



2027

Junior School

7 & 8 - Course Information

www.rochsec.vic.edu.au . rochester.sc@education.vic.gov.au . (03) 5484 1844

Welcome

Rochester Secondary College empowers all students to grow academically, socially and emotionally. We provide a respectful and nurturing environment with strong community links to produce collaborative learners who think deeply. From the moment students enrol at Rochester Secondary College, they are challenged to grow. Our values of Growth, Respect, Optimism and Wellbeing underpin all that we do at the College.

To successfully engage students in authentic learning experiences that are meaningful for their current and future world, and to ensure each student has the opportunity to attain personal academic excellence, our curriculum programs must respond to student developmental needs, interests and aspirations.

We understand that young people require a curriculum that is future-focused to prepare them for what lies ahead, yet at the same time serves their current academic and wellbeing needs in a way that nurtures and cares for them. Years 7 and 8 are exciting years of discovery and exploration, in which our students build on the experiences and learning of their primary years.

We encourage our students to develop responsibility for their own learning, foster a life-long love of learning, and discover how to make a difference in the world. We recognise that our students learn in diverse ways and at different rates. As they develop greater independence, our Junior School students begin to reflect on who they are and where they belong. We recognise the importance of, and strive to foster, a strong sense of self-worth and belonging. The overall wellbeing of our students is of vital importance to our staff, who work together to create a safe environment where each student is valued and respected.

Students develop best when families, schools and communities work together to nurture a student's development and provide opportunities for growth. At Rochester Secondary College we are proud of the strong relationships and partnerships we have developed with our families and the wider community.

With more than 400 students, Rochester Secondary College is large enough to offer breadth and opportunity, while remaining committed to knowing and caring for every student. We trust that this booklet provides you with a valuable resource of information that, when combined with conversations with parents/carers, classroom teachers and school leaders, will enable you to choose a learning pathway that is right for you.

Matthew Koutroubas
Principal

Junior School

Reporting and Assessment

Reports to parents are completed each term and can be accessed via Compass. These will be a condensed report at the end of term 1 and term 3, and a full report at the end of term 2 and term 4. Parent-teacher interviews occur at the end of term 1 and 3.

Curriculum

The Year 7 curriculum consists of core subjects: English, Maths, Science, Humanities, PE/Health, Art, Tech, Foods and ICT, with no electives offered.

The Year 8 curriculum consists of the following core subjects: English, Maths, Science, Humanities, PE/Health, the Arts and Technology/Foods.

Year 7

Core Subjects

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Humanities
- PE/Health
- Visual Arts
- Language
- Technology
- Food Studies
- ICT

English

Year 7 English is a foundation year at Rochester Secondary College, where students are taught the essential skills that will enhance their learning in future years. The essential elements of English, Language, Literature and Literacy, and the modes through which we communicate, Reading, Writing and Speaking– form the structure of the course.

Mathematics

Students will learn content from the six strands of Number, Algebra, Measurement, Space, Statistics and Probability. The proficiencies of Understanding, Fluency, Reasoning and Problem-solving are embedded in all 6 strands and further the development of increasingly sophisticated knowledge and understanding of mathematical concepts, fluency in representations and procedures, and sound mathematical reasoning and problem-solving skills. Proficiency in mathematics enables students to respond to familiar and unfamiliar situations by employing mathematical processes to solve problems efficiently and to make informed decisions. Proficiency in mathematics also enables students to reflect on and evaluate approaches and verify that answers and results are reasonable in the context.

Science

Students will investigate, research and learn about science concepts from the four main areas of Science. Physics, Earth and Space Science, Chemistry and Biology, including classification of living and non-living things, using and developing models for food chains and food webs and investigating the relationships between the Earth-Sun-Moon system. Students will investigate balanced and unbalanced forces looking at simple machines. Students will also develop science inquiry skills; questioning and predicting, planning and conducting, processing and analysing data and information, evaluating and communicating.

Humanities

In Year 7 Humanities, students study all four key areas; History, Geography, Business & Economics and Civics & Citizenship. The focus in History is on Ancient cultures including Australian Aboriginal peoples. In Geography, students study water, landforms and landscapes. In the Business & Economics unit students begin to gain an insight into marketing and finance, whilst in Civics and Citizenship and focus is on Australian government and democracy.

Health & Physical Education

In Health and Physical Education, students develop the knowledge, understanding and skills to strengthen their sense of self, and build and manage satisfying relationships. Students will also participate in a range of activities with the aim of promoting enjoyment of activities, developing a sense of fair play and teamwork, improving/ maintaining personal health and fitness and developing skills which will encourage participation in regular physical activity.

