



ROWVILLE  
MATHS & SCIENCE  
ACADEMY

**Rowville Secondary College**  
**Year 9**  
**Subject Selection Handbook 2018**

**MSA**

## CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

At Rowville Secondary College students are organised into two sub-schools:

- Junior School: Year 7-9
- Senior School: Year 10-12

Curriculum programs are organised and developed to suit the learning needs of students at the different levels of education and to provide students with opportunities to experience a breadth of areas, as well as enhancing the relevant pathway for each individual student. Our curriculum programs are designed in line with the College motto “One Great School – Four Strengths Based Learning Programs.” Our programs emphasise the importance of building responsibility, expectations and accountability within students to ensure that they are adequately prepared for the future.

Students in year 9 are in their last year in the Junior School and throughout this year they should be preparing themselves to enter the senior years of schooling. They are provided with opportunities to begin to control their own learning experiences through the elective subjects offered. The curriculum program of a Year 9 MSA student consists of the following subjects every fortnight:

English	Maths	Science	Humanities	LOTE	Health & PE	Connect Ed	Elective Subject 1	Maths & Engineering Project	Science & Technologies Project
							6 Periods		
							Elective Subject 2		
9 Periods	9 Periods	6 Periods	6 Periods	5 Periods	5 Periods	2 Periods	6 Periods	6 Periods	6 Periods

### Course Selection Guidelines

- Students will complete two elective subjects for the year – one six period unit per semester.
- Students should focus on their own individual interests and abilities when making their choices.
- Students need to give some consideration to a **two-year plan** when making their selections. Remember you will be making an even wider selection of units when you are in Year 10, so think carefully about the choices you are making now and those you may want to make next year.
- **Note that some elective subjects involve a cost. Parents/Guardians must be prepared to meet these costs before student enrolments can be considered for these elective subjects.**

**YEAR 9 ELECTIVE SUBJECT OFFERINGS**

<b>Humanities</b>	<b>Art</b>	<b>Design &amp; Technologies</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Making Choices – Economics</li><li>• You &amp; The Law – Legal Studies</li><li>• Pop Culture</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Drama</li><li>• Media</li><li>• Music</li><li>• Dance</li><li>• Art &amp; Visual Communication Design</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Design &amp; Technologies – Food</li><li>• Digital Technologies</li><li>• Fashion &amp; Design</li><li>• Technology, Engineering, Design</li></ul>

# On-Line Selection Process

To complete your selection process, follow these instructions carefully:

1. Read the Handbook carefully and discuss the subjects with your teachers and parents.
2. Complete the online subject selection process (Edval) by no later than **Thursday 31st August (Opens on Mon 21 August).**

## On-line Process

1. Students are required to enter choices **online via Edval.**
2. **Payment is to be processed online** by logging onto Compass and completing the student's course confirmation in the payment window of Friday 1<sup>st</sup> of September to Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September.
3. Parents will be prompted to enter payment details for 2018 course and subject fees (see sample screenshot below).

Compass

My News

Course Confirmation/School Payments

Course confirmation and/or school payments available for completion.

[Click here to proceed](#)



4. The instalments will be deducted from the nominated account on the third Thursday of every month beginning on 15 February 2018.
5. Parents who wish to make alternate payment arrangements for the 2018 tuition fees are requested to complete the details in Compass and then to ring Tania or Kerri on 9755 4555 or email [rowville.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:rowville.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au) with the alternate arrangement details. Confirmation of these arrangements will be sent before payments are deducted from the nominated account.
6. Parents will be required to update personal and contact details during the course confirmation process.
7. Parents and students will be required to update and sign various agreements during this process. We estimate the process will take 15 – 20 minutes.
8. **Help will be available with the process from the general office should you require it.**

**Reminder: Edval selections due by Thursday 31st August 2017 and payments are to be made in the payment window of Friday 1<sup>st</sup> of September to Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September.**

## Special Payment Conditions for Year 9 Elective Subjects

Some elective subjects require expenditure beyond that provided by the government allowances to schools in order to meet the learning outcomes in a challenging and effective way. It is therefore necessary that a fee is charged to cover the additional costs involved in providing these programs.

