Year 8 Curriculum

Year 8 subjects, pages 2–4
- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Humanities

Subjects for SEAL students, pages 5–7
- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Humanities

Subjects for French Binational students, pages 8–11
- French
- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Humanities
- Spanish

Subjects for Bilingual Chinese students, pages 12–14
- Bilingual Chinese Language (combined with 7/8 Advanced LOTE Chinese)
- Science
- Bilingual Chinese Humanities

Mathematics is studied with the Year 8 students.

Shared subjects for all Year 8 students, pages 15–20
- Essentials for Life (E4L)
- Health and Physical Education
- LOTE subjects: LOTE French or LOTE Chinese or Advanced LOTE French (7/8 combined) or Advanced LOTE Chinese (combined 7/8, with Year 8 Bilingual Chinese)
- Design and Technology (one semester)
- Food Technology (one semester)
- Performing Arts and Media Arts (one semester)
- Visual Art (one semester)
Year 8 Subjects

Year 8 students participate in the following:

• English  page 3
• Mathematics  page 3
• Science  page 4
• Humanities  page 4
Year 8 English

Course Content
Students create a range of texts based on the study of ‘Our Community’. A variety of fiction, non-fiction and media texts are studied to develop comparative writing and descriptive writing skills in exploring how old texts help to shape new texts. Students will learn how to analyse texts more effectively through their study of The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time and Crow Country. The excursion to the NGV and a Yarra cruise will help students understand the context, ‘Australian Identity and Landscape’, on a deeper level.

Assessment
- Tests
- Text essays
- Comparative essays
- Short-stories
- Persuasive Writing
- Poetry
- Oral presentations

Clubs
- Book Club
- Debate Club

Excursions
- National Gallery of Victoria and Yarra Cruise

Competitions
- Debating
- Creative Writing
- Reading Challenges

Year 8 Mathematics

Course Content
Year 8 Mathematics challenges students’ mathematical reasoning and problem solving skills, utilising technology, communication, reasoning and reflection strategies. By the completion of the year, they will have explored Pythagoras’ Theorem and applied it to solve real world problems. Students will investigate experimental probability by testing and re-designing a game of chance and take their first steps in their long journey of exploring graphing equations.

Assessment
In Mathematics, teachers use a range of assessment types, including formal testing, extended research tasks and investigations, analysis and problem solving projects in conjunction with informal assessment.

Clubs
- Maths Tutoring Club
- Chess Club
- Homework Club
- Robotics Club

Excursions
- MAV Mathematics Games Day

Competitions
- iCAS Maths Competition
Year 8 Science

Course Content
In this subject, students continue the development of their skills in science inquiry. They study cells and systems in Biology, energy and its forms in Physics, states of matter and elements and compounds and chemical change in Chemistry and the classification and formation of rocks in Earth and Space Science.

Assessment
Assessment of student learning occurs each term through:
- Pre-test
- Post-test
- Science Practical Report

Weekly homework tasks are assessed online through Education Perfect or Compass

Competitions
- AHS Journal of Science
- The Hour of Code
- Moonbots Challenge
- Big Science Competition
- Education Perfect Science Championships
- Construction Competition
- Curious Minds (for young women)

Clubs
- Robotics Club
- Girls Who Code

Excursions
- Robotic Expedition to Mars at the Victorian Space Science Education Centre

Year 8 Humanities

Course Content
Students use primary and secondary sources to compare and contrast the characteristics of Medieval civilisation in Europe and Japan. Students develop topographic mapping skills to understand and explain the causes and consequences of landscapes and natural disasters around the world. They utilise their data analysis skills to explain national patterns of urbanisation.

