



BELMONT HIGH SCHOOL



Year 8 Semester Electives 2025





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INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this booklet is to inform parents and students of the relevant information pertaining to the subject's students will complete in Year 8.

Students of Year 8 study the following subjects:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- PDHPE
- History
- Technology (Mandatory)
- German

Students are also given the opportunity to choose one interest-based subject each semester. Students will choose these subjects from the descriptions given below. Please note that some electives have a fee. This payment is used for materials your child will use in this subject. Students are not able to complete the same interest course twice.

It should be noted that not all courses offered will run. Courses only run if enough students express an interest in a course.

Please note:

- Each subject is studied for one semester (two terms).
- While all subjects are offered, it may not be possible to form classes in each subject. Students may need to reconsider following the subject allocation.
- As well as some subjects having cost requirements, some subjects also have dress requirements such as enclosed leather shoes, or other appropriate footwear.
- Please consider your selections carefully as it is often difficult to make changes after the construction of the timetable.

Students will be requested to choose two (2) main preferences (in order) and three (3) reserve course preferences (in order) to assist in developing the year's interest subjects.

All subject selections are completed using an online form. Further information is given to students on their school email account.

Should parents and students require additional information, they should seek advice from Faculty Head Teachers, Year Advisors or the Deputy Principal.

ELECTIVE COURSES (including subject fees)

School Voluntary Contribution - \$75

Students will make subject selections from the following subjects:

CAPA	
DANCE	No fee
DRAMA	No fee
LEGAL STREET ART	\$25
MUSIC	No fee
HSIE - LANGUAGES	
GERMAN	No fee
JAPANESE	\$20
PDHPE	
MOUNTAIN BIKING	No fee
TRAMPOLINING FOR FUN	No fee
SCIENCE	
CHEMICALS IN ACTION	No fee
FORENSIC SCIENCE	No fee
TAS	
COOKING LIKE A MASTERCHEF	\$50
DRONES AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES	\$10
FASHION FUSION	\$20
METAL MASTERS	\$20
TIMBER MODEL MAKING	\$20

SUBJECT SELECTION PROCESS

Students will be emailed a web code to their Department of Education email address which will be entered into the website <http://my.edval.education/login>

The student email address is firstname.surname@education.nsw.gov.au

(eg john.smith3@education.nsw.gov.au)

Students will be required to enter two (2) choices in preferential order. They will also be asked to enter three (3) reserve subjects in preferential order, in case their preferred options are not available. This information will be provided on their email.

YEAR 7 CAPA CLASS - Students will be required to select ONE CAPA option (Dance, Drama, Music, Legal Street Art) in their first two preferences. These students will be allocated to a CAPA Semester Elective in Year 8.



ELECTIVE

COURSES





CAPA

Dance

Course Cost: No Fee (except for any excursion cost)

Course Outline:

This is a practical course which will allow students to develop their skills in a range of dance styles. It will cater for boys and girls who are beginners as well as experienced dancers. Opportunity will exist for dance styles such as hip hop/jazz/modern and any other dance styles of interest to students.

The focus will be very student centred, with a commitment to creating and performing dance. Students will be required to choreograph and perform dance in their chosen dance style as well as experiencing dance from a range of styles. There will be opportunity to work individually and with your peers to bring your ideas to life and present them in a performance setting considering all aspects of dance. The class will work through their own 'So You Think You Can Dance' program and have opportunities to audition for the Hunter Dance Festival and assemblies.

Drama

Course Cost: No Fee (except for any excursion cost)

Course Outline:

This course is an introduction to Drama with an aim to develop essential elements of acting and stagecraft. No experience is required, just enthusiasm and a sense of fun. The course comprises of a small amount of theory but is mostly performance based.

Students undertaking Drama will develop communication, group and performance skills. Activities include devising their own work, performing with other students in a class-based environment and reviewing a piece of drama they have seen.

Legal Street Art

Course Cost: \$25 + \$18.50 (Skateboard Deck)

Course Outline:

This course is a focused visual arts subject that provides students with unique projects to explore the practice of street artists. If you love being creative and learning new techniques this is the elective for you. Students learn how to develop a strong visual language by studying and making street art lettering, stickers, stencilled artworks and skateboard designs. Students also study the work of artists, understanding

Music

Course Cost: No Fee (except for any excursion costs)

Course Outline:

Do you hear a rock or pop song and wish you knew how to play it? In this course you will develop knowledge of chords used in contemporary music and build skills through playing them on guitar and keyboard. This will form the basis of group activities in which you will develop ensemble skills incorporating guitar, keyboard, voice, bass, and drums. Students who already play an instrument will be encouraged to extend their skills and gain further confidence through a range of practical activities.

For those interested, solo skills will also develop through learning a large variety of rock/pop songs, and devising melodies and riffs over common rock patterns. Who knows, you could just be the next superstar.



HSIE

German

Course Cost: No Fee (except for any excursion costs)

Course Outline:

Learning German provides the opportunity for students to engage with the linguistic and cultural diversity of Germany and its people. Students broaden their horizons in relation to personal, social, cultural and employment opportunities in an increasingly interconnected world.

