



2027

SUBJECT SELECTION **HANDBOOK**

Year 7 and 8



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Focus of each Year Level

Year 7 and 8 – Igniting curiosity and wonder

At Marian College, we understand that the transition from primary to secondary education is a significant milestone in a young person's life and we are committed to supporting each student through this important journey. The curriculum at Year 7 and 8 helps in this transition process by providing a wide range of subjects for the students to experience. In Years 7 and 8, students embark on a journey of discovery that builds upon their primary years. Our learning program fosters core foundational skills while nurturing a deep sense of wonder. Students are encouraged to develop their love of learning, express their creative gifts and explore their learning journey with natural curiosity.

Year 7 students will study:

Core Subjects • Religious Education • English • Language • Health & Physical Education • Humanities • Mathematics • Science • Wellbeing	Design and Digital Technology • Digital Technology • Home Economics • Textiles • Wood, Metal & Plastics The Arts • Art • Performing Arts: Music and Drama
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Religious Education

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PATHWAY



Religious Education

Enrolment at Marian College is an invitation to “come and see” in the spirit of the Gospel invitation of Jesus, within the framework of our Catholic faith, Kildare Ministries values, and our Brigidine Tradition.

The Religious Education experience at Marian College is not just a strong part of our curriculum, but entrenched in our whole school culture and community. It aims to develop religiously literate young people – who understand and appreciate religious values, are positive about life, have a sense of their own worth and of their contribution to the world, and are able to apply the Gospel values they have acquired in the context in which they live and work.

At a curriculum level, our Religious Education Program from Year 7-10, follows the Awakenings Guidelines mandated for use in Catholic schools in the Ballarat Diocese. Our strands of study cover Christian Ethics – Personal and Social; Church & Tradition; God, Religion and Society; Prayer, Liturgy and Sacraments; and Scripture, Israel and Jesus.

In the Senior Years, the Year 11 students study a single unit of VCE Religion and Society.

Our Year 12 students participate in an internal Religious Education Program. Students studying VCE Vocational Major (VM) are also involved in Religious Education Personal Development Units aligned with their VM Program.

Year 7

Year 7 students study units of work designed to introduce them to the unique charism of our Brigidine school to help them understand their membership within our Christian community. These units of work are:

- How Do We Belong?
- Justice – How do we live justly?
- Reconciliation – How do we forgive?
- Choice – How can we make the best choices?

The Awakenings units are also complemented by Marian College areas of study in Kildare Ministries values, Lent, Easter and the Stations of the Cross and Christmas around the world.

Year 8

Year 8 students study the following units of work for Religious Education:

- Common Good – Living as a community
- Compassion – seeing through the eyes of others
- Mystery – connecting with the sacred
- Hope – moments that change the world

The Awakenings units are also complemented by Marian College areas of study in Kildare Ministries values, Lent, Easter and the Stations of the Cross and Christmas around the world.

ENGLISH PATHWAY

VCE

Core subjects:

- English Units 3&4
and / or
- Literature Units 3&4

VCE

Core subjects:

- English Units 1&2
and / or
- Literature Units 1&2
and / or
- English Language Units 1&2

Year 10

Core subject:

- English

Electives:

- Creative Writing
- Cinema Studies
- Literature

Year 9

Core subject:

- English

Electives:

- Creative Writing
- Cinema Studies
- Literature

Year 8

Core subjects:

- English
- Chinese

Year 7

Core subjects:

- English
- Chinese

English

Year 7

English

The three key areas for learning and assessment in English from Years 7 to 10 are 'Writing', 'Reading and Viewing' and 'Speaking and Listening'.

In Year 7 students learn to purposefully and proficiently listen to, speak about, read, view, write, create and reflect on a range of text types including novels, poetry, multimedia texts and media articles. They develop skills to examine and analyse texts and develop an appreciation of the aesthetic aspects of literature. They evaluate and experiment with the power of the English language to evoke feelings, convey ideas and communicate with others.

