

St Helena Secondary College Prospectus

**Dare To
Be Excellent**



St Helena Secondary College



WELCOME

Welcome to the St Helena community...

Our key purpose as educators is to foster the growth and development of the whole child so each student can thrive and contribute positively in this rapidly changing, globally connected digital age.

Our staff actively teach and promote the College values of Respect, Responsibility and Personal Best, creating a strong sense of connectedness in what is a safe, supportive and stimulating personalised learning environment. This begins with Respect; every person, every classroom, every day.

Students are challenged to demonstrate Responsibility in expressing care and concern through action; students are encouraged to think globally and act locally, and commit to social justice and the common good. Personal Best is defined by every individual student and their personal endeavours; students are challenged to be ambitious, and give the very best version of themselves, in all they do.

Our values culminate in our Motto of 'Dare to Be Excellent', which is a practice we model, facilitate, inspire and celebrate. There's a dual triumph in our motto; daring is the process and excellence is the product.

We want every child who starts with us in Year 7 to be able to find their pathway and stay with us until the end of Year 12, crossing that final graduation stage with options (a well-rounded education that opens a range of doors); purpose (a vision of where they want to be); and dignity (belief in themselves and their value as a person).

Every child is important to us.

We continually cultivate the factors that underpin this vision. They include our:

- culture of community connectedness
- mini-schools model and the orderliness afforded by our routines, policies and processes
- dedicated, expert staff
- personalised, broad ranging learning and wellbeing programs
- values for life focus
- commitment to altruism; and
- our drive for continual improvement.

To talk with our students is to understand that learning, whether physical, intellectual, social or emotional, occurs in a happy, relaxed and flexible environment.

Our greatest asset is our students – as the next world decision-makers and leaders, their voice is important and their contribution to our community valued.

We are justifiably proud of our reputation within the community for developing mindful, active and informed global citizens who graduate ready, willing and able to live meaningfully in the service of others.

I look forward to your involvement in our College community where in partnership, we will set upon a journey to maximising educational outcomes - and more - for your student.



Karen Terry
College Principal



ST HELENA IS CARING...

...in how we transition new students to the College
with a focus on maximising pastoral care.

At St Helena Secondary College, we know that the transition from Primary to Secondary School can be both exciting and a little daunting – for students and parents alike! Staff in our stand-alone Junior School (our mini school dedicated to Year 7 only) are very knowledgeable and experienced in managing this transition, to enable students to transition smoothly to the College.

New students to St Helena Secondary College experience a comprehensive transition and induction program that quickly establishes them as safe and supported learners in our community. Year 7 students are supported by a designated Junior School courtyard, which includes classrooms, lockers, a basketball court area (for Year 7s and 8s), offices staffed by our Year 7 teachers, and a dedicated Junior School Office which is home to the Junior School Principal, Year 7 Management Team and other support staff.

Our Transition Team engage with each student's Primary School and parents to gain as many insights into how to best support and engage students from Day 1 of their St Helena journey. Through extensive consultation, our team places students into a Strive class, which is staffed with two Strive teachers (for Year 7) with a view to maximising the pastoral care and support provided through this transition phase.

Strive teachers act as the first port of call for your student, and support their academic and social wellbeing. They also provide a strong link between the College, students and their families; a relationship that begins with our Strive (Transition) Interview in Term 4 prior to students commencing their Year 7 journey.

The Strive class forms the basis of students' core classes, meaning they are able to create strong connections with their peers – some of which will be friends from Primary School – throughout the year. Students have many opportunities to engage in extra-curricular programs including instrumental music, sporting teams and programs, drama groups and a range of other activities and leadership opportunities. Our Year 7 students benefit from a network of Year 10 Peer Support Leaders who are hand selected and trained in supporting the social and emotional wellbeing of students.

Peer Support Leaders attend, and are involved in the planning and running of events at our annual Year 7 Camp. The Camp, which takes place early in Term 1 each year, engages students in a range of outdoor and recreational activities aimed at building a strong bond between students and staff. Peer Support Leaders also check in with their designated Strive class throughout Term 1 and run class-based activities focusing on teamwork, creativity, problem-solving, communication and resilience; qualities that will hold students in good stead throughout both their transition and learning in our community.

Our 'theme' in Junior School each year is kindness; we challenge students to demonstrate empathy for others in always choosing to be kind. When students transition to Middle School for Years 8 and 9 the theme is 'Resilience'; as we know this period can be a rocky road for some, and the knowledge of how to bounce back is key. The final transition is to Senior School for Years 10, 11 and 12, where the theme is 'Grit'; passion and perseverance as character strengths that will see students flourish in pursuit of their long-term goals beyond school.



ST HELENA IS FLOURISHING...

...we strive to further the
development of the whole child.

St Helena Secondary College is a vibrant and dynamic learning community, where all students will have the opportunities, support and inspiration they need to *Dare To Be Excellent*.

