



Year 9 Subject Handbook & Electives for 2026



Year 9 PROGRAM

The Year 9 program at MNSC provides students with learning opportunities to engage in a pathway of developing life skills, leadership and employability skills through the core subjects and electives offered.

The X-SEL course at Year 9 continues to build on the key skills of: gratitude, empathy and mindfulness which are the core concepts we practice as part of the Resilience Project.

Students are encouraged to build their emotional literacy skills through individual and group based practical activities and reflective writing, guided by a 'Mentor' teacher with whom they are familiar with.

Students will also be encouraged to participate in a broad range of co-curricula activities such as; school camps & excursions, team & interschool sports, South Gippsland Music Program, Voice of Students leadership team and other subject related opportunities.

Year 9 Timetable

This is an example of a year 9 student timetable. The number below the subject designates the number of periods studied in a week.

Semester1	English (4 periods)	Maths (4 periods)	Science (4 periods)	Humanities (3 periods)	Health & PE (4 periods)	X-SEL (1 period)	Elective 1 (5 periods)	Elective 2 (5 periods)
Semester2	English (4 periods)	Maths (4 periods)	Science (4 periods)	Humanities (3 periods)	Health & PE (4 periods)	X-SEL (1 period)	Elective 3 (5 periods)	Elective 4 (5 periods)

**The teaching of literacy and numeracy skills is embedded throughout all subjects and electives at MNSC*

Elective Units Offered in 2026

Descriptions of the following subjects are contained in this handbook.

Arts	Languages
Media Art Visual Art & Design	German 1 German 2
English	Mathematics
Fantastic Fiction	Extension & Enrichment Maths
Health & Physical Education	Technology Studies
P.E. Plus Outdoor Education	International Cooking Introduction to Furniture Making 'Trade Taster' * Fashion Design & Textiles *
Humanities	
History through Film	

***Please note that these Electives require an Expression of Interest application completed PRIOR to selection.**

Elective Subject Selection Process

Year 8 students will be asked to choose elective subjects they want to undertake in Year 9, 2026.

This will be completed via an online process, sent to you via your school email address. The program is called WEB PREFERENCES – look for an email from noreply@webpreferences.

- Once the selection form has been submitted online, it is automatically date and timestamped. This serves as the basis for allocating your choices in a timely manner.
- If the form is submitted after the due date, there is no guarantee that the student will be given their preferences.
- There is also a requirement for the form to be printed out and signed by a parent/carer to confirm that these selections have been discussed with an adult caregiver.

Please contact one of the Middle School Team Leaders if you require any assistance in completing the form.

Please note that students undertake four electives over the whole year (two per semester). Where a student opts to continue with Languages: German, they are automatically enrolled into German 1 and German 2. This leaves space in their schedule for two elective subjects.

Considerations for you and your family when choosing elective units:

- All subjects requiring special additional fees are marked. The details are provided in the course outlines in this book. The fees are to be paid by the first class of that subject in 2026.
- **Please note: the DET administers the CSEF (Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund), for eligible families. Depending on the elective chosen, CSEF funding may be used. Please contact the Business Manager at the College for more details.**
- The costs which have been allocated to the electives below, have been carefully calculated to allow for an average cost for materials/ ingredients/events etc – per week.
- These costs are not part of MNSC students' regular tuition: *Schools may request payments for extra-curricular items and activities. These are items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are above and beyond what your school provides for free to deliver the Curriculum.* (<https://www.vic.gov.au/school-costs-and-fees>)
- Elective units run based on student selection. If there are not enough students electing to do a particular subject, it will not run the following year.
- It is important that all students select alternative preferences (or 'back ups') when selecting their subjects, in case they do not get their first preferences.

Elective Units offered in 2026

Arts

Media Arts

** A fee of \$30 is required by students selecting this subject.*

Elective Outline:

This course has been designed to broaden students' understanding and appreciation of digital story telling through the methods of photography, film and animation. Students explore different ways of constructing stories through digital mediums and investigate different methods of presenting them. Using digital cameras and computer programs such as Adobe Photoshop, and Adobe Premiere Pro. Students refine their technical knowledge and understanding of media technologies.

Through these artforms students learn to reflect critically on their own experiences and responses to the work of other artists to develop their own arts' knowledge. They learn, with growing sophistication, to express and communicate experiences through these artforms.