In Year 7 students develop an understanding of how texts and narratives are constructed through studying archetypes, poetry, novels with interesting plot structures, the language of advertising and texts with a broad range of socially relevant topics. They connect their writing to texts studied and adapt and experiment with writing for different purposes and in different styles (such as creative writing, analytical writing and persuasive writing). They also continue to develop an understanding of the conventions of the Standard Australian English and how literary devices can add meaning.

Classroom and small group discussions are a staple of the English classroom. Students listen respectfully to, and learn, from each other. Speaking skills and the ability to articulate ideas verbally are practiced through a variety of informal oral activities and formal presentations.

Chinese

Students develop their ability to share ideas about language and culture systems and develop their skills in moving between languages and cultures. There is a learning and use focus on active exploration of the Chinese language system, which students draw upon to communicate their own ideas and engage with others.

In Year 7, as a second language learner, students will focus on Chinese character writing, festivals and classroom expressions.

English

Year 8

English

The three key areas for learning and assessment in English from Years 7 to 10 are 'Writing', 'Reading and Viewing' and 'Speaking and Listening'.

Year 8 English extends upon the skills and knowledge established in Year 7 English. Students explore academic vocabulary and use language to support relationships and roles. They explore various meanings in a range of different text types (including visual and multi-modal) from diverse historical and cultural contexts. They extend their understanding of how texts are structured for different purposes and effects.

Students analyse and evaluate the ways that ideas are organised in texts. They examine how authors use rhetorical and literary devices to engage audiences and experiment with these in their own writing. They review and edit their own and others' texts as part of the writing process. They learn how clause structures and punctuation support meaning in written texts and practice using evidence and substantiation to create cohesion within their own texts.

Classroom and small group discussions are a staple of the English classroom. Students listen respectfully to, and learn, from each other. Speaking skills and the ability to articulate ideas verbally are practiced through a variety of informal oral activities and formal presentations.

Chinese

In Year 8, students develop their ability to share ideas about language and culture. They actively explore the Chinese language system and draw upon it to communicate their own ideas and engage with others. Students develop oral language through active listening, observing interactions between native speakers, and using the spoken language for a range of purposes. They use Pinyin as a resource to support learning and learn new oral vocabulary.

Both language and cultural topics are explored and students learn how to use the language in a cultural context.

HUMANITIES PATHWAY

VCE

Electives:

- Business Management Units 3&4
- Legal Studies Units 3&4
- History – Revolutions Units 3&4

VCE

Electives:

- Business Management Units 1&2
- Legal Studies Units 1&2
- History – Empires Units 1&2

Year 10

Core subject:

- Humanities

Elective:

- Revolutions and War

VCE Accelerated subjects:

- Business Management Units 1&2
- Legal Studies Units 1&2
- History – Empires Units 1&2

Year 9

Core subject:

- Humanities

Elective:

- Money Talks

Year 8

Core subject:

- Humanities

Year 7

Core subject:

- Humanities

Humanities

The Humanities provide a framework for students to examine the complex processes that have shaped the modern world and to investigate responses to different challenges, including people's interconnections with the environment.

Years 7 and 8

In Year 7 and 8 Humanities, students cover a range of topics as prescribed by the Victorian curriculum. The Victorian curriculum F-10 for Humanities includes:

- Civics and Citizenship
- Economics and Business
- Geography
- History

In Civics and Citizenship and Economics and Business, students explore the systems that shape society, with a specific focus on legal and economic systems. Students learn about Australia's role in global systems, and are encouraged to appreciate democratic principles and to contribute as active, informed and responsible citizens.

In History and Geography, students explore the processes that have shaped and which continue to shape different societies and cultures, to appreciate the common humanity shared across time and distance, and to evaluate the ways in which humans have faced and continue to face different challenges.

