YEAR 8 2016

This handbook outlines the education program for Year 8 in 2016. It has been prepared so that parents and students will be aware, not only of the variety of subjects offered, but of the choice that is possible within subject areas. Our program relies heavily on student choice and a careful study of this handbook is essential.

If further advice is required ask any of the following people:

- **Year Adviser**       Mrs S Judd
- **Curriculum Head Teacher** Mr P Holmes
- **Administration**
- **Teacher-in-Charge of Subject**
- **Careers Adviser**     Ms J Smith

Please make any problems known to us.
ELECTIVE CHOICES - COST OF MATERIALS

In Year 8 students have limited choice as to which subjects they will attempt. In Years 9 and 10 this is expanded into a wide choice of subjects grouped onto three ELECTIVE lines in Year 9 then two elective lines in Year 10.

The purpose of the Elective subjects is to enable each student to experience a variety of subjects that they may be interested in. At Dungog High School, students can select from a variety of subjects. They should select a combination of subjects that is best for them and allows them the widest experience.

However, it is important to realise that many electives require the purchase of materials which are used by the student each semester. In order to keep costs as low as possible, materials are generally ordered in bulk at the beginning of each semester. Parents are requested to contribute to meet these costs as early in the semester as possible. There are many subjects in the list which follows that have zero cost, and it is possible to meet Record of School Achievement requirements by selecting these subjects only.

If there is difficulty in meeting the materials contribution, parents are advised of the following:

- the contributions can be paid in instalments.
- limited financial assistance is available through the Student Assistance Scheme. Application forms are available from the school office.

Maureen Jarvis
Principal
YEAR 8 ELECTIVE CHOICES - 2016

Dungog High School runs a Semester System which divides the year into two equal parts. The first 20 weeks of the year is called Semester 1 (terms 1 and 2) and the remaining 20 weeks is called Semester 2 (terms 3 and 4).

In Year 8 students study a broad range of subjects as in Year 7, however, there is one big difference: in Year 8 students are given some choice in the subjects they study.

There are 16 subjects that are offered for study in Year 8. These fall into two different groups.

GROUP A (All compulsory)
1. English
2. Mathematics
3. Science
4. Human Society and its Environment
5. Art
6. Music
7. Physical Education
8. Technology

GROUP B (Optional)
10. Science / Agriculture - Introduction to Agriculture, Forensic Frenzy, Working with Farm Animals
11. Creative Arts - Drama - Introduction to Acting & Performance Skills, So You Want To Be A Rock Star, Being A Visual Designer
12. PD/H/PE - Sport Skills, Outdoor Recreation
13. Language - Japanese

GROUP A ALL subject areas in this group are compulsory. Students must fulfil all compulsory requirements BUT may extend their experience by choosing additional interest units in these areas.

GROUP B Students may choose to study interest units in these areas.

Most subjects are divided into sections called "units". A unit of study is four periods a week for a semester.

WEEKLY ROUTINE

In 2016 student timetables will rotate on a two week cycle, 30 x 52 minute periods will occur each week within this cycle. Sport will be 2 periods each week, 4 periods per cycle, and Assemblies will be 1 period each week, 2 periods per cycle.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUBJECTS</th>
<th>PERIODS/CYCLE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>8 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>8 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>8 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Society &amp; Its Environment</td>
<td>6 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Technology *</td>
<td>6 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art *</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music *</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective *</td>
<td>6 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Education/Personal Development</td>
<td>6 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sport</td>
<td>4 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assembly</td>
<td>2 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Art, Music, Technology and Electives may be interchanged between semesters to maximise student choices.

**Student Choices**

1. **COMPULSORY SUBJECTS**

2. **INTEREST ELECTIVES**

   Each student can choose TWO Interest Electives in Year 8. These units provide students with the opportunity to broaden their education, investigate areas of need, interest and ability.

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**Please Note:**

Not all Interest Electives offered will run. Students choices are used to determine the most popular units. If demand for a particular unit is too low then students will need to choose again.

**PROGRESSION TO YEARS 9 AND 10**

Students who choose a variety of courses will be better prepared for Years 9 and 10.

**When do Record of School Achievement (RoSA) Electives start?**

**ALL RECORD OF SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENT ELECTIVES START IN YEAR 9.**

All Year 8 units are designed as "taster courses". They are not required as prerequisites for RoSA electives and will not count towards RoSA elective requirements.
STUDENT FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS 2016

The Department of Education and Communities guidelines relating to school contributions are that while the payment of school contributions is not compulsory, schools are free to continue the practice of seeking a General School Contribution. This has been in place for many years and is acknowledged by the community. Thank you to the families who pay this contribution.

