

Term 4

Year 8

NEWSLETTER

<https://vpshs.eq.edu.au/>

Learn, Think, Perform, Belong through
RESPECT INTEGRITY RESPONSIBILITY

YEAR 8 LEARNING JOURNEY

What a fantastic celebration of our Year 8 Learning Journey! It was wonderful to see the creativity, curiosity, and enthusiasm of our students on display as they shared what they loved most about their learning this year. From impressive Maths projects to a live exploding volcano and an incredible showcase of talented performers, the event was a true highlight of the term.

A huge thank you to the parents and families who joined us to support our students — your encouragement makes all the difference. We are so proud of our Year 8's for their hard work, teamwork, and achievements throughout the year!



CELEBRATING SUCCESS

Term 3 has been an outstanding one for our Year 8 students, with impressive growth across all core subjects. We are thrilled to share that A–B results increased by 15% in English, 10% in Mathematics, 9% in Humanities, and 12% in Science — a fantastic achievement that reflects the hard work and commitment of our students. These results were celebrated at our Year 8 Assembly, where students were recognised for their dedication and excellence through the presentation of Gold and Silver Academic Achievement Awards. Congratulations to all our award recipients and to the entire Year 8 cohort for their continued focus and effort — we are incredibly proud of your success!



REMINDERS

UNIFORM

- Formal uniform Monday
- Day uniform Tuesday - Friday
- 2026 will see the wearing of the new VPSHS Day uniform

ATTENDANCE

- Arrive on time to school and classes

#READY2LEARN

- Fully charged BYOD
- Phones away for the day

PLAN FOR SUCCESS

- Top Study Skills - link
- Tutorials - link for fb?

Term 4

Year 8

<https://vpshs.eq.edu.au/>

NEWSLETTER

Learn, Think, Perform, Belong through
RESPECT INTEGRITY RESPONSIBILITY

YEAR 9 SUBJECT SELECTION

This term, students will select their elective subjects for Year 9 2026.

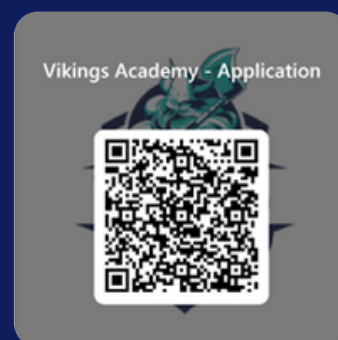
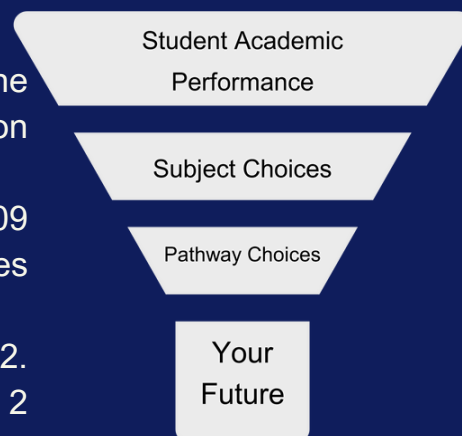
Students should read the Junior Subject Guide for Year 09 on the VPSHS website or via the QR bookmark available from Administration – to find valuable information about the Year 09 program of study.

The mandatory Key Learning Areas (KLAs) studied by all Year 09 students include English, Mathematics, Science, and Humanities (History & Geography).

Year 09 students will select elective subjects for semester 1 and 2. Students will have the opportunity to reflect on their choices in term 2 for semester 2.

Students are to preference their elective choices overleaf. Please rank four elective subjects from the smorgasbord using numbers 1, 2, 3 then 4. We will then use student choices to determine 2 elective offerings for Year 9 in Semester 1, 2026.

Students who wish to apply for a VPSHS Academy program must complete an application form available from the school website and via the QR Codes below. Students already enrolled in an Academy must re-apply for 2026.



The Principal reserves the right to withdraw any subject where there is with insufficient demand or where suitably qualified teachers or specialist facilities are no longer available.

Completed forms are to be returned to Student Administration by **Friday 7 October 2025**.

Please be advised that there are limited places in some subjects and these classes will be filled as completed forms are received.

