

YEAR 7 2027



Junior Academy
Unlocking potential

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EXECUTIVE PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

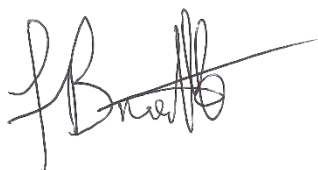
I am excited to welcome you into our Junior Academy and know that you will find an exciting and dynamic environment for you to learn, meet others, and develop as a whole person.

Our objective is to build life-long learners who love being at school. We have high expectations that each member of our community will be the best they can be. We believe that every student can learn and work on doing even better. We want to make sure young people make the most of every opportunity in the school.

The information in this booklet is designed to help you make decisions about your course of study for Year 7 in 2027. Please read this booklet carefully and discuss with your parent/carer.

While we aim to give you your subject preferences, there can be no guarantee that every subject will run. Availability of subjects will depend on teacher resources, physical resources and the demand for subjects. Please note that students are not able to select their classes or class teachers of their choice for any subject.

This is a great time to be at Cairns State High! Be the best we can be!



Frank Brunetto, Executive Principal

KEY STRATEGIC ACTION AREAS



UNLOCKING YOUR POTENTIAL

It is important to make good decisions when choosing your electives in Years 7, as your choices may directly affect your success at school and how you feel about school. It may also impact on your career plans when you leave school.

At the moment you may not be sure what you want to do when you leave school. Most students feel this way. In Year 7 you have the opportunity to explore your options.

Compulsory study areas provide excellent foundation skills for both your future career and your life. In addition to these subjects you will be able to choose from a range of elective subjects that are designed to develop your interests and practical skills.

As an overall plan, it is suggested that you choose subjects which:

- You enjoy
- You do well in
- Will help you achieve your chosen career goals, or keep your career goals open
- Will develop skills, knowledge and attitudes useful throughout your life

If you follow these guidelines and ask for help when you need it, you should come up with a study program that is appropriate and that you will enjoy.

THINKING ABOUT CAREER OPTIONS

It is helpful to have some ideas about possible career choices. However, those ideas may change when you learn more about yourself and the world of work. Sometimes a good starting point is to identify those subjects you enjoy the most and in which you perform well. Interestingly, the career choices people make are directly linked to their favourite subjects at school. The following website shows the links between subjects and careers and may well be worth checking: <https://myfuture.edu.au/bullseyes>

More Information about careers can be found at <https://education.qld.gov.au/careers/apprentices-and-trainees/school-to-work/career-education>

DEEP LEARNING

We are part of a global partnership that works to transform the role of teachers to that of activators who design experiences that build global competencies using real-life problem solving; and supports schools, districts, and systems to shift practice and how to measure learning in authentic ways.



Communication



- Communication designed for audience and impact
- Message advocates a purpose and makes an impact
- Reflection to further develop and improve communication
- Voice and identity expressed to advance humanity

Creativity



- Economic and social entrepreneurialism
- Asking the right inquiry questions
- Pursuing and expressing novel ideas and solutions
- Leadership to turn ideas into action

Critical Thinking



- Evaluating information and arguments
- Making connections and identifying patterns
- Meaningful knowledge construction
- Experimenting, reflecting and taking action on ideas in the real world

Character



- Provide stance towards life and learning to learn
- Grit, tenacity, perseverance and resilience
- Empathy, compassion and integrity in action

Citizenship



- A global perspective
- Commitment to human equity and well-being through empathy and compassion for diverse values and world views
- Genuine interest in human and environmental sustainability
- Solving ambiguous and complex problems in the real world to benefit citizens

Collaboration



- Working interdependently as a team
- Interpersonal and team-related skills
- Social, emotional, and intercultural skills
- Managing team dynamics and challenges

TIME ALLOCATION YEAR 7

Subject	Terms	Lessons/Week (70 minutes)	Minutes/Week	Curriculum
Classics (English and Humanities)	   	     	420	
Mathematics	   	  	210	
Science	   	 	140	
Health and Physical Education	   	 	140	
Language (Chinese, Japanese, Italian)	   	 	140	
Technology 1	 	 	140	
Technology 2	 	 	140	
Elective 1	 	 	140	
Elective 2	 	 	140	
Connect	   		35	

COMPULSORY SUBJECTS

THE CLASSICS (ENGLISH AND HUMANITIES – HISTORY, GEOGRAPHY AND CIVICS)

Full Year

Compulsory

Units of Study

Units studied in Yr 7 include:

Term 1 *Class Cultures, Civics, Citizenship and Critical Thinking:*

- In English students reflect on their own family history and cultural background and select an artefact that represents their identity. Students develop skills in communication, critical thinking and information sharing.
- In Civics and Citizenship students explore how Australian democracy works and how people participate in their communities. They investigate rights and responsibilities, laws, decision-making and the ways individuals and groups can contribute to positive change.