The compulsory side of school fees is used for the PURCHASE OF MATERIALS used and consumed in particular Key Learning Areas. Parents or guardians will be made fully aware of the costs involved prior to student enrolment in subjects which require additional costs.

The following information is provided for parents in relation to the school’s finances and family contributions. The school receives some financial grants from the state and federal government, however as you can imagine, it is nowhere near enough to provide all student requirements.

There are two separate forms of payment requested. The first is General School Contributions which apply to each student and vary according to their school year.

The second payment relates to consumable-specific subjects, and covers the actual amounts that will have to be paid if your child elects to study that particular subject.

The Administration Office will prepare details of these payments for your child, and an invoice will be sent home.

It is in this second area of payments that parents may apply to the school for financial support if there is a difficulty in meeting costs. This is done through the Student Assistance Scheme. The Student Assistance Scheme is available to students up to the age of 16 years; older students are eligible to apply for Youth Allowance, which can be used to meet these costs. The Principal will consider applications for Student Assistance Scheme from older students in special circumstances.

General School Contributions are as follows:

Year 8  ...  $80.00

Subject Materials Consumables. Some subjects use a considerable amount of materials from which the individual students personally benefit. For example, Food Technology students experiment with recipes and Industrial Technology students take home the items they make. In Year 8 the total amount of subject material costs vary with the courses each student takes. Consumables are payable at the beginning of each semester. Semester 1 covers Terms 1 and 2, Semester 2 begins in Term 3.

Three compulsory subjects have a consumable cost: they are Art $18 per semester, Technology $20 per semester and HSIE $40 per year for the compulsory site studies.

Details of all elective subject consumables are listed on the next page.


By selecting the link you will be taken to a secure Westpac Quickweb payment page. Payment of fees, excursions, etc can also be made by cash, cheque or EFTPOS which is available at the school office.
## YEAR 8 ELECTIVE UNITS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNIT TITLE</th>
<th>PAGE NO.</th>
<th>COST</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>TECHNOLOGY AND APPLIED SCIENCES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food for Fun</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fashion Designing</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>16.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multimedia</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to Wood technology</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to Metal technology</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to Graphics Technology</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>7.00 +Equipment</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SCIENCE</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Introduction to Agriculture</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working with Farm Animals</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forensic Frenzy</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CREATIVE ARTS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drama - Introduction to Acting &amp; Performance Skills</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Visiting performances</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>So You Want To Be A Rock Star</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Being A Visual Designer</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PD/H/PE</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sport Skills</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Cost of excursions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor Recreation</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Cost of excursions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LANGUAGE</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japanese</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TECHNOLOGY AND APPLIED STUDIES

UNIT TITLE: FOOD FOR FUN

AIMS: To gain an understanding of foods/drinks used for different occasions.

CONTENT OUTLINE: •Foods for special occasions:
  - use of convenience foods
  - celebrations around the world
  - afternoon/morning tea
  - menu planning for special occasions e.g. Valentine’s Day Chocolates, Christmas, novelty cakes for birthdays
•Food Display:
  - food safety, hygiene practices
  - designing foods
  - presentation of food.

MATERIALS COST: $30

ASSESSMENT: Practical 30%
Assignments 30%
Tests 40%

UNIT TITLE: FASHION DESIGNING

AIMS: To have experience experimenting with a range of textile techniques.

CONTENT OUTLINE: Students will be using the sewing machine to make textile items using students’ own creativity. Students use a variety of textile techniques including dyeing, painting, patchwork and/or embroidery to make their end products, e.g. clothing and accessories.

PRACTICAL: Making a range of textile items.

MATERIALS COST: $16.00 (covers cost of some fabric, paint, dyes, etc.) plus cost of own fabric for garments.

ASSESSMENT: Practical 75%
Assignments/homework 25%

UNIT TITLE: MULTIMEDIA

AIMS: To use computers to expand and develop multimedia skills.

CONTENT OUTLINE: Students will be working with a variety of software programs and equipment to develop media projects.

MATERIALS COST: $10 for computer consumables.
UNIT TITLE: INTRODUCTION TO WOOD TECHNOLOGY

AIMS: To develop an interest in woodwork by the students and give them the opportunity to experience the use of different processes.

