



2026 YEAR 8
**COURSE
HANDBOOK**

Curriculum Overview

In Year 8 all students will have exposure to every learning area. Students will have timetabled classes in Maths, English, Science, Humanities, Physical Education and Health. Students will continue with the same language that they studied in Year 7 for the year (Italian or Indonesian). The Technologies, Digital Technologies and The Arts subjects will be rotated over Years 7 and 8 to achieve the correct subject balance to meet SCISA (School Curriculum and Standards Authority) requirements, and to give exposure to as many subjects and contexts as possible. The table below outlines the Year 8 timetable.

Learning Area	Sessions of Study Per Week (1 Session = 64mins)
Compulsory Subjects	21 Sessions
English	4 sessions
Mathematics	4 sessions
Humanities and Social Sciences	4 sessions
Science	4 sessions
Languages (Italian or Indonesian)	2 sessions
Physical Education	2 sessions
Health	1 session
Technologies	2 sessions
The Arts	2 sessions
Total Overall Hours	25 Sessions

The information included in this handbook gives an overview of the subjects which students will be studying in 2026.

THE ARTS LEARNING AREA

The Arts Enrichment Program

This is a year-long invitation only course.

Students enrolled in Year 7 who received a 'C' or better are eligible to move into Year 8 automatically.

Other interested students are required to submit an Expression of Interest Form and then may be required to present a portfolio of work and/or participate in an interview. From this, successful applicants are invited to join The Arts Enrichment Program.

SEMESTER 1

Visual Arts Enrichment

Entering the second year of the program students will continue their studies in Visual Arts, building their knowledge of a range of media and art styles. Students will continue to build their skills and understandings of the creative process through the creations of 2D and 3D resolved artworks. The course is then supported and extended by a range of incursions and excursions throughout the year to work with other artists and techniques, visit exhibitions and participate in art making activities.

SEMESTER 2

Drama Enrichment

As per SCSA reporting requirements, Year 8 students will undertake a semester of the Performing Arts context Drama with a focus on its' more practical elements. For example, students may explore puppetry, prop design and construction, and SFX makeup as they investigate character design and creation.

Visual Art

In Visual Art, students will have the opportunity to use and apply visual art language and increasing complex artistic conventions as they create their own 2D and/or 3D artwork based on a range of stimuli from portraits to still life to landscapes. Their projects will encourage and develop their ability to respond to their own artwork and the work of others. Studio areas may include drawing, painting, printmaking, ceramics and sculpture. Students will have the opportunity to have their work displayed in our gallery space throughout the year.

Media Studies

This practical course will expand on the knowledge students have about the communication model and how to explore different viewpoints in contemporary media. Students will develop skills in planning and creating their own media work plus develop the language and skills to respond to their own work and the work of others. Students continue building skills in visual literacy and photography. Students will be introduced to design processes, including storyboarding, through to filming and editing, to adding special effects using the green screen in our purpose built Media Studio.

Students work as a team, follow timelines, and use processes and strategies to ensure safe and responsible use of media equipment.

Specialist Music Program (By application only - selection process applies)

The CVC Specialist Music Program is designed to give students a strong foundation in instrumental and performance skills as well as developing their understanding of music theory through composition and song writing. With access to a great resource of instruments, technology and tutors, we offer students the opportunity to develop their love of music to their full potential, focussing on their individual needs.

Specialist Music Students attend Music study for 2 hours each week as part of the curriculum. During these classes students develop their performance skills, having opportunities to engage with other instruments such as bass, drums, keyboard, vocals, ukulele, and percussion. Students also learn the fundamentals of song writing and incorporate a wide range of music technology in their compositions, such as GarageBand, Pro Tools and Sibelius.

Performance is a high focus, with students performing in their class ensembles in Year 7, 8 and 9, as well as extra-curricular ensembles that operate within the college, such as Junior, Intermediate and Senior Concert Band.

IMSS – we work alongside the Instrumental Music School Services who provide tuition for students on their chosen instrument. This is in addition to the class music program.