Assessment
- Group presentation
- Source analysis
- Newspaper reports
- Field report
- Website development

Competitions
- Australian History Competition
- Historical Fiction Challenge
- National History Challenge

Clubs
- Young Historians

Excursions
- Samurai incursion
- Field trip to Hanging Rock and Organ Pipes National Park
Year 8 SEAL students participate in the following:

- English  page 6
- Mathematics  page 6
- Science  page 7
- Humanities  page 7
Year 8 SEAL English

Course Content
Students start the year analysing the text, *To Kill a Mockingbird* and they will be introduced to graphic novels in their study of *Hugo* in Term 3. A variety of fiction, non-fiction and media texts are studied to develop comparative writing and descriptive writing skills in exploring how old texts help to shape new texts. They will broaden their learning and understanding through poetry writing and poetry analysis of Emily Dickinson and William Blake.

Assessment
- Tests
- Text essays
- Comparative essays
- Short-stories
- Poetry
- Persuasive writing
- Oral presentations

Clubs
- Book Club
- Debate Club

Excursions
- National Gallery of Victoria

Competitions
- Debating
- Creative writing
- Reading challenges

Year 8 SEAL Mathematics

Course Content
Year 8 SEAL Maths continues to develop students’ mathematical thinking and problem solving in areas of mathematics, including graphing linear equations, right-angle triangle calculations using Pythagoras’ theorem and trigonometry and applying index laws in scientific notation. Students begin from what they already know, and build new skills through direct instruction, self-guided learning and the use of ICT.

Assessment
In Mathematics, teachers use a range of assessment types including formal testing, extended research tasks and investigations, analysis and problem solving projects in conjunction with informal assessment.

Clubs
- Maths Tutoring Club
- Chess Club
- Homework Club
- Robotics Club

Excursions
- MAV Mathematics Games Day

Competitions
- iCAS Maths Competition
Year 8 SEAL Science

Course Content
In this subject, students continue the development of their skills in science inquiry. They study cells and systems in Biology, energy and its forms in Physics, and the classification and formation of rocks in Earth and Space Science. They begin studies in Year 9 where they explore atoms, elements and chemical reactions in Chemistry, the wave and particle model for light in Physics, and plate tectonics in Earth Sciences.

Assessment
Assessment of student learning occurs each term through a:
- Pre-test
- Post-test
- Science practical report

Weekly homework tasks are assessed online through Education Perfect or Compass

Clubs
- Robotics Club
- Girls Who Code

Excursions
- Robotic Expedition to Mars at the Victorian Space Science Education Centre

Competitions
- AHS Journal of Science
- The Hour of Code
- Moonbots Challenge
- Big Science Competition
- Education Perfect Science Championships
- Construction Competition
- Curious Minds (for young women)

Year 8 SEAL Humanities

Course Content
In Year 8 SEAL Humanities, students work towards AUSVELS skills Year 9. Students compare and evaluate the characteristics of Medieval civilisations of Europe and Japan. They develop topographic and choropleth mapping skills to explain and evaluate landscapes and natural disasters around the world and develop a solution to food security and solving world hunger. Students develop financial skills in economics, investment and budgeting to prepare a business proposal.

Assessment
- Source analysis
- Essay writing
- Mapping
- Field report
- Knowledge test
- Case analysis

Excursions
- Medieval Calligraphy Excursion State Library
- Samurai Incursion
- Field Trip to Hanging Rock and Organ Pipes National Park

Competitions
- Australian History Competition
- Historical Fiction Challenge
- National History Challenge
Year 8 French Binational students participate in the following:

- French page 9
- English page 9
- Mathematics page 10
- Science page 10
- Humanities page 11
- Spanish page 11
Year 8 French Binational French

**Course Content**

8F French – 4ème Français

Students will read realistic and fantasy novels from the 19th Century and they will learn to compare the texts and their movie adaptations. Their skills in writing letters and persuasive essays will be consolidated by the study of various letters of famous writers. They will be given the opportunity to study *Les Misérables* by Victor Hugo and *L’Avare* by Molière. Students will also write poetry. Image analysis will play an important part in our studies (Histoire des Arts).

