CURRICULUM
HANDBOOK

2025

LOWER SECONDARY

SIDE

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side.wa.edu.au

Campuses
Leederville | Canning | Clarkson | Churchlands | North Lake

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SIDE Lower Secondary Curriculum

Subjects studied by SIDE students align with the Western Australian Curriculum. The Western Australian Curriculum and Assessment Outline sets out the knowledge, understandings, skills and attitudes that all Western Australian students from Kindergarten to Year 10 are expected to acquire.

SIDE Lower Secondary Curriculum: Time Allocation

Learning Area (hours per week)	Year 7/8	Year 9	Year 10
English	4	4	4
Humanities and Social Sciences	4	4	4
Mathematics	4	4	4
Science	4	4	4
Health	2	2	2
Languages*	2	0-2*	0-2*
The Arts*	2	0-4*	0-2*
Technologies*	2	0-4*	0-2*
Careers**	n/a	n/a	0-2 (Semester length)
Specialised course/program***	n/a	n/a	0-6
Hours per week	**24**	**24**	**24**
Student programs must contain 24 hours			

* These Learning Areas are not mandated after Year 8.

** In the Careers Area, Year 10 students are offered Work Studies. This is a semester long subject. On completion of this subject, students may continue onto Workplace Learning ADWPL.

*** Year 10 students have the opportunity to specialise by selecting subjects or programs or individual pathway goals. For example, a student may choose a VET certificate, an Endorsed program such as Workplace Learning (ADWPL). Decisions are made in consultation with stakeholders. Such Senior Secondary programs are allocated 4 hours per week.

Note: ASDAN modules are available for Curriculum Support students.

Additional courses offered in Year 10 may include:
- VET qualifications
- Workplace Learning
- Community Arts Performance
- Community Service
- Elite Sports Performance
- Off-campus Enrichment Program
- Recreational Pursuits
- Keys for Life – Plus (school based students only).

Regional Coordinators work in partnership with students and their parents/ guardians to establish appropriate student programs.

THE ARTS

Learning Area Description

The Arts have the capacity to engage, inspire and enrich all students, exciting their imagination and encouraging students to reach their creative and expressive potential. The Arts offers two distinct but related Arts subjects – Media Arts and Visual Arts.

Material Requirements

The Arts curriculum is delivered through Moodle and online lessons.

Art making materials are provided by SIDE.

The Arts Overview				
		SEMESTER 1		**SEMESTER 2**
Year	**Code**	**Content**		**Content**
7	7VAR 7MAR	**Visual Arts** Draw and paint imaginary creatures. Play Art Games and find new ways of generating creative ideas.		**Media Arts** Represent you in images, create a comic book page, and plan and record interviews.
8	8MAR 8VAR	**Media Arts** Create Foley sounds. Introduction to podcasting. Create a one-minute film or animation.		**Visual Arts** Still life painting and figurative sculpture with papier mache.
9	9VAR	**Visual Arts** Drawing and landscape painting.		**Visual Arts** Printmaking and kite making.
	9MAR	**Media Arts** Film techniques – analyse and create short scenes for film.		**Media Arts** Make a movie trailer; design and production skills – advertising.
	9DP	**Photography** Introduction to using a digital camera and basic photography skills. Use a range of simple composition rules, exposure settings and the design process to produce engaging presentation images.		**Photography** Follows on from Semester 1: Extending skills with digital cameras and basic image editing software.
10	10VAR	**Visual Arts** Self-portrait painting and wire sculpture.		**Visual Arts** Calico bag printing and foam printed greeting cards.
	10MAR	**Media Arts** Film editing challenge – developing advanced editing techniques.		**Media Arts** Fundamentals of film production – script, shoot, edit and market a short film.
	10DP	**Photography** Extending skills in the use of a camera, composition techniques, lighting and use of photo editing software. Explore design theory and processes in developing photographic tasks.		**Photography** Extending skills in the use of a camera, composition techniques, lighting and use of photo editing software, in preparation for future studies in Year 11 and Year 12 Design Photography.

CAREERS

Course Description

Year 10 Work Studies provides students with skills to start the lifelong process of managing learning, work and life. Students use their increased self-knowledge and deeper understanding of education and training requirements to inform these decisions and investigate pathways towards future career opportunities.

