



**WAVERLEY
COLLEGE**

SUBJECT REQUIREMENTS

STAGE 6 - YEAR 11

2027

HSC SUBJECT REQUIREMENTS 2027

Please note that the subjects outlined below as available are subject to change pending timetabling and teacher availability.

KLA	SUBJECT	REQUIREMENT	NOTES
Creative and Performing Arts	Drama	Drama- top 40% English - top 40% (or in consultation with Head of Department)	Students can begin their study of Drama in Year 11 for the first time. However, those students who have studied Junior Drama are at an advantage. Students studying Drama need to be good collaborators. There is group work in every single lesson. Those students who struggle with writing will have difficulty with this course, as 40% of the HSC Course, for example, is assessed at the end of the HSC exams, where they write two (2) essays.
	Music 1	Teacher Recommendation	All students undertaking this course must be capable of playing an instrument or singing, although specific levels are not prescribed. Some students may need to take private tuition to attain these skills. Music 1 has a strong focus on contemporary music across performance, composition and musicology. You may study this course without having studied music in Years 9 and 10.
	Music 2	Teacher Recommendation Completion of Year 9 and 10 Music	All students undertaking this course must be capable of playing an instrument or singing to a relatively high standard. Students must be fluent in reading and interpreting musical notation. It is a prerequisite that you have successfully completed Years 9 and 10 music before studying this course. Students will generally need to take private tuition on voice or an instrument and, in addition, participate in school ensembles. Students undertaking this course will be at an advantage if they study English Advanced.
	Music Extension	Only Music 2 students can enter Music Extension	An extension of studies in Music 2, students develop and expand aural awareness and understanding through the specialisation in Performance or Composition or Musicology. Each student follows an individual program of study.

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Creative and Performing Arts	Visual Arts	English - top 50% (or in consultation with Head of Department)	<p>The course enables students to develop their knowledge, understanding and skills in Artmaking and Historical and Critical Studies. Creativity and Critical Thinking is required for all aspects of the course.</p> <p>It is mandatory for students to complete an art making Major Work in an expressive form of their choice and demonstrate progress of this throughout the year (50% of course). Independent research, analysis, extended writing and essay skills are required. 50% of the course is based on extended response and essay style writing.</p> <p>Suitable for an HSC plus ATAR pattern of study.</p> <p>Students do not need to have studied Visual Arts in Year 9 and 10 to select this course for Stage 6.</p> <p><i>A fee of \$260.00 was charged in 2026. The 2027 fees are yet to be determined.</i></p>
	Visual Design	HSC plus Vocational Pathway	<p>This course explores the link between Art and Design. Graphic Design, Photography, Product Design, Ceramics and Illustration are modules learnt in this course. Students work towards an individual project, learning skills in explicitly addressing design briefs, exploring marketing scenarios and business identity.</p> <p>Suitable for an HSC plus Vocational pattern of study.</p> <p>70% practical assessment.</p> <p>Students do not need to have studied Visual Arts in Year 9 and 10 to select this course for Stage 6.</p> <p><i>A fee of \$200.00 was charged in 2026. The 2027 fees are yet to be determined.</i></p>

KLA	SUBJECT	REQUIREMENT	NOTES
English	English Extension 2	Upon application at the end of the Year 11 English Extension 1 Course.	Students will discuss their eligibility to sit HSC English Extension 2 in Year 12 with their Year 11 English Extension 1 teacher and the Head of English.
	English Extension 1	Advanced English English - top 10%	Students who apply for Extension English will have demonstrated essay writing, creative writing and reading skills to a substantial level. This highly demanding course is suitable for those students performing in the top 10% of the cohort. Student applications for this course will be reviewed by the Head of English.
	English Advanced	An end of year rank in the top 20% of Year 10 English	<p>Students will be eligible for Advanced English classes if their Year 10 end of year rank is in the top 20% of the cohort. Students who sit below this rank and elect the English Advanced course will need to apply to attend the subject. This application will involve the submission of a letter of application and a copy of what the student considers to be their best piece of work in Year 10 English. Students will also be required to sit a written examination administered by the Head of English.</p> <p>This submission and the student's examination response, along with the student's junior English marks will be considered by a panel consisting of the Head of English, Assistant Head of English and Deputy Principal Teaching and Learning to determine the student's suitability for the course.</p>
	English Standard	An end of year rank in the top 80% of Year 10 English	Students will be placed into Standard English classes if their Year 10 end of year rank is outside of the top 20% and they wish to pursue an HSC plus ATAR pattern of study. Students who place in the top 20% may also elect to sit Standard English in discussion with their class teacher and the Head of English.
	English Studies	HSC plus Vocational Pathway	The English Studies course is suitable for students who are following an HSC plus Vocational pattern of study.

