



2026 SUBJECT SELECTION YEAR 8



Compulsory Subjects

Art
Drama
Education Outdoors
English
Health
Humanities
Health and Physical Education
Languages - all students must do a full year of either Chinese, French or Japanese unless they are recommended for Learning Development
Mathematics
Music
Science

Elective Subjects

Electives are arranged on a semester basis on two optional lines. Subjects will only be offered if a sufficient number of students opt for them. If students wish to study two languages (Chinese, French, Japanese) they will do so for **both** semesters.

Other options are selected for one semester only and **may only be selected once** by any student unless otherwise indicated.

Selecting your subjects for 2026

Students will select elective subjects online via the log in sent to the email of parents.

Students should ensure that they research their preferences by speaking with Heads of Department, subject teachers and other students. They can also speak with Mrs Oates Pryor or Ms Lillywhite.

Elective preferences are due to be made by **Friday 5 September**. These are not allocated on a 'first in' basis, but allocated holistically looking at the preferences of the whole student cohort.



Home Learning statement

The College encourages students to take responsibility for their learning and to see their learning as continuous, not ending at the conclusion of each lesson or each day.

We also recognise that the work habits, lifestyles, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities of each student play an enormous factor in determining when they may have time for learning at home and so, with the support of families and key teachers, students should plan to ensure that they have time for ongoing learning across all of their subjects each week, whilst also considering these activities.

All learners have different capacities and needs and at different stages they will require more or less direction regarding what ongoing learning may be appropriate for them. In recognition of this **the College supports a guideline of up to 60min of Home Learning per night for Year 8 students.**

Middle School teachers will direct students to write Home Learning tasks in their planner and also post these tasks on the Dash via the 'Tasks' tab.



Languages Subjects (Full Year)

Languages

Head of Department – Mrs Hayley McLeod

hayley.mcleod@soc.tas.edu.au

Year 8 French (Year 7 French recommended)

Bonjour! From chic to Champs-Élysées, from patisserie to Le Tour de France and from d'Entrecasteaux to impressionism, French culture has influenced the whole world with its fashion, art, food, history and language. It is spoken by over 300 million people, is an official language in 29 countries and a key working language of the UN and the European Union. In Year 8, students will develop linguistic proficiency through equal emphasis on the four macro-skills: listening, speaking, reading comprehension and writing. Although the focus is primarily on building vocabulary, the study of grammatical concepts will be extended. Emphasis is placed on developing linguistic mastery of various themes, through engaging students in active use of the language. In class, French culture will be explored through activities like cooking, role-play, games and songs.

Learner Attribute focus: Effective Communication & Curious

Year 8 Japanese (Year 7 Japanese recommended)



This full year course enables students to develop their skills in Japanese by extending their previously learned vocabulary, kanji and sentence patterns. The main script focus will be that of katakana, which is used for foreign words borrowed into the Japanese language. Students can explore the culture and contemporary lifestyles of Japan through food, sport, leisure activities, hobbies and school life. They are encouraged to be aware of cultural differences and draw comparisons with their own culture. The accumulation of language and cultural awareness provides students with sufficient skills to confidently undertake a trip to Japan in future years and put their knowledge into practice.

Learner Attribute focus: Effective Communication & Curious

Year 8 Chinese (Year 7 Chinese recommended)

Building on the content of Year 7 Chinese, this full year Year 8 course enables students to deepen their understanding and usage of spoken and written Chinese (Mandarin). Students will experience using the language in the context of real-life situations, including through topics such as family life, animals and pets, travel, sports, and school life. Students will explore and develop knowledge of cultures and countries influenced by Chinese, and Chinese speaking communities, where students will have a chance to put their language skills to use, ordering meals and asking questions of local shopkeepers, along with a visit to a Chinese Museum exhibition.



