



OUR LADY
OF THE SOUTHERN
CROSS COLLEGE

Year 10 Curriculum Handbook 2026





VISION STATEMENT

To guide the young people entrusted to us through their journey in faith and knowledge so that they may know the value of their own lives and contribute positively to the community and world in which they live.

OUR MISSION

Our Lady of the Southern Cross will strive to:

- Establish and promote an ethos of teaching and learning excellence where all strive to continually develop the individual's spiritual, academic, social, cultural and physical potential;
- Provide opportunities for parents and caregivers, as the primary educators of our young people, to work in partnership with our College;
- Develop a shared understanding of Christian faith and life in the Catholic tradition by living Christ's values;
- Encourage self-discipline with a caring and positive attitude;
- Promote a sense of respect, inclusiveness and compassion for others;
- Promote responsible stewardship of our College environment and resources; and
- Foster unity and trust between our College, Catholic parish, other faiths and wider community with integrity, acceptance and goodwill.
- Promote Catholic Social Teachings which are embedded in all subject areas of Human Dignity, Stewardship of Creation, Community and the Common Good, Subsidiarity, Solidarity.

PURPOSE OF THIS HANDBOOK

In this handbook you will find specific information about various subjects, facilitating students in making well-informed decisions regarding their subject choices that allow them to explore possible pathways.

Entering Year 10 begins an important change in a student's educational journey at Our Lady of the Southern Cross College with the focus shifting towards future career pathways and increased academic rigor. Students begin selecting pathways and courses of study that align with their interests and abilities, all while considering future academic and career pursuits.

MESSAGE FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL SENIOR YEARS

Year 10 marks a significant step in a student's educational journey, decisions begin to be made on what career pathways lie ahead. There is a large growth in academic and study expectations, individuals are required to take greater responsibility for their learning and the results they achieve. Although parents, guardians, and teachers provide essential guidance and support, academic success is ultimately determined by the student's commitment to their studies, the development of effective study habits, consistent goal setting and pursuit, as well as perseverance when faced with challenges.

Achieving success in all aspects of life requires students to not only excel in their academic endeavours but also actively participate and engage in their classes at the College.



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Teachers, our Careers Development Practitioner, members of the College Leadership Team and I are very happy to answer questions and provide further information to support you to make well-informed decisions about subject selections.

At Our Lady of the Southern Cross College, we are dedicated to offering a diverse and enriching curriculum that caters to our student's needs and aligns with their chosen pathways.

Consider this handbook a stepping stone. Our teachers are available to provide any information you may require regarding each of the subjects. Please feel free to contact myself for information and assistance. Please also note that we will endeavour to offer all subjects, however, the timetable and subject offerings will be dependent on the combination of student numbers and resourcing.

Rodney Spain

Assistant Principal Senior Years





2026 KEY SUPPORT PERSONNEL TO SENIOR YEARS STUDENTS

Simone Forbes

Middle Leader – Mathematics

Email: simone.forbes@twb.catholic.edu.au

Sara-Jayne Rogers

Middle Leader – English and Humanities

Email: Sara-Jayne.Roger@twb.catholic.edu.au

Leah Parker

Middle Leader – Science and Technologies

Email: leah.parker@twb.catholic.edu.au

Tyron Fraser

Middle Leader – Pedagogy and Engagement

Email: tyron.fraser@twb.catholic.edu.au

Jodie Biggar

Middle Leader – Pedagogy and Engagement

Email: jodie.biggar@twb.catholic.edu.au

Dean Garside

Career Development Practitioner

Email: dean.garside@twb.catholic.edu.au

Rodney Spain

Assistant Principal – Senior Years

Email: rodney.spain@twb.catholic.edu.au

Cate Brennan

Deputy Principal – Mission & Identity

Email: cate.brennan@twb.catholic.edu.au

Peter Cuskelly

Principal

Email: peter.cuskelly@twb.catholic.edu.au

Please note: Appointments can be made with all the above staff members via the College Office. Simply contact the office by phone or in person, let them know your name and contact details, as well as the purpose of the appointment and who will be in attendance.



CHOOSING SUBJECTS FOR YEAR 10

Religion, English, Mathematics, and Science comprise the four compulsory areas of study for students in Year 10.

Therefore, our students will complete mandatory subjects and then have the opportunity to select elective subjects.

Students entering Year 10 will select 3 full year elective subjects they wish to study during the next year.

It is a matter for the College to determine when or if particular subjects will be studied as the student's allocation depends on staffing and resources.

Our Lady of the Southern Cross College has implemented the Australian Curriculum Version 9.0. Detailed information on the Australian Curriculum can be accessed on the ACARA website: <https://v9.australiancurriculum.edu.au/>.

