



**NAZARETH**  
COLLEGE

# **CURRICULUM & LEARNING PROGRAMS GUIDE**





# WELCOME

Nazareth College is an inclusive co-educational institution catering to students in Years 7 to 12. Our primary focus is on providing a comprehensive spiritual and educational experience. The college stands out in academic excellence, vocational training, and Applied Learning, tailoring its approach to meet individual needs through personalized learning.

Emphasising inclusivity, it is a school of opportunity, offering a diverse range of co-curricular and extra-curricular activities, encouraging students to actively participate and explore various interests.

A unique feature of the college is its Vertical Pastoral System, where students from Years 7 to 12 share a pastoral group for their whole high school experience, fostering a sense of familiarity and recognition among all students. Additionally, acceleration courses are available to challenge high-achieving students, allowing them to reach their full academic potential.

*In essence, Nazareth College is a community where every student is acknowledged and provided the opportunity to thrive.*

**Mr Sam Cosentino**  
PRINCIPAL





# THE EDUCATIONAL JOURNEY

Nazareth College recognises that every student has unique goals for the future and educational needs to reach those goals. Support is given to our students to ensure that the most appropriate pathway. A vital feature of the educational journey at Nazareth College is our approach to personalised learning. We offer a wide range of subject choices and abundant extra-curricular opportunities ensuring all students' needs are met.

In Years 10 to 12, students choose the pathway that best meets their needs. This includes VCE, VCE Vocational Major (VCE VM) and VET with support from our dedicated Careers and Pathways staff.



## Vertical Pastoral Groups

Our vertical Pastoral Groups allow for cross-age mentoring and provide greater consistency and support for students. Enabling students to connect with the same pastoral teacher and student cohort throughout their entire secondary schooling.





## YEARS 7 AND 8

### Accelerated Learning - Knowledge Stream

High achieving students in Maths and English are encouraged to participate in the Knowledge Stream in our new Learning Awareness Program for students in Years 7 and 8.

The Knowledge Stream is designed to meet the unique needs of exceptionally talented students by delivering challenging content that stimulates their abilities, fosters high-level achievements, and cultivates motivation to enhance their capabilities. This is accomplished through academic acceleration, offering comprehensive content, and nurturing higher-order thinking skills. Tailored for students with the skills, interests, and eagerness to face challenges, the Knowledge Stream provides a platform for continued acceleration in the upcoming years.

This stream caters for students who:

- Have data that reflects their high results via NAPLAN, PAT and previous reporting data
- Learn at a rapid rate and enjoy academic stimulation
- Are intellectually curious, ask questions and enjoy exploring topics in-depth
- Thrive on a new challenge and demonstrate good problem-solving skills
- Persevere when they encounter challenges and have independent study habits
- Pay attention to detail, and have an excellent memory.

Students have the opportunity to continue acceleration into VCE Units 1 & 2 in Year 10, VCE Units 3 & 4 in Year 11 and Tertiary studies in Year 12, by invitation.



## Learning Awareness Program

The Learning Awareness Program for Years 7 and 8 establishes a learning environment centered around student agency, collaboration, and partnership. The program is organised into three distinct learning streams: Faith (foundation), Wisdom (consolidation), and Knowledge (acceleration). Through one-on-one "Learning Conversations" before and after each topic, students engage with their teachers to determine the most suitable learning stream, as well as to review their progress and learning outcomes.

This customised approach enables us to address the varied needs of each student, tailoring the learning experience to their individual requirements. Students requiring additional support receive assistance to strengthen their foundational skills, while high-achieving students are challenged to expand and accelerate their learning.

## Science High Achiever Program

High achievers in Science are invited to be a part of the separate Accelerated Learning Science class. These classes undertake the Science curriculum at a faster pace, allowing for acceleration right through to VCE. Students also participate in STEM and Science-based extra-curricular activities.

## STEM

Year 7 and 8 students study various topics including Natural Resources, Forces, Body Systems and Energy. As part of these studies, they undertake a STEM project at each year level.

Students interested in STEM have the opportunity to participate in weekly lunchtime activities and opt into a multitude of extra-curricular clubs and competitions. The addition of more and new equipment this year will further enhance students' learning opportunities and provide more innovative learning outcomes, preparing our student for the future.

