

Subject Selection Guide

2027



A Christian school with a classical approach to education

Grounded in Scripture and the wisdom of the past, Covenant Christian School seeks to cultivate the whole person - intellectually, spiritually, and physically. We pursue these goals through academic rigour in an ordered study of a range of disciplines, all to the glory of God.

Philippians 4:8 Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. (ESV).

As students enter this important stage of their learning journey, we are reminded that education is not merely about acquiring knowledge, but about cultivating the whole person to reach their fullest potential as someone made in God's image. Our Graduate Profile outlines four main areas: love for God, love for neighbour, pursuing excellence to the glory of God, and being a godly scholar. We provide an education designed to develop students in these main areas and trust in the Lord to bless this in the life of each individual student.

Years 9 and 10 mark the beginning of the senior phase of secondary education and serves as a vital preparation period for Years 11 and 12. What we do in these years aims to turn our Graduate Profile into a reality as much as possible.

Students begin to deepen their understanding of the gifts God has given them and exploring their interests, strengths, and possible callings, through a range of subject choices and learning experiences. These opportunities are designed to develop a well-rounded young person in line with the School's Graduate Profile, fostering disciplined habits, critical thinking, and discussions within the framework of a soundly biblical Christian worldview.

The School's approach is being shaped by the current revival of the classical Christian education tradition, which emphasises the formation of virtue and the development of eloquence alongside intellectual growth. As students grow in their understanding of the world and their place in it, they are challenged to engage with truth, goodness, and beauty in every area of study. Literacy and numeracy, along with the ability to reason, speak, and write with clarity and conviction, remain central to the School's academic expectations.

These foundational skills are cultivated in every discipline and are essential for thoughtful Christian engagement in today's world. Students are also encouraged to take increasing responsibility for their studies, practicing the disciplines of diligence, self-direction, and perseverance. Establishing strong routines, completing homework, and making time for regular, purposeful study are all essential practices that help form mature and confident learners. In addition to academic formation, Years 9 & 10 students will continue to grow in their faith and character through dedicated experiences in Christian discipleship, leadership, wellbeing, and service.

We look forward to partnering with your family and child.

Sincerely in Christ,

Mr Martin Keast
Principal

Mrs Leisa Williams
Director of Curriculum & Learning

Mrs Wendy Lyons
Head of Secondary





Graduate Profile

Loves God with all his or her heart, mind, soul and strength

- Be equipped with a knowledge of God
- Seek to know the heart of Christ and be transformed into His likeness
- Understand his/her place in God's narrative of history
- Recognize, honour, and submit to God's authority
- Treasure, appreciate, and uphold what is true, good, and beautiful

Loves his/her neighbour

- Dignify and respect all people
- Actively serve his/her church and community
- Pursue servant-leadership in vocation, family, and community
- Speak words of truth and hope to others
- Honour authority in thought, word, and deed
- Protect the weak and oppressed

Is a godly scholar

- Embrace challenging subjects and topics
- Pursue learning and truth throughout his/her lifetime
- Read carefully and critically
- Delight in the written and spoken word
- Listen carefully and discerningly
- Think clearly, precisely, and creatively
- Embody and practice discernment
- Understand the relationship between faith and learning
- Evaluate worldly wisdom and truth according to biblical wisdom
- View every subject as integrated in and through Christ

Pursues excellence to God's glory

- Exhibit excellence in all pursuits to the best of their ability
- Encourage others to do their best

Years 9/10 Curriculum

In Years 9/10 all students will study a total of nine (9) courses each semester (7 core + 2 specialist). The structure of the subject offerings for Years 9/10 2027 will be as follows:

CORE SUBJECTS

Biblical Studies
English Literature
Rhetoric
History
Mathematics
Science
Health and Physical Education

SPECIALIST SUBJECTS (elective choice each semester)

Technologies

Design and Technology
Hospitality
Woodwork

Creative and Performing Arts

Drama
Visual Arts
Music
Photography

Physical Education

PASS
Outdoor Education
Football Academy

Other

Legal Studies
Creative Writing

Distance Education (all year)

Languages
Computer Technology
Commerce





Choosing Elective Subjects in Years 9 and 10

When selecting electives, students should consider:

- Subjects that reflect their God-given interests and talents
- Areas where they have shown effort and growth in Years 7 and 8
- Subjects that challenge them, deepen understanding, and encourage perseverance and a love of learning
- Courses that provide a strong foundation for Years 11 and 12 studies
- Future pathways—whether university, vocational training, or other options—and subjects that may support these

Students are encouraged to avoid selecting subjects based on:

- The influence of peers or the desire to simply follow friends
- The mistaken belief that a subject will be effortless or demand little diligence
- A sense of duty to persist in a subject that has previously been a source of discouragement, especially where consistent growth or success has not been evident

The Role of Parents: Partners in Formation

As the primary educators of their children, parents play a vital role in guiding them through the subject selection process. You can support your child by:

- Reflecting with them on the subject outlined in this handbook, considering areas of interest, aptitude, and calling
- Encouraging them to pursue studies where they may strive for excellence and experience true growth
- Becoming familiar with the School's expectations and assessment practices
- Engaging in thoughtful conversation with teachers to discern your child's strengths, challenges, and possible future pathways

Together, as a community shaped by the truth of Christ, we seek to form students of virtue, wisdom, and service, prepared to pursue lives marked by learning and purpose.