**Assessment**

- Tests
- Creative writing
- Persuasive writing
- Grammar and spelling
- Oral presentations

**Clubs**

- French / Movie Club

**Excursions**

- Melbourne French Theatre Play

**Competitions**

- Dis-moi dix mots
- Berthe Mouchette Competition

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Year 8 French Binational English

**Course Content**

Students create a range of texts based on the study of ‘Our Community’. A variety of fiction, non-fiction and media texts are studied to develop comparative writing and descriptive writing skills in exploring how old texts help to shape new texts. Students will learn how to analyse texts more effectively through their study of *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* and *Crow Country*. The excursion to the NGV and a Yarra cruise will help students understand the context, ‘Australian Identity and Landscape’ on a deeper level.

**Assessment**

- Tests
- Text essays
- Comparative essays
- Short-stories
- Persuasive writing
- Poetry
- Oral presentations

**Clubs**

- Book Club
- Debate Club

**Excursions**

- National Gallery of Victoria and Yarra Cruise

**Competitions**

- Debating
- Creative writing
- Reading challenges
Year 8 French Binational Maths

Course Content  8F Maths – 4ème Mathématiques

In Year 8 Mathematics in the French Binational program, students continue to develop their Maths fluency, reasoning and problem solving skills in areas of Number and Algebra, Geometry and Statistics and Probability. They write more complex proofs and demonstrate connections between areas of learning. ICT skills are reinforced and used for Maths enquiries. A skill-based framework is used to monitor progress and develop students' ownership of their learning.

Assessment

- Diagnostic (pre-tests)
- Formative
- Summative post-tests
- Investigation tasks
- Investigation reports (“narration de recherche”)
- Projects
- Individual and group work

Clubs

- Maths in French Tutoring Club

Competitions

- Le Kangourou des Mathématiques
- iCAS Maths (optional)

Excursions

- Robotik Expedition to Mars at the Victorian Space Science Education Centre
- Field Trip to Hanging Rock and Organ Pipes National Park

Year 8 French Binational Science

Course Content  8F Science – 4ème SVT and PC

In this subject, students continue to develop their Science inquiry skills. A strong emphasis is given to practical activities and students' ownership of their learning. The content taught covers the two Science subjects of the French program: SVT (Biology and Earth Science) and Physique-Chimie (Physics and Chemistry). Specific topics are: the molecular model to explain properties of matter and chemical change (combustions) / DC circuits laws and equations / Light: colours, images and celerity / Species reproduction and ecosystems / Human reproduction / Hormonal and neural systems / Geology (volcanic and seismic activity and plate tectonics).

Assessment

- Diagnostic (pre-tests)
- Formative
- Summative post-tests
- Investigation tasks
- Projects
- Practical reports
- Individual and group work

Clubs

- Robotics Club
- Girls Who Code

Competitions

- AHS Journal of Science
- The Hour of Code
- Moonbots Challenge
- Big Science Competition
- Education Perfect Science Championships
- Constraction Competition
- Curious Minds (for young women)
Year 8 French Binational Humanities

Course Content  8F Humanities – 4ème Historie-Géographie, Education Civique
In History, students will study Europe and the world from the 18th Century to the eve of WWI. They will continue to consolidate their knowledge about diverse historical sources that they will identify, interpret or confront. In Geography, they will study globalisation in order to be able to understand our world. In Civic Education, they will explore liberty, law and justice.

Assessment
- Tests
- Document analysis
- Maps
- Oral presentations

Clubs
- Christmas Market

Excursions
- SBS / News Making
- Melbourne Museum

Competitions
- Geography Competition

Year 8 French Binational Spanish

Course Content  8F Spanish – 4ème LV 2
Students will learn an additional language as per the French curriculum requirement. This is done through the support of after-school tutoring, using comprehensive course work from Distance Education, in addition to the general curriculum delivered at AHS. In Year 8, students follow an accelerated pathway.

