



Bright P-12 College



Year 9 Course Guide 2026

CONTENTS

The Year 9 Program	3
Choosing your pathway	4
Careers	4
Careers 'Big Day In'	4
Careers website	4
Summary of subjects on offer for Year 9 2026	5
YEAR 9 SUBJECT SUMMARIES - Core Subjects	6
English	6
Mathematics	6
Science	6
Humanities: Geography & History	7
PE & Health	8
Languages: German & Japanese	8
YEAR 9 SUBJECT SUMMARIES - Elective Subjects	9
Aboriginal Languages	9
Outdoor Education	9
Media	9
Visual Arts	10
Visual Communication and Design (VCD)	10
Music	10
Design & Technology: Wood	11
Design & Technology: Metal	11
Computer Aided Design/Manufacture (CAD/CAM) & Robotics	12
Food	12
Key dates	12

THE YEAR 9 PROGRAM

Our Year 9 program focuses strongly on authentic learning experiences and leadership opportunities.

At Year 9, the program goals are to:

- Provide learning opportunities that encourage deep engagement with learning
- Provide a curriculum structure that supports greater links with the community
- Provide a curriculum structure that develops strong relationships between staff, students and the College
- Provide a strong experiential (learning by doing) approach

The following additional Year 9 opportunities are available for students at Bright P-12 College:

- Residential Leadership School (a term away from home)
- Victorian Sailing School
- International Languages Programs (Japan/Germany)

Selection processes take place for these Year 9 Camps and activities, which have limited places. These details can be sought from the Year Level Coordinator. The school aims to provide as many opportunities for as many students as possible.



CHOOSING YOUR PATHWAY

Careers

Morrisby Career Profiling is a program designed to support students in their development of ideas and planning for their future education and career. Students can find out what jobs match their abilities, interests and personality, and the subjects they need for those jobs. The in-depth process involves a series of on-line questionnaires and a meeting with an external Careers Practitioner.

Students will also learn how to use resources such as the Alpine Careers website to identify possible jobs. Students will develop a resume and career action plan by investigating a range of careers with the intention of developing a future pathway. They will also plan for their Year 10 Work Experience placement.

Career 'Big Day In'

Each year, our Year 9 students take part in the Career 'Big Day In' (CBDI). This day occurs towards the end of Year 9. This is a fantastic, fun and very informative hands-on day where we invite guests from the community and past students to talk about their study and career experiences and pathways.



All students take part in a formal interview for a job they apply for during their Career classes prior to the CBDI. The interviews are conducted by external community volunteers. Part of the day is also spent assisting students to organise work experience for the following year. A further workshop takes students in groups out into the local business to understand the diversity and scope offered by so many of our innovative businesses.

Careers website

Our Bright P-12 Careers website is available to help our students and their families find career and pathway information at www.brightp12careers.com

We strongly recommend all families use this as your first place to look for information. Links to many useful websites and tertiary institutions are provided. It is suitable for students from Year 9 upwards to use.



Summary of subjects on offer for Year 9 students in 2026

SUBJECT AREA	Semester One	Semester Two
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	Continue from Year 8: German or Japanese 3 periods a week	Continue from Year 8: German or Japanese 3 periods a week
Electives 3 periods a week	Learning Area The Arts Design & Technology Language PE/Health	Elective Visual Art / Music / Media / Visual Communication & Design (VCD) Wood / Metal / Food / Computer Aided Design/Manufacture (CAD/CAM) & Robotics Aboriginal Languages Outdoor Education

***In Year 9 students continue their language study in German/Japanese and select 4 electives, 2 per semester*

CORE Subjects

English

In Year 9 English, students are expected to study and read texts that challenge them as well as continue to develop their writing, speaking and listening skills. The content of this course aims to develop writing abilities in personal, imaginative, descriptive, argumentative, informative and instructional forms; to extend competence in writing and proofreading; to conference and refine drafts; to encourage a wide reading of fiction; to appreciate various forms of communication including short stories, plays and film; to study aspects of the mass media and to develop oral language and listening skills. In Year 9 the focus shifts from foundation English to preparing students for VCE.

