



Pinjarra Senior High School

Lower School Prospectus

Lower School Course Guide 2027

Electives | Specialist Programs | Courses

Introduction 3

Mandatory Courses 4

English	4
Mathematics	4
Science	4
Humanities & Social Sciences (HASS)	4
Health & Physical Education	5
Languages - Auslan	5

Year 7 Elective Courses 6

Digital Technologies	6
Technologies	6
Languages - Auslan	6
Drama	7
Visual Arts	7
Music	7

Year 8 Elective Courses 8

Languages - Auslan	8
Digital Technologies	8
Technologies	8
Drama	9
Visual Arts	9
Music	9

Year 9 Elective Courses 10

Digital Technologies	10
Home Economics	10
Materials Design Technology	10
Introduction to Automotive Technology	10
Stem Innovation	11
Drama	11
Visual Arts	11
Sport, Fitness & Recreation	11

Year 10 Elective Courses 12

Outdoor Education	12
Automotive Technologies	12
Materials Design Technologies	12
Home Economics - Food	12
Stem Innovation	13
Drama	13
Visual Arts	13
Media Production & Analysis	13

Specialist Programs 14

Pinjarra Football & Netball Academy	14
Academic Extension Program	15

INTRODUCTION

This prospectus describes the curriculum for Years 7 to 10 at Pinjarra Senior High School in 2027. Students study compulsory courses (English, Mathematics, Science, Humanities and Social Sciences, Health and Physical Education) and undertake a range of Elective courses to complement their learning program. Many of these are mandatory for Year 7 and 8.

Year 7 and 8's undertake 'taster' courses throughout the year (eg: Home Economics, Digital Technologies etc.). This enables students to select their preferred Elective pathways in Year 9 and 10.

Students in Year 9 and 10 have the opportunity to choose Elective courses. This creates a more individualised program in addition to their MESH subjects, where students can build on and develop skills in the areas of their preferred courses.

The following table shows the core areas covered in Years 7-10:

LEARNING AREA	Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10
English	●	●	●	●
Mathematics	●	●	●	●
Science	●	●	●	●
Humanities & Social Sciences	●	●	●	●
Health & Physical Education	●	●	●	●
Technologies	●	●		
Performing Arts & Visual Arts	●	●		
Languages	●	●		

MANDATORY COURSES

ENGLISH

The study of English is central to the learning and development of all young Australians. It helps create confident communicators, imaginative thinkers and informed citizens. It is through the study of English that individuals learn to analyse, understand, communicate and build relationships with others and with the world around them. The study of English helps young people develop the knowledge and skills needed for education, training and the workplace. It helps them become ethical, thoughtful, informed and active members of society.

English aims to ensure that students: learn to listen to, read, view, speak, write, create and reflect on increasingly complex and sophisticated texts across a growing range of contexts; appreciate, enjoy and use the English language in all its variations; understand how Standard Australian English works in its spoken and written forms; and develop an informed appreciation of literature.

Any enquiries regarding English courses or classes should be directed to the class teacher or to the Head of Learning Area – English.

MATHEMATICS

In Mathematics, students are: confident, creative users and communicators of Mathematics, able to investigate, represent and interpret situations in their personal and work lives and as active citizens. They are able to develop an increasingly sophisticated understanding of mathematical concepts and fluency with processes and are able to pose and solve problems and reason in Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry, and Statistics and Probability. Students aim to recognise connections between the areas of Mathematics and other disciplines and appreciate Mathematics as an accessible and enjoyable discipline to study.

Any queries regarding Mathematics courses or classes should be directed to the classroom teacher or to the Head of Learning Area – Mathematics.

SCIENCE

In the Science Learning Area students learn to investigate, understand, and communicate about the chemical, physical, biological, and technological world and value the processes that support life on our planet. Science helps students to become critical thinkers by encouraging them to use evidence to evaluate the use of Science in society and the application of Science in daily life.

Any queries regarding Science courses or classes should be directed to the classroom teacher or to the Head of Learning Area – Science.

HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES (HASS)

The Humanities and Social Sciences Learning Area develops students' understanding of how and why individuals and groups live together; interact with and within their environment; manage resources; and create institutions and systems. Critical thinking, leading to questioning and research, analysis and evaluation skills as well as an understanding of the different ways of communicating knowledge, underpin this course.

Any queries regarding Humanities and Social Sciences courses or classes should be directed to the classroom teacher or to the Head of Learning Area – Humanities and Social Sciences.

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

All students participate each year in the courses of Health and Physical Education learning which are interrelated and contribute to the development of healthy, active lifestyles for students. Programs allow students to develop essential knowledge, attitudes and values, and skills required for life. Students are engaged in both physical and classroom activities that allow students to enhance their wellbeing, now and in the future. Ability to communicate and cooperate with other students in practical situations will also be monitored and improved.

Any enquiries regarding Health and Physical Education courses or classes should be directed to the class teacher or to the Head of Learning Area – Health and Physical Education.

LANGAUGES - Auslan

The Western Australian Languages curriculum is based on the expectation that schools provide a Languages program in at least one language from Pre-primary to Year 10. As a minimum, all students are required to study a language from Year 3 to Year 8. The study of a language in Years 9 and 10 is optional.

In accordance with the Western Australian Curriculum and Assessment Outline, the study of a language will be compulsory for all Year 7 and Year 8 students from 2027.

At Pinjarra Senior High School, students will have the opportunity to study Auslan (Australian Sign Language). The Auslan course enables students to develop practical communication skills, intercultural understanding, and an appreciation of the important relationship between language, culture, and communication. Through the study of Auslan, students gain valuable skills that support inclusive communication and broaden their understanding of the diverse Australian community.



YEAR 7 ELECTIVE COURSES

In Year 7, students will have compulsory “taster” courses each semester. These courses will provide opportunities for students to experience the breadth of the curriculum at Pinjarra Senior High School to guide future selections for Years 9 and 10.

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

This course focuses on developing understanding and skills in computational thinking. The main emphasis of this course is on developing knowledge and skills for students to progress into a competent operator of a computer. The course covers a range of topics such as design for the student, hardware, software, computer networking and cyber safety.

TECHNOLOGIES

Home Economics

In this course students will establish basic skills in both food preparation and textiles. They will be introduced to food hygiene and working with others in a safe environment to prepare foods to share and enjoy. Students will also learn basic sewing and construction skills to make craft products.

Materials Design and Technologies

In this unit students will be introduced to a variety of material mediums including wood and metal. They will be introduced to the design process and how it can be applied successfully in the production of small projects. Students will learn to safely use a limited range of tools, machines and finishes.

LANGUAGES (Auslan)

In Year 7 Auslan, students develop the skills to communicate in Australian Sign Language through a range of engaging and practical learning activities. Students learn everyday vocabulary and language structures to introduce themselves, discuss their family, school, interests and daily routines, and participate in simple conversations. They develop an understanding of Deaf culture and the Australian Deaf community while exploring the close relationship between language and culture. Through signing, viewing and creating texts, students build confidence in using Auslan to communicate effectively and respectfully with others, while developing an appreciation of linguistic and cultural diversity.



DRAMA

In this course students are encouraged to be creative and have fun with their ideas. Theatre skills such as voice, movement and staging skills are taught to assist students to communicate effectively with an audience and to build confidence in each individual.

VISUAL ARTS

Students will have the opportunity to develop their creativity and artistic skills, either by building on the foundations established in primary school or by extending the drawing and artwork they have been exploring independently in their own time.

Students will explore both 2D and 3D artworks through a range of creative experiences, including drawing, painting, multimedia, printmaking, and ceramic (clay) techniques. There are many opportunities for students to showcase and exhibit their work throughout the year, including at Parent Nights, the Rotary Art Show, and displays around Pinjarra Senior High School. These experiences help students build confidence, celebrate their achievements, and share their creativity with the wider community.

MUSIC

Students will study the elements and concepts of music through a variety of performing, composing, and listening activities. They will explore a range of instruments and use music technology software to create, record, and perform music in both solo and ensemble contexts. These experiences encourage creativity, collaboration, and confidence while developing practical musicianship skills.

