



# Gawler & District College B-12

## Year 9 | 2026 Elective Options

# From Our Principal

We believe that:

- Learning is a partnership to be shared by the student, the school and their parents/caregivers.
- Our objective is to provide a supportive School environment in which students can achieve their greatest potential.
- This will be achieved if students, supported by their families, always strive for excellence and give of their best and view learning as a lifelong process.
- Every endeavour should be made to make learning engaging for students.

Craig Brown, Principal

## Course Selection

Making choices of subjects is very important. Every student should make a serious effort to plan their curriculum pathway to enable them to follow their chosen career path and interests.

In selecting a course students should consider:

- The curriculum pattern
- Student interests
- Career choices and/or post school options
- Current subjects and progress
- Subject teacher recommendations

Students can get help to choose the most appropriate course by talking to:

- Parents/Caregivers and/or their friends
- Home Care Teacher
- Subject Teachers
- Year Level Manager
- School Counsellors
- The SACE Coordinator

Information to help choose wisely is available from:

- This Curriculum Guide
- The Job Guide
- SATAC Guides
- Internet
- Tertiary Institution information
- Pamphlets and booklets in the Year 11 & 12 Study Areas

Parents/Cargivers can help by:

- Being positive, supportive and encouraging
- Assisting in finding information
- Attending course counselling days

Remember:

- Subject choices must be based on as much information as possible.
- YOU are responsible for YOUR subject choices.
- Subjects must be selected for the whole year.
- Choose carefully. Selections are considered to be FINAL and it may not be possible to make changes.
- The school will make every effort to offer the subjects that you select. However, this may not be possible.

You will be consulted if changes need to be made.



### Introduction & Content

#### Choosing Subjects

Carefully read the subject descriptors before selecting your units.

We suggest you keep this Curriculum Guide for all of next year so that you may refer back to this information in discussing study plans for next year and beyond.

Progression to the next level of study is dependent upon students meeting the work and assessment requirements to a satisfactory (C grade) standard. Progress and course selection may have to be negotiated individually if student achievement is not satisfactory.

Additional information is available to students through sessions with Home Care teachers, year level assemblies, special assemblies for particular topics and discussions with subject teachers. Students are also encouraged to access other sources of information.

Additional information is available to parents and students through an information evening. Parents can contact appropriate school personnel if they require any further information.

Whilst there is a set curriculum pattern of required subjects at Years 7-10, some flexibility is possible to meet individual student needs.

Students, with assistance from parents/caregivers and counselling from Home Care teachers and/or counselling personnel, nominate their subject preferences. Students are issued with a computer printout of their choices.

The school timetable is constructed on the basis of student choices within the constraints of staffing and school resources.

Although every effort is made to accommodate all student preferences this is not always possible. Where students are unable to study their selected subjects they are re-counselled to enable them to select appropriate replacement subjects.

Students, with support from parents, will have limited opportunities to make changes to the chosen course.



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### Year 9 Curriculum

Year 9 is structured to support students through adolescence and ensure that learning occurs in an environment that promotes enthusiasm, commitment and continuous improvement, so that students achieve their greatest potential.

#### WE OFFER:

- A broad and balanced curriculum across the 8 areas of study
- Extensive access to computers throughout the school
- Access to a broad range of sporting and other extra-curricular activities
- Celebration of student success
- A comprehensive pastoral care program and encouragement of student leadership and participation in decision-making.

#### Year 9

- All students will complete compulsory subjects of:
  - English
  - Mathematics
  - Science
  - Health and Physical Education
  - History
- Students will also study elective subjects (descriptions of these subjects are in this booklet)



### Business

1 Semester

Discover how businesses bring ideas to life and make them work in the real world! In this practical and creative elective, you'll learn the basics of how the economy works and why businesses exist. Explore key concepts like supply and demand, and find out what makes a product successful. You'll get to design your own product, create marketing strategies, develop logos, and learn how to listen to customers. This subject is perfect for anyone curious about how business and economics shape the world around us.

### Agriculture

1 or 2 Semesters

Students selecting Agriculture need to be aware that this is a practical subject and so they are required to work within the full scope of Animal Husbandry and Horticulture. They need to have appropriate clothing and closed-in footwear for Agricultural lessons. Students may choose either one or two units

Over the course of the year students will focus on a range of both animal and plant based agriculture looking at safe work practices, horticulture, animal husbandry and agribusiness. Possible unit could include a focus on poultry, goats, market gardens, propagation methods, climate understanding and agricultural technology.