Links to MNSC Curriculum:

- Year 10 Digital Photography
- Year 10 Visual Communication Design Year 10 Visual Arts
- VCE Art VCE Media
- VCE Visual Communication Design

Visual Art & Design

** A fee of \$35 is required by students selecting this subject.*

Elective Outline:

This unit provides a foundation experience in both the visual arts and visual communication and design. It is for students who like working in the visual arts mediums of painting, drawing and printmaking allowing for the expression of individual ideas. Projects will be engaging and sometimes may involve a community approach.

The visual communication and design component provides experiences in using technical drawing instruments and design briefs that outline a particular need. Students will create artworks and designs, learning the skills of annotation, analysis of designer and artists' works and will learn to present their finished works.

Both areas of study in the visual arts and visual communication and design will assist the student to determine which study they would like to pursue in year 10.

Links to MNSC Curriculum:

- Year 10 Digital Photography
- Year 10 Visual Communication Design Year 10 Visual Arts
- VCE Media VCE Art
- VCE Visual Communication Design

English

Fantastic Fiction

Elective Outline:

This unit is for writers, dreamers and storytellers. Fantastic fiction allows you to swim in the deepest ocean, glide over the highest cloud or tumble down the rabbit hole. In fantastic fiction students are provided with an opportunity to draft and publish their own stories, poems and film scripts. Students will explore creative writing techniques which allow them to develop dynamic characters, effective dialogue and insightful messages. If you are a student who loves writing, this subject is a dream come true. As the great Dumbledore once said, "Words are, in my not-so-humble opinion, our most inexhaustible source of magic."

- Understand that authors innovate with text structures and language for specific purposes and effects.
- Create imaginative texts that present a point of view and advance or illustrate arguments.
- Review and edit students' own and others' texts to improve clarity and control over content.

Links to MNSC Curriculum:

- VCE English
- VCE English Literature

Health & Physical Education

P.E. Plus

Elective Outline:

In this course, students will delve into the basics of fitness training, focusing on fundamental components like strength, endurance, flexibility, and cardiovascular health. Through interactive lessons and practical activities, students will learn various training methods such as resistance exercises and simple cardiovascular workouts. They will also explore how these activities affect different parts of the body, like muscles and the heart.

- Introduction to components of fitness, including strength, endurance, flexibility, and cardiovascular endurance.
- Knowledge of various training methods and techniques, such as resistance training and cardiovascular exercises.
- Awareness of the basic anatomy and key body systems involved in physical activity, including the musculoskeletal and cardiovascular systems.

There will be a practical aspect and theory aspect of this class.

There may be a small cost to this class as there may be some excursions

Links to MNSC Curriculum:

- VCE Physical Education
- VCE Biology
- VCE Physics
- VCE Health and Human Development

Outdoor Education

*** A fee of \$120 is required by students selecting this subject.**

Elective Outline:

This subject is designed to awaken your senses, deepen your understanding of the natural world, and cultivate an interest and connection to outdoor environments. Through a blend of excursions, theory and hands on learning, students will engage in a curriculum that encompasses a wide range of topics including exploring outdoor experiences, discovering outdoor environments, relationships with outdoor environments & sustainable outdoor relationships.

- Understand how to navigate through and describe different environments
- Learn the different skills to safely participate in practical experiences (e.g. setting up a tent, cooking on a Trangia and packing a pack)
- Planning and being organised for a specific activity (e.g. Hiking, camping, sailing and stand up paddle boarding)
- Develop transferable skills such as: leadership, team building and communication
- Build confidence in yourself and become more resilient
- Understand the different uses for an outdoor environment and how humans have impacted this

Attendance of practical learning experiences is expected. These will occur in a variety of environments.

There will be a cost for the practical experiences within the subject, which will be charged as a lump-sum fee at the beginning of the semester.

Links to MNSC Curriculum:

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|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| • VCE Outdoor & Environmental Studies | • VCE Geography |
| • VCE Physical Education | • VCE History |
| • Science | |

Humanities

History through Film

Elective Outline:

Who needs dusty old textbooks when you can watch action packed historical films?! Discover incredible tales of survival and loss during WW2, the holocaust, the 'war on communism' and so much more. This subject connects students to the past via the analysis of film and provides students with a vivid window into different historical periods. Students will critically view and present reports on documentaries and movies dealing with various historical figures and events.

- Analyse the different perspectives of people in the past and evaluate how these perspectives are influenced by significant events, ideas, location, beliefs and values.
- Evaluate different historical interpretations and contested debates.
- Analyse the long-term causes, short term triggers and the intended and unintended effects of significant events and developments.
- Evaluate the historical significance of an event, idea, individual or place.