Critical listening skills and specific musical vocabulary will be introduced throughout the course. Students will learn to analyse and discuss music using appropriate terminology and will be assessed on their knowledge and understanding of musical concepts, as well as their performance, composition, and listening skills. Through these activities, students will develop a strong foundation for future music studies and lifelong engagement with music.



YEAR 8 ELECTIVE COURSES

In Year 8, students will participate in a range of Electives which are mandated by the School Curriculum and Standards Authority (SCSA). Students will have the opportunity to develop skills in a variety of areas, preparing them for making informed selections as they progress to Year 9 and 10.

LANGUAGES (Auslan)

In Year 8 Auslan, students build on the communication skills developed in Year 7 by engaging in more sustained conversations and exploring a wider range of topics relevant to their lives and experiences. Students expand their Auslan vocabulary and grammatical knowledge to exchange information, express opinions, describe events, and participate in collaborative activities. They further develop their understanding of Deaf culture, identity, and community, while examining how language choices can vary according to purpose, audience, and context. Through viewing, creating and presenting signed texts, students enhance their confidence, fluency, and intercultural understanding, enabling them to communicate more effectively and respectfully in diverse settings.

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

This course focuses on further developing knowledge and skills in digital technologies. Students are equipped with the skills to competently operate a computer in a home and work environment. Students use office and specialist application software to learn about and develop solutions for prescribed tasks. Tasks are designed to include the fields of web technologies, graphics, networking, coding and data manipulation.

TECHNOLOGIES

Materials Design and Technology

In this course, students will work with wood or metal as the core materials in their project work. The design development process will be further integrated to assist each student to achieve individual solutions to each of the project challenges. A variety of different materials will also be explored and students will learn to safely use a wide range of tools, machines, fixtures and finishes.



DRAMA

Students explore improvisational skills to build on their movement, vocabulary and repertoire. They will discuss how the performing arts can communicate meaning and they will work in groups to create their own works which aim to tell stories and engage students in current issues and events. Students are encouraged to take up opportunities to perform for their peers, (at Year 6 Orientation, school assemblies, festivals and special events) which the school runs across its busy arts calendar. The Performing Arts unit of work will have Drama as its focus and is designed to lift a student's confidence in communication and group performance.

VISUAL ARTS

Students develop a portfolio and have the opportunity to use and apply a variety of visual arts techniques to unleash their creative potential. Students will be able to create 2D and or 3D artwork developing individual ideas through viewing and exploring a range of media, materials and techniques. Students will apply knowledge of techniques used by other artists and consider the development of their own artwork for school and the wider community; this may also include working outdoors, excursions, artist visits and incursions. Materials and techniques may include digital media, ceramics (clay), drawing, printmaking and mixed media.

MUSIC

In Year 8 Music, students will be introduced to a range of musical experiences through listening, performing, and composing activities. They will explore a variety of instruments and music technology, developing the confidence to perform both individually and as part of a group. Through practical activities, students will discover how music is created and communicated, while building their creativity and enjoyment of music.

Students will also develop their aural skills and musical literacy by learning to identify and create rhythmic and melodic patterns using musical notation, appropriate terminology, and digital technologies. They will explore the key elements of music, including rhythm, pitch, dynamics, and structure, and investigate how these are used to communicate ideas and emotions. By listening to and discussing music from a range of cultures, time periods, and styles, students will develop an appreciation of the diverse ways music reflects people, places, and experiences.



YEAR 9 ELECTIVE COURSES

Students will be able to individualise their program by choosing courses within their areas of interest that will provide greater depth of study in each unit.

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

This course focuses on extending a student's computing skills while exploring in greater depth the digital fields of web technologies, graphics, networking, coding and data manipulation. New fields of robotics autonomous engineering and database design are also included within the course content. Students use their learnt knowledge to problem solve and produce digital solutions to real life situations. A continual focus of the course is engaging students with specialised learning in preparation for vocational training or learning in the Senior Secondary years.

