

2026 CURRICULUM OPTIONS HANDBOOK GRADE 9 & 10



"That which is true is mine"



INTRODUCTION

The curriculum offered to students in Grades 9 and 10 at Riverside High School is aligned to the Australian Curriculum. All students study a common core of Mathematics, English, Science, History, and Health and Physical Education. They also select optional subjects from a wide variety of Learning Areas.

All compulsory (core) subjects and most optional courses run as full-year courses. Additional courses run for half a year to provide more variety and to allow for special interests and talents.

- **Full year option courses** are covered by two lessons (each of 75 minutes) per week for the whole year. Students will study two of these.
- **Short courses** are covered by one 75-minute lesson per week, except for **Winter Sport**, which occupies two 75-minute periods.

The Grade 9 and 10 program is designed to support students as they deepen their learning, explore future pathways, and prepare for senior secondary education. It encourages independence, self-reflection, and informed decision-making.

Program Goals:

- **Strengthen understanding of routines, safety, and expectations:** Students continue to develop confidence and responsibility in diverse learning environments, including workshops, studios, and practical settings.
- **Explore subject progression and future pathways:** Students gain insight into how elective subjects evolve, including links to senior secondary and career opportunities.
- **Encourage exploration of interests and emerging passions:** Students are given opportunities to try new subjects, reflect on their experiences, and identify areas of personal interest through hands-on projects, creative tasks, and performances.
- **Build engagement and connection to school:** Students collaborate with peers, participate in meaningful learning experiences, and develop a sense of belonging.

When making choices, it is important to:

- Understand the learning intentions and content of each subject. Please read carefully and seek advice from teachers if needed.
- Make choices based on your own learning preferences and goals—not those of your friends.
- Recognise that choices at this stage are unlikely to limit future opportunities. There will be further chances to refine or change options in future years.

While every effort will be made to place students in their two preferred full-year and two preferred short courses, availability may be affected by staffing, timetable constraints, or insufficient student numbers. For this reason, students are asked to nominate **reserve selections**.

It is essential that preferences are ranked carefully in both the full-year and short course sections.

CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK

CORE	Maths	Science	English	Health & PE	History
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OPTIONS	FULL YEAR	SHORT COURSES
	2 full year options	{including Winter Sport} short courses
	Line 1	Terms 1 & 4
	Line 2	Terms 2 & 3

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Specific information about individual subjects is available from:

Creative Writing	Mr B Gadsby
Design Technologies: Foods	Mr T Pedersen
Design Technologies: Wood/Metal/Auto	Mr L Bonney
Digital Technologies: Computing	Mr L Curro
Drama	Ms E McMahon
English	Mr B Gadsby
Health and Physical Education	Miss J Hall
History	Mr B Gadsby
HPE: Sport Science	Mr R Pooley
Introduction to Sociology & Psychology	Mr S Parry
Languages	Mrs C Coleman-Cox
Mathematics	Ms K Jago
Media	Mr A Child
Music	Mr S Rainbird
Science	Ms K Jago
STEM	Mr A Smith
Visual Arts	Mrs C Saunders

FULL YEAR COURSES

In addition to the five compulsory courses, students will study two optional courses from this group in Grades 9 and 10

Arts: Drama

Arts: Music

Arts: Visual Arts

Design Tech: Foods

Design Tech: Food Design and Enterprise

Design Tech: Metal

Design Tech: Wood

Digital Tech: Computing

English: Creative Writing

HASS: Business Studies

HASS: Legal Studies

HPE: Sport Science (Grade 9)

HPE: Sport Science (Grade 10)

Languages: Japanese

Maths: Maths Extended (Grade 9)

Maths: Maths Extended 10 (Grade 10)

Maths: Maths Methods Preparation (Grade 10)

Science: STEM

Sociology and Psychology

ARTS: DRAMA

This course is designed for students of all ability levels who want to explore and develop their Drama skills. No prior experience is required, although participation in Grade 8 Drama is an advantage. Students will engage in a range of performance styles including improvised, devised, and scripted works.

Students will:

- Extend their skills in self-expression and communication.
- Develop creative and critical thinking skills.
- Solve problems and build teamwork through performance tasks.
- Experiment with the elements of theatre.
- Develop performance skills in both devised and scripted stories.
- Share their work with peers and public audiences..
- Reflect on and critically appraise their own work and the work of others.

Students will work both individually and collaboratively to create dramatic works. Performance opportunities may include the Launceston Competitions and/or a whole-class production. These may require additional rehearsals outside of scheduled class time.

This course provides a supportive environment for students to grow as performers, thinkers, and collaborators.

ARTS: MUSIC

This course is designed for students of all ability levels who want to develop their musical skills and understanding. No prior experience is required, although class or private music experience may be beneficial.

