



Bright P-12 College



Year 7 & 8 Course Guide 2026

CONTENTS

Curriculum Overview	3
Year 7 & 8 in Summary	4
Meeting Student Needs	4
Transition	5
Subject Descriptions	
- English	6
- Mathematics	6
- Science	7
- Humanities	8
- Physical Education & Health	9
- Languages	10
- Aboriginal Languages	11
- Economics & Business	11
- Arts, Design & Technologies	12
o Visual Art	12
o Visual Communication & Design	12
o Music	13
o Food	13
o Digital Technologies	14
o Design & Technologies (Wood/Metal)	14

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

At Bright P-12 College, the Year 7 and 8 curriculum develops breadth and depth across English, Mathematics, Science, History, Geography, Health & Physical Education, Languages and Arts & Technologies. Within these subjects, teaching and learning will incorporate personal, social and interdisciplinary skills.

Currently, Year 7 and Year 8 students at Bright P-12 College study a core program of:

- five periods per week of English and Mathematics
- four periods per week of Science
- four periods per week of Humanities (History/Geography/Civics & Citizenship)
- three periods per week of Physical Education/Health
- three periods per week of Language elective (students can choose to study either German or Japanese)

Over Year 7 and 8, students also experience these subjects for one term in each year level:

The Arts & Technologies subjects of:

- Visual Art
- Music
- Visual Communication & Design
- Digital Technologies
- Wood
- Metal
- Food

Humanities subjects of:

- Economics & Business

Aboriginal Language is also included in this rotation at Year 8.

Language Immersion / Cultural Study Tours

Secondary students studying Japanese or German have the opportunity every two years to visit Gamagori (Japan), Bad Aibling (Germany) as part of an escorted school excursion.

Camps

Our Year 7 students participate in a transition camp. This has been at Camp Coolamatong near Paynesville for the past few years. It is a four day camp featuring many fun activities which foster mutual respect, teamwork and participation.

Year 8 students will attend either Bogong Outdoor School or Rubicon Outdoor School where they develop their teamwork and leadership skills through a range of team building and challenging outdoor activities.



Yr 7 & 8 IN SUMMARY

SUBJECT AREA	First Semester	Second Semester
English	Core English 5 periods a week	Core English 5 periods a week
Mathematics	Core Mathematics 5 periods a week	Core Mathematics 5 periods a week
Science	Core Science 4 periods a week	Core Science 4 periods a week
Humanities	Core Humanities 4 periods a week	Core Humanities 4 periods a week
Physical Education / Health	Physical Education 2 periods a week Health 1 period a week	Physical Education 2 periods a week Health 1 period a week
Languages elective	German or Japanese 3 periods a week	German or Japanese 3 periods a week
Term long experience 3 periods a week	Learning Area The Arts Design & Technologies Language Humanities	Subject Visual Art / Music Wood / Metal / Food / Digital Technologies / VCD Aboriginal Language (Year 8 only) Economics & Business

MEETING STUDENT NEEDS

At Bright P-12 College, we recognise that every student is unique and has different learning needs, so we offer a balanced but rigorous curriculum, with students given the opportunity to pursue various pathways and reach their learning potential. Students' individual learning needs are met within the classroom, through the teacher negotiating appropriate modifications to the curriculum. Where necessary, students work from an Individual Education Plan (IEP) to continue developing skills. High-achieving students will benefit from a range of activities and opportunities designed to challenge and extend their thinking, problem-solving and broaden their horizons.

Guidelines have been developed to respond to exceptional circumstances where a parent might request a structural change to the student's learning program. The guiding principles of balance, flexibility, academic rigour, wide consultation and practicality underpin our students' learning program. Individual student needs and best interests are balanced against the College's ability to resource and maintain an appropriate learning environment.

TRANSITION

Year Level Coordinators work closely with teachers and the students in their year levels. They monitor the welfare and discipline of students in their care and will make contact with parents should the need arise.

Year 7 students of 2026 will experience a statewide transition day at Bright P-12 College during Week 10 of Term 4 2025 with an extra transition day in Week 9. This additional transition day allows students to experience a broader scope of subjects in Secondary school as well as an insight into the 'day to day' life of a Secondary student and the supports available to assist with this important phase of their educational journey.