Assessment
- Completion of Distance Education work-sheets
- Participation in after-school classes
- Written test

Excursions
- Spanish film and food incursion
Year 8 Bilingual Chinese

Year 8 Bilingual Chinese students participate in the following:

- Bilingual Chinese Language  page 13
- Bilingual Chinese Science page 13
- Bilingual Chinese Humanities page 14

Mathematics is studied with other Year 8 students.
Year 8 Bilingual Chinese Language

Course Content
The course is designed to support students’ learning of Humanities and Science. Students will learn a range of new vocabulary relevant to Humanities and Science, and they will also improve on their listening, reading, speaking and writing skills. They will be familiar with different types of genres, including recount, procedure, narrative and argumentative.

Assessment
- Essay
- Oral presentation
- Performance
- Reading assessment
- Test

Clubs
- Chinese Craft Club

Excursions
- Film watching
- Cultural festivals

Competitions
- Global Village Bilingual Speech Competition

Year 8 Bilingual Chinese Science

Course Content
Students learn various topics, which include Mixtures, Earth Science (Day and Night, Eclipses), Machines and Classification. All topics will be taught in Chinese, based on CLIL (Content Language Integrated Learning) methodology. Students will conduct relevant experiments and participate in simulation activities.

Assessment
- Tests
- Lab reports
- Creation of a machine
- Oral presentation

Clubs
- Robotics Club
- Girls Who Code

Excursions
- Wetlands excursion

Competitions
- AHS Journal of Science
- The Hour of Code
- RACI Crystal Growing Competition
- Moonbots Challenge
- Big Science Competition
- Education Perfect Science Championships
- Construction Competition
Year 8 Bilingual Chinese Humanities

Course Content
In History, students will study: Why do we learn History?, Ancient Egypt and Ancient China. In Geography, students will work on the topic Liveability and analyse why Melbourne is one of the most liveable cities in the world. All instructions and tasks will be in Chinese. The course assists students to learn in Chinese with intensity and purpose.

Assessment
• Role plays
• Conversations
• Written tests
• Games
• Class discussions

Clubs
• Chinese Cultural Club

Excursions
• Movies (TBD)
• Exhibition (TBD)

Competitions
• Victorian Chinese speaking competition (TBD)
• Global Village Bilingual speech competition
All Year 8 students participate in the following:

• Essentials for Life (E4L)  page 16
• Health and Physical Education  page 16
• LOTE subjects:
  LOTE French  page 17
  or LOTE Chinese  page 17
  or Advanced LOTE French (7/8 combined)  page 18
  or Advanced LOTE Chinese (combined 7/8, with Year 8 Bilingual Chinese)  page 18
• Design and Technology (one semester)  page 19
• Food Technology (one semester)  page 19
• Performing Arts and Media Arts (one semester)  page 20
• Visual Art (one semester)  page 20
Course Content
Students begin Essentials for Life (E4L) at Year 8 in Strengths Gym! They develop a strong understanding of their strengths at school and how to further develop these skills. They continue their learning in respectful relationships, by looking at their role as a listener and how to be a good friend. Students consider the importance of self-praise and complete workshops looking at performance and success.

Clubs
• DARE Social and Community Awareness Award

Year 8 Health & Physical Education

Course Content
In Physical Education, students gain proficiency in complex movement and manipulative skills. Students participate in a variety of team and individual games and activities to develop new sport-specific skills. In Health Education, students develop strategies to minimise harm and to protect their own and others’ health. Students consider health resources, the influences of the law and public health programs.

Assessment
• PE: skills assessment and assessment of team work
• Health: workbook, chapter reviews and vocabulary test

Clubs
• Fencing Team
• Fitness group
• Access to ECA at lunch
• Inter-school training

Excursions
• Teams are sent out to various inter-school sporting days

Competitions
• Inter-school competitions
• Swimming Carnival
• Cross Country
• Athletics Carnival
Year 8 LOTE French

Course Content
A new method of teaching French will be introduced to the students, called AIM (Accelerative Integrated Method). It is based on gestures, music, dance, and drama. Students will participate in internal, national and international competitions on Language Perfect. They will also work on cultural elements, and in collaboration with our sister school in Paris. Some of the Year 8 students will go to France to visit our sister school.

