Guildford Grammar School

FOUNDED 1896

Year 7
Course Selection
Information 2025

Introduction

Welcome to Year 7 at Guildford Grammar School. This year is a key transition point for all of our students. Some will be continuing their journey from our Preparatory School, while others will be joining our school for the first time. For all students, this year marks a key moment in their personal journeys.

Adjusting to the learning environment of Year 7 is an exciting process for students making the transition with the gradual increase in personal responsibility that accompanies their growth in maturity.

In Year 7, students will be studying from a range of courses with the opportunity to personalise elements of their curriculum to meet their own interests and passions.

There are six courses that are studied by all students

- Maths
- English
- Science
- Humanities and Social Science
- Religion, Philosophy & Ethics
- French
- Health & Physical Education

Alongside these, students are able to choose from a range of Elective Courses. These course choices are designed to allow students to personalise their experience while still meeting the curriculum requirements of the WA Curriculum.

The choices for students come from the four disciplines that students must study until the end of Year 8.

Design Technologies

Engineering
Guildford Gourmet
Materials Technology
Textiles Technology

Digital Technologies

Digital Technologies

Performing Arts

Dance
Drama
Music

Visual Arts

Media
Visual Art

Students will choose one from each of these banks of subjects. Arts and Technologies subjects are studied for a semester in each subject.

The curriculum for Year 7 will provide our students with rich opportunities to explore their interests and passions. It is an exciting phase in their lives and we are excited to share the journey with you.

Along with the co-curricular program of Guildford Grammar School, we trust that your child will experience a diverse and fulfilling curriculum,

Ben Nilsson
Acting Director of Teaching and Learning

Year 7 course index

Compulsory courses
English
Mathematics
Humanities and Social Sciences
Science
Health and Physical Education
Religion, Philosophy and Ethics
French

Elective courses
Dance
Digital Technologies**
Drama
Engineering
Guildford Gourment
Materials Technology
Textiles Technology
Media
Music
Visual Art

* Digital Technologies is studied as a common course for all Year 7 students.

English • compulsory

English provides progressive instruction in the wide range of language-based literacies required to be a confident and critical communicator. The course is constructed in accordance with the concepts of Language, Literature and Literacy from the Western Australian Curriculum.

Through the study of English, students will gain a range of functional and critical skills, developing their ability to examine texts, topics and express their ideas. Students will also expand upon their use and understanding of text types.

All students in Years 7-9 study the same core program.

However, in Years 7-9 they will be grouped by similar learning needs and given appropriate remediation or extension, both individually and as a class.

Students study English as a formal subject. The focus in **Year 7** is functional literacy and expression. However, increasing critical literacy through text analysis and forms of academic writing is also a feature.

Topics covered are:

• Digital stories
• Film analysis
• Grammar and punctuation
• Structured paragraph writing
• Narrative and text conventions
• Essay writing
• Comprehension strategies
• Persuasive and argumentative writing
• Novels and short stories

Contact

Ms Jess Rumble
Acting Head of Learning - English
Jess.Rumble@ggs.wa.edu.au

Mathematics • compulsory

Mathematics provides progressive instruction in mathematical skills, processes and concepts. The courses are constructed in accordance with the Western Australian Curriculum.

Through the study of Mathematics, students will gain a range of process-based problem-solving skills, developing the ability to investigate, interpret, check and generalise results. Students will also expand upon their understanding of mathematical concepts and use appropriate technology to assist the mathematical process.

All students in Year 7-9 study the same core program. They will be grouped by similar learning needs, and given appropriate remediation or extension, both individually and as a class.

Students study Mathematics as a formal subject. A major focus in **Year 7** is to assist students to develop interest and enjoyment in mathematics, and the ability to think and reason logically. Numeracy skills will be developed without the aid of calculators.

Topics covered are:

- Number: mental arithmetic including fractions, and best buys
- Algebra: extend patterns, write algebraic expressions using pronumerals
- Geometry: angle properties, quadrilaterals and triangles, prisms, transformations of shapes on the Cartesian plane
- Measurement: area and volume
- Chance & data: collect and compare data using basic statistics and a range of graphical displays including stem and leaf plots.