HEALTH AND P.E. PATHWAY

VCE

Electives:

- Physical Education Units 3&4
- Health & Human Development Units 3&4

VCE

Electives:

- Physical Education Units 1&2
- Health & Human Development Units 1&2

Year 10

Core subject:

- Physical Education

Electives:

- Exercise Science
- Outdoor Education

VCE Accelerated subjects:

- Physical Education Units 1&2
- Health & Human Development Units 1&2

Year 9

Core subject:

- Physical Education

Electives:

- Games of the World
- Netball Studies
- Healthy Living

Year 8

Core subject:

- Physical Education

Year 7

Core subject:

- Physical Education

Health / Physical Education

Year 7

In Year 7 Physical Education students have a practical physical activity component as well as a Health Education component. Students learn a variety of aspects of movement & physical activity through participation in a range of activities including:

Swimming, Athletics, Netball, Basketball, Pateka, Cricket, Tee-ball and minor games.

In Year 7 students also study various aspects of personal, social & community health. This includes areas such as adolescence and change, relationships and diversity.

Year 8

In Year 8 Physical Education students have a practical physical activity component as well as a Health Education component. Students learn a variety of aspects of movement & physical activity through participation in a range of activities including:

Swimming, Athletics, Hockey, Football, Softball, Tennis, Badminton and minor games.

In Year 8 students also study various aspects of personal, social & community health. This includes areas such as positive relationships, healthy communities, and the changes & challenges of adolescence.

VISUAL ARTS PATHWAY

VCE

Electives:

- Art Making & Exhibiting Units 3&4

VCE

Electives:

- Art Making & Exhibiting Units 1&2

Year 10

Electives:

- Art
- Ceramics
- Photography

VCE Accelerated subject:

- Art Making & Exhibiting Units 1&2

Year 9

Electives:

- Art
- Ceramics
- Photography

Year 8

Core subject:

- Art

Year 7

Core subject:

- Art

Visual Arts

Year 7

The focus for Art in Year 7 is to develop an enquiring attitude to the visual arts, to foster creativity and an understanding of the art and design elements, and to experience the enjoyment of creative expression. Students will begin to develop a visual diary. This is an artist's collection of ideas and stimuli that will be used in all Art classes at Marian. Students will commence skill building in the areas of printing, drawing, painting and the creation of 3D art work. In Year 7 Art is a compulsory subject.

Year 8

Year 8 Art is an extension of Year 7 Art and students are expected to maintain their visual diary of ideas, experimentation and practice work. They are expected to work from their visual diaries to create many of their finished works. Students are required to make notes in their diaries commenting on how things may or may not have worked and collecting reference material from magazines and newspapers etc. Part of the diary of work will include notes on any exhibitions or shows that they have been able to see.

In Year 8 students build on the skills acquired in Year 7 and undertake projects in Portraiture, Perspective Drawing and Lino Printing. Ceramics skills in hand building techniques and throwing are also introduced in Year 8.

MUSIC PATHWAY

VCE

Electives:

- Music Performance Units 3&4
- Music Enquiry Units 3&4

VCE

Elective:

- Music Units 1&2

Year 10

Elective:

- Popular Music
- Music Technology

VCE Accelerated subject:

- Music Units 1&2

Year 9

Electives:

- Popular Music
- Music Technology

Year 8

Core subject:

- Music

Year 7

Core subject:

- Music

Music

Year 7

Explore and express ideas, experiment with elements of music, in isolation and in combination, using listening skills, voice, and technologies to find ways to create music. Students develop music ideas through improvisation, composition and performance, combining and manipulating the elements of music practices and structuring compositions. Students explore and analyse the use of instruments in popular songs, informing their compositional practices. Compositions are done in solo or group settings.

Year 8

Different elements of Music are further explored in Year 8 through listening and performance, such as melody, dynamics, tempo, rhythm, pitch, duration, tone, colour, texture/timbre, instrumentation, tonality and articulation. Students explore world music to broaden their scope of instruments and music styles and genres. Through music analysis, students dissect popular songs, identifying the instruments used and how that affects the character and mood of the songs. Students also experiment with instruments and technologies, in solo or group settings, to create and perform music.

