



YEAR 7 SUBJECT HANDBOOK 2024

MEN & WOMEN
FOR & WITH OTHERS





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Year 7 Information

Year 7 Curriculum

This booklet is designed to inform students and parents about the academic program offered at Year 7. It also provides an overview of the Year 7 subjects.

Lessons are organised differently to Primary school. At Loyola College we run five 60 minute periods per day. Year 7 students will study 9 Year-Long subjects and 2 Semester-Long subjects. They will also participate in the Year 7 Personal Development Program and Sport.

The year-long subjects are; Religious Education, English, Mathematics, Science, Humanities, Languages, Health and Physical Education, Visual Arts and Music. They will also study one Semester each of Dance and Drama.

Reporting and Assessment

Student feedback is an important aspect of improving student learning. At Loyola College, we provide many opportunities for students and parents to receive such feedback. Formal reporting takes place four times a year. Parent/Guardians will receive an Interim report Term One and Three as well as an end of semester report. Our Subject Specific and Mentor Academic Conversations reflect our Ignatian values and commitment to student improvement by focusing on student learning and parental engagement. All students work with their Mentor who meets with the student and parent/guardian at least three times a year to discuss the student's academic goals and their ongoing learning.

Pastoral Care

A vertical pastoral care system operates at Loyola College. Within this system our students from Years 7 to 12 belong to one of six Houses. The Head of House maintains an overview of all student wellbeing matters.

Within the House, students are assigned a Mentor Teacher who takes a personal interest in each student and is the first point of contact with parents and guardians. It is this relationship with parents and guardians which is pivotal in fostering a successful partnership between parent/guardian, staff and students. The Mentor teacher will usually be directly involved in issues concerning his/her students.

Year 7 Personal Development

The Personal Development Program upholds the belief that enhanced student wellbeing contributes significantly to improved student learning outcomes and complements the College's curriculum offerings and House-based vertical pastoral care structures. It seeks to nurture positive emotional and social functioning to enable the students to develop a clear sense of belonging, meaning, purpose and growth during their time at Loyola College.

At Year 7, the Personal Development Program runs fortnightly and includes a variety of activities such as: classroom-based lessons and whole year level activities incorporating guest speakers and multi-media presentations.

Underpinning the program is the framework of Positive Education through an Ignatian Lens, which draws from the six elements of positive psychology:

- Positive Emotion
- Engagement
- Relationships
- Meaning
- Accomplishment
- Health

At Year 7, we explore the following key themes and issues:

- Transition into Year 7: Feeling safe, belonging and building friendships
- Developing resilience and a positive outlook on life
- Goal setting and strategies for success
- Bullying and strategies to support each other
- Positive self-talk
- Body image and self esteem
- The benefits of sleep
- Character Strengths
- Nutrition and mental health
- Gratitude and mental health
- Navigating our wellbeing through Cura Personalis
- Creativity and 'Flow'



Year 7 Sport

The Association of Coeducational Schools (ACS) Interschool competition is a comprehensive program that demands its member schools to make a significant commitment in terms of finance, resources and student/staff participation.

Sport is compulsory for Year 7 students. Every student will have the opportunity to be part of a team, travel with the team and experience interschool sport.

All students are provided with the opportunity to represent the school in the following teams.

Summer Sports

Girls – Soccer, Softball, Tennis and Volleyball

Boys – Basketball, Cricket, Hockey, Softball and Table Tennis

Winter Sports

Girls – Basketball, Hockey, Netball and Table Tennis

Boys – Football, Soccer, Volleyball and Tennis

All Year 7 ACS matches are Tuesday afternoons, and training will be Thursdays after school.

The students must show ability in the sports or a willingness to train and develop competency in their chosen sport.

Those students who do not compete in the ACS competition will be involved in House Sport. House sports may vary according to numbers and facilities. It is compulsory for students selected in ACS teams to represent the school as per the Loyola College Enrolment Agreement.

The House Sports program runs parallel to the ACS with games running at the same time.

