



Curriculum Delivery Plan

Updated 2024



Mt Maria College
Strong Mind – Compassionate Heart

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Learning and Teaching at Mt Maria College

Mt Maria College offers a tailored program of study from Year 7-12 underpinned by our Marist values – Presence, Family Spirit, Love of Hard Work and Simplicity. To this end, the College offers programs within two distinct phases of schooling – Middle Years (7-9) and Senior Years (10-12).

This sub-school separation enables Mt Maria College to:

- Enhance and develop curriculum and support structures appropriate to the students' developmental and intellectual needs.
- Expand specialist facilities, tuition, and support necessary to complement the child's growth and development.

Belief About Learning

Promoting excellence and equity, Mt Maria College supports a student-centred, holistic approach to education, recognising that students have different strengths, needs and backgrounds. We affirm our commitment to the importance of meeting these individual needs, with a focus on student progress and growth, regardless of the starting point.

Our educational goals have as a specific focus the building of students' capacity to develop empathy-enhanced skills in collaboration, creativity, critical thinking, and communication. We work to unlock the potential of each student, aspiring to extend their potential and develop agency for their learning, to be active and informed members of the community.

We affirm education's role in developing young people's resilience and mental wellbeing, enabling them to confidently recognise, adapt to, and manage change.

In making our vision a reality, we have high expectations of our students and staff. We support all students – irrespective of students' background, relative advantage, or cultural heritage – to develop a growth mindset to enable their progress into self-directed, confident, and creative, lifelong learners. Our teachers aspire to be positive, enthusiastic, and engaging, to facilitate differentiated, quality teaching and learning experiences which will engage and motivate our students.



Mt Maria College Pedagogical Framework

Our school-wide Pedagogical Framework translates our vision into everyday practice and is based on the belief that every student can learn. It provides a consistent, evidence-based set of guidelines and resources to support our teachers in delivering high quality teaching that maximises learning for all students.



We foster a strong academic culture by:

- Utilising innovative, high-quality and proven teaching practices
- Fostering a growth mindset
- Setting high expectations of teachers and students
- Differentiating learning experiences
- Celebrating student success

We aim to work in partnership with parents to achieve the best outcomes for our students. Student academic progress is carefully monitored, and formal reporting occurs three times per year. It is our expectation that every student works hard at their learning through active participation in class and completing all set tasks.

Assessment

We assess student learning against the Australian Curriculum Achievement Standards and QCAA assessment policies. The sequence of achievement standards within each learning area emphasizes the depth of conceptual understanding, sophistication of skills and the ability to apply essential knowledge expected of students.

At Mt Maria College, assessment is aligned with the designated curriculum, Unit Overviews and learning experiences in each class. Assessment is differentiated as required to meet the learning needs of our students.

Moderation

When moderating student work, teachers engage in focused professional conversations to analyse the quality of student work against the achievement standards outlined by ACARA and QCAA and to ensure consistency of teacher judgements.

Reporting

The College reports twice a year on a 15 point scale, across Year 7-12 according to ACARA and QCAA achievement standards. Year 7-10 reports are based on semester units of work while reports are issued at the end of each Unit in Year 11 and 12. An interim report measuring student engagement is also provided at the end of Term 1 for students in Year 7-11.

Levels of Teaching Response

[Levels of Teaching Response](#) is a framework to enable school teams including leaders, teachers, and specialist personnel to collaboratively make decisions that ensure all students receive their learning entitlement according to the approved curriculum. The framework responds to all students across all aspects of learning.

All students engage within effective first teaching, while also receiving the targeted, strategic, or intensive support that they may need at different times or in different learning areas.

- Effective first teaching
- Targeted teaching
- Strategic teaching
- Intensive teaching
- Outside year level/band

Curriculum Overview

At Mt Maria College, students engage in a range of authentic learning experiences and opportunities in accordance with BCE Religious Education Curriculum, Australian Curriculum (Years 7-10), QCAA Year 11 and 12 General, Applied and Extension subjects, and a range of AQF VET Certificate (I-IV) subjects offered both on campus and externally through our community partners (NWTTC, TAFE and other RTOs).

Students in Year 7 and 8 study a designated program and have the opportunity to choose elective subjects for Year 9 to complement their core studies. Students can refine their elective subjects for Year 10 with greater specialization of knowledge and skills encouraged before choosing their pathway and subjects for Year 11 and 12 as part of their SET Plan.

2024 Curriculum Priorities

In 2024, the staff at Mt Maria College are focusing on a range of initiatives aligned with the priorities identified by ACARA and BCE, as well as those important in our local context.

1. 21st Century Skills

- 21st Century skills are embedded across the curriculum in authentic learning experiences and assessment.

2. Embedding Catholic Perspectives

- The College has been working to embed Catholic Perspectives in the Year 7-10 HPE and Science curriculum.
- Planning has begun this year to expand this for other learning areas in 2024.

3. Assessment Capable Learners

- A targeted focus on assessment skills has been implemented in Year 7 and 9 in preparation for NAPLAN.
- The explicit teaching of assessment skills across whole school curriculum in authentic learning experiences aims to ensure students are able to demonstrate their learning.

4. Literacy

- The College implements both a school-wide focus and targeted programs (Year 7 and 9) to improve literacy.