Contact

Mrs Sherie Hope
Head of Learning - Mathematics
Sherie.Hope@ggs.wa.edu.au

Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS) • compulsory

Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS) sees students study human behaviour and interaction in social, cultural, environmental, economic and political contexts. It has a historical and contemporary focus, from personal to global contexts, and considers opportunities and challenges for the future. By studying HASS, students will develop the ability to question; think critically; make decisions based on evidence; devise proposals for actions; and communicate effectively.

Developed in line with the Western Australian Curriculum, the HASS learning area consists of four courses: Civics and Citizenship, Economics and Business, Geography, and History. Throughout the academic year, students will engage in various assessment types designed to enhance their critical thinking and practical skills.

Through engaging and innovative teaching and learning activities students develop:

- A deep knowledge and sense of wonder, curiosity and respect for places, people, cultures, events, ideas and environments throughout the world
- An appreciation of the past and the forces that shape society
- Enterprising behaviours and capabilities that enable them to be active participants and decision-makers in matters affecting them, which can be transferred into life, work and business opportunities
- An understanding of, and commitment to, the concepts of sustainability to bring about equity and social justice
- A knowledge and understanding of the connections among the people of Asia, Australia and the rest of the world.

In **Year 7,** students study:

- The Ancient World (Egypt, Greece, Rome, India, China)
- The Australian Constitution
- Place and liveability
- Water scarcity
- Introductory economic concepts

Contact

Mrs Leah Truscott
Head of Learning - Humanities and Social Sciences
Leah.Truscott@ggs.wa.edu.au

6

Science • compulsory

The Science curriculum has three interrelated strands: Science Understanding, Science as a Human Endeavour and Science Inquiry Skills. Together, the three strands of the Science curriculum provide students with understanding, knowledge and skills through which they can develop a scientific view of the world.

Through a range of learning activities including experimental testing, field work, conducting surveys, scientific research and using modelling and simulations, students will grow their interest in Science, as well as an ability to think critically and apply their scientific understandings to real world scenarios and issues.

The Science curriculum comprises of Biological Sciences, Chemical Sciences, Physical Sciences and Earth and Space Sciences.

Our courses are designed to develop a student's scientific thinking skills and understanding of the sciences and grow their interest for the subject.

In **Year 7**, the topics covered are:

- Being a Scientist; learning science inquiry skills in a laboratory setting
- Diversity of life on Earth; the role of classification in ordering and organising information
- Flow of energy and matter through ecosystems; food chains, food webs and the water cycle
- Interaction between multiple forces when explaining changes in an object's motion
- Renewable and non-renewable resources
- Investigating the relationships between the Earth, sun and moon
- Mixtures and separation techniques.

Contact

Mrs Charlotte Donovan
Head of Learning - Science
Charlotte.Donovan@ggs.wa.edu.au

Health and Physical Education (HPE)
• compulsory

The Year 7 HPE curriculum expands students' knowledge, understanding, and skills that help them achieve successful outcomes in classroom, leisure, social, movement, and online situations. Students learn how to take positive action to enhance their own and others' health, safety and wellbeing. They do this as they examine the nature of their relationships, and the factors that influence people's beliefs, attitudes, opportunities, decisions, behaviours, and actions. The curriculum for Year 7, 8 and 9 supports students to refine a range of specialised knowledge, understanding and skills in relation to their health, safety, wellbeing and movement competence and confidence.

The course supplements the co-curricular sporting program in which all students participate.