The ACS competition is based on the following principles:

- To bring together similar sized schools, that are coeducational and hold similar philosophies and commitment to sport
- A commitment to the agreed list of teams and sports at all year levels
- A commitment to a high standard of competition, appearance, punctuality and sportspersonship
- A comprehensive program that includes traditional sports as well as other popular sports
- A program that would involve a large number of students and maximise participation
- Finding a balance between participation and a higher level of competition
- A commitment to make it work, to fulfil fixtures and minimise intrusion into school time
- Provision of equal sporting opportunities and access to sport for boys and girls in all year levels
- Provision of the opportunity for students to play sport who would not play at all otherwise

Year 7 Year-Long Subjects

Year 7 Religious Education

The Year 7 Religious Education course provides students with the opportunity to improve their knowledge and understanding of key practices and beliefs of Christian communities both past and present. They are involved in regular prayer and class liturgies and explore and respond to social justice issues.

Specific areas of study include Belonging – Our School Community, Lent and Easter, Scripture, Prayer, the Liturgical Year, the Eucharist, People who worked for justice in the Bible and Advent. Assessment takes a variety of forms using the Pedagogy of Encounter approach, with students working both individually and in groups.

Meaningful prayer and engaging liturgy are integral to Religious Education. In Year 7, students are involved in a Reflection Day program that focuses on belonging and community, as well as attending a Year Level Mass and a Class Mass. Students have the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Year 7 English

In Semester One, English provides students with an introduction to the Victorian F-10 Curriculum as they undertake their transition into the College. The emphasis is on both written and spoken communication. Students will conceive, plan, compose, edit and publish fiction and non-fiction texts. They will develop skills in using appropriate language for particular purposes and audiences to represent and reflect on ideas, events, experiences, characters, emotions and information. Students will develop knowledge, skills and behaviours to co-operate with others and to contribute to the achievement of group goals. Students will also develop the ability to listen, view and respond with respect to content and context, displaying an understanding of communication and presentation conventions.

The focus of Semester Two is to read and comprehend both the literal and implied meanings in the prescribed texts, novels and films studied. Activities will assist students to explore the similarities and differences between different characters; identify and explore themes and issues; identify and justify different interpretations using evidence from the texts; and recognise the purpose, audience and context of the text and how this influences the reader. In the debating unit, students will debate a current issue, learning the speaker roles, how to rebut and how to speak in front of an audience. The poetry topic will focus on exposing students to a variety of poems and their structures, developing students' ability to understand and use language in a controlled, deliberate way.



Year 7 Mathematics

Students will consolidate and strengthen their abilities to work mathematically in concepts from each of the following content descriptors based on the Victorian F-10 Curriculum: Number & Algebra, Measurement & Geometry and Statistics & Probability. Each topic that is covered will require students to be able to manipulate the information with and without the aid of technology. It is important, therefore, that students have a good understanding of the skills taught and are able to operate a calculator adeptly where appropriate.

There is also a need for students to develop and maintain a broad range of mathematical language. In order to achieve this successfully, each unit will encompass a literacy component. These components include, but are not limited to; glossaries, word concept comprehension, and the use of command words.

Students demonstrating high proficiency in Year 7 Mathematics - from previous assessment data, staff recommendation and diagnostic testing data - may be invited to apply for a place to study Enhanced Mathematics in place of their mainstream Mathematics in Year 8.

Year 7 Science

Students will focus on developing their knowledge and understanding in various disciplines of science through completing different experimental procedures. They will be able to organise a diverse range of organisms into taxonomic groups and state the difference between each group. Students investigate the relationships in the Earth-Sun-Moon system and use models to predict and explain astronomical phenomena such as seasons, eclipses and phases of the moon. They will also learn to predict an object's motion by considering the interaction between multiple forces. Students will explore the properties of each state of matter through the motion and arrangement of particles.

Students will investigate the characteristics of mixtures and understand that they are a combination of pure substances that can be separated using a range of techniques. Students will discover the differences between renewable and non-renewable resources through research and investigation.

Year 7 Humanities

Over the year, students will cover key aspects of curriculum in History, Geography, Civics and Citizenship as well as Economics and Business.