The study of German in K – 10 enables students to communicate with others in German, and to reflect on and understand the nature and role of language and culture in their own lives and the lives of others.

Students will participate in activities that promote interactions in German, understanding texts, and creating texts. This includes topics such as:

- All about me (Alles über mich)
- For the love of food (aus Liebe zum Essen)
- A day in my life (ein Tag in meinem Leben)
- Let the celebrations begin (lasst die Feierlichkeiten beginnen)

Japanese

Course Cost: \$20 (plus any excursion costs)

Course Outline:

This course is an opportunity for students interested in Japanese language and culture to continue their learning in a fun learning environment. Learning will be focused on Japanese food and festivals celebrated in Japan and students undertaking this course will improve their cultural understanding while learning related vocabulary and useful expressions. Practical activities will include designing and making a character bento lunchbox, art and craft activities, and small group games.

PDHPE

Mountain Biking

Course cost: No Fee (except for any excursion costs)

Course Outline:

Through practical skill development and supporting theory students will improve their mountain biking technique and skill level, covering such areas as braking, cornering, gear selection, and negotiating obstacles such as steps, jumps, drops, berms, roots and rocks. It is anticipated that the course will take place both within the school and at local facilities such as the Fernleigh Track.

The course will be aimed at the beginner and will cater to those with only a basic level of confidence on a bike. Students will be provided with a range of goals to select from and more advanced students will be set more advanced targets. The course is aimed at all genders and will be run in a supportive and collegial manner, encouraging teamwork and peer instruction. Students will need their own bike with two working brakes and an Australian Standards Approved helmet.

Trampolining for Fun

Course Cost: No fee

Course Outline:

This course involves the student in developing their skills in floor tumbling, mini trampoline and double trampolining. All content is of a practical nature where the student will progress at a rate consistent with their ability. Content will be directed towards competitive standards. Students will also have the opportunity to be selected to represent the school at regional and state or pursue the course for enjoyment.



SCIENCE

Chemicals in Action

Course Cost: No fee

Course Outline:

Chemicals can be calm and polite or violent, reactive and rude. Do you know how to tell what will happen? Work with our trained chemist to guide you and learn how to test substances to see what's really in them. Use varied laboratory skills to convert reactive chemicals to substances that can be kept safe. Practice on how to identify unknown substances will require your best STEM skills. A study of chemicals that can cause danger will help you appreciate the work of Firefighters and the specialised chemical coding system that they rely on.

Forensic Science – CSI Belmont

Course Cost: No Fee

Course Outline:

Students work together to study and eventually interpret pieces of evidence from a crime scene. They will be able to profile who, where and why the crime happened. If students have investigated well enough, they can find out who-dun-it. Forensic students will experience fingerprinting, hair and clothing fibre identification, microscope materials I.D., biometrics, studying maggots and insects to determine time of death, blood type analysis using simulated blood, re-enactment wounds, handwriting forgery and plaster- of- paris imprint moulds and casts.

TAS

Cooking Like a Masterchef

Course Cost: \$50

Course Outline:

Cooking like a MasterChef is a practical course full of hands-on and fun cooking experiences. You will learn how to prepare and cook items using a variety of ingredients following the food trends as seen on Masterchef. Creations may include fabulous desserts to dishes from around the world and delicious snacks.

Drones and Emerging Technologies

Course Cost: \$10 (plus any excursion costs)

Course Outline:

Don't just learn to fly – conquer the skies. Learn to program and drive a drone using the immersive app. Practice precise hovering, explore the multiple flight modes, mission pads, and take photos. Accept the challenges. The possibilities are endless. Drone coffees delivered to your door! Drone selfies! Drone missions! Extend these skills to other emerging technologies such as Virtual Reality.



Fashion Fusion

Course Cost: \$20

Course Outline:

Experience the excitement of fashion design, where you'll learn basic machine skills to create unique clothing and accessories using a variety of decorative techniques. Dive into the vibrant world of dyeing, applique, fabric manipulation and screen printing to design and make items like pyjamas, bags, T-shirts and more. Learn and apply fundamental elements of design while mastering sustainable practices by upcycling fabrics into new, stylish creations. Transform textiles into personalised, eye-catching fashion pieces that reflect your unique style and creativity.

Metal Masters

Course Cost: \$20

Course Outline:

Metal Masters is a practical course that allows students to learn how to use metalworking tools and machinery to make their own projects. Students can enjoy using the metal workshop facilities to design and create a variety of fun metalwork projects that will be treasured for years to come. Projects may include items such as wall decorations, figurines and jewellery. Skills attained throughout this course will be of great benefit to students who select the Stage 5 Industrial Technology – Metal or Engineering courses.

Timber Model Making

Course Cost: \$20

Course Outline:

Create furniture items from wood. Determine which designs will be the most suitable for your needs. Consider which designs will improve your world. You will make a small piece of furniture and take it home.