Learner Attribute focus: Effective Communication & Curious

Elective Subjects (Semester long)

Humanities and Social Science

Head of Department – Ms Katy McGuinness
katy.mcguinness@soc.tas.edu.au

Money Smart

This course will provide essential knowledge and skills to enable students to become 'money smart'. This semester-based course aims to give students a strong start in earning, saving and spending money. Possible areas of study include Earning - Why individuals work, types of work and how people derive an income; Saving - How to manage and control your earnings, through analysing different saving options; Spending - Preparing students for spending wisely and managing debt and credit in a competitive global environment. Students will experience a range of learning approaches such as case studies, inquiry-based learning, interactive web-based activities and guest speakers to enhance their level of understanding. There will be a strong focus on the Learner Attribute of Curious in this elective, as students are encouraged to learn beyond the surface content and apply their understanding across different contexts.

Creative Design Industries (CDI)

Head of Department – Mr Stephen Dobson stephen.dobson@soc.tas.edu.au

Applied Technology

Year 8 Applied Technology

Students in this course will be exposed to a safe and dynamic design environment. They will be shown new processes and traditional techniques and have the opportunity to experiment with various materials.



This will build upon their understanding and learning gained in Year 7. During the course, students will be encouraged to use the design process to add their own personalised design elements to their projects using traditional hand skills and emerging CNC technologies. Over this semester-based course, students will produce a personal design folio that will display their skills in graphic communication and understanding of the design process. This elective encourages a hands on insight into the world of design through both a folio and practical work. Being Innovative will be the Learner Attribute focus in this course as students will use innovative thinking to develop unique concepts and experiment with new materials, techniques, and processes to express original ideas in creative ways.

Year 8 Computer Applications: The Ultimate Tech Adventure!

Get ready for an exciting journey into the world of technology! In this course, you'll dive into the fascinating world of computer science, where learning is all about fun, creativity, and hands-on experience. You will explore how computers work, uncover the secrets of network security, and even get a taste of cyber security through ethical hacking!

But that's not all! You'll also learn programming with the Microbit, a tiny yet powerful gadget that lets you bring your ideas to life. Team up with the Maqueen robot and see how coding can make your creations move and groove.

This course will boost your ICT skills and spark your imagination, so if you are ready to explore, create, and have a blast while learning, Year 8 Computer Applications is the course for you. Being Innovative will be the Learner Attribute focus in this course as students demonstrate innovative thinking by developing creative digital solutions, exploring new technologies, and applying original ideas to design and improve digital systems or applications.

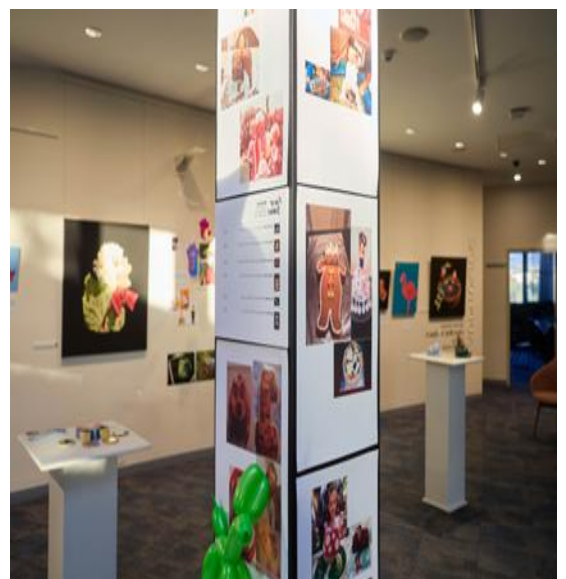
Learning in DigiTech

Learning in DigiTech focuses on developing understanding and skills in computational thinking such as decomposing problems and prototyping; and engaging students with a wider range of information systems as they broaden their experiences and involvement in national, regional and global activities. Students will have opportunities to create a range of digital solutions, such as interactive web applications or programmable multimedia assets or simulations of relationships between objects in the real world. Students will use structured data to model objects and events that shape the communities they actively engage with. When defining problems, students identify the key elements of the problems and the factors and constraints at play. They design increasingly complex algorithms that allow data to be manipulated automatically and explore different ways of showing the relationship between data elements to help computation. Students will broaden their programming experiences to include general-purpose programming languages and incorporate subprograms into their solutions. They predict and evaluate their developed and existing solutions, considering time, tasks, data and the safe and sustainable use of information systems, and anticipate any risks associated with the use or adoption of such systems. Students plan and manage individual and team projects with some autonomy. Being Innovative will be the Learner Attribute focus in this course as students demonstrate innovative thinking by developing creative digital solutions, exploring new technologies, and applying original ideas to design and improve digital systems or applications.

