed towards their future goals.

We endeavour to establish strong personal and respectful relationships with each student in our care. We aim to present enjoyable, relevant and rigorous teaching and learning programs that reflect the developmental stages of our students, as they move through their adolescent years into the Later Years Program.

Parents and Carers

- Research indicates that parents and carers are the biggest factor affecting how well students want to do at school.
- All students need the active encouragement and support of parents and carers.
- We want you to be involved and we encourage you to contact the College if you have concerns or wish to discuss any aspect of your child's education. **Form teachers are your first contact.**
- We seek and welcome parents and carers into a partnership. Together we will assist students to set goals and work towards developing their potential.
- We look for your full support in implementing our College's policies.

Costs

Many electives attract a cost for materials which should be considered when selecting subjects. These costs are additional to the College Council Curriculum Resource Contribution.

Note: If the cost cannot be met then the elective should not be selected.

Vision Mission & Values

Somerville Secondary College is a learning community that acknowledges both the rights and responsibilities of each individual. A strong pastoral structure enhances a curriculum that seeks to develop the potential of every student. Academic and personal growth are both equally valued with the classroom focus on challenge, engagement, achievement and celebration of success.

Vision:

At Somerville Secondary College our vision is to develop every member of our college to be a successful and responsible community member and an independent learner who will make a positive contribution to society.

Mission:

At Somerville Secondary College we aim to achieve our vision by:

- Providing an inclusive, encouraging, caring, safe and secure learning environment
- Developing responsible behaviours through clear expectations and high levels of consistency and accountability
- Providing an engaging and appropriately challenging learning environment with high expectations for learners within a culture of continuous improvement
- Providing high quality co-curricular, sport, personal development and leadership programs
- Actively promoting the development of positive and supportive relationships within the learning community

Values:

At Somerville Secondary College our vision and mission are underpinned by:

- **Collaboration** - working together to achieve the school's vision
- **High Expectations** - pursuit of excellence, constantly seeking to improve
- **Integrity**- acting in accordance with principles of moral and ethical conduct, ensuring consistency between words and actions
- **Respect** - treating others with consideration and regard
- **Responsibility** - accepting personal accountability for behaviours, actions and consequences, including the constructive resolution of differences

Integrity Respect Responsibility



Year Nine Teaching and Learning Program

At Year Nine the Core Subjects are English, Mathematics, Humanities, Science, Physical Education and Pastoral Care. Students study English, Mathematics and Pastoral Care **all year**. Students must choose at least **one semester** of Humanities, Science and Physical Education.

Subjects Studied All Year

- English
- Mathematics
- Pastoral Care Program

Subjects Studied For At Least One Semester

- Humanities
- Science
- Physical Education

English and Mathematics classes are blocked on the timetable so changes can be made to cater for individual students without changing their program. The classroom teacher's advice will determine the appropriate English and Mathematics level. **Year Nine students study FIVE more elective units, which can be selected from any area of study.**

Core Subjects

Pastoral Care Program (PCP)

The Year Nine Pastoral Care Program (PCP) focuses on developing independence in the individual learner. Goal setting, learning styles and improved organisational skills help students to become independent learners.

PCP incorporates issues such as student health and establishes a Managed Individual Pathways Plan (MIPs).

In Year Nine all students are involved in City Week.