Term 4

Year 8

<https://vpshs.eq.edu.au/>

NEWSLETTER

Learn, Think, Perform, Belong through
RESPECT INTEGRITY RESPONSIBILITY

ART & DESIGN

Visual Art and Design is a hands-on, creative journey through four exciting terms — each exploring a different artistic medium and theme. Across the year, students build technical skills, learn about major art movements, and express their own ideas through ceramics, printmaking, painting, and animation.

In Term 1, Surreal Miniatures introduces clay construction and the imaginative world of Surrealism as students create ceramic “little people” inspired by Vipoo Srivilasa. In Term 2, Nature Up Close, focuses on printmaking techniques such as mono-printing, collagraphy and etching, capturing the intricate beauty of the natural world. In Term 3, students express their own identity and personality in Hey! This is Me!, designing and painting a custom skateboard deck in the style of a modern art movement such as Impressionism, Pop Art or Cubism. Finally, Term 4 takes art into motion with The Art of Flight, a stop-motion animation project exploring object-motion, claymation and cutout animation to interpret the theme of flight. Each term focuses on a new challenge, encouraging imagination, critical thinking, and creative problem-solving — all while developing a personal visual style.

DESIGN TECHNOLOGIES

Design Technologies is where your ideas come to life. Design Technologies empowers students to design, sketch, and prototype their own projects in response to real-world contexts in creative ways. Students are guided through the design process of explore and develop —researching and investigating a problem, generating creative solutions through sketching, producing detailed plans, and developing low-fidelity prototypes. The subject encourages individual creativity, critical thinking, and reflection in a supportive, hands-on learning environment, and the opportunity to create something original you can be proud of.

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

Discover the fast-paced world of technology where you'll solve problems, think like a coder, and explore how computers really work. In this subject, you'll get hands-on with coding in Python and Minecraft, dive into the inner workings of hardware and operating systems, and experiment with cutting-edge tools like drones. Your major challenge? Design, build, and program an autonomous robot that can climb a chimney structure! Along the way, you'll plan, test, and refine your own digital solutions while pulling apart and analysing the tech we use every day.

If you're curious about coding, love to create, or want to explore future technologies, Digital Technologies is your chance to innovate, compete, and bring your ideas to life.

DRAMA

Step into the spotlight and unleash your creativity in Drama! Across these exciting units, you'll explore a variety of theatre styles that will build your confidence, teamwork, and performance skills. Bring stories to life through children's theatre, creating colourful and imaginative performances for young audiences. Be inspired by professional actors from the Australian Theatre for Young People (ATYP) as you discover how to use your voice, movement, and character to captivate an audience. Then, get ready to laugh (and make others laugh!) as you dive into physical comedy and Commedia dell'Arte, creating hilarious routines filled with exaggerated characters and slapstick fun. Finally, work as part of an ensemble to rehearse and perform a published play, showcasing your talent in a polished production. Whether you love performing, storytelling, or just having fun, Drama is your chance to shine, express yourself, and take the stage!

Term 4

Year 8

<https://vpshs.eq.edu.au/>

NEWSLETTER

Learn, Think, Perform, Belong through
RESPECT INTEGRITY RESPONSIBILITY

ECONOMICS & BUSINESS

In Economics and Business, we learn about how people make decisions when it comes to money, work, and running businesses. We look at how Australia's economy works, what influences the prices of goods and services, and how businesses try to meet the needs and wants of consumers. We also explore how people can be smart with their money, how the government affects the economy, and how our choices can impact the environment and society.

We get to think like economists and entrepreneurs — investigating real-world issues, solving problems, and planning creative ideas for the future. We practise skills like researching, analysing data, making informed decisions, and explaining our reasoning clearly. By the end of the course, we understand how economic and business systems shape our daily lives and how we can make positive contributions as consumers, workers, and future business leaders.

FOOD TECHNOLOGY

Get ready to cook, create, and explore the world of food! In this subject, you'll dive into hands-on cooking experiences that build your skills and confidence in the kitchen. You'll learn how to prepare, present, and evaluate delicious dishes while discovering how food choices affect our health, the environment, and the future of sustainable eating.

You'll experiment with global cuisines, uncover food trends, and master key cooking techniques and food preservation methods. Whether working on your own or as part of a team, you'll tackle real-world food challenges and design tasty, sustainable solutions that look as good as they taste!