Students will:

- Develop skills in performing, improvising, composing, arranging, and purposeful listening.
- Build confidence as soloists and ensemble performers.
- Explore musical genres and styles through practical and theoretical tasks.
- Strengthen their understanding of music theory and notation.
- Enhance listening skills and composition techniques.
- Participate in performances in a safe and supportive environment.

Students will be encouraged to pursue areas of personal musical interest and will have opportunities to perform on at least one instrument. The course supports growth as performers, listeners, and composers, and fosters creativity and musical appreciation.

ARTS: VISUAL ARTS

This course provides students with opportunities to develop and refine their knowledge and skills through the creation and appreciation of artworks. Students will express artistic ideas through their own visual creations and by studying the work of other artists and cultures.

Students will:

- Explore a broad range of techniques in painting, printmaking, sculpture, drawing, and photography.
- Develop familiarity with art terminology to discuss and analyse artworks.
- Keep a well-resourced art journal to document their creative process.
- Participate in all projects with a growth mindset.
- Exhibit their work and take part in local competitions and community events.
- Study and respond to a variety of artistic styles and cultural influences.

This course encourages creative thinking, personal expression, and artistic exploration in a supportive and inspiring environment.

DESIGN TECH: FOODS

This course encourages students to extend their skills in food preparation through research, planning, and presentation of safe, appealing meals that reflect contemporary food trends. Students will explore a variety of cooking techniques and ingredients while considering cultural, nutritional, and sustainability factors.

Students will:

- Prepare and present food in a safe and hygienic manner.
- Read and interpret recipe instructions to complete tasks.
- Understand how cultural influences have shaped Australian cuisine.
- Select, use, and evaluate convenience foods to support busy households and budgets.
- Include staple foods as key components of a balanced diet.
- Prepare food suitable for special occasions, celebrations, and entertaining.
- Recognise the importance of locally produced food for a sustainable future.

This course is ideal for students who enjoy practical learning and want to build confidence in the kitchen while developing lifelong skills in food preparation and healthy eating.

DESIGN TECH: FOOD DESIGN AND ENTERPRISE

Food and hospitality are among the largest employment industries in Australia. This course is ideal for students interested in pursuing a career in hospitality or developing entrepreneurial skills for life beyond school. Students will explore food design, preparation, and presentation through practical and creative tasks.

Students will:

- Develop skills in the design, preparation, and presentation of a range of foods.
- Use the Design Process to create new and innovative food products.
- Plan and prepare foods suitable for enterprise projects.
- Produce advertisements, ingredient lists, cost recipes, and calculate profit margins.
- Build teamwork and collaboration skills through group projects.
- Understand how kitchen safety and hygiene impact health and wellbeing.
- Undertake and complete a safe food handler course.

This course provides a strong foundation for students interested in hospitality, food enterprise, and creative culinary design.

DESIGN TECH: METAL

This course introduces students to key areas of metal technology through the design and construction of metalwork projects. Students will begin with foundational hand skills and workshop techniques, progressing to more advanced fabrication tasks as their confidence and competence grow.

Students will:

- Adopt safe and cooperative workshop practices.
- Develop skills in fitting, sheet metal working, lathe operation, and welding.
- Use tools and machinery for accurate fabrication and joining.
- Design and construct metal projects using the Design Process.
- Create, adapt, and refine design ideas and justify decisions using developed criteria.
- Explore enterprise, sustainability, and innovation in metalwork.
- Be trained in the use of metal fabrication equipment including metal lathes, plasma cutters, and MIG welders.

Students are encouraged to design their own projects once core skills are developed.

Please note: additional costs may apply if personal design projects exceed standard student budgets.

Important: All students must always wear safety glasses and an apron in the workshop.

DESIGN TECH: WOOD

This course provides students with opportunities to apply design and technical knowledge while developing practical skills through hands-on projects. Students will begin with a set project to build foundational skills and knowledge and may later initiate a project of their own design.

Students will:

- Use creativity, innovation, and enterprise skills to work independently and collaboratively.
- Apply safe and responsible workshop practices.
- Create, adapt, and refine design ideas, processes, and solutions.
- Justify design decisions using developed criteria, including sustainability.
- Plan and manage the production of their design solutions using a range of technologies.
- Critically evaluate their completed projects to demonstrate understanding.

Students may choose to undertake a personal design project once core skills are established.

Please note: additional costs may apply if personal projects exceed standard student budgets.

Important: All students must always wear safety glasses and an apron in the workshop.

DIGITAL TECH: COMPUTING

This course is designed for students interested in pursuing a career in the IT industry. It supports both trade and tertiary pathways, offering opportunities to deepen knowledge and advance skills in computer hardware, coding, networks, data manipulation, and cybersecurity.

Students will:

- Explore script coding and video game development using Python.
- Comprehend data transmission, interpretation, and visualisation through spreadsheets and databases.
- Solve hardware and software problems using computational thinking.
- Understand the purpose and function of computer components and architecture.
- Investigate cybersecurity threats and explore protective measures.

