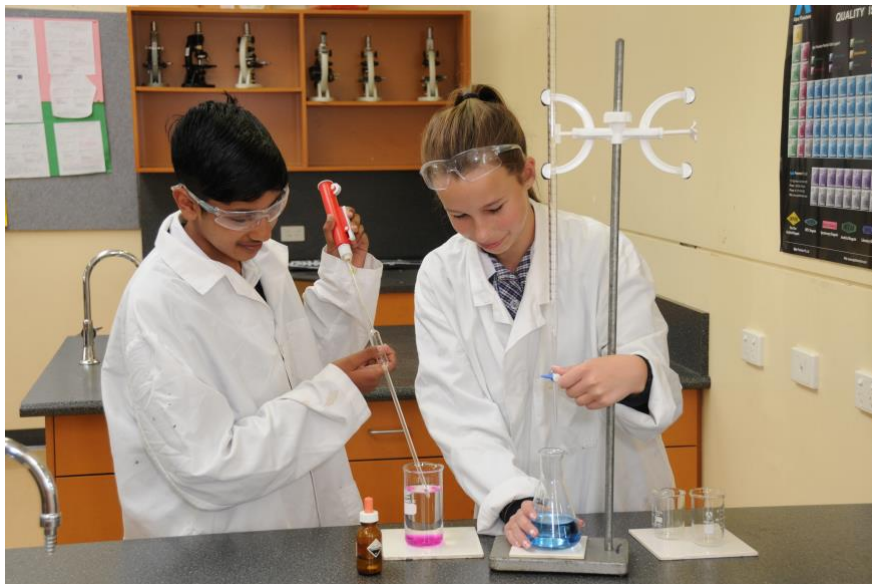




LYNDHURST
SECONDARY
COLLEGE

Academic Curriculum Enhancement (ACE) Program



Enhancing academic potential through individualised pathways

What is the ACE program?



What happens at Years 7-9?

Lyndhurst Secondary College offers a learning pathway for highly able and talented students. This program is designed to provide them with a challenging and diverse curriculum that will enhance each student's ability to achieve success at school and beyond. It is intended that students begin this program at Year 7 and continue through to Year 12 and into tertiary study at the University level.

Students will benefit from the opportunity to expand their knowledge and skills beyond the mainstream classroom environment, enabling them to participate in learning based on their own performance and skills.

They will be provided with open-ended activities and questions inviting curiosity, exploration and manipulation of ideas and materials at a deeper and broader level than might otherwise occur. Students are encouraged to focus on creativity, initiative, critical thinking, responsibility and leadership.

- Specialised core curriculum (Mathematics, English, Science and Humanities) and involvement in Physical Education/Health and LOTE programs
- Integrated subjects allowing for flexible approaches to match student interest
- Negotiated individual research projects, developing planning, collaborative working and problem solving skills
- Opportunities to focus on areas that benefit a student's desired learning path.
- Provision of a wide range of practical activities, inquiry and fieldwork
- Semester-long units of practical subjects such as Woodwork, Home Economics and Performing Arts (as per mainstream classes)

What happens at Years 10-12?

- Pathways are focussed on increasing ATAR scores by students completing Extension English and Mathematics classes in Year 10. This lays a solid foundation for high level performance in these subjects at the VCE level. In turn, this maximises University opportunities for students.
- Accelerated VCE courses, beginning in Year 10, allowing students to complete additional Unit 3 and 4 sequences. By completing additional units, students will thereby increase their ATAR score.