1. In order for students to be enrolled in the elective subjects that have an associated cost, full payment of the student's four first choice subjects must be made within the payment window of Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September to Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September. Payments should be made by completing the course confirmation on Compass
2. If there are any difficulties in meeting these payments then contact can be made with the Student Wellbeing Coordinator (Kelly Gaunt– Western Campus; Jo Johnson – Eastern Campus).
3. **PLEASE NOTE: Unpaid subject charges for 2017 must be paid before enrolments in the above units can occur.**
4. In the event that your child does not gain a place in any elective subjects for 2018 that incur a cost, the payment can either be reallocated, **with your approval**, to any outstanding school charges or a full refund will be provided.
5. The College is not able to provide materials to students who have not made the necessary payments. Consequently students will not be entered into elective subjects that incur a cost if the payment has not been received.
6. The College Council has approved the associated costs for elective subjects.

**JULIE KENNEDY**  
College Principal

**MAREEN CORBETT**  
College Council President

# MSA YEAR 9 ELECTIVE SUBJECTS

## **HUMANITIES (choose one)**

- Making Choices – Economics
- You & The Law – Legal Studies
- Pop Culture

## **ART (choose one)**

- Drama
- Media – \$30.00
- Music - \$15.00
- Dance
- Art & Visual Communication Design - \$30.00

## **DESIGN & TECHNOLOGIES (choose one)**

- Design Technologies – Food - \$100.00
- Digital Technologies -
- Fashion & Design - \$40.00
- Technology, Engineering, Design - \$40.00

## **Humanities Elective Subjects**

### **Making Choices – An Introduction to Economics**

As responsible and active citizens in our society, we are often faced with choices and the desire to use our scarce resources to satisfy our needs and wants. Mobile phone contracts, insurance options and 'Essi Money' simulation software will be used as examples. This subject explores how consumers, businesses and governments interact in the Australian economy and also how Australia takes its place in the global economy by looking at advertising, production methods and trade (imports/exports). The performance of the Australian economy is investigated in terms of current goals and recent economic data, including unemployment, inflation and economic growth. Students examine these issues affecting the Australian economy and investigate how markets operate, which includes a class simulation activity.

Making Choices is a subject that will improve economic knowledge and literacy in students and assist in their understanding of factors affecting Australia and the world and the role of government in establishing conditions for economic activity, including the Federal budget and the Reserve Bank's role in controlling interest rates and why they do so.

### **Popular Culture & Youth Trends**

This unit examines the main vehicles of popular culture – television, film, fashion and music. In their exploration of popular culture and how it reflects society students will look into a selection of themes from the following topics: rap music, youth culture, violence in the media, censorship, marketing and fashion trends. Investigations assist students in developing an understanding and awareness of how the culture we embrace conveys the attitudes, beliefs and practices of contemporary society. Another theme is the impact that immigration has had on pop culture and youth trends.

### **You & The Law – Legal Studies**

This subject allows students to explore what their rights and responsibilities are according to the law. The role of the police and their powers are examined. The rights of individuals and the police are compared and contrasted. The need for law is considered and students question the difference between rules and laws. The procedures used in the Children's Court and the Magistrates' Court will be analysed. Juvenile crime and justice is a major focus of the course with students investigating a range of youth issues including drugs and the law, gangs, graffiti, vandalism, shop stealing and road laws.

## **Art Elective Subjects**

### **Arts and Visual Communication Design**

**\$30.00**

This subject focuses on the design and production of a range of visual art works using the elements and principles of art and design. Students will investigate a selection of the materials, techniques and processes used by artists and designers. A range of two and three-dimensional art forms will be explored, such as freehand and technical drawing, painting, sculpture and printmaking. Students employ and evaluate strategies to promote personal learning whilst exploring the similarities and differences between art and design.

