Waverley Christian College
WANTIRNA SOUTH CAMPUS

2017

YEAR 9 PROGRAM

Year 9 Outdoor & Environment Elective
Thank you for coming to our Year 9 Information Evening. It is with a great sense of enthusiasm that we take this opportunity to share the vision for our 2017 Year 9 Program with you.

It is widely accepted that Year 9 is a time when students need to be re-engaged with their education and be given opportunities to learn in dynamic environments. As we have planned for 2017, we have done so with a determination to improve the way we are meeting these two key needs. We have also been motivated by the challenges that youth are facing through their immersion in a culture that encourages them to be focused on themselves and has so willingly moved away from its Christian heritage.

As followers of Jesus Christ, we believe there is a need to recapture the vision for ministry, discipleship and community service that has driven Christians for millennia to impact their generation, and indeed the world, with the message of the Gospel.

The Year 9 program at Waverley Christian College is fundamentally committed to realising the academic potential of students whilst challenging them to look beyond themselves.

In short, the central aim of our Year 9 program is to encourage students to consider their place in the world and the contribution they can make to it.

Tonight we will outline a number of new developments including:

- All students completing a new subject at WCC called 'Outdoor & Environment'
- Our Year 9 camp to Tasmania
- Our 1:1 Device Program which will extend to Year 9 in 2017
- The focus and content of our Christian Living course
- Further developments in our outstanding City Experience program

One of the non-negotiable elements that we have included in our planning was that all activities offered to students in Year 9, as a part of our core program, had to be linked in to our overall vision for the year. This includes clear links to what is being taught and assessed as a part of our academic program.

As we approach 2017, and see our planning coming together, we believe our Year 9 Program will provide our students with new experiences that will push them beyond their comfort zone. Our hope is that we will see high levels of engagement and much personal and academic growth.

More than anything else, our hope is that students in Year 9 will grow in their knowledge of God and their commitment to the calling of Jesus Christ on their life as they learn more about their place in His world.

Mr Andrew Bawden (Head of Secondary) and
Mrs Janee De Lorenzo (Year 9 Year Level Coordinator)
# OUTLINE OF THE PROGRAM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR LONG CORE SUBJECTS</th>
<th>PERIODS PER CYCLE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christian Living</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commerce</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor and Environment</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Education</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sport</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapel</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ELECTIVES</th>
<th>PERIODS PER CYCLE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Electives Block 1</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semester 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives Block 2</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semester 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives Block 3</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semester 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives Block 4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semester 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Year 9, Elective Subject Blocks

## Block 1
**Semester 1**
- Healthy Lifestyles
- Food Studies - We are what we eat
- VEX Robotics
- Models and Construction
- Media (Video)
- Song Writing
- Anatomy of Dance
- LOTE - French I

## Block 2
**Semester 1**
- Health and Fitness
- Food Studies – We are what we eat
- Technology (Wood)
- Creating Painting
- Digital Design
- Class Playmaking
- Work your Words
- LOTE – Chinese I

## Block 3
**Semester 2**
- Healthy Attitudes
- Food Studies – Multicultural Cuisine
- VEX Robotics
- Models and Construction
- Media (Photography)
- Music Technology
- Dance Analysis
- LOTE – French II

## Block 4
**Semester 2**
- Sports Management
- Food Studies – Multicultural Cuisine
- Fabrication Lab
- Dynamic Design
- Creative Printmaking
- Theatre Games
- Word Play
- LOTE - Chinese II
In the past, about two thirds of our Year 9 students have chosen Outdoor Education as an elective and all students have completed a semester of Geography as a part of our core program.

In 2017, all Year 9 students will undertake ‘Outdoor and Environment’, a new subject we are introducing to Waverley Christian College. This subject is a combination of the best of our Outdoor Education program and our Geography course.

Outdoor and Environment will challenge students to see that changes in our environment are influenced by both people and nature.

This subject will include a number of significant opportunities for students to participate in events outside of the classroom, a feature of learning which educational experts highlight as essential for this age group.

During the Tasmania trip, all students will go hiking in Freycinet National Park. Selected students will have the opportunity to test their endurance and fitness by participating in an overnight hike. As a part of this program, all students will also go sea kayaking.

Other events that will be run during the year include a three-day hiking trip through the Great Dividing Trail near Castlemaine. For this activity, students will map out intended routes, plan meals and learn to use the appropriate equipment necessary, as well as studying and abiding by the safety precautions required for a successful trip. Students will also travel to the You Yang’s for mountain biking, hiking, and rock climbing. Our intention is also to provide a day trip of cross country skiing or rafting on the Yarra.

Year 9 Outdoor & Environment Elective
- Cooking up a storm
- Orienteering
Through 'outdoor' and class based activities including City Experience and the Tasmania Trip, students will be encouraged to think critically about their actions, their place in the world and the impact our society has on the environment. As global citizens and stewards of the earth, the management of our environment today impacts upon not just our world but generations to come.