Our vision is to prepare each young person for a 21st Century in which connectedness, creativity and adaptability are already key features. As well as a high degree of academic rigour and data-driven teaching, our focus will be on developing your child's self-efficacy and resilience.

When our students walk across the graduation stage at the end of their final school year we want them to have the confidence to become engaged and responsible global citizens, who embrace diversity and social justice.

We have high expectations for every one of our students and our College Values underpin all that we do and seek to be:

Every person, every classroom, every day.

Respect	We respect ourselves, each other, our College and its community.
Responsibility	We are responsible for our own words and actions. We are responsible for the physical and social environment we live in.
Personal Best	We seek to do and be the best that each of us can be, and support others to do so too.

At St Helena we believe in our motto *Dare To Be Excellent* – we know that when we work together, when we each set goals and strive to meet them, we can all meet life's challenges with confidence and dignity.

St Helena's teachers understand that today's life and work environments require far more than content knowledge. In an increasingly competitive information age, students need the ability to think critically and to embrace and adapt to changing environments. Our teaching teams therefore collaborate constantly to develop curriculum that will meet the needs of all students and develop their skills in communication, collaboration, initiative, self-direction, and in flexibility and creativity.

Our teachers are selected through a rigorous process and all staff continuously learn and develop professionally, using current evidence-based research to inform their teaching. They are supported in their drive to share this knowledge and increase teacher's capacity to support all students to achieve their best.

GROWTH MINDSET

Research in education conclusively shows the link between how students think about their abilities and what they are then able to achieve.

At St Helena our educational philosophy is framed around enabling a Growth Mindset, where students learn that their talents and abilities can be developed through effort, positivity and persistence. We challenge students to identify academic and personal development goals at every stage of their learning journey. We challenge them to set and progress toward achievable targets, so that they grow personally and academically. We want our students to flourish.

St Helena is proud to acknowledge the Wurundjeri Peoples as the traditional owners of the land on which we learn and strive to be the best that we can be.



ST HELENA IS LEADING...

...in how we teach, what we teach
and how we assess.

1:1

At St Helena Secondary College we are confident that our use of Information and Communication Technology is at the cutting edge in the secondary education sector. Being able to say that each student has their own device is one thing – knowing that students, through their devices, have access to a powerful and differentiated curriculum is another entirely, and at St Helena that is exactly what our students have.

After a decade of 1:1 Learning and a significant amount of capital expenditure that ensures the best resources are available for our students, our teachers have been able to foster expertise in developing, sharing and assessing curriculum via the latest touchscreen and digital inking technology.

Our students are engaged in relevant, flexible and personalised learning programs and, instead of simply accessing the internet, they are able to use their devices to plan, produce, collaborate and reflect on learning that employs higher order thinking skills not attainable in more traditional teaching. This is one of the many aspects of students' learning which prepares them for the 21st century workplace beyond school.

DATA

Teachers at St Helena use best-practice models to identify and meet the learning needs of our students. In all subjects, from practical classes such as Physical Education and Food Technology, through to English and Mathematics, students complete diagnostic pre-tests to determine their levels of knowledge or skill before starting a new unit.

Teachers then use a range of formal and informal assessment procedures in order to track and identify student progress. In this way, teachers at St Helena can modify and adapt their teaching approaches to better meet the needs of students at the cohort, class and individual level.

RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS

Chosen because of the strength of our existing Strive Curriculum, St Helena is working with experts in family violence and gender equality to lead a number of schools in the implementation of the Department of Education & Training's *Respectful Relationships* initiative. This program supports schools and early childhood settings to promote and model respect, positive attitudes and behaviours – and to teach our children how to build healthy relationships, resilience and confidence.

LEARNING SUPPORT

Students in every classroom possess a wide range of skills and abilities and the challenge for schools and teachers is to provide educational programs that cater to individual needs. We focus on a *point of need* approach to teaching and learning. This involves the use of different data sources to identify the student's capacity in a subject and the tracking of students' progress throughout a topic or a unit. The provision of curriculum and teaching pitched at the student's level means that the work is accessible to each student. This differentiated approach is possible through collegially planning to develop a range of resources and assessments to cater for the range of abilities. Additionally, we provide and prioritise high quality professional learning to build teacher capacity to track student growth and deliver this differentiated instruction and curriculum.

Students with more complex learning needs and disabilities, including those who may require funding, will benefit from more intensive learning interventions through small group and individual tuition. We've invested resources to provide Literacy and Numeracy Intervention Coaches in Years 7 and 8 to support students requiring intervention. We also have an excellent Inclusion Program to support students with identified disabilities to achieve their best throughout their schooling. We offer homework support via our Homework Club every week after school and maths help at lunchtimes.



ST HELENA IS ACHIEVING...

...our students set goals and make
plans to meet them.

At St Helena we have always recognised that the academic and social needs of young adults change as they progress through school.

Our involvement with and support of our students starts when they are in Primary School and are transitioning to us, and continues even beyond the end of Year 12, as they seek pathways to tertiary education and employment. We have structured the school to reflect and cater for these differences.