Biblical Studies



In Biblical Studies students are given the opportunity to see that they are a part of a story far greater than their own, where a gracious Creator has woven them into His story of redemption and everlasting hope when they turn to Him in hope and trust through the witnessing of others. Year 9 students explore the Ten Commandments, the role of prayer through the Lord's Prayer and Psalms, early Church heresies and creeds, and the letter of James as Wisdom Literature. They also reflect on intercultural mission work and the role of evangelism and the Church in Christian life. In Year 10, students examine the representation of major world religions and cultural groups in texts and media, compare the influence of religions and cults on individuals and society, and explore different worldviews, including the impact of pluralism in modern Western societies.



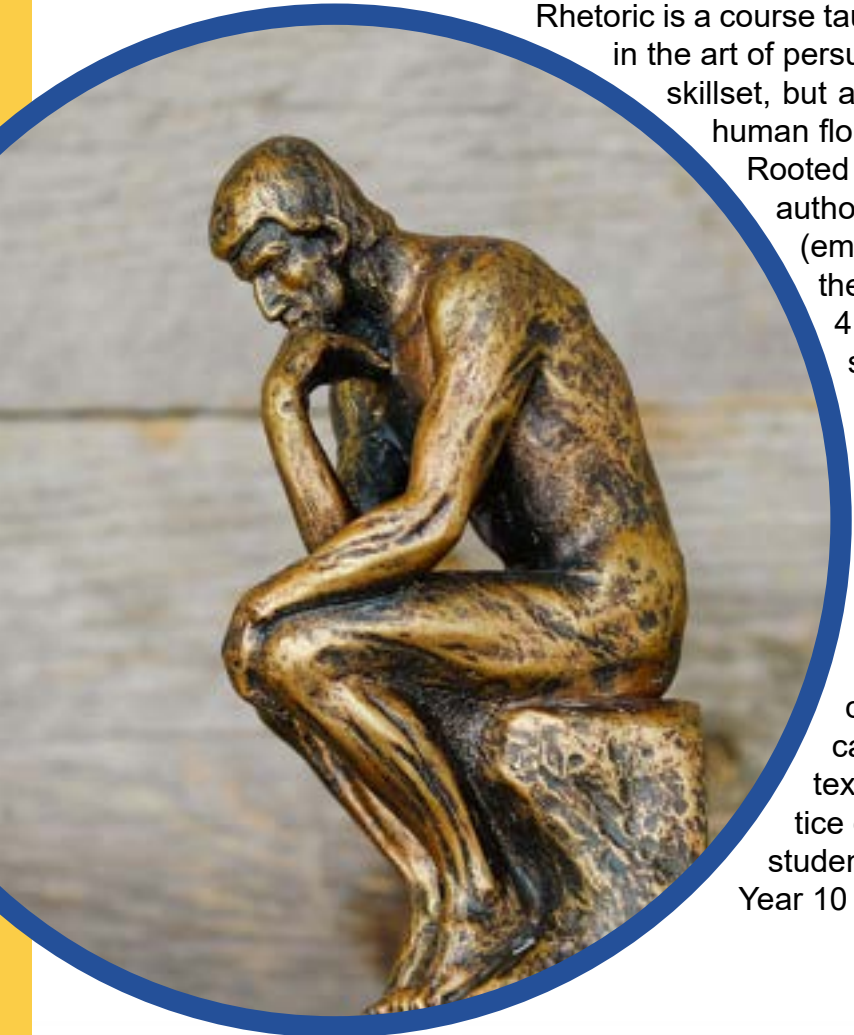
English

In Year 9 students engage with a variety of literary texts taken from the Western canon to develop their comprehension, analytical, and creative skills. They study *The Hound of the Baskervilles* and *Romeo and Juliet*, explore short stories to understand how language and imagery shape meaning, and produce both written and multimodal texts. Their work includes drama, text analysis, creative writing, and written responses.

They also experiment with poetry, refine and learn to organise and communicate ideas effectively. Year 10 students explore literature as social commentary to foster empathy for the poor (Proverbs 14:31), respect for all races (Galatians 3:28), and contentment over greed (1 Timothy 6:10), using language to pursue truth, goodness, and beauty (Philippians 4:8). They study *To Kill A Mockingbird* and *Macbeth*, analysing themes, characterisation, and representation; producing essays, creative, and multimodal texts. They also explore *Animal Farm* and Romantic poetry.