Students are encouraged to build their subject-specific practical skills in each topic of study, alongside developing a deep understanding of the connection between the past, people and the world around us today. In our study of Humanities, we encourage students to seek discernment and wisdom through the study of different cultures and times. We foster curiosity in our students and work alongside them to engage critically with the wider world as they work towards a more sustainable and hopeful future for all.

Year 7 Health and Physical Education

Students undertake a program designed to develop fundamental motor skills, teamwork and participation through a variety of activities including minor games, racquet sports, netball and soccer.

Students will receive vital health education on topics such as lifeskills for a healthy life. In Semester 2, students will focus on their growth and development.

Students participate in three practical classes and one Health class a fortnight.

Year 7 Music

All students in Year 7 study music as a core subject. Students will rehearse, interpret and present music in a range of styles. Year 7 students have the opportunity to learn an instrument including, woodwind, brass or strings during music class. This offers all Year 7 students a pathway into Loyola's co-curricular ensembles for the remainder of their school years. Basic elements of music theory, with a strong emphasis on singing, rhythm and aural recognition will be studied, which will further enhance and develop practical skill on an instrument.



VISUAL ARTS

Students explore the following streams over the year.

Year 7 Art

Students explore and use a variety of sources for inspiration and ideas in a broad range of art forms, drawing upon experiences, direct observation and imagination. Students make art works combining and manipulating art elements and art principles. Students use a variety of media and techniques to express ideas and produce a folio of experiments and trials using a variety of mediums and techniques. In this course students study artworks from different art movements such as cubism, impressionism, pop art and contemporary art to gain inspiration for their own work.

Year 7 Media

Students learn the production techniques involved in film narrative, including visual composition, sound, special effects and editing. Students use these new skills to analyse a wide variety of texts through the moving image as well as print media. To further their appreciation of storytelling, students will develop skills in film and sound by creating their own narratives.

Year 7 Visual Communication and Design

Communication is a vital aspect of our society and the ability to use the visual medium to communicate with others is an important skill that can be developed with study and practice. We focus on creating a basic understanding of the design processes involved in creating visual communications and how visual imagery is used as a communication tool in our society.

The areas of study include an introduction to digital, instrumental and freehand drawing; rendering techniques; illustration lay-out and presentation. Students learn how to apply two and three-dimensional drawing methods whilst creating a range of visual communications relating to real world applications and purposes.

LANGUAGES

Year 7 students select two of the three Languages on offer: French, Indonesian or Italian. Previous experience and aptitude will determine each student's Language Pathway Program.

Year 7 French

The students are introduced to the French language, culture and lifestyle. Students will learn how to structure basic conversations, introducing oneself, asking how someone is feeling, talking about one's nationality or nationalities. They will also learn about how to say their age, numbers, classroom objects and to talk about their family and animals. Students are introduced to basic French verbs as well as some simple grammatical structures such as definite and indefinite articles, possessive adjectives and adjectives.

Year 7 Indonesian

Students are introduced to the Indonesian language, culture and geography and will explore the many diverse islands that make up Indonesia. Students cover a range of greetings and questions that are used when getting to know someone, including both formal and informal language. The course also teaches numbers, days of the week and dates. The unit on family focuses on how to introduce and describe themselves and other family members. The students also study a topic on school and the classroom including classroom instructions. Colours and parts of the body are also studied through interactive games and activities.

Year 7 Italian

Students learn about the Italian language and culture. They are taught a range of greetings and introductory questions that are used when first getting to know someone. They learn how to express how they feel, spell their name using the Italian alphabet, state their nationality, express their age and talk about their family. Students are introduced to basic Italian verbs as well as some simple grammatical structures such as definite and indefinite articles. Numbers, days of the week and months of the year are also learnt.

Year 7 Italian Post Foundation

Students learn about the Italian language and culture, building on their pathway from primary school. They continue building on their knowledge and skills of communicating functional classroom language. They use gestures and focus on speaking and listening to broaden their abilities in relation to their personal world, expanding into the world around them.