Lockers

Lockers are a pivotal part in the transition process and sense of place in the school. At Bright P-12 College we cluster our lockers together so that each year level remains together. Lockers are assigned by the Year Level Coordinator. It is a requirement of the College that students have a lock for their lockers to keep their belongings and personal items safe. Year 7 students are supplied with a combination lock. The Year Level Coordinator keeps a copy of the combination codes in case any students have trouble remembering their key or combination.

Computers

All students in Years 7-12 are required to have their own computer for school as part of the BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) program. All specifications and requirements are available on the College website. Printing facilities are available for all computers connected to the school network. All computers including BYOD laptops are networked with Internet Access to enable research and online learning. Students sign an *Acceptable Use Policy* (undertaking to adhere to the College's expectations regarding responsible computer and Internet use) at the commencement of each school year.

SUBJECT DESCRIPTIONS

English

Year 7

This is the year in which students are introduced to English at a Secondary level. There is a strong emphasis on skill development in the areas of oral skills, text study, language skills and the craft of writing. Students participate in a variety of activities to develop their spoken communication skills. They complete a range of text-based tasks including formal assignments and book reviews.

Workbooks provide the basis for developing vocabulary, comprehension and language skills. Students complete writing tasks in a variety of styles, exhibited in their writing journals.

Year 8

In Year 8, students continue to develop their skills in oral communication, text study and the craft of writing. Students learn to write for a range of purposes and specific audiences. They develop their critical reading skills by working with and responding to a variety of texts. Formal oral presentations and class discussions allow students to build their speaking and listening skills.

To enhance their learning and to help them become more independent, students are required to complete regular homework, as well as read set texts outside of class time.

Mathematics

Year 7

In Year 7, all students complete activities based on the structure of the Victorian Curriculum 2.0. The areas covered include working with whole numbers, fractions, decimals, percentages, 2D and 3D shapes, transforming shapes, probability and statistics, powerful numbers, algebra, data sets and equations.

Students explore and gain a deeper understanding of these topics through fluency and problem-solving tasks, peer collaboration, and practical open-ended projects.

Year 8

In Year 8, students build upon the skills they have learnt in Year 7 with a more in-depth study of concepts that will provide all students with a sound basis for the path of study they choose in Year 9. There is a continued focus on skill-building, problem-solving, hands-on investigations and project work.

Topics include whole number arithmetic, fractions, positive and negative numbers, percentages, rates and ratios, algebra, geometry, measurement, area and perimeter, and theoretical probability.

Science

Year 7

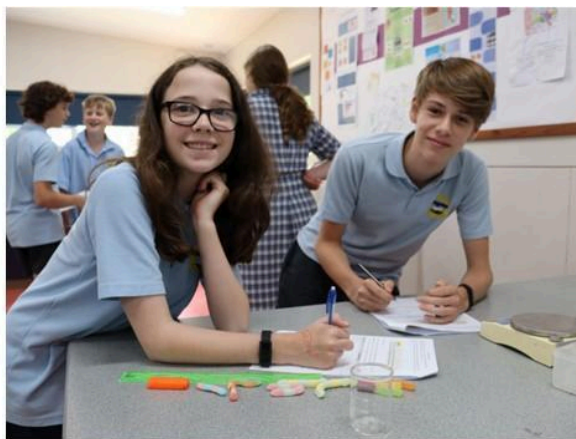
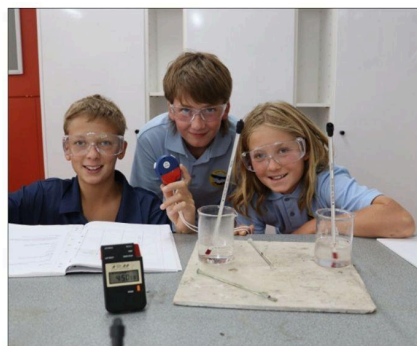
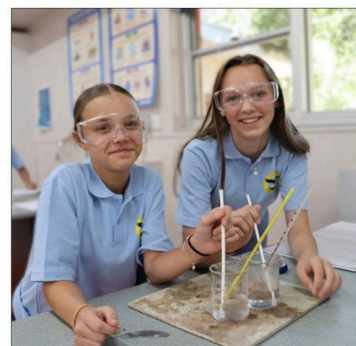
The Year 7 Science program has a strong emphasis on developing skills in experimental methods, safe work habits, investigation, report writing and research strategies.