Health and Physical Education

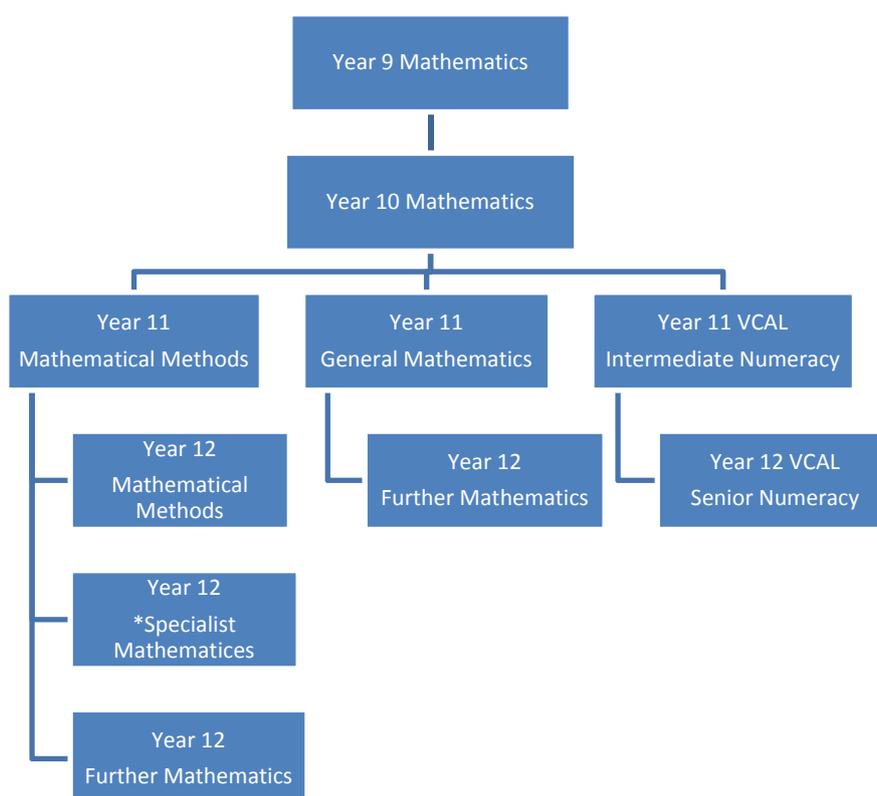
Students will undertake advanced analyses of fitness strategies that contribute to their wellbeing and develop skills and tactics from a broad range of physical disciplines.

They will set personal fitness goals, participate in fitness development and testing and experience community based recreational activities.

Humanities and Science

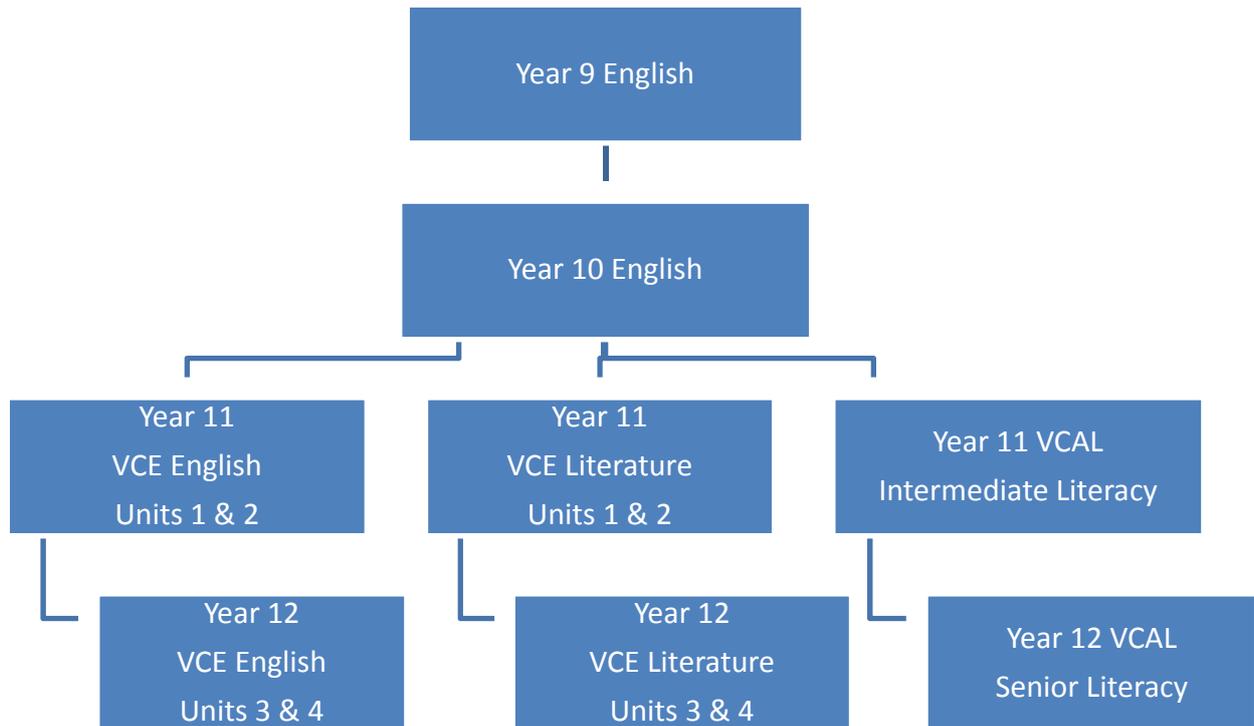
Students are required to select **at least ONE** Humanities and **at least ONE** Science elective. Look in the elective section for these electives.