Links to MNSC Curriculum:

- VCE History
- VCE Literature

Languages

German 1

Elective Outline:

This unit will continue on from year 8 German. Students will consolidate skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing and extend their ability to express themselves more comprehensively over a range of everyday activities. Cultural knowledge will be expanded throughout the unit. Students are also asked to submit their application for our sister-school exchange program.

German 2

Elective Outline:

This unit will follow on from Unit 1 and will seek to enhance skills already acquired across listening, speaking, reading and writing. Students will use their language skills to write a short picture story book in German.

Links to MNSC Curriculum:

- Year 10 German
- VCE German

Mathematics

Extension & Enrichment Maths

Elective Outline:

A project-based program that uses various engaging mathematical techniques to address real-world problems such as epidemiology, sport analysis, business models, mechanics and climate change.

Students will gain exposure to some higher-level mathematics concepts such as Metadata analysis and mathematical modelling as well as developing an understanding of some VCE content. There will also be some ongoing “core” content that would involve developing confidence in statistics, networks, geometry and algebraic thinking and manipulation.

Links to MNSC Curriculum:

- VCE General Mathematics
- VCE Mathematical Methods
- VCE Specialist Mathematics

Technologies

Introduction to Furniture making

**** A fee of \$90 is required by students selecting this subject.***

Elective Outline:

This unit will allow students to develop an understanding and appreciation of the characteristics and uses of Plantation and Old Growth timbers. The project will involve the design process, through a folio, then to construct a table which will allow students the opportunity to focus on a variety of decoration and assembly techniques. Course Work will be practical in nature and allow for a variety of abilities and experience in the students.

Tools & Equipment used: Electric drill, jigsaw, drill press, disc sander, biscuit joiner and assorted hand tools.

Links to MNSC Curriculum:

Links to MNSC Curriculum:

- Year 10 Introduction to Cabinet Making
- VCE Product Design and Technology.

Fashion Design & Textiles

****A fee of \$90 is required by students selecting this subject.***

Elective Outline:

This unit could be your first step into the amazing world of fashion! Do you dream of becoming a designer in the fashion industry? This unit will explore skills and capabilities in design such as:

- Building skills in Design Thinking, research and visualizations,
- Building skills in sewing with a sewing machine
- Design and make patterns for clothing, hats and fascinators
- Fashioning drawing to build a portfolio of designs using traditional art materials and digital programs
- Study fashion trends and sustainable solutions for our future
- Participate in events such as fashion parade

Links to MNSC Curriculum:

- VCE Product Design and Technology.

As students will be using machinery, the class size will be capped at 12 students. Consequently, students will need a recommendation from a teacher to support their application to this subject. Students will be required to organise this in consultation with the Middle School Coordinators.

International Cooking

** A fee of \$90 is required by students selecting this subject.*

Elective Outline:

This unit has been designed to enable students to discover amazing food cultures from around the world and to understand how they have shaped cuisine in Australia. Through regular cooking sessions, students will have the opportunity to sample and prepare a variety of foods and to learn essential cooking techniques from a variety of countries. These experiences will broaden their technical proficiency and provide students with a sound skill base as an essential life-skill and for further development in future studies and in the workplace.

The processes of research, design, production and evaluation are developed through the unit as students investigate food cultures and reflect on the ingredients and their nutritional and sensory properties.

Links to MNSC Curriculum:

- Year 10 Food Technology
- VCE Food Studies
- VCE Health and Human Development.

Trade Taster Program Year 9 - 2026

** A fee of \$100 is required by students selecting this subject.*

Elective Outline:

In 2026 MNSC will continue to offer a series of Vocational Education and Training (TAFE) units. Students will get to experience working with materials and technology and the following four units will rotate across the course of the semester.

- Carpentry (Wood)
- Fabrication (Metal)
- Small Engines
- Plumbing

If selected, students will have the potential to continue in this 'Trade Taster' course as part of their Year 10 VET (Vocational Education & Training) program in the following year (2027).

Studying these units may lead to pathways which may include: Building & Construction, Automotive Preparation, Engineering, Plumbing

As students will be using machinery, the class size will be capped at 12 students. Consequently, students will need a recommendation from a teacher to support their application to this subject. Students will be required to organise this in consultation with the Middle School Coordinators.