PERFORMING ARTS PATHWAY

VCE

Electives:

- Drama Units 3&4
- Theatre Studies Units 3&4

VCE

Electives:

- Drama Units 1&2
- Theatre Studies Units 1&2

Year 10

Elective:

- Drama

Year 9

Elective:

- Drama

Year 8

Core subject:

- Drama

Year 7

Core subject:

- Drama

Drama

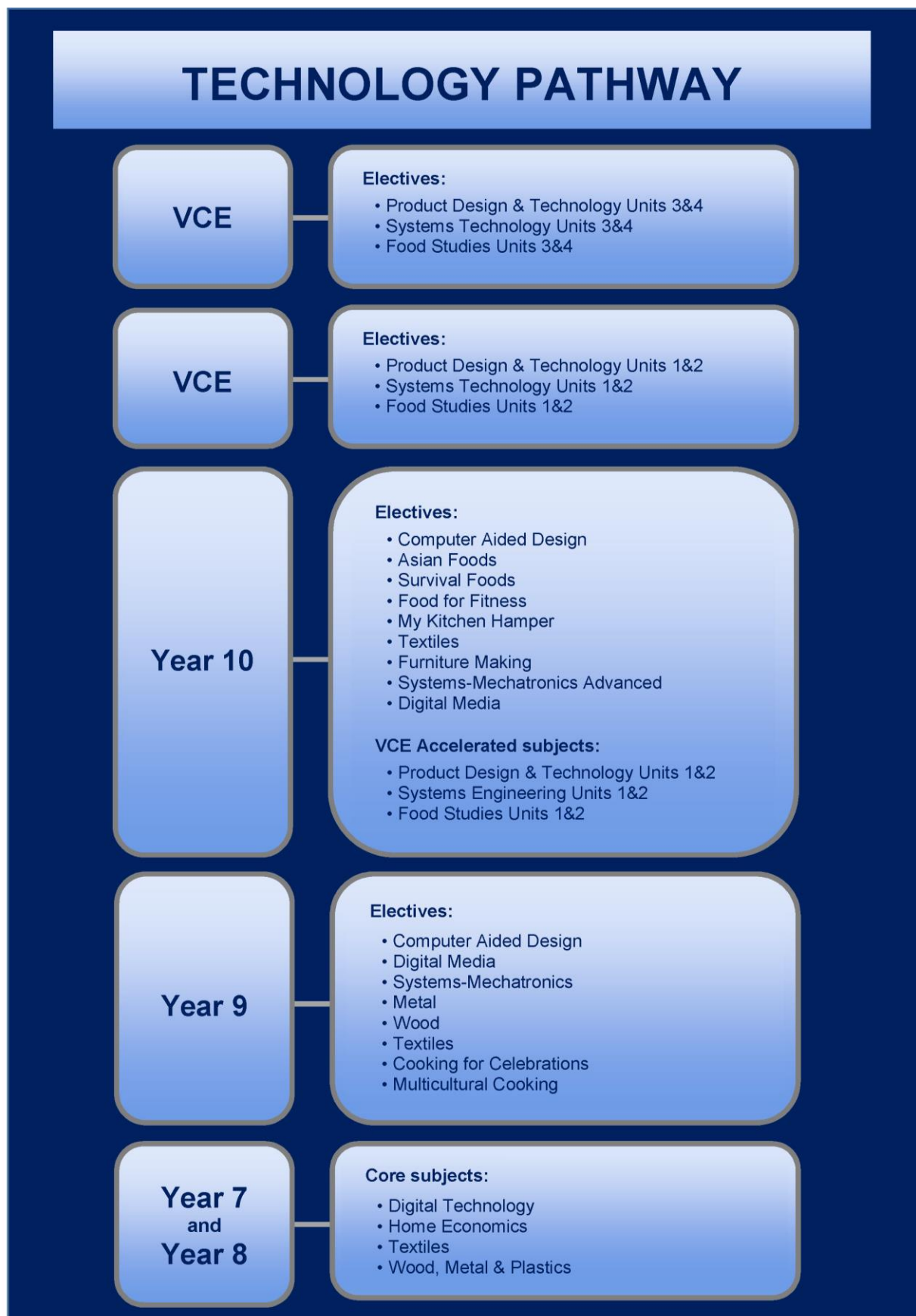
Year 7

Year 7 Drama focuses on group work, improvisation, role-plays, voice, movement and characterisation. Activities take the form of improvisation games, storytelling and process drama and involve group work and play building.

