



# CURRICULUM GUIDE

---



Melbourne Archdiocese  
Catholic Schools



# TEACHING AND LEARNING PHILOSOPHY

At Iona College, our learning culture is purposeful, evidence-informed, and shaped by our Catholic identity. It places the formation of the whole person, intellectually, socially, emotionally, physically, and spiritually at the centre of our educational mission. Our shared commitment is to ensure that every student is known, challenged, and supported to achieve excellence.

Our learning culture is grounded in the College values of Courage, Compassion, Leadership, and Excellence. These values shape expectations for behaviour, engagement, and relationships, guiding students to act with integrity and contribute positively to their community. Classrooms are built on trust, predictability, and respect, reflecting a Catholic ethos of care and inclusion.

Iona College's Learning Culture is underpinned by research and contemporary evidence about how students learn.

Drawing on cognitive science, our teachers implement consistent, high-impact instructional practices aligned to the Iona College Instructional Model:

- Recall: Activating prior knowledge and strengthening memory through retrieval.
- Teach: Explicit instruction that makes learning clear, sequenced, and accessible.
- Model & Guide: Demonstration, guided practice, and formative assessment that clarify the learning process.
- Apply & Extend: Independent and collaborative learning that deepens understanding and builds complexity.
- Review: Consolidation, reflection, and feedback to embed learning and inform next steps.

Ultimately, Iona College aims to instil in students the desire for lifelong learning. Through rigorous curriculum, explicit teaching, meaningful challenge, and reflective practice, students develop the knowledge, skills, and dispositions needed to flourish academically and personally, and to "Learn to Change the World."



# YEARS 7 & 8

---

Students in Years 7, 8 and 9 engage in a broad and diverse curriculum designed to develop their knowledge, skills and understanding across all learning areas and disciplines. Each year level follows a structured learning program that incorporates core, specialist and elective subjects, while also providing opportunities to build capabilities in inquiry-based, interdisciplinary and project-based learning.

Our timetable operates on a two-week (10-day) cycle, with classes delivered in either 47-minute or 94-minute sessions, depending on the structure of the day.

All students undertake core subjects throughout the year and participate in specialist studies within the Arts and Technologies for one semester annually. The Arts curriculum is comprised of Creative Arts and Performing Arts, while the Technologies curriculum includes Digital Technologies, Design and Technologies (Resistant Materials), Design and Technologies (Non-Resistant Materials), and Food Technology.

## CORE SUBJECTS

### Year long

English  
Maths  
Religion  
Humanities  
Science  
Wellbeing for Learning  
Health and Physical Education  
Indonesian  
Sport-GISSA

## SPECIALIST SUBJECTS

### Single Semester

Art  
Digital Technology  
Music  
Drama  
Food – Kitchen Garden  
Technology – Resistant  
Technology – Non-Resistant



# YEAR 9

At Year 9, students continue their core studies of English, Mathematics, Science, Humanities, Health/PE, Religion and Wellbeing/Careers. They are also provided a wealth of innovative and diverse elective subjects to select from across multiple learning areas to tailor their educational pathway in alignment with their passions, skills, interests, learning preferences, personal values and future ambitions. In total, thirty percent of a student's class time will be spent in personally selected subjects, and with this autonomy of learning, students will come to develop genuine pride, ownership and engagement in their studies while casting their minds forward to future study and employment.

## CORE SUBJECTS

### Year long

Religion  
English  
Mathematics  
Science

Humanities  
Health and Physical Education  
Languages  
Wellbeing / Careers

## ELECTIVES

### ENGLISH

- Books Into Film
- Love the Language

### MATHEMATICS

- Modelling with Mathematics
- Fast-track Mathematics

### TECHNOLOGY

- The Fusion of Food (Food Technology)
- Design Technologies – resistant materials: Woodwork
- Design Technologies – resistant materials: Metalwork
- Design Technologies – non-resistant materials: Textiles
- Design Technologies – GameDev Studio – Unity 2D
- STEAMING (STEM)
- Dream, Design, Create (STEM)

### SCIENCE

- Psychology
- Aquatic Science

### THE ARTS

- i-Create (Contemporary 2D Art)
- i-Create Contemporary 3D Art)
- Lights, Camera, Action (Media Studies)
- Design Our World (Visual Communication and Design)
- Dramatic Discovery: In the spotlight! (Drama)
- Page to Stage (Drama and Theatre Exploration)
- Music Repertoire
- Music Technology

### PHYSICAL EDUCATION

- Recreational Pursuits
- Outdoor Education
- Global Health
- Sport Science

### LANGUAGES

- Indonesian
- Spanish
- Literacy Support

# YEAR 10

At Year 10, the subjects offered at Iona have been carefully designed to provide students with the best opportunity to succeed as senior students, with studies designed as preparation for the important years ahead.