Some of the STEM Extra-Curricular activities:

- Environmental Club
- Coding & Design (3D Printing)
- Building Electronic Circuits
- Science Search Competition
- Science Olympiad
- Robotics Competitions
- Lego Club

Robotics elective at Year 9.

Mechatronics elective at Year 10.



# MIDDLE AND SENIOR YEARS

The curriculum at Nazareth offers students comprehensive and exciting study programs within a Catholic context. It is extensive, balanced and inclusive; aimed at developing a passion for lifelong learning.

## City Learning & Business Expo VCE Pathways

At Nazareth, we aim to provide more than just an academic education; we teach invaluable skills for life outside the classroom. Year 9 students gain valuable life skills through our “City Learning Days”. Students learn how to navigate the Melbourne metropolis and historical landmarks and explore art and cultural activities within Melbourne. These skills help build confident young individuals. Students use their newly acquired skills to develop, research and present a significant research project. Participating in our Small Business Expo, Year 9 students design, market, and present their businesses to peers, teachers, and families, with awards recognising the best businesses of the night.

## Work Experience

Work experience involves placing our students, typically in Year 10, in short-term positions with employers. This aims to offer insights into the industry and workplace setting.

This initiative provides students with the valuable chance to:

- cultivate employability skills
- explore potential career paths
- grasp employer expectations
- enhance self-understanding, maturity, independence, and self-confidence.

Selected students are invited to accelerate in a Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) subject beginning in Year 10. This helps high achievers to enhance their ATAR by completing six VCE Unit 3 and 4 study units.

Studying a VCE subject while in Year 10 provides more than an accelerated pathway or an additional subject. It can provide increased breadth of knowledge as well as an early insight into “what it takes” to be a successful student at the VCE level.

## Year 12 Study Centre

Brand new to the school is a new study centre for Year 12s to use during their spare study periods. This is silent supervised study with the aim to increase the study hours of our Year 12s while at school.



# DIFFERENTIATED LEARNING

Nazareth College prides itself on supporting and celebrating the unique and diverse talents of all our students. Our focus is on the individual needs and achievements of every student. Our differentiated Learning Program's key objective is to deliver a curriculum that provides learning opportunities for students to develop knowledge, understanding and demonstrate growth, whether it be through learning support or learning acceleration.

## STUDENT WELLBEING

Nazareth College is committed to developing resilient, respectful and responsible young individuals. Students are supported through our extensive Wellbeing program. Our Wellbeing team includes our Deputy Principal, a Director of Wellbeing, six Heads of House, School Psychologists and Counsellors, School First-Aid Officer, Careers Counsellor and Pastoral Teachers. Together, this team further cares for the social, emotional and safety needs of our students. We are committed to building and maintaining an engaging, positive learning environment where students feel safe and respected. Our emphasis on developing all aspects of a young person's life permeates and guides everything we do.

Through explicit teaching of social and emotional skills in our regular Pastoral classes, students learn how to:

- Think with flexibility and positivity
- Listen to and respect others
- Develop positive relationships
- Become emotionally resourceful
- Build self-regulation skills
- Establish short and long-term goals
- Communicate safely and respectfully
- Become more resilient by developing strategies to deal with adversity.

Additionally, Nazareth College provides students with a Wellbeing Centre, a calm, tranquil place where students can relax, unwind and find support when they most need it.

### Homework Club & Extra Curricular

Our Homework Club is available twice a week on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Tutors assist students that might need additional help outside of the classroom. Students from all year levels and subject areas are welcome. Homework club takes place in the Resource Centre, a tranquil space for productive study.

