

Middle School - Core Subjects (Year 10)

All Year 10 students study English, Humanities, Science and Mathematics as Core Subjects.

This course consists of three strands: Language, Literature and Literacy. Students will read a range of texts, including novels and film texts, develop analytical skills in looking at media texts, write for a range of audiences and purposes, and contribute to class forums and more structured oral presentations. Assessment is based on a range of tasks set by the teacher throughout the year, including text responses, creative writing, persuasive writing, creation of a magazine, prepared speeches and debating. There will be an English exam each semester.

Students are expected to do at least 2.5 hours per week of home study, which will include completing tasks begun in class, working on extended tasks and reading.

In this course you will begin by investigating the history of twentieth century China with a focus on historical (Chinese Revolution) as well as environmental developments (3 Gorges Dam) and the impact of communism under Mao. The assessment task for this study is an essay and research project. Following China, attention turns to World War II including a study of the causes, events, outcome and broader impact of the conflict and the nature of Australia's involvement with an emphasis on the Kokoda campaign. Assessment tasks for this include geography tasks, image analysis and an essay. In term 3, we explore how Australia's modern culture has been shaped by migration experiences. The assessment task for this unit is a research report. Finally we investigate struggles for human rights, including how rights and freedoms have been ignored, demanded or achieved in Australia and in the broader world context. The assessment task for this will be an oral presentation.

Assessment will include workbook, essays, document analyses, research assignments, and end of semester examinations.

The course includes topics from the major disciplines of chemistry, biology, physics and earth and space sciences. A key unifying theme is sustainability education. Students develop conceptual knowledge. They also develop knowledge of the processes and procedures of science. They experience practical activities that develop knowledge and skill in design, measurement and data organisation. Emphasis is placed on applications of science, the work of scientists and links between science and technology. Assessment tasks include assignments, projects, topic tests, written responses to structured questions and conduct and reporting of practical work. Work products may be submitted in a variety of forms, including written report, verbal report, poster and multimedia presentation. There is an exam each semester.

Students are expected to do at least two hours of home study per week, including regular revision as well as completion of assessment tasks.

The following Maths subjects are offered to Year 10 students in Semester One and Two:

Semester One	Semester Two
Year 10 Maths	Maths Methods Primer
Year 10 Plus Maths	General Maths Primer
VCE Foundation Maths	VCE Foundation Maths

Semester One Course Description

Year 10 Maths (Standard)

This course is the standard AusVELS Maths course undertaken in Victorian schools.

Year 10 Plus Maths

This course is similar to the standard AusVELS Maths course, however it covers some topics in more depth and moves at a faster pace.

Foundation Maths

This course is geared for students who struggle with Maths and do not want to continue on with Maths. It is a subject on Maths life skills. It is a VCE subject and will be counted as two Maths units.

The following table shows the criteria teachers will use for their recommendation. Recommendations are based on student work and teacher observation and indicates the teacher's view of likely success.

Subject	Recommendation	Leads on to Year 10, Semester 2
Year 10 Maths (Standard)	Satisfactory Year 9 Maths	Maths Methods Primer General Maths Primer
Year 10 Plus Maths	Year 9 test average of 80%	Maths Methods Primer General Maths Primer
VCE Foundation Maths	Teacher Recommendation	VCE Foundation Maths

Semester Two Course Description

Maths Methods Primer

This subject prepares students for Year 11 Maths Methods. Topics such as Quadratic equations, Parabolas, Cubics, Surds, Exponential and Logarithmic Relations will be covered.

General Maths Primer

This subject prepares students for Year 11 General Maths Further. Topics such as Descriptive Statistics, Bivariate data, Trigonometry and Algebraic techniques will be covered.

Foundation Maths

This subject prepares students for Year 11 VCAL Numeracy. Topics that will prepare students with Maths life skills will be offered.

The following table shows the criteria teachers will use for their recommendation. Recommendations are based on student work and teacher observation and indicates the teacher's view of likely success.

Subject	Recommendation	Leads on to Year 11
Methods Primer	Year 10 Maths (Standard) students need at least 80% test average. Year 10 Plus Maths students need at least 75% test average.	Maths Methods General Maths Specialist
General Primer	Year 10 (Standard) & Year 10 Plus Maths students need at least 50% test average	General Maths
VCE Foundation Maths	Teacher Recommendation	VCAL Numeracy

Please note the following **recommendations** for VCE (Year 11) Maths:

Yr 11 Subject	Recommendation	Leads on to Year 12
Maths Methods (1&2)	Students with at least a 75% test average for Methods Primer.	Maths Methods (3&4)
General Maths Specialist	Students with at least a 75% test average for Methods Primer.	Specialist Maths (3&4)
General Maths	Students with at least a 50% test average for General Primer will be recommended to do Year 11 General Maths.	Further Maths
VCAL Numeracy	Teacher Recommendation - there are no prerequisites for this subject.	VCAL Numeracy