Students will develop valuable transferable skills such as problem-solving, digital literacy, resilience, and teamwork—skills highly sought after in future workplace sectors. This course is highly recommended for students who enjoy computing and want to progress their understanding of digital systems and technologies.

ENGLISH: CREATIVE WRITING (9/10)

This course is designed for students who enjoy writing and want to develop their skills in crafting imaginative, personal, and informational texts. Students will explore a wide range of writing styles and techniques while building a folio of creative work.

Students will:

- Create literary texts using appropriate structures, devices, and language for specific audiences and purposes.
- Develop themed writing pieces, such as crime fiction, romance, or speculative short stories.
- Strengthen planning, editing, and peer assessment skills.
- Build a folio including narratives, poetry, journalistic writing, scripts, descriptions, and digital texts.
- Refine skills in design, word processing, proofreading, and publishing.

Students will have opportunities to enter writing competitions such as Write a Book in a Day, the Red Room Poetry Competition, and the Launceston Competitions, and attend workshops with visiting authors and creators.

This course is an excellent introduction to senior English pathways, including:

- English Writing (Grades 11–12)
- English Literature (Grades 11–12)
- English Communications (Grades 11–12)
- Media Production (Grades 11–12)

HASS: BUSINESS STUDIES

This course offers an engaging introduction to the world of business, focusing on how businesses operate and are effectively managed. Students will explore six key areas: the business environment, operations management, human resources, financial management, marketing, and entrepreneurship.

Students will:

- Investigate how businesses function and thrive in competitive environments.
- Explore operations, human resources, finance, and marketing strategies.
- Develop entrepreneurial thinking and innovative business ideas.
- Engage with local businesses and interview industry professionals.
- Apply business concepts through hands-on projects and real-world scenarios.
- Organise a business portfolio and participate in SideFest (held every second year).

This course fosters creativity, problem-solving, and enterprise skills. It provides a strong foundation for future study in economics, business, or commerce, and supports students in understanding how to turn ideas into action.

HASS: LEGAL STUDIES

This course introduces students to the foundations of Australia's legal system and encourages critical thinking about justice, fairness, and citizenship. It is ideal for students interested in law, society, and the rights and responsibilities of individuals.

Students will:

- Understand how laws are made and how democracy functions in Australia.
- Explore the criminal trial process and courtroom procedures.
- Investigate human rights and how they are protected or challenged.
- Examine the legal rights and responsibilities of young people.
- Analyse real-world legal issues and case studies.
- Develop skills in reasoning, debate, research, and ethical thinking.

This course provides a strong foundation for future studies in HASS, Legal Studies, and related fields. It supports students in becoming informed, active citizens with a deeper understanding of the law and its role in society

HPE: SPORT SCIENCE 9

This theory-based course is ideal for students interested in careers such as nursing, childcare, fitness, teaching, physiotherapy, or those who want to enhance their own and others' sporting performance. It provides a strong foundation in health and human movement science.

Students will:

- Access, synthesise, and apply health information from credible sources.
- Propose and justify responses to health situations.
- Apply decision-making and problem-solving skills to enhance health, safety, and wellbeing.
- Develop an understanding of physical fitness and how the body operates for optimal performance.

Key areas of study include:

- Body Systems
- Fitness and Skill Concepts
- Sports Injuries

No previous experience is required. This course supports students in building knowledge and skills relevant to both personal wellbeing and future study or employment in health and sport-related fields.

HPE: SPORT SCIENCE 10

This theory-based course is ideal for students interested in careers such as nursing, childcare, fitness, teaching, physiotherapy, or those who want to enhance their own and others' sporting performance. It builds foundational knowledge in health, physical conditioning, and sport psychology.

Students will:

- Access, synthesise, and apply health information from credible sources.
- Propose and justify responses to health situations.
- Apply decision-making and problem-solving skills to enhance health, safety, and wellbeing.
- Explore the impact of nutrition and hydration on performance.
- Develop understanding of physical conditioning, skill acquisition, and sport psychology.

Key areas of study include:

- Body Systems
- Fitness and Skill Concepts
- Sports Injuries
- Nutrition and Hydration

No previous experience is required. This course supports students in building knowledge and skills relevant to both personal wellbeing and future study or employment in health and sport-related fields.

LANGUAGES: JAPANESE

This full-year course is designed to extend students' Japanese language skills developed in Grade 8 and earlier. Students will continue using hiragana and basic kanji, and begin expressing foreign words using katakana. The course offers opportunities to connect with Japanese students studying English, fostering international friendships and cultural exchange.