The topics and sports covered are:

Year 7 Health

- Transition: Self-Awareness, Self-Regulation, Teamwork
- Puberty and adolescence
- Wellness, sleep and nutrition
- Relationships and bullying
- Benefits of physical activity

Year 7 Physical Education

- Aquatics develeopment
- Movement screening
- Invasion games
- Striking and fielding
- Improving my fitness
- Life saving

Contact

Ms Naomi Caple
Head of Learning - Health and Physical Education
Naomi.Caple@ggs.wa.edu.au

Religion, Philosophy and Ethics (RPE)
• compulsory

The teaching of Religion, Philosophy and Ethics within Guildford Grammar School supports the purpose and religious foundation of the School through an academically rigorous syllabus concerned with the production of critical thinkers, the promotion of intellectual curiosity, and the analysis and appreciation of Christian and other religious values and practice. The subject is taught in an academically rigorous fashion and with the inclusiveness expected of liberal but orthodox Anglican schooling. Compassion, empathy and service beyond self are integral elements of such education.

From Year 7 to Year 10 all students study a foundational program of Religion, Philosophy & Ethics which concentrates on four interrelated areas of study, ensuring the students have a broad and firm understanding of religious, philosophical and ethical issues and as such are also well prepared for the Western Australian Certificate of Education subjects, Philosophy & Ethics.

The four streams are Christian Theology; Philosophy of Religion; Ethics, and World Religions.

In **Year 7** students are introduced to the significance and development of symbols and stories while in Term 2 they learn about Judaism, the religion into which Jesus was born and out of which Christianity grew. Its origins, history, practices and teachings are discussed. In Term 3, the life and significance of Jesus Christ is investigated while in Term 4 in Ethical Frameworks, students consider the ethical dimensions of what it means to be a good leader and what is understood by servant leadership.

Contact

Mrs Kara Matthews
Head of Learning - Religion, Philosophy and Ethics
Kara.Matthews@ggs.wa.edu.au

French

• compulsory

French provides a substantial learning experience. Students may or may not have previous experience in French, however, this course caters for students with prior learning and those with no previous knowledge. The course equips students with generic language-learning skills useful for the study of any language in the future.

The Year 7 French program provides students with a good basic grounding in French language and culture. In Year 7, the topics covered are:

- Me, myself and I: describe yourself ,and discuss your interests, likes and dislikes.
- Fascinating France: famous people,
- famous places, famous food.
- My families: introduce and describe your family members.
- Cute pets: describing your real and ideal pet
- My heroes: describe character traits
- Present and describe your school

Contact

Ms Michele Monti
Head of Learning - French
Michele.Monti@ggs.wa.edu.au

Year 7 Elective courses: overview

In Years 7 and 8, student choices of Elective courses must fit the parameters of the Western Australian Curriculum. This means that all students must study at least one each of Language, Design Technologies, Digital Technologies, Performing Arts and Visual Arts.

Students will study four elective courses during the year, which are run two per semester.

All students will study a common Digital Technologies course and will choose from options in Design Technologies, Visual Arts and Performaing Arts.

We try to give as many students their preferred subjects as possible.

Please select online, your choices in order of preference.

Year 7 Learning Area	Elective Course Pathways
Design Technologies	Engineering Guildford Gourmet Materials Technology Textiles Technology
Digital Technologies	Digital Technologies *In Year 7, all students study a common Digital Technologies program.*
Performing Arts	Dance Drama Music
Visual Arts	Media Visual Art

Digital Technologies

Digital Technologies

In this Technologies learning area, you will get hands-on opportunities to use design thinking and become innovative developers of digital solutions and knowledge. The Year 7 curriculum builds on what you've learned in previous years, focusing on the growing need to understand how digital technology works, and helping you become effective users of digital systems, including hardware and software.

You will explore a variety of digital information and systems designed for specific purposes and audiences.

Key Topics Covered:

Creative Digital Solutions: Learn how to use ICT in creative and enterprising ways, enhancing your ability to think critically and solve problems.

Introduction to Programming: Discover the basics of Python programming, including key concepts such as sequence, selection, and iteration, which are the building blocks of creating software and applications.

Networks and Hardware: Understand how networks and hardware components work together to enable communication and functionality in our interconnected world.

Data Exploration and Analysis: Master the art of collecting and analysing data to draw meaningful conclusions and develop reports that convey your findings effectively.

What You'll Learn:

Introduction to Digital Technology: Dive into the exciting world of digital systems, gaining the foundational knowledge and skills needed to thrive in today's digital age. Through engaging activities and projects, you'll uncover the power of digital solutions and their creative and practical applications.

