The *First Choices* you make NOW will affect you in your future educational and career pathways!
What are my First Choices?

Literacy and Numeracy education are at the core of Junior Secondary. What students learn in years 7-9 will build on their primary education, and set the foundation for success in the senior school and beyond.

Year 7 students have a greater proportion of their weekly timetable dedicated specifically to Literacy and Numeracy education than any other Key Learning Area (KLA).

Every Junior Secondary Student will have time dedicated each week specifically to reading. Reading and comprehension skills will be explicitly taught to all students at their level.

Students identified as below National Minimum Standard (NMS) or with identified Learning Support needs will be provided with up to 4 periods per week for Focused Literacy Education in addition to English.

Throughout Junior Secondary students are explicitly taught important study skills including time management and goal setting skills. At Park Ridge SHS the well-being of the whole student is paramount. Students are taught resilience and social skills.

Junior Secondary Students are faced with choices all the way through high school. At Park Ridge we aim to work with parents and carers to equip students with the necessary skills and knowledge to make wise choices. On top of the core subject areas of English, Math, Science, History, Geography, HPE and LOTE students in year 7 will experience a range of subjects from the Arts and Technology KLA’s. As students move into year 8 they will select the specific disciplines from within the Arts and Technology KLA’s they wish to study.

By year 10 students are expected to select a range of subjects in line with their educational pathway. Subjects selected in year 10 will inevitably build on skills and knowledge developed in year(s) 7, 8 & 9.

It is very important that students chose their subject pathways wisely and commit to their choices for the long term.

Start by thinking about the three C’s!

Consider
What am I good at? Which subjects did I do well in last year?
What do I enjoy? Which subjects did I most look forward to attending?
What career or job do I want to do when I leave school and what subjects will help me get there?
Always ask for help! Seek advice from your parents and teachers.

Choose
After you have considered all of your options choose the subjects that best suit you. Don’t select subjects based on what your friends are doing as chances are you won’t end up in their class anyway.

Commit
This means sticking with the subjects that you have chosen. Whilst you are not stuck in these subjects forever, you will get far more out of them if you are not chopping and changing. It is important to remember only subjects that have enough students selecting them will be running in 2016. So if you don’t select the right subjects now they might not be available later on.

Read the following pages carefully. They contain important information about the Junior Curriculum including the subjects that you can elect to study. At the back of this booklet you will find the subject selection forms that you need to fill out and have signed by your parents.
The Junior Curriculum

The Junior Secondary Curriculum is informed by both the Australian Curriculum as well as the QCAR Framework. Core subjects including English, Mathematics, Science, History, Geography, HPE and LOTE form part of the nationally mandated Australian curriculum and comprise the majority of a junior student’s timetable.

**Year 7**
- English
- History / Geography
- Maths
- Science
- HPE
- LOTE*

Year 7 is the foundation year of High School. Year 7 students will focus on the core subjects as listed on the left. They will also experience 2 Arts subjects and 2 Technology subjects, in the form or 4 discrete 1 term subjects.

*Foundation Literacy is offered as an alternative to LOTE for those students who have not achieved national minimum standards in Year 5 NAPLAN.

**Year 8**
- English
- Maths
- Science
- Geography / History
- HPE

Year 8 students will focus on the core subjects as listed on the left. They will select 1 Arts subject and 1 Technology subject to study over the course of the year. Students who select to study LOTE in year 8 will not be required to take both an Arts and Technology subject.

*Foundation Literacy is offered as an alternative to HIS / GEOG for those students who have not achieved national minimum standards.

**Year 9**
- English
- Maths
- Science
- Geography / History
- HPE

Year 9 maintains the focus on the core subjects. At this point students are able to select three electives. (See page 3)

They will study each of their choices for a full semester.

Time allocations are aligned with the requirements of the national curriculum.

**Year 10**
- English
- Maths
- Science

Year 10 is the start of Senior Schooling at Park Ridge SHS.

Year 10 students will study a full year of English, Maths and Science. History and Geography will be elective courses from year 10.