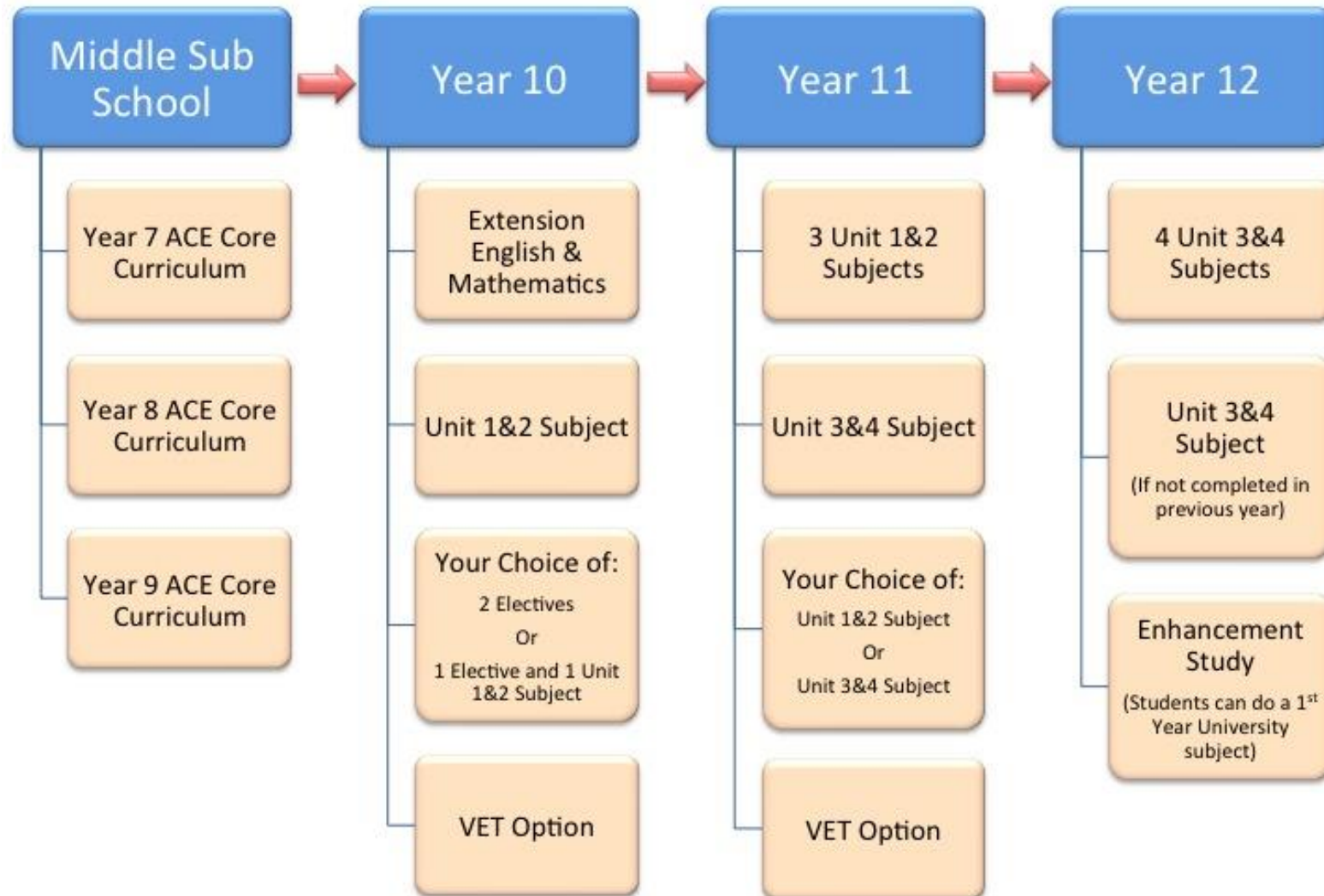


What activities will students do?

Students will take part in a range of activities including:

- Excursions, including fieldwork for Science
- Incursions
- Guest Speakers
- Entry into competitions, such as the Westpac Mathematics competition and the Australian Geography competition
- A greater use of technology
- Special projects – individual research projects that focus on the student's core interests
- Debating teams
- Student conferences
- Leadership training

What does an Academic Curriculum Enhancement (ACE) program look like?



How does an ACE classroom differ from a mainstream one?

Students in the Academic Curriculum Enhancement (ACE) Program will be exposed to all core content that students must cover in the Mainstream Pathway. In some cases, pre-testing will establish the opportunity to skip ahead to new material. In others, students will learn both the mainstream material and additional, more complex, material.

The real difference is seen in the approach students take in their learning. Students have the opportunity to engage in self-directed learning that specifically addresses both their abilities and their interests.

We seek to modify both the content of the lessons and the way in which those lessons are taught, so that each individual in the pathway is catered for in the best way possible.

Students are also afforded the opportunity to expand their knowledge and skills in areas of their own choosing, via the Personal Best Program. They are able to negotiate an area of research with their teachers and engage in individual learning in this area. This program is designed to build students' critical literacy, planning and problem solving skills. The development of this set of skills is strongly correlated with high academic success.



SELECTION PROCESS

Step 1 - Application

- Interested students and their families should visit our website to complete the online application form. Please note that you will need to pay a \$55 testing fee upon application. This must be completed by: **MONDAY 31st AUGUST**

Step 2 - Identification

- Testing will occur on **Saturday 5th September** at the College, for which \$55 was paid at application. Details of the planned testing day will be emailed to applicants in the week prior.
- All applicants will be required to complete this testing to ensure they are suitable for inclusion in the program.

Step 3 - Selection

- Analysis from the previous two steps will determine selection of students for the ACE program in the upcoming year.
- Successful applicants will notified via email.

Step 4 - Scholarship Selection

- Four \$1000 scholarships will be offered to the students with the highest results, as assessed by Edutest. Students are welcome to apply for scholarships in other areas when these open in September.

Step 5 - Monitoring

- Positions in the ACE program will be reviewed periodically to ensure continued suitability for the program. Feedback will be provided from these reviews.