### **Drama**

In Year 9 Drama, students develop the knowledge, understanding and skills individually and collaboratively to make, perform and appreciate dramatic and theatrical works. Students will take on roles as a means of exploring both scripted and self- devised performance work. Year 9 Drama will explore a range of themes and ideas from different theatre styles. They will engage in creative experiences that challenge them to develop their acting and performance skills, as well as teamwork skills.

### **Dance**

In Year 9 Dance students will be provided with opportunities to experience and enjoy dance as an art form as they perform, compose and appreciate dance works from a range of styles and genres. Students study an integrated course which the skills and practices of performance, compositions and analysis are developed. Students will work on technique development through practical workshops and learning a whole class dance work. This course enables students to express ideas creatively to communicate ideas and themes physically through the development of their own personal movement vocabulary.

### **Music**

**\$15.00**

Students choosing this subject will study and play a wide variety of musical styles. They will be required to play a musical instrument or sing as part of assessment items, and work individually and in small groups. Students will study form and style along with continuing to develop skills in music theory. They will also write their own music using traditional instruments and/or music technology.

### **Media**

**\$30.00**

This subject is an introduction into Media that includes video production, print media and digital photography. As a student you will be introduced to media editing programs like Photoshop, imovie and Garageband. You will develop skill using these programs to create your own media products. A Photographic Folio will be created and several short films. These products will be created individually and in groups. The work of photographers and directors will be explored to understand styles and techniques. A range of topics will be explored and examined through looking at different film styles like suspense films, comedies, animations, advertising and the internet including You Tube. You will develop your skills and knowledge in practical and theoretical activities.



## **Design & Technologies**

### **Design Technologies – Food**

**\$100.00**

The aim of studying Year 9 Food Technologies is to equip young people with the skills and knowledge to be able to produce good quality food products in a safe and hygienic manner, Students are taught the importance of eating healthy and nutritious food. Students also use the design process to plan meals on a budget and for particular celebrations.

### **Technology, Engineering & Design**

**\$40.00**

Students investigate the properties of materials, apply design and systems thinking and design processes to investigate ideas, generate and refine ideas, plan and manage, produce and evaluate designed solutions.

### **Fashion and Design**

**\$40.00**

This elective introduces the students to an exciting range of traditional and technical skills associated with design and production. Creative skills and the more advanced practical skills of zip insertion, buttonholes, darts and pockets are covered throughout the design and production of various products. Students are required to complete set tasks in the areas of design and evaluation. Students investigate and make judgements on the ethical and sustainable production and marketing of fibres. They look at the changing aspects of fashion. Students will be required to provide their own material supplies (fabric and patterns) for their negotiated practical projects in this subjects.

### **Digital Technologies**

This elective introduces students to the basics of networked digital systems and data security between hardware, software and users. Students will develop an understanding of object-oriented programming, designing and testing their constructions. Students will use computational thinking and the key concepts of abstraction; data collection, representation and interpretation; specification, algorithms and development to create digital solutions. They apply protocols and legal practices that support safe, ethical and respectful communications and collaboration with known and unknown audiences

## MSA Year 9 Subject Selection Planning Sheet

You can use this sheet during your planning phase. Your program will include two elective subjects from those listed below (one per semester). Indicate your preference by numbering choices 1-6. ***Please make sure that your first two choices are not made from the same learning area.***

Humanities		
Making Choices – Economics		
You & The Law – Legal Studies		
Pop Culture		

Art		
Drama		
Media	\$30.00	
Music	\$15.00	
Dance		
Art & Visual Communication Design	\$30.00	

Design & Technologies		
Design & Technologies - Food	\$100.00	
Digital Technologies		
Fashion & Design	\$40.00	
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