Students will:

- Read and write in hiragana, katakana, and basic kanji.
- Communicate about school, hobbies, characters, and festivals.
- Make plans and express ideas in everyday Japanese.
- Participate in cultural activities such as kimono wearing, calligraphy, tea ceremony, and Japanese cooking.
- Explore Japanese traditions and contemporary culture through engaging tasks.

Aligned with the Australian Curriculum, this course supports students in developing language proficiency and cultural understanding. It also prepares students for further study in Grades 11 and 12 and opens pathways for global communication and travel.

MATHS: MATHS EXTENDED (Grade 9)

This course is designed for students who want to deepen their mathematical understanding and prepare for future study and careers in mathematics. It explores advanced concepts beyond the standard Grade 9 syllabus and encourages critical thinking and problem-solving.

Students will:

- Investigate number patterns and ordering techniques.
- Explore indices, logarithms, surds, and matrices.
- Develop skills in mathematical reasoning and modelling.
- Apply unfamiliar mathematical notation and symbolic representation.
- Solve complex problems using a variety of strategies.

This course is ideal for students with an enquiring mind who wish to extend their mathematical skills and prepare for Maths Methods Preparation in Grade 10. Students will also participate in the Australian Mathematics Competition.

Note: Acceptance into this course is conditional. Students should have ideally achieved an above-standard rating in Grade 8 Mathematics.

MATHS: MATHS EXTENDED 10 (Grade 10)

This course provides students with additional time each week to consolidate their understanding of Grade 10 Mathematics content. It is designed to support students in preparing for senior secondary maths courses and to strengthen their foundational skills.

Students will:

- Follow the same curriculum as their core maths class.
- Receive targeted support to complete assignments and revise for assessments.
- Develop confidence through an individualised approach to learning.
- Improve essential mathematical skills to achieve their potential.
- Build readiness for Grade 11 College maths courses.

This course is ideal for motivated students who want to extend their mathematical understanding or require additional support to succeed. It provides a flexible and supportive environment tailored to individual learning needs.

MATHS: MATHS METHODS PREPARATION (Grade 10)

This course is designed for mathematically competent students who wish to prepare for Grade 11 Maths Methods Foundation 3C or Maths Methods 4C, with the potential to pursue Maths Specialised 4C in Grade 12. It provides a strong foundation in advanced algebraic and graphical concepts.

Students will:

- Explore and connect the rules and graphs of Linear, Quadratic, Cubic, Quartic, Exponential, and Logarithmic Functions.
- Develop skills in mathematical modelling and symbolic representation.
- Strengthen algebraic reasoning and problem-solving techniques.
- Participate in the Australian Mathematics Competition.

This course is ideal for students aiming to pursue higher-level mathematics in senior secondary education and beyond.

Note: Acceptance into this course is conditional. Students should have ideally achieved an above-standard rating in Grade 9 Mathematics.

SCIENCE: STEM

This course is designed for students who want to extend their skills in science and technology and enjoy the challenge of solving real-world problems through creative design. The focus is on building strong links between scientific concepts and the engineering design process, with an emphasis on innovation, teamwork, and practical application.

Students will:

- Develop skills in 3D printing, laser cutting, and CAD software.
- Apply the engineering design process to a range of challenges.
- Design and create resources for specific tasks and personal interest projects.
- Conduct research and apply theory to support their designs.
- Work collaboratively to enhance communication, critical thinking, and creativity.
- Build foundational knowledge in scientific and engineering principles.

Students interested in the F1 in Schools Challenge will be supported with time, resources, and guidance to prepare for state and national competitions. This course also provides valuable preparation for STEM-oriented subjects at college, including Engineering Design and other science and technology pathways.

SOCIOLOGY AND PSYCHOLOGY

This full-year course invites students to explore the mechanics of humanity through the lenses of sociology (how we interact together) and psychology (the study of the mind). It is ideal for students curious about human behaviour, social structures, and cultural change.

Students will:

- Investigate key psychology concepts such as brain function, lifespan development, communication, anti-social behaviour, and forensic psychology.
- Explore sociology topics including youth culture, socialisation, gender, and family.
- Understand how psychological and sociological concepts shape individual personalities and social interactions.
- Examine how society has developed and how culture evolves over time.

Students will study human behaviour across the lifespan, with a particular focus on adolescence and youth culture. The course blends both disciplines to help students understand how people work together and how individuals influence society.

This course provides a strong foundation for future study in Level 3 Sociology and Psychology courses in Grades 11 and 12.

SHORT COURSE OPTIONS

WEDNESDAY BLOCK 3 & 4

Students may study up to a maximum of four from the following courses.

