BOB HAWKE COLLEGE

Explore 2026

YEAR 9 ELECTIVE COURSES

Selection Guide

Extraordinary Together

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF WHADJUK NOONGAR BOODJA

We acknowledge the traditional owners past and present and emerging leaders of Whadjuk Noongar country. We acknowledge that Bob Hawke College is situated on Whadjuk Noongar land in a place of great cultural and spiritual significance. The country in this area is known as Wandaraguttagurrup. The lakes around this area, including Lake Jualbup, Jolimont Swamp, Lake Monger, Hyde Park Lake, Blackadder Lake and Lake Herdsman were all hunting and gathering places and some remained camps well into the twentieth century. These were linked together by the dreaming trail known as the Yakkan Bidi – the Turtle Trail. Noongar people walked this trail in search of turtles for food from each of these lakes.

Ngulla katidjin nidja Whadjuk Noongar boodja kura yeye boorda boorda. We are learning here on Whadjuk Noongar land past, present, and future.

This is Elder Neville Collard's interpretation of the Noongar language used in this document. Bob Hawke College acknowledges Neville's contribution to our aspiration to be a culturally inclusive College.

INTRODUCTION

At Bob Hawke College, we empower our students to achieve their potential and be courageous citizens who positively contribute to their community.

As part of this, students entering Year 9 are provided the opportunity to shape their own educational journey with *Explore* – a program of elective courses designed to give students further opportunity to foster inquiry, broaden their learning, explore their interests, passions and talents, or discover new ones.

The *Explore* program is in addition to the core WA curriculum offered at Bob Hawke College. This guide will help Year 9 students to choose courses that align with their interests, skills and talents, as they bring together their knowledge and experience from previous years and start to consider areas of study they would like to pursue in their final years of secondary schooling.

Students can preference electives to diversify and complement their core studies in areas that interest them and align with their future aspirations in Years 10, 11 and 12. This stage of secondary education marks the beginning of tailoring the learning experience for students, with increasing diversity in senior secondary schooling, while maintaining a cross-curricular focus and embedding key capabilities.

The introduction of the Year 9 *Explore* program aligns with the strategic direction of Bob Hawke College and our vision for our students and staff to be courageous, innovative, inclusive and extraordinary, together.

YEAR 9 CORE COURSES

Students in Year 9 will study the following core WA curriculum courses offered at Bob Hawke College:

- Mathematics
- English
- Science
- Humanities and Social Sciences
- Health & Physical Education
- Languages (Italian and Japanese)

YEAR 9 *EXPLORE* ELECTIVE COURSES

Students can choose elective courses in areas of the Arts, Technologies and Health and Physical Education. As part of the course selection process, students, parents and carers should consider any Success Indicators and costs which may apply.

Students who are **not** currently enrolled in the College based selective music or visual art programs will undertake **four** courses, two per semester, with at least one preference from the areas of the Arts and Technologies.

Students who **are** currently enrolled in the College based selective music or visual art programs will undertake **two** courses, one per semester. Continuing in their area of specialty through the selective courses is automatic as they further their pathway of excellence. Students in selective programs preference at least one course from the Technologies field.

Students are asked to choose eight elective courses in total, in rank order with one (1) being their highest preference. An online link will be emailed to enrolled students through a program called "Griddle" to select their preferences.

Understanding Success Indicators

For some courses, Success Indicators are part of the selection process. This is an indication for the foundation required to have the best opportunity for success in the chosen course. This is not a pre-requisite that will stop students from selecting a subject they would like to participate in. We encourage students to consider the Indicator when choosing a subject.

The Arts & Music

We offer a range of elective courses in the Arts to explore and enhance our students' creativity. The courses cover four areas of learning: Dance, Drama, Media Arts and Visual Art.

Visual Arts

Students explore two and three-dimensional art media through exploration of materials and techniques such as drawing, painting, collage, printmaking and hand-building techniques with traditional and alternative materials to create artworks. Students also study various art styles to gain a better understanding of creative art practices and works.