Please Note: You will be required to supply ingredients for some practical cookery lessons, as advised. You must also be dressed appropriately for practical work in compliance with the school dress code regarding shoes, hair, jewellery and nail polish.

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

In Year 9 HPE, you'll take your learning and fitness to the next level! You'll explore how to live a healthy, active lifestyle — not just for now, but for life. From practical sport sessions to real-world health topics, you'll build the knowledge and skills to take charge of your own wellbeing and make a positive impact on others.

You'll get involved in a variety of physical activities, including flag football, pickle ball, Indigenous games, AFL9s, table tennis, volleyball and many more. Additionally, you will discover how movement can improve both your physical and mental health. Through teamwork and challenges, you'll refine your movement skills, build leadership, and learn how to perform and evaluate like an athlete.

In the health component, you'll explore the topics that matter most to young people today — mental health, respectful relationships, body image, nutrition, consent, and safety. You'll learn how to make informed choices, look out for yourself and others, and develop strategies for dealing with life's challenges. You'll also look at how stereotypes and social influences can shape our choices and behaviours and learn to think critically about how these affect health and participation in physical activity.

Term 4

Year 8

<https://vpshs.eq.edu.au/>

NEWSLETTER

Learn, Think, Perform, Belong through
RESPECT INTEGRITY RESPONSIBILITY

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY AND ENGINEERING

Step into the world of design, technology, and hands-on creativity! This subject gives you the chance to explore the world of technology, design, construction and engineering. You won't just learn the theory — you'll be building, creating, and problem-solving as you design and make real products. Along the way, you'll develop industry-ready skills in machinery, engineering concepts, and graphical design, producing technical drawings and sketches for your own designs.

- Build and wire your own LED light box with electronic features
- Craft a wooden mantle clock with precision and style
- Design and fabricate a sheet metal carryall
- Create and race your own CO₂ dragster

Please Note: Workplace Health and Safety regulations stipulate wearing of approved personal protective equipment for workshop access (e.g. approved enclosed footwear, safety glasses, etc.).

JAPANESE

Studies continue to focus on skills in communicating (listening, reading, speaking and writing) Japanese language. Activities and discussions are conducted to develop students' understanding and awareness of the close relationship between language and culture through studying a range of topics focusing on life in Japan and making connections and comparisons with Australian lifestyles. Japanese cultural experiences and excursions: e.g. Obento lunch opportunities for students, movie festivals and restaurant visits.

JUSTICE IN ACTION

In Justice in Action, we learn about how Australia's government and legal systems work and how we can take part in them. We explore what the Australian Constitution is, how laws are made, and how governments make decisions that affect people's lives. We also look at how courts work, what judges and juries do, and why fairness and equality are important in the legal system.

Another big part of the course is learning how people—like community groups, young people, and different cultures—get involved in public life and share their opinions. We learn how media and social media can influence what people think about issues and identity. Along the way, we build skills to ask good questions, find reliable information, compare different points of view, and explain our own ideas clearly.

Most importantly, we learn what it means to be an active, informed citizen who can make a difference in our community. We could also visit Queensland Parliament House, a local or district court, the Law library in Brisbane city, interact with our State Library and invite guest speakers to our classroom.

MUSIC

Turn up the volume and get ready to make some noise in Music! Across these exciting units, you'll explore the sounds, styles, and stories that shape the music we love today. In Contemporary Music, you'll dive into genres like pop, rock, hip-hop, and electronic, building your skills as both a performer and listener before hitting the stage for a live performance on your chosen instrument or voice. In Copycat, you'll get creative with cover songs inspired by Triple J's Like a Version, analysing how artists reinvent hits and then composing your own music in a fresh new style. Rock and Roll takes you back to where it all began — you'll learn about the legends and energy that defined the 1950s and still inspire musicians today, before performing and composing your own rocking piece. Finally, in Australian Music, you'll journey through the sounds of our nation, exploring everything from Indigenous traditions to contemporary artists, and create your own original work that celebrates our country's diverse musical identity. Whether you're a budding performer, songwriter, or just passionate about music, this subject lets you express yourself, experiment with sound, and take your music to the next level!