Rank choices 1 - 6

If selecting to do a Winter Sport, make that choice Rank 1

Arts: Media Production

Arts: Music Performance & Production

Arts: SK8 Paint

Arts: Visual Arts – Drawing

Arts: Visual Arts – Sculpture

Arts: Theatre Skills

Design Tech: Functional Foods

Design Tech: Snack Size

Digital Tech: Making Computer Games

Design Tech: Wood And Metal Crafts in Education

English: Journalism & Magazine

HASS: Geography

HASS: Legal Studies

HPE: First Aid

HPE: Athlete Development

HPE: Gym Activities

HPE: Sport and Recreation (summer sports)

HPE: Strength and Conditioning

Science: Extension

Science: Forensic Science

Science: STEM

SUMMER SPORTS – SPORT and RECREATION
Block 3 & 4 in Term 1 Only – Term 4 in school)

Summer Sport: Touch Football

Summer Sport: Racquet Sport

Summer Sport: Lawn Balls

WINTER SPORTS

[Block 3 & Block 4 in Terms 2 & 3]

Winter Sport: Australian Rules Football (Boys)

Winter Sport: Australian Rules Football (Girls)

Winter Sport: Hockey

Winter Sport: Netball

Winter Sport: Soccer Outdoor

CAP: Career Awareness Program (Grade 10 only;
required if selected: Terms 1 & 4)

Peer Mentors (Grade 10 only; required if selected:
Terms 1 & 4)

Prefects (Grade 10 only; required if elected: Terms 1
& 4)

ARTS: MEDIA PRODUCTION

Media is a powerful and evolving form of communication shaped by technology and creativity. In this course, students will explore a range of media formats and develop skills to create content for diverse audiences and purposes.

Students will:

- Analyse techniques for effective communication across different media platforms.
- Engage with technology to communicate information to varied audiences.
- Create and evaluate media products using industry-standard tools and software.
- Explore journalism, radio, podcasting, filmmaking, print media, photography, video, television, and social media.
- Develop an understanding of how media texts are produced, circulated, and interpreted.

Students may choose to focus on one or more areas of interest. Projects could include recording a podcast series, producing short films for competitions, creating digital content, or curating social media accounts. This course encourages creativity, critical thinking, and technical skill development in a hands-on learning environment.

ARTS: MUSIC PERFORMANCE & PRODUCTION

This course offers a well-rounded program that combines musical performance with the essentials of sound engineering. Students will explore the physics of sound, microphone technology, live performance setup, and studio recording techniques using industry-standard software.

Students will:

- Learn the basics of sound physics and microphone technology.
- Set up and operate live performance and recording environments.
- Develop mixing and production skills using digital audio tools.
- Enhance solo and ensemble performance abilities.
- Explore improvisation, arrangement, and attentive listening.
- Collaborate in ensembles to perform cover songs and original compositions.

This course fosters creativity, teamwork, and technical skill development. It provides a strong foundation for future pursuits in audio design, music production, or performance careers.

ARTS: SK8 PAINT

Note: This course can only be completed once during Years 9 and 10.

In this hands-on creative course, students will design and paint their own contemporary artwork onto a skateboard deck. Drawing inspiration from a range of ideas and art genres, students will develop a series of designs that reflect personal style and artistic exploration.

Students will:

- Learn and apply the design process from concept to completion.
- Prepare skateboard decks through sanding and priming.
- Transfer their artistic designs onto the deck using painting techniques.
- Seal their work with quality varnish for a durable, long-lasting finish.
- Explore contemporary art styles and visual storytelling.

This course is ideal for students who enjoy practical, creative projects and want to produce a unique, functional artwork.

ARTS: VISUAL ARTS - DRAWING

This course invites students to explore the world of drawing through both traditional and contemporary approaches. Students will experiment with a range of techniques and styles, from figurative to abstract, using materials such as pencil and charcoal.

Students will:

- Explore traditional and modern drawing practices.
- Develop skills in observational and expressive drawing.
- Create artworks using pencil, charcoal, and other dry media.
- Investigate visual storytelling through line, tone, and composition.
- Build confidence in their creative process through hands-on tasks.

No previous experience is required. This course is ideal for students who enjoy visual expression and want to develop their drawing skills in a supportive and creative environment.

ARTS: VISUAL ARTS - SCULPTURE

This course provides students with opportunities to develop and refine their knowledge and skills through the creation and appreciation of three-dimensional artworks. Students will explore a range of materials and techniques including ceramics, ephemeral art, and ready-made sculpture.

Artistic ideas will be investigated through the study of diverse artists, with a particular focus on the making practices of First Nations Peoples. Students will build familiarity with art terminology and use it to discuss artworks and respond to texts.

Students are expected to maintain a well-resourced art journal to document their creative process, reflections, and research. A growth mindset is encouraged as students participate in all projects and explore a broad range of ideas.

Students will:

- Create 3D artworks using ceramics, ephemeral materials, and found objects.
- Investigate and respond to the work of First Nations artists and other sculptors.
- Develop and use art terminology to discuss and critique artworks.
- Maintain an art journal to support their creative development.
- Explore personal and cultural ideas through sculptural forms.