5. Effective Pedagogy

- The College's Pedagogical Framework aligns with the BCE Model of Pedagogy and provides a common language for both staff and students to ensure effective teaching.
- The Explicit Model of Teaching (I do, We do, You do) is used by staff across the College when planning individual lessons, learning cycles, units, and year level learning programs.
- High yield strategies such as establishing learning intentions and success criteria are embedded into our Pedagogical Framework.

6. Feedback

- In addition to 'Activating Learning', the focus for staff professional development in 2023 relates to feedback that moves learning forward.
- Teachers provide progressive feedback to students about their progress in a variety of ways.

7. Positive Culture

- The College has undertaken a multi-year project that aims to improve engagement, learning and teaching, and student behaviour, engagement, and learning outcomes.
- The *We ARE Mt Maria (Aspire Respect Engage)* and *The Mt Maria Way* documents provide a set of guidelines, routines and processes for staff and students that can be applied to all aspects of College life.
- The College adopts a Positive Behaviour for Learning approach.

Subject Offerings and Time Allocation

Year 7 & 8

Students in Year 7 and 8 study a fixed program comprising of core subjects and elective subjects. Two elective subjects are studied in Year 7 each term and again in Year 8 where knowledge and skills are further developed.

Mt Maria College

Year 7 & 8 Learning Area Time Allocations (2023)

At Mt Maria College, the timetable operates on a 10-day cycle with 5 x 60-minute lessons per day.

Learning Area		Year 7			Year 8			
		Lessons / Cycle	ACARA (hrs)	Actual (hrs)	Lessons / Cycle	ACARA (hrs)	Actual (hrs)	
Core	English	7	120	140	7	120	140	
	Mathematics	7	120	140	7	120	140	
	Science	6	100	120	6	100	120	
	Humanities	History	6	50	50	6	50	50
		Geography		50	50		50	50
		Civics		20	20		20	20
	Religious Ed	5	100	100	5	50	100	
	HPE	4	80	80	4	80	80	
Language (Japanese)	4	80	80	4	80	80		
Elective Rotations	Arts*	Drama	4	20	4	80	20	
		Media		20		20		
		Music		20		20		
		Visual Arts		20		20		
	Technologies*	Food Specialisation	4	40	4	40	80	
		Design & Materials		40		40	40	40
		Digital Technologies						
	Economics & Business*	4	20	20	4	20	20	

* Elective Units run for 1 term in Year 7 and again Year 8 on a rotational basis. Two electives run concurrently.

Year 9 & 10

Students in Year 9 and 10 study a mixed program comprising of core subjects and elective subjects.

Five (5) semester-long elective units are chosen across the learning areas in Year 9 and 10. Increased specialization is possible in Year 10 with multiple units in a learning area able to be selected.

Mt Maria College Year 9 & 10 Learning Area Time Allocations (2023)

At Mt Maria College, the timetable operates on a 10-day cycle with 5 x 60-minute lessons per day.

Learning Area		Year 9			Year 10		
		Lessons/Cycle	ACARA (hrs)	Actual (hrs)	Lessons/Cycle	ACARA (hrs)	Actual (hrs)
Core	English	7	120	140	7	120	140
	Mathematics	7	120	140	7	120	140
	Science	6	120	120	6	120	120
	History#	6	50	120	6	50	120
	Religious Ed	5	100	100	5	100	100
	HPE	4	80	80	4	80	80
Electives *	Arts	Drama	6	80	6	80	60
		Media Arts					60
		Music					60
		Visual Arts					60
	Technologies	Food Specialisation	6	40	6	40	60
		Design & Materials					60
		Digital Technologies					60
	Economics & Business	6	20	60	6	20	60
	Language (Japanese)	6	80	120	6	80	120

Studied for 1 semester only

* 5 x elective subjects are studied for 1 semester each over the year.

- Other electives include – Geography, Civics & Citizenship, & HPE Extension
- Some electives have multiple units i.e. Drama A & B. If choosing Japanese in Year 10, it is compulsory for students to complete both units.

Year 11 & 12

Students in Year 11 and 12 study six (6) subjects including a Religion, English and Mathematics subject along with three (3) other electives aligned with their SET Plan.

Each subject is allocated 8 x 1-hour lessons per 10-day cycle.

	Department	Subjects
	Languages	General <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Japanese English Literature Applied <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essential English
	Mathematics	General <ul style="list-style-type: none"> General Mathematics Mathematical Methods Specialist Mathematics Applied <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essential Mathematics
	Science	General <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biology Chemistry Physics Psychology Applied <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Science in Practice
	Religious Education	General <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Study of Religion Applied <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Religion & Ethics
	Business and Digital Technologies	General <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accounting Business Digital Solutions Certificates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Certificate IV in Crime and Justice Certificate III & IV in Business Certificate III in IDMT
	The Arts	General <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drama Film, TV & New Media Music Visual Art Applied <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visual Arts in Practice Drama in Practice
	Technologies	General <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design Certificates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Certificate II/III Hospitality Certificate I Construction
	Humanities	General <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ancient History Geography Modern History Legal Studies
	Health and Physical Education	General <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical Education Certificates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Certificate II in Sport Coaching Certificate III in Sport and Recreation
	Pathways	Certificates and Trades <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work Readiness (Certificate II in Skills for Work & Vocational Pathways and Certificate II in Active Volunteering) Other Certificate courses via BNWTTTC, TAFE, or other RTO School-based Apprenticeships & Traineeships (SATs)



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