### Finance

1 Semester

Are you a dollar lover? Do you think you have skills to handle money effortlessly? Have you recently started working? Then "Fun with Finance" is the course for you. In here you will be engaged in exploring the paths of budgeting, loan repayments and taxation.

Financial literacy supports you to get an understanding on variety of financial skills. Being Financial literate people are generally less vulnerable to get involved in financial fraud. Key aspects of this course will include learning to create a budget, understanding and exploring tax, investing money to save up for your future dream car, managing debts and comparing loans.

So are you excited to save up some dollars and have fun with finance? Limited spots available.



### Specialist Physical Education

1 Semester

This course will support students to develop the knowledge, understanding and skills they require to improve their own and others' health and wellbeing, movement and participation in physical activity. Senior PE concepts and assessment strategies will be introduced to best prepare students for future success. Students will demonstrate a range of roles within the organisation of games and sport especially umpiring and scoring. This course includes both theory and practical activities. Students will cover the focus areas of Benefits of Physical Activity, analysis of skills, skill acquisition and the use of technology to provide evidence of learning combined with the practical areas of Soccer, Volleyball, Sofcrosse and Racquet sports. Recommended 'B' or better in Year 8 and or 9 Core HPE.

### Music

12 Semesters

Year 9 Music is a full-year course that builds on the foundational skills developed in Years 7 and 8, with a stronger emphasis on instrumental or vocal development, ensemble performance, creativity, and musical exploration. Students will participate in ensembles, performing a variety of repertoire and exploring music from different cultures and historical periods. They will perform using music notation, create original compositions using music notation software and digital audio workspaces, and analyse music styles and conventions through listening, research, and discussion. The course also introduces the basics of sound engineering and technical setup procedures. Students are expected to attend weekly instrumental lessons, either provided by the school or sourced privately. This subject offers pathways into careers such as performer, music technician, recording artist, composer, conductor, teacher, musicologist, sound engineer, producer, and many more.

### Performance & Theatre Design

1 OR 2 Semesters

In the Year 9 Performance and Theatre Design elective, which can be studied for one or two semesters, students who enjoy performing, creating plays, or working as part of a team are encouraged to take part. They will work both individually and in groups to develop performances, using scripts and performing for a range of audiences. The course includes an introduction to various theatre styles, such as melodrama and children's theatre, while also exploring backstage roles including lighting, music, set design, makeup, and costume design. Students will reflect on their own work and that of others through discussion and written responses. This subject can lead to future pathways such as scriptwriting, teaching, directing, media and communication, theatrical makeup artistry, performance, acting, stage technology, filmmaking, and more.



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### Sound Technology

1 OR 2 Semesters

In the Year 9 Sound Technology course, which can be studied for one or two semesters, students will explore the processes involved in live performance, audio production, recording, and sound art. They will use digital audio software to create music and sound effects, including foley art. Students will learn how to set up and pack down sound equipment for musical performances and school events, operate mixing desks and other live sound gear, and use recording equipment and software to produce high-quality demos and albums. The course also introduces techniques for creating live digital music, similar to DJ performances. There are no prerequisites for this subject. It provides a strong foundation for future pathways such as sound engineer, sound technician, foley artist, sound producer, and more.

### Visual Art: Art/Design

1 OR 2 Semesters

In the Year 9 Visual Art: Art/Design course, which can be studied for one or two semesters, students are encouraged to develop their creativity through hands-on exploration of various art forms. They will create original artworks using a wide range of media, including pencil, paint, printmaking, clay, model making, and other sculptural techniques. Students will investigate the practices of visual artists and reflect on their own work through discussion and written responses. The course also introduces design concepts, allowing students to create logos and explore fashion design using digital media. Opportunities for excursions to view professional artworks will be offered, and students will have the chance to exhibit their own work in the Gawler and District College SALA Art Exhibition in August. This subject supports future pathways such as artist, designer, illustrator, animator, photographer, art gallery curator, art teacher, architect, and more.