Rhetoric



Rhetoric is a course taught by English teachers that guides students in the art of persuasive speaking and writing—not merely as a skillset, but as a means of cultivating wisdom, virtue, and human flourishing from a biblical Christian perspective. Rooted in the classical tradition of ethos (virtue and authority), logos (reasoned argument), and pathos (emotional appeal), the course also aligns with the biblical call to speak truth in love (Ephesians 4:15) and to let our words be gracious and seasoned with salt (Colossians 4:6). In harmony with an understanding of God’s sovereignty over all of life, Rhetoric trains students to be discerning and articulate communicators who steward language for God’s glory and the good of others. Building on grammar and logic, students explore how words shape souls, how rhetoric can reflect the beauty of God’s truth, and how faithful communication can promote justice, mercy, and humility (Micah 6:8). Through engagement with timeless texts, the study of great speeches, and the practice of thoughtful oral and written communication, students prepare for a capstone thesis project in Year 10 that is in an interest area of their choice.



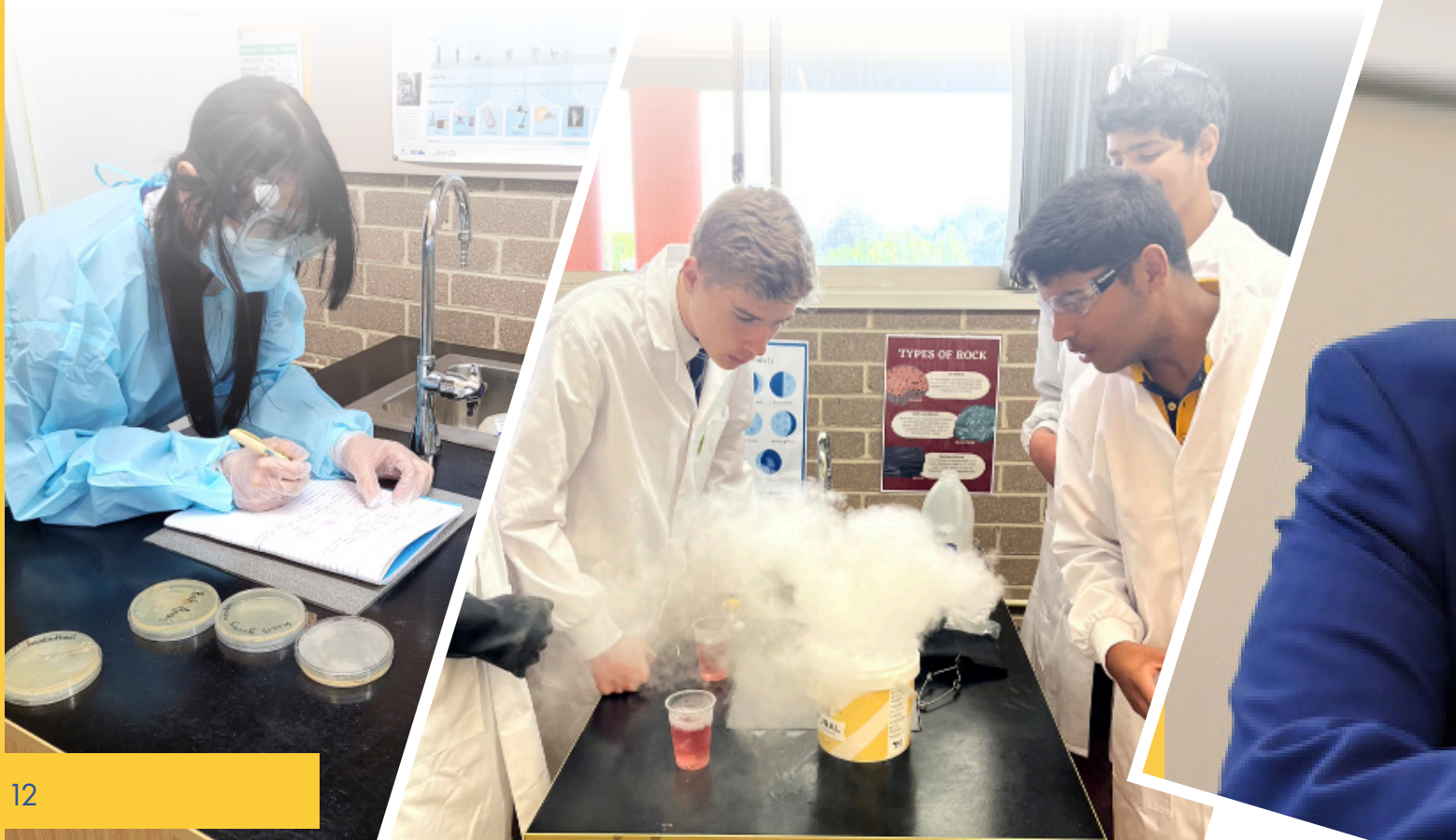
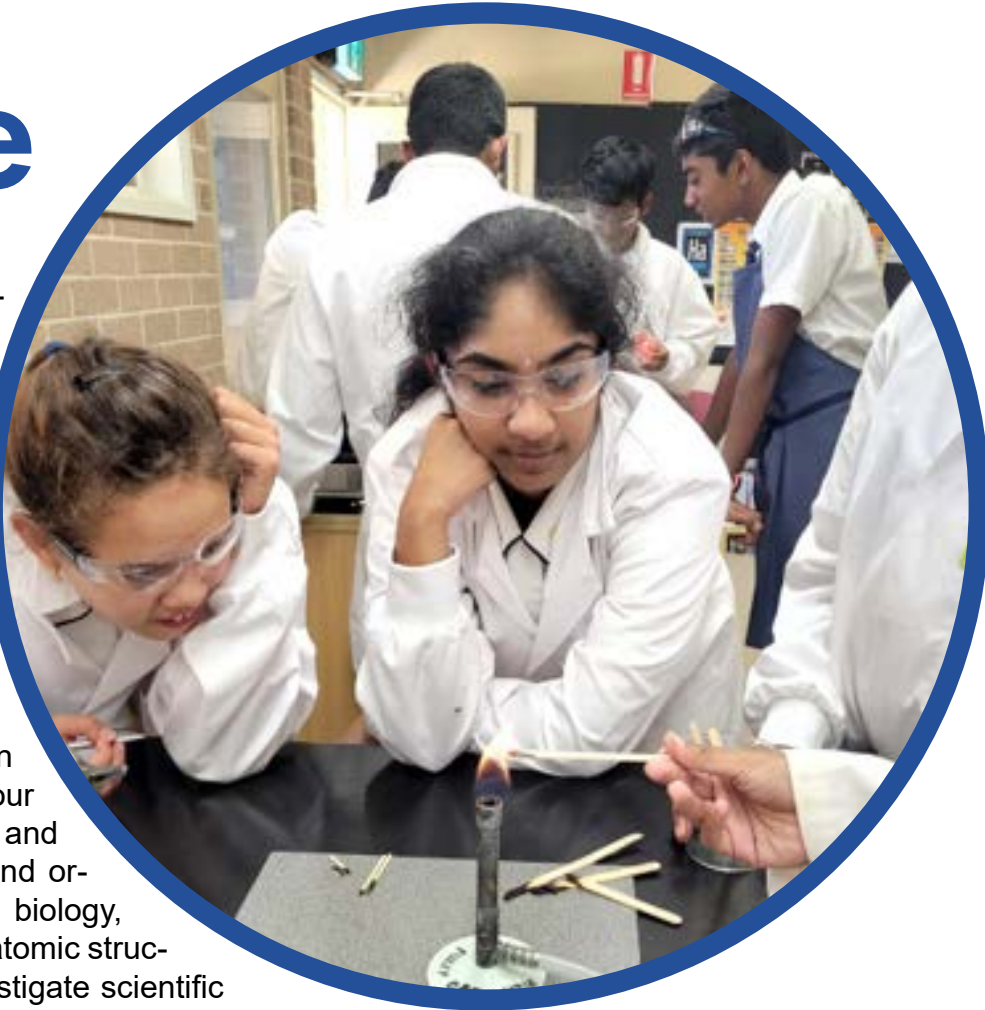
History

The History courses aim for students to grow as curious historians, seeing the modern world has been shaped from what has gone before. A biblical lens under the Lordship of Jesus Christ is applied to all historical study. Students come to appreciate the importance of standing for truth, justice, and human dignity in society. Year 9 explores the early modern world, Australia's formation, and the origins and impact of World War I. Students develop skills in questioning, source evaluation, and building evidence-based historical arguments. Year 10 examines the impact of World War II, the Great Depression, the Holocaust, Building Modern Australia and post-war globalisation. Students analyse causes, effects, and diverse perspectives to understand God's providence and human responsibility in history.