Students will select 3 electives subjects to study in line with their learning pathway.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KLA</th>
<th>Year 7</th>
<th>Year 8</th>
<th>Year 9</th>
<th>Year 10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HPE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>*HPE Elective (can be studied in addition to mandatory HPE)</td>
<td>HPE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geography</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Geography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language other than English (LOTE)</td>
<td>German Indonesian</td>
<td>German Indonesian</td>
<td>German Indonesian</td>
<td>German Indonesian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Arts</td>
<td>Performing Arts</td>
<td>Dance</td>
<td>Dance</td>
<td>Dance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Visual Art</td>
<td>Music</td>
<td>Music</td>
<td>Music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Drama</td>
<td>Drama</td>
<td>Drama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Art</td>
<td>Art</td>
<td>Art</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Media</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Industrial technology and Design</td>
<td>Industrial technology and Design</td>
<td>Home Economics – Food Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Wood Technology, Metal Technology, Graphics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
English

**WHY STUDY English?**
English gives students the opportunity to develop skills in literacy, Literature and language. It helps students make meaning of a variety texts both familiar and unfamiliar in terms of context, purpose and audience.

**Consider! Choose! Commit!**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 7</th>
<th>Persuasion in Media Motivational Speaking</th>
<th>Memoirs and Biographies</th>
<th>Representations of Australia</th>
<th>Poetry, Song and Prose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 8</td>
<td>News media Visual codes/language</td>
<td>Novel Study Indigenous Studies</td>
<td>Television drama text Persuasive Writing</td>
<td>Narrative Writing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 9</td>
<td>Representations of Australia</td>
<td>Australia's people &amp; culture</td>
<td>Novel Study Persuasive Writing</td>
<td>Script Writing Interview</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 10</td>
<td>Understanding Satire</td>
<td>Novel Study</td>
<td>Poetry and Shakespeare</td>
<td>Media Studies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**HOW WILL YOU LEARN?**
You will explore a variety of texts and build skills that help you to make meaning. You will question, analyse, predict, evaluate and design. You will be able to transfer your knowledge to other subjects and your learning will involve engaging ways to access the curriculum. You will build both individual and team skills using a variety of modes. You will be expected to submit both written and spoken tasks.

**POSSIBLE CAREERS**
All careers require a good knowledge of literacy and language skills.

---

Health & Physical Education

**WHY CHOOSE HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION?** HPE promotes the value of physical activity in student’s lives. It gives student's opportunities to learn about and practice ways of working with others and adopt and maintain a healthy, productive and active life.

**Consider! Choose! Commit!**

**WHAT IS STUDIED?**
The focus of this subject is the integration of health, physical activity, and personal development. Students will study 2 practical units and one theory unit a term for a semester. They will experience a variety of sports and study theory units that reflect how physical, social, cultural, and environmental factors influence the health of an individual or group.

**Practical sports:** Ball Sports and Minor Games

**Theory units:** Let’s Get Physical, Health and Well Being

**HOW WILL YOU LEARN?** HPE involves students learning through challenging and enjoyable movement experiences, and improving their capacity to move with skill and confidence. It promotes health and well-being by allowing students to make informed decisions relating to their own health and safety and that of others.

**POSSIBLE CAREERS**
Fitness Instructor, Exercise Physiologist, Teacher, Coach, Manager, Journalist
**History**

**WHY STUDY HISTORY?**
Confucius said *if you wish to divine the future, study the past.* History is an investigation into how people lived in different times and places, issues they struggled with and catastrophes they survived. We study the past in order to diagnose situations and provide solutions to contemporary problems.

**Consider! Choose! Commit!**

**WHAT IS STUDIED?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Year 7 | Early Peoples  
|       | Ancient Roman Lifestyles                   |
| Year 8 | Medieval Europe  
|       | Japan’s Transition to the Modern World     |
|       | Spanish Conquest of the Americas           |
| Year 9 | The Industrial Revolution                   
|       | Making the Australian Nation               |
|       | World War I                                 |

**HOW WILL YOU LEARN?**
We learn about the past by investigating and analysing the physical evidence left behind – tangible objects such as bones, buildings and gravesites, and literary evidence such as letters, dramas, diaries and government records.