Year 7 Semester-Long Subjects

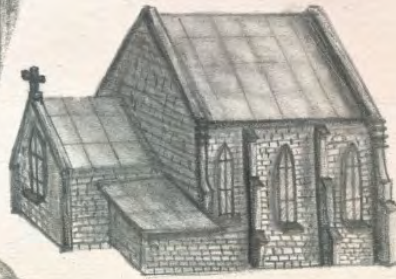
PERFORMING ARTS

Year 7 Dance

Year 7 Dance brings the fundamentals of understanding of dance and the basic elements of dance Time, space and Energy which are the building blocks of dance. Students learn how to express ideas and concepts through the physical body using time, space and energy to deliver meaning through manipulated movements. Dance is an age-old form of storytelling and has been used to pass on information from generation to generation in Indigenous communities around the world. Students create dance through storytelling and apply dance building and choreographic skills. The students enjoy an experience of cultural dance that supports their understanding of Indigenous culture but also storytelling through dance.

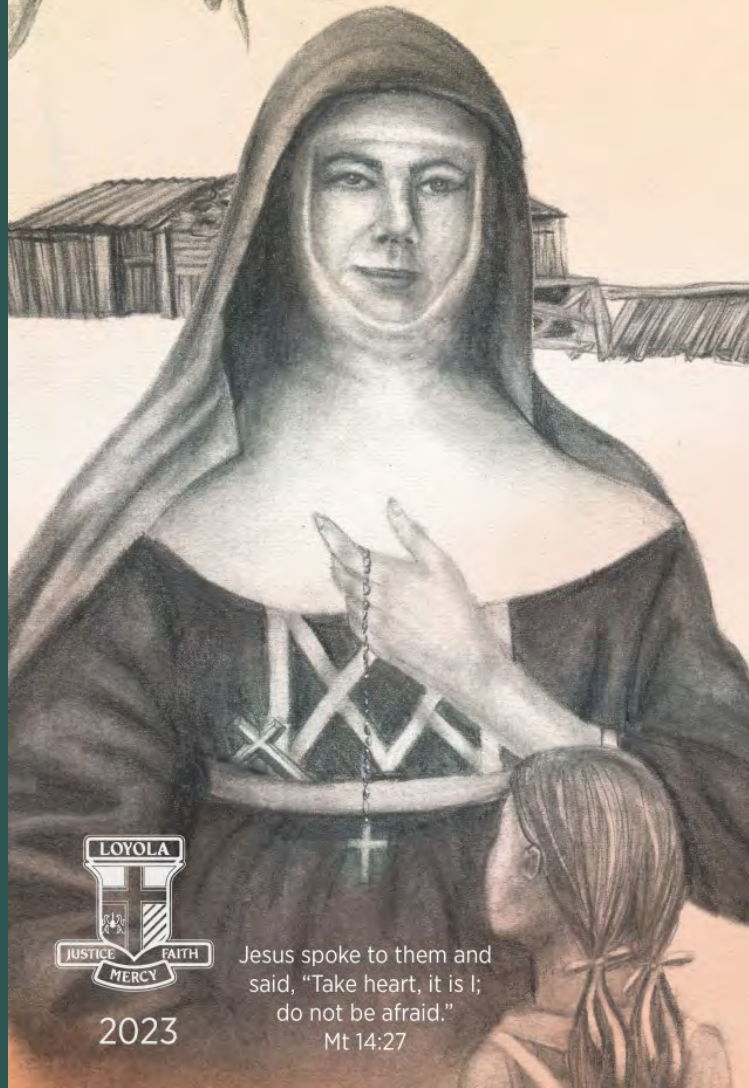
Year 7 Drama

Students study Improvisation, they also look at the genre of theatre to learn about Character and stagecraft skills such as use of sound, make up, props, sets and costume. They begin to learn about Expressive Skills, Dramatic Elements and Stagecraft Elements. Students also focus on teamwork, cooperation and the collaborative process. They are assessed through performance tasks and written assessment tasks.



Go on with strength and courage

- St Mary of the Cross MacKillop



2023

Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."
Mt 14:27