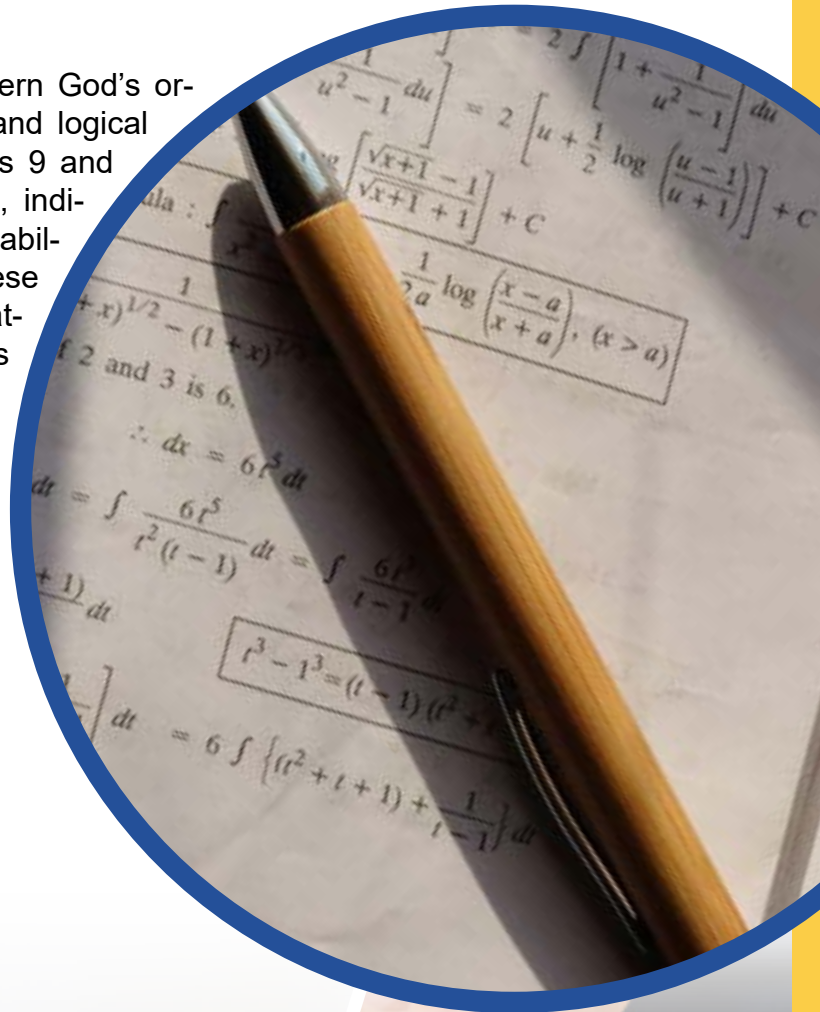
Science

Students are encouraged to marvel at God's incredible creation and the power of His genius, recognising that true knowledge begins with Him (Proverbs 1:7). Students appreciate that the scientific endeavour is grounded on the biblical teaching of a Sovereign God Who rules all things in an orderly and stable way and that we, as His image bearers, are tasked with glorifying Him through studying the creation and learning how to harness it to our benefit and His glory. In Years 9 and 10, they explore the complexity and order of creation through chemistry, biology, physics, and earth science. From atomic structure to ecosystems, students investigate scientific concepts through a biblical lens, practising ethical inquiry and stewardship under the Lordship of Jesus Christ. They critically engage with advances in science, seeing it as a means to glorify God, care for creation, and pursue truth.



Mathematics

Mathematics develops students' ability to discern God's order and truth, building problem-solving skills and logical reasoning to understand His creation. In Years 9 and 10, students study linear relations, quadratics, indices, logarithms, exponentials, geometry, probability, statistics, and trigonometry, and apply these to real-world problems. They explore mathematical patterns that reflect the precision of God's design, growing in critical thinking, numerical fluency, and effective use of technology. This foundation equips them to face challenges confidently, appreciating the eternal truths revealed through mathematics.