It is important to choose your subjects carefully as your decisions may affect your future success at College.

As an overall plan, we suggest you choose subjects:

- which match your thoughts about possible career and employment goals
- which reflect your interests and abilities
- in which you have previously received good results
- that you enjoy spending time engaging in outside of class time
- which develop the skills, knowledge and attitudes that will be useful in your life
- which allow you to ensure a balance with school and outside commitments

It is important to remember that students are individuals and that their needs and requirements in subject selection will be quite different from those of other students.

This means that it is unwise to either take or avoid a subject because:

- someone told them they will like or dislike it
- their friends are or are not taking it
- they like or dislike the teacher

Subject selection will be completed online with the link being available directly to students via email. An email will be sent to each student's school email addresses from noreply@selectmysubjects.com.au with the subject line of "Your Web Preferences Access Guide". Students will be required to enter their parents email address so that parents can sign electronically to acknowledge that subject choices have been made collaboratively with student and parent. Acknowledging these elective choices is an important step in our subject selection process. We strongly recommend that both students and parents/guardians add noreply@selectmysubjects.com.au as a Contact in the email application. This will reduce the likelihood of the email landing in their Spam/Junk folder.



Elective Subjects

Elective subjects in Year 10 comprise a variety of ACARA curriculum areas. This handbook has been produced to help students plan a course of study which will provide a balanced education across Key Learning Areas and provide greater opportunity for success.

Students entering Year 10 will nominate 3 elective subjects they wish to study during the next year.

PLEASE NOTE: An elective's viability to be included will also depend on the availability of staff, resources and student interest.

SUBJECT OFFERINGS

Our subject offerings for 2026 are:

Year 10 Electives

3 lines

4.5 lessons/week 180 mins

Line 1	Line 2	Line 3
Design Tech - Food Digital Technologies Economics/Business* Health & PE*	Design Tech - Materials Economics/Business* Health & PE* SEM 2 Maths Extension*	Cert II in Rural Operations Legal/History PE Volleyball Specialisation* Visual Art

Green subjects may only be chosen once
SEM 2 - only available in Semester 2

Please be aware in 2026 the following levies, additional to College Fees, are attached to the below subjects.

Design Tech – Food	\$210 per year
Design Tech – Materials	\$210 per year

*Of these 3 elective subjects no subject can be chosen twice. E.G. Health & PE on line 1, then Health & PE on line 2 or PE Volleyball Specialisation on line 3. Likewise for the Economics/Business subject on Line 1 and 2.

*Students wishing to choose SEM 2 Maths Extension on Line 2 will move from the subject chosen on Line 2 into the Maths class.

Below is a list of the 2025 Subject Teachers and a brief of what each subject offers in 2026. These teachers along with the Middle Leaders of Curriculum, are best suited to answer questions from students and parents.



Elective Subject	Who to contact for more information?
Certificate II in Rural Operations This entry-level AQF qualification will provide you with foundation skills to work across the animal care industry. The program is designed for senior secondary students (Years 10, 11 and 12) and runs across 4 school terms. The program commences in Term 1, 2026.	Mr Christopher Coman chris.coman@twb.catholic.edu.au
Design Technology – Food Cook Creatively Love food? Curious about how meals are made in the real world—from airlines to food trucks? In this subject, you'll explore the exciting world of food design and innovation. You'll learn how to create meals that are tasty, practical, and packed with personality. Across the year, you'll: •Design and cook meals •Explore trends such as grill like a pro •Create your own street food business idea! You'll work in teams, experiment with flavours, and solve real-world food challenges. It's hands-on, creative, and full of opportunities to learn skills that go beyond the kitchen—like planning, budgeting, teamwork, and design thinking. Where can it lead? Food Tech builds skills for careers in hospitality, nutrition, business, design, and more. Whether you want to be a chef, run a café, or just impress your mates with your cooking—this subject is a great place to start.	Ms Leah Parker Leah.Parker@twb.catholic.edu.au
Design Technology – Materials There is nothing more rewarding than making your own item from scratch. Join our INTAD team and experience producing some interesting creations. Industrial Technology allows students to develop production techniques through the use of different materials and technologies. Technology in its broadest sense incorporates equipment from a simple handsaw through to 3D printers and design being controlled from a drawing you have created on your laptop. Students will be given opportunity to focus on production skills and less on design although students will be required to evaluate products they produce with consideration of the aesthetics and functionality. Enjoy the pleasure of	Mr Jon Stam Jon.stam@twb.catholic.edu.au