Mathematics Pathway



*** Specialist Mathematics can only be studied with or after Mathematical Methods Units 3 & 4.**

English Pathway



Elective Descriptions

The Arts

1. Digital Art
2. Future Beats
3. Theatre and Drama Studies

Digital Art

Cost: \$20

The Year Nine Digital Art Studies program will enable students to experiment with photography and Adobe Photoshop to create artworks that have been digitally enhanced. Students will explore the styles, aesthetics and format of different Photoshop techniques and challenge the creative potential of digital media.

This elective concentrates on a practical component of digital artworks and a theoretical component of understanding the relationship between media, its function and its influence.

Students use Adobe Photoshop to edit their artworks digitally on their SLD's. Students experiment with combining images in Photoshop, colourising greyscale images and exploring various filters and blending modes.

By the end of the subject students will have developed a small folio of written and visual artworks. The folio of images is based on small assignments given throughout the subject.

Future Beats

Cost: \$50

This elective is a computer based music subject focusing on computer aided music creation, production, recording and publishing. Digital music performance software and equipment will be used extensively and students will have the opportunity to use these in live music performance and a recording studio setting. Students will learn how to navigate the copyright

and licencing aspects of using other musicians' compositions to re-create musical works.

There is no prerequisite for this subject so even students who have never played an instrument before can join.

Theatre and Drama Studies

Cost: \$35

This elective will provide students with the skills for acting on the stage. Students will work individually and in groups to present various types of characters in several different performance styles. Students will create monologues, duologues and large group performances, while still interpreting historical and new age scripts.

This elective is about developing the appropriate acting skills for stage, while still understanding the behind scenes work that takes place. Students will analyse such stage elements as lighting, sound, costume, and many more. It will allow students to develop the appropriate communication skills and self-confidence required for stage performance, public speaking and formal presentations, while educating students about the life skills of teamwork, leadership and self-confidence. The cost of this subject covers all students for an excursion to a professional theatre performance.

English

1. **Creating Myself**
2. **English**
3. **I, Sci-Fi: Science Fiction Across Text and Film**

Creating Myself

Cost: \$Nil

How did J.K. Rowling, Stephanie Meyer and Stephen King become writers? Where did their ideas come from? What influenced their stories? What influences yours? Students will explore and develop their personal writing styles. The class will nominate themes, genres and styles they would like to explore in their own writing of fiction, poetry, controversial, persuasive and passionate argument. Students will select their best writing to send to several student-friendly, public access sites for publication and feedback. Fame could be just around the corner!

English

Cost: \$10

Students continue the focus on building reading and writing skills in Year 9. These skills are combined in classes which are theme based. Units include *Song Lyrics*, *Persuading my Reader*, *War*, *Surviving the Holocaust* or *Crime* reading themes and a student choice *Film Unit*. Speaking and Listening skills are emphasised and form a major part of the work done in small groups.

I, Sci-Fi: Science Fiction

Cost: \$Nil

Are you a closet Star Wars fan? Does fighting aliens in outer space dominate your dreams? Did you ever wish there was a way for you to study Sci-Fi at school? Well now there is! In this English elective, you will study the ins and outs of the Sci-Fi genre - characters, costumes, settings and storylines. To do this you will have the opportunity to study classic Sci-Fi texts such as Star Wars, The Terminator, Firefly, and many more.

The unit will provide you with the chance to become the next George Lucas or Joss Whedon by allowing you to develop your own classic piece of Sci-Fi. Using the knowledge you develop from studying examples of Sci-Fi texts, you will have complete control over the developments of your characters, settings and storyline.