Although not immediately recognisable, St Helena is effectively three schools on one campus – each managed by a dedicated team including a Mini School Principal, Year Level Managers, Program Coordinators and Behavioural Specialists, all focussed on providing the very best learning environment and support for students at every stage of their learning journey.

STRIVE PROGRAM

This explicit, sequential Years 7-12 program focusses on three inter-related areas:

- Pathways Education
- Positivity Education
- Learning Skills

With structured, age appropriate activities, this program, which runs once per week for 75-minutes allows young people to explore who they are, who they can be and how to make their preferred futures happen. Through the program students develop excellent learning, work, organisation and time management skills. They discover their character strengths, build resilience and explore ways to enhance their wellbeing.

In the Senior years (Year 11 and 12) student agency is a big part of the program, and student voice determines a large portion of the Strive curriculum we cover, ensuring it is both differentiated, and catering to student needs.

As each child's school career progresses they explore pathway options and think about career planning, and develop job seeking and networking skills.

ST HELENA IS EMPOWERING...

...all students to find their voice.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

The notion of Student Voice and Agency is integral to the decision-making processes at St Helena Secondary College and the active living of our values: Respect, Responsibility and Personal Best. We strive to empower students and foster leadership potential by providing a range of forums for discussion, input and feedback from students. We even include student representatives in the interview process for applicants to teaching positions.

Student leaders are invited to form a selection panel as part of our interview process for applicants to teaching positions at the College. Leaders can also become engaged in a 'Teach the Teacher' forum each year where data and feedback collected from the student body is presented to staff around learning, engagement, and assessment and feedback, among other areas.

Students are elected annually to the following roles:

College Captains

Our two College Captains and two Vice Captains are expected to model the college values, represent the school at events on and off campus, lead the SRC and may actively contribute as School Council members.

Subject Captains

These College Leaders provide a link between the student body and the program leaders. They assist in the organisation of domain-related events (e.g. Showcase Evening, etc.). There are two in each of:

- The Arts: Dance, Performing Arts and Music
- Sport
- Service
- Technology

Year Level Captains

These students voice the ideas, opinions and thoughts of their year level peers at weekly meetings. They help lead year-level assemblies, organise year level events and are alert to the needs of their cohorts.

SRC Member

Two members of each Strive Class hold SRC membership and undertake duties including voice the opinions of their Strive class at termly SRC meetings, organising

fundraising, and helping to develop the a positive class culture. All St Helena Students are welcome to attend SRC meetings where they can share their voice about issues and topics raised.

House Captains

Responsibilities include attending house meetings and assisting with the organisation of school carnival events and house activities.

Accepting Diversity

Selected Year 10 and Year 11 students trained to assist students with dispute resolution.

All of our students belong to our community and our GSD (Gender and Sexual Diversity) student group has been a strong presence within our community over the last five years. Led by students, for students, this group has helped instigate policy changes and establish an environment of mutual respect throughout the college. For members of the LGBTQI+ community as well as allies, the GSD student group continues to have a positive and influential impact on our college and the wider school community.

STUDENT WELLBEING & CHAPLAINCY

Students who are happy and who feel safe at school are more likely to achieve their best. At St Helena Secondary College we take an active role in supporting all students through issues that may arise in their school or personal lives, and we have a range of structures and personnel available to achieve this (and two Strive Teachers for Year 7), students have access to the following:

- Full-time Registered Psychologist
- Two Year Level Managers
- Student Wellbeing Coordinator
- Chaplain
- Behavior Specialists
- Educational Psychologists
- Referral to outside agencies

We place a great emphasis on communicating and working with families to provide as much assistance as possible to each child.



ST HELENA IS ENGAGING...

...we know it takes more.

Our College focus of 'growing the whole child' is more than just a few words in our vision statement and on our website. A big part of this is providing students with extensive opportunities to engage in extra-curricular and co-curricular programs which empower them to 'interact with our world' beyond the four walls of the classroom.

CAMPS AND INTERNATIONAL TOURS

Students are offered an extensive range of camps and international tours across their learning journey at St Helena Secondary College. On our Year 7 Camp students form close bonds with their peers, teachers and Year 10 Peer Support Mentors. The connections formed on this camp may be long-lasting, even beyond secondary school.

The Year 8 Rock and Water Camp helps students develop self-awareness, self-respect and self-confidence to prepare them for young adulthood. Our Year 8 - 12 students can travel to Italy for an immersive cultural experience as part of the Italy Tour. Our Year 10 - 12 students can apply to head off on the World Challenge to support economic and social development in a Third World country. Supporting communities in Nepal by assisting in rebuilding a school devastated by a natural disaster is just one example of the real world impact our students have made. There is an opportunity for Year 10 - 12 students to also visit NASA as part of the Space Camp Vanuatu on humanitarian, cultural and sight-seeing tour, G'day USA on a cultural exchange, or see the bright lights of Hollywood and Broadway on our Performing Arts tour.