Art

Year 8 Paint, Draw, Print

This elective is designed for students who are interested in further exploring 2D modes of making art, including a variety of ways of painting, drawing and printing. Students will devise personal responses to project briefs and will develop their idea generation skills through experimentation and research into the work of contemporary artists, maintaining a journal of their progress. Attribute focus in this course as students demonstrate Courage and Agility by experimenting with unfamiliar materials and techniques, taking creative risks, and showing perseverance when faced with artistic challenges, learning and growing from each experience.



Year 8 Creative Digital Media

Unlock your creative potential with our Digital Media Course! Whether you are a beginner or looking to enhance your skills, this course offers a deep dive into Adobe programs like Photoshop, Illustrator, and Animate. You will learn to craft stunning original imagery and designs. Starting with the fundamentals, you will explore innovative ways to tackle design challenges, conduct research, and master various programs. As you progress, you will create digital artworks, design files for Laser and Vinyl Cutters, and even delve into animation and filmmaking. Our projects are inquiry-based, giving you the freedom to pursue a self-directed creative ICT project. If you love blending creativity with technology, this course is perfect for you! Join us and transform your ideas into digital masterpieces. Attribute focus in this course as students demonstrate Courage and Agility by experimenting with unfamiliar materials and techniques, taking creative risks, and showing perseverance when faced with artistic challenges, learning and growing from each experience.

Get SmART

In this Art elective, extend your technical skills while exploring a range of mediums, you might never have used before. Expand your creative thinking by deciding for yourself how you would like to respond to project briefs. You will have the opportunity to work solo, and collaboratively. You can work with 2D and 3D materials. Projects are inquiry based, so there will be scope for you to experiment with different techniques and research the work of some interesting contemporary artists. You will develop problem solving skills as well as the confidence to create original artworks. The semester will culminate with you undertaking a self-directed project. Attribute focus in this course as students demonstrate Courage and Agility by experimenting with unfamiliar materials and techniques, taking creative risks, and showing perseverance when faced with artistic challenges, learning and growing from each experience.



Food Technology

Year 8 Food Glorious Food

This elective is a highly practical subject where the learning involves students planning, preparing and tasting a wide range of foods for everyday living. The course is structured around the meals of a day, with students creating breakfast, lunch, dinner, snack and dessert dishes. Using the Australian Dietary Guidelines as a focus for their learning, students will prepare modern recipes and gain an understanding of the nutritional benefits of food. Students learn how ingredients work and why we use particular cooking methods, gain an understanding of food security, and the environmental and economic impact of food production. Throughout the course students will develop an understanding of safe and hygienic work practices and effective time management in the kitchen. Being Innovative will be the Learner Attribute focus in this course as students will use innovative thinking to develop unique recipes and experiment with new ingredients, techniques, and processes to express original ideas in creative ways.



Textiles

Year 8 Textiles Design



This course offers students the chance to extend their practical skills in designing and creating innovative solutions. They will continue to use specialised equipment and techniques, while deepening their understanding of textile practices through various design briefs. Throughout the design process, students will acquire the skills needed for planning, producing, and evaluating their projects, documenting their progress in a design and development folio.

Areas of learning may include:

- **Monster Toy Collaboration:** The aim of this unit is to provide students with the experience of creating (and producing) a designed solution for someone else. This unit will allow students to work collaboratively with Early Learning students to create a Monster Toy; developing knowledge and problem-solving skills, and the confidence to challenge and extend themselves in the design environment.
- **Threads Revival:** Design and produce a garment or textile article from used textile products, including an op-shopping trip for materials. The project aims to encourage creativity, reduce textile waste, and promote sustainable fashion practices. Students will have the opportunity to learn about upcycling techniques, develop their design skills, and contribute to a more eco-friendly fashion industry. Being Innovative will be the Learner Attribute focus in this course as students will experiment with new materials, fabrics, techniques, and processes to express original ideas in creative ways.