Pathway/Options

Full-time Year 10 students at SIDE are encouraged to complete Work Studies for one semester.

Material Requirements

The Careers curriculum is delivered through Moodle and online lessons.

Careers Overview			
		SEMESTER 1 OR SEMESTER 2	
Year	Code	Content	
10	10WS	Work Studies	Work Studies

ENGLISH

Learning Area Description

English is organised into three interrelated strands that support students' growing understanding and use of Standard Australian English (English). Together the three strands focus on developing students' knowledge, understanding and skills in listening, reading, viewing, speaking and writing.

The three strands are:
- Language: knowing about the English language
- Literature: understanding, appreciating, responding to, analysing and creating literature
- Literacy: expanding the repertoire of English usage.

Texts provide the means for communication. They can be written, spoken or multimodal, and in print or digital/online forms. The processes of listening, speaking, reading, viewing and writing, also known as language modes, are interrelated and the learning of one often supports and extends learning of the others.

Students work on the Western Australian Curriculum, which is developed from the Australian Curriculum. Student achievement is reported at the end of the year using letter grades and judged against achievement descriptors set by the School Curriculum and Standards Authority (SCSA). Assessment tasks provide students with opportunities to demonstrate core content and to be given feedback and marks.

Material Requirements

The English curriculum is delivered through Moodle and online lessons.

English Overview		
Year	Code	Content
7	7ENG	Western Australian Curriculum core content
8	8ENG	Western Australian Curriculum core content
9	9ENG	Western Australian Curriculum core content
10	10ENG	Western Australian Curriculum core content

New Arrivals EALD

This is an intensive English language course for EALD students who are unable to access metropolitan Intensive English Centres (IEC).

The classes are designed to support recently arrived EALD students in the Beginning or Emerging phases of acquiring Standard Australian English and are intended to complement school-based EALD support across learning areas.

Description

The lower secondary EALD classes are aligned with the assessment pointers in the Secondary EALD Progress Map Levels 1 to 4 and focus on developing students' skills and confidence in all language modes. They provide explicit instruction in phonemic awareness, pronunciation, vocabulary and grammar as well as covering the language and cultural understandings essential for success at school.

Classes are streamed by EALD Progress Map Level and where possible by age.

Material Requirements

Lower Secondary EALD is delivered through Moodle and online lessons.

Students will need access to a laptop and the internet outside of scheduled lessons as they will be expected to complete some work between Webex classes to consolidate new learning and practise skills.

Students will also need printed copies of module workbooks, a grammar text (Let's Connect Book 1, 2 or 3 – teacher to advise) and access to a bilingual dictionary.

HEALTH EDUCATION

Learning Area Description

In Health Education students develop the knowledge, understanding and skills to make decisions and take action to strengthen their sense of self, build resilience, manage risk and develop fulfilling and respectful relationships.

Health Education enables students to enhance their health, safety and well-being in order to contribute to building healthy, safe and active communities. Lessons will enable students to develop health literacy skills, which are essential for maintaining good health and well-being.

Students will be working towards developing their skills and knowledge in both personal, social and community health, and movement and physical activity.

Material Requirements

The Health Education curriculum is delivered through Moodle and online lessons. Some print material is available on request.

Health Education Overview		
Year	Code	Content
7	7HPE	Being healthy, safe and active. Communicating and interacting for health and wellbeing. Contributing to healthy and active communities. Attitudes and values.
8	8HPE	Being healthy, safe and active. Communicating and interacting for health and wellbeing. Contributing to healthy and active communities. Attitudes and values.
9	9HPE	Being healthy, safe and active. Communicating and interacting for health and wellbeing. Contributing to healthy and active communities. Attitudes and values.
10	10HPE	Being healthy, safe and active. Communicating and interacting for health and wellbeing. Contributing to healthy and active communities. Attitudes and values. Keys for Life (Term 3).

HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Learning Area Description

Humanities and Social Sciences consists of Civics and Citizenship, Economics and Business, Geography and History. Students develop increasing independence in critical thinking and skill application, which includes questioning, researching, analysing, evaluating, communicating and reflecting. They apply these skills to investigate events, developments, issues and phenomena, both historical and contemporary.