Health and Physical Education

1. Dance
2. Core Health & Physical Education
3. Introduction to Outdoor & Environmental Studies
4. Sports Coaching

Core Health & Physical Education **Cost: \$90**

Students will undertake advanced analyses of fitness strategies that contribute to their wellbeing and develop skills and tactics from a broad range of physical disciplines. They will set personal fitness goals, participate in fitness development and testing and experience community based recreational activities.

Sport Coaching **Cost: \$50**

This elective is focused on providing students with knowledge and skills relevant to sports coaching and sports trainers. Throughout this course they will be given opportunities to gain a coaching accreditation, learn basic anatomy and physiology, performance analysis, prevention of sports injuries as well as basic first aid and CPR. This is a relevant elective for students looking to complete VCE Physical Education.

Dance **Cost: \$50**

Students will look at various ways of interpreting movement to music. They will have the opportunity to express themselves through Creative Dance, exploring a range of dancing styles including hip/hop, contemporary, funk and jazz ballet. Students will develop dance skills through choreographing their own dances. This unit contains a theory component where students explore dance around the world.

Introduction to Outdoor and Environmental Studies **Cost: \$400**

Students participating in this elective will develop skills and knowledge for enjoyable participation in outdoor adventure activities. They will investigate the concept of Outdoor Environmental Studies in the natural environment, study outdoor venues, conservation, commercialization, recreation and develop first aid skills.

Students will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of outdoor adventure activities such as rock climbing, surfing, surf kayaking, snorkeling, laser tag and archery. This elective enables students to build self-esteem, social skills, develop teamwork and group skills and reflect on practical activities through a personal logbook.

Note: An overnight camp to Phillip Island and day trips involving the above practical activities will be offered at a cost of \$400.

Humanities

1. **Managing Your Money**
2. **Our Physical World**
3. **Teenagers and the Law**
4. **World War One**

Managing Your Money

Cost: \$20

Students will learn how to manage their personal finances looking at ideas such as investing for the future. They will also learn how to become more informed consumers. During the elective they will also be learning how to identify, collect and process data about economic activities. Students will also be examining issues and values affecting them and our society with respect to their short and long term financial future.

Our Physical World

Cost: \$20

Students will develop knowledge about Plate Tectonics as one of the major natural systems of our biosphere. Through the investigation of environmental issues such as global warming and climate change, students develop skills to evaluate and identify strategies to manage them. Students will research two developmental topics, for example, poverty and the links between food, hunger and technology and the development and consequences of rapidly growing cities. Students investigate the impact of large scale tourism on physical and human landscapes. Throughout the course students will develop their map work skills. They will undertake field investigations in the local area and gather, collate, analyse and evaluate data relating to the natural environment.

Teenagers and the Law

Cost: \$20

This course focuses on the law as it applies to teenagers. Students will examine various issues and focus on an area of law they feel needs changing. They will propose appropriate recommendations to the State or Federal Government. Students will also study the court system. Students will examine human rights issues, both at a national and international level. Students will also explore Australia's multicultural society, learning about key issues such as immigration, refugees and studying the concept of Australian identity.

World War One

Cost: \$20

In this elective students will look at the first major conflict involving Australia and the world in the 20th Century. Students will look at the events, ideologies and people that impacted on society as a result of World War One. Students will also look at the ways in which this conflict impacted on the lives of people living during that time and the continuing impact of this conflict on the modern world over the following century, including its influence on our own lives.

LOTE

(Languages Other Than English)

Indonesian 1 and 2 Cost: \$40

Learning Indonesian at this level develops language skills in areas such as speaking, listening, writing and reading. Students will develop their knowledge of Indonesian grammar, vocabulary and culture through engaging lessons, cooking sessions, games, presentations, discussions, movies and documentaries, as well as participating in incursions and excursions. The topics covered appeal to teenagers and their interests and students have the opportunity to communicate

with Indonesian students through 'the Penpal' program with the Sister School in Tangerang, Indonesia.

LOTE can provide a potential passport to the world. The purpose of this unit is to build confidence in using the Indonesian language because many career choices are open to people who have learned Asian languages, such as Tourism, Media, Trade, Customs, IT Applications, teaching and the Defence Forces.