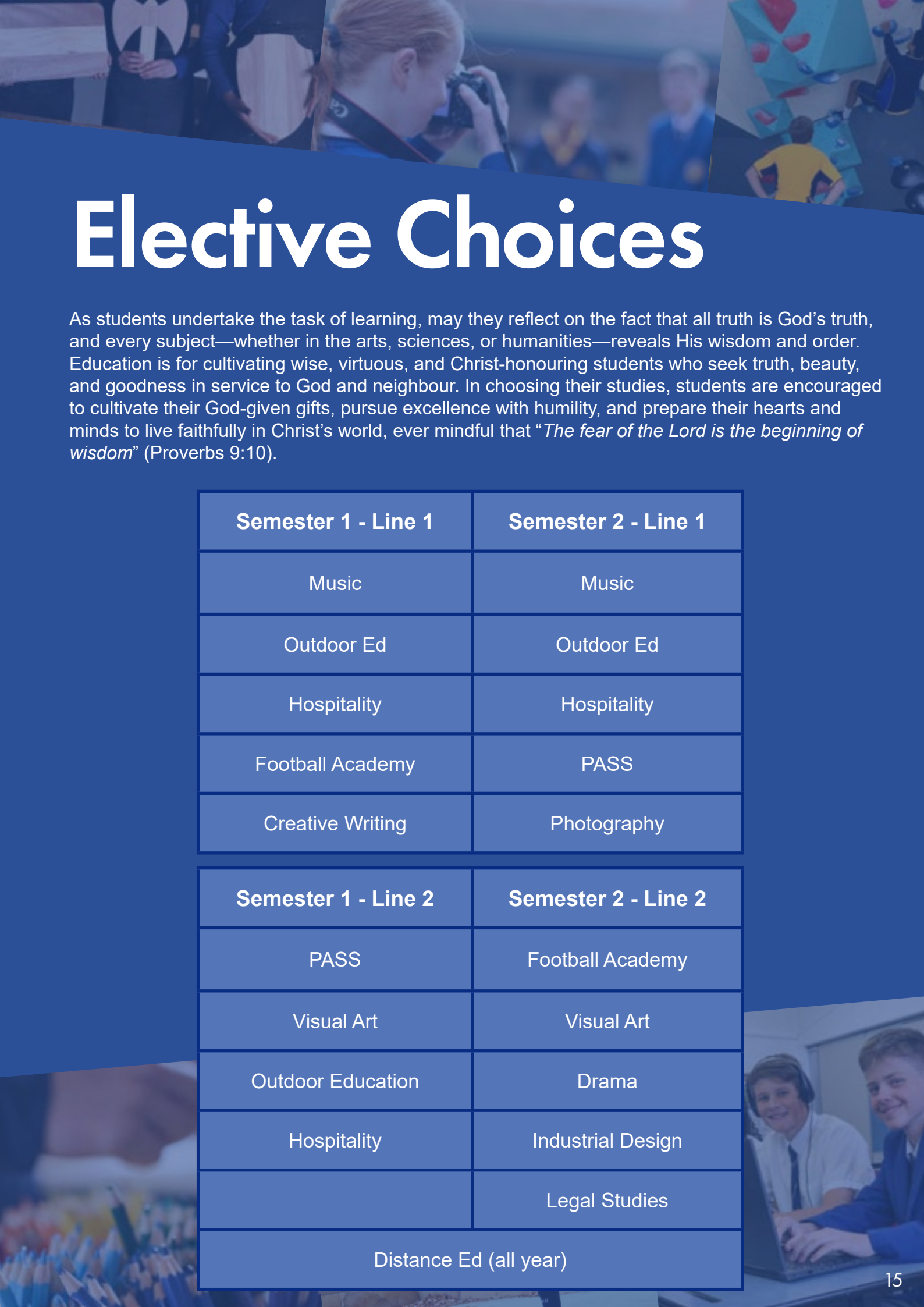


Health & Physical Education (HPE)



Health and Physical Education is a subject where students learn about the wise stewardship of their bodies to God's glory, while developing character virtues such as self-discipline and a sense of community through teamwork. In Year 9, students build leadership and teamwork through physical activity, learning cooperation, fair play, and respect for others in sports such as Athletics and OzTag. They refine movement skills and apply strategies in games like Badminton, Netball, Softball, using set criteria to assess their own and others' performances while giving and receiving feedback. Health lessons focus on friendship, identity, and making safe, wise choices to support wellbeing. While in Year 10, students continue to cultivate leadership and cooperation, developing specialised skills in Athletics, Softcrosse, Badminton, Volleyball, and Basketball. They learn to assess and improve performance thoughtfully. Health studies explore God's design for relationships and how to respond to challenges like sexual harassment, equipping students to make informed, Christ-like decisions that promote health and safety.





Elective Choices

As students undertake the task of learning, may they reflect on the fact that all truth is God's truth, and every subject—whether in the arts, sciences, or humanities—reveals His wisdom and order. Education is for cultivating wise, virtuous, and Christ-honouring students who seek truth, beauty, and goodness in service to God and neighbour. In choosing their studies, students are encouraged to cultivate their God-given gifts, pursue excellence with humility, and prepare their hearts and minds to live faithfully in Christ's world, ever mindful that *"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom"* (Proverbs 9:10).

Semester 1 - Line 1	Semester 2 - Line 1
Music	Music
Outdoor Ed	Outdoor Ed
Hospitality	Hospitality
Football Academy	PASS
Creative Writing	Photography
Semester 1 - Line 2	Semester 2 - Line 2
PASS	Football Academy
Visual Art	Visual Art
Outdoor Education	Drama
Hospitality	Industrial Design
	Legal Studies
Distance Ed (all year)	

Creative Writing

Fee Band: C



In Creative Writing, students develop and use their gifts to articulate truths and to express them with beauty. They study exceptional poets and fiction writers, both classical and modern, to observe and practice their craft. They explore various genres and structural forms, training their imagination to write longer, deeper narratives than standard English classes allow. Supported by a community of peers and the class teacher, students give and receive careful critique, developing the observation and analytical skills essential to literary excellence.