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History	Ancient History	<p>At least a 70% result in Year 10 Mandatory History</p> <p>End-of-year result of at least 70% in English.</p>	<p>Suited to students studying the HSC with a desire for an ATAR pathway for Tertiary studies.</p> <p>High levels of source analysis and essay writing is required plus the ability to interpret, evaluate and argue required of narratives. Broad and specialised readings are required.</p>
	Modern History	<p>At least a 70% result in Year 10 Mandatory History</p> <p>End-of-year result of at least 70% in English.</p>	<p>Suited to students studying the HSC with a desire for an ATAR pathway for Tertiary studies.</p> <p>High levels of source analysis and essay writing is required plus the ability to interpret, evaluate and argue required of narratives. Broad and specialised readings are required.</p>
	History Extension	<p>Year 11 (Ancient or Modern) top 20% .</p> <p>English Advanced Top 20% Advanced or Extension 1 English</p> <p>Permission granted upon application at the end of the Year 11 Course in Ancient and/or Modern History.</p>	<p>Suited to students studying HSC plus ATAR pathway.</p> <p>High levels of essay writing, research skills and wider, academic reading of historiography are required plus the completion of a significant research task into the theories or debates involving history and/or philosophy / theories of history. This may explore and extend understanding of Ancient or Modern History topics.</p> <p>Ancient or Modern History - top 20% (year 11) or recommendation from Year 11 teacher.</p>

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Human Society and Its Environment (HSIE)	Business Studies	English - top 70% Stage 5 result	<p>A significant amount of business terminology needs to be learnt and used by students.</p> <p>An ability to complete significant independent research into contemporary businesses and present findings in a variety of writing styles is necessary. Strong essay and report writing skills are beneficial.</p> <p>Only suited to students studying a HSC plus ATAR pathway.</p>
	Economics	English - 40% and above result Stage 5 result. Mathematics - demonstrate sound achievement in basic mathematical concepts	<p>High order essay writing skills are essential with the ability to interpret and form sound source based arguments.</p> <p>Students will require the ability to calculate and interpret mathematical / statistical data.</p> <p>Only suited to students studying a HSC plus ATAR pathway.</p>
	Geography	Stage 5 Geography top 50% English top 70% Stage 5 result	<p>Suited to students studying a HSC plus ATAR pathway.</p> <p>A high level of achievement in geographical skills and essay writing is required. Students should possess a keen interest in geographical issues.</p>
	Legal Studies	English - top 50% Stage 5 result	<p>Suited to students studying a HSC plus ATAR pathway.</p> <p>An ability to write high order extended responses, incorporating evidence-based research is required. Awareness of current events and specialised reading is also required.</p>
	Society and Culture	English - top 60% Stage 5 result	<p>Suited to students studying a HSC plus ATAR pathway. Students are required to apply their own social research on a regular basis to verify, test and engage the fundamental concepts and understanding of the course. The recommended skills include research, critical thinking and an advanced writing ability.</p>