This course encourages creative exploration, critical thinking, and personal expression through hands-on making and reflective practice.

ARTS: THEATRE SKILLS

This course is designed for students who wish to progress their knowledge and skills in Drama by developing creative thinking and performance abilities through improvisation games and activities.

Students will explore a variety of Theatre Sports games including *Space Jump*, *Death in a Minute*, *Props*, *Super Heroes*, and *Scene Three Ways*. These activities encourage students to think quickly, create characters, and build scenes that follow the rules of each game.

Students will:

- Use creative thinking to develop characters and scenes.
- Learn and apply the rules of various Theatre Sports games.
- Work cooperatively and build on others' ideas.
- Collaborate on extended devised scenes.
- Choose to share their work with a range of audiences.

This course also provides a supportive and encouraging environment for students who may have limited experience in Drama. It is an ideal opportunity to build confidence, develop group work skills, and enjoy the fun and spontaneity of improvised performance.

DESIGN TECH: FUNCTIONAL FOODS

Cooking is a vital life skill, especially for young adults with busy lifestyles. This course focuses on preparing quick, nutritious, and adaptable meals using both convenience and fresh local produce. Students will work in pairs or groups to create meals suited to everyday needs such as school, work, and social occasions.

Students will:

- Work cooperatively with others in a kitchen setting.
- Master basic food preparation techniques.
- Prepare food safely and hygienically.
- Read and interpret recipe instructions.
- Consider food presentation and plating.
- Use kitchen equipment and materials safely.

This course is ideal for students who want to build confidence in the kitchen and learn practical skills for independent living and healthy eating.

DESIGN TECH: SNACK SIZE

This hands-on course is perfect for students who want to learn how to prepare quick, nutritious, and delicious meals suited to busy lifestyles. Working in pairs or small groups, students will create snacks and meals ideal for school, work, or life on the go. The focus is on simple, adaptable recipes using both convenience and fresh local ingredients.

Students will:

- Work cooperatively with others in a kitchen setting.
- Master basic food preparation techniques.
- Prepare food safely and hygienically.
- Read and follow recipe instructions accurately.
- Think creatively about food presentation.
- Use kitchen equipment and materials safely.

This course is ideal for students who want to build confidence in the kitchen and learn practical cooking skills for everyday life.

DIGITAL TECH: MAKING COMPUTER GAMES

This course is designed for students who are curious about what makes a game enjoyable and successful. Through hands-on activities, students will explore game design principles and programming techniques by creating new games and modifying existing ones.

Students will investigate different game styles, animation techniques, and programming logic. They will also explore the history of computer games to understand the elements that contribute to engaging gameplay and lasting popularity.

Students will:

- Explore game design processes and programming fundamentals.
- Create and modify games using a variety of software platforms.
- Investigate animation and game styles.
- Learn about the history and evolution of computer games.
- Work individually and collaboratively to develop original games.

This course encourages creativity, problem-solving, and teamwork, providing a strong foundation for students interested in digital technologies and interactive media.

DESIGN TECH: WOOD AND METAL CRAFTS IN EDUCATION

This half-year course is aimed at students who wish to use the MDT workshops to design and create small, engaging projects for personal use or potential sale. Students will be encouraged to apply entrepreneurial thinking and recycling principles to develop practical and creative solutions.

Whether experienced or new to the workshop environment, students will be supported in using a range of tools, materials, and processes to bring their ideas to life. The course fosters independence, innovation, and collaboration in a safe and inclusive setting.

Students will:

- Design and create small projects using workshop tools and materials.
- Apply creativity, innovation, and enterprise skills.
- Use recycled materials and sustainable practices in their designs.
- Work independently and collaboratively to solve design challenges.
- Explore workshop processes suited to their project needs.
- Build confidence in safe and responsible workshop practices.

Important: All students must always wear safety glasses and an apron while working in the workshop.

ENGLISH: JOURNALISM & MAGAZINE

Be the voice of your school. If you love storytelling, photography, or capturing the energy of school life, this is your chance to shine. In this hands-on course, students become the creative team behind *Panta Rei*, the school's official magazine.

Students will:

- Learn how to write engaging articles, conduct interviews, and report with integrity.
- Capture the moments that matter through photography and visual design.
- Explore layout, editing, and publishing techniques for print and digital media.
- Collaborate with peers to produce content that reflects school culture and student voice.
- Contribute to real-world publications and build a professional writing portfolio.
- Develop media literacy and communication skills through authentic tasks.

This course fosters creativity, teamwork, and real-world experience in journalism and publishing. It's ideal for students who want to express themselves, inform others, and make a meaningful contribution to school life.

HASS: GEOGRAPHY

This course is designed for students who have an interest in the world around them and want to extend their understanding of global environments, populations, and interconnections.

