



Matthew Flinders
Girls Secondary
College



YEAR 7

**CURRICULUM
HANDBOOK**



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Curriculum Introduction: Years 7-10

The Victorian Curriculum F-10 is the curriculum for Victorian schools and is the basis for the learning in Years 7-10 at MFG. It incorporates the Australian Curriculum and reflects Victorian standards and priorities. The curriculum is accessed from the [Victorian Curriculum F-10 website](#), and this booklet provides a brief overview of the focus of learning in the Year 7 subjects at MFG.

Standards and levels

The Victorian Curriculum F-10 is structured as a continuum across levels of learning achievement not years of schooling. This enables the development of targeted learning programs for all of our students, where the curriculum is used to plan in relation to the actual learning level of each student rather than their assumed level of learning based on age.

Our curriculum is separated into two stages and reflects the Victorian Curriculum priorities:

- **Breadth stage (Years 7–8)**

You have the opportunity to fully engage with all learning areas and capabilities, with a focus on English, Mathematics and Science. These years provide you with an opportunity to explore a 'breadth' of subjects as your pathways and career options start to develop.

- **Pathways stage (Years 9–10)**

You will engage in a broad education and begin to plan your senior secondary program of study.

All students from Year 7 study:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Humanities (History, Geography, Economics and Business, Civics and Citizenship, Religion and Society)
- HAPE (Health and Physical Education)
- Music
- Drama
- Visual Art
- Food Technology
- Indonesian

In addition, students in Year 7 have two periods of Home Group each week.



Year 7 Curriculum Structure

YEAR 7

HOME GROUP	HEALTH & PE	TECHNOLOGY	THE ARTS
2 periods per week all year	3 periods per week all year	FOOD TECHNOLOGY 3 periods per week for one semester	VISUAL ART 3 periods per week for one semester
MATHS	SCIENCE	LANGUAGE	DRAMA 3 periods per week for one semester
5 periods per week all year	3 periods per week all year		MUSIC 3 periods per week for one semester
ENGLISH	HUMANITIES	INDONESIAN 3 periods per week all year	
5 periods per week all year	3 periods per week all year		



Year 7 English

YEAR 7 ENGLISH

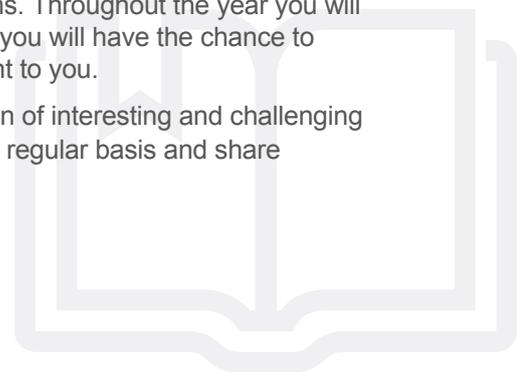
Year 7 English allows you to further develop and enhance your skills in thinking, reading, writing, listening and speaking. You will begin to develop a sense of what it looks like to be an active learner of English in secondary school, which will involve establishing skills and strategies associated with becoming a more independent learner. You will have the opportunity to explore a range of fiction and non-fiction texts through discussion, analysis and writing. Understanding how to develop, communicate and interpret different kinds of texts is at the heart of your studies in English.

The Year 7 English curriculum is based on research and best practice and gives you a solid foundation. You will be explicitly and systematically taught writing, reading and spelling strategies to give you the power of the pen to enable yourself to write your way to a successful future.

YEAR 7 ENGLISH (Selected Entrance Advanced Learning Program)

In Year 7 SEALP English will provide you with opportunities to develop your ability to communicate effectively and employ analytical thinking skills. This includes developing your understanding of a range of thinking routines that will enable you to develop your intellectual character. You will develop skills in writing in a number of different genres, ranging from expository text response essays to persuasive writing. There are also many opportunities to construct a variety of creative responses, such as poetry and short stories. You will also engage in the editing process identifying genre, audience, purpose and style within your own writing. Challenging themes and concepts will be explored in a range of novels and films. Throughout the year you will have many opportunities to develop your oral presentation skills. For example, you will have the chance to present your opinion, using different persuasive techniques, on issues important to you.