Mathematics

Mathematics is a powerful way of describing reality. Year 9 Mathematics sees students gain a deeper understanding of algorithms, allowing them to make connections between concepts and apply their knowledge to 'real world' problems. Through fluency and reasoning; students begin to think creatively, plan and design solutions, and justify their calculations.

Mathematics in Year 9 incorporates the study of themes embedded within Number and Algebra, Space and Geometry, and Probability and Statistics relevant to the Victorian Curriculum.

Science

Science has two broad aims: to increase our knowledge, both of ourselves and of our environment, and to provide the basis for effective management of our environment and the resources of the Earth for practical human purposes in a sustainable manner.

Year 9 Science looks at a range of scientific disciplines including:

- Chemistry: Atomic structure and materials, reaction types
- Physics: Electricity and magnetism
- Biology: Ecosystems and evolution, body coordination including nervous system and endocrine system and how organisms obtain and use energy from food.



CORE Subjects

Humanities

History: The Making of the Modern World 1750-1918 CE

The unit is organised into two interrelated strands: *Historical Knowledge & Understanding* and *Historical Skills*.

The focus for the unit covers the period of industrialisation and rapid change in the ways people lived, worked and thought. It was an era of nationalism and imperialism, and includes the colonisation of Australia and India as part of the expansion of European power. The period culminated in World War 1 (1914-1918), the 'war to end all wars'.

The key inquiry questions are:

- What were the changing features of the movements of people from 1750 to 1918?
- How did new ideas and technological developments contribute to change in this period?
- What was the origin, development, significance and long-term impact of imperialism in this period?
- What was the significance of World War 1?

As part of these units students will develop independent research skills and employ deep critical thinking skills.

Geography: Biomes & Food Security and Geographies of Interconnections

This unit is organised into two interrelated strands: **Geographical Knowledge & Understanding** and **Geographical Skills**.

Biomes & Food Security focuses on investigating the role of the biotic environment and its role in fibre and food production. It examines the biomes of the world, their alteration over time and significance as a source of food and fibre, and the environmental challenges and constraints on expanding food production in the future.

Geographies of Interconnections focuses on investigating how people, through their choices and actions, are connected to places throughout the world in a wide variety of ways, and how these connections help to make and change places and their environments.

In both these content areas, studies are drawn from Australia and across the world.

Civics & Citizenship:

Students investigate political and legal systems and explore the nature of citizenship, diversity and identity in contemporary society. Students will develop knowledge and understanding of Australia's representative democracy and the key institutions, processes, and roles people play in Australia's political and legal systems.

The areas of Economics and Business are being integrated into both the study of History and the study of Geography.

Economics & Business

Business presents a direct link to the ways our world works, from the overall economic conditions that face Australia and other nations, to the rights and responsibilities we as consumers have in our society. This is a subject of practical application, combining theory with examination of contemporary international, national and local examples.

CORE Subjects

Physical Education & Health

Physical Education assists students to develop value and a good perception of themselves and others, to enter into and manage personal relationships, to make practical decisions and take actions that are personally and socially responsible. Physical Education helps develop students' lifelong knowledge, skills, attitudes and values so that they can be independent and responsible, and act with confidence and think creatively in everyday situations; domestic, business and recreational.



Year 9 Physical Education is a compulsory unit in both semesters. In Year 9, this subject is broken into two distinct strands; one with a key health focus (Personal, Social and Community Health) and the other with a movement focus (Movement and Physical Activity). To be involved in practical activities there is an expectation that students come to all practical Physical Education sessions in appropriate College sports uniform.