Visual Arts

Through a variety of art experiences, students will study the art elements by creating two dimensional and three-dimensional art works. With a focus on Indigenous and Indonesian art, students will investigate the art of other cultures through research and practical tasks. They will also look at the ways in which artworks communicate ideas and feelings.

Language - Indonesian

In Indonesian, students are encouraged to listen, speak, read and write in a range of interactions with fellow students and their teacher. They use Indonesian language to suit different purposes, contexts and situations, they notice how culture shapes language. Learners work collaboratively and independently. They pool language knowledge and resources, plan, problem-solve, monitor and reflect. They make cross-curricular connections and explore intercultural perspectives. They focus on the different systems (grammar, vocabulary, sounds) that structure language use, and reflect on their experience as Indonesian language learners and users. They gradually build a vocabulary and grammatical base that allows them to compose and present different kinds of simple texts.

Technology

Technology in Year 7 is an integrated course that will cover three areas within the materials strand – wood, metal and plastics. Students will be introduced to a variety of materials and equipment and will develop a safe understanding and skill level associated with these materials.

Food Studies

Year 7 Food Studies is designed to develop and improve students' skills and knowledge in the areas of food preparation, safety, hygiene, nutrition and decision making. Students will cook a range of foods and explore healthy eating.

ICT

Year 7 ICT is designed to build students' skills and confidence in using digital technologies effectively and responsibly. Students will develop knowledge in areas such as online safety, digital communication, file management, and problem solving. They will explore applications across the Google Suite, learn about safe internet use, and begin developing coding and digital literacy skills.

Year 8

Core Subjects

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Humanities
- PE/Health
- Visual Arts
- Technology

English

In Year 8 English students will continue to develop skills established in Year 7 English. Through the study of increasingly complex texts, students will explore the ways that writers convey ideas and opinions, and they will have the opportunity to respond creatively, analytically and reflectively to these texts. Students will also explore persuasive texts and how writers use language to engage and persuade readers, along with developing their own persuasive texts in both written and spoken forms.

Mathematics

Students will learn content from the six strands of Number, Algebra, Measurement, Space, Statistics and Probability. The proficiencies of Understanding, Fluency, Reasoning and Problem-solving are embedded in all 6 strands and further the development of increasingly sophisticated knowledge and understanding of mathematical concepts, fluency in representations and procedures, and sound mathematical reasoning and problem-solving skills. Proficiency in mathematics enables students to respond to familiar and unfamiliar situations by employing mathematical processes to solve problems efficiently and to make informed decisions. Proficiency in mathematics also enables students to reflect on and evaluate approaches and verify that answers and results are reasonable in the context.

Science

Students will investigate, research and learn about science concepts from the four main areas of Science: Physics, Earth and Space Science, Chemistry and Biology. They will be introduced to the different forms of energy, including renewable and non renewable resources and how energy transfers and transformations cause change in simple physical systems. The particle model will be used to predict, compare and explain the physical and chemical properties and behaviours of substances. Students will analyse the relationship between the structure and function of a cell, organ and body system. Finally students will develop their science inquiry skills through: questioning and predicting, planning and conducting, processing and analysing data and information, evaluating and communicating their findings.

Humanities

In Year 8 Humanities, students will continue their study of all four key areas of the subject; History, Geography, Business & Economics, and Civics & Citizenship. In the History unit, the focus is on the Middle Ages and early exploration. In the Geography unit, students study Place and Livability, and Changing Nations. The focus of the Business & Economics unit is the continued exploration of the business environment, enterprising behaviours and capabilities, and economic and business reasoning. Whilst the Civics and Citizenship unit has a focus on laws and justice as well as Citizenship, Diversity and Identity.

Health & Physical Education

In Health and Physical Education, students develop the knowledge, understanding and skills to strengthen their sense of self, and build and manage satisfying relationships. Students will also participate in a range of activities with the aim of promoting enjoyment of activities, developing a sense of fair play and teamwork, improving/ maintaining personal health and fitness and developing skills which will encourage participation in regular physical activity.

Visual Arts

In Visual Arts, students will learn about and explore artists and artworks associated with the key Modern Art Movements of the 20th Century. Inspired by these investigations, students will use a variety of techniques and media to create a range of 2 and 3-dimensional artworks. Students will expand their knowledge of art elements and principles, apply the VTS process, and further refine their observational drawing skills.

Technology

Technology students will have the opportunity to continue to develop their knowledge and skills across all three materials strands- wood, metal and plastics, and in the food technology area. Students will also continue to develop their understanding of the safe and appropriate use of a range of tools and equipment used in each environment.

Contact Us

Phone:

(03) 5484 1844

Website:

www.rochsec.vic.edu.au

Email:

rochester.sc@education.vic.gov.au

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/RochesterSC

Instagram:

[@rochestersecondarycollege](https://www.instagram.com/rochestersecondarycollege)