Indonesian runs over two semesters

Science

1. Science 1
2. Science 2
3. The Big Questions

Science 1

Cost: \$35

This elective is designed to provide students with a "sample" of the four different strands of Science, Biology, Earth and Space Science, Chemistry and Physics. In Biology, students will investigate the coordination and regulation function, (the nervous system and endocrine systems), in plants and animals. In Chemistry, they will explore the structure of atoms and look at how different atoms combine and are rearranged in chemical reactions to form new substances. In Physics, students will investigate the properties of waves and how light and sound energy is transferred.

In Earth and Space Science, students will explore the formation of the Earth and learn about the theory of plate tectonics and how they are involved in geological activity. Students will continue to develop their Science inquiry skills through completing practical experiments related to each topic.

This subject is a precursor subject for students who are interested in studying VCE Science.

Science 2

Cost: \$35

This elective can be studied on its own; however, this unit has been designed to further develop the concepts introduced in each of the four strands in Science 1, in preparation for studying Year 10 Science and VCE Science. Students will examine the living and non-living components of the environment. They will explore how different organisms interact with each other and how matter and energy flow through systems (food webs). Students will further explore how atoms are rearranged during chemical reactions, including combustion and reactions with acids. They will examine different reactions (photosynthesis, respiration, combustion) and the importance of them in both living and non-living systems. Students will investigate the factors that affect the transfer of energy through an electric circuit and explore the transfer of heat in terms of convection, conduction and radiation.

They will relate this learning to how heat energy is involved in the movement of tectonic plates and look at the geological age and stability of the Australian continent. Students will continue to develop their Science inquiry skills through completing practical experiments related to each topic.

This subject is a precursor subject for students who are interested in studying VCE Science.

The Big Questions

Cost: \$35

This elective looks at the big ideas related to how a number of things work. Focusing on the different areas of Science, Biology, Chemistry, Earth and Space Science and Physics, students will begin with a question to explore the answers through a range of activities, including making models and practical experiments.

Sample questions might be: How do body systems work together? How does sound travel? What is rust? How do volcanoes and earthquakes affect the structure of our world?

Technology

1. **Computer Aided Design**
2. **Creative Textiles and Fashions**
3. **Fashions to Furnishings**
4. **Food Around The World**
5. **Food for Health and Fitness**
6. **Systems & Technology-Picaxe**
7. **Woodwork**

Computer Aided Design **Cost: \$15**

This elective is an excellent preparation for VCE Materials Technology (Glass, Metal, and Wood) and those intending to complete Visual Communication and/or Studio Arts. It promotes good computer drawing skills for those intending to commence trade courses or work somewhere within in the Information and Communication Industry. It also promotes confidence in using a computer and its software.

Students will develop skills in the preparation and presentation of visual communications, including a house from architectural plans, a digital comic, a computer game and the development of programming skills. They will learn and be able to produce both 2D and 3D computer generated designs using a range of software packages, such as Sketchup and Photoshop. They will also learn how programs and files inter-relate as well as produce a CAD digital folio of their work.

Creative Textiles and Fashions **Cost: \$70**

This elective covers a range of contemporary fabric and textile activities. It focuses on the design process as well as various techniques, knowledge and skills used in the fashion industry. The main production task allows students to design and make their own fashionable garment. Other learning activities include the art of batik printing, scrapbooking and felting. Students are able to explore their creative talents with a variety of techniques and fabric finishes. Students record all their ideas and efforts in their visual diary which provides a sound basis for VCE folio based subjects.

Fashions to Furnishings **Cost: \$70**

This elective provides students with the freedom to display their creative talents. Students will develop skills and knowledge in the basic

processes required to construct fashionable garments and furnishings for the home. Major units include: 'Cool Comfy Cushions', 'Lovable Softies' and 'Jewellery Making.' They will participate in excursions to the Mornington Market and designer retail outlets. They will also study small business operations and have the opportunity to create their own designer label. Students are involved in the choice of materials, purchasing, design and production. Students are able to experiment with a variety of fabric finishes and will enjoy new techniques such as digital pictures transferred to fabric. An integral assessment component is their visual diary as an important record of student work and display of their efforts.

