



# **Blaxland High School**

## **Year 8**

# **Subject Selection Booklet 2018**



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## **STAFF**

*For more information regarding subject selections please see the following;*

<b>Principal:</b>	Ms N Tunica
<b>Deputy Principal:</b>	Mr D May
<b>Rel. Deputy Principal:</b>	Mr A Kerr
<b>Student Adviser:</b>	Ms J Taylor

## **FACULTY**

### **Creative and Performing Arts**

Mr P Langfield – Head Teacher

### **Technology and Applied Studies**

Ms C Colless - Head Teacher

### **Language Other Than English**

Mrs B Kedicioglu- Head Teacher

### **Science**

Ms A Madden - Relieving Head Teacher

## **AVAILABLE ELECTIVE SUBJECTS**

Drama

Dance

Music

Visual Arts

Voice Works

Food Technology

Textiles Technology

Industrial Technology – Timber Products / Metals

Industrial Technology – Engineering / Graphics

Digital Media

Italian

*Agriculture*

## YEAR 8 ELECTIVE CHOICES 2018

Following are details of subject choices for students who will be in Year 8 next year.

It is most important that careful consideration be given to the following factors:

*It is important that subjects are chosen carefully. It is often difficult to change, particularly after the timetable has been established, because classes in some courses may be full.*

1. English, Mathematics, Science, History, Geography, PD/Health/PE are mandatory until the end of Year 10. English remains compulsory from Year 7 through to the end of Year 12.
2. Students do not have to take a subject in Years 8-10 in order to do the Year 11 and 12 version of that subject. However study in Years 8, 9 and 10 may give students skills and background for senior study.
3. A student should choose subjects on the basis of what he/she enjoys and/or achieves best in. Students should not be influenced in their choice of subject because a friend is selecting it. There is no guarantee that friends will be in the same class. Do not choose a subject because a particular teacher may be taking that class in the subject. There is no guarantee that you will have that teacher as these decisions will not be made until much later in the year.

### COMPLETION OF ELECTIVE FORM - ONLINE

#### Online Subject Selection Steps

- Students will be sent an email with the code which is to be used and the website address.
- Parents will be sent an email to indicate that the process has begun.
- Students need to select the electives in order of preference with the third and fourth preferences being the reserve choices.
- Once all selections are correct, SUBMIT these choices.
- Print off this form and have parent/carer sign it off.
- Return this form to Mr Kerr or Mr Guy.
- The elective lines are made on student choice. If the number in an elective is small, it will be cancelled and reserve choices used instead. The classes will be completed once ALL student choices are entered.
- The selection of choices must be completed on or before the due date.
- There is no "first in first served" in this process.

## YEAR 8 CURRICULUM PATTERN AT BLAXLAND HIGH SCHOOL

The academic curriculum is made up of both **mandatory** and **elective** courses of study, delivered over a two week cycle divided into teaching periods of one hour.

1. *Mandatory Curriculum in Year 8*: Mandatory curriculum requirements are set by the NSW Education Standards Authority and the NSW Department of Education and Communities and will be followed in the courses below:

English, Mathematics, Science, History and Geography, Personal Development/Health/Physical Education, Mandatory Technology.

Sport will have four hours per cycle and two electives at four periods per cycle.

Year 8 students have the opportunity to take two additional subjects. It is important to note that the elective subjects do not have to be continued into Years 9 and 10.

Students will be given further opportunity during Term 3 of Year 8 to select from a further range of subjects for Years 9 and 10.

Listed below are the subjects that may be selected.

Agriculture

Dance

Digital Media

Drama

Food Technology

Industrial Technology—Engineering/Graphics

Industrial Technology—Timber Products/Metals - 1 semester per area

Italian

Music

Textiles Technology

Visual Arts

Voiceworks

# AGRICULTURE

## Science Faculty

An opportunity exists for students to participate in an exciting subject at Blaxland High School, investigating agriculture through theory and practical tasks.

For more information on this course, see the Science Faculty.



### What Is Agriculture?

Students will develop an understanding and knowledge of agricultural systems used to produce food, fibres and other products. It will involve developing their awareness of processes used in the agricultural industry in Australia and careers available to students in these areas.

An important aspect of this course will be the development of practical skills, through experimental work in the laboratory and outside. Here students will work with the production of plants in agriculture plots. Studies of animals will be undertaken throughout the course, involving excursions to large farm sites as well as maintaining animal facilities at Blaxland High School.

### Are there any special requirements?

Work Health and Safety regulations apply in this course.

Students must wear appropriate footwear within the laboratory and whilst undertaking outdoor activities. This footwear must be fully enclosed black leather shoes (in line with Department of Education and school guidelines). While outside, students should also wear a hat and sunscreen.

Other equipment for practical activities will be provided by the school.

***A subject fee of \$30.00 in 2018 is required of students to cover the costs of materials and resources.***

# DANCE

## Creative and Performing Arts Faculty

### What is Dance about?

Dance is a fun way to express thoughts and feelings through movement. Performance styles will include Jazz, Lyrical and Contemporary and Musical Theatre.