## CORE SUBJECTS

### Year long

Religion  
English  
(or Literacy for those students deemed suitable)

Mathematics  
(Numeracy for those students deemed suitable) or  
(Mathematics Pre-Methods as an extension option)  
Wellbeing / Careers

## ELECTIVES

### ENGLISH

- Linguistics
- Literature

### MATHEMATICS

- Modelling with Mathematics
- Fast-track Mathematics

### TECHNOLOGY

- Design Technologies: non-resistant materials: Textiles
- Design Technologies: resistant materials: Woodwork
- Design Technologies: resistant materials: Systems Technology
- Digital Technologies: Game Dev – Unity 3D and VR development
- Food Studies
- Hospitality (Café Program)
- STEAMing (STEM)

### SCIENCE

*One must be selected*

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Environmental Science
- Physics
- Psychology
- Science for Living

### THE ARTS

- At the Movies (Media)
- Dance
- Design Our World 10 (Vis Com & Design)
- Drama – Musical Theatre/ Dramatic Performance
- Drama – Performance Project
- i-Create 10 (Visual Art)
- Music – Repertoire Performance
- Music – Technology Performance

### PHYSICAL EDUCATION

*One must be selected*

- Active and Able
- Australia's Health
- Outdoor Education
- Sport and Healthy Lifestyles
- Coaching and Leadership
- Advanced Sport Science

### LANGUAGES

- Indonesian (Year long)

### HUMANITIES

- Civics and Citizenship (Law and Criminology)
- Economics and Business
- Geography 1 (Human)
- Geography 2 (Physical)
- History 1 (War and the Modern World)
- History 2 (Ancient Empires)

# VCE / VCE MAJOR PATHWAYS

## Vocational Major (VCE VM)

The VCE Vocational Major is a two-year vocational and applied learning program within the VCE. It focuses on real-world, hands-on learning and helps students develop practical skills for work, apprenticeships, traineeships, further education, or alternative university entry pathways. The VCE VM pathway does not provide students with an ATAR.

### THE ARTS

- Art – Making and Exhibiting
- Drama
- Media
- Music
- Music Inquiry
- Music Contemporary Performance
- Music Repertoire Performance
- Visual Communication Design

### TECHNOLOGIES

- Food Studies
- Product Design & Technology
- Resistant materials (wood, metals, plastic)
- Non-Resistant materials (textiles)

### DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

- Applied Computing
- Applied Computing – Software Development

### MATHEMATICS

- Foundation Mathematics
- General Mathematics
- Mathematical Methods
- Specialist Mathematics

### ENGLISH

- English
- English Language
- Literature

### VOCATIONAL OPTIONS

- Vocational Education and Training (VET)
- Australian School-Based Apprenticeships (SBATs)

### RELIGION

- Religion and Society

### LANGUAGES

- Indonesian Second Language

### SCIENCE

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Environmental Science
- Physics
- Psychology

### HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

- Health & Human Development
- Outdoor & Environmental Studies
- Physical Education

### HUMANITIES

- Geography
- Classical Studies
- Politics
- Modern History
- History Revolutions
- Accounting
- Business Management
- Economics
- Legal Studies

### VCE VM

- VCE VM Literacy
- VCE VM Personal Development Skills
- VM Work Related Skills
- VCE VM Numeracy

# LESSON TIMES

---

## STANDARD DAY

**9.00 – 9.08am**

### **Community Group**

*Students begin the day in their Community Group. Mobile phones are handed in and securely stored, daily messages are shared by the Community Group Teacher and the day begins with prayer.*

**9.08am – 9.55am**

### **Session 1**

**9.55am – 10.42am**

### **Session 2**

## **BREAK 1**

**11.05am – 11.52am**

### **Session 3**

**11.52am – 12.39pm**

### **Session 4**

## **BREAK 1**

**1.24pm – 2.11pm**

### **Session 1**

**2.11pm – 2.58pm**

### **Session 2**

**2.58pm – 3.05pm**

### **Community Group**



COURAGE

## Contact Us

 03 5229 0004

 [www.iona.vic.edu.au](http://www.iona.vic.edu.au)

 15 Donegal Drive | Charlemont | 3217 | Wadawurrung Country