



Mercedes College

ASPIRE EXCEL LEAD

In our College Vision we aim for:

- Excellence and the highest educational outcomes within a non-threatening learning environment.
- Students who are self-directed, critical thinkers who take ownership of their educational journey and persevere to achieve their personal best.
- Graduating women with a sense of who they are and of the influence they can have in the world.

*The Catholic School differs
from those of other education traditions
because its vision of
the fully integrated human being
is distinctive.*

(Mandate Letter of the Catholic Education Commission of WA)



Religious Education

Mercedes College is first and foremost a Catholic School. Its story is one of total dedication to the witness of the values and teaching of the Gospel integrated with the tradition of Mercy. As such, the College acknowledges that the first Learning Area in a Catholic school curriculum is Religious Education. All students, regardless of religious persuasion, join in the Religious Education program which is designed not only to promote the knowledge and understanding of the Christian message, but also to meet the needs of young people as they embrace the religious challenges of life in the 21st Century.

The Perth Archdiocesan Religious Education Course produced by the Catholic Education Office of WA forms the core of the Religious Education program at Mercedes College.

Catechesis

Together with Religious Education, the College supports the family and the parish in offering catechesis in the form of school and class liturgies, classroom prayer activities, reflection days and the celebration of other religious festivals. The honouring of Our Lady of Mercy is a particular focus in the life of Mercedes College.

Christian Service Learning

Service features significantly in the day to day life of the school. All students participate in a graded series of experiences, both on a volunteer basis and as part of the overall Christian service program from years seven through to twelve. Activities range from school-based to work at selected placements in the wider community.

CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK/AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM

The academic curriculum at Mercedes College is structured around the State Government mandated Curriculum Framework and the National Australian Curriculum.

“The Curriculum Framework sets out what all students should know, understand, value and be able to do as a result of the programs they undertake in schools in Western Australia, from kindergarten through to year twelve. Its fundamental purpose is to provide a structure around which schools can build educational programs that ensure students achieve agreed outcomes (Curriculum Framework 1997)”.

“The Australian Curriculum sets out what all young people should be taught through the specialisation of Curriculum

content and the learning expected at point in their schooling through the specification of achievement standards (Australian Curriculum 2009)”.

The College Curriculum offers opportunities for students to achieve across nine Learning Areas: Religious Education, The Arts, English, Health and Physical Education, Languages, Mathematics, Science, Social Sciences and Technology and Enterprise.

(For more information visit www.australiancurriculum.edu.au or the School Curriculum & Standards Authority at www.scsa.wa.edu.au)

YEARS SEVEN TO TEN SUBJECTS

CORE SUBJECTS

Students commence and continue throughout Years Seven to Ten with the following subjects:

- Religious Education
- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social Sciences
- Physical Education
- Health Education
- Learning to Learn (Year 7/8 only)

With a focus on pastoral care students remain for the majority of these classes with their Homeroom.

There is an emphasis on numeracy and literacy skills and extra assistance is provided via our Functional Literacy Program and our Learning Support teachers.

ELECTIVE SUBJECTS

YEAR SEVEN

Students in Year Seven also receive specialist teaching in:

- Art • Drama • Foods • Information Technology Research Skills
- Language [French, Italian or Mandarin] • Music • Textiles

YEAR EIGHT

Students select either French, Italian or Mandarin for their Language and then select three of the following electives, offered:

- Art • Business Studies • Drama • Foods • Information Technology
- Media Production • Music • Physical Education Studies • Science Elective
- Textiles

YEAR NINE

Having been exposed to a broad range of subjects to this point, students in Year Nine select three electives from the list below:

- Art and Design • Business Studies • Caring for Children • Drama
- Foods • Information Technology • Language [French, Italian or Mandarin]
- Mathematics Elective • Media Production • Music • Physical Education Studies
- Textiles

YEAR TEN

Some Year Ten electives operate as two period or four period offerings. Students take eight periods of electives.

Two Period Electives:

- Crime Investigation Studies
- Design and Visual Arts
- Drama
- Foods
- Forensic Science
- Leisure for Living
- Media
- Music
- Personal Economics and Finance
- PE Studies
- Philosophy and Ethics
- Textiles

Four Period Electives:

- Accounting and Finance
- Applied Information Technology
- Certificate 1 in Hospitality
- Drama
- French
- Italian
- Mandarin
- Media Production and Analysis
- Physical Education Studies
- Visual Arts

YEARS ELEVEN AND TWELVE SUBJECTS

All subjects offered at Mercedes College in Years Eleven and Twelve are fully accredited by the School Curriculum and Standards Authority of Western Australia and contribute towards students graduating with the Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE).

COURSES OF STUDY

Courses of Study are offered at Foundation, General and ATAR level and are often structured into semester units. ATAR courses will be externally examined at the end of Year 12 and can be used to calculate a Tertiary Entrance Aggregate (TEA) and Australian Tertiary Entrance Rank (ATAR) for entry into universities across Australia. Courses at General or ATAR level can be used for TAFE entrance and graduation purposes.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Structured Workplace Learning

Students in Years Eleven and Twelve are offered Structured Workplace Learning opportunities where students work for one day each week in a self-selected industry placement. Students gain accreditation towards the WACE as they are enrolled in Workplace Learning which is a course of study. If sufficient hours are undertaken students can also use their placement as an endorsed program.

(For more information visit the INSTEP website at: www.instep.wa.edu.au.)

YEAR 11 AND YEAR 12

The table on the right shows the accredited subjects offered to students in Years Eleven and Twelve. Students with a university career in mind are required to study an English course or Literature together with four other subjects, three of which must be courses at ATAR Level. Students with Graduation or TAFE in mind must study an English course, or Literature, together with four other subjects. All students study Religion and Life.

SUMMARY OF YEAR 11 AND YEAR 12 OFFERINGS

LEARNING AREA	COURSE OF STUDY
Religious Education	Religion and Life
The Arts	Design Drama Media Production and Analysis Music Visual Arts
English	English Literature
Health and Physical Education	Physical Education Studies
Languages	French Italian Mandarin
Mathematics	Mathematics Mathematics Specialist
Social Sciences	Economics Geography Modern History Politics and Law
Science	Biological Sciences Chemistry Human Biological Sciences Physics
Technology and Enterprise	Applied Information Technology Accounting and Finance Children, Family and the Community Food Science and Technology Materials Design and Technology
Vocational Education and Training	Structured Workplace Learning Career and Enterprise Certificate I in Hospitality, Certificate II and III in Business, Certificate I, II and III in Creative Industries (Media), Certificate II in Sport and Recreation, and other embedded units of competency within Food, Careers and Applied Information Technology.

COMPASSION

EXCELLENCE

JUSTICE

INTEGRITY

SERVICE



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