Students will:

- Analyse interconnections between people, places, and environments.
- Explain how these interconnections influence people and change places and environments.
- Explore where people live and why.
- Investigate topics such as Biomes and Food Security, Environmental Change and Management, World Living Standards, and General Geographic Skills.
- Build skills in geographic inquiry, mapping, and data interpretation.

This subject provides a strong foundation for students considering future studies in *Australia in Asia and the Pacific 3*, *Modern History 3*, *Geography 3*, or *Asian Studies*. It encourages critical thinking and global awareness through engaging and relevant topics.

HASS: LEGAL STUDIES

This course introduces students to the foundations of Australia's legal system and encourages critical thinking about justice, fairness, and citizenship. It is ideal for students interested in law, society, and the rights and responsibilities of individuals.

Students will:

- Understand how laws are made and how democracy functions in Australia.
- Explore the criminal trial process and courtroom procedures.
- Investigate human rights and how they are protected or challenged.
- Examine the legal rights and responsibilities of young people.
- Analyse real-world legal issues and case studies.
- Develop skills in reasoning, debate, research, and ethical thinking.

This course provides a strong foundation for future studies in HASS, Legal Studies, and related fields. It supports students in becoming informed, active citizens with a deeper understanding of the law and its role in society

HPE: FIRST AID

This course provides students with practical and theoretical knowledge of basic First Aid procedures, including the management of illnesses and injuries and the administration of CPR. While students will gain the skills required to complete a First Aid certificate, no formal statement of attainment is issued through this course.

Students will:

- Apply decision-making and problem-solving skills to enhance their own and others' health, safety, and wellbeing.
- Examine a range of First Aid scenarios and respond appropriately.
- Develop knowledge of basic First Aid procedures and CPR techniques.
- Build confidence in managing emergency situations.
- Work collaboratively to practise and refine First Aid responses.

This course offers an engaging and supportive environment for students to build essential life skills in health and safety.

HPE: ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT

This course is designed for students who are committed to a training and competition program, with a focus on improving performance in their preferred sport. It explores current approaches to sports fitness and provides opportunities to engage with high-performance concepts in a fun and supportive environment.

Students will:

- Apply and transfer movement concepts and strategies to new and challenging movement situations.
- Use criteria to make judgments about and refine their own and others' specialised movement skills and performances.
- Participate in group fitness activities designed to improve athletic performance.
- Explore concepts related to high-performance sport, including goal setting, recovery, and training principles.
- Work independently and collaboratively to enhance physical and mental aspects of performance.

This course supports students in developing their athletic potential while building confidence, teamwork, and a deeper understanding of sport science and training.

HPE: GYM ACTIVITIES

This course provides a fun and enjoyable experience through a blend of traditional and non-traditional games played in the school gym. It is designed for students who wish to remain active during Terms 2 and 3 but do not wish to participate in the Winter Sport options.

Students will engage in activities that promote relaxation, physical activity, and social connection. The course fosters team cohesion and provides opportunities for leadership in a supportive and inclusive environment.

Students will:

- Participate in a variety of traditional and non-traditional games.
- Develop teamwork and leadership skills through group activities.
- Engage in physical activity in a fun and relaxed setting.
- Build confidence and connection through inclusive movement experiences.
- Maintain fitness and wellbeing without the need for competitive sport.

This course is ideal for students who enjoy being active and want to explore recreational movement in a positive and collaborative space.

HPE: SPORT AND RECREATION (SUMMER SPORTS TERM 1)

This course offers a unique blend of sport and recreation, designed for students who want to stay active and engaged through a variety of physical activities. Students will participate in the newly introduced NHSSA summer sport roster throughout Term 1, with sports including:

- Touch Football at Prospect Park
- Lawn Bowls at Kings Meadows Bowls Club
- Racquet Sports (Badminton, Pickleball, and Table Tennis) at Elphin Sports Complex

Students will:

- Participate in organised sport and recreational activities in community settings.
- Demonstrate leadership, fair play, and cooperation across a range of movement and health contexts.
- Engage in physical activities that promote relaxation, enjoyment, and wellbeing.
- Explore the differences between sport and recreation, including their purposes and benefits.
- Reconnect with or be introduced to organised sports in a supportive and inclusive environment.

This course is ideal for students who enjoy being active and want to experience a variety of sports and recreational activities outside the traditional school setting.

HPE: STRENGTH & CONDITIONING

This course is designed for students who want to understand, apply, and design training programs to enhance individual performance. It includes both theoretical and practical components, with a focus on resistance training for fitness, sport, and body building.

Students will explore major muscle groups and learn about various forms of weight training, both inside and outside the weights room. The course supports students in developing independence and working collaboratively in a safe and supportive environment.

