Subject Code Information:

Subjects with an A or B in their name: these subjects are Semester long units that can be studied individually or together to make a full year subject. There is no assumption that A has been studied before students can undertake the B option. Some subjects highly recommend both are studied (see course descriptions).

Subjects with a 1 or a 2 in their name: these subjects are sequential. Before students can study the 2nd option they must undertake the 1st option. There is an assumption that students know the content of the 1st option before they undertake the 2nd to enable them to be successful.
Science

Year 9

Length: 2 Semesters

Assumed Knowledge:
Year 8 Science

Description:
This is a general Science course addressing the Australian Curriculum Science Understandings in the Achievement Standards of:
- Biological Sciences
- Chemical Sciences
- Physical Sciences
- Earth and Space Sciences

Science as a Human Endeavour and Science Enquiry Skills will also be addressed through these topics over years 9 and 10.

By the end of Year 9, students explain chemical processes and natural radioactivity in terms of atoms and energy transfers and describe examples of important chemical reactions. They describe models of energy transfer and apply these to explain phenomena. They explain global features and events in terms of geological processes and timescales. They analyse how biological systems function and respond to external changes with reference to interdependencies, energy transfers and flows of matter. They describe social and technological factors that have influenced scientific developments and predict how future applications of science and technology may affect people’s lives.

Students design questions that can be investigated using a range of inquiry skills. They design methods that include the control and accurate measurement of variables and systematic collection of data and describe how they considered ethics and safety. They analyse trends in data, identify relationships between variables and reveal inconsistencies in results. They analyse their methods and the quality of their data, and explain specific actions to improve the quality of their evidence. They evaluate others’ methods and explanations from a scientific perspective and use appropriate language and representations when communicating their findings and ideas to specific audiences.

Assessment Details:
Assessment will be from a combination of assignment work, practical work, folio work and tests.

For more information on Australian Curriculum please visit: http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au
**Agriculture**

**Year 9**

**Length:** 1 Semester

**Assumed Knowledge:**
None

**Description:**
A general unit designed to meet the needs of students from diverse backgrounds. This unit addresses animal welfare and working safely on the RHS farms. Students study an introduction to a range of food and fibre production topics from both livestock and horticulture. The unit uses vegetable production to cover a broad range of plant science topics and poultry production to cover a broad range of animal science topics. Elementary studies in farm animals, principally poultry, are given. Students are expected to participate in the general running of the Agricultural Block.

This course will enable students to develop a solid base of skills and knowledge for further Agricultural and Horticultural studies.

**Assessment Details:**
Regular practical assessment tasks, tests, written assignments.

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