Our Year 11s can head off to Alice Springs and Uluru on the Central Australia Tour. Add all of this to the Year 10 Ski Camp, Year 11 and 12 Leaders' Sailing Camp, Band Camps, and involvement in the Great Victorian Bike Ride, and you can appreciate the many and varied enrichment experiences students benefit from at our College.

CLUBS

With such a large and diverse student body, there is a wide array of Clubs and programs students can engage in. Clubs are a great way for students to extend their friendship groups, develop new skills and foster a sense of achievement outside of the classroom. Our Clubs vary from year to year, and have included: Public Speaking and Debating, Anime, Drama, Chess, Italian, Art, Board Games, Cards and Games and Homework (which runs after school from 3:00pm - 4:00pm every Monday and Wednesday). The Club you are interested in doesn't exist? Create it, and get your friends (and a teacher) on board!

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Parent participation is an important part of student success at school and at St Helena Secondary College we place a great emphasis on frequent and effective communication with parents. Our online parent portal (Compass) is well known in the community and is an easy access point for parents to see a wide range of information about their child's attendance and performance at school. In all subjects we now report academic performance continuously, as well as providing the mandated term and semester reports.

It is through College Council and its various sub-committees that parents can make a direct contribution to college life and we invite all parents to apply to join when elections are required or places become available. We also have an active Parents and Friends Association (PFA) who make invaluable contributions in time and energy to a wide range of functions throughout the school year, especially those around transition into Year 7, and we are very grateful to them for this. We also run a number of parent forums and information evenings throughout the year. These provide information regarding pathways to VCE, VCAL or University, school-wide positive behaviours, and adolescent wellbeing and mental health, among others.

Year 7-12

Curriculum Outline

JUNIOR SCHOOL (YEAR 7) AND MIDDLE SCHOOL (YEARS 8 & 9) CURRICULUM

Year 7

St Helena Secondary College's Junior School curriculum aims to balance a broad curriculum with stimulating learning opportunities, in a differentiated classroom setting. Our core classes in Year 7 include English, Mathematics, Science, Humanities, Health and Physical Education, Art/Visual Communication and LOTE (Italian).

Students are also involved in four semester-long subjects across the areas of Technology (Design Technology - Wood and Food Technology), and Performing Arts (Drama and Music).

At St Helena Secondary College we implement a cluster-based learning model in English and Mathematics for Years 7 and 8, with a specific emphasis on advancing the literacy and numeracy skills of students at their point of need. Our cluster model involves pre-testing students at the commencement of each topic, forming groupings based on the skill proficiency shown - at, below, or above expected level - and teaching, intervening and assessing students at their zone of proximal development in order to advance the entire cohort forward.

The learning growth our students are achieving is real; statistically twice the rate of growth on average within topic in Mathematics since this program was first implemented.

Our Year 7 curriculum is designed to engage students in a breadth of subjects, giving them an opportunity to experience new learning opportunities and find their spark, and provide a solid and broad skills and knowledge-base on which to progress into Middle School.

Years 8 and 9

The curriculum at Year 8 incorporates year-long core classes and semester-long subjects that build upon the foundation knowledge and skills of Year 7. This allows for continuity and growth in learning across the core areas, while enabling students to further develop their skills and interests across a range of areas before having the freedom to select electives in

Our Year 9 curriculum incorporates a mix of core classes as well as a diverse array of elective subject options - see over page for details. Students are able to undertake four elective subjects in the areas of Arts, Technology, Core and 'Free Choice', with a view to maximising engagement in learning and starting the process of narrowing their pathways focus as the Senior Years approach.

Our curriculum in the Middle Years is supplemented by a range of specialised programs aimed at supporting students to develop and prepare for young adulthood; students in this age group are 'stuck in the middle' in that they are no longer juniors, but also not yet seniors. This can present challenges for students and families, and therefore we have engaged with several organisations and agencies to facilitate programs including, but not limited to:

- Year 8 Rock and Water Camp
- Year 8 Man Cave and Inspire Girls Programs
- Year 8 and 9 Elevate Education Study Skills Workshops
- The Resilience Project
- Year 9 City Experience
- Year 9 Self Defence Program
- Year 9 First Aid Training
- Year 9 Duke of Ed Program - see below

These programs focus on developing resilience, respectful relationships, positivity, and effective study habits, among others. Through our R Cubed and PE programs, all Year 9 students will undertake the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh International Award, which incorporates community service and personal challenge. The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award is an internationally recognised program for young people, building their skills to equip them for life and work.

By creating opportunities for young people to develop skills, get physically active, give service and experience adventure, the Award can play a critical role in their development. It can also provide students with an opportunity to gain employment and provide guaranteed entry into certain Universities and courses.