Other activities and clubs available to students include:

- Student Leadership Programs
- Student Action Team
- Creative Writing Competitions
- Book Club
- Camps
- Chess Club
- Choir
- Tutoring Club
- Art Club
- Debating
- Duke of Edinburgh Award
- Library Ambassadors
- Social Outreach Programs
- Building Bridges
- STEM Programs
- A Book in a Day Competition
- Performing Arts Competitions
- Teen Chef Competition
- Science Competitions
- Environmental Club
- Robotics / Lego Competitions
- E-Sports
- School Tour Ambassadors



# SPORTS SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE

This unique Program helps students bring the love of the game into their education. Students are challenged to grow their technical skills and confidence both on and off the field. Sport has a strong presence within Nazareth and our surrounding communities. As a result we offer Soccer, Basketball, Tennis, Volleyball and Aerobics in our Sports School of Excellence. The aim is to help talented student-athletes build and sharpen their skills while assisting them to further their education and vocational development. Our elite level, specialised coaches, address the PE curriculum's theoretical elements, whilst practical classes are based on skill acquisition and game training phases for each sport represented in the Program. These lessons are mainly for Years 7 - 8, and sometimes 9 & 10, and are offered before and after school times.

## Annual Sports Carnivals

- Swimming
- Cross Country
- Athletics.

## Southern Independent School Competition

Nazareth College is proud of its reputation as a talented and competitive member of the SIS competition. Students are encouraged to develop and utilise their sporting and creative talents to represent the College in a range of competitive sports, academic and artistic pursuits within the College community and through inter-school SIS competitions.

## SIS Sport & Extra-Curricular Activities:

- Basketball
- Indoor Cricket
- Football (AFL)
- Handball
- Netball
- Table Tennis
- Tennis
- Soccer
- Volleyball
- Theatre Sports
- Teen Chef
- Chess
- Debating
- Book In A Day
- Art & Technology Exhibitions
- Performing Arts Concert







# INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM

Our College is proud to welcome International Students into our learning community and has successfully established a thriving International Program. Students accepted into the Program are matched with a local homestay family which provides a comfortable and nurturing environment during their education at the College. Our International Team oversees all International students' smooth transition into their studies within the Nazareth learning community and assists with the provision of support services for all International Students.

The College Wellbeing Team is also available to help work through any issues of concern to the students and work in close contact with the International Team. The College maintains regular contact with each student's family overseas to keep parents fully informed and updated regarding students' academic progress and overall wellbeing.



International Student  
of the Year, 2023

# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

LEARNING AREA	YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9
Religious Education	Religious Education #	Religious Education #	Religious Education #
English	English #	English #	English # Literature <i>elective</i>
Mathematics	Mathematics #	Mathematics #	Mathematics # Mathematics <i>elective</i> "Connection in Maths"
Health and Physical Education	Health and Physical Education #	Health and Physical Education #	Health and Physical Education # <i>or</i> Year 9 Soccer Education # <i>or</i> Year 9 Basketball Education # <i>or</i> Year 9 Volleyball Education
Science	Science #	Science #	Science #
Humanities	Humanities # - Civics & Citizenship - Economics - Geography - History	Humanities # - Civics & Citizenship - Economics - Geography - History	Humanities # - Civics & Citizenship - Economics - Geography - History
Languages	Italian # <i>or</i> Japanese #	Italian # <i>or</i> Japanese #	Italian # <i>or</i> Japanese #
The Arts	Art * Music *	Visual Communication Drama * <i>or</i> Music *	Dance Digital Art Drama Media Music Visual Art Visual Communication
Technology Studies	Information Technology * Textiles Technology *	Food Technology * Wood Technology *	Food Technology Information Technology Robotics Design & Technologies Textiles Technology Wood Technology Learning about Learning
Elective Subjects	N/A	N/A	<b>CHOOSE 6 ELECTIVE UNITS (INCLUDING A LANGUAGE WHICH IS 2 UNITS) from:</b> The Arts, Technology, Languages, Health & Physical Education and Literature. (Each elective is for one semester's duration).