Food Around The World **Cost: \$110**

In Food Around The World, students will enjoy sharing food, exchanging experiences and discovering the delights of dishes from other countries. This is also a wonderful way for students to get to know and accept other cultures and their differences. They will also explore challenging ways to prepare and cook delicious foods and develop important life skills. This elective will extend students' knowledge, cultural awareness and understanding of many food related topics. They will further their skills in problem solving, time management and decision making and develop an understanding about how good food choices affect future health. Core modules include Safe Practices, Nutrition and Menu Planning, Food Technology and Preparation. Popular units of work include student free choice productions such as 'Afternoon Tea Delights,' 'Café Foods,' 'Pasta Making' and 'Celebration Cookery.'

Food for Health and Fitness Cost: \$110

Practical activities in Food for Health and Fitness provide an interdisciplinary approach to student learning and will provide them with enjoyable hands-on experiences in the technology kitchen.

The elective content will enable the student to identify the links between healthy eating and their own needs as an adolescent. They will gain a greater understanding of the role of nutrients in the body and how to fuel their body for the best health and fitness gains. They will gain a deeper understanding of the impact food has on the consumer today. Students will design a family meal, research costs online, use a budget, plan food orders, purchase the groceries and produce their completed meal in the technology kitchen.

Core Modules include Hygiene and Safety, Nutrition, Sports Nutrition, Sports/Energy drinks, Vegetarian Eating, Food Models for Health and Nutrition and Food Planning and Preparation. Popular units of work include menu planning, baking, pastry making, free choice activities and celebration cookery.

Systems and Technology - Picaxe Cost: \$120

PICAXE is a great elective for students, allowing them to program things like robots and cars on the computer using flowcharts, or a simple BASIC style software and computer language. Students can use the same PICAXE system for each project which includes 2 LEDs flashing alternatively, playing tunes from the songs they like and motor driven cars that program to 'turn left, stop and turn right.' This study also provides an opportunity for students to develop knowledge about design, operation, construction, repair and evaluation of technological systems.

Woodwork 9 Cost: \$120

Woodwork is an area of learning in which students gain knowledge and develop skills through designing and using appropriate tools, machines and resources to produce practical results. This elective is designed to enable students to acquire a variety of basic hand skills, design considerations and constraints and safe work habits. This is achieved through the completion of projects encompassing a variety of processes, hand tools and materials.

PRACTICE ELECTIVE SELECTION SHEET

Year 9 students in 2015: try to make a balanced choice.

Please complete your elective choices for next year.

NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	FORM
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COMPLETE YOUR ELECTIVE CHOICES FOR NEXT YEAR.

FILL IN YOUR PREFERENCES FOR COMPULSORY SCIENCE AND HUMANITIES FIRST

COMPULSORY SCIENCE	Preference 1, 2, 3	Elective COST	HEALTH & PE	Elective CHOICE	Elective COST
Science 1		\$35	Dance		\$50
Science 2		\$35	Introduction to Outdoor & Environmental Studies		\$400
The Big Questions		\$35	Sports Coaching		\$50
COMPULSORY HUMANITIES	Preference 1, 2, 3	Elective COST	TECHNOLOGY	Elective CHOICE	Elective COST
Managing Your Money		\$20	Computer Aided Design		\$15
Our Physical World		\$20	Creative Textiles & Fashion		\$70
Teenagers and the Law		\$20	Fashion to Furnishings		\$70
World War One		\$20	Food Around The World		\$110
USE THE NUMBERS 1-7 FOR YOUR REMAINING ELECTIVE CHOICES					
ENGLISH	Elective CHOICE	Elective COST	Food for Health & Fitness		\$110
Creating Myself		\$0	Systems & Technology- Picaxe		\$120
I, Sci-Fi: Science Fiction Across Text and Film		\$0	Woodwork 9		\$120
LOTE (runs over 2 semesters)	Elective CHOICE	Elective COST	SCIENCE	Elective CHOICE	Elective COST
Indonesian 1		\$40	Science 1		
Indonesian 2			Science 2		
			The Big Questions		\$35
ARTS	Elective CHOICE	Elective COST	HUMANITIES	Elective CHOICE	Elective COST
Digital Art		\$50	Managing Your Money		\$20
Future Beats		\$20	Our Physical World		\$20
Theatre & Drama Studies		\$35	Teenagers and the Law		\$20
			World War One		\$20