Term 2 :*Persuasion and Livability- The Pen is Mightier than the Sword.*

- In English, students will experiment with language features and literary devices to effectively communicate the significance of their chosen issue, culminating in a persuasive call to action. They will study persuasive and rhetorical devices to influence readers.
- In Geography, students investigate the characteristics of places and environments and the connections between people and place. They develop geographical skills through working with maps, data and other sources, and explore how environments are used, valued and managed.

Term 3: *First Nations and Silenced Voices*

- In English, students explore narrative voice and plot devices across texts from refugee and First Nations' writers. Students will focus on reading and comprehension strategies that will culminate in a portfolio of written responses from the reading of different texts.
- In History, students explore the deep history of Australia and the histories of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples. They investigate evidence about the ancient past, First Nations connections to Country and Place, cultural knowledge and the ways historians and archaeologists learn about societies that existed thousands of years ago.

Term 4: *Voices and Past Times*

- In English, students explore creative texts in the spoken form across a variety of genres, times and countries. They will experiment with aesthetic features and stylistic devices.
- In History, students independently investigate an ancient civilisation of their choice. They develop their own inquiry through researching aspects such as geography, government, society, beliefs, achievements and daily life.

Assessment

Include: Short response portfolio, multimodal texts, persuasive writing and spoken presentations, civics investigations, geographical inquiries, source analysis, and independent projects.

Other information

English and Humanities units are intentionally aligned with each other where possible. Shared topics, texts, and skill building across the disciplines allow students to build background knowledge to support learning in each subject area.

MATHEMATICS

Full Year Compulsory

Units of Study

Units studied in Year 7 include:

- Number: investigate the foundations of number sense. This will be applied in real life contexts.
- My sculpture: investigate the nets of shapes and develop formulae to determine area and volume. They will apply this to developing their 3D sculptures being made in Art.
- Number 2 and algebra: further develop their number sense by examining roots, exponents, factors and ratios. This will be applied in real life contexts.
- Algebra and geometry: introduction to solving equations. This will build on their earlier introduction into algebra and demonstrate how algebra can be used in real life.
- Probability and statistics: plan and conduct statistical investigations and display these appropriately. They will also develop games to understand probabilities as well as run simulations to predict and observe results.

Assessment

Written tests, project and assignment.

Other information

Revision of classwork needs to be maintained and homework is set regularly. It is expected that students do 20 to 30 minutes per night after each lesson.

Students need a scientific calculator for lessons (Casio FX82), a grid book, ruler, protractor, pens and pencils.

SCIENCE

Full Year Compulsory

Units of Study

Units studied in Year 7 include:

- Forces (Physical sciences)
- Celestial Phenomena (Earth and Space Sciences)
- Separating Mixtures (Chemistry)
- Keystone Species (Biology)

In all units, the three interrelated strands are:

- Science understanding - focuses on the important science concepts from across different areas of science
- Science inquiry - focuses on skills essential for working scientifically
- Science as a human endeavour - which focuses on the nature and influence of science

Assessment

Experimental investigations, and test/examinations.

Other information

Students must wear shoes with impervious uppers in Science.

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Full Year

Compulsory

Units of Study

In Year 7, content is organized under two strands:

- Personal, social and community health (identities and change, interacting with others, making healthy and safe choices)
- Movement and physical activity (moving our bodies, making active choices, learning through movement)

Units of study include:

- Unit 1 Game on - Students engage in team building challenges and modified team ball games. They will design and implement their own modified team ball game based on unit learnings.
- Unit 2 Swimming - Students learn and demonstrate different stroke techniques and gain an understanding of pool/water safety.
- Unit 3 Athletics - Students learn and implement different athletic event techniques.
- Unit 4 Fuel up and move - Students explore how nutrition & fitness can impact health, wellbeing and development.
- Unit 5 Growing Up - Students will explore personal development and how healthy relationships can impact health and wellbeing.

** The order of delivery of these units will vary based on pool availability.*

Assessment

Students are assessed on the achievement of outcomes through a variety of techniques including assignment, project and practical performance.