In performance, students develop movement, voice, focusing skills and techniques, play and audience awareness. Students are encouraged to critically reflect and evaluate dramatic practice in responding to the drama of others as well as recording, reflecting and evaluating their own drama processes and products.

Year 8

Year 8 Drama is an extension of the skills and knowledge developed in Year 7 with an emphasis being given to devised work. Students explore specialty areas such as silent movies, including movie making, and explore the dramatic elements of focus, timing, tension, movement, mood and sound.



Design and Digital Technology

Year 7

Digital Technology

Students will develop knowledge in technology including how a computer works and develop basic web design and coding skills. Students will work in teams to analyse problems, design and develop solutions, and evaluate their work.

Home Economics

During this unit students learn about the safe and hygienic handling and storage of food and the appropriate use of tools and equipment. They develop food preparation skills and prepare a range of products both savoury and sweet.

These recipes cover traditional cooking methods but are also updated to reflect contemporary eating trends. Students use a food model such as the Healthy Diet Pyramid to make judgements about food selection. Students also produce productions that help them meet the Australian Dietary Guidelines.

Textiles

Students develop their fibre and fabric knowledge and skills, to design and produce a range of small products. They develop hand sewing skills and sewing machine construction techniques to create their products. An understanding of the design process and the design elements is fostered.

Product Design (Wood / Metal / Plastics)

Students learn the basic skills and concepts of working with various materials and processes. The subject includes encouraging students to be competent with all hand tools, the elements of basic design, problem solving and constructing products to meet student needs. In this subject students will also be offered a range of technical and artistic problems to solve. They will investigate and research aspects relevant to each problem, for example - different methods of box jointing and uses of different woods and metals. All work will be evaluated by students to encourage them to reflect on the relevance of their research; their use of tools and any modifications, and their ideas for improvements to projects.

Design and Digital Technology

Year 8

Digital Technology

In Digital Technologies, students are actively engaged in the processes of analysing problems, designing, developing and evaluating digital solutions, and creating and sharing information using computers. Students learn to safely and ethically create digital solutions. These solutions and information are created through the application of computational, design and systems thinking, and technical skills.

Home Economics

The focus for this subject is to extend the students from the basic principles of food preparation and production taught in Year 7. The emphasis is on practical application. Students study the importance of breakfast and use the Design Process to select a 2 course healthy breakfast for 4 people. Students also study rice and the various methods used to cook it in both sweet and savoury dishes.

Textiles

Students continue to develop their fibre and fabric knowledge and skills, to design and produce a range of products. They develop their sewing machine skills and knowledge, and basic construction processes to create useful products. Their understanding of the design brief, the design process and the design elements continue to develop.

Product Design (Wood / Metal / Plastics)

This unit covers two areas of study – Materials and Systems. Students focus on the social and environmental implications of using various materials. They use prior knowledge and a range of tools and equipment including some power tools to construct their products.

MATHEMATICS PATHWAY

VCE

Electives:

- Specialist Mathematics Units 3&4
- Maths Methods Units 3&4
- General Mathematics Units 3&4

VCE

Electives:

- Specialist Mathematics Units 1&2
- Maths Methods Units 1&2
- General Mathematics Units 1&2

Year 10

Core subject:

- General Mathematics
- Pre-Methods

Year 9

Core subject:

- Mathematics

Year 8

Core subject:

- Mathematics

Year 7

Core subject:

- Mathematics

Mathematics

Years 7 and 8

In Years 7 and 8 students study Mathematics for 4 hours per week. Mathematics provides students with access to important mathematical ideas, knowledge and skills that they will draw on in their personal and work lives. The curriculum also provides students, as life-long learners, with the basis on which further study and research in mathematics and applications in many other fields are built.

Number, measurement and space, statistics and probability are common aspects of most people's mathematical experience in everyday personal, study and work situations. Equally important are the essential roles that algebra, functions and relations, mathematical structure and working mathematically play in people's understanding of the natural and human worlds, and the interaction between them.