The Power of Networks and Hardware: Explore the dynamic relationship between networks and hardware components and learn how they enable communication and functionality in today's interconnected world.

This course will empower you with the skills and knowledge to navigate and innovate in the digital world.

Contact

Gabrielle Trinca
Head of Learning - Technologies
Gabrielle.Trinca@ggs.wa.edu.au

Design Technologies

Each Design Technologies course will see students manage projects independently and collaboratively, from conception to realisation. They will apply systems thinking and design processes to investigate ideas, devise concepts, plan, produce and evaluate designed solutions. They will develop their ability to generate innovative designed products, services and environments. Students will study one of four Design Technologies courses available in Year 7 and 8 to experience this learning area.

Engineering

Mechatronic Engineering invites you to delve into the exciting world where creativity and technology merge to shape the future. Through hands-on projects and dynamic experiences, you'll gain a deep understanding of motion, force, and energy manipulation while mastering the art of mechatronic engineering.

By the end of this course, you'll be proficient in conceptualising, designing, and creating systems that seamlessly blend mechanics and electronics. Mechatronic Engineering Explorations empowers you to bring your creative visions to life while mastering the intricacies of motion, force, energy, and automation.

Key Topics Covered:

Engineering Fundamentals: Build a solid foundation with core engineering concepts. Understand the principles of motion, force, and energy and their crucial role in shaping mechanical and electromechanical systems.

The Power of Mechatronics: Discover the dynamic fusion of mechanical engineering, electronics, and computing in the field of mechatronics. Learn how these disciplines converge to create innovative solutions.

Arduino Mastery: Explore the world of Arduino, a versatile microcontroller that opens up endless engineering possibilities. Learn programming techniques, sensor integration, and real-time data manipulation.

Project-Based Learning: Engage in hands-on projects that mirror real-world challenges. Design, build, and program mechatronic systems that demonstrate the seamless integration of mechanics and electronics.

System Control and Manipulation: Discover the magic of controlling systems through programming and automation. Develop skills to manipulate motion, force, and energy using sensors, actuators, and feedback loops.

Creative Problem-Solving: Embrace the engineering mindset by tackling complex problems and developing innovative solutions. Learn to iterate, refine, and adapt your designs based on experimentation and analysis.

Ethical and Societal Considerations: Reflect on the ethical implications and societal impact of mechatronic engineering. Consider how your creations contribute to the world and the importance of responsible design practices.

This course will empower you with the skills and knowledge to navigate and innovate in the field of mechatronic engineering.

Contact

Gabrielle Trinca
Head of Learning - Technologies
Gabrielle.Trinca@ggs.wa.edu.au

Design Technologies

Guildford Gourmet

Food brings people together and plays a significant role in our lives. There is growing community discussion about food issues, including hygiene, dietary requirements, and food security. In this course, you will explore these issues and learn basic food preparation skills and techniques, aiming to plan and prepare a variety of delicious, healthy meal options.

Key Topics Covered:

Kitchen Safety: Learn how to work safely in a kitchen, including the proper use of cooking utensils.

Food Hygiene: Understand food hygiene issues, such as food poisoning, cross-contamination, temperature control, and storage methods.

Food Production: Discuss genetically modified foods and the environmental impact of food production.

Healthy Cooking: Create healthy breakfast, lunch, and dinner options.

Balanced Diets: Learn what constitutes a healthy and balanced diet.

What You'll Learn:

Exploring the World of Food: Understand the significance of food in our lives, how it brings people together, addresses community concerns, and plays a vital role in our well-being.

Food Safety First: Learn essential safety protocols for working in a kitchen, including proper handling of cooking utensils and preventing cross-contamination for a safe and hygienic culinary experience.

Unveiling Food Hygiene: Delve into food hygiene and its implications, exploring topics such as food poisoning, temperature control, and effective storage methods to ensure food safety.

Navigating Food Issues: Examine crucial topics like genetically modified foods and their environmental impact. Engage in discussions to understand the complexities of food choices in a global context.

