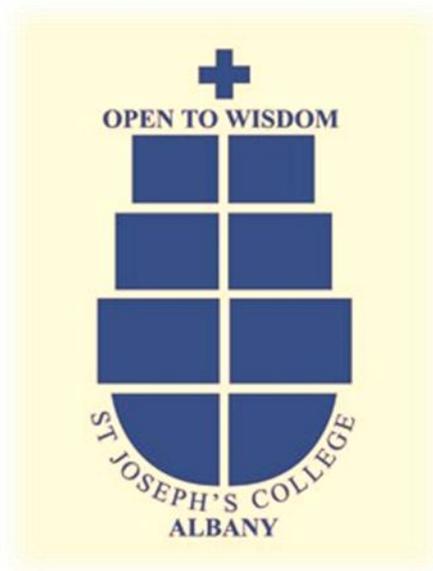


Year Nine

Electives

2026

St Joseph's College



Elective Selection Information

In 2026, Year Nine students will be able to study four elective courses, two in each semester. Three periods are allocated to the studying of electives, one single period and one double. A selection process will determine which they study. A link will be sent out, inviting parents to open a portal on the College's Wisdom page, which will list all twelve electives that the College offers. Students then select the electives in order from one to twelve. During the timetabling process, elective courses will be allocated.

Please be aware that numerous factors contribute to the eventual allocation of subjects. Factors such as caps on classes, whether the elective runs in one or both semesters, electives running concurrently, the popularity of particular electives and the preference given to a selection by a student all play a part in elective allocation. It is uncommon for a student to receive their top four choices, and it will sometimes occur that a student receives an allocation of one of their lower selections.

The most popular electives in the last few years have been Food for Now, Mountain Biking and Outdoor Education. Each of these runs in one semester only. Students interested in any of these subjects are encouraged to put them as their top preferences if they wish to study them.

THE ARTS

Drama

In this elective, students are introduced to different techniques and philosophies of drama and theatre through the process of practical exercise and improvisation. This course will include a class production, small group productions and short film production. Students will also become familiar with drama technology as well as technical and practical elements such as lighting, make-up, sound and set design. This elective will run in Semester One with one class, then Semester Two with a second class.

Visual Arts

Both Year Nine Visual Arts electives are designed to lead into the Certificate II in Visual Arts.

3D Art: Ceramics & Mixed Media Sculpture

Sculpture offers students a unique outlet for creative expression as they learn how to bring their ideas to three-dimensional life. They will explore contemporary and traditional skills, techniques and processes in the construction of both functional and non-functional works.

Students will document their ideas, explorations, planning and reflections in their visual diaries. In response to specific design briefs, they will also learn to use visual art language and artistic conventions of greater complexity throughout their innovation and production process.

Students will build their awareness of how sculptors and potters are influenced by other artists, their environment and the contexts of culture, time and place, and will critically analyse contemporary 3D artworks. This elective will run with one class in Semester One only.

2D Art: Drawing, Painting & Printmaking

To be creative is to see something in an original way and be willing to leap into the unknown. 2D art begins with close observation of objects and spaces because, as students make discoveries about the world around them, they can also begin to imagine new, unseen worlds. Students then move on to experiment with contemporary and traditional skills, techniques and processes used in drawing, painting and printmaking.

Students will document their ideas, explorations, planning and reflections in their visual diaries. In response to specific design briefs, they will also learn to use visual art language and artistic conventions of greater complexity throughout their creative process.

Students will build their awareness of how artists are influenced by other artists, their environment and the contexts of culture, time and place, and will critically analyse contemporary 2D artworks. This elective will run with one class in Semester Two only.

Musical Performance

This elective is to help aspiring musicians learn about contemporary music performance. It is for vocalists and musicians of all levels. The course will coach students in the areas of understanding nerves, developing communication skills to work in both solo and group situations and enjoy being part of the music scene at St Joseph's College. This performance elective is designed to lead into the Certificate II in Music Performance and is a chance to learn and have fun. This elective will run with one class in one semester only.

Photography

Year Nine, Photography teaches the fundamental technical skills of digital photography and camera functions. Students explore artistic principles such as composition, lighting, colour, and form, applying these principles through a series of practical projects and themes, including General and Creative composition and Photographic History. The course also involves learning image editing software such as Photoshop, studying the work of professional photographers to understand different artistic styles, and

developing personal photographic portfolios. This elective will run with one class in one semester only, and in the opposite semester to Materials Design and Technology – Metal.

Technology and Enterprise

Materials Design and Technology - Wood

Students will be involved in:

- Machine and hand furniture making, including the use of a domino and biscuit joiner
- Product design
- Wood turning on a lathe
- Freehand sketching and Isometric drawing

The projects will include

- A chess board made from jarrah and pine
- A small table that incorporates the chess board and is designed by the student
- A small wood turning project

Throughout the semester, the students will be involved in a graphics course aimed at developing the students' design, sketching and isometric drawing skills, to aid the students in their product design tasks.

This elective will run in Semester One with one class, then Semester Two with a second class.

Materials Design and Technology - Metal

In this course, students will develop skills and gain an understanding of the metal engineering and design process. Students will be required to complete a design project and will be involved in:

- Metal fabrication and joining methods
- Oxy-acetylene welding and MIG welding
- Product design
- Freehand sketching and rendering

Projects will include:

- Designing and making a project that incorporates oxyacetylene, MIG welding and metal Lathe turning.
- Using the oxyacetylene, guillotine and drill press to make a metal-fabricated desk tidy.

This elective will run with one class in one semester only, in the opposite semester to Photography.

Materials Design and Technology – Digital Technologies

This course will be centered around the use of EV3 Robots and the Elecfreaks Wonder Rugged Car Kit for the BBC micro:bit.

Students will learn the basics of programming, honing their problem-solving and creative thinking skills. Students will have to build both robots from the ground up.

Creating with Textiles

Students will be given the opportunity to design and create numerous modern textile projects; including working with fibres (felt making), working with threads (machine embroidery) and fabrics (pyjama shorts and dyeing). Students will aim for an increased skill base from Year Eight and enjoy this very practical course. This elective will run with one class in one semester only and in the opposite semester to Food for Now.

Food for Now

Food preparation skills will be enhanced, and student creativity will be tested. This course is designed around three topics: food for my body (are oranges a good choice at half time?); foods from all over the world (have students ever eaten escargot?); and being a wise consumer (how much sugar is really in my drink?). If students have a love of food and cooking, then they shall most definitely enjoy Food for Now. This elective will run with one class in one semester only and in the opposite semester to Creating with Textiles.

Specialised Physical Education

Mountain Biking

In this course students are introduced to the techniques and training required to participate in mountain biking. Students will be introduced to a variety of mountain bike practical skills at school and will practise these on regular excursions to trail destinations. The students will also develop several basic bike maintenance skills. Assessment will be a combination of practical skills and written responses. Students must have access to provide their own mountain bike to participate in this course.

Outdoor Education

Outdoor Education provides opportunities for individuals to learn about themselves and the environment through practical experience in the outdoors. Throughout this course students will develop appropriate knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to navigation, first aid, minimum impact techniques and moving through the outdoors. The course aims to enhance students' self-esteem, promote leadership skills and encourage students to work as a team to achieve common goals. This elective will run with one class in one semester only and in the opposite semester to Mountain Biking.