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Language	Spanish Beginners	English - Top 30%	This course is only available to students who have no previous or very limited knowledge of the language. If unsure please consult with the Head of Department. These students must have only completed the mandatory 100 hours study of Spanish in one continuous 12 month period in Stage 4. The course involves a significant amount of vocabulary learning and grammar. Students will require strong literacy and independent study skills.
	Spanish Continuers	Stage 5 Spanish top 20% or above. English-top 20% of cohort (in consultation with Head of Department)	Students will be considered for Spanish Continuers if their class work in Stage 5 has demonstrated persistence, application and high achievement. This subject is only available to students who have completed the Stage 5 Course or equivalent in Spanish (approximately 200- 400 hours at the commencement of Stage 6), or have a background in Spanish. Students will require strong literacy and independent study skills.
Mathematics	Mathematics Extension 2	Upon application at the end of the Preliminary Mathematics Extension 1 Course. Students in the accelerated pathway may apply at the end of the Advanced Mathematics Course.	Prerequisite- students require to have achieved all the Preliminary Extension 1 outcomes at a superior level. Students will discuss their eligibility to sit HSC Mathematics Extension 2 with their Year 11 Mathematics teacher and the Head of Mathematics. An invitation will be extended to appropriate candidates.
	Mathematics Extension 1	All Accelerated students and the up to top 25% of students who study Advanced Pathway with teacher recommendation.	Prerequisite - students require to have achieved all the Advanced and Extension outcomes at a superior level. The course is designed for students with a special interest in mathematics who have shown that they possess exceptional aptitude for the subject. This course is for students who require substantial mathematics at a tertiary level, supporting the physical sciences, computer science or engineering.
	Mathematics Advanced	Up to 60% of students who study Advanced Pathway and 5% of students who study Standard Pathway who have demonstrated superior knowledge and work ethics. With teacher recommendation only.	Prerequisite - students require to have achieved all the Advanced Mathematics outcomes at a superior level. This is a Calculus based course with sufficient basis for further studies in mathematics as a minor discipline at tertiary level in support of courses such as the life sciences or commerce. Students who do not make the cut and wish to study Mathematics Advanced must discuss this with the Head of Mathematics.

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Mathematics	Mathematics Standard 2	Students who study Standard pathway and the top 10% of students who study Core.	<p>This is a Finance and Statistics based course that will provide an appropriate mathematical background for students who wish to enter occupations that require the use of a variety of mathematical and statistical techniques, providing a strong foundation for university study in the areas of business, humanities, nursing and paramedical sciences.</p> <p>Students wishing to study this course must be in component Standard mathematics. Students from Core mathematics electing to study this course for the HSC must make up all Standard Mathematics prerequisite concepts and this must be discussed with the Head of Mathematics.</p>
	Mathematics Standard 1	HSC plus Vocational or with an optional HSC plus ATAR exam.	<p>The course enables students to develop their knowledge, understanding and skills in working mathematically and in communicating concisely and precisely. It provides opportunities for students to consider various applications of mathematics in a broad range of contemporary contexts through the use of mathematical modeling and use these models to solve problems related to their present and future needs. It also provides an appropriate mathematical background for students entering the workforce and/or undertaking further community and workplace training.</p> <p>This course is suitable for students following a HSC plus Vocational pattern of study.</p>
Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE)	Health and Movement Science (HMS - formerly Stage 6 PDHPE)	PDHPE - top 40% in Year 10 PDHPE (theory component only). English - top 45%	<p>Students will be required to have achieved an end of year rank in the top 40% of the cohort for the Year 10 PDHPE theory component only. Students who sit below this rank and elect the HMS course will need to apply to study this subject.</p> <p>Students in Year 10 must have demonstrated enthusiasm, consistent application and achievement. Students require the ability to write essays and short responses in an objective and analytical manner. This is a HSC plus ATAR pattern of study.</p>
	Sport, Lifestyle and Recreational Studies (SLR)	Nil HSC plus Vocational pattern of study	<p>Ideal alternative to the rigorous 2 Unit HMS Course with a large practical component. Students gain the additional benefit of completing at least two external certificates / qualifications during the course. This is a HSC plus Vocational pattern of study.</p> <p>Students cannot study both HMS and SLR.</p>

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Religion	Studies of Religion II 2 Unit	HSC plus ATAR Pathway English - top 50%	Students in Year 10 must have demonstrated enthusiasm, consistent application and achievement. Students require the ability to write essays and short responses in an objective and analytical manner. This would apply to the top 75% of the cohort.
	Studies of Religion I 1 Unit	HSC plus ATAR Pathway English - top 50%	Students in Year 10 must have demonstrated enthusiasm, application and competence. Students require the ability to write essays and short responses in an objective and analytical manner. This would apply to the top 75% of the cohort.
	Religious Studies	Nil	Open to all. This subject does not count towards an ATAR.
Science	Biology	Science - top 40% English - top 50%	<p>Students will be considered for Biology if their Year 10 end of year assessment mark in Science ranks them in the top 40% of the year group and their class work in Year 10 has demonstrated persistence, application and achievement. Students will need to have achieved a result in the Year 10 Genetics and Evolutionary change assessment task that places them in the top 40% of the cohort.</p> <p>Biology students are required to have significant comprehension and writing skills to meet the scientific literacy demands of the course. Therefore, if students' Year 10 end of year assessment mark in English ranks them in the top 50% of the year group they will be considered for the course.</p> <p>This course is suitable for students following a HSC plus ATAR pattern of study.</p>
	Chemistry	Science - top 30% Mathematics - Top 50%	<p>Students will be considered for Chemistry if their Year 10 end of year assessment mark in Science ranks them in the top 30% of the Year group and their class work in Year 10 has demonstrated persistence, application and achievement. Students will need to have achieved a result in the Year 10 Chemistry Module, Reactions, which places them in the top 30% of the cohort. This will be assessed in the Semester I Examination.</p> <p>This course is suitable for students following a HSC plus ATAR pattern of study.</p>