SCIENCE PATHWAY

VCE

Electives:

- Biology Units 3&4
- Chemistry Units 3&4
- Physics Units 3&4
- Psychology Units 3&4

VCE

Electives:

- Biology Units 1&2
- Chemistry Units 1&2
- Physics Units 1&2
- Psychology Units 1&2

Year 10

Core subject:

- Science

Elective:

- Psychology

VCE Accelerated subjects:

- Biology Units 1&2
- Psychology Units 1&2

Year 9

Core subject:

- Science

Year 8

Core subject:

- Science

Year 7

Core subject:

- Science

Science

Years 7 and 8

The focus of year 7 and 8 Science is to develop scientifically rich student minds in the areas of Laboratory Safety, Biological, Chemical, Earth and Space and Physical sciences, to allow students see the connections between science and life. Science education aims to develop curiosity and a spirit of inquiry that helps students become open-minded.

Students in Years 7 & 8 will be able to safely use bunsen burners and handle laboratory equipment, as well as identify and describe variables and make testable hypotheses. They will classify animals and their interactions in their environment as well as the circulatory, respiratory and digestive systems. They will learn about the states of matter, separation techniques, the atom and chemical and physical changes. They will apply their knowledge of energy, forces, simple machines and electrical circuits. They will explore the reason for day and night, tides and seasons as well as the formation of rocks and the cause of natural disasters.

Science and its applications are part of everyday life. Science education develops students' ability to ask questions and find answers about the natural and physical world. It provides students with insights into the way Science is applied and how scientists work in the community, and it helps them make informed decisions about scientific issues, careers and further study.

This course will help students become scientifically and technologically literate citizens who will be able to make decision about their lifestyle, their environment and the kind of society in which they wish to live. Students will see the connections between science and people, and be aware of the impact of science and technology on the individual, society and the environment.

WELLBEING PATHWAY

VCE

Core subject:

- Wellbeing

VCE

Core subject:

- Wellbeing

Year 10

Core subject:

- Wellbeing

Year 9

Core subject:

- Wellbeing

Year 8

Core subject:

- Wellbeing

Year 7

Core subject:

- Wellbeing

Wellbeing

The Oak program is designed to specifically target the wellbeing needs of students at each Year level. A variety of concepts are explored, as at Marian College, we view the wellbeing of students being interconnected with their academic achievement. In addition to this, the OAK program enables students to develop an understanding of the importance of respectful relationships, a positive approach to education and finding the right balance in their lives.

At Marian College, our wellbeing vision statement is:

“We value and respect the dignity of our students. We believe that positive student wellbeing is central to student learning. We believe that positive relationships between students and their teachers is of the utmost importance. We commit to restorative practices, wherein the voices of students and teachers are both heard and conflict is resolved calmly and fairly. We acknowledge the immense value of building strong connections with parents and families and believe this in turn aides in our students’ growth. We believe that the education we offer at Marian College shapes well-rounded, empathetic and inspired citizens.”

Year 7

Building Strong Foundations

Year 7 Oak Wellbeing supports students as they transition into secondary school by developing the knowledge, skills and confidence needed to build positive relationships, make safe choices and develop healthy habits. Students explore topics such as bullying prevention, friendships, self-esteem, self-assertiveness, emotional regulation, puberty, online safety, resilience and asking for help. Throughout the year, students learn practical strategies to manage challenges, develop character strengths and make informed decisions about health, wellbeing and substance use. Wellbeing workshops, Police presentations and targeted wellbeing programs complement classroom learning to provide students with engaging and relevant experiences.

Year 8

Strengthening Identity and Relationships

Year 8 Oak Wellbeing builds on the foundations established in Year 7 by encouraging students to develop greater independence, empathy and social awareness. Students examine respectful relationships, conflict resolution, discrimination, identity, consent, digital citizenship, resilience and mental health while learning how to navigate increasingly complex social situations. The curriculum also explores body image, online influences, healthy decision-making and drug and alcohol education, equipping students with the skills to think critically and act responsibly. Students participate in a range of workshops and evidence-based programs that reinforce positive relationships, respectful behaviour and personal wellbeing.