Students build their understanding of the concepts of justice, democracy and democratic values, rights and responsibilities through studies of Australia's legal and political systems. An understanding of the interdependence of consumers and producers, business and market behaviour and economic performance is also developed through studies of community, national and global issues. The geographical concepts of place, space and environment, interconnection, sustainability and change continue to be developed as a way of thinking and provide students with the opportunity to inquire into a wide range of places and environments at the full range of scales, from local to global. Students develop their historical understanding through key concepts, including evidence, continuity and change, cause and effect, perspectives, empathy, significance and contestability. These concepts are investigated within the historical context of how we know about past societies from ancient to the modern world.

Material Requirements

The Humanities and Social Sciences curriculum is delivered in Moodle and online lessons. A supplementary text is provided to support some areas of study.

Humanities and Social Sciences Overview		
Year	**Code**	**Content**
7	7HASS	History, Economics and Business, Geography, Civics and Citizenship
8	8HASS	History, Economics and Business, Geography, Civics and Citizenship
9	9HASS	History, Economics and Business, Geography, Civics and Citizenship
10	10HASS	History, Economics and Business, Geography, Civics and Citizenship

LANGUAGES

Learning Area Description

In the Languages learning area, students learn to communicate effectively in languages other than English. They gain an understanding of other societies, the ability to interact with people and cultures other than their own and employ practical skills which they can use in future social, cultural and vocational areas. Through Languages, students are also able to further develop their skills and understandings in English and of literacy in general.

In 2025 the study of a Language is mandated for all Year 7 and 8 students.

Since 2024 SIDE has been able to offer Chinese Second Language for Year 12 ATAR students.

Pathway/Options

Students who already have some knowledge of the language in which they are enrolling will commence at the appropriate point along a continuum of learning. This is determined in consultation with Regional Coordinators and the relevant language area.

Students aiming to enrol in an ATAR language course in Year 11 may not have time to cover content if they do not commence study of the language in Year 7.

Lower school language students require a minimum of two hours per week (120 minutes) for their language study in order to progress through the program at the expected rate.

Material Requirements

All Language modules are delivered through Moodle and online lessons.

Languages Overview					
	Chinese	French	Indonesian	Italian	Japanese
Year	Code	Code	Code	Code	Code
7	7CHI	7FRE	7IND	7ITA	7JAP
8	8CHI	8FRE	8IND	8ITA	8JAP
9	9CHI	9FRE	9IND	9ITA	9JAP
10		10FRE	10IND	10ITA	10JAP

MATHEMATICS

Learning Area Description

In Mathematics, students learn to use ideas about number, space, measurement and chance, and mathematical ways of representing patterns and relationships to describe, interpret and reason about their social and physical world.

Mathematics plays a key role in the development of students' numeracy and assists learning across the curriculum.

Students work on content from the Western Australian Curriculum, which is based upon the Australian Curriculum. They are reported on criteria according to the Australian Curriculum and judged against Achievement Standards set by the School Curriculum and Standards Authority (SCSA). Common Assessment Tasks test core content and provide students with the opportunity to be challenged.

Material Requirements

Lower secondary courses in Mathematics are delivered through Moodle and online lessons, using a Course and Assessment Outline and Work Completion Calendar. Tasks are submitted via Moodle.

Mathematics Overview		
Year	Code	Content
7	7MATH	Western Australian Curriculum core content v8.1 Students sit Common Assessment Tasks.
8	8MATH	Western Australian Curriculum core content v8.1 Students sit Common Assessment Tasks.
9	9MATH	Western Australian Curriculum core content v8.1 Students sit Common Assessment Tasks.
10	10MATH	Western Australian Curriculum core content v8.1 Students sit Common Assessment Tasks. Extension curriculum using textbook by Cambridge.

SCIENCE

Learning Area Description

Science helps students to better understand the world in which they live. The Science curriculum supports students to develop scientific understandings and skills to make informed decisions about local, national and global issues and prepare students for senior school pathways. Science units in Year 7-10 are based on the Western Australian Curriculum.

Material Requirements

The Science curriculum is delivered through Moodle and online lessons. Students will be provided with science kits which contain most of the materials required to conduct the practical activities. Students may need to provide additional materials.