**POSSIBLE CAREERS**
Federal Police Officer  
Tour Guide  
Cultural Heritage Officer  
Solicitor

**WHY STUDY HISTORY?**

Confucius said *if you wish to divine the future, study the past.* History is an investigation into how people lived in different times and places, issues they struggled with and catastrophes they survived. We study the past in order to diagnose situations and provide solutions to contemporary problems.

**Consider! Choose! Commit!**

**WHAT IS STUDIED?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Year 7 | Water in the World  
|       | Place and Liveability                      |
| Year 8 | Landscapes and Landforms                   
|       | Changing Nations                           |
| Year 9 | Feeding the World  
|       | People, Places and Consumerism             |

**HOW WILL YOU LEARN?**
Geography is a skills-based course of learning. You will engage in mapping, graphing, sketching and decision-making in order to propose solutions to problems that affect everyone who lives on Earth whether locally or globally.

**POSSIBLE CAREERS**
Humanitarian Aid Worker  
Ecologist  
Town Planner  
Market Researcher

**Geography**

**WHY STUDY GEOGRAPHY?**
Being an informed global citizen requires an understanding of our natural environment and the impact that humans have upon it. Informed people take responsibility for actions that will preserve our planet and our lifestyles – now and in the future.

**Consider! Choose! Commit!**

**WHAT IS STUDIED?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Year 7 | Water in the World  
|       | Place and Liveability                      |
| Year 8 | Landscapes and Landforms                   
|       | Changing Nations                           |
| Year 9 | Feeding the World  
|       | People, Places and Consumerism             |

**HOW WILL YOU LEARN?**
Geography is a skills-based course of learning. You will engage in mapping, graphing, sketching and decision-making in order to propose solutions to problems that affect everyone who lives on Earth whether locally or globally.

**POSSIBLE CAREERS**
Humanitarian Aid Worker  
Ecologist  
Town Planner  
Market Researcher
Math

WHY STUDY Math?
Maths is a part of our everyday lives. A rich knowledge of Maths allows for a more enjoyable and fulfilling lifestyle.

WHAT IS STUDIED?
A range of real-world and abstract concepts are taught including Number, Algebra, Measurement, Space and Chance and Data throughout the Years 7 to 10. These topics are taught at a range of levels to suit learner need. The levels are Foundation, Core and Extension. These levels, in turn lead to the Senior Subjects of Pre-Vocational Maths, Mathematics A, Mathematics B and Mathematics C. Current mathematical skills will largely determine the most suitable level in Years 7 to 10 whilst career choice and mathematical skills will influence the most suitable subject or subjects in the senior years.

HOW WILL YOU LEARN?
Students will engage in Maths through theory and practical lessons that will develop their basic skills as well as problem solving and reasoning. Students will be continually challenged to not only increase their mathematical content skill levels but also improve the way they think about solving problems.

POSSIBLE CAREERS
All career paths, in fact all facets of life require mathematical knowledge & skills.

Science

WHY STUDY Science?
A course of study in Science develops students’ capacity to work scientifically, engage in inquiry and investigation techniques safely, understand and appreciate the science encountered in everyday life and to work as part of a team engaging in cooperative learning.

Consider! Choose! Commit!

Learning themes 7-10 Science
- Chemistry – Students will examine the science of molecular structure which aids in the understanding of atoms, chemicals and chemical reactions.
- Physics – Students will learn about and examine the mathematical and experimental foundations of our understanding of forces, motion and energy.
- Biology – Students will study the science of life and of living organisms.
- Earth and Space Sciences – Students will explore the Earth’s dynamic structure and its place in the cosmos.

HOW WILL YOU LEARN?
Students will engage in Science through theory and practical lessons that will develop their creative and critical thinking skills. The students will also be challenged by being asked to identify questions and draw conclusions using evidence-based scientific methodology.

POSSIBLE CAREERS
Many careers require at least basic science knowledge.