YEAR 9 CURRICULUM

Year 9 continues Middle Schooling by incorporating Australian Curriculum requirements with a small number of choices. Some subjects continue to be taught in the home group learning community to allow Home Group teachers to build close relationships with students and to monitor well-being.

The Year 9 Home Group program builds self-reliance, resilience and independence. A theory lesson per week focusses on school tone - culture and values, organisation and team work, plus the teaching of Career Strategies and First Aid skills. A practical lesson per week builds individual fitness and teaches resilience and perseverance through new skills e.g. juggling, stilt walking, uni-cycling.

The DECD Child Protection Curriculum is continued in the Home Group and Health Education programs.

The compulsory Year 9 subjects for all students are:

CURRICULUM AREA	Semesters
Agriculture	1
English	2
HASS – Geography & History	2
Health & Physical Education	2
Mathematics	2
Science	2

In addition, all students must choose three more semester units from:

CURRICULUM AREA	Semesters
Agriculture (Choice)	1
Art	1
Art/Design	1
Computer Applications	1
Digital Technologies	1
Drama	1
Duke of Ed Pathway	1
German	1
Home Economics	1
Music	1
Robotics	1
Systems Technology	1
Technology Studies	1
Pedal Prix	1

AGRICULTURE (Compulsory)

Subject Description: This compulsory semester is divided into three topics:

- Vegetable Production
- Poultry Production
- Pig Production

Students establish and maintain a small vegetable garden, including learning about plant science and soil science.

Students manage the school poultry and pigs, and gain an understanding of both the egg and meat industries.

ENGLISH

Subject Description: This year-long course covers Language, Literature and Literacy. Students practise and further develop skills in speaking, listening, reading, viewing and writing. They study a shared class text and a film each semester and write for a variety of audiences and purposes. Reading for the Premier's Reading Challenge is encouraged. An inter-class debating competition is held. An assessment outline is issued to students at the beginning of each semester.

HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

GEOGRAPHY

Subject Description: Geography empowers students to shape change for a socially just and sustainable future. Geography inspires curiosity and wonder about the diversity of the world's places, peoples, cultures and environments. Through exploring, analysing and understanding the characteristics of the places that make up our world, Geography enables students to question why the world is the way it is, and reflect on their relationships with and responsibilities for that world.

Topics

- Mapping
- Biomes and Food Security
- Geographies of Interconnections
- Economics and Business

HISTORY

Subject Description: The making of the modern world from 1750-1918. It was a period of industrialisation and rapid change in the ways people lived, worked and thought. It was an era of nationalism and imperialism, and the colonisation of Australia was part of the expansion of European power. The period culminated in World War I, 1914–1918, the 'war to end all wars'.

The topics give students the opportunity to make sense of the past and the present by developing historical skills including research, analysis, communication and interpretation of different perspectives.

Topics

- Making a Better World
- Australia and Asia
- World War I
- Civics and Citizenship

Additional Cost: Sovereign Hill camp approx. $300.00

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Subject Description: A full- year course designed to further enhance students' personal and social development through an emphasis on physical activity and personal health.

Personal Health (Personal, Social and Community Health) looks at contemporary issues including; Alcohol, Drugs, Smoking, Bushwalking and Relationships and Sexual Health, which confront adolescents and equips them with the knowledge and skills to make informed and effective lifestyle decisions.

Physical Activity components (Movement and Physical Activity) expose students to personal safety, leadership, group dynamics and personal management.

Assessment tasks consist of observation checklists for practical activities, classroom folio work, written assessments (Journal and Issues Analysis) and student presentations.

Additional Costs: Nil

MATHEMATICS

Subject Description: Mathematics is a full year of study structured around the strands:

- Number and Algebra
- Measurement and Geometry
- Statistics and Probability

Learning in Mathematics is an active process where students acquire and practise skills, whilst developing their understanding, fluency, problem solving and reasoning in the three strands. Learning is enhanced

by the use of appropriate technology; scientific and graphic calculators and computer software.
Topics covered include: Area & Volume; Percentage & Interest; Algebraic Expressions; Indices; Linear Equations; Similarity; Pythagoras & Trigonometry; Coordinate Geometry; Probability; Statistics; Non-Linear Relationships; Proportionality.
Selected students are able to undertake modified Mathematics programs, designed to support and extend their Mathematics learning.

Additional Costs: All students need a Scientific Calculator (approx. $25 from the Book Room). Students are also encouraged to take part in the Australian Mathematics Competition and the UNSW International Mathematics Competition, and other Maths related events as advertised throughout the year.

SCIENCE

Subject Description: Science is a full year of study structured around the disciplines:

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Earth Science

In Science students study the Australian Curriculum where they acquire knowledge and understanding of scientific concepts whilst exploring how and where they relate to everyday life. Students develop their inquiry skills and see how concepts, and related technologies, have been developed by scientists. Practical investigations allow students to discover or test theories by undertaking relevant experiments.

Topics covered in Year 9 Science: Inquiry Skills; The Atom; Important Materials; Reaction Types; Light and Sound; Electromagnetic Radiation; Electrical Energy; Body Coordination; Disease; Ecosystems; and Plate Tectonics.