Science Overview			
		SEMESTER 1	SEMESTER 2
Year	Code	Content	Content
7	7SCI	Chemistry Biology	Physics Earth and Space Science
8	8SCI	Chemistry Biology	Physics Geology
9	9SCI	Chemistry Biology	Physics Geology
10	10SCI	Chemistry Biology	Physics Earth and Space Science

TECHNOLOGIES

Learning Area Description

The practical nature of technologies education engages students in critical and creative thinking and enables them to learn about and work with technologies and materials that shape the world. Students apply their knowledge and practical skills and processes to create designed solutions to meet particular needs. The learning area is made up of three subjects:

- Design and Technology
- Digital Technologies
- Home Economics

Pathway/Options

- All Year 7 and 8 Technologies subjects are of one semester duration. In Year 7, students complete Digital Technologies and Home Economics. In Year 8 students complete Digital Technologies and Design and Technology. The order in which students complete these subjects will be negotiated at enrolment.
- All Year 9 and 10 Technologies subjects are of one year duration.
- Year 9 and 10 students may choose subjects to suit their areas of personal interest.

Material Requirements

The Technologies curriculum is delivered through Moodle and online lessons. Woodwork, Electronics and Home Economics modules have kit materials provided by SIDE.

		Technologies Overview	
		SEMESTER 1	SEMESTER 2
Year	Code	Content	Content
7	7IT/ 7HEC	**Digital Technologies** In this unit students are introduced to the world of online learning. Students learn new IT skills to help while studying online at SIDE. A range of topics are covered – from cyber safety to file management.	**Home Economics** An introduction to both Foods and Textiles. Make and prepare interesting and appropriate food choices, promoting optimum healthy lifestyles. Start discovering the origins and characteristics of fibres and the skills to create fabric and accessories.
8	8DT/8IT	**Design & Technology** Develop skills in using CAD software to design and draw project parts that will be laser cut or 3D printed. Learn the basics of a design brief. Develop basic wood project construction skills.	**Digital Technologies** This subject builds on 7IT. Introduction to computational thinking. Use cloud-based applications to examine online and offline gaming. Review games, learn about gaming history and social issues and build web-based games.

TECHNOLOGIES

		Technologies Overview	
		SEMESTER 1	**SEMESTER 2**
Year	Code	Content	Content
9	9IT	**Digital Technologies** Delve into the world of images, video and audio, then evaluate web design and create interfaces. Explore database design and learn about video compression and transcoding.	**Digital Technologies** Continuing with a focus on programming. Study privacy and security in cloud com;puting and social media. Study computational thinking by using graphical and text programming tools to implement digital solutions.
	9TEXT	**Textiles** **Recycle, Repurpose, Reuse:** Examine sustainability of fibres, fabrics and textiles, recycling possibilities and basic sewing skills and techniques, such as dyeing, to create upcycled garments.	**Textiles** **Safe in the Sun:** Investigate sun-smart fabrics and clothing to design and create a line of summer fashion for the Australian climate, using basic sewing skills and techniques.
	9FOOD	**Food** **A Teenager's Guide to Cooking:** Journey through all aspects of food preparation and cooking. Investigate current information on nutrition and healthy lifestyle. Research, prepare and cook a range of dishes and create a recipe book.	**Food** **International Food:** Travel the world enjoying taste sensations in Asia and Europe. Learn how culture and food are connected and create exotic dishes.
	9TG	**Technical Graphics** Develop sketching techniques and progress into the world of computer aided design and create 2D and 3D drawings.	**Technical Graphics** Use software to create solutions to design tasks. Produce detailed images of designs.
	9ELECT	**Electronics** Introductory course. Students will create interesting and practical projects and gain the basic knowledge and principles of electronics.	**Electronics** Create exciting projects using integrated circuits and other common components. The conceptslearned in Semester 1 are further developed (but are not a prerequisite).