As an extension to the IMSS services provided, CVC employs extra instrumental tutors to provide opportunities for rock drums and vocals. All tutors are professional musicians working within the music industry.

Circus

In this course students will be developing and exploring circus and self-management skills, develop an understanding of stage practices, learning to engage audiences, develop safe practices, work in a team and performing. As part of this course students will receive an overview of the performing arts with a focus on the skills needed to perform in a circus team.

Dance

In this course students will learn about dance and performance skills. Students will be given the opportunity to develop skills in body awareness, balance, flexibility, co-ordination and stamina. This course will be focusing on a range of dance styles. Students will have the opportunity to devise and create their own movement sequences. This course will be great preparation for students wishing to enrol in Dance in upper school.

Drama - Theatre Experience

“All the worlds a stage.” Explore the world of drama and theatre in this ‘taster’ course. Activities include improvisation-based games, mime, pantomime, and voice to help build confidence to perform on the stage. Students will develop short plays and fractured fairy tales in our wonderfully equipped Performing Arts Centre. This program may include a professional theatre company production incursion and will incur a charge. This course is great to assist students in gaining confidence in public speaking and as preparation for those wishing to enrol in drama in upper school to have the opportunity to participate in Festivals and School Productions.

TECHNOLOGIES LEARNING AREA

Design and Technologies – Food Specialisations

This course is a semester long course with students experiencing food preparation techniques. Students will develop skills in food handling and preparation. Students will address healthy eating and a balanced diet for adolescence.

Design and Technologies – Materials and Technologies Specialisations

A practical based subject designed to provide students with the opportunity to develop skills in a variety of disciplines such as woodwork, metalwork, jewellery making, plastics and building construction. Focusing primarily in the development of production skills, this subject will provide students with hands-on experience working with woods, metals, plastics and construction materials to develop skills in the design and fabrication of various projects and to acquire a working knowledge of the tools and machinery commonly used in modern trades. Possible projects include a toolbox, side table and pendant making.

Digital Technologies – ICT (Information and Communication Technology)

The Year 8 Digital Technologies Course is a compulsory semester-long program where students explore digital systems,

computer networks, Python programming and creating a logo and web site for a client. Students will learn about the interaction between hardware and software in digital systems and how data is represented. In computer networks, they will learn about different network types and methods of data transmission in wired and wireless networks. Students will also design a logo and develop a website, applying their skills in real-world scenarios.

Design and Technologies – Materials Engineering Principles and Systems

Materials Engineering is a specialist subject available only for application entry. This subject is part of the Canning Vale College STEM Engineering Specialist program incorporating Science and Mathematics subjects. Students in this subject will study the use of motion, force and energy to manipulate and control electromechanical and mechanical systems. This subject provides an ideal pathway for ATAR and University entry.

Digital Technologies – ICT Engineering

Digital Technologies – ICT Engineering is a specialist subject available only for application entry. This subject is part of the Canning Vale College STEM Engineering Specialist program incorporating ICT and Mathematics subjects. Students in this subject will study Data Collection and Analysis, Algorithm Design, Computer Programming, and Computer Hardware and Software. They will also practice Office Suite Skills throughout. This subject provides an ideal pathway for ATAR and University entry.

LANGUAGES LEARNING AREA

Students will **continue** with the **same language** that they studied in Year 7.

Italian

Students will further develop the skills of listening and speaking, reading and writing and will apply their knowledge in a variety of contexts. They will also deepen their appreciation of cultural differences and similarities between life in Italy and Australia. The Year 8 course will cover the themes of 'This is My School', 'My Typical Day', 'Let's go Shopping' and 'Celebrations'.

Indonesian

Students will further develop the skills of listening and speaking, reading and writing and will apply their knowledge in a variety of contexts. They will also deepen their appreciation of cultural differences and similarities between life in Indonesia and Australia. The Year 8 course will cover the themes of 'My Day', 'Detective Academy', 'Want to come along?' and 'Let's go to Indonesia.'