Curriculum

The College focuses on individuals and offers students the widest possible variety of educational opportunities. These experiences are designed to provide all students with a challenging and achievable education. The curriculum is designed to cater for intellectual, social, creative, physical, emotional and moral development. The classroom program is complemented by a wide range of co-curriculum activities.

The College recognises the three stages of learning, Early, Middle and Later Years and the particular needs of students in these stages.

Curriculum – the Disciplines and Domains

From Prep to Year 10 subjects are grouped into Disciplines and Domains, the core of which includes:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Humanities – History, Geography and Economics
- The Arts – Visual, Performing and Music
- Languages Other Than English (LOTE)
- Physical, Personal and Social Learning
- Interdisciplinary learning

It is important that students obtain grounding across all areas of learning before they choose to specialise. At Camperdown College students from Prep to Year 9 are given a chance to pursue depth and breadth across the curriculum. Camperdown College uses the state-wide Victorian Essential Learning Standards (VELS) framework as the basis of the curriculum across Years P-10.

EARLY YEARS (P – Year 4) Brooke Street Campus

Beginning school is a major change in children's lives. Children move from learning in the context of their families where family members are the primary influence on children's learning and development. When children begin school, education becomes a shared role. The early years of education at Camperdown College are where we develop the foundation knowledge, skills and behaviours that children must develop to become successful learners at school. Parents continue to be a vital part of their children's education.

Children learn at different rates, in different ways and at different times. We support learning by developing a child's sense of identity and connection to their community, their communication skills and social and emotional well being along with the foundation subjects. Foundation subjects at Year Prep to Year 4 are English (Reading, Writing, Speaking and listening), Mathematics, The Arts (Creating and making), Interpersonal
Development (with an emphasis on socialisation), Health and Physical Education (*Movement and physical activity*).

Classroom teachers teach English, Mathematics, Humanities, Science, Music, Interpersonal Development, Information and Communication Technology and Design, Creativity and Technology. Specialist teachers provide learning for Art, Physical Education and skills for research using a library.

Camperdown College provides a dedicated early years campus where students in Years Prep to year four have their own specialist classrooms for art, library/computers, physical education, student welfare, reading recovery and small group work.

**MIDDLE YEARS (Years 5 – 9) Wilson Street Campus**

Early adolescence is the first stage of the transition from childhood to adulthood. It is a period of rapid, uneven and complex development - physically, cognitively, socially and emotionally. Camperdown College recognises that it is important that education responds to the characteristics and needs of young adolescents. We strive to lead students from dependence to independence. Teachers and programs provide scaffolding to support individuals as learners and to lead them to independent learning and individual thinking.

Our curriculum decisions for students in Year 5 to 8 are guided by the following beliefs:-

- Students need a strong base in English and Mathematics
- Students should have a broad general education, with time balanced across all Domains
- Teaching and learning must prepare students to enter the ever changing world of the 21st century
- Information and Communications Technologies must be tools students are skilled in using and interpreting
- Students must be provided with significant adult and student role models
- How students are taught is as important as what is taught for students in the Middle Years
- Teachers must be skilled in contemporary strategies for delivery in the Middle Years

**Years 5 and 6 Program**

When students begin Year 5 they are moving from the Early Years into the Middle Years of schooling. English and Mathematics continue to be the core of the 5/6 curriculum, and the individual learning needs of students are addressed within a group structure, based on need and preferred learning styles.

While the Year 5 and 6 program continues to have a strong emphasis on the development of Literacy and Numeracy skills, students also begin to employ these and many other skills in the Active Learning program. Choice is a key factor to student engagement in the Middle Years, and through the Active Learning program students begin to take more responsibility and more control of their learning. In Active Learning students participate in activities that involve community involvement, personal interest projects, and project based learning with an authentic purpose.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Mathematics</th>
<th>Active Learning</th>
<th>Linked Learning:</th>
<th>Sport</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11 periods</td>
<td>8 periods</td>
<td>6 periods</td>
<td>PE</td>
<td>Multi Media</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Technology – wood/plastics</td>
<td>Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Science</td>
<td>NB: these subjects are taken by specialist teachers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Being based at the Wilson Street Campus has enabled students in Years 5 and 6 to access subject areas and facilities that have traditionally been in the realm of secondary students. Since 2008 Year 5 and 6 students have participated in Plastics, Performing Arts, Art, Science, Technology and Physical Education with teachers who are specialists in their field. This exposure to specialist teachers, facilities and curriculum greatly assist Year 6 students as they make the transition into Year 7.