Personal, Social and Community Health

- Nutrition and youth health and wellbeing
- Mental wellbeing - Mental fitness challenge
- Harm minimisation and risk taking including;
 - the short and long term risks of alcohol and other legal/illegal drugs
 - sexual health including contraceptive methods and protection against STIs

Movement and Physical Activity

- Net sports eg. volleyball, badminton, table tennis
- Invasion/territorial games eg. basketball, netball, handball, Ultimate Frisbee and various football codes
- Athletics (track and field)
- Minor games

Languages

Australia is a rich and diverse multicultural nation and part of the greater global community. In order for our students to understand their place in the world as a global citizen they need to be able to relate to other cultures and understand their own. This also helps them understand who they are.

In Year 9, students **continue** with their study of the German or Japanese language. They can also decide to select Aboriginal Language as an additional elective.

Students select their relevant language unit in both semesters of Year 9.

German

This subject continues to build on the language topics and grammar skills taught during German in Years 7 and 8. This unit aims to improve students' reading, writing, listening and speaking skills in German through a variety of vocabulary and grammar topics and to further develop students' understanding of the language and culture of Germany. Topics will be drawn from the nominated textbook including sports, transport, clothes, people, weather and daily life at home. Students complete written activities, speaking and listening tasks, group work and research projects.



Japanese

This subject aims to further develop students' understanding of the language and culture of Japan. Topics include significant moments, cultural heritage, healthy food and shopping. This subject covers a variety of vocabulary, grammar and topics. It will focus on oral, written, and aural communication. Students increase their reading and writing skills in Hiragana, Katakana and up to 70 Kanji.



Elective subjects

Aboriginal Languages

Aboriginal Languages aim to introduce students to the Aboriginal heritage and languages of Victoria and the Northern Territory, in particular Dhudhuroa and Murrinh-Patha. The subject will focus on the importance of land, language and culture, comparing Aboriginal customs of the Northern Territory to the Aboriginal people of our own area.

The aim of this subject is to create a greater understanding of, appreciation and respect for Aboriginal people and their perceptions of both their past and present. Students will explore topics of self, place and language creation. This subject can be studied at Year 9 and beyond and can be commenced at Year 10 or VCE.

Note: This subject is undertaken with great sensitivity and respect for Aboriginal culture and beliefs, both past and present.

Outdoor Education

Students will be given the opportunity to learn and develop skills and gain an appreciation for outdoor adventure activities by participating in bushwalking, abseiling, caving, kayaking, roller skiing and mountain-biking. Students will also learn safety, first aid and environmental awareness. During the course of the subject, students will be involved in 4 full-day activities including overnight camps.

Please be aware that there is a mandatory fee associated with this subject.
(Cost TBC)

The Arts

The Arts provide a range of stimulating and distinctive experiences in visual art, music, food, design, technology, media and visual communication. Students will benefit from engaging in a practical range of experiences through these subjects.

Media

Media Studies runs for 3 periods a week for a semester and explores the practical and theoretical ideas of the Media Arts. Students refine and extend their understanding of the media and explore the multiple layers of media in visual, audio, print and social. In the first term of Media Studies, students delve into the world of animation and set design and create their own stop motion films. In the second term they look at photography and how cameras work.

Students experience media arts from a range of cultures, times and locations. They will study film and its implications, extending their film technique and analysis skills. Students will also be involved in creating media products.

Students will need to complete a folio of work documenting their creative process, students will also complete analytical responses to film for some assessments.

Elective subjects

Visual Arts

Visual Arts runs for 3 periods a week for a semester and allows students to build on their technical and design skills they began developing in the Year 7 and Year 8 Visual Arts programs.

Students are presented opportunities to:

- express their ideas and feelings through painting, drawing, printmaking, sculpting and other contemporary art methods;
- learn about the Arts in their own and other cultures;
- appreciate, respond to and reflect upon the works of others, explore the social role of art and how it contributes to change in society.
- explore a wide range of artworks, styles and techniques.



Visual Communication Design (VCD)

Visual Communication Design allows students to develop their knowledge and understanding of the three design fields: Community, Environmental and Industrial. Students develop their skills through observational, orthogonal, isometric and oblique drawing to represent designs and objects. They look at how computer programs can be used to create digital designs.