making useful items in a range of materials from timber, sheet metal and plastic and at the completion of the course you will have exciting new products and skills to take home.	
Digital Technologies The Digital Technologies course is crafted to equip students with the essential knowledge, understanding, skills and values needed to effectively tackle problems by harnessing the power of computational thinking. It also focusses on engaging students with specialised learning in preparation for learning in the senior secondary years. Through hands-on activities and engaging discussions, students will develop proficiency in developing digital solutions, derive meaningful insights, preparing them for the challenges and opportunities presented by the digital era. Students will engage in Web Site design and development, along with robotics and modern world application of coding and A.I.	Mr Rodney Spain Rodney.spain@twb.catholic.edu.au
Economics / Business Year 10 Economics and Business begins with a focus on economics, where students investigate key indicators like GDP, inflation, and unemployment, and analyse how government policies influence living standards and financial wellbeing. They explore Australia's superannuation system and evaluate its role in long-term financial decision-making. In Semester 2, students shift to business studies, examining how businesses manage productivity, respond to economic conditions, and innovate through entrepreneurship. They apply their learning by designing a business concept and evaluating its viability. This subject builds financial literacy, analytical thinking, and real-world decision-making skills.	Mr Tyron Fraser Tyron.Fraser@twb.catholic.edu.au
Health and Physical Education The Year 10 HPE curriculum supports students to refine and apply strategies for maintaining a positive outlook and evaluating behavioural expectations in different leisure, social, movement and online situations. Students learn to critically analyse and apply health and physical activity information to devise and implement personalised plans for maintaining healthy	Mr Tim Lincoln Timothy.Lincoln@twb.catholic.edu.au



and active habits. They also experience different roles that contribute to successful participation in physical activity, and propose strategies to support the development of preventive health practices that build and optimise community health and wellbeing. Students learn to apply more specialised movement skills and complex movement strategies and concepts in different movement environments. They also explore movement concepts and strategies to evaluate and refine their own and others' movement performances. Students analyse how participation in physical activity and sport influence an individual's identities, and explore the role participation plays in shaping cultures. The curriculum also provides opportunities for students to refine and consolidate personal and social skills in demonstrating leadership, teamwork and collaboration in a range of physical activities.	
History / Legal Year 10 Humanities offers students a dynamic blend of Legal Studies in Semester 1 and History in Semester 2. In Legal Studies, students explore Australia's legal and political systems, compare global governments, and investigate human rights and democratic resilience through engaging tasks. In History, students dive into the major events that shaped the modern world, including World War II and post-war Australia, examining civil rights movements, national identity, and global influences. This subject builds critical thinking, research, and communication skills while helping students understand their role in shaping society.	Mrs Sara-Jayne Rogers Sara-Jayne.Rogers@twb.catholic.edu.au
Maths Elective (ONLY AVAILABLE SEMESTER 2 YEAR 10) The year 10 Elective mathematics program exposes students to mathematical concepts from the Specialist Mathematics course in a year level appropriate manner.	Mrs Simone Forbes Simone.Forbes@twb.catholic.edu.au
Physical Education Specialisation – Volleyball Volleyball Specialisation Program provides students with an advanced understanding of the game. Strong focus is placed on the essential skills, rules, rotations, teamwork, and sports-specific fitness throughout practical lessons. Theoretical aspects	Mrs Lisa Lincoln Lisa.Lincoln@twb.catholic.edu.au



covered in Year 10 include sports science, plyometrics and fitness to enhance volleyball performance, volleyball coaching including drill development and delivery and motor learning with skill evaluation. Students will organise and coach at a one day mini volleyball tournament for our Year 5 and 6 students. The aim is to provide students with the tools to be successful at any level, from lifelong learners to elite athletes.	
Visual Art In Year 10 Visual Art, you'll explore how art tells stories, captures moments, and gives voice to ideas. Working from inquiry questions you will learn how artists use visual language to document, reflect, and communicate through drawing, painting, sculpture, and digital media. Throughout the year, you will: • Create artworks in 2D and 3D that explore personal and shared narratives • Refine your practical skills to express meaning—through composition, technique, and symbolism • Generate and document ideas through to client-style briefs that challenge you to think like a working artist • Analyse and interpret the work of others, exploring how artists record experiences and perspectives • Curate and present your own work for gallery and online audiences You'll experiment with materials, reflect on your own stories, and consider how art can record, respond to, and reshape the world around us. It's expressive, thoughtful, and full of opportunities to build your creative voice. Visual Art builds skills for future pathways in fine arts, illustration, animation, concept art, curation, and many more creative futures pathways.	Ms Vicki Knight Vicki.Knight@twb.catholic.edu.au



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