HOME ECONOMICS - FOOD (EXTRA COST)

Students will develop food preparation skills that will enable them to showcase their skills within the school and for special events. Students will learn the basics of food preparation, make healthy food choices, demonstrate basic knife skills, apply appropriate food hygiene, work with others in a safe environment and present food creatively. Students will be able to follow a pathway towards Hospitality and Nutrition.

MATERIALS DESIGN TECHNOLOGY (REQUIREMENTS)

In this course, students will work with wood or metal as the core materials in their project work. The design development process will be further integrated to assist each student to achieve individual solutions to each of the project challenges. A variety of different materials will also be explored and the students will learn to safely use a wider range of tools, machines, fixtures and finishes.

Requirements:

- **Demonstrated self-management skills**
- **Capacity to work independently and responsibly in a team**

INTRODUCTION TO AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY (REQUIREMENTS)

The Automotive Technology course is structured around three key themes providing students with the opportunity to develop their knowledge and practical skills across a range of automotive areas.

The first theme is automotive mechanical. Students will learn about common hand tools used in automotive workshops and how to undertake procedures such as raising and securing a car before working on it.

The next theme is automotive electrical. Students will learn basic electrical theory relating to low voltage DC circuits as commonly used in cars. They will learn how electrical circuits are constructed and will make their own low voltage circuit.

The final theme is a group project. This project will bring together the technical knowledge and will also focus heavily on innovative teamwork in a real life scenario.

Requirements:

- **Demonstrated self-management skills**
- **Capacity to work independently and responsibly in a team**

STEM INNOVATION (EXTRA COST & REQUIREMENTS)

In Year 9, students begin their STEM Innovation journey by engaging in hands-on, project-based learning that encourages curiosity, resilience, and creative problem-solving. With a strong focus on environmental awareness, students explore design thinking, basic robotics, and coding, developing solutions to real-world challenges with sustainability in mind. The course fosters a growth mindset by encouraging students to embrace challenges, learn from setbacks, and persist in the face of difficulty. These experiences help students build confidence in their abilities as they begin to discover future career pathways in areas such as environmental science, digital technologies, and engineering.

DRAMA

In Year 9 Drama, students will develop their acting skills by creating and performing a range of engaging and believable characters. Through improvisation, scripted work, and small-group performances, students will learn how to take on a role and communicate ideas effectively to an audience. Students will explore the elements of drama and use these to plan, reflect on, and enhance their performances. They will have opportunities to perform for their peers in a variety of genres, with a focus on characterisation, stereotypes, and comedy. Through practical and performance-based learning experiences, students will develop their communication, teamwork, and presentation skills while gaining a deeper understanding of the arts.

VISUAL ARTS (EXTRA COST)

Year 9 students will develop their creative and artistic side by being introduced to a range of techniques and skills. No previous experience is required and you will explore interesting ideas and use other means to help express yourself through to a final artwork such as applying digital media. Students will view works of art from a range of sources such as visiting artists, gallery visits, incursions and display completed works of art in local exhibitions as well as around our school. Students will continue to develop a portfolio of work and develop an awareness of the range of art styles and forms. Students will explore 2D and 3D art forms and a range of materials and techniques which may include painting, printmaking, drawing, graphics, sculpture and ceramics (clay).

SPORT, FITNESS & RECREATION (EXTRA COST & REQUIREMENTS)

This engaging and practical course encourages students to learn through active participation. Students will take part in a variety of sport, fitness, and recreation activities designed to develop their physical skills, confidence, and understanding of healthy, active lifestyles. The course provides opportunities for students to build teamwork, communication, and self-management skills while participating in enjoyable and challenging activities. Sport, Fitness and Recreation is an excellent elective for students who enjoy being active and want to improve their fitness, skills, and overall wellbeing.

In addition to participation in practical sessions, students will also undertake tasks for equipment management and be involved in Sport Education in Physical Education Practice (SEPEP) - an interactive form of learning and teaching. This program includes but is not limited to: Resistance, Strength and Circuit Fitness Training, Golf, Flag NFL Football, Table Tennis, Lacrosse, Floorball, Orienteering and Outdoor Fitness. These unique sports are not included in general Physical Education classes so this course gives students a chance to explore a variety of different sporting and recreational pursuits.