SENIOR SCHOOL (YEARS 10 – 12) CURRICULUM

The Senior School curriculum at St Helena Secondary College encompasses Years 10, 11 and 12. Students may enrol in either the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE), or the Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) via application, for their final two years of schooling. Students may also complement their senior school program with a Vocation Education and Training (VET) subject, focused on developing knowledge and competencies specific to a particular vocation of interest (e.g. trade pathways such as building/carpentry, electrical, hospitality, automotive, early childhood learning, etc.).

Students at St Helena Secondary College benefit from being able to complete a range of VET subjects (over two years) in our specialised classroom settings, and receive a Certificate II or III qualification once successfully completed. As with our Year 9 curriculum, the Year 10 program at St Helena Secondary College mixes a number of core classes with a diverse range of 30+ Year 10 elective subject options.

Year 10 students even have freedom of choice over their core subjects! In addition to core-level subjects, Flying Start (English and Humanities), Maths Pre-Methods/ Extension Maths, and Advanced Science in Stream A (Biological and Environmental Sciences) and Stream B (Physical and Chemical Sciences) cater for students seeking to extend their learning experience. We also offer Foundation-level classes in Humanities, Science and Mathematics for students seeking a more practical approach to their learning.

Each year up to 50% of our Year 10 students undertake the 'Early Start' program and commence a Unit 1 & 2 (Year 11) subject as part of their Year 10 studies. Students who then proceed to complete a Unit 3 & 4 (Year 12) subject as part of their Year 11 studies have the advantage of experiencing the rigour of a VCE subject, learning what it takes to succeed before stepping into their final year/s of schooling, and having their ATAR calculated on six (as opposed to five) subjects. Further, two Year 10 students each year are recognised with the University of Melbourne's Kwong Lee Dow Scholarship. This presents an exciting opportunity of experiencing university life and taking part in a range of academic events and activities,

to help students achieve their best – plus get a head start on their future studies and career! Students who are recognised with the Kwong Lee Dow Scholarship, once having completed their secondary studies, could be offered a guaranteed place in an undergraduate degree, financial assistance to move to Melbourne, and an overseas scholarship during their studies.

Owing to our significant size and resourcing, students at St Helena Secondary College are fortunate to be able to select from one of the largest ranges of VCE and VET subjects of any school in Victoria, ensuring we are able to cater for any pathway need in our Year 11 and 12 VCE programs. We are very proud of our high VCE and VCAL completion rates and strong academic outcomes each year, and we are even prouder to say that all VCE students are entered for a scored VCE.

Our graduating cohort destinations are captured in an infographic each year, which we share with our community, highlighting the array of tertiary courses and institutions our students were able to transition into following their learning journey at St Helena Secondary College.

These outcomes would not be possible without the extensive wellbeing, academic and pathways support provided in the senior years from our dedicated Mini School team who work in partnership with students and families to enable them to cross the graduation stage with three important things in common: dignity, purpose and options.

Our Pathways Team, which includes a highly-experienced Pathways Leading Teacher, Careers Advisor and Careers Assistant, work with all students according to the model shown below, to facilitate a program that starts in Year 7 and culminates in every student developing an individualised Career Action Plan. Our focus is very much on ensuring that every St Helena Secondary College graduate, regardless of their chosen pathway, is equipped with the 21st Century skills required to achieve their best, post-Year 12 – academically, professionally and personally.

We want every student who starts with us in Year 7 to be able to complete their chosen pathway with us in Year 12, and we are very proud of our track record in this regard.

Year 7-12

Curriculum Outline

Year 7 Core Subjects (Whole Year)			
English	Maths	Science	Humanities History, Civics & Geography
Art/Visual Communication	Health and Physical Education	LOTE (Italian)	Strive
Year 7 Semester Subjects (one semester /half-year)			
Design Technology (Wood)	Food Technology (Cooking)	Performing Arts (Drama)	Music
Year 8 Core Subjects (whole year)			
English	Maths	Science	Humanities History, Civics & Commerce (Business and Economics)
Art/Visual Communication	Health and Physical Education (special program Athlete Development Program)	LOTE (Italian)	Strive
Year 8 Semester Subjects (one semester /half-year)			
Design Technology (Wood)	Food Technology (Cooking)	Performing Arts (Drama)	Music
Year 9 Core Subjects			
English	Maths	Science	Humanities History, Geography, Civics & Commerce (Business and Economics)
Art/Visual Communication	R Cubed Responsibility, Relevance and Relationships	LOTE (Italian)	
Year 9 Elective Subjects (one semester /half-year) including, but not limited to			
3D Printing & Design	Build Your Own Apps	From Trees to Tables (Wood)	Music Performance
Active Lifestyles	Comics 101	Grand Design & Architecture	Music Technology
Animation Café	Create and Bake	Italian Music and Film	Power to the People
Animal Science	Dance	Italian Travel and Culture	Practical Chemistry
Aviation	Digital Gaming	Jewellery	Rev Heads (Automotive)
Art in the 3rd Dimension	Design It, Make It, Wear It (Textiles)	Micro Electronics	Rockets and Rocket Cars
The Artist's Studio	Drama	Monsters and Maniacs	The Ultimate Fitness Challenge
Bean Bags and Books	The Economics of Business	Music Legends of Rock	The World of Food
Year 10 Core Subjects			
English Core or Flying Start	Mathematics Core, Pre-Methods, Extension or Foundation	Science (Stream A Science of Life Core, Advanced or Foundation)	Science (Stream B Science and the Inorganic World) Core, Advanced or Foundation
Humanities Core or Flying Start			
Year 10 Elective Subjects (one semester /half-year), including but not limited to			
Advanced Automotive	Drama	Microbot Programming	Storytelling Creative Writing
Advanced Game Design	The Extended Investigation	Music Performance	Textiles
Art	Fitness	Outdoor & Environmental Studies (VCE)	Theatre Studies (VCE)
Athlete Development Program (full year)	Healthy Lifestyles	Philosophy	World Politics
Building Design in the 3rd Dimension	Italian (full year)	Photography	You Design It, You Build It (Wood)
Conspiracy Theories	Money Matters (Financial Literacy)	Robotics Systems	
Dance (VCE/VET)	Master Chef	Sports Coaching	
The Designer's Studio	Media		