# CORE

\* 1 UNIT OF EACH AT THIS YEAR LEVEL



LEARNING AREA	YEAR 10	YEAR 11 (VCE UNITS 1 & 2)	YEAR 12 (VCE UNITS 3 & 4)
<b>Religious Education</b>	Religious Education <i>or</i> Youth Ministry	VCE Religion & Society <i>or</i> Youth Ministry (CSYMI /ACU Youth Academy)	VCE Religion & Society <i>or</i> Religious Education <i>or</i> Youth Ministry (CSYMI/ ACU Youth Academy)
<b>English</b>	# <i>One of:</i> English EAL English Advanced English Foundation English	# <i>One or more of:</i> VCE English VCE EAL English VCE Literature VCE English Language	<i>One or more of:</i> VCE English VCE EAL English VCE Literature VCE English Language
<b>Mathematics</b>	# <i>One of:</i> Mathematics Advanced Mathematics Mathematics – Foundation	VCE Foundation Mathematics VCE General Mathematics VCE Mathematical Methods VCE Specialist Mathematics	VCE General Mathematics VCE Mathematical Methods VCE Specialist Mathematics
<b>Health and Physical Education</b>	# <i>One or more of:</i> Health and Physical Education Sports Science Health Education Outdoor and Environmental Studies	VCE Health & Human Development VCE Physical Education VCE Outdoor & Environmental Studies	VCE Health & Human Development VCE Physical Education
<b>Science</b>	Core Science ( <i>every student</i> ) Plus ( <i>optional</i> ) Life within us (Biology) Environmental Chemistry (Chemistry or Environmental Science) Mission to Mars (Physics)	VCE Biology VCE Chemistry VCE Environmental Science VCE Physics VCE Psychology	VCE Biology VCE Chemistry VCE Environmental Science VCE Physics VCE Psychology
<b>Languages</b>	Chinese (First Language) Italian - Language & Culture Italian - Prerequisite for VCE Italian Japanese (Second Language)	VCE Chinese (First Language) VCE Italian VCE Japanese (Second Language)	VCE Chinese (First Language) VCE Italian VCE Japanese (Second Language)
<b>Humanities</b>	# <i>One or more of:</i> Law and Order Business and Enterprise History Global Economics and Finance Geography	VCE Accounting VCE Business Management VCE Economics VCE Legal Studies VCE Modern History VCE Geography	VCE Accounting VCE Business Management VCE Economics VCE Legal Studies VCE History: Revolutions
<b>The Visual Arts</b>	Media Art Making and Exhibiting Visual Communication Design	VCE Media VCE Art Making and Exhibiting VCE Visual Communication Design	VCE Media VCE Art Making and Exhibiting VCE Visual Communication Design
<b>The Performing Arts</b>	Drama & Theatre Studies Dance Music	VCE Theatre Studies VET Dance II VET Music Certificate II	VCE Theatre Studies VET Dance III VET Music Certificate III
<b>Technology Studies</b>	Food Studies Information Technology Wood Technology Design & Technologies Textiles Technology	VCE Food Studies VCE Applied Computing VCE Product Design & Technology: Wood VCE Product Design & Technology: Textiles	VCE Food Studies VCE Applied Computing Data Analytics VCE Product Design & Technology: Wood VCE Product Design & Technology: Textiles
<b>Elective Subjects</b>	<b>CHOOSE 8 ELECTIVE UNITS</b> (including 1 from each of Humanities, Health & PE and Science)	<b>CHOOSE 14 SEMESTER UNITS</b> (including 2 from English and RE)	<b>CHOOSE 12 SEMESTER UNITS</b> (including 2 from each of English and RE)

#### VET in VCE Courses

These courses are all off-campus

For a full listing of the wide range of VET courses available to

Nazareth College students, please see the Nazareth College website.



# THE ARTS & TECHNOLOGY STUDIES

At Nazareth we are very proud of our offering in The Arts and Technology Studies. You can see the full range of subjects available on the Curriculum overview on pages 10-11.

## Technology Studies

This learning area at the College is bursting at seam with opportunities for our students.

In the junior years our students partake in Textile, Food, Wood and Information Technology Subjects.

In the Senior years the options get more varied branching into Robotics, Mechatronics, Game Development and Design & Technologies.

Our brand new Maker Space is dedicated to some of these subjects.

Food Technology and Product Design & Technology (Textile or Wood ) are also offered - and very popular - in VCE.

## The Arts

Encompassing disciplines like Music, Visual Communications, Drama, Media, and various Art subjects, our dedicated teachers and specialised workspaces provide students with a unique environment to learn and take pride in their work within these subjects.

We have dedicated Art, Visual Communications, Music, Dance and Media spaces. Including a brand new media room with Green Screen room and podcast / recording studio. Our performing arts students utilise the amazing facilities in the Auditorium, which caters for dance, drama, music and much more.

Our annual Arts and Technology Showcase event allows parents to view and experience students' achievements within the technology's subjects.