Requirements:

- **C grade minimum in Year 8 Physical Education and/or recommendation by current HPE teacher regarding school attributes and PBS values.**

YEAR 10 ELECTIVE COURSES

Students select Electives to individualise their program. Students choose courses within their areas of interest, with greater depth of study in each unit, to help develop skills and knowledge in preparation for Senior School.

OUTDOOR EDUCATION (EXTRA COST & REQUIREMENTS)

Students participate in a range of outdoor and physical activities which may include bush and camping survival skills, cooking, canoeing, bike riding, orienteering and snorkelling. Students selecting this course must be able to swim 200m and must be willing to participate in physical activity during lessons.

Requirements:

- **Demonstrated self-management skills**
- **Capacity to work independently and responsibly in a team.**
- **Students must have the ability to swim 200 metres without assistance.**

AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGIES (REQUIREMENTS)

In Automotive Technologies, students obtain skills and understandings relating to the component parts, accessories, systems and technologies of the automotive vehicle. Students develop principles underpinning the operation of aspects of vehicle systems. They also work towards the development of the introduction of knowledge and skills needed to service, maintain and repair these systems.

Requirements:

- **Demonstrated self-management skills**
- **Capacity to work independently and responsibly in a team**

MATERIALS DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY (REQUIREMENTS)

In this course, students will work with wood or metal as the core materials in their project work. The design development process will be further integrated to assist each student to achieve individual solutions to each of the project challenges. A variety of different materials will also be explored and the students will learn to safely use a wider range of tools, machines, fixtures and finishes.

Requirements:

- **Demonstrated self-management skills**
- **Capacity to work independently and responsibly in a team**

HOME ECONOMICS (EXTRA COST)

In this Year 10 Home Economics elective, students will explore a variety of international cuisines and the cultures that influence food traditions around the world. Through research and hands-on cooking experiences, students will investigate different countries and prepare a range of traditional and contemporary dishes. Students will develop essential food preparation, meal planning, and cooking skills while learning techniques to create high-quality dishes suitable for a variety of occasions. This elective requires students to actively participate in both the theory and practical components of the course and to demonstrate a willingness to work safely, cooperatively, and creatively in the kitchen.

STEM INNOVATION (EXTRA COST)

Students will engage in the Shark Tank eSchool program that is an innovative and dynamic opportunity that empowers students to take charge of their learning and provides them with the knowledge and skills necessary to succeed in the modern business world. Students will work collaboratively to design and market an innovative product or service. Upon completion of the learning modules, students present their product/service to a panel for feedback on how the idea could be successful in a 'real world' application. Students who complete all eight of the Shark Tank modules are eligible for a C grade towards their Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE) - students will get more details about this during the class.

DRAMA

In this elective, students will further develop their performance and theatre-making skills through a range of practical and creative experiences. Students will explore characterisation, improvisation, script work, and performance techniques while building confidence as performers and communicators. Working both independently and collaboratively, they will create, rehearse, and present performances for a variety of audiences, applying the elements of drama to develop and refine their work. Students may have opportunities to perform for audiences through events such as the MADD Concert, Youth on Health Festival, and the school production. This course is ideal for students who enjoy creativity, teamwork, and expressing ideas through performance.

VISUAL ARTS (EXTRA COST)

Visual expression is part of everyday communication. Our ever-expanding digital platforms will also need more and more creative content. Whether you are beginning your Visual Arts journey now or have been building your skills over the past few years this course will continue to introduce you to a range of skills and techniques or help you to get in touch with your creative side. No previous art experience is required, and students will develop and refine ideas and ability to explore design ideas, produce art works and reflect and evaluate the process. Students will have the opportunity to work with visiting artists and participate in art exhibitions such as the local Rotary Art Show and display work locally and around the school. You will also develop a portfolio in preparation for senior school Visual Arts study. Students will work in a range of materials, technology forms and styles and will become familiar with art terminology. These skills link to other creative areas and an understanding is important if undertaking further study in the future.