KLA	SUBJECT	REQUIREMENT	NOTES
Science	Physics	Science - top 30% Advanced +Extension Mathematics or top 30% of cohort in Standard Mathematics	<p>Students will be considered for Physics if their Year 10 end of year assessment mark in Science ranks them in the top 30% of the year group and their class work in Year 10 has demonstrated persistence, application and achievement. Students will need to have achieved a result in the Year 10 Physics Depth Study that places them in the top 30% of the cohort. Additionally, Students should have completed</p> <p>Advanced Mathematics or have results in Standard Mathematics that place them in the top 30% of the cohort.</p> <p>Students must be undertaking the Mathematics Advanced Course to be eligible to undertake Physics.</p> <p>This course is suitable for students following a HSC plus ATAR pattern of study.</p>
	Investigating Science	Science - top 60%	<p>Students will be considered for Investigating Science if their Year 10 end of year assessment mark in Science ranks them in the top 60% of the year group and their class work in Year 10 has demonstrated persistence, application and achievement. It should be noted that students undertaking Investigating Science will require scientific literacy skills as this course is focused on research and investigation.</p> <p>Students undertaking Biology, Chemistry or Physics are encouraged to also undertake Investigating Science as it enhances students' working scientific skills. This is beneficial as 60% of the HSC Examination for these courses assess the application of working scientific skills.</p> <p>This course is suitable for students following a HSC plus ATAR pattern of study.</p>
	Engineering Studies	Science - top 30% Advanced and Extension Mathematics or top 30% of cohort in Standard Mathematics	<p>Students will be considered for Engineering Studies if their class work in Year 10 Science and Mathematics has demonstrated persistence, application and achievement. This subject requires students to solve problems logically and mathematically. Students will need to have achieved a high result in the Advanced Mathematics outcomes.</p> <p>Students must be undertaking the Mathematics Advanced Course to be eligible to undertake Engineering Studies.</p> <p>This course is suitable for students following a HSC plus ATAR pattern of study.</p>

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	Marine Studies	HSC plus Vocational Pathway	<p>The course explores the marine ecosystem and the anatomy and physiology of marine organisms. Students learn about marine stewardship and employment opportunities in the marine and maritime industry.</p> <p>Marine Studies is practical in nature and provides students the opportunity to learn to fish, prepare and process seafood, gain First Aid and CPR Accreditation, Open Water SCUBA diving qualification and to obtain a NSW Waterways Boat Drivers Licence.</p> <p>This course is suitable for students following a HSC plus Vocational pattern of study only.</p> <p><i>A fee of \$150.00 in Year 11 and \$200.00 in Year 12 was charged in 2026. The 2027 fees are yet to be determined.</i></p>

KLA	SUBJECT	REQUIREMENT	NOTES
Technologies	Design and Technology	<p>Top 50% in a Stage 5 Technologies subject.</p> <p>English - top 70%</p>	<p>This course is designed for students who are motivated and have an interest in design. Students will utilise innovative and emerging technologies.</p> <p>Students are required to complete a Major Design Project including a detailed portfolio of their project which requires reasonable literacy skills. Suitable for a HSC plus ATAR pattern of study.</p>
	Industrial Technology - Timber Products and Furniture Technologies	<p>Top 50% in a Stage 5 Technologies subject.</p> <p>English - top 80%</p>	<p>This course is best suited to students who have studied Industrial Technology - Timber in Year 10.</p> <p>Students should have an interest in designing and manufacturing Timber products.</p> <p>Students are required to complete a Major Project including a detailed portfolio of their project which requires reasonable literacy skills.</p> <p>Students are at an advantage if they study Business Studies in conjunction with this course. Suitable for a HSC plus ATAR pattern of study.</p>
	Food Technology	<p>Top 50% in a Stage 5 Technologies subject.</p> <p>English - top 50%</p>	<p>This course is suited to students who have studied Food Technology in Year 10. Students should be willing to commit to the practical aspect of the course as well as have an interest in Nutrition and Product Development. Students should have high literacy levels. Suitable for a HSC plus ATAR pattern of study.</p>