Topics covered include: working scientifically, properties of substances, Earth's structure and resources, classification, ecosystems, mixtures, forces as well as Earth and space.

Year 8

In Year 8 Science, students will build upon the skills acquired in Year 7 through practical activities, theory and research tasks with an emphasis on developing investigative skills.

Topics covered include: the structure and function of cells, body systems, elements, mixtures and compounds, physical and chemical change, energy types and uses, reproduction and immunology.



Humanities

Year 7

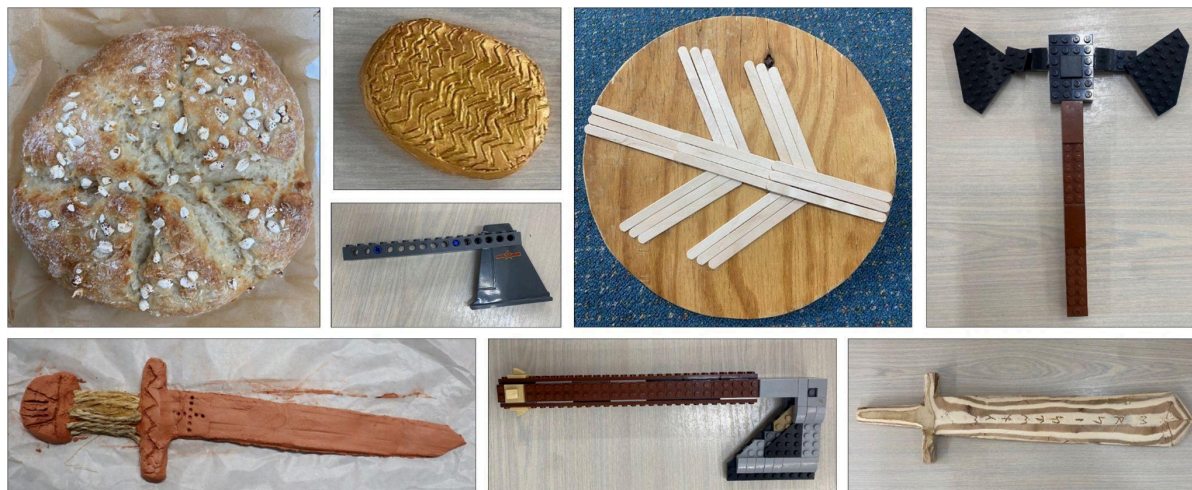
The course has a focus on accessible and relevant content and stimulating activities. Students are encouraged to appreciate that their learning has relevance beyond the classroom – for their community and the world at large. The emphasis in Semester 1 **History** begins with a study of the Stone Age and the emergence of basic cultures. The work of archaeologists is examined. Detailed studies are then made of ancient civilisations such as Egypt, Greece, Rome and China.

In Semester 2, students begin with looking at **Civics and Citizenship**. Students explore Australia as a diverse society and question what factors contribute to a cohesive society. They will also develop different perspectives on national identity. Students will then focus on the study of **Geography** and how humans interact with the environment. They explore water in the world and the concepts of place and livability and will participate in local fieldwork.

Year 8

During Semester 1, students will focus on the subject of **History**. This course will focus on developing students' skills in evaluating historical significance, analysing sources as evidence, examining historical perspectives and communicating arguments through historical writing. Students complete an in-depth study on the Vikings, then will move to an exploration of Medieval Europe and the Black Death. Students will also explore the civilisations of the Khmer Empire, and the Aztecs in the period of the Spanish Conquistadors.

Semester 2 commences with a unit on **Civics and Citizenship**, exploring the different levels of government and how laws are made. Students will then focus on the subject of **Geography**. Key topics include landscapes and landforms, and changing nations. They will learn about the formation of two landscapes in depth, and consider the impact of urbanisation and how cities can be designed in sustainable ways. Students will consider the significance of conservation and sustainability of environments whilst participating in local fieldwork.