CONTENT OUTLINE: Students will learn the use of basic handtools and surface finishes and be shown how to add their own personal designs to some of the projects.

A range of small projects will be offered giving a variety of experience.

MATERIALS COST: $30.00

ASSESSMENT: Practical 100%

UNIT TITLE: INTRODUCTION TO METAL TECHNOLOGY

AIMS: To develop in students an interest in metalwork, give students the experience of using different tools and materials and the opportunity to design their own projects.

CONTENT OUTLINE: This course is designed for students to experience a wide range of shaping and joining techniques. A range of small projects will be offered giving a variety of experience.

MATERIALS COST: $30.00

ASSESSMENT: Practical 100%

UNIT TITLE: INTRODUCTION TO GRAPHICS TECHNOLOGY

AIMS: To develop in students -
1. competence in reading, interpreting and producing both technical and non-technical drawings.
2. skills associated with technical illustrations

CONTENT OUTLINE: Will include computer graphics, design symbols, logos, rendering, mapping and course plotting, freehand skills and drawing practice.

MATERIALS COST: $7 plus students will need to purchase a pencil and an eraser.

ASSESSMENT: Average of class sheets 80%
Assignment 20%
SCIENCE/AGRICULTURE

UNIT TITLE: INTRODUCTION TO AGRICULTURE

AIMS: The aim of the Agriculture course is to develop student knowledge and practical, hands-on skills concerning a range of agricultural enterprises that produce food, fibre and other materials for human use. The course aims to encourage sustainable agricultural methods and develop enterprising people.

CONTENT OUTLINE: This is a 50 hr introductory course designed to lead to further study of agriculture in Years 9 and 10. It involves hands on experiences in a range of local area agricultural enterprises based on the school farm enterprises of plant production beef cattle, poultry and sheep husbandry. The course provides experiences in the management of plants and animals together with marketing of products. Students have the opportunity to:

- use technologies associated with agriculture
- develop skills in design, solving problems, management of small enterprises
- make responsible judgements on the use of the basic resources of water, soil, air.

Participation in agriculture appeals to students through their attraction to care for plants and animals which can lead to increased individual responsibility and personal satisfaction.

MATERIALS COST: Nil

ASSESSMENT: Assessment is progressive throughout the course. Assessment is based on knowledge, practical skills and the maintenance of a farm portfolio.

UNIT TITLE: WORKING WITH FARM ANIMALS

AIMS: To develop introductory skills in handling and managing a range of farm animals.

CONTENT OUTLINE: This 50 hr introductory course is designed to lead to further study of agriculture in Years 9 and 10.

This course has similar content as Introduction to Agriculture but only deals with production animals, ie. poultry, cattle and sheep. It may involve raising meat birds for the Royal Easter Show and raising calves for “Cows Create Careers”. Students are involved in all aspects of caring for the school's animals.

MATERIALS COST: Nil

ASSESSMENT: Progressive skills based assessment
UNIT TITLE: FORENSIC FRENZY

AIMS: The forensic scientist has become a key person in solving mysteries in crime & other areas. In this course students will examine the work of the forensic scientist through hands-on investigations, computer simulations, books & films. Uncover the mysteries of fingerprinting, blood analysis & DNA profiling. Suited to the student with a keen interest in scientific investigation & its application to problem solving.

MATERIALS COST: Nil.

ASSESSMENT: Class test and progressive assessment.
CREATIVE ARTS

UNIT TITLE: DRAMA - INTRODUCTION TO ACTING & PERFORMANCE SKILLS

AIMS: To develop skills in improvisation and acting, To work in groups to create original pieces of Drama To perform in front of an audience To develop knowledge of dramatic elements

CONTENT OUTLINE: Students will be involved in learning the basic skills of acting and improvisation. This will involve many games and activities in groups, pairs and on their own. Students will learn to play Theatresports games. The focus will be on developing their confidence in movement, voice, improvisation, acting and creating drama. They will be involved in creating performance pieces for an audience using mask, creative movement or clowning.

MATERIALS COST: Students may be required to attend visiting Performances

ASSESSMENT: Assessment to be based on:
• Participation
• Mastery of Skills
• Logbook
• Groupwork and Performances
SO YOU WANT TO BE A ROCK STAR?