## Information Technology

In Information Technology studies, students are provided with the opportunity to explore specialist subjects while also providing various ways of communicating information. The school has well-equipped computer laboratories and a Resource Centre where students develop the ability to follow the creative process of planning, designing and producing an idea from conception to implementation innovatively and efficiently using Problem Solving Methodology techniques.

## BYOD Program

Our Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program requires all students to have laptops compatible with the College's IT infrastructure. Laptop devices are used across all year levels in all classes.





# APPLIED LEARNING

## VCE Vocational Major (VCE VM)

VCE Vocational Major (formerly VCAL) aims to provide students with the skills, knowledge and attitudes needed to make choices regarding pathways to work and further education. The VCE VM program is ideal for students who desire to enter a trade, gain an apprenticeship, or complete TAFE certificates for further education. VCE VM can begin for students commencing with our Year 10 LEAP Program which offer students a first introduction to a TAFE VET course. Additionally, the LEAP curriculum also focuses on Personal Development Skills as well as Work-Related Skills.

Personal development and community service are strengthened by the varied partnerships we have within our local community (SCOPE's Balloon Football League, Vinnies Op Shop, St Anthony's Tutoring Program and assisting in our local feeder Primary Schools and surrounding businesses. Our VCE VM students become independent learners, build-essential teamwork skills and learn the importance of taking initiative within their future workplace settings.

## Vocational Education Training

Vocational Education and Training (VET) courses can form part of a student's timetable within the VCE or VCE VM Pathways. These are undertaken at local TAFEs and other Registered Training Organisations and offer an extensive range of subjects and industries from which students can choose.

In 2024 we are fortunate to be running VET Music, Salon Assistance and Business studies on campus at Nazareth College.

## Visual Arts

Our students develop perceptual and conceptual understanding, critical reasoning and practical skills. This is achieved through exploring and expanding knowledge of their world and creatively responding through:

- Art
- Media Studies
- Studio Arts
- Visual Communication & Design.

Students engage with and develop knowledge of visual arts skills, techniques and processes, and use materials to explore a range of forms, styles and contexts. At Nazareth, students learn to reflect critically on their own experiences and responses to outside work and develop their Arts knowledge. They learn to express and communicate.





## Performing Arts

At Nazareth College, every student can learn an instrument. We offer individual, paired and group lessons with specialised instrumental tutors to enhance musical knowledge. Lessons are in a variety of orchestral instruments, piano, guitar and voice. Students are also encouraged to join a musical ensemble lead by our Music tutors.

The expansion of our Performing Arts Learning Area continues to evolve to include a variety of choices for students.

Students attend classes in Music, Drama and Dance. These classes can lead to the opportunity to obtain a Certificate III in Music Industry (Performance) and Certificate II in Dance in students' senior years at the College. VCE Theatre Studies is also available for students to study in Year 11 and 12.

Students in our Instrumental Program attend weekly rehearsals before and after school refining and perfecting their music, acting, and dance skills. Students prepare for musical productions, plays, music concerts, and combined performances that highlight the best work in all fields during rehearsals.

We currently offer the following ensembles:

- Liturgy Band
- String Ensemble
- Jazz Band

Many activities on offer encourage students to learn the skills necessary to entertain audiences

in the various art forms. Activities include evening and day concerts, external performance opportunities, music camp, school partnerships and community work throughout the year.

## VET Music Industry and Performance Dance

Our students are fortunate to have the opportunity to undertake a VET Certificate III Music Industry Performance course at Nazareth. This certificate offers students interested in music the opportunity to develop their musicianship and stagecraft skills in a dedicated performance auditorium and professional recording studio. Students hone their performance skills and stage presence to deliver effective and exciting musical presentations.

## Vet Dance

Students electing to study Certificate II in Dance must possess a passion for dance and a strong dancing capacity. It is recommended that students have at least 3-4 years of formal dance training before studying this subject. They must be prepared to undertake regular individual practice. Group and solo performances are compulsory components of this course and include evening concerts.

Certificate II in Dance is a two-year program that will provide students with the technical and performance skills to establish a career in the entertainment industry. Students will learn the necessary knowledge and skills to participate in a variety of dance routines.





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