### Media Arts

1 Semester

In the Year 9 Media Arts course, students will explore a variety of digital technologies to create animations, short films, and photographic artworks. They will learn the 12 Principles of Animation and use Adobe Animate to produce their own animated projects. The course includes character design and animation, allowing students to bring their ideas to life through movement and storytelling. Students will also explore and respond to the work of graphic designers, photographers, and filmmakers, while learning to adjust camera settings and apply techniques to produce multimedia artworks. This subject can lead to future pathways such as photographer, graphic designer, filmmaker, digital illustrator, teacher, social media manager, animator, character designer, and more.



### Woodwork

1 Semester

Students will use a variety of hand skills and workshop machines to learn basic woodworking joints and frame construction techniques. Students will develop their design skills while investigating how material choice affects different design styles and ideas. Students will then use all of these techniques to research existing ideas, design, produce and evaluate a product of their own. Recommended – a further interest in study in this field.

### Metal Fabrication

1 Semester

Students will use a variety of hand skills and gas welding equipment to learn some basic fabrication techniques. Students will develop their design skills while investigating how material choice affects different design styles and ideas. Students will then use all of these techniques to research existing ideas, design, produce and evaluate a product of their own. Recommended – a further interest in study in this field.

### Jewellery Making

1 Semester

Students will start off with developing their cutting and texturing skills. Students will then learn about the two joining techniques; cold connections and heating. They will then learn about the concepts of soldering and sweat soldering. Students will mostly be making pendants and a simple ring band. A group task in using the laser cutter to cut a mould from Cuttlefish and then melt metal to create a pendant.

Recommended – a further interest in study in this field.

### Advanced Manufacturing

1 Semester

In Year 9 Advanced Manufacturing, students deepen their CAD programming expertise through engaging projects that utilise both additive and subtractive manufacturing techniques. They work with our 3D printers and new laser cutter to bring their designs to life, mastering the art of creating detailed isometric and orthographic sketches using precise measurement tools. A major highlight of the year is their project to design, prototype, and produce mobility aids tailored to benefit our community. This comprehensive experience not only hones their technical skills but also emphasizes the impact of engineering solutions on real-world challenges, fostering creativity, precision, and a sense of social responsibility. Recommended – a further interest in study in this field.



### Engineering

1 Semester

In Year 9 Engineering, students take their understanding of CAD programming to the next level as they delve into the exciting world of STEM-based learning. This semester's focus is on designing Formula One dragsters, where students apply their skills to create high-performance vehicles aimed at reaching peak speed. They explore the principles of physics to enhance their designs and utilize Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) programming to analyse airflow and optimise performance. This hands-on approach not only deepens their technical knowledge but also ignites their passion for engineering as they race their creations and witness the results of their hard work and innovation!

Recommended – a further interest in study in this field.

### Robotics and Electronics

1 Semester

Are you the type of person who likes to figure out how things work? Do you like problem solving? Would you like to build robots? In Robotics and Electronics, students will grow and develop a good working knowledge of Electronics and Robotic Engineering through practical tutorials utilising equipment like the VEX Robotics kits. They will be presented with real world problems, and will have to design and test solutions to solve them.

### Coding and Game Development

1 Semester

If you love games and want to learn how to make them, then this course will start you down that path. Making games is a creative and technical art form. In this course students will familiarize themselves with the tools and processes involved in game development. Using programs like GameMaker, students will be building their own computer games. They'll also be developing basic games in Python, one of the fastest growing and currently in demand coding languages. This course is for individuals interested in digital technology, and can lead to careers like: game designer or programmer, animator, app developer, cyber security professional, website designer or cloud engineer.

### Food Technology

1 or 2 Semesters

In this Year 9 Food Elective, students will actively participate in creating a diverse range of dishes, from family meals to designing and decorating special occasion cupcakes. The course includes research on food contamination and healthy eating practices. Design projects offer students the opportunity to work individually or in small groups, producing food for various catering opportunities.



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### Child Studies

1 Semester

Explore the fundamentals of pregnancy and early child development. The course will cover the essential topic of prenatal care, stages of pregnancy, and the physical and emotional changes that occur during this period. Gain a foundational understanding of child development, including key milestones and factors that influence growth and development in the early years.

### Textiles

1 or 2 Semesters

Students will have the opportunity to enhance their textile skills using a variety of tools, including sewing machines and overlockers. They will engage in projects of personal interest, such as creating clothing, soft toys, cushions, and bean bags.

Please note that students may be required to purchase some of the necessary materials.