

# Year 7 Curriculum

Term One





## General Overview

Students participate in Reciprocal Teaching, designed to support reading and critical thinking skills. This is done with a range of short texts in Term One as students explore different text types. Year 7 students will complete a reading comprehension task and produce a collection of written work in a writing folio. Students will use Education Perfect as a tool to develop their spelling, grammar and reading comprehension skills. As part of our Term One studies it is expected that students read 'Holes' in preparation for Term Two.

## Key topics explored

- **Week 2 - 10:** Reading short texts
- **Week 2 - 10:** Writing using different text types

## Knowledge & Skills

- Predict using evidence from what is already known; from the text structure; and from the text features.
- Clarify unfamiliar vocabulary, challenging concepts, awkward structure, unclear referent words, & idiomatic expressions.
- Generate and answer literal, inferential and evaluative questions about a text.
- Summarise the main ideas in a text
- Generate a range of creative, informative and argumentative writing pieces using correct form and style.

## Major Assessments

- **Week 2:** 'All about Me' diagnostic task
- **Week 8:** Reading comprehension CAT

- **Week 9:** Writing folio CAT

## For Parents

### How can you help?

1. Encourage your child to read widely outside of school, including reading 'Holes' before the middle of term two.
2. Ask your child questions about their reading. Focus on the four components of Reciprocal Teaching; Predicting, Clarifying, Questioning and Summarising.
3. Encourage your child to use the 'Education Perfect' program to build their spelling, grammar and reading comprehension skills.
4. Encourage your child to regularly check COMPASS for Homework and Learning Tasks.

### Resources to access more information:

- Reciprocal Teaching information page: <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/teachingresources/discipline/english/literacy/readingviewing/Pages/teaching-pracguidedrecip.aspx>
- Education Perfect

# English (EAL)



## General Overview

Year 7 EAL aims to address the language needs of students from non-English speaking backgrounds. The course focuses on a detailed study of the Migrant Experience and the introduction of the Language of Persuasion. It is designed to develop communication skills, focusing on speaking, listening, reading and writing. Students read and study a variety of text types, and participate in individual and group activities.

## Key topics explored

- **Week 1 - 6:** The Migrant Experience
- **Week 7 - 10:** Persuasive Writing

## Knowledge & Skills

- Vocabulary building.
- Summarising, ordering and presenting information.
- Understanding how Language Techniques are used to persuade the audience.

## Major Assessments

- Imaginative writing task
- Short answer language analysis task
- Oral Presentation
- Point of View essay

## For Parents

### How can you help?

1. Discuss aspects of a migrant experience at home.
2. Discuss current issues in the media and encourage your child to form an opinion with arguments.

### Resources to access more information:

- Compass
- Letters to the Editor can be found in The Herald Sun either hard copy or online at <https://www.heraldsun.com.au/>
- [www.esl-lab.com](http://www.esl-lab.com)

# Mathematics



## General Overview

In Maths, students work on skills based questions to strengthen and consolidate numeracy skills learnt in primary school. These skills are then applied in a range of real-world problem-solving questions and tasks. Some also begin to explore more abstract applications of their numeracy skills.

## Key topics explored

- **Week 2 - 4:** Positive Integers, Indices and Primes
- **Week 5 - 7:** Rational Numbers and Ratio
- **Week 8 - 10:** Percentages

## Knowledge & Skills

- Connect fractions, decimals and percentages.
- Find percentages of particular quantities.
- Represent numbers as products of primes.

## Major Assessments

- **Week 4:** Positive Integers, Indices and Primes Test
- **Week 7:** Rational Numbers and Ratio Test

## For Parents

### How can you help?

1. Encourage your child to consistently complete a small amount of maths homework each night. It is much more beneficial to practice the skills learnt in class regularly than in one big block.
2. Talk to your child about ways that you use maths in your everyday life. Students engage much better with maths when they can see that it is relevant and not just used by a select few occupations. This is promoted in class, but it is great if this message can be reinforced by parents.

### Resources to access more information:

- **Eddie Woo's YouTube channel:** has great explanations of Maths concepts.  
[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCq0EGv-LTy-LT1oUSO\\_0FQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCq0EGv-LTy-LT1oUSO_0FQ)
- **Khan Academy:** has lecture style videos with practice questions included.  
<https://www.khanacademy.org/math/cc-seventh-grade-math>
- **Math Game Time:** includes some games which can help students to practice their fluency skills.  
<http://www.mathgametime.com/grade/7th-grade>

# Science



## General Overview

In Science students are introduced to intellectual and practical activities involving systematic study of the structure and behaviour of the physical and natural world through observation and experiment.

## Key topics explored

- **Week 1:** Transition
- **Week 2 - 5:** Science Inquiry skills
- **Week 5 - 10:** Classification

## Knowledge & Skills

- Understand what Secondary School Science is about as well as correctly identifying, representing and using laboratory equipment safely and effectively.
- Identify questions and problems that can be investigated scientifically and make predictions based on scientific knowledge.
- Demonstrate understanding of scientific inquiry skills and apply them in reporting on experimental findings.
- Group and classify organisms based on their similarities and differences.
- Use scientific conventions for naming specimens.
- Understand how keys are constructed and used in identification.

## Major Assessments

- **Week 5 - 6:** Practical report on experiment  
Graphing temperature
- **Week 6 - 7:** Topic test on Science inquiry skills

- **Week 10:** Topic test on Classification

## For Parents

### How can you help?

1. Discuss scientific issues with your child and encourage them to use external sources (news articles, documentaries etc.).
2. Subscribe to science-based websites e.g. CSIRO Double helix club to explore scientific ideas and developments and how they impact in the wider world.

