The Year 8 program offers students access to a range of curriculum areas that will enable them to make informed choices when deciding on future pathways. As part of their program students may select one elective subject from those listed below.

Physical Education and Music are offered as compulsory components of the Year 8 core program as well as in the elective block. Languages are only offered in the elective block. If students do not select a Language they will not study this area in Year 8.

Warrior Cultures

In this unit, students will learn about warriors throughout history, such as Vikings and Samurai. Students will engage in a variety of projects where they will explore and compare the different weapons, armour and fighting style from all over the world. They will consider different roles the warriors played in their societies, the causes and effects of historical events on their cultures and the achievements of significant individuals or groups.

Invaders and Conquerors

In this unit students will look at four great societies and their conquests. This unit will answer questions like:

Ancient Greece: How did 300 Spartans stop an army of 250,000 Persians? What was life like in Athens? Why were Spartan women treated so much better than other women at the time?

Ancient Rome: How did a small Italian village conquer a quarter of the world and a third of its population? Why did they build the largest sports stadium the world has ever seen? Why do we still use Roman roads, law and language today?

The Vikings: How did the conquerors from the north invade places from Kyiv in Ukraine to Nova Scotia in Canada? What was special about Viking gods like Odin, Thor and Loki?

The Japanese Shoguns: What was life like under the Shoguns? Why did the Shoguns stop all contact with the outside world? Who were the Geisha women? What was Bushido (the way of the warrior)?

Language- Italian

Students will study aspects of the Italian language and culture. Emphasis will be placed on developing students' understanding of culture through a variety of learning activities and excursions. Students will gain insight into the Italian food culture and have the opportunity to create their own food items using authentic Italian ingredients. Students will be able to develop a more advanced knowledge of the language to ensure they can develop their communicating, listening, reading and writing skills in another language. This language development will be most beneficial should they choose to attend the Italy Study Tour in Year 9 or 10.

Language- Indonesian

Students will study aspects of Indonesian language and culture. Emphasis will be placed on developing students' writing, reading, listening and speaking skills in Indonesian. More emphasis will be placed in grammatical concepts and communicative tasks in this language. Students will have the opportunity to participate in excursions. Students who continue Indonesian studies into Year 9 will be offered the opportunity to participate in the Victorian Young Leaders to Indonesia Program. Participants will take part in a sixweek language and cultural immersion program, designed to prepare them to live and work as citizens and future leaders in an increasingly interconnected global community.

Lowanna Sports Academy

The Lowanna Sports Academy is committed to providing students with the highest quality specialised sports program including high quality coaching with excellent facilities and equipment available. As the only school-based sporting and academic development program in Gippsland, we are offering students elite coaching and training during school hours while delivering a complete Secondary School curriculum.

We have partnerships with Gippsland Power (Football) and Gippsland United (Basketball), which ensures the quality and provides additional resources for the program. These partnerships complement our program whilst improving sporting pathways for talented student athletes.

Within the program students will complete individual/team skill coaching, skill game analysis, fitness testing, strength and conditioning and game strategies. **Cost** - There is a **\$400** charge for this elective which will cover sports specific coaching, excursions, equipment, nutrition consults and guest speakers.

Selection - Selection to this program is based around sporting attributes and ability, academic effort and achievement, and student behaviour and attitude.

Music Excellence Program

This unit was designed to focus on performance and musicianship skills. Students perform a range of selected work in class band or student-centered small groups using a range of instruments available in the class. Students study the elements of music related to the selected works and develop a skill set that will allow them to execute the skills to perform the selected work/s. They will develop specific instrument techniques and stylistic understanding in the preparation and presentation of the selected works. They will develop aural, theory and analytical skills relevant to their year level and will be able to apply knowledge to their performances.



Year 8 Subject Selection

Technology Materials

In this unit students will learn and undertake the steps of the technology process to research, design, produce and evaluate a number of projects that relate to Wood, Metal, and Electrical Systems. Students will undertake theoretical work on their computer using OneNote while being responsible for managing their learning along with the safe use of hand tools, machinery, and other equipment.



Technology - Computing

In this unit students will continue to develop their basic computer skills. Students will work individually and in groups to develop understanding of safe practices online, hardware and software components of a network, and learn the basic skills required to succeed in their schooling.

Students will complete work on their laptops, using OneNote, as well as using different specific software for targeted learning, including block based and more advanced coding languages. Students will also look at data analysis, how it can be used and how to manipulate data.

Music

This course was designed to focus on music styles of Blues, Rap and Rock. Students will develop skills in composition, performance and musicianship. Students perform a range of selected work in class band using a range of instruments available in the class. Students study the selected styles of music and complete a range of analysis of stylistic elements. They will develop specific instrument techniques and stylistic understanding in the preparation and presentation of the selected works. They will develop aural, theory and analytical skills relevant to their year level and will be able to apply knowledge to their performances.



Art

Year 8 Art is a year long course where students will explore and experiment with the materials and techniques in the artforms of Drawing, Painting and Visual Communication. Students will explore the subject of Portraiture in the Drawing Unit and Landscape in the Painting Unit. Additionally, students will explore an individual theme by researching and developing ideas to produce a final artwork of their choice following the Creative Practice in the final unit of the course. Students will learn to respond and interpret a variety of historical and contemporary artwork in written and collaborative verbal discussions. Students will reflect on visual exercises in their folio as well as final artworks.





Food Studies

Year 8 Food Studies is a year-long elective subject.

In semester one, students will study aspects of nutrition and the Australian Guide to Healthy Eating, while also learning about the sensory properties of different foods. Students learn about the sustainability of some food industries, how they thrive in a changing world and the effect they have on the environment.

In semester two, students will study the design process, and analyse a design brief to solve a problem through the production of a food item. They will study food marketing and labelling, and the cultural influences that impact food production and choices. They will also learn about contemporary food issues, and how these are influenced by migration, technology, production processes and social trends. Throughout the year, students will learn technical skills and vocabulary through their food production tasks. A range of common assessment tasks will be used to assess progress in this subject throughout the year.

