

Curriculum 2018 Overview

Philosophy

The academic curriculum at Loreto is characterised by breadth and depth in its subject offerings.

In Years 7 – 10, students study a wide range of disciplines, some as core and others as electives. In the senior years both Queensland Curriculum & Assessment Authority subjects and Authority-Registered subjects are offered. The curriculum offerings are regularly reviewed to ensure their appropriateness and their contemporary relevance.

Student learning is enhanced through the use of a variety of teaching methods and learning experiences and the provision of a broad range of resources, including a student laptop program. Classes are not streamed and Learning Enrichment and Support staff provide extension opportunities or extra assistance for students as required. Each student is encouraged to do her best in an atmosphere where academic excellence is valued and love of learning nurtured. An Enrichment Program is provided in the senior years that complements the academic curriculum and includes elements such as community service and work readiness.

Loreto uses pedagogies and technologies appropriate for the 21st century. We aim to maximise the flexibility and creativity of the learning environment thus ensuring Loreto students are able to participate effectively in their complex and ever changing world. The Loreto Teaching & Learning Framework provides the foundation for curriculum and pedagogy at the College.

Increasing Choice

As students move through their years in secondary schooling, they have increasing choice regarding the subjects they study. Prior to commencement, students are able to choose which two of four Languages other than English they wish to study in Year 7. They then make a further choice of one Language for Year 8. All their other subjects are 'core' or compulsory.

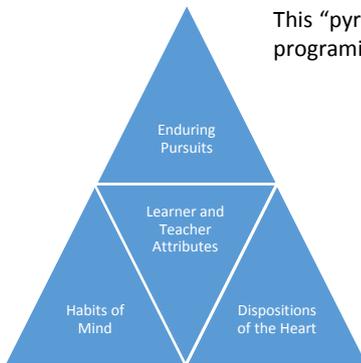
In Years 9 and 10, the core curriculum is reduced and girls are also able to select from a number of elective subjects based on their interests and talents. Students select three year-long elective subjects for Year 9 and up to six semester-long electives or a combination of year-long and semester-long electives for Year 10. This curriculum structure is designed to allow students to try a wide range of subjects before they make decisions regarding the subjects they wish to study in Years 11 and 12.

While maintaining a comprehensive and engaging core curriculum, the need for variety and for individuals to be able to discover and develop their own talents and interests is recognized through the provision wide range of electives. Through their elective subjects, students will develop specific practical and cognitive skills as well as gaining insight into themselves and their particular interests and preferences.

LORETO'S TEACHING AND LEARNING FRAMEWORK

By its nature, Catholic education regularly adapts to the changing contexts and needs of students who live in a pluralistic society to nurture their development and growth towards life full of meaning and witness to Christian living.

We want students and teachers to experience Loreto as a place of joy, beauty, kindness, goodness, peace, love and laughter; a place of welcome and belonging; a place of giving and sharing; a place of nourishment and challenge; a place where the achievements of all are encouraged and celebrated without envy; a place that enriches, offers broad experiences, develops potential and engenders a passion for learning.



This “pyramid” represents the framework to guide and assist us in our teaching and learning, planning, programming, pedagogical choices, assessment and delivery.

The **Habits of Mind, Learning and Thinking Attributes** and our **Dispositions of the Heart** are the critical means by which we seek to develop, nurture and encourage a *culture of thinking*. These three key dimensions form the foundation of our teaching and learning framework leading us to educate for deeper understanding, greater wisdom and compassion through an emphasis across the entire curriculum on the life-long importance of the **Enduring Pursuits**. When young women leave this College, we want them to be discerning and to value reflection, silence and beauty. We want this so that they can confidently transcend society’s stereotypes and respond to the demands of their world with courage and authenticity.

Learner and Teacher Attributes:

- Curious
- Open-Minded
- Independent
- Reflective
- Resilient
- Self-Managing
- Committed
- Tenacious
- Flexible
- Collaborative
- Discerning
- Spiritual
- Inclusive
- Leading

At Loreto we are all called to “be seekers of Truth”. Our culture of thinking promotes a search for deeper understanding in order that we might come closer to truth.

When using these learning and thinking attributes and habits of mind we encourage critical thinking, openness to learning and holistic development: all so essential in the quest for understanding, truth and wisdom.

“The overarching focus of curriculum in Catholic schools is to empower learners to enrich the quality of life in the community by living out the Gospel of Jesus the Christ.”
Queensland Catholic Schools and Curriculum

Dispositions of the Heart:

- Care, compassion and **Justice**
- **Verity**, trust and respect
- **Felicity**, optimism and joy
- Integrity, **Sincerity** and forgiveness
- **Freedom**, faith and love

Professor Olatunde (Art) S. Costa defines the “Habits of Mind” as the dispositions skillfully and mindfully displayed by characteristically intelligent people when confronted with problems the solutions to which are not immediately apparent. The Habits of Mind are not thinking tools; rather they are dispositions that incline one to adopt thinking strategies that lead to deeper understanding.

Habits of Mind:

- Persisting
- Communicating with clarity and precision
- Managing impulsivity
- Gathering data through all senses
- Listening with understanding and empathy
- Creating, imagining, innovating
- Thinking flexibly
- Responding with wonderment and awe
- Metacognition
- Taking responsible risks
- Striving for greater accuracy and precision
- Finding humour
- Questioning and problem posing
- Thinking interdependently
- Applying past knowledge to new situations
- Remaining open to continuous learning

God’s presence amongst us makes each moment and each experience holy. At Loreto we seek to embrace each moment and to do so with grateful hearts. To see holiness, God’s presence, in the ordinary and the extraordinary is to be utterly present and open to the awe and wonder of life and creation. This holy disposition promotes a love of self, a love of others and a love of all things: it gives rise to **Felicity** and promotes inner **Freedom**; it demands that we act with **Sincerity** and that we strive for **Verity**; and it compels us to seek **Justice** in all its forms. These are the five imperatives of a Loreto education. They guide us and define us.