Success Indicator: Nil
Cost: $50

Dance Styles

Dance styles is designed for students to extend their repertoire of skills in a range of dance genres. This course will teach the fundamental skills and technique in a range of styles along with the history and culture of dance. You will learn how to choreograph your own creative routines influenced by past and current dance trends. There may be an opportunity to watch a live dance show.

Success Indicator:
A willingness to perform
Cost: $40

Performance for Live Theatre

This course is designed for students to explore the aspects of live performance, with a focus on devised drama processes. Students will discover the style of Melodrama and its impact on theatre today. Students will prepare and engage in performing to a live audience as well as considering the role of the production team in the theatre.

Success Indicator:
A willingness to perform
Cost: $40

Media Arts

This course allows students to explore the world of media and communication. It aims to develop critical thinking, creativity, and technical skills in a range of media forms. Students will learn about topics such as media language, representation, and film, TV and YouTube production. They will have opportunities to learn how to use cameras and lighting equipment in the College's custom-built studios and edit using industry standard Adobe software to create high-quality media products.

Success Indicator: Nil
Cost: $30

Graphic Design

This unit is designed for students to understand the fundamentals of Graphic Design with a focus on content creation using industry standard ADOBE programs. They will explore a variety of creative digital techniques with a focus on branding and advertising, whilst developing their design thinking and problem-solving skills.

Success Indicator: Nil
Cost: $40

Music General

This semester long course explores how to analyse a song and teaches students how to perform songs on the keyboard with just a few chords. Students will learn to read music notation and they will learn to create music using a Digital Audio Workstation (DAW).

Success Indicator: A willingness to learn to read music and play the keyboard
Cost: $50

Technologies

Courses in Technologies use a STEM-based approach to develop innovative solutions through hands-on learning and future-focused skills.

Wood Technology

In this course students will further develop 21st Century skills of creativity, critical thinking, communication and collaboration to design, make and evaluate product solutions. Following a design process, students learn to generate ideas using freehand sketching and computer-aided design (CAD) drawing techniques. Wood Technology then provides students with the experience of using a range of modern machinery, tools and construction techniques to develop their hand skills and realise their ideas.

Success Indicator: nil
Cost: $40

Jewellery: Wire Wrap

In this metals focused course, students will be introduced to jewellery-making techniques through the creative and practical application of wire wrapping. They will develop their ability to work with metals by building hands-on skills and gaining knowledge about the properties and uses of common materials used in jewellery design. They will work with a variety of hand tools and small power tools to shape, join, and finish their creations safely and effectively.

Success Indicator: nil
Cost: $60

Design

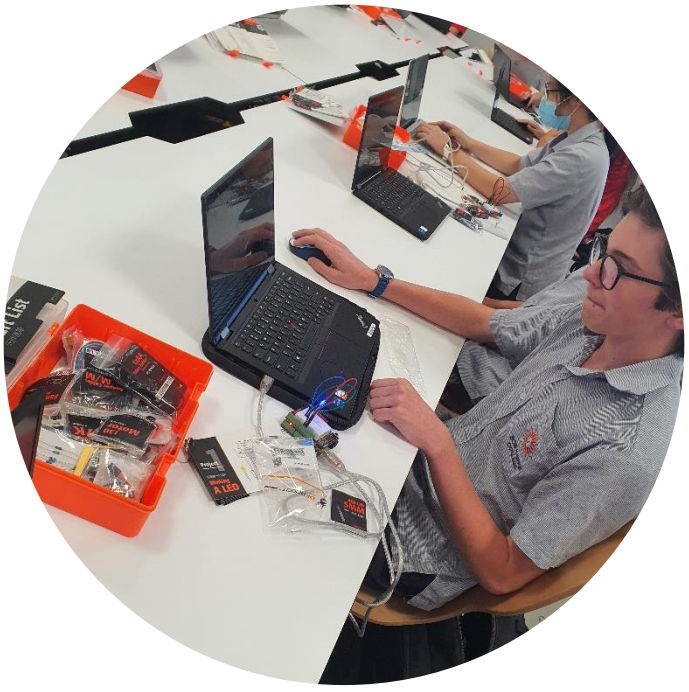
This course introduces students to the world of design through the double diamond process—learning how to solve real problems for real people. They'll discover how different design movements influence the products we use today and apply creative thinking to develop ideas for a chosen client. Along the way, students will build valuable STEM skills using CAD software, 3D printers, laser cutters, and other modern tools used in today's industries. The course focuses on innovation, problem-solving, and producing a final product that reflects both thoughtful design and future-focused technologies.