Reading is an important part of Year 7 SEALP English. You will study a selection of interesting and challenging novels and short stories. You will also be encouraged to read other novels on a regular basis and share recommendations with your peers.





Year 7 Mathematics

YEAR 7 MATHEMATICS

In Semester 1 the initial focus is 'Magic', where you will be building knowledge and confidence when working with numbers. This will include addition, subtraction, multiplication and division with large numbers and numbers involving decimals. In Term 2 the focus is on 'water'. You will investigate your own water usage, incorporating the use of graphs, statistics, volume and capacity. This aligns with your focus on 'water' in Science.

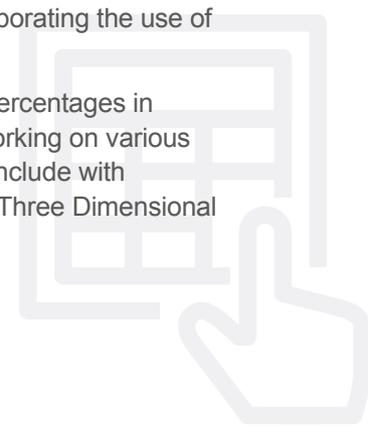
In Semester 2 you will continue to build on your understanding of decimals, fractions, and percentages in practical and real world scenarios. This is then followed by some early Algebra. The year will conclude with Measurement and Geometry, including the properties of polygons and an understanding of three dimensional shapes.

The Year 7 Maths curriculum is based on research and best practice and builds on your individual needs in relation to number skills. You will routinely work with others to solve mathematical problems that are targeted at your ability, that both engage and challenge you.

YEAR 7 MATHEMATICS (Selected Entrance Advanced Learning Program)

In Semester 1 the initial focus is 'Magic', incorporating number skills, specifically whole number and integers. This will include addition, subtraction, multiplication and division with large numbers and numbers involving decimals. In Term 2 the focus is on 'water'. You will investigate your own water usage, incorporating the use of graphs, statistics, volume and capacity. This aligns with the focus on 'water' in Science.

In Semester 2 you will continue to build on your understanding of decimals, fractions, and percentages in practical and real world scenarios. In addition, you will consolidate your number skills by working on various consumer mathematics tasks. This is then followed by some early Algebra. The year will conclude with Measurement and Geometry, including the properties of polygons and an understanding of Three Dimensional Shapes.





Year 7 Science

YEAR 7 SCIENCE

In Semester 1 the initial focus is 'Magic'. You will learn how to work safely in a science laboratory, how we use a variety of laboratory equipment and you will learn how to write up a scientific report. You will create and perform your very own Magic Science demonstration, as well as write up a report on this. During term 2 you will focus on 'water' and this includes the particle model, changes of state and different separation techniques.

In Semester 2 we will have a focus on Ecology, followed by the Physical Sciences (Energy and Forces), working towards a Science Expo on the theme of 'How does it work?' For the Science Expo you will showcase all the thinking and investigating that you have done when finding out how something of your choice works.

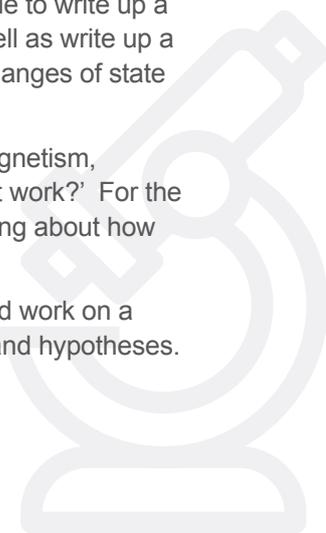
Throughout the year you will participate in many 'hands-on' activities and practical investigations and work on a number of collaborative tasks that often involve finding out the answers to your own questions and hypotheses.