Early Start VCE Subject Options Acceleration opportunities for Year 10 students

Year 10 students are able to study the following Unit 1 & 2 (Year 11) subjects

VCE 20th Century History	VET Early Childhood Education and Care	VET Hospitality Kitchen Operations	VCE Product Design & Technology Textiles
VCE Accounting	VCE Economics	VET Information Technology	VCE Product Design & Technology Wood, Metal & Plastics
VCE Art	VCE Environmental Studies	VCE Italian	VCE Psychology
VCE Australian & Global Politics	VCE Food Studies	VCE Legal Studies	VET Sport & Recreation
VET Automotive	VET Furnishings	VCE Literature	VCE Studio Arts Photography
VCE Biology	VCE General Mathematics	VCE Media	VCE Systems Engineering
VET Building & Construction	VCE Geography	VCE Music Performance	VCE Theatre Studies*
VCE Business Management	VCE Health & Human Development	VCE Outdoor & Environmental Studies*	VCE Visual Communication & Design
VCE Computing	VCE History Global Empires	VCE Philosophy	
VET Dance*		VCE Physical Education	

*Early Start criteria does not apply Year 10 students may select these subjects as part of their Year 10 program

Year 11 and 12 VCE and VET Subjects

20th Century History (Unit 1 & 2)	VET Dance (Unit 1-4)	History Global Empires (Unit 1 & 2)	Physics (Unit 1-4)
Accounting (Unit 1-4)	Drama (Unit 3 & 4)	History Revolutions (Unit 3 & 4)	Physical Education (Unit 1-4)
Art (Unit 1-4)	VET Early Childhood Education and Care (Unit 1-4)	VET Hospitality Kitchen Operations (Unit 1-4)	Product Design & Technology Textiles (Unit 1-4)
Australian & Global Politics (Unit 1-4)	Economics (Unit 1-4)	Italian (Unit 1-4)	Product Design & Technology Wood, Metal, Plastics (Unit 1-4)
VET Automotive (Unit 1-4)	Environmental Studies (Unit 1-4)	VET Information Technology (Unit 1-4)	Psychology (Unit 1-4)
Biology (Unit 1-4)	Extended Investigation (Unit 3 & 4)	Legal Studies (Unit 1-4)	VET Sport & Recreation (Unit 1-4)
VET Building & Construction (Unit 1-4)	Food Studies (Unit 1-4)	Literature (Unit 1-4)	Specialist Mathematics (Unit 1-4)
Business Management (Unit 1-4)	Foundation Maths (Unit 1 & 2)	Mathematical Methods (Unit 1-4)	Studio Arts Photography (Unit 1-4)
Chemistry (Unit 1-4)	VET Furnishings (Unit 1-4)	Media (Unit 1-4)	Systems Engineering (Unit 1-4)
Computing (Unit 1 & 2)	Further Mathematics (Unit 3 & 4)	Music Performance (Unit 1-4)	Theatre Studies (Unit 1-4)
Computing: Informatics (Unit 3 & 4)	General Mathematics (Unit 1 & 2)	Music Investigation (Unit 3 & 4)	Visual Communication & Design (Unit 1-4)
Computing: Software Development (Unit 3 & 4)	Geography (Unit 1-4)	Outdoor & Environmental Studies (Unit 1-4)	
VCE Dance (Unit 3 & 4)	Health & Human Development (Unit 1-4)	Philosophy (Unit 1-4)	

VCAL SUBJECTS

The Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) is a hands-on option for Year 11 and 12 students. It suits those who like to learn in a more practical way and want to find out more about work or TAFE pathways. VCAL is an accelerated 'work readiness' program, which gives students practical work-related experience, as well as literacy and numeracy skills, and the opportunity to build personal skills that are important for life and work. Like the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE), VCAL is a recognised senior secondary qualification.