Other information

All students are expected to participate in both practical and theoretical aspects of the course. Non-participation due to injury/illness requires a note/medical certificate.

LANGUAGES (ALL STUDENTS MUST STUDY A LANGUAGE)

CHINESE (MANDARIN)

Full Year
Units of Study
Students will develop foundational knowledge and understanding of the Chinese language system, with a focus on tones, pinyin and pronunciation, radicals, and Chinese characters. Learning will focus on topics including Self-Introduction, My Family, My City and Chinese New Year, providing opportunities for students to develop their understanding of Chinese language and culture.
Assessment
Students will be assessed through a range of assessment techniques that provide opportunities to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of Chinese language and culture. Assessment may include written examinations, spoken interactions, role plays, research tasks and multimodal texts, such as brochures and posters.
Other information
Students who opt to study Chinese in Year 7 will continue to do so in Year 8. Cairns High organizes trips to China every two years for Year 9 and Year 10 students.

ITALIAN

Full Year
Units of Study
• Ciao Italia! - Hello Italy! - Learning Italian greetings and classroom language to interact with others • Eccomi! - Here I am! - introducing myself, likes and dislikes. • Il mio mondo - My world - Describing myself, family and friends. • Mangia, mangia! – Eat, eat! - Exploring Italian cuisine, Italian food and beverage.
Assessment
Assignments, role play, listening and reading comprehension exam, project (menu).
Other information
Students who opt to study Italian in Year 7 will continue to do so in Year 8.

JAPANESE

Full Year
Units of Study
- Self-Introduction: students will write and talk about themselves in basic Japanese - My family: Reading and listening comprehension exam about family members and relationships. - Ninja House: Multi-modal presentation of a Japanese house. - My City: Pamphlet or brochure about a famous or popular city in Japan.
Assessment
Self-introduction/presentation; listening and reading comprehension exam; multi-modal project and presentation; pamphlet
Other information
It is strongly recommended that students have completed the Year 7 Japanese program or can demonstrate language competence. However, it is not a pre-requisite and students can commence their studies in Year 8 providing they are willing to make a strong commitment to their studies.

For students who choose Italian as their Language, they have the option of selecting Italian Immersion:

ITALIAN IMMERSION

Full Year
Elective (Chosen instead of Humanities component of The Classics)
Units of Study
Units are studied in Italian language and include: - La mia storia e comintà - My history and community : research the nature of Australian society and identity will create a presentation on personal stories and how identity and belonging are shaped by culture, community, and place. - La Nostra Scuola, il Nostro Posto nel Mondo - Our School, Our Place in the world: investigate an issue of their interest within the school ground and will create a campaign to persuade their peers to action or participation through devised strategies. - Le Civiltà Antiche - Ancient Civilisations: explore the histories of the early First Nations Peoples and migration theories. They will investigate factors influencing the rise of ancient societies (e.g. proximity to rivers). - Il Museo Romano – Roman Museum: explore in-depth the Ancient Rome, and how this ancient society has impacted the modern world.
Assessment
Presentation, investigation and projects.
Other information
Students opting for the Italian Immersion program must select Italian for their Languages subject.

ELECTIVE SUBJECTS

VISUAL ART

One Semester Elective

Units of Study

- Art Development 1 – Explore the elements of art and experiment with a variety of materials and techniques.
- Music to my ears – Create an artwork inspired by a song that has a strong personal or cultural connection
- Art Development 2 – Further develop practical skills and experiment with different art materials and processes.
- What Makes Me, Me? – Explore personal identity and the experiences, influences and ideas that help shape who we are.

Assessment

Assessment includes a folio of practical artworks, planning and development, and student-directed creative projects.

Other information

This is a highly practical, studio-based subject. Students should be prepared to experiment with different materials, develop their own creative ideas and actively participate in art-making activities.

DANCE

One Semester Elective

Units of Study

Dance is a creative and practical subject where students develop skills in movement, performance and choreography. Students work individually and in groups to create, rehearse and perform dances, while learning how movement can communicate ideas, emotions and stories.

UNITS OF STUDY

- Dance Play/ Movement and Me – Develop the fundamentals of dance technique, explore different dance styles and learn how to dance safely and confidently.
- Taking Dance to the Street – Explore street dance and choreography, learning how to develop and manipulate movement to create and communicate your own ideas through dance.

Assessment

Practical performance and written responses.

Other information

This is a highly practical subject. Students should be prepared to actively participate in dance activities, rehearsals and performances and work collaboratively with others.