Crafting Healthy Creations: Learn the art of creating wholesome and nutritious meals. Discover secrets to crafting delicious breakfast, lunch, and dinner options that contribute to a balanced diet.

The Science of Nutrition: Explore the components of a healthy and balanced diet, understanding the importance of nutrients, portion control, and making informed dietary choices to support your well-being.

Guildford Gourmet invites you to dive into the fascinating world of food. By the end of this course, you will have acquired essential skills in food preparation, hygiene, and nutrition, empowering you to make informed decisions about your health and the environment.

Contact

Gabrielle Trinca
Head of Learning - Technologies
Gabrielle.Trinca@ggs.wa.edu.au

Design Technologies

Materials Technology

Exploring Materials Technology is your gateway to understanding the power of materials and their role in shaping our everyday lives. Through engaging projects and practical experiences, you will develop essential skills in design, manufacturing, and problem-solving, while discovering the potential of different materials. By the end of this course, you will have gained valuable insights into the world of materials and design. Whether you're interested in creating functional objects or expressing your creativity through hands-on manufacturing, Exploring Materials Technology equips you with the skills to bring your ideas to life.

Key Topics Covered:

Material Marvels: Dive into the diverse world of materials. Learn about the properties and characteristics of materials such as plastic, wood, aluminium, and plaster. Understand how each material's unique qualities influence design and functionality.

Designing with Purpose: Explore the principles of design and develop your creative thinking skills. Learn how to generate ideas, sketch concepts, and translate your visions into practical design solutions.

Hands-On Manufacturing: Get hands-on with manufacturing techniques. Learn how to shape, cut, join, and assemble materials to create functional and aesthetically pleasing products.

Material Exploration Projects: Engage in exciting projects that allow you to apply your material knowledge and manufacturing skills. Design and manufacture products that address real-world needs, demonstrating your innovation and craftsmanship.

Problem-Solving and Prototyping: Embrace the iterative design process. Develop problem-solving skills by creating prototypes, testing them, and refining your designs based on feedback and observations.

Environmental Considerations: Explore the environmental impact of materials and their life cycles. Understand the importance of responsible material selection and sustainable design practices.

This course will empower you with the skills and knowledge to navigate the world of materials and design confidently.

Contact

Gabrielle Trinca
Head of Learning - Technologies
Gabrielle.Trinca@ggs.wa.edu.au

Design Technology

Textiles Technology

Textiles Technology is a hands-on and practical subject that nurtures your creativity. This course allows you to apply your imaginative skills to complete design projects. It is a student-centred course, giving you the freedom to make your own decisions throughout the planning, management, and completion of your projects.

You will learn to select, use, and manipulate appropriate materials, equipment, and techniques to produce high-quality textile projects.

Key Topics Covered:

Materials and Material Knowledge: Gain an understanding of various textile materials and their properties.

Measuring Skills: Develop accurate measuring skills essential for successful textile projects.

Designing and Making Textiles Projects: Learn the process of designing and creating textile items from concept to completion.

Use of Sewing Machines and Other Textile-Based Machinery: Become proficient in using sewing machines and other equipment necessary for textile production.

Problem Solving and Prototyping: Enhance your problem-solving skills by creating prototypes, testing them, and refining your designs based on observations and feedback.

This course will empower you with the skills and knowledge to confidently navigate the world of textiles and design.

Contact

Gabrielle Trinca
Head of Learning - Technologies
Gabrielle.Trinca@ggs.wa.edu.au

Peforming Arts

Dance

Dance in Year 7 is an introduction to contemporary movement and dance skills which builds on the understanding of improvising, and experimenting with the elements of dance (BEST- body, energy, space and time) and choreographic devices, to create dance that communicates an idea.

Students develop their dance skills, focusing on developing technical competence in relation to body control, accuracy, posture/alignment, strength, flexibility, balance and coordination. They are provided with opportunities to present dance to others, developing their performance skills of expression, projection and focus. As they make dance and respond to it, students reflect on the meaning, interpretations and purposes of dance. Reflective writing tasks are an inherent aspect of this learning program. Safe dance practices underlie all experiences, as students perform within their own body capabilities and work safely in groups.