YEAR 7 SCIENCE (Selected Entrance Advanced Learning Program)

In Semester 1 the initial focus is "Magic". You will learn how to work safely in a science laboratory, how we use a variety of laboratory equipment and you will learn how to think like a scientist as well as be able to write up a scientific report. You will create and perform your very own Magic Science demonstration, as well as write up a report on this. During Term 2 we have a focus on 'water' and this includes the particle model, changes of state and different separation techniques and a study of the Water Cycle.

In Semester 2 we will have a focus on Ecology, followed by the Physical Sciences - Energy, Magnetism, Electricity and Forces – and you will work towards a Science Expo on the theme of 'How does it work?' For the Science Expo you will showcase all of the thinking and investigating you have done while learning about how something of your choice works.

Throughout the year you will carry out many 'hands-on' activities and practical investigations and work on a number of collaborative tasks that often involve finding out the answers to your own questions and hypotheses.





Year 7 Humanities

YEAR 7 HUMANITIES

Humanities is a fascinating subject that combines the study of History and Geography to provide you with a learning experience that focuses on developing your understanding, knowledge and skills while you investigate social issues that are relevant to your life.

In semester one, you will study Geography. You will investigate how people in other countries live and factors that influence their lives, explore how maps are made and how we can use maps to better understand different people and places. You will also consider the factors that contribute to 'liveability', with a particular focus on the area that you live in and our surrounding region, and participate in a field-trip to the You-Yangs. You will study a Unit on Water and develop your understanding of our most important natural resource and how it is used throughout the world. You will learn how to think like an archaeologist and learn how to develop thoughtful historical questions through a unit that focuses on Matthew Flinders and the recent discovery of his grave.

In semester two, you will study History. You will investigate aspects of Australian indigenous history, learn about life in two ancient civilizations, including Ancient Egypt, and develop an understanding of how a civilization evolves and changes and how ancient civilizations influence our way of life today. You will start to become an historian by developing historical and research skills including being able to use primary and secondary sources to research topic and issues.





Year 7 Humanities

YEAR 7 HUMANITIES (Selected Entrance Advanced Learning Program)

Studying Humanities helps us to understand how different societies function in local and global environments and teaches us about the forces and events that shape the world we live in.

In semester one, you will study Geography. You will investigate how where we live affects how we live, mapping and how humanity can change and be changed by the natural environment. You will also consider the factors that contribute to 'liveability', with a particular focus on the area that you live in and our surrounding region, and participate in a field-trip to the You-Yangs. You will also investigate Ancient Egypt and develop an understanding of how a civilization evolves and influences life today. You will study a Unit on Water and develop your understanding of our most important natural resource and how it is used throughout the world. You will learn how to think like an archaeologist and learn how to develop thoughtful historical questions through a unit that focuses on Matthew Flinders and the recent discovery of his grave.

In semester two you will study the Polynesian expansion, looking at why it is so important to understand where we came from, why human culture is so diverse and what makes Polynesia so culturally unique. You will also study ethical consumerism. You will consider how people can become 'ethical consumers', how can you make a difference in terms of ethical consumerism and what factors play a role in making people 'want' products.





Year 7 Health & Physical Education

YEAR 7 HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

This core subject provides you with an excellent opportunity to participate in a large range of exciting and challenging sports and activities and participate in a dedicated health program.

You will be involved in the following physical activities including; Softball, Soccer, Dance, Volleyball, Table Tennis, Hockey, Netball, Mini Tennis, Cricket, Badminton, Fitness and Floor Gymnastics. The program will help you to develop your skills and fitness. The program also makes connections to inter-school sporting opportunities.