Physical Education & Health

Health and Physical Education is a compulsory subject for both semesters in Year 7 and Year 8. This course content assists students to develop values and a positive perception of themselves and others, to manage respectful relationships, to make healthy decisions and take actions that are personally and socially responsible. At both Year 7 & 8, this subject is broken into two distinct strands; one with a health focus (Personal, Social and Community Health) and the other with a movement focus (Movement and Physical Activity).

A requirement of practical activities is for students to be prepared by wearing the correct College PE/sports uniform to Physical Education classes.

Year 7

Personal, Social and Community Health

- Respectful relationships (emotional literacy and personal strength) & personal identity
- Healthy lifestyles - benefits of physical activity & nutrition
- Respectful relationships: reproductive systems, adolescent development, relationships, gender, identity and sexuality as well as gender norms/stereotypes
- Harm minimisation and safety

Movement and Physical Activity

- Net sports (various)
- Striking/fielding sports (various)
- Invasion/territorial games (various)
- Athletics (track and field)
- Aquatics Program (at Myrtleford Pool approx. for 4 sessions. Costs and dates TBC)

Year 8

Personal, Social and Community Health

- Benefits of lifelong physical activity
- Respectful relationships including gender and identity
- Mental health and wellbeing including positive coping strategies, problem-solving
- Harm minimisation and risk taking
 - sexual health
 - alcohol and party safe

Movement and Physical Activity

- Net sports (various)
- Striking/fielding sports (various)
- Invasion/territorial games (various)
- Athletics (track and field)



Language electives - all students choose either German or Japanese

Year 7 & 8

Students continue with their chosen language of German or Japanese from Year 7 through to Year 9.

Students in both Japanese and German classes are encouraged to speak, listen to, read and write in those languages in a range of interactions with their teachers, native speakers of the language and each other. Students will explore aspects of Japanese or German culture and make comparisons with their own. Students may not move to another language between Years 7-9 unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Bright P-12 College has well established programs in Japan and Germany. Students and families are encouraged to participate. We have been fortunate to have arranged both German and Japanese short-term homestay in-bound and out-bound excursions in 2025 and 2026, and hope to continue this biannually.

Students with an interest or background in an additional language on top of those offered at Bright P-12 College can undertake additional studies of a language outside of their regular timetabled classes through the Victorian School of Languages, and enrolment can be facilitated by the College.



Aboriginal languages - Year 8

This subject aims to introduce students to our local Aboriginal language, Dhudhuroa. The subject will focus on the importance of land, language and culture to Australia's Indigenous people. Topics presented are Introduction to Aboriginal languages; Sound systems; Numbers; Language Creation and Animals.

The aim of this subject is to create a greater understanding of, appreciation and respect for Aboriginal people and language and their perceptions of both their past and present. This subject can be continued into Year 9 and beyond, or can be picked up again at any year level.

Economics, Business and Careers

Year 7: Students consider connections in the ways our world works, from the needs and wants we have as consumers to the way businesses make choices about the products and services they produce. This is a subject of practical application, combining theory with examination of contemporary international, national and local case studies.

Year 8: Students explore why and how individuals and businesses set, prioritise and plan for financial and organisational goals. Students learn firsthand how to create a business, focusing on enterprising behaviours and capabilities that will enable them to participate actively in the economy, now and in the future. Students will be a part of a series of activities as a collaborative, hands-on experience giving young people opportunities to run a business and build skills while linking with the community.

Careers: Students will be encouraged to become self-aware by identifying their interests, skills, strengths and values. They will use this knowledge to start exploring careers and the world of work. This then assists students into having more of an understanding about the relationships between work, society and the economy. Students will also start to manage their future by completing a Career Action Plan.



Arts, Design and Technologies

Creativity is an integral part of all learning. Each year, students in Years 7 and 8 undertake a term of each of Arts, Design and Technologies subjects. These subjects offer opportunities to explore and communicate their own ideas as well as to appreciate and interpret the ideas of others.