Composition activities and assessment tasks include: use of space, use of stimuli, time and dynamics and developing a dance film. Theory in dance includes history of Jazz, Ballet, Lyrical and multi cultural dance; a dancer's body and video analysis. Students will have an opportunity to perform at our annual Dance Night. It is recommended students are also involved in dance studio classes to further develop their skills.

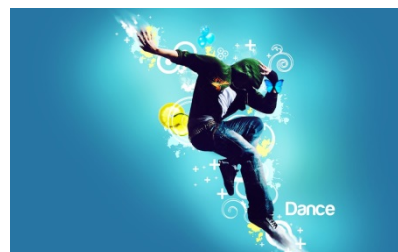
***For more information about this course see the Creative and Performing Arts faculty.***

### Are there any special requirements?

A willingness to attempt all dance styles, enthusiasm and commitment to learning and improving skills. (Dance shoes are optional). Students are expected to attend some out of school hours rehearsals and performances.

Students will be required to purchase Dance Elective shorts and t-shirt which must be worn in all practical classes. An additional uniform fee is to be paid by Week 3 Term 1 in order for students to receive their dance uniform.

***There is a subject fee of \$20.00 in 2018 for this course.***



## DIGITAL MEDIA

*Industrial Arts Faculty*

### **What is Digital Media about?**

This one year course examines a variety of digital media, including desktop publishing, graphic design, animation and game making. Students will be able to specialise in a field of interest for each of their projects. This practical course aims to provide students with a hands-on introduction to a wide range of traditional and future technologies, including scanning, photographic composition and editing, use of a digital tablet/pen for drawing, morphing and tweening in animation. The course will also examine emerging technologies and their impact on our society and its values.

Students will be assessed through practical tasks and written folios.

***For more information on this course see the Information Technology faculty.***

### **Are there any special requirements?**

4-6GB memory stick, ear phones, A4 plastic sleeve folder.

***There is a subject fee of \$30.00 in 2018 for this course.***



## DRAMA

*Creative and Performing Arts Faculty*

### **What is Drama about?**

Drama is an excellent opportunity for students to build up confidence in their performance and public speaking skills. Drama also offers students a chance to express their creativity through performance, movement, lighting, sound and set design, and collaborate with other students across the school in playbuilding exercises.

Drama is a highly creative and collaborative subject, and requires students to work with dedication and focus on individual, group and whole class performances.

Students will explore the elements of Drama through leading and participating in workshops, explore creative movement in theatre, individual performance and a whole class playbuilding activity.

***For more information on this course see the Creative and Performing Arts faculty.***

### **Are there any special requirements?**

Students are required to purchase a process diary for the subject, and will be expected to attend occasional out of school hours for rehearsals and performances.

Students will also need a black shirt and trousers for performances.

***There is a subject fee of \$15.00 in 2018 for this course.***



## FOOD TECHNOLOGY

*Home Economics Faculty*



### **What is Food Technology about?**

Through the study of Food Technology, students will develop their food preparation skills. They will be able to analyse various food products and make more informed choices about foods they eat. This course is most valuable to all students in terms of life experiences but particularly to those interested in a career in catering, hospitality, nutrition and dietetics. *Focal Issues to be studied include:*

*Food For Special Occasions*—students will explore the significance of food in our lives by studying a range of special occasions including social, cultural, religious and family. Students will plan, prepare and present a variety of food suitable for each of these occasions.

*Food in Australia*—The nature of our food and our eating habits have evolved over time. Students will investigate this evolution in order to develop an understanding about our current food habits. Migration has had a dramatic effect on the food eaten in Australia. Students examine the history of foods in Australia beginning with traditional bush foods, the influence of early settlers together with continuing immigration from a variety of cultures. Students will prepare a variety of different foods indicative of these cultures. This unit culminates in an excursion to a restaurant.

***For more information on this course see the Home Economics faculty.***

### **Are there any special requirements?**

A4 exercise book, tea towel, dish cloth, placemat, oven mit and apron.

***There is a subject fee of \$154.00 in 2018 for this course.***

## INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY—ENGINEERING/GRAPHICS

*Industrial Arts Faculty*



### **What is Industrial Technology—Engineering/Graphics about?**

This course serves as an introduction to basic skills in both the graphics and engineering areas.

Students will actively participate in manufacturing practical projects together with the hands on use of computers in design and drafting.

This course places an emphasis on problem solving and testing and evaluation of product designs.

Design planning and construction will be developed assisting students to follow Electronics and/or Technical Drawing/Graphics/Computer Aided Drafting to the Higher School Certificate level.

As part of the course, students will operate computer numerically controlled systems.

***For more information about this course see the Industrial Arts faculty.***

### **Are there any special requirements?**

Students will be required to provide their own drawing instruments (a list will be provided at the first lesson).

A 64 page Botany Book is required for associated documentation.

***There is a subject fee of \$50.00 in 2018 for this course.***



## INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY—TIMBER PRODUCTS/METALS

### *Industrial Arts Faculty*

#### **What is Industrial Technology—Timber Products/Metals about?**

This course serves as an introduction to basic skills in the timber and metals industry. Students will actively participate in manufacturing a range of products which are timber and metals based. This course revolves around a practical approach to student centred learning.