Students will:

- Apply and transfer movement concepts and strategies to new and challenging movement situations.
- Use criteria to make judgments about and refine their own and others' specialised movement skills and performances.
- Understand and apply training principles to improve physical performance.
- Explore major muscle groups and their role in movement and strength development.
- Participate in resistance training activities tailored to fitness, sport, and body building.
- Work safely and effectively in both gym and outdoor training environments.

SCIENCE: SCIENCE EXTENSION

This course is designed for students considering science-based subjects at college, such as *Biology*, *Environmental Science*, and *Physical Sciences*. It provides opportunities to refine both theoretical understanding and practical skills beyond the general Grade 9/10 curriculum.

Students will engage in work across the main streams of science, with a balance of theory and hands-on experimentation. Many practical activities are designed to strengthen the connection between scientific concepts and real-world applications, using equipment not typically available in general science classes.

Students will:

- Extend their understanding of core scientific concepts across biology, chemistry, and physics.
- Participate in practical activities that reinforce theoretical learning.
- Use specialised equipment to conduct experiments and investigations.
- Build confidence in applying scientific methods and analysing results.
- Prepare for senior science subjects through targeted skill development.

This course is ideal for students who are passionate about science and want to be well-prepared for future academic pathways in the sciences.

SCIENCE: FORENSIC SCIENCE

This course introduces students to the fascinating world of forensic science and the techniques used by crime scene investigators and laboratory scientists to solve crimes. It combines practical activities with theoretical learning to give students insight into real-world forensic processes.

Students will:

- Learn basic forensic techniques such as fingerprinting, fibre analysis, ballistics, blood stain analysis, and plaster casting.
- Investigate hypothetical crime scenarios and analyse evidence to understand how crimes are solved.
- Use web-based programs, case study videos, and internet research to explore forensic science in action.
- Develop skills in observation, analysis, and scientific reasoning.
- Gain an understanding of the role of science in criminal investigations.

This course is ideal for students interested in science, investigation, and real-world problem solving through hands-on learning.

SCIENCE: STEM

This half-year course offers students a diverse range of experiences focused on design, construction, and innovation through a STEM lens. It is ideal for students who enjoy scientific challenges and want to extend their skills in science and technology, particularly those interested in competing in the State *F1 in Schools* Challenge.

Students will participate in team-based projects that combine laser cutting, 3D printing, and CAD software to solve real-world design problems. Many tasks reflect the structure and expectations of the Grade 9/10 Science and Engineering Competition.

Students will:

- Identify and apply basic engineering design principles.
- Develop skills in 3D printing, laser cutting, and CAD software.
- Work collaboratively on design challenges with a competitive focus.
- Explore the technologies and processes behind high-performance engineering.
- Build confidence in problem-solving, creativity, and teamwork.

This course is ideal for students who enjoy hands-on learning and want to explore the intersection of science, technology, and design in a dynamic and engaging environment.

WINTER SPORTS TEAMS

Sports teams represent the school and players will be selected on their ability and merit. Players are therefore expected to play in the team determined by the coaches from selection training. Winter sport selection means that successfully selected students will have one fewer short course than otherwise because Winter Sport will run across both Lessons 3 and 4 on a Wednesday afternoon.

Riverside High is proposing to enter **the following teams** in the Wednesday Winter roster:

- Australian Rules Football (Boys)
- Australian Rules Football (Girls)
- Hockey
- Netball
- Soccer Outdoor

CAP: CAREER AWARENESS PROGRAM (Grade 10 only: Terms 1 & 4)

This is a compulsory short course for Grade 10 students who have been selected in the Career Awareness Program (CAP). This class will focus on work readiness with an aim to start work placements from Term 2. Students will develop resumes and build relevant skills for a range of vocational endeavours such as opportunities to attain their White Card, RSA, etc. A major focus of CAP will be pathway planning for Grade 10 and the future.

PEER MENTORS (Grade 10 only required if selected: Terms 1 & 4)

This compulsory course for selected Peer Mentors will enable students to further develop their leadership, communication, interpersonal skills, and capacity to support others to realise their potential. As required students for this course, they are supported to complete their own schoolwork while fulfilling their obligations as Peer Mentors. They will work with junior school students to support transition into high school, enhance their wellbeing and confidence and enable them to feel valued and supported with their learning. A considerable part of the role is to support junior students by working at their shoulder to help them gain access to learning that otherwise would prove challenging for them. The Peer Mentor teacher co-ordinator will be timetabled to take this course. Consequently, fewer overall short courses choices are available to Peer Mentors. Students will be placed in this course when selected.

PREFECTS (GRADE 10 only; required if elected: Terms 1 & 4)

This is a compulsory short course for students who have been elected as Prefects. This time will be made available to support the duties required to fulfill leadership responsibilities and to catch up on assignment work if things get too demanding. Prefects are required to take this course. The Prefect co-ordinator teacher will support Prefects during this time. Consequently, fewer overall short courses choices are available to Prefects. Students will be placed in this course when elected.