Students begin their work by first examining the needs and requirements of a client to guide their designs. The arts elements and principles are revisited and we look at how these can be manipulated to influence a specific target audience. Students follow the design process to showcase the development of their ideas and reflect on their creative process over the course of several projects.

They also look at how design impacts people in their daily lives and the work of notable designers in different cultures.

Music

This subject aims to build up a student's confidence in performing music. The students will need to concentrate on a musical instrument such as guitar, keyboard, drums, ukulele, bass guitar and/or voice in this class. Other instrumentalists are welcome to be part of this class. Students will be part of a class ensemble and smaller groups which will perform a compulsory performance at the end of the semester.

This course will also give students experience with composing, researching and music theory.

Playing a musical instrument is a skill which has many benefits and one which an individual can enjoy for a lifetime, either by themselves or in group situations. If you enjoyed the practical aspect of music in Years 7 and 8, we highly recommend you choose this subject.



Elective subjects

Design and Technology

Wood

Students design, make and evaluate products, solve practical problems and learn to work safely in the workshop. They gain knowledge of different timbers both natural and processed. They learn skills in manipulating these materials through using machines and equipment, power tools and hand tools. The tasks and projects are designed to be useful, functional and aesthetic work pieces and give students a variety of experiences in designing and working with wood.

Projects:

- Design and produce a hardwood chopping board
- Construct a side table from mountain ash timber

Subject Costs: TBC, Additional costs may be incurred if students exceed their initial Design and Technology allowance.



Metal

Students design, make and evaluate products, solve practical problems and learn to work safely in the workshop. They gain knowledge of different metals while learning a range of production skills through using machines and equipment, power tools and hand tools. The tasks and projects are designed to be useful, functional and aesthetic work pieces and give students a variety of experiences in designing and working with metal.

Projects:

- Colourbond tool box
- Introduction to MIG welding
- Design and produce a camping BBQ (design/fabrication task)



Subject Costs: TBC, Additional costs may be incurred if students exceed their initial Design and Technology allowance.

Elective subjects

Computer Aided Design / Manufacture (CAD/CAM) & Robotics

A foundational course where students are introduced to a range of software and technologies with a focus on design, manufacture and electronic engineering. Students learn to use CAD applications including Sketch and AutoCAD. They then build on their understanding by carrying out manufacturing processes using 3D printers and a laser cutter.

Students are also introduced to simple electronics concepts and components. They begin to learn the fundamentals of programming Arduino microcontrollers using a simplified C++ programming language before combining all of the learnt skills in production of a unique electronic product.

Possible projects include:

- Introduction to AutoCAD
- Practical introduction to Arduino electronics
- 3D printed name tag
- Laser cut storage device
- Design and construct a multi-colour light display



Subject Costs: This course incurs an additional cost of \$60 to purchase Arduino kits and other electronic components.

Food

Fast food has grown in consumption in Australia over the years. Our food often travels many kilometers to get to us. Have we lost the skills and imagination to cook our own foods? Is there such a thing as healthy 'fast food'? In this unit you will look at the food requirements of adolescents and how you can make your own 'fast food'. Students investigate local food supply chains as well as food security on a global scale. Weekly practical classes make use of local and seasonal produce in the completion of nutritious recipes. Assessment involves investigating and reporting on a local food business and past influences on our current food habits.



There will be a materials charge for this unit to cover class materials and major projects that are undertaken.

A compulsory materials fee for each technology subject will be added to the booklist. Students should negotiate with the classroom teacher if they wish to supply their own materials.

Key dates

- Year level assembly with information in regards to subjects selections - **Week 2**
- Initial subject selections **open** on **Friday 1st August ~12.00pm**
- Initial subject selections **close** on **Wednesday 13th August at 9am**
- Final subject selection interviews with blocking sheet will take place **Monday 1st → 5th September (~Week 7)** to finalise elective choices