Photography

Fee Band: C

Classical Education has always prized the training of perception — teaching students to notice order, proportion and beauty in the world before them. Photography is a wonderful discipline through which to practise this. As the Psalmist writes, “The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands” (Psalm 19:1). Every landscape framed and every macro detail captured is an invitation for students to slow down and truly behold the intricacy of God’s creation, rather than simply looking past it.

This course develops a student’s knowledge and understanding of DSLR or Mirrorless cameras, alongside the elements and principles of photography, giving them time to apply this knowledge and refine their craft. Students will gain practical experience across a range of photographic genres, including landscapes, macro and portraiture — learning to see the ordinary transformed through careful attention and disciplined skill. They will also explore photo editing and post-processing, the patient work of refining an image until it reflects “whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is lovely” (Philippians 4:8).

Students will need to bring their own DSLR or mirrorless camera to each lesson. Access to a laptop and photo editing program would also be beneficial.



Outdoor Education

Fee Band: A



Outdoor Education invites students to delight in God's creation, developing resilience, teamwork, and a deeper appreciation for the beauty and order of the natural world. Through outdoor pursuits, students cultivate practical skills, value community, and are encouraged to steward creation wisely, recognising God's sovereignty and providence. The course fosters character growth and transformation, with the ultimate goal of glorifying God and enjoying Him through all experiences.

Activities vary by year and are subject to availability. These may include Ice Skating, Orienteering, Bike Riding, an overnight camp related to an activity, Bouldering & Rock Climbing, Fishing, Summit Seekers (hiking), and Sailing.

To enrol, students must be able to swim 25 metres unaided. A good quality off-road bicycle is strongly recommended for Bike Riding.



Physical Activity & Sport Studies P.A.S.S

Fee Band: A

PASS aims to inspire students to care for and strengthen their bodies through informed exercise, grounded in understanding and appreciating God's wonderful design of their bodies through studying anatomy, physiology, and training principles. By engaging in practical activities like gym excursions and designing personalised fitness routines, students will learn how the body adapts to physical activity and how to apply concepts like progressive overload to improve strength and endurance. The goal is to help students develop sustainable habits that promote lifelong health and physical well-being, fostering perseverance and a sense of stewardship of their bodies—all in a way that honours God and His creation.



Football Academy

Fee Band: B

In Football Academy students learn that mastering advanced football tactics requires strategic thinking, adaptability, and teamwork. They learn that structure and strategy provide a strong foundation for creativity and adaptability in football, allowing them to make informed decisions that enhance both individual and team performance. By understanding and applying advanced tactics, they develop virtues of discipline, leadership, and teamwork, recognising that growth comes through perseverance, reflection, and a commitment to continuous improvement—both on the field and in life, as part of God's design for order and excellence.



Distance Education: Commerce

Whole Year Fee: \$370 Approximately

The Commerce course offered through Finigan School of Distance Education is designed to introduce students to the fundamentals of business and economic systems. While specific course content details are not provided in the available resources, such courses typically cover topics like personal finance, consumer rights, the role of businesses in society, and basic economic principles. Students are expected to develop practical skills in managing money, understanding markets, and exploring career pathways in commerce-related fields. The course encourages independent learning and critical thinking, with a focus on applying knowledge to real-world situations. Students must have reliable internet access at home and are expected to commit to regular homework each week alongside their class time. Both single-year (100-hour) and two-year (200-hour) course options are available.

For more detailed information about the distance education courses content and structure, you may refer to the Single Course Information Handbook available on the Finigan School of Distance Education website.



Distance Education: Computer Technology

Whole Year Fee: \$370 Approximately



People will require highly developed levels of computing and technology literacy for their future lives. Students therefore need to be aware of the scope, limitations and implications of information and software technologies. A range of projects will enable this practical based course to deliver the relevant knowledge and skills needed by students. Development of technology skills and information about career opportunities within this area are important aspects of the course.

Students wishing to study computing technology (100 hours) can enrol as an external student in a distance education course (Finigan). There are both single year (100 hour) and 2 year courses (200 hour) available; this course will require internet access at home. Students need to commit to some homework each week in addition to the class time.

All applications for enrolment must be made through Covenant Christian School before 30 October the year prior.

For more detailed information about the distance education courses content and structure, you may refer to the Single Course Information Handbook available on the Finigan School of Distance Education website.



Distance Education: Languages

Whole Year Fee: \$370 Approximately

Languages courses provide students with the opportunity to gain effective skills in communicating in the chosen language, to explore the relationship between languages and English, and to develop an understanding of the cultures associated with the chosen language.