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Technologies	Enterprise Computing	An end of year rank in the top 80% of Year 10 English	A business systems oriented computing course that requires sound literacy levels. Suitable for a HSC plus ATAR pattern of study.
	Software Engineering	Mathematics - top 70% of the year group English - top 70% of the year group	This course requires an ability to think logically and complete work independently. The course does require strong literacy skills for assessment tasks and the HSC written examination. Suitable for a HSC plus ATAR pattern of study.

TVET (TAFE Delivered VET)	Some options include: Business Services Electro- technology Information and Digital Technology Property Services Tourism and Events	Attendance rate of over 80% (pending illness / misadventure) Learner Profiles in Semester 1 and Semester 2 Year 10 Reports indicate consistent engagement, organisation, responsibility for learning and respect for others. Sometimes, Often or Always.	Offered at TAFE. Students complete a Certificate Course offsite. This requires students to be reliable with attendance and attitude to learning. There is an additional cost involved which can be discussed with Ms Knowles. These courses may change based on external factors from TAFE. More information on these will be given by Ms Knowles on the Subject Selection Night. The application deadline is Term 3, Week 7 - Monday 31 August.

VET	<i>Vocational Courses can count towards an ATAR. Students must complete the course and the HSC examination to qualify.</i>		
	Construction	Attendance rate of over 80% (pending illness / misadventure)	Must have an interest in the construction industry. Students must undertake two compulsory 35-hour work placements.
		Learner Profiles in Semester 1 and Semester 2 Year 10 reports indicate consistent engagement, organisation, responsibility for learning and respect for others. Sometimes, Often or Always.	Suitable for students studying HSC plus ATAR and HSC plus Vocational patterns of study. Students who do not meet the requirement to be interviewed for suitability. Please note there is an additional cost for this course.

VET	<i>Vocational Courses can count towards an ATAR. Students must complete the course and the HSC examination to qualify.</i>		
	Hospitality - Kitchen Operations	<p>Purchase Chef's uniform and tool box</p> <p>Attendance rate of over 80% (pending illness / misadventure) Learner Profiles in <i>Semester 1</i> and <i>Semester 2</i> Year 10 reports indicate consistent engagement, organisation, responsibility for learning and respect for others. Sometimes, Often or Always</p>	<p>Must have an interest in food preparation and hospitality. Students must undertake two compulsory 35-hour work placements.</p> <p>Willing to participate in after school-hour functions during the year.</p> <p>Students who do not meet the requirements to be interviewed for suitability.</p> <p>Please note there is an additional cost for this course.</p>
	Entertainment	<p>Attendance rate of over 80% (pending illness / misadventure) Learner Profiles in <i>Semester 1</i> and <i>Semester 2</i> Year 10 reports indicate consistent engagement, organisation, responsibility for learning and respect for others. Sometimes, Often or Always</p>	<p>Must have an interest in the Entertainment Industry and be prepared to work a school production in Years 11 or 12 for 35 hours to gain internal work placement. Students also complete a thirty five (35) hour work placement in Year 11 at an external venue.</p> <p>Suitable for HSC plus ATAR and HSC plus vocational patterns of study. Students who do not meet the requirement to be interviewed for suitability. Please note there is an additional cost for this course.</p>
<p>For External Course offered at NSW School of Languages</p> <p><i>Please see Head of Languages</i></p>	NSL - NSW School of Languages	<p>https://nswschoollang.schools.nsw.gov.au/ Non Government Course Fee</p>	<p>Students who wish to study a language other than those offered at the College should contact the Head of Languages to discuss as soon as possible. Application forms are available towards the end of Term 3. Language courses have a quota limit and are filled on a first come first served basis.</p> <p>Please visit the NSW School of Languages website to check which languages are offered and any specific course requirements.</p> <p>There is an additional charge for these courses as outlined on the website.</p>