VCAL students at St Helena Secondary College will be enrolled in Intermediate VCAL at Year 11 and Senior VCAL at Year 12. Our VCAL Students will attend timetabled classes across four days

each week, with one day out of school completing their Structured Workplace Learning placement. All VCAL students at St Helena Secondary College are also enrolled in VET Small Business, with a view to developing important entrepreneurial skills that will assist them in the future should they look to establish their own business venture.

- Literacy
- Work-related Skills (WRS)
- Numeracy
- Structured Workplace Learning (SWL)
- Personal Development Skills (PDS)
- Compulsory VET subject specific to vocation of interest
- VET Small Business



The excellence of the award winning Performing Arts program at St Helena is well known within our community and is a vibrant feature of our school culture. St Helena offers Music, Drama and Dance in the core curriculum, as well as a comprehensive range of co-curricular and elective programs.

ST HELENA IS PERFORMING...

...our students are excelling in our Award-winning programs.

PERFORMING ARTS CLASSROOM PROGRAM

We have a thriving classroom program in the performing arts, beginning with music and drama for all of our year 7 and 8 students. Students begin their performing arts journey developing the fundamental skills and confidence in themselves as creative people. In year 9 we have a wide range of music electives, drama and dance for students to experience and begin to specialise their craft. In Year 10 we offer Music Tech and Music Performance, leading into our large VCE Group music program, which has recently seen some of the largest enrolments in the state.

VCE Theatre Studies and VCE Drama classes are the pathway for our talented drama students, offering students opportunities to specialise in creative roles areas and understand the process of theatre performances. We offer a dynamic and rigorous VCE Dance Program which is also offered to students outside of St Helena Secondary College, affording dance students throughout our region the opportunity to attend classes and develop as young artists.

CO-CURRICULAR PROGRAMMES

Music

In the Instrumental Music program, students can make music, gain performance experience and entertain appreciative audiences locally, nationally and internationally. In the well renowned, vibrant St Helena Music Department, we focus on the skill development, collaboration, musicality, character strengths and cultural and social growth of students through Instrumental lessons, Band and Ensemble involvement.

Ensembles

The program consists of four large Concert Bands and four Jazz Bands. Lessons are available in: Woodwind, Brass, Bass Guitar and Percussion and feature a number of key events for students to develop musically:

- End-of-term Music Concerts
- Junior and Intermediate Band camp
- Senior Ensemble's National / International Tour
- AMEB exam facilitation
- Jazz and Concert Band workshops with guest artists
- Band participation in the Victorian Schools Music Festival – Generations in Jazz Festival, Mt Gambier

Annual Musical Production

The Award-winning musical program is a key feature in our performing arts calendar and last year produced a record breaking five Theatre Guild Awards for the Production of *Rent*. The musical has been a long-standing tradition of our school calendar involving over 100 students and is a key feature in engaging all of our performing arts students in a spectacular school event and our parent community.

Annual College Play

Our Award-winning annual College Play aims to challenge thinking and has brought innovative and compelling work to the stage. It offers students interested in working behind the stage an opportunity to develop skills in stagecraft and design, as well as stretching the skills of our performers and engaging our parent community.

Student Worx

The year is completed by the collective work of the Students from Year 7-11 who select, create or interpret a play for our final performance at the end of the year. It offers students the opportunity of connecting and leading performance work.

Drama Club and Showtec Club

Drama club and Dance club both offer a lunchtime program to develop and refine the skills of our young performing artists, led by the Performing Arts and Dance Captains. Our Showtec Club is dedicated to students who work behind the scenes, and allow the 'magic' to happen on stage.

The Performing Arts Tour

The Performing Arts Tour to New York and LA is now a feature on the calendar and occurs bi-annually. Students and alumni are offered the opportunity to travel to the USA and participate in musical theatre, dance and drama workshops that will hone their skills and give them opportunities to see works that are not available in Australia!

Northern Youth Performing Arts (NYPA)

St Helena Secondary College is now home to the Northern Youth Performing Arts Academy. This one of a kind academy is designed to provide students with a unique excellence program unlike anything offered in Victoria.

NYPA offers weekly training in Dance, Drama, Theatre and Voice, as well as theatre experiences, workshops with leading industry professionals and performance opportunities to refine skills and gain experience.

For more information visit the college website or contact Christopher Hewitt at che@sthelena.vic.edu.au.





ST HELENA IS SPORTING...

...our students are active, well-rounded and responsible global citizens.

SPORT

Students at St Helena have a huge range of sporting opportunities thanks to our excellent facilities and expert teachers and coaches. Our sports complex boasts a FIFA-grade soccer pitch and all-weather athletics track, with netball and tennis courts, which we are able to share with the local community and which enable us to provide a range of sporting opportunities.

Students participate in a large number of inter-school sports and our successful students and teams have the opportunity to proceed to Region and State events. We host annual Swimming and Athletics carnivals which, aside from the competition, provide an occasion for students to dress in their house colours and bond with peers from all year levels.