Additional Costs: Students are encouraged to take part in the ICAS Competition and the RACI Chemistry Competition.

AGRICULTURE (Choice)

Subject Description: The choice semester is divided into three topics:

- Sheep and Wool Production
- Vineyard Management
- Plant Propagation

Students manage a small flock of sheep and develop skills in shearing and wool classing.
Vineyard Management covers the day-to-day management of a vineyard, including weed control, irrigation, harvest, pruning and disease control.

Students learn about various methods of plant propagation, including seed collection, growing from seed and cuttings. They also maintain the plant nursery and prepare plants for sale.

Various excursions are undertaken to expose students to best-practice occurring in the Riverland.

VISUAL ARTS – ART

Subject Description:

Students extend skills developed in Year 8 through the further investigation of

- Drawing (Graphite, Pastel, Colour Pencil Media study and techniques to build toward a major piece)
- Painting (Watercolour & Acrylic Media testing, B&W underpainting and major canvas piece)
- Relief Printing (Lino-printing)
- Ceramics (Pinch, coil, slab and hand sculpting techniques)
- Art Appreciation (Artists/movement study, linked to all units)
- Digital Design (using Photoshop for concept development)

Students study drawing, painting, printmaking and ceramics while learning key concepts and terminologies to enhance their Art appreciation. Composition, colour theory and painting techniques are taught to complete a major canvas painting. A study of Art works created by other cultures is also embedded into this course with a clay sculpture being produced to represent their understanding of form and how art can be used to express meaning.

VISUAL ARTS – ART/DESIGN

Subject Description:
Students extend upon the skills developed in Year 8 through the further investigation of

- Relief Printing (Lino-printing)
- Ceramics (creative ceramic construction of

a utilitarian device)

- Fashion Design (sports or couture design)
- Interior Design (dream bedroom design)
- Digital Design (using Photoshop and Illustrator for concept development and cartooning)

Art/Design seeks to expose students to the world of form and function, and how a product or concept is continuously improved upon/re-designed. Emphasis is placed upon developing lateral thinking, problem solving and visual communication.

COMPUTER APPLICATIONS

Subject Description: This computing subject is suitable for a range of students. It aims to improve students' skills in working with a number of different computer applications, applicable to many different work environments. Students will choose to study a number of modules from the following list:

- Keyboard Skills
- Internet and Email
- Intermediate Word Processing
- Spreadsheets
- Sketch-up
- PowerPoint
- Databases
- WHS

Students are assessed on an individual basis dependent on their understanding and skill ability in the chosen modules.

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY

Subject Description: This subject is suitable for students with an interest in coding and programming as a hobby or as a career-path. Students will study a number of modules from the following list:

- Components of a PC
- Network Infrastructure
- Coding
- a Programming Language (e.g. Javascript, Python, etc.)
- a project, such as a website, animation, app, etc.

Students are assessed on an individual basis as well as group tasks and projects.

PERFORMING ARTS – DRAMA

Subject Description: This one-semester subject is suitable for all students who would like to extend their Drama skills. The course starts with a review of the basic skills learned in Year 8 and then deepens and broadens those skills.

The course focuses on comedy and improvisation, with the following topics:

- Improvisation
- Theatre sports
- Comedy – physical & sitcom
- Melodrama and soap operas
- Street theatre
- Digital Technology in Multimedia performance for off-stage crew
- Opportunity to attend & review a live theatre performance

Additional Costs: Small costs for excursions and travelling performances, either at school or The Chaffey Theatre.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH PATHWAY

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is an enriching program which empowers young people to explore their potential by setting specific and individual goals, developing resilience, lifelong practical skills, initiative, organisation and perseverance by participating in structured activities in the following four sections.

- Physical Recreation (Boxercise)
- Skill Development (Peer teaching – students develop their leadership skills and confidence through teaching a skill (tyre changing, knot tying and everyday practical activities)
- Volunteering (Exposure to various community activities)
- Adventurous Journey (2 night camp) – (Develop camp craft skills and knowledge and opportunities to move outside their comfort zone)

This course allows students to work toward completing the Bronze Award.
Further information: www.dukeofed.com.au

Additional Costs: Two-night adventurous journey - $25 approx.

GERMAN

German at Year 9 is a one-semester course.

Subject Description: Students continue to learn to communicate in German, both orally and in writing. They also extend their knowledge of grammar and their cultural knowledge of the German-speaking countries. Topics may include but are not limited to: School, Sport, Clothing, Daily Routine, Talking about Free Time and Food.

Additional Information: Students are given the opportunity to enter the National German Film Competition.
Students who continue with German have the opportunity to participate in a student exchange program in Year 10/11.

Additional Costs: Possible excursion; approximate cost $25-$30.

HOME ECONOMICS

Subject Description: This is a composite course further developing students' experiences with Food and Textiles.

In the Food area, students reassess personal eating habits and prepare foods based on the recommendations from the Australian Guide to Healthy Eating and investigate dietary-related diseases. Students look at aspects of Food Technology through designing a food product, analysing food packaging and advertising.