The focus of this course is:

- To acquire fundamental skills in balance, co-ordination, body control, accuracy, posture/alignment, strength and flexibility.
- Promote teambuilding and group problem-solving skills
- Basic improvisation and composition skills
- Producing and performing dance and movement sequences.
- Learning safe dance practices.

Contact

Mr Brad Minchin
Head of Learning - The Arts
Brad.Minchin@ggs.wa.edu.au

Drama

Drama is the expression and exploration of personal, emotional, social and cultural worlds, through role and situation, that engages, entertains and challenges.

Students create meaning as drama makers, performers and audiences as they engage with and analyse their own and others' stories and points of view. The course component introduces students to drama through exploration of communication skills, scripted text and improvisation. It provides students with an introduction to drama and further performance skills, which will enable them to pursue this subject at greater depth in the future.

The focus of this course is:

- Improvisation, role-play, storytelling, play building and introductory script excerpts
- The development of fundamental skills in voice and movement
- Drama techniques that are developed through the exploration of movement, neutral mask, music, script excerpts and devised tasks
- In-class performances
- Reflective written responses

Peforming Arts

Music

Music has the capacity to engage, entertain, challenge, inspire and empower students. Studying music stimulates imaginative and innovative responses, critical thinking and aesthetic understanding, and encourages students to reach their creative and expressive potential.

Music exists distinctively in every culture and is a basic expression of human experience. Students' active participation in music, individually and collectively, draws on their own traditions and life experiences. These experiences help them to appreciate and meaningfully engage with music practices and traditions of other times, places, cultures and contexts. Students do not need to have any prior experience in Music to achieve well in, and enjoy, this subject.

The focus of this course is:

- The study of the world of music composition through experimentation with the elements of music (sound, rhythm, melody, harmony and form)

- The teaching of a variety of music software packages to compose pieces for diverse groupings of instruments across many different genres and contexts

- The analysis of examples of music across many genres

- An introduction to basis aural perception and performance skills

Contact

Mr Brad Minchin
Head of Learning - The Arts
Brad.Minchin@ggs.wa.edu.au

Visual Arts

Media

Media in Year 7 is an introductory course available for Year 7 students who have a keen interest in films and the production process and want to develop the practical skills needed to create their own work. It is a hands-on course with a focus on experimentation and narrative development.

Media Film Production explores media concepts, and challenges students to implement them into their own body of work. Students will view, listen, read, analyse and discuss media, considering how people, events and issues are represented.

Students will create, produce and present their own works in Media. Working independently and in collaboration with others, students will become confident and competent in using media technologies to express their ideas. In this course, students will explore different practical media forms, focusing on visual narrative of short films.

Students will learn skills associated with storyboarding, brainstorming ideas, pre-planning, producing and editing multiple short films in post-production.

The focus of this course is:

- Codes and conventions
- Narrative structure and characterisation
- Audience, context and content
- The production of narrative
- Video production skills in cinematography and editing
- Leadership and group work skills

Visual Art

Visual Art incorporates the three fields of art, craft and design. Students create visual representations that communicate, challenge and express their own and others' ideas, both as artists and audience members. They develop perceptual and conceptual understanding, critical reasoning and practical skills through exploring and expanding their understanding of their world and other worlds.

The course component is designed to expose students to the elements and principles of art and design, as well as a range of skills and processes. The students undertake a series of projects in which the elements and principles are constantly explored and reinforced through practical projects to enable them to be conscious users and viewers of the building blocks (elements and principles) of art and design.

The focus of the Year 7 Visual Art component is:
- Discovery, experimentation and problem-solving relevant to visual perception and visual language
- Utilising visual techniques, technologies, practices and processes
- The ability to recognise and develop cultural appreciation of visual arts in the past and contemporary contexts through exploring and responding to artists and their artworks

Contact

Mr Brad Minchin
Head of Learning - The Arts
Brad.Minchin@ggs.wa.edu.au