Assessment
• Role plays
• Participation in class
• Written tests
• Project
• Language Perfect

Competitions
• Language Perfect competitions
• Dis-moi dix mots Competition
• Berthe Mouchette Poetry Competition

Clubs
• French / Movie Club

Excursions
• ACMI: French animation movies
• Theatre / role play

Year 8 LOTE Chinese

Course Content
Students will continue to build up their speaking and listening skills. Students will be learning Chinese characters to gain the experience in different writing systems. There will also be some cultural elements in the course to enrich students’ learning to make the learning more relevant.

Assessment
• Role plays
• Conversations
• Written tests
• Class competitions

Competitions
• Victorian Chinese Speaking Competition (TBD)
• Global Village Bilingual speech competition

Clubs
• Chinese Cultural Club

Excursions
• Cultural activity
Year 8 Advanced LOTE French

Course Content
The advanced program prepares students to thrive as globally competent students, through an in-depth encounter with French and Francophone culture. Students reinforce their language proficiency and communication skills as they study texts, films, and cultures of the French-speaking world. Our goal is for students to be fluent in French and to master the four skills (speaking, listening, reading and writing). The main goal is for students to be prepared to pass the DELF (B2) in Year 9.

Assessment
- Participation in class
- Written tests
- Projects
- Language Perfect

Competitions
- Language Perfect competitions
- Kangourou des Maths
- Berthe Mouchette prix spécial des Ecoles Françaises

Clubs
- French / Movie Club

Excursions
- French Cinema
- Theatre / Role play

Year 7/8 Advanced LOTE Chinese

Course Content
The course is designed to support students’ learning of Humanities and Science. Students will learn a range of new vocabulary relevant to Humanities and Science, and they will also improve on their listening, reading, speaking and writing skills. They will be familiar with different types of genres, including recount, procedure, narrative and argumentative.

Assessment
- Essay
- Oral presentation
- Performance
- Reading assessment
- Test

Competitions
- Global Village Bilingual Speech Competition

Clubs
- Chinese Craft Club

Excursions
- Film watching
- Cultural festivals
Year 8 Design & Technology

Course Content
In the Design and Technology classroom, students develop innovative solutions to design problems. They investigate products and consider the factors of successful design, including function, aesthetics, ergonomics and the different characteristics of materials. Students learn to use a variety of tools and equipment to manipulate resistant materials and to make their products. Students design and construct functional products before reflecting on their work through analysis and evaluation activities.

Assessment
• Investigation and design
• Production
• Analysis and evaluation

Year 8 Food Technology

Course Content
Students are challenged with Australian, Aboriginal and multicultural recipes that cover a broad range of methods of cookery. Throughout this course, students focus on the five food groups and food safety. This gives students the required knowledge for food storage and preparation, within the home and in a commercial kitchen.

Assessment
• Investigating and design work
• Production
• Analysis and evaluation

Competitions
• Taste Magazine ‘Cook the Cover’ monthly competition.
• Food Design Challenge
Year 8 Performing & Media Arts

Course Content
In the first term, students will explore the history of animation and analyse several stop motion short films. They will learn animation processes and design and build their own stop motion character for a comedic animation. Students will spend the following term exploring character and improvisation in drama. They will examine Renaissance theatre styles and 20th century slapstick comedy to create their own performances.

Assessment
- Performances
- Animated film
- Workbook

Clubs
- School Production
- Arts Club

Excursions
- Commedia Dell’arte Incursion

Competitions
- ACMI Screen It

Year 8 Visual Art

Course Content
Students will examine the wood-block prints of German Expressionists and create their own lino print series in the style. They will learn about the Pop Art movement and the concept of appropriation versus plagiarism and create their own 2d and/or 3D Pop Art pieces. Students will also investigate their own ideas and inspiration in their visual diary.

Assessment
- Folio
- Visual diary
- Theory tasks

Clubs
- Arts Club

Competitions
- School magazine cover competition