In considering the world we live in, our wellbeing and social responsibilities, students will investigate factors that influence the wellbeing of human populations. Students will visit organisations such as Urban Seed and Melbourne City Mission. We want our students to consider how they can support members of our community when they are facing challenges.

One of the key passages of scripture that will motivate the pursuit of these ideas is from Micah 6:8 “He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God”.

We recognise that some students would not have chosen Outdoor Education if it had been offered as an Elective. The development of this subject is a critical link in our ability to tie the entire Year 9 Program together for students and ensure that they are highly engaged and given the opportunity to participate in activities outside of the classroom.

Be assured that every care will be taken to offer students activities which will stretch them and encourage progress, whilst taking into account varied levels of personal fitness and capacity.

Year 9 Outdoor & Environment Elective
- Caving
- Hiking
TASMANIAN TRIP MARCH 20TH – 25TH

In Year 9, students have the unique opportunity to travel to Tasmania for five days. They will have what is becoming an increasingly rare opportunity to spend significant time in one of our country’s most beautiful examples of God’s creation. Students will engage in outdoor opportunities which will challenge and stretch them beyond their comfort zones while also allowing us to set time aside to focus on their spiritual and personal growth.

Our adventure will begin as we set sail overnight on the Spirit of Tasmania. Upon arrival, we will spend time exploring the breathtaking Cataract Gorge and students can take this opportunity to ride a chairlift with the world’s longest central span of 308 metres.

As a part of our Outdoor and Environment program, we then spend two days exploring God’s creation at Freycinet National Park. During our time at Freycinet, students will be able to go out and explore the park through day hikes, beach walks, and sea kayaking with possible opportunities to also go rock climbing and mountain bike riding.

The Port Arthur Historic Site is one of Australia’s most important heritage listed sites. On this visit, students are confronted and challenged by aspects of Australia’s history which they will be learning about in the History Program. During this time, we encourage them to contrast and compare how God and man try to bring correction and redemption to our lives.

Our final day includes a visit to the Tasmanian Devil Unzoo. Central to the Unzoo experience is the opportunity to observe wild animals interacting with the natural environment without the need to capture the wildlife. Students will be able to hand feed free-ranging wallabies and wild parrots, and encounter wild native animals from echidnas to wombats. This opportunity will challenge students to consider the impact that we have on our native flora and fauna, and how we can improve our stewardship of the Earth.

The Tasmania Trip will provide students with the chance to make memories that will last a lifetime and strengthen their relationship with peers and staff in preparation for senior schooling.

More information will be provided to students and parents at the start of Term 1, 2017.
The City Experience Program is yet another exciting opportunity to take students beyond the classroom into the diverse environment of the City of Melbourne.

Research suggests that Year 9 is a time where practical, stimulating and real-life experiences have the biggest and most positive outcomes. The City Experience is essentially a hands-on academic program that incorporates aspects of a variety of subjects, including: English, History, Geography, Commerce, Maths, Christian Living, Physical Education and the Arts, whilst retaining a civics and citizenship focus.

As part of this program students will have the opportunity to visit:
- The Shrine of Remembrance
- The Melbourne Magistrates Court
- The National Gallery
- Melbourne City Mission
- The MCG
- Rod Laver Arena
- The Aquarium
- Urban Seed
- The Melbourne Food Experience

City Experience will also require students to grow in the areas of group-work and the development of their negotiation skills. One of the key outcomes of the program is the fostering of confidence in our students and a healthy experience of both independence and interdependence.

Students will explore two essential questions during City Experience:
- Why are we considered to be one of the world’s most liveable cities?
- Are we just and fair in the way we govern and treat people?

We trust that students will find the experience fun and rewarding, drawing on their new insights to help shape their education throughout Year 9 and into future years.

Students will discover that many of Australia’s richest resources, opportunities and diversities are found in the city. They will develop life-long skills in cooperation through group work in a real setting. They will also benefit from learning how to navigate the city and our public transport system in a safe and efficient manner.

More detailed information about the City Experience Program will be provided to students and parents next year in Term 3.
The kingdom of heaven is worth infinitely more than the cost of discipleship, and those who know where the treasure lies joyfully abandon everything else to secure it.
D.A. Carson

Christian Living is an exciting new course which brings together what has previously been covered in our Personal Development Program and Biblical Studies subject in Year 9.

This subject will be focused on exploring the spiritual and missional implications of our overall focus of Year 9 which encourages students to find their place in this world.

It will also continue to empower students in their Biblical Literacy as it seeks to help them see that in the sixty-six books of the Bible we have the greatest story that has ever been told.

The subject will give students the opportunity to explore:
- The life and ministry of Jesus Christ
- The radical nature of New Testament discipleship
- The practical opportunities for social change that are open to Christians today
- Significant social issues including Alcoholism and Gambling
- Godly principles and boundaries in relationships

The Year 9 Christian Living subject will also include a significant focus on human sexuality and the Bible’s celebration of it.