Design and planning procedures will be developed enabling students to specialise in an area of study within; Timber and/or Metal. Metals and Timber will be studied for one semester each.



***For more information about this course see the Industrial Arts faculty.***

#### **Are there any special requirements?**

Work Health and Safety regulations apply in this course.

Approved safe footwear must be worn at all times. Students not wearing appropriate footwear will not be permitted entry to a workshop and will be given alternate written work. Parents will be notified should a problem persist.

Students should provide their own apron, safety glasses and ear plugs (these can be purchased as a *Technology Pack* from the school).

A 64 page Botany Book is required for associated documentation.

***There is a subject fee of \$60.00 in 2018 for this course.***

## ITALIAN

### *Languages Faculty*



#### **What is Languages about?**

Students of Italian in Year 8 will be covering a range of topics in order to broaden their ability to communicate in the language. The emphasis will be on reading and listening comprehension skills, followed by speaking and writing activities.

Topic areas include school, time, nationalities, personal descriptions, musical interests and sports. Students will become more practiced in grammatical concepts, giving them greater flexibility in using and understanding the language.

Students will be assessed on the four skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. Assessment will take place in each semester, incorporating end of unit tests, research and technology skills as well as Yearly and Half Yearly examinations.

***For more information on this course see the Languages Faculty.***

#### **Are there any special requirements?**

Open to all - enthusiasm and willingness to have a go are vital. It is recommended that students study this course if they intend to study the Italian language as an elective in Years 9 and 10.

***There is a subject fee of \$15.00 in 2018 for this course.***

## MUSIC

### *Creative and Performing Arts Faculty*

#### **What is Music about?**

The aim of this subject is for students to enhance their interest in music through as wide an involvement in musical activities as possible, which will include:

Performing music in groups and on their own, composing their own music and notating the music of others, listening to and appreciation of a wide variety of music and experiencing live music and theatre.

This one year course is suitable for students who have not previously learnt an instrument and also for those who can already play.

***For more information about this course see the Creative and Performing Arts faculty.***

#### **Are there any special requirements?**

Students are encouraged to pursue an instrument of their choice.

Although not compulsory, students will also be encouraged to join extra-curricular music activities such as choir, vocal ensemble, concert band, jazz band or rock band.

***There is a subject fee of \$26.00 in 2018 for this course. This includes a subscription to online music software.***



## TEXTILES TECHNOLOGY

### *Home Economics Faculty*

This course is a project based subject with a focus on practical activities. It has a considerable emphasis on creativity, originality and design. Students develop a variety of construction techniques as they produce a range of textiles items.

By constructing these textile items students will become familiar with the symbols and instructions used on commercial patterns, a range of textile mediums and a host of technologies used to create textile pieces.

Self expression is encouraged as students investigate the fascinating world of textiles arts and apply a range of dyeing, printing and fabric decoration techniques including, freehand machine embroidery, creating silk paper, fabric painting, applique and many other embellishment techniques.

***For more information on this course see the Home Economics faculty.***

#### **Are there any special requirements?**

Students will be required to provide patterns, fabrics, threads to complete most projects, a display folder and an A4 exercise book.

***There is a subject fee of \$20.00 in 2018 for this course.***



## VISUAL ARTS

*Creative and Performing Arts Faculty*

### What is Visual Arts About?

The course in Year 8 is designed to enable students to experience a variety of media and concepts in the Visual Arts. They will make art using forms which include drawing, painting, ceramics, sculpture, photography and printmaking. They will learn skills, techniques and processes which enable them to explore, develop and resolve ideas into art works. Students will learn about the practice of artists past and present, and how to understand and write about art. By engaging in creative approaches, students develop problem-solving skills, and a means of personal expression.



### Are there any special requirements?

Visual Arts process diaries are mandatory for the studying of Visual Arts. The diary is used for recording the development of art practice and in the historical and critical studies in this subject.

***There is a subject fee of \$50.00 in 2018 for this course.***

## VOICEWORKS

*Creative and Performing Arts Faculty*

### What is Voiceworks about?

This is a course that has been offered over the last nine years in Year 8 for students who wish to pursue Music with a focus on voice development, technique and performance skills. The course can be continued through Stage 5.

The course components reflect the Year 7-10 Music syllabus, and students choose topics of interest (eg Musicals, Popular Music, Jazz etc) in addition to enhancing their knowledge of the concepts of music.

Singing and performance skills are the major focus of Voiceworks, and students will benefit from numerous opportunities to develop as soloists and ensemble performers. These include Music Nights, Class Concerts, Eisteddfods, Combined Secondary Choral Concerts and other school-based community events. Students with instrumental ability as well as singing ability will be well catered for, as arrangement and small group work are a feature of the course curriculum.

***For more information on this course see the Creative and Performing Arts Faculty.***

### Are there any special requirements?

Just a love of singing and performing and a willingness to participate in school-based extra-curricular initiatives. The group will also enter local and regional eisteddfods.

***There is a subject fee of \$20.00 in 2018 for this course.***