In Textiles, students develop their sewing capabilities using a variety of technologies, including our computerised sewing machine and overlockers. Students will create a lanyard and a pair of boxer shorts. They also investigate ethical issues within the textile industry.

Additional Costs:
Food: Students are required to bring simple ingredients for weekly practicals to supplement the cost of recipes e.g. an egg – they are given one week's notice to assist with organisation at home. They are required to supply all of the ingredients for their assessment task.

Textiles: The fabric and lobster clasp are supplied for the lanyard, as well as fabric for technique samples. All thread is supplied by the Home Economics faculty. Students are required to purchase the elastic and fabric for their boxer shorts

PERFORMING ARTS – MUSIC

Subject Description:

Music-making: Students will be involved in the following areas, and will choose two from these three areas for assessment:

- Solo music-making
- Small band music-making
- Large ensemble music-making

Composition: Song-making or Soundtracks:

Students will choose between:

- Using technology and loops to create a soundtrack for either an animation or a video game.
- Creating songs using live instruments & then recording.

Studying and Playing the Greats:

- The world's greatest riffs and how to create music from riffs.

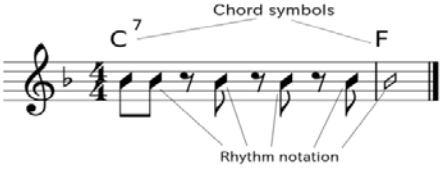
How Music works:

- The world of chord progressions
- Rock and Pop rhythms: how does rhythm work

Live performance: Students will have the opportunity to hear a live performance.

Additional Costs:

- Small costs for performances.
- Instrument hire if the students doesn't own the instrument being studied
- Instrumental lesson fees if private lessons are undertaken



Special Consideration and Information about Instrumental Tuition

• It is recommended that all students studying Music are learning an instrument from a recognised instrumental teacher.

• The school makes every effort to facilitate access to these lessons for students who select Music as part of the curriculum. Students who do not select Music as a subject will be ineligible for instrumental lessons offered by the Instrumental Music Service.
• Instrumental lessons are provided in the area of Brass, Woodwind, Guitar and Percussion. These lessons are provided by qualified teachers from the DECD Instrumental Music Service.
• Other options may include students arranging their own private tuition at their own expense. A number of private providers offer their services during school time.
Additional Costs: Optional personal music, own instrument or hire fee for instrument from a music rental firm. Some students may elect to have instrumental lessons from a private provider. Further information is available from the music teacher if required.

ROBOTICS

Subject Description: Students develop basic skills in many of the areas that work together to create robotic equipment. They learn about machines, programming, and problem solving strategies. All of this is combined into practical skills where students build and program their robot to perform a task.
As an integrated subject, Robotics delivers outcomes from across the Australian Curriculum in Science, Digital Technologies, and Design and Technology.

Additional Costs: May arise through excursions

SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY

Subject Description: Students undertake a module of Woodwork and Metalwork construction where complex joining techniques are incorporated into practical problem solving tasks and projects. With teacher direction and negotiation, students study a number of 'systems' based modules of work that will be selected from but not limited to – forming plastics, CADD drawing, Lego Robotics, machines and mechanics, pneumatics, hydraulics, 3D printing and aeronautics.

Additional Costs: Nil

TECHNOLOGY STUDIES

Studies in Design and Technology provide students with the opportunities to develop technological capabilities through planning, developing and refining design concepts, selecting appropriate materials, analysing and providing the correct information, carrying designs through systems to completion and appraising the outcome.

Subject Description: Students develop construction skills in the areas of Woodwork, Metalwork, Plastics and Systems. The focus of this unit is to introduce students to a range of equipment, machines and hand tools, including the latest production processes, e.g. 3D printing, that assist in construction. This unit of work culminates in the production of a carbon-dioxide (CO_2) powered vehicle incorporating the use of a wide range of materials, systems and Computer Aided Manufacturing techniques.

Additional Costs: Nil

PEDAL PRIX

Subject Description: This course is being offered for the first time as a combined Year 9/10 subject and will be offered to a limited number of students.
The Pedal Prix class is the development branch of Loxton High School's Pedal Prix program. This single semester subject runs in Semester 1, with a focus on assisting in preparations for the Blur Racing Team to compete in the Australian International Pedal Prix Series.
There is a huge advantage to riders who complete this course, but there is not an expectation on class members to be riders. Class members have the opportunity to take on roles such as managers, mechanics, technicians and support crew who are important members of our team. Students are able to choose an area of interest within the program on which to focus their individual development. Focus areas may include: Advertising and Marketing, Vehicle Construction and Design, Vehicle Maintenance, Data and Performance Analysis, Team Management aspects relating to race preparations, or other related areas by negotiation. Riding positions within the team are open to all students within the school. Anyone wishing to be considered for a riding position must actively involve themselves in an aerobic fitness program and document their progress in a fitness diary.

Extra Costs: Students may choose to purchase a team T-shirt, approximate cost $40