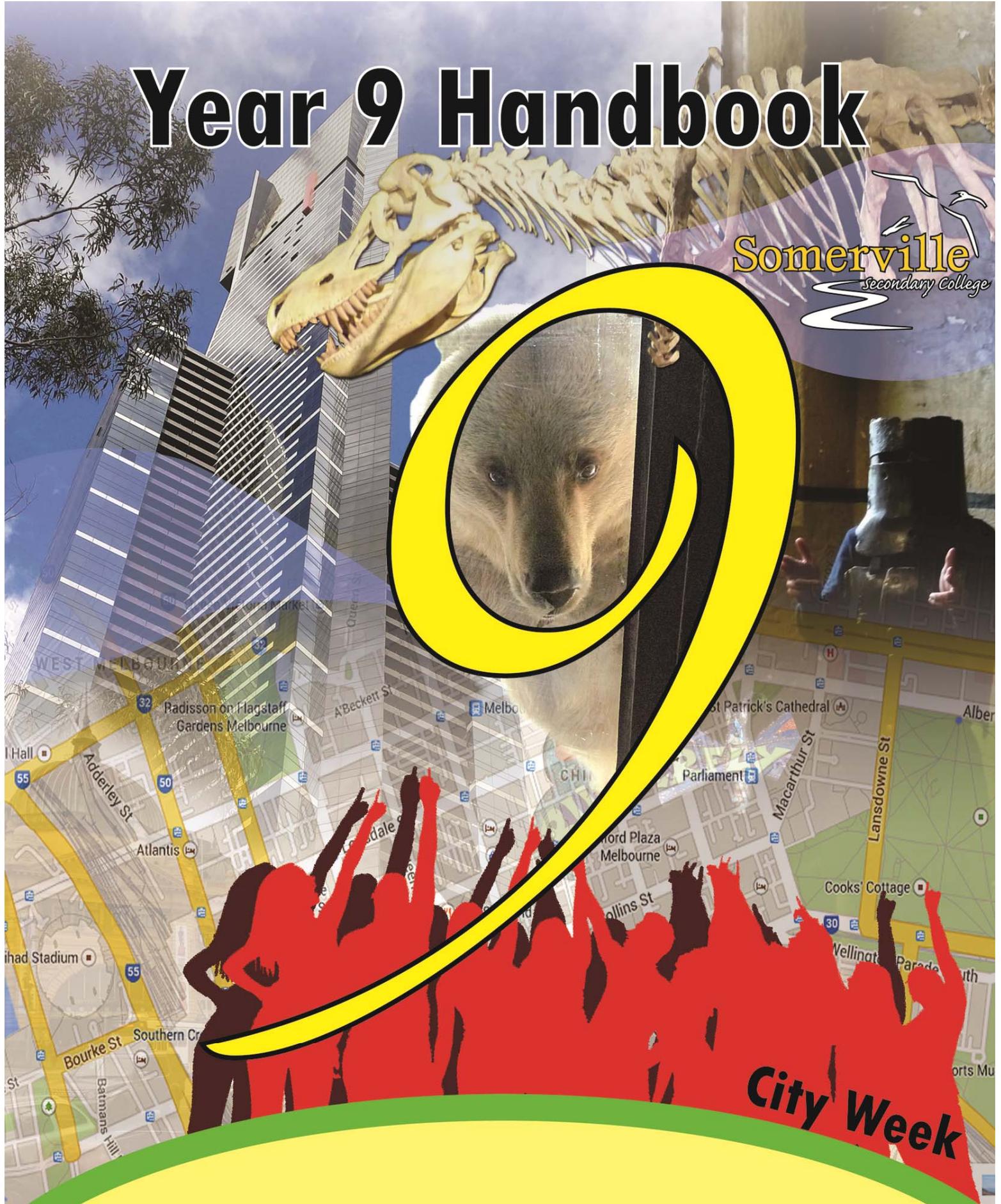
Parent/Guardian Approval for this Course

Parent/Guardian Name: (please print)	Parent/Guardian Signature:
Student Signature:	Date: _____/_____/2014

**PLEASE RETURN THIS SELECTION SHEET TO YOUR FORM TEACHER
BEFORE FRIDAY 1st OF AUGUST 2014**

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