We are committed to creating a safe learning environment where students are able to share their opinions, concerns and feelings about issues they are facing. It’s critical that students know that nothing is off limits in our discussions as long as we are respectful of one another.

As we explore these issues, it will be done through the lens of the life of Jesus Christ with a major focus on the Gospel of Luke. Discipleship is a major focus of Luke’s Gospel and it’s fascinating to see how the Gospel testifies that people who were pushed to the margins of the first century Israel were at the very centre of Jesus’ story.

There are four key elements of discipleship in the book of Luke:
1) Disciples are called by Jesus
2) Disciples must be willing to journey with Jesus
3) Disciples enter the journey through faith
4) Disciples must be willing to demonstrate their faith by ‘counting the cost’

We are looking forward to some interesting discussions next year!
Our Science program at Waverley Christian College is outstanding. It is committed to the pursuit of knowledge and it has the advantage of being delivered in a Christian context, the same context that the scientific endeavour historically grew from.

John Lennox, Professor of Mathematics at Oxford University says: “The more I understand science, the more I believe in God because of my wonder at the breadth, sophistication, and integrity of his creation. Indeed, the very reason that science flourished so vigorously in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries under men like Galileo, Kepler, and Newton was precisely because of their conviction that the laws of nature that were then being discovered and defined reflected the influence of a divine law-giver. One of the fundamental themes of Christianity is that the universe was built according to a rational, intelligent design. Far from belief in God hindering science, it was the motor that drove it.”

We are more committed than ever to the importance of providing students with an outstanding opportunity to pursue their study in the Sciences. As Lennox has stated, our faith in God is the motor that drives this pursuit.

We are blessed at Waverley Christian College to offer our curriculum in ‘state of the art’ facilities with highly trained and experienced staff. Our Science program has clear pathways to a broad range of VCE Sciences that have a proven track record of students achieving excellent results and launching many on career pathways in the Sciences. It has inspired many students to see the rationality and intelligibility of the universe.

At Year 9, our program will foster students’ intrinsic curiosity about the created natural world. It will include an engaging and challenging range of experiments and inquiry based investigations.
The study of body systems will be one area of focus, particularly the immune system. This will allow students to investigate pathogens and the prevention and treatment of disease. When we visit the 'Unzoo' on the Tasmania Trip, students will be given the opportunity to meaningfully engage and investigate how disease has caused the decline in native animal populations.

City Experience will serve as a platform for students to choose an area that they have a personal interest in. Potential investigations include:
- The chemistry of water at the aquarium
- Biochemistry and sports science at the MCG
- Geological and historical science at Melbourne Museum
- The chemistry of food during the food tour
- Materials, colours and perception in art at National Gallery Victorian

Year 9 also allows students to develop STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) and IT based projects by:
- Developing a creative model or games using their knowledge of electric circuits
- Investigating body systems and how we respond to the environment
- Researching natural disasters, volcanoes, earthquakes and tsunamis

Our Science Program also offers opportunities for students to extend their passion for Science by participating in the Wildlife Club. This involves the care of our range of animals, including Monty the Python, turtles, bearded dragon, stick insects and fish, and also the planning and development of new enclosures for new animals.

Our primary goal is to bring honour to the Lord Jesus Christ through the outstanding teaching of the discipline of science.

Maybe the next John Lennox will be sitting in a Year 9 Science class next year!

![Image of students in a science lab](image_url)
1:1 DEVICE PROGRAM

At the start of 2016, Waverley Christian College launched its 1:1 Device Program in Secondary with Year 7 and Year 10 students using Surface Pro devices. In 2017, this program will continue to expand to all students in Years 7 to Year 11.

The use of technology in classes is not new to us, but the 1:1 Program has significantly increased our ability to utilise technology and it has provided students with a consistent platform for them to do this from.

More specifically, the 1:1 program has enhanced our education process through:
- Quick access to resources
- Devices that are always available for students at school and at home
- Electronic submission of work
- Faster and ongoing opportunities for feedback
- Increasing the ability of students to complete digital folios of work
- Providing opportunities for work to be reviewed while in progress
- Enabling lesson review or lesson catch up via SEQTA
- The utilisation of e-books.

Key points about the program for 2017:
- The device of choice will be confirmed later this year, along with the cost. We are not planning to change from the Surface Pro device but we are open to deals in the market that we should consider
- This year the Device Program Levy (DPL) was approximately $53.00 per month charged for 11 of the 12 months of the year over three years
- The cost includes the device, a three-year warranty, accidental damage protection, a protective cover, a carry bag, a stylus pen and the software the College purchases.
- The DPL agreement does not include insurance for theft.
- The device cost as a total package would be very difficult to achieve if you purchased the device at retail cost
- Next year, we will be incorporating the DPL into the school fees to streamline the process of payments for families
- After three years, the device will be able to be kept by families but the College will need to remove the software it has put on it
- Students will receive the device at the start of 2017 during the first week
- Communication regarding the final details will occur at the start of Term 4, 2016