**Year 7 Program**

Year 7 is a new and exciting time for students, as they move into secondary education. Our Year 7 program aims to support students through this transition, and provide a stimulating and engaging curriculum for all students.

Subjects studied:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Maths (five sessions a week)</th>
<th>English (five sessions a week)</th>
<th>Active Learning - investigations in Humanities (four periods)</th>
<th>Science</th>
<th>PE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sport (two periods)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following subjects are studied for a semester and are allocated two periods a week.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Robotics</th>
<th>Wood</th>
<th>Plastics</th>
<th>Home Economics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Textiles</td>
<td>Art</td>
<td>IT</td>
<td>Health</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Year 8 Program**

In Year 8 students continue to develop a sense of independence. The gains made in Year 7 are extended and enhanced with a strong focus on engagement and deep learning.

Subjects studied:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Maths (five sessions a week)</th>
<th>English (five sessions a week)</th>
<th>Active Learning - investigations in Humanities (three periods)</th>
<th>Science</th>
<th>PE</th>
<th>IT</th>
<th>Art</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

The following subjects are studied for a semester and are allocated two periods a week.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Enrichment Studies</th>
<th>Multi Media</th>
<th>Home Economics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Textiles</td>
<td>Health</td>
<td>Technology – wood</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Year 9 Program**

The Year 9 program comprises a combination of core key learning areas and a special program day each week. The program is designed to accommodate the Personal Learning and Civic and Citizenship components of the VELS. It has a focus on leadership, teamwork and engagement. Students engage in a major community partnership project (the Advance program) and carry out various volunteer works around the school and community. They also engage in a number of opportunities involving their personal growth which included the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh program. Students complete the Peer Skills training as part of the BRICKS project, a Level 1 First Aid course, a REACH workshop, the Victorian Arts Centre Connect 9 program and Coaching Students to Success modules. As part of this program students engage in the organisation of a major trip for the following year.
LATER YEARS (Year 10 – 12)

The Later Years program is driven by the Managed Individual Pathways approach. This involves individual interviews with all students from Year 10. These interviews are focused on student abilities, interests and career aspirations. A detailed handbook is available, upon request.

Year 10

Emphasis is placed on examining a range of post school options through an extensive vocational education program and individual planning. Selected students at Year 10 are offered the chance to include a VCE subject in their program. Others will opt to include a VET program. All students participate in Work Experience. At all times students are encouraged to keep their options open.

VCE

At Camperdown College we offer a wide range of VCE studies. Students achieve outstanding results and choose a wide range of post-school options.

VCAL

This offers students in Year 11 and 12 an alternative to VCE. Students who chose the VCAL option have found the hands on approach invaluable in developing skills that will make them sought after in the workplace and exploring a range of further education and training options. Detailed information is available in the Later Years Handbook.

VET

Vocational Education and Training courses enable students to complete TAFE certificates while still at school. These normally include work placement, and provide an excellent window into apprenticeships. Successfully completed VET courses can be accredited in VCE results. Camperdown College offers a range of VET programs which have been enthusiastically received by students.

SBNA

Students are also offered the chance to participate in School Based Apprenticeships which involve part time work and school.
Distance Education and University Extension Studies

Some studies can be provided through Distance Education. German, Latin, French, Music and Philosophy have been offered in recent years. The College makes use of technology in working cooperatively with neighbouring Secondary Colleges to extend subject offerings. Students who meet prerequisites can enter university extension subjects.