Enduring Pursuits:

- Connectedness and Spirituality
- Right Relationships
- Wellness
- Excellence
- Service and Empowerment

We celebrate the mystery that exists in the miracle of life, creation and all things and thus seek to better understand our **connectedness** and our **spirituality**.

For the love of our world and its future, we seek to pursue **right relationships** with, and the **wellness** of all beings, all things, and all creation.

In so doing, we seek to use our God given talents in the pursuit of **excellence** and in the loving and responsible **service and empowerment** of all.

CURRICULUM 2018

<p style="text-align: center;">YEAR 7</p> <p>All students study the following subjects:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DIGITAL & DESIGN TECHNOLOGIES ENGLISH HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION MATHEMATICS RELIGION SCIENCE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ART (1 semester) DRAMA (1 semester) GEOGRAPHY (1 semester) HISTORY (1 semester) FOOD & TEXTILE TECHNOLOGY (1 semester) MUSIC (1 semester) LANGUAGE STUDIES: CHINESE, FRENCH, GERMAN, JAPANESE (Students choose <u>two</u> of the above and each of the chosen languages will be studied for one semester.)</p> <p>Students are not grouped in any subject according to ability</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">YEAR 8</p> <p>All students study the following subjects:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DIGITAL & DESIGN TECHNOLOGIES ENGLISH HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION MATHEMATICS RELIGION SCIENCE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ART (1 semester) DRAMA (1 semester) GEOGRAPHY (1 semester) HISTORY (1 semester) FOOD & TEXTILE TECHNOLOGY (1 semester) MUSIC (1 semester) LANGUAGE STUDIES: CHINESE, FRENCH, GERMAN, JAPANESE (Students choose <u>one</u> of the above languages and this will be studied for two semesters.)</p> <p>Students are not grouped in any subject according to ability.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">YEAR 9</p> <p>All students study the following CORE subjects:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ENGLISH GEOGRAPHY HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION HISTORY MATHEMATICS (Foundation or Advanced) RELIGION SCIENCE</p> <p>In addition, <u>THREE</u> year-long ELECTIVES are taken from the following options:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ART BUSINESS DIGITAL & DESIGN TECHNOLOGIES DRAMA FOOD & TEXTILE TECHNOLOGY LANGUAGES (CHINESE, FRENCH, GERMAN or JAPANESE) LITERACY & NUMERACY ENRICHMENT MUSIC</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">YEAR 10</p> <p>All students study the following CORE subjects:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ENGLISH HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION HISTORY MATHEMATICS (Foundation or Advanced) RELIGION SCIENCE (Foundation or Advanced)</p> <p>In addition, up to <u>SIX</u> semester-long ELECTIVES or a combination of semester-long and year-long ELECTIVES are taken from the following options:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ART * ART — Digital Photography - Capture Life ART — Studio Art - Beyond the Boundaries BUSINESS * BUSINESS — Law and Citizenship BUSINESS — Markets and the Economy DIGITAL & DESIGN TECHNOLOGIES DRAMA — Student-devised Issues Based Drama DRAMA — Australian Gothic Theatre GEOGRAPHY — The Geographies of Human Well-being GEOGRAPHY — Environmental Change and Management GRAPHIC DESIGN FOOD & TEXTILE TECHNOLOGY - Eating Around the Globe - You the Chef - Beach Culture and Teen Fashion - Designing for Interiors LANGUAGES — French / German / Japanese / Chinese * LITERACY AND NUMERACY ENRICHMENT * MUSIC * THE BIG HISTORY PROJECT * (* Year-long Electives)</p> <p>NB Languages and Music are prerequisites for the study of related subjects</p>

YEAR 11 & YEAR 12

In Years 11 and 12, students choose SIX or SEVEN subjects from the following list of Authority and Authority-Registered/VET subjects.

At least the equivalent of five Authority subjects (or 20 semester units) at Year 11 and 12 level are required for an Overall Position (OP).

Authority subjects have the following characteristics:

- The syllabus for the subject has been written by the QCAA
- The school work program has been accredited by the QCAA
- The assessments of student achievement are certified by the QCAA

These subjects appear on the Queensland Certificate of Education and will be considered in the calculation of Tertiary Entrance requirements.

Authority-registered subjects have the following characteristics:

- Are developed from Study Area Specifications
- Not used in the calculation of OPs and FPs
- Include substantial vocational and practical components

Vocational (VET) courses deliver workplace skills and are offered in partnership with a Registered Training Organization (RTO). Students must choose an English subject, a Mathematics subject and either Study of Religion or Religion & Ethics. All students participate in Core Physical Education.

AUTHORITY SUBJECTS

Accounting
Ancient History
Biology
Chemistry
Drama
Economics
English
English Extension
French / German / Japanese
Geography
Graphics
Health Education
Home Economics
Information Processing & Technology
Legal Studies
Mathematics A
Mathematics B
Mathematics C
Modern History
Music
Music Extension
Physical Education
Physics
Study of Religion
Visual Art

AUTHORITY-REGISTERED SUBJECTS

English Communication
Fashion
Hospitality Studies
Information & Communications Technology Studies
Prevocational Mathematics
Religion & Ethics
Visual Arts in Practice

VET CERTIFICATE

Certificate III in Fitness
Certificate III in Business