The health program allows you to ponder, research and discover answers to the following questions: *What is health? How does sleep affect my health? What happens to me at puberty? What makes a respectful relationship? How does social media affect my health? How do I balance physical and sedentary activities? How do I stay safe in the water? How do I look after my mental health and well-being?*





Year 7 Arts

YEAR 7 VISUAL ART

When you do Year 7 Visual Art you will undertake 3 periods a week for one semester. You will explore and express ideas, view artwork, respond to what you see and think, make art and present work for others to see and appreciate. Students will develop knowledge of art elements and principles.

You will develop your art making using different ideas and use a variety of materials such as pencils, pens, clay, paints, ink and pastels. You will learn different ways to make art and use a range of art making tools. You will experience drawing, painting, printmaking and sculpture. A Visual Diary will be used for design tasks and to record what you do.

You will research the work of famous artists and art styles so that you can discuss, understand and write about their work, the culture and the times they live or lived in.

YEAR 7 DRAMA

In this subject you begin to explore the world of Drama. The subject is designed to help develop your confidence and help enhance your communication skills. You will develop physical and creative skills through workshops and performance and learn to be confident and work cooperatively in a creative and dynamic environment. You will create characters, invent your own scenes and work in a supportive environment to learn fun improvisation games, role-play and participate in drama activities as well be introduced to the thinking involved in working with scripts. You will learn how to use facial expressions, your voice, your body and gestures to communicate fantastic and exaggerated characters to different audiences.

You will develop your understanding of the historical connection between classic drama styles and modern day movies and television programs. Through this you will develop an understanding of how to use a stage correctly to communicate with an audience.

YEAR 7 MUSIC

In year 7 Music, you will develop skills in playing the Keyboard, reading musical notation and learning music language. You will develop your theoretical understanding of how music works and use worksheets for music theory to guide your learning. You will create compositions using programs like Sound Trap. You will also analyse different styles of music and develop your understanding of the different elements of composition.



Year 7 Technology

YEAR 7 FOOD TECHNOLOGY

Food Technology at year 7 is a practical based subject and it is a very engaging way to learn about food. One double lesson is usually the production session and a single lesson is usually a demonstration. You will investigate a variety of foods with a focus on fresh vegetables. Typically, in one week, you will make something to take home and the alternate week you will prepare a meal to enjoy at school. The meals are designed to encourage you to go home and create appetizing and healthy family meals. You will learn about basic food preparation techniques and learn to prepare and present food using safe and hygienic practices. You will complete investigations and evaluations based on your food production. Some popular examples of dishes include salad, fruit salad, spaghetti Bolognese, healthy hamburger and tacos, fried rice, teacake and Anzac biscuits. You will have the opportunity to design and prepare you own meals suitable for a family.





Year 7 Language

YEAR 7 INDONESIAN

In Year 7 you will study Indonesian for the whole year, and continue with this language until it becomes an elective in Year 10. You will then choose either Indonesian or French and continue with that language until your Language study becomes an elective in Year 10.

The year 7 Indonesian course is a fun exploration of Indonesian and Indonesia's amazing range of cultures. Whether you are a beginner or have had some experience in primary school, you will develop your skills to read, write, speak and understand Indonesian. You will be introduced to Indonesian language and culture, learn how to ask questions and introduce yourself. You will also learn how to count, identify family members and describe what people are like. You will sing, complete online language activities, play games, read cartoon stories and act.





Year 7 Home Group

YEAR 7 HOME GROUP

You will have two periods of Home Group during the week and during this time you learn to understand yourself and others, learn to manage your relationships, your school work and your learning more effectively. You will learn to recognize and regulate your emotions, develop empathy and establish and build a framework for positive relationships. You will also learn how to work effectively in teams and develop leadership skills and handle challenging situations constructively.

During Home group you will develop an understanding of our school's core values while being involved in Our Living Garden. You will be growing and caring for plants, maintaining the garden and using hand tools to build garden furniture. All of these activities will be group orientated and require collaboration and team work. Other activities you will be involved in will include building and flying hot air balloons, preparing for camp and playing Rounders.





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