INTRODUCING THREE COURSES IN ONE:

**AIMS:** This is a practical course offered as an elective to Year 8 students who wish to pursue music in a more practical way. The course offers three choices for students including tutoring and workshops in either Voice, Guitar or Keyboard.

It **DOES NOT** replace the General Music compulsory unit in Year 8.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VOCALISTS</th>
<th>GUITAR HANDS ON GUITAR</th>
<th>KEYBOARD HANDS ON KEYBOARD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PRACTICAL WORK IN PERFORMANCE.</td>
<td>For students who wish to gain more experience in performance on guitar.</td>
<td>For students who wish to gain more experience in performance on keyboard.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Vocal workshops – girls and boys.</td>
<td>• Open to both beginners and more advanced students.</td>
<td>• Open to both beginners and more advanced students.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Singing in a group or Solo singing.</td>
<td>• Organising song choices. (repertoire)</td>
<td>• Organising song choices. (repertoire)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Organising song choices. (repertoire)</td>
<td>• Working toward extension of skills.</td>
<td>• Working toward extension of skills.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Performance skills</td>
<td>• Workshopping group songs.</td>
<td>• Workshopping group songs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Stage Presentation and Choreography.</td>
<td>• Organising equipment for performances.</td>
<td>• Organising equipment for performances.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Organising equipment for performances.</td>
<td>• Excursion (if available) to live performance.</td>
<td>• Excursion (if available) to live performance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Sound Production – setting up microphones/ mixers/ amplifiers and other sound equipment.</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Karaoke / Sing Star</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Excursion (if available) to live performance.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**COURSE COST:** $10 PER SEMESTER
UNIT TITLE: BEING A VISUAL DESIGNER

AIMS: Students gain “hands on” Visual Design skills.

CONTENT OUTLINE: Students design, make and study images and objects in a variety of Visual Design forms such as - ceramics, wearables, jewellery, packaging, cartooning, advertising, graphic design, animation, photography, digital imaging and interactive design.

MATERIALS COST: $30 - specialist art materials over and above the basics e.g. - digital and photographic paper
- graphic design materials
- materials needed to produce 3d designs.

ASSESSMENT: Making Designed Artworks
Visual Journal Assessment.
UNIT TITLE: SPORT SKILLS

AIMS: To develop specific motor skills, through training, practice and application; AND apply the skills learnt in competitive situations.

CONTENT OUTLINE: Students will learn basic skills in a number of sports and be given a chance to specialise in one or more sports. Sports studied may include: Touch football, Netball, Tennis, Volleyball, Cricket, Softball and Baseball.

The course will complement regular PD/H/PE lessons but be much more practical in nature and give students a chance to experience specialised coaching.

MATERIALS COST: There are no fees payable but occasional costs will be incurred to cover excursions and guest coaches.

ASSESSMENT: This course is almost wholly practical and students will be assessed on:
1. Skill Level
2. Participation
3. Skill improvement.

UNIT TITLE: OUTDOOR RECREATION

AIMS: To develop skills and knowledge to participate safely in a range of outdoor recreation activities; AND through practice and participation develop an understanding of the benefits that could be achieved from a range of outdoor recreation activities.

CONTENT OUTLINE: Students will learn about the range of activities available in outdoor recreation. Students will learn basic outdoor recreation skills used in a number of settings including: navigation, orienteering, campsite selection and set up, bushwalking, wilderness first aid and safety, preservation and conservation and a variety of other experiences.

The course will offer a contrast to areas of learning in PDHPE but will complement it through opportunities to experience alternative physical activities in a safe environment. Students may have the opportunity to experience an excursion to an outdoor recreation centre.

MATERIALS COST: There are no fees payable but occasional costs will be incurred to cover excursions, guest instructors or outdoor recreation camps.

ASSESSMENT: This course will be assessed on participation and involvement in practical outdoor experiences.
UNIT TITLE: I'M TURNING JAPANESE!

AIMS: The Japanese course is designed for students to develop a deeper understanding of not only the Japanese Language, but the people of Japan and their unique culture. The course aims to build on student's knowledge from Language studies in Year 7. Students may choose to enjoy this course for one semester during Year 8 only, or use the course as a platform to continue their language studies in Years 9 and 10. This course also provides authentic cultural experiences based around craft, cooking and cultural activities.

CONTENT OUTLINE: Students will be involved in individual and group work with language learning, language through technology and cultural activities.

MATERIALS COST: Nil

ASSESSMENT: Assessment Tasks are progressive throughout the course and are based on language and research skills.