TECHNOLOGIES

		Technologies Overview	
		SEMESTER 1	SEMESTER 2
Year	Code	Content	Content
10	10IT	**Digital Technologies** This subject builds on knowledge and skills from previous units. Students delve into the world of images, video and audio, then evaluate web design and create interfaces. Students explore database design and learn all about video compression and transcoding.	**Digital Technologies** This subject is a forerunner to further study in computersciences and is focused on programming. Students investigate privacy and security in the world of cloud computing and social media and extend their skills in computational thinking by using graphical and text programming tools to implement digital solutions.
	10CHD	**Child Development** **Business of Baby Sitting:** Design a babysitting business. Investigate stages of child development, safety and nutrition. Design a business plan, advertising flyers and business cards. Create a Babysitter Survival Kit full of useful information and activities the business.	**Child Development** **Parties in Packages:** Create the ultimate birthday party for a five-year-old. Discover the development of young children, playing and eating for health and enjoyment, and all the important aspects of celebrating birthdays.
	10TEXT	**Textiles** **My Brand:** Examine the notion of fashion brands to create an individual collection focusing on the sustainability of fibres, fabrics and textiles, recycling possibilities and basic sewing skills.	**Textiles** **Textiles… it's not just clothing:** Consider the use of textiles for purposes other than clothing. Examine e-textiles and 21st century options. Create household soft furnishings and technological inspired textile items.
	10FOOD	**Food** **Stepping back in time:** Inspired by the ABC TV production 'Back in time for dinner', take a journey back to foods from previous generations, the 50s, 60s and 70s, and how historical cooking compares to current Australian food practices.	**Food** **My Food Story:** Investigate current popular TV cooking shows, cooking websites and cookbooks and the phenomenon of the 'celebrity chef. Students create their own media to reflect these trends.
	10TG	**Technical Graphics** This module extends the CAD skills developed by students in Year 9, and further explores the use of CAD to solve design problems through the production of pictorial images. Students learn how to produce sectional drawings using CAD.	**Technical Graphics** This module extends the CAD skills developed by students in Semester 1 and further explores the use of CAD to solve design problems, in preparation for future studies in Year 11 and 12.
	10ELECT	**Electronics** Students learn how to build electronic circuits using a range of electronic components. The focus of this course is to understand and use integrated circuits with other common components in their designs.	**Electronics** Semester 1 Electronics is a prerequisite for enrolment in this subject. Students design and build intelligent devices that operate with microcontrollers. Students program their own microcontroller to make an automated smart device.

CURRICULUM SUPPORT / ASDAN

In Curriculum Support, students access educational programs across Learning Areas that address each student's learning needs. Teachers accommodate individual differences in students' ability levels and learning styles and develop individualised, documented plans.

In addition, ASDAN (Award Scheme Development and Accreditation Network) Award Programs are offered which blend activity-based enrichment with a framework of key skills.

ASDAN COURSES AND PROGRAMS

ASDAN is a curriculum development and award organisation.

It offers a flexible approach to learning and an imaginative way of accrediting young people's achievements.

Curriculum Support offers a range of ASDAN modules based on a student's interests and needs. Students enrolling in these courses are generally those who have been:

- diagnosed with a learning difficulty
- disengaged from schooling for a significant period of time
- diagnosed with an intellectual disability.

It works because it:

- is interesting and engaging for students
- provides flexibility for each student's physical location, ability and interests
- provides opportunity for success.

Student progress is recorded in a portfolio which is developed over a semester or year with teacher assistance.

Students receive an ASDAN Certificate for all completed courses.

Course and Program offerings are outlined overleaf.

CURRICULUM SUPPORT / ASDAN

		Curriculum Support	
Course	Year	Modules	Content
Key Steps	7-9	Activities within a framework of nine modules: • Identity • Community • Health • Citizenship • Environment • Personal Finance • Enterprise • Values • International	• Personal Development Program • Focus on PSHE and Citizenship Topics • Activities relate to developing knowledge, communication, literacy and numeracy skills in a lifeskills setting • Learner-centred and is supported by the teacher • Three certificates can be achieved over this course
Transition Challenge	7-9	Activities chosen from five modules: • Knowing how • Making choices • Feeling good • Moving forward • Taking the lead.	• Focus on developing personal, social and independence skills. • Activities within each module cover all the learning areas.
Towards Independence	9-10	Modules: • Environment • Everyday Living • History • Horticulture • Personal safety • Using ICT • Work awareness • Independent Living (Introduction) • Meal Preparation and Cooking (Progression).	• Focus on developing personal, social and independence skills. • Modules can be completed separately and accumulated to build a record of personal achievement.
Workright	10	Four units, each with 3 sections. Units can be undertaken in any order. 1. Health and safety in the workplace 2. Being responsible in the workplace 3. Working with others in the workplace 4. You at work	• Develops basic transferable employability skills • Follows a work-based/work experience program of study • 20 hours or work experience is required • Caters for a wide range of abilities.

Please note: ASDAN units are to be selected in consultation with Curriculum Support and Student Services.

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