Visual Art

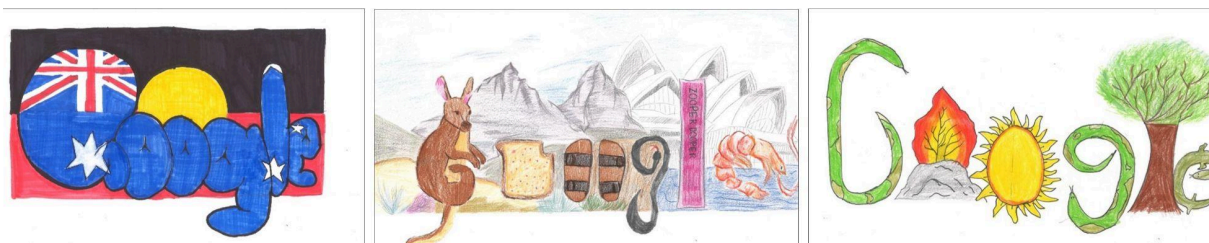
In Years 7 and 8, students explore and communicate ideas through a variety of media and technologies, including paint, pencil and ink. They develop practical skills and techniques in creating and making artworks. Students engage with a diverse range of art styles, eras, and cultures, and begin to express their opinions about their own work and the work of others using appropriate art vocabulary.

Traditional art methods are introduced, such as painting, drawing and sculpture, using a wide range of materials across different units and topics. Common assessment tasks—such as an acrylic painting on canvas in Year 7 and painting a skateboard deck in Year 8—are included each year, while other projects may vary to provide variety and creative exploration.



Visual Communication & Design

In Year 7-8 Visual Communication & Design, students learn to create 2D visual communications and 3D designs, drawing from the three fields of Visual Communication Design; Communication Design, Industrial Design and Environmental Design. We follow the design process, starting with a design brief and identifying the client's needs and context. We focus on the creation of designs using a mix of freehand, instrumental and computer aided drawing techniques. Classwork is made up of short and extended projects and could include the creation of packaging, observational drawings, technical drawings, logos, posters, clothing, town planning and more.



Music

Students in Year 7 Music are given an introduction to playing the guitar, keyboard, ukulele and drum kit. The students then decide which of these instruments they want to focus on, and work on developing their skills on a piece of music of their own choice. The class also experiences playing music as a class ensemble. Music Technology is looked at, with students becoming proficient in composing music using computer programs. They undertake a research project on a popular artist and also study basic music literacy.

Students in Year 8 Music continue to enhance their skills on an instrument of their own choice playing a piece that they like. Students again participate in a class ensemble. Music Technology is revisited and students work at a higher level of proficiency. They also undertake a research project, music literacy tasks and learn about possible future careers in the music industry.



Food

In Year 7 Food Technology, students learn about basic food preparation techniques. During weekly practical classes, a variety of simple dishes are prepared by students using a range of cookery methods and standard recipe sheets. Food Technology in Year 8 builds upon basic food preparation techniques learnt in Year 7. Students also begin to learn about the importance of Food Safety, Lifelong Nutrition and Health Issues associated with daily food consumption.



Digital Technologies

In Year 7, students learn to use block code to create simple interactive games which include iterations, branching and variables. They also undertake studies into how computers work, how they store data and how data is represented using binary code for letter, number, image and sound.

In Year 8, students learn how to program using the Python programming language in several different environments. These environments include Code Combat, Raspberry Pi, Code.Org and Ed.Py (programming Edison robots). Students also undertake some investigation into how the internet works and how algorithms can be represented in different ways.

Design & Technologies - Wood / Metal

In Year 7 and Year 8, students investigate characteristics of various materials including wood and metal. They complete a design folio that starts with a design brief and concludes with an evaluation report. Students learn skills to enable them to complete a variety of projects using a range of processes and tools. Students are taught to establish safe and responsible work practices.

Past projects have included

Year 7 Woodwork:

Design and produce a wooden pencil box and, if time allows, a wooden mallet.

Year 7 Metalwork:

Design and produce a colourbond carry tray.

Year 8 Wood/Metal:

Design and produce a stick figure lamp.