Students wishing to commence or continue their study of a foreign language have the option of enrolling as an external student in a distance education course (Finigans or NSW School of Languages). This is a whole year course and will require internet access at home. Foreign language students need to commit to some homework each week in addition to the class time.



Enrolment is available in the following languages:

- | | | |
|------------|----------------|-----------|
| • French | • Indonesian | • Russian |
| • German | • Korean | • Spanish |
| • Italian | • Latin | • EALD |
| • Japanese | • Modern Greek | |
| • Chinese | • Portuguese | |

All applications for enrolment must be made through Covenant Christian School before 30 October the year prior.

For more detailed information about the distance education courses content and structure, you may refer to the Single Course Information Handbook available on the Finigan School of Distance Education website.



Legal Studies

Fee Band: C



In Legal Studies students explore the foundations of Australia's political and legal systems, including how laws are made, the separation of powers, the role of courts, and the responsibilities of government both nationally and internationally. They also examine how the High Court interprets the Constitution, how international obligations influence domestic law, and how democracy faces challenges such as political apathy and social inequality. It is hoped that students will grow in wisdom and discernment, recognising law as part of God's good order for society. They will be encouraged to seek justice, uphold truth, and engage with legal and ethical issues with integrity, compassion, and a heart for the common good. Through research, analysis, and critical thinking, students will build the knowledge and skills needed to become active, thoughtful citizens who contribute positively to their communities.



Hospitality

Fee Band: B

In Hospitality, students reflect on the Christian perspective of hospitality, considering how the act of preparing and sharing meals can foster community and demonstrate care for others. They develop invaluable kitchen skills and deepen their knowledge of nutrition and food production. They experience food and the preparation of it as being a gift from God, and develop a greater appreciation of this gift which nourishes the body, provides a sensory experience, and has an impact on human wellbeing.



Drama

Fee Band: C



Drama invites students to express truth, beauty, and creativity, using their God-given gifts to glorify Him and shine His light into the world (Matthew 5:16). Through collaborative performances, both scripted and devised, students develop skills in theatre, storytelling, and audience engagement. They will also consider the role of the theatrical industry today and how Christians can bring light into spaces often shaped by secularism. Drama invites students to grow in confidence, creativity, and purpose, using the stage to serve others and honour God.



Music

Fee Band: B

Music is a precious gift from God, reflecting His creative nature and providing a meaningful way for humans to respond, connect, and celebrate. It is an essential element in the worship of God and thus worthy of our study and effort. It is a powerful means of engaging with the fullness of life that God has given us, capable of influencing emotions, evoking memories, fostering reflection, and commemorating significant people and events. At its deepest level, music can connect us to our Creator, inspiring a sense of divine presence. Through experiences in composition, performance, and listening, students will develop their understanding of key musical concepts. They explore how these elements combine to produce the musical features of various styles. Performance opportunities will further deepen their appreciation of music as both an artistic and spiritual expression.



Design & Technology (Woodwork)

Fee Band: B

Woodwork aims for students to grow in gratitude for God's provision, develop practical skills, and learn to wisely steward His creation for His glory. Throughout the course students develop wood-working knowledge and practical skills to design and create a project using one board of wood, with a strong focus on sustainability and stewardship. Rooted in a biblical understanding that all resources are entrusted to us by God, students are encouraged to approach design with care for creation and responsibility for future generations.

Students learn to work skilfully and safely with tools and materials, evaluate needs and opportunities, and produce high-quality, functional projects. Throughout the process, they apply thoughtful design principles, consider sustainability, and reflect on how creativity and craftsmanship can honour the Creator.



Visual Art

Fee Band: B

Visual Art teaches students what it means to be creative, expressive image-bearers of God, and equips them to think critically about the world around them. The Visual Arts provides students opportunities to pursue excellence in technical skills while also exploring conceptually what it means to know the goodness of God while living in a fallen world. Visual Arts assists students in developing their artistic abilities for meaningful purposes. The curriculum guides students through the technical progression of 2D and 3D artforms, such as painting, ceramics, drawing, printmaking, sculpting and graphic art while encouraging experimentation with materials and compositions inspired by both historical and contemporary artists. They will learn to analyse and interpret artistic choices, document their creative process, fostering reflection and refinement. Overall, the approach aims to develop students' technical skills, interpretive understanding, and spiritual insight, recognizing their capacity to create for good and for God's glory.





2027 9/10 Elective Fee Schedule

Band	Approximate cost per semester	Subjects
A	\$210	Outdoor Education, PASS
B	\$80	Hospitality, Design & Technology Woodwork, Visual Art, Music, Football Academy
C	\$45	Drama, Legal Studies, Creative Writing, Photography
Whole year		Distance Education Courses (Foreign Languages or other) - \$370/year approximately





Cultivating Truth, Beauty and Goodness

Phillipians 4:8

Finally, brothers whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.