DRAMA

One Semester Elective

Units of Study

Drama is a creative and practical subject where students develop confidence, creativity and performance skills. Students work individually and collaboratively through acting, improvisation, storytelling and performance, exploring characters, ideas and different ways of communicating with an audience.

Units in Year 7 include:

- Roles and Me – Explore the elements of drama while developing acting, collaboration and performance skills.
- Collaborate – Develop storytelling and performance skills while working with others to create and perform your own original drama

Assessment

Assessment includes practical performances and a creative drama project.

Other information

This is a highly practical and collaborative subject. Students should be prepared to actively participate in drama activities, rehearsals and performances and work creatively with others.

MUSIC

One Semester Elective

Units of Study

In music, students learn in and through music practices of listening, composing and performing. Students will be encouraged to perceive, think and express and communicate in music, including collaborating in various performance ensembles, and singing and playing instruments including guitar and keyboard.

Units in Year 7 include:

- 1st unit - Discover Music: introduction to the elements of music and musical styles.
- 2nd unit - Strike up the Band: introduction to the orchestra, orchestral instruments and musical elements.

The concepts of music are studied through three key aspects:

- exploring and responding
- developing practices and skills
- creating and making.

Assessment

Performance, written exam and composition

Other information

Students do not need to have any formal music education to study Music.
Students learn to play guitar, ukelele and keyboard.

EXTENSION ARTS SUBJECTS

MUSIC EXCELLENCE EXTENSION

Full Year

Elective

Units of Study

Performance - The program focusses on engaging students in performance through a variety of performance opportunities, in a range of musical styles. Students will have an opportunity to work as a soloist and as part of an ensemble.

Composition / Music Theory / Musicology - Students will be extended through personalised learning experiences developing music theory, composition, improvisation and musicianship through workshops and a varied holistic music program.

Units in Year 7 include:

- Semester 1 – Discover Music. Introduction to the elements of music and music styles.
- Semester 2 – Strike up the Band. Introduction to the orchestra, orchestral instruments and musical elements.

Assessment

Performances, compositions, written exam, assignment

Other information

Students who are enrolled at Cairns High as part of the Music COE program will automatically be placed in this subject as their arts elective.

Students who auditioned for the Cairns High Music COE program and are learning a musical instrument (voice included) can choose this subject as an elective.

TECHNOLOGY SUBJECTS (STUDENTS WILL STUDY ALL FOUR SUBJECTS ACROSS YEARS 7 AND 8)

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

One Semester
Units of Study
- Computer skills – spreadsheets, represent data with integers and binary, cyber security, manage digital footprint - Micro Melons - develop and modify creative digital solutions, decompose real-world problems, and evaluate alternative solutions, design and trace algorithms
Assessment
Design folio and project
Other information

ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS

One Semester
Units of Study
Students develop an understanding of the way the market system operates in Australia, the interdependence of consumers and producers in the market and why governments may influence the market's operation. - Business Fundamentals (explore the concept of needs and wants in an economy and apply learning in a simulated bartering economy). - Marketing Innovation (conduct an inquiry and propose alternative activity, product or service options that will enable a business to achieve its objectives and future business success.) - Financial Decision Making (investigating consumer roles and responsibilities, identifying own personal spending habits and exploring methods of saving).
Assessment
Project, marketing pitch presentation, extended response
Other information

HOME ECONOMICS

One Semester

Units of Study

In Year 8, students focus on one term of food and nutrition and one term of textiles and design. The following units will be covered:

- Fake Away - designing, producing and evaluating a healthy fast food meal option.
- Bag It - designing, producing and evaluating a sustainable drawstring backpack.

Assessment

Weekly practical cookery, practical cookery exams, project, practical textiles items

Other information

Students are required to supply their own ingredients for cooking every week (1 term).

Students are provided with an apron which they will bring each week for cooking lessons. Correct footwear (leather/suede/artificial leather) must be worn in the kitchen.

MANUFACTURING SKILLS

One Semester

Units of Study

Students will develop foundational skills in Manufacturing Skills:

- Pencil Case
- Pot Stand

In both units, the two interrelated strands are:

- Knowledge and understanding
- Processes and production skills (generating and designing, producing and implementing, evaluating, collaborating and managing)

Assessment

Practical construction, design folio, project

Other information

Students will be working in an industrial workshop environment and so will require shoes with impervious uppers and to comply with safety processes and procedures.



CAIRNS

State High
The best we can be.

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