Our Year 7-9 core curriculum provides exposure to a wide range of sports and seeks to encourage healthy lifestyles and high levels of fitness. After Year 9 student can select from a number of sports-based electives, prior to moving on into VCE or VET at Year 10.

ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

This is a select-entry program for talented Athletes wishing to develop their skills in a specific sport. In addition to advanced level Physical Education, ADP students will build their own high-performance training program in their chosen sport.

SPORTS ACADEMY – NETBALL & BASKETBALL

The St Helena Sports Academy aims to develop skills in our students that will encourage lifelong learning, allowing them to connect and interact with the real world as active and responsible global citizens. Upon completion of the program students will not only have developed as an athlete, but as a well-rounded individual with options, dignity and purpose.

St Helena Secondary College is pleased to offer the following academy programs to our students:

- Basketball
- Netball

Students involved in the academy programs will participate in four sessions per fortnight, held before school hours.

This is a co-curricular program that is additional to the standard curriculum program. The sessions will focus on:

- Technical Skill Development
- Tactical and Strategic Development
- Strength and Conditioning
- Injury Prevention
- Match Preparation
- Recovery

ST HELENA IS

ACE...

...Accelerated Curriculum and Enrichment

The Accelerated Curriculum and Enrichment (ACE) program is designed to cater for the special educational needs of high ability students. It operates on the principles of Curriculum Acceleration and Enrichment. Curriculum Acceleration enables students to cover coursework at a higher Victorian Curriculum Level and at a faster pace.

This approach provides students with a more challenging learning environment and opportunities to extend themselves beyond the mainstream curriculum. Curriculum Enrichment encourages the study of more complex and abstract concepts, with a greater emphasis on higher order thinking skills such as analysing, synthesising, generalising and recognising relationships. Students are actively encouraged to develop investigative, problem solving and creative thinking skills which will challenge and engage them and which will provide an excellent foundation for further studies.

THE ACE PROGRAM

Why?

- Student needs vary widely.
- Gifted and talented students need to be stimulated and challenged.
- St Helena believes in *Daring to be excellent*.

Who?

- Students identified as 'gifted and talented'.
- Students who are self-directed.
- Students who commit to excellence and involvement in the College.

How?

- A Higher Aptitude Screening Test (HAST) developed by ACER (Australian Council for Educational Research)
- Primary teacher assessment.
- Student self-assessment.
- Parent feedback and assessment.
- Student and Parent interview.

What?

- One class per year level (max. 26 students)
- A full six-year course of study.
- Students remain together through the first three years.
- An enriched VCE over three years.
- Studying a University subject in Year 12 through our Higher Education in VCE Studies (HEVS) program.

The outcomes of this program are to enable students to:

- Participate actively and positively in the (ACE) Program.
- Develop and extend their higher level mental processes, in particular, their capacity to use problem solving resources, their understanding and use of divergent thinking processes and their ability to apply creative solutions to the point where they can work as effective independent thinkers.
- Develop positive motivational attitudes towards a wide variety of studies and fields.
- Nurture individual and personal excellence through their commitment to the broader school community.
- Develop socially and emotionally through the growth of scholarly habits, social interaction and growth in general psychological health.

ACE KEY SELECTION CRITERIA

1	Demonstrated high level of academic achievement in one or more subject areas (e.g. English, Maths, Science, Humanities, etc.).
2	Demonstrated outstanding qualities as a learner (e.g. curiosity, eagerness, love of learning, cooperation with peers, and resilience).
3	Improvement focused with outstanding personal qualities including organisation, problem-solving and communication. Demonstrated mature, highly motivated and engaged attitude towards both learning and extension.
4	Demonstrated willingness to lead and/or contribute to the betterment of the College community, including co-curricular activities.
5	Demonstrated ability to think creatively, originally and flexibly as a learner.
6	Demonstrated commitment to and engagement in the ACE program, accepting the expectations of exemplary attendance, a positive attitude, consistently high academic and personal achievement, and respectful interactions with staff and students.

A photograph of three students in school uniforms sitting on a wooden bench outdoors. The student in the foreground is a girl with dark hair and glasses, wearing a blue and white checkered shirt with red buttons. Behind her are two other students, a girl and a boy, both smiling. The background shows a school building with large windows and a tree. The text 'ENROLMENT AT ST HELENA' is overlaid on the bottom left of the image.

ENROLMENT AT ST HELENA

Enrolment of students from Grade 6 is managed in cooperation with local Primary Schools and follows state-wide procedures. Enrolment Application Forms are provided by Primary Schools and must be returned to them. All other documents can be downloaded from the Enrolment section of the St Helena website www.sthelena.vic.edu.au

Enquiries concerning enrolment into Year 8 to 12 should be directed to the relevant Mini-School Principal Coral Ward, Transition and Enrolment Officer via 9438 8500.



St Helena Secondary College

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