MEDIA PRODUCTION & ANALYSIS (EXTRA COST)

Year 10 Media encourages students to explore how media works to influence, entertain, and inform audiences. Students analyse media conventions and representations and apply this knowledge to create their own media productions. They build practical skills in scripting, filming, and editing using industry-standard tools. The course promotes a growth mindset, where students are encouraged to take creative risks, learn from feedback, and continually improve their work. Assessment tasks focus on both practical production and analytical skills, with an emphasis on effort, reflection, and progress. This course is ideal for students interested in creative and digital industries. It supports pathways into careers such as film and television production, content creation, journalism, advertising, digital marketing, graphic design, and communications.

SPECIALIST PROGRAMS

PINJARRA FOOTBALL & NETBALL ACADEMY (EXTRA COST)

The Pinjarra Football and Netball Academy (PFNA) is delivered over the course of 3 years (from Year 8 to Year 10). The goal of the program is to develop students, during their middle school years, into self-motivated, disciplined individuals who develop into leaders within the school, and in the football and netball clubs in the community.

Students participating in the PFNA represent the school in interschool football and netball competitions as well as participating in a Triathlon Day, sporting tours of Melbourne and the Southwest and various other activities. The program is supported by significant community partnerships with Pinjarra Football and Netball Club and Peel Thunder.

Students will undertake core classes (English, Mathematics, Science, HASS and Health and Physical Education) within the normal school timetable. At the end of Year 7, students will be given the option to participate in the PFNA Draft Day and try out for the following year. Additionally, Year 8 and 9 students may participate in the PFNA Draft Day if not already part of the program. PFNA students in Year 8 will have 2 periods of specialist elective time dedicated to the PFNA program. In Year 9 and 10, this will increase to 4 periods – the equivalent of one elective selection.

Any enquiries regarding Pinjarra Football and Netball Academy should be directed to the class teacher or to the Head of Learning Area – Health and Physical Education.



ACADEMIC EXTENSION PROGRAM (EXTRA COST)

The Academic Extension Program (AEP) is an academic enrichment pathway for students who are keen to be challenged, who are committed to growth and progress, and who aspire to study at high levels in their senior years of schooling and beyond.

The AEP is suited to students who are aspirational and aims to foster a growth mindset to develop self-belief and motivation. In this learning context, students are empowered and accountable for their learning and progress.

The AEP is offered to students in Years 8, 9 and 10 via a select entry process. AEP students will be offered access to broad educational experiences and learning environments beyond the classroom to expand their knowledge of the world. This will include incursions, excursions and extra-curricular events facilitated by the teaching staff but often in partnership with external organisations.

The context of the program is Innovation and Enterprise, and Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). Within this context, the curriculum will enable both theoretical and practical exploration of the key principles of the program, these being:

- Environmental Characteristics
- Impacts of human activity - Conservation and sustainability
- Innovation and problem solving in real world contexts
- Enterprise skills – collaboration and teamwork, communication, problem solving, entrepreneurship.
- Partnerships – community, industry, educational
- Values – personal and civic responsibility

Students in Year 9 AEP will complete ONE compulsory Elective in STEM. Students in Year 10 AEP will complete ONE compulsory Elective in Innovation and Enterprise.

While there is an extra cost for being in the AEP there is no additional cost for AEP students completing the STEM (Year 9) and Innovation and Enterprise (Year 10) Electives.

SELECTION PROCESS

The AEP program is available to selected students based on academic performance, interest and appropriately developed self-management skills. A selection process will be used in determining student suitability for the program.

Students will demonstrate the required standards through:

- A willingness to embrace challenge, seek feedback and learn from mistakes
- A willingness to use initiative and be accountable for their own learning and progress
- Good achievement and consistent progress in Mathematics, English, HASS, Science and Physical Education
- NAPLAN results reflecting achievement at proficiency Band STRONG or higher.
- Strong records of positive and appropriate behaviour
- Regular attendance.





Pinjarra

Senior High School



(08) 9531 7000



pinjarra.shs@education.wa.edu.au



www.pinjarrashs.wa.edu.au



16 McLarty Road, Pinjarra WA 6208



@pinjarrashs