Success Indicator: nil
Cost: $60

Engineering

This course introduces students to simple engineering principles and the practical application of science and mathematical theories to simple engineering projects. Students will learn about mechanisms, control systems and how to use CAD software to produce 3D models of their projects for laser cutting or 3D printing. This course provides students interested in Engineering an introduction to concepts that will be further developed in Year 10 Mechatronics electives.

Success Indicator:
B grade in Mathematics
B grade in Science
Cost: $60



International Foods

Students learn about different cultures and cuisines from around the globe. They will develop their knowledge of social, ethical and cultural factors influencing food choices. Students develop a wide range of food preparation skills as they take inspiration from around the world to design and prepare a range of sweet and savoury dining options.

Success Indicator: nil
Cost: $60

Textiles Design

Students explore modern textiles and fashion including sportswear, and sustainable clothing. Through understanding and applying the design process, they investigate current trends, develop ideas and produce their own items. They have the opportunity to use computer-aided design (CAD) and manufacturing (CAM) software.

Success Indicator: nil
Cost: $55*

*Materials and equipment are supplied to meet the requirements of their design work. Students may elect to enhance their material design components by sourcing and providing additional products.

Year 9 Digital Technologies courses have been developed to give students the necessary knowledge and skills to succeed in Year 11/12 Applied Information Technology (AIT) or Computer Science (Computer Science) courses.

Graphics and Web (AIT)

This course builds on the knowledge and understanding of the representation of data, UI and UX design as well as the principles of universal design. Students use industry standard software including Adobe Creative Cloud® to produce vector and raster graphics. Students learn front-end web development using HTML & CSS to produce an interactive web page on a given topic.

Success Indicator:
Digital Technologies in Year 7 or 8
Cost: $30

Cyber Games (Computer Science)

This course introduces students to cybersecurity by learning network design, security features and methods of encryption through various ciphers. They will then further develop the programming concepts learnt in past years and explore increasingly advanced Python functions. The interdisciplinary learning topic 'Wellness in the West' will be considered in the context of gaming, where students will consider the positive and negative aspects of the gaming industry and produce their own 2D game.

Success Indicator:
Digital Technologies in Year 7 or 8
Cost: $40

Health and Physical Education

This course will contribute to the development of students' physical, social and emotional growth. Students will develop skills that can be utilised in leisure, recreation, education and sport development fields.

Outdoor Recreation

Students participate in a wide range of sporting and recreational activities, personal fitness and experience opportunities to develop leadership skills.

Activities take place both onsite at the College and offsite in local community facilities. Students choosing this course need to have a genuine interest in physical health and fitness and enjoy being active in the outdoors.

Success Indicator: B grade or higher in Year 8 Physical Education.

Cost: $260

FURTHER INFORMATION

It is important to note that classes will only be formed if viable numbers exist, and in some cases class numbers will be capped due to access to specialist facilities and Department of Education supervision policies. As a result, there is no guarantee that all subjects listed will be offered. Whilst every attempt is made to satisfy as many of the students' choices as possible, certain subject combinations may not be possible.

These electives are one semester courses and are linked to the content and skills that are key to success in Year 10, 11 and 12. Students will be given an opportunity to select new elective courses for Year 10.

Where course costs create potential barriers to participation, please contact Heather Boyd, Associate Principal. Our aim is to support all students to explore their curriculum interests.

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