### Resources to access more information:

- JacPlus online
- ABC iView / Education

# Italian



## General Overview

Italian provides students with communication skills and knowledge to come to understand social, historical, familial relationships and other aspects of the language and culture of the Italian people. Language learning contributes to the development of interculturally aware citizens.

## Key topics explored

- **Week 1 - 4:** Greeting exchanges
- **Week 5-6:** Passage of Time
- **Week 7 - 10:** Where you live

## Knowledge & Skills

- Listening
- Speaking
- Reading
- Writing

## Major Assessments

- **Week 6**

## For Parents

### How can you help?

1. Ask students what they have learned in Italian.
2. Listen to them practice their language.

### Resources to access more information:

- Language Perfect (an on line library of original written and spoken texts with native speaker recordings and a comprehensive multi-modal vocabulary revision package, including speaking practice with a variety of communicative tasks).

<https://start.languageperfect.com/>

# French



## General Overview

French language provides students with communication skills and knowledge to come to understand social, historical, familial relationships and other aspects of the language and culture of the speakers of the language. Students are provided with the tools, through comparison and reflection, to understand language, culture and humanity in a broad sense. In this way, language learning contributes to the development of interculturally aware citizens.

## Key topics explored

- **Week 1 - 5:** Discovering the country.
- **Week 6 - 10:** Introducing yourself in the target language.

## Knowledge & Skills

- Introducing oneself in the target language.
- Asking/saying your nationality.

## Major Assessments

- **28 February:** Cultural project “French all around us”

## For Parents

### How can you help?

1. Try to converse if possible with your child in the target language.
2. Encourage your child to immerse himself/herself as much as possible in the language by watching films together, going to exhibitions or looking at French magazines.
3. Encourage your child to use the program Language Perfect as much as possible.

### Resources to access more information:

- Explore the following website: [www.nelson-net.com.au](http://www.nelson-net.com.au)
- Explore the following website: [www.languageonline.org.au](http://www.languageonline.org.au)

# Chinese



## General Overview

Year 7 Chinese focuses on developing students' basic skills of Chinese language, these skills include: listening, speaking, reading and writing. In addition, students develop their knowledge in various Chinese culture.

## Key topics explored

- **Week 1-5:** Chinese New Year, greetings, numbers and age
- **Week 6-10:** self-introduction, discovering China and Chinese characters, family members

## Knowledge & Skills

- Basic skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing
- Cultural awareness

## Major Assessments

- **Week 4:** Chinese New Year Cultural Test
- **Week 8:** End of Unit Test

## For Parents

### How can you help?

1. Encourage students to revise 20 minutes every day.
2. Ask your child to share something with you about what they have learned in their lessons that week.

### Resources to access more information:

- Language Perfect  
<https://www.educationperfect.com/subjects/languages/>



# Geography



## General Overview

Geography focuses on developing key Geographical concepts and reinforces them with mapping skills. Students study water as a resource, making an excursion to Edendale farm to investigate water quality in the Diamond Creek. Students distinguish between weather and climate and identify key factors that make Melbourne a liveable city.

## Key topics explored

- **Week 1-5:** Geographical concepts
- **Week 5 – 10:** Water in the world

## Knowledge & Skills

- Select and represent data and information in different forms.
- Construct appropriate maps at different scales to conform to cartographic conventions.
- Analyse maps and other geographical data.
- Identify, describe and explain spatial patterns using geographical terminology.
- Identify Australia's water quality and variability.
- Explain how people manage water in Australia and other regions of the world.
- Identify and explain factors that influence people in deciding where they live.

## Major Assessments

- **March:** Dino Island
- **March:** Common assessment Task 1: Mapping Skills Test
- **Common assessment Task 2:** Edendale Farm Water Analysis

## For Parents

### How can you help?

1. Ask students to check their planners for homework to complete
2. Encourage students to read or watch the news and discuss issues that are topical with regards to water and liveability.

### Resources to access more information:

- Jacaranda Geography Alive 7 (JacPlus online)
- Jacaranda Atlas

# Health and Physical Education



## General Overview

Health focuses on the dimensions of health, key health issues for youth, as well as personal safety strategies. While in Physical Education, students will be developing knowledge and skills related to cricket, softball, baseball, basketball and athletics.

## Key topics explored

- **Week 1 - 2:** What is Health?
- **Week 3 - 7:** Health issues in the media
- **Week 8:** Health information and services
- **Week 9 - 10:** Personal safety strategies

## Knowledge & Skills

- Define the dimensions of Health. Including Physical, Social, Mental and Emotional Health.
- Evaluate strategies to manage personal, physical and social changes that occur as individuals grow older.
- Investigate and select strategies to promote health, safety and wellbeing.
- Develop skills to evaluate health information and express health concerns.
- Examine the benefits to individuals and communities of valuing diversity and promoting inclusivity.

## Major Assessments

- **Week 3:** Hitting and striking
- **Week 9:** Health issues in the media

## For Parents

### How can you help?

1. Encourage your child to discuss what actions could be taken to care for their physical, mental, emotional and social health.
2. Hold discussions about the influences of the media on young people's health. Television is a great example.

### Resources to access more information:

- **World Health Organisation (WHO):** the WHO's definition of Health  
[www.who.int/bulletin/bulletin\\_board/83/ustun11051/en](http://www.who.int/bulletin/bulletin_board/83/ustun11051/en)
- **JacPlus online:** includes interactivities and weblinks



WORKING TOGETHER, LEARNING TOGETHER