Performing Arts

Head of Department – Mr Andy Prideaux
andy.prideaux@soc.tas.edu.au

Dance

Year 8 Dance

This elective is for students (beginner or experienced) who would like to develop and refine skills and techniques used to create and present dance works. Students will be introduced to the study of dance as an artform and will explore the elements of dance through compositional and performance work. Students will gain familiarity in dance terminology concepts and will have the opportunity to perform several dance works to an audience.

Learner Attributes recognised are:
Curious and Innovative



Drama

Year 8 Performing Theatre

This elective is for motivated and enthusiastic students who would like to begin working on more advanced performing and acting skills. Students will work within an ensemble and as a soloist, using various scripts, improvisation, and performance poetry. Students focus on stage skills that develop their ability to act with thought, honesty and feeling to begin to develop basic directorial and technical theatre skills.

Learner Attributes recognised are: Collaborative and Courageous

Media

Year 8 Film it!

Do you want to be the next YouTube sensation? Then Film It! Is for you.

This elective provides students with the skills to design and produce their own short videos as well as critiquing a range of film genres and video products. Creative decision-making and digital development skills are behind every website, movie, advertisement, audio snippet and graphic we see in our day-to-day and professional lives. Here's your chance to become one of the creatives!

No experience is necessary, just curiosity and enthusiasm.

Learner Attributes recognised are: Agile and Effective Communicators

Year 8 Music Extension

This course is for students who wish to extend their musical knowledge and skills beyond the mandatory Year 8 Music course and who are keen to continue music beyond Y8. This class will be based around Performance-Based Learning where students develop their skills on their music instrument as a soloist and member of an ensemble/band.

Students will gain experience in composition while looking at a variety of musical styles using various musical software. A variety of musical styles will be covered, and assignments/compositions will be multi-levelled so that students with varying experience will be able to work together. Students are encouraged to perform with at least one of the College ensembles/choirs.

Learner Attributes recognised are: Collaborative and Curious



Science

Head of Department – Ms Kate Gard

kate.gard@soc.tas.edu.au

Forensic Investigations

This course teaches the foundational skills of crime scene investigation, such as collecting and analysing fingerprints, hairs, fibres and other evidence. The course culminates with students attending a mock crime scene where they collect extensive evidence and interview suspects. They then use their problem-solving skills and forensic science techniques to solve the crime and to assemble sufficient proof to gain a conviction in a mock court.



This course will build on students' science skills, problem-solving ability and cooperative skills; the work is carried out in teams, but the final assessment is based on individual contribution. The key

Learner Attributes covered in Forensic Investigations are Collaborative, Effective Communicators and Self-Regulating.

Learning Support

Head of Inclusive Education – Mrs Yvette Cassidy

yvette.cassidy@soc.tas.edu.au

Year 8 Learning Development

This subject provides targeted literacy support for Year 8 students through small group and one-on-one instruction. The program focuses on building confidence and capability in reading, writing, and comprehension, with strategies that can be applied across curriculum areas. Students work on structured tasks tailored to their individual learning needs within a supportive and inclusive environment.

The class fosters key Learner Attributes: Curiosity through active engagement in texts, Courage by taking risks in learning and expression, Inclusivity through collaborative activities, and Self-regulation by setting goals and monitoring progress.

Entry is based on academic data and staff recommendation. Students are automatically enrolled if identified, and families must notify the school if they choose to opt out.

Year 8 Mathematics Development

This subject provides targeted numeracy support for Year 8 students through small group and one-on-one instruction. The program aims to build confidence and strengthen mathematical understanding by focusing on core concepts, problem-solving, and practical application across curriculum areas. Students engage in structured activities designed to meet individual needs within a supportive and inclusive environment.

The class fosters key Learner Attributes: Curiosity through exploring patterns and connections, Courage by taking risks in problem-solving, Inclusivity through collaborative learning, and Self-regulation by setting personal goals and tracking progress.

Entry is based on academic data and staff recommendation. Students are automatically enrolled if identified, and families must notify the school if they choose to opt out.

