



# Year 9

## 2026

### Information Night

Thursday, July 31



Please scan with your phone and record your attendance



# Year 9 2026

## Information Night

Thursday, July 31



# Introduction

Mr Brian Martin  
Year 9 Leader



# Acknowledgement of Country

I would like to respectfully acknowledge the traditional owners of this land on which our school is built. These people are called Wurundjeri.

We acknowledge the Elders, past and present, and ask the Creator God to challenge us to open our eyes to see the stories written, and to open our ears and hear the songs sung.



*Acknowledgement of Country*

# Prayer

Lord, you call us by name and you call us to holiness, as you did St Joseph and St John Bosco.

We ask you to fill us with your spirit so that we, too, may reflect the life of your Son in our thoughts, attitude, words and actions.

Let us grow more aware of your presence in our lives and empower us to bring the good news of your love and salvation to all those you have entrusted to us, so that we may all become good Christians and honest citizens.

Amen.



# Principal's Welcome

Cathy Livingston



Louis Goutos  
Head of Valdocco



Jordan Tailby  
Year 9 Learning Leader



# Valdocco Homeroom Team

2025

Graeme Tucker



Fletcher Dodds



Martin Judd



Jordan Tailby



James Buck



Corey Hogan



Umberto Bucalossi





# Valdocco Team

2025

Debbie Fowkes  
Valdocco Office/First  
Aid



James Whiting  
Outdoor Programs  
Leader



Gerard Quinn  
(Occhiena Learning  
Tutor)



# Year 9 Expedition 2026





















# Brief History of our Valdocco

Andrew Cooper  
Deputy Principal (Learning)





LA CASA PINARDI - SEDE DELL'ORATORIO  
DAL 1846 AL 1851































# Valdocco

A  
Legacy  
Passed on



# Valdocco

A  
**Legacy**  
Passed on

Purpose of the unique Valdocco Program

Rationale for the Valdocco program

Relationships, Responsibility , Rehearsal and  
Reflection

# Valdocco

## Purpose of the Valdocco Program

*“The motivation and engagement of students should be the core objective of a successful teaching and learning model in order for students to have a depth of understanding that is beyond the knowledge about ‘facts’ and to allow them to apply their learning across disciplines.”*

***Publication: Understanding Year 9 Students, 2006***

# Valdocco

## A Rationale for Action

*young adolescents have a physical  
and biological  
need for movement ... learn best  
through engagement and interaction  
(and from) ... hands-on experiences*

*... students will work longer and more  
productively in activities that have a  
physical component or in which they  
are particularly interested.*

**Middle Years of Schooling p1**

# Valdocco

## The Valdocco Four 'R's

Relationships

Responsibility

Rehearsal

Reflection



# A Focus on Relationships





# A Focus on Responsibility



# A Focus on Rehearsal





# A Focus on Reflection



# The Valdocco Way



# Policy & Processes

High expectations

‘Keeping The Peace’

‘Hands Off’

Uniform Expectations

Period 9 Detentions

‘Homework Club’



# Wellbeing

Critical role of Homeroom Teacher

Teacher Partnerships

Role of Year 9 Leader

Tracey Ashton    Head of Counseling

Matthew Dunn Head of Students

Guido Piotti Deputy Principal (Students)

# Oratory

## Wellbeing and Personal Development Programs

Self-Care

Job Ready

Respectful Relationships

Smart Generation



# Curriculum at Valdocco

*The motivation and engagement of students should be the core objective of a successful teaching and learning model in order for students to have a depth of understanding that is beyond the knowledge about 'facts' and to allow them to apply their learning across disciplines.*

'Understanding Year 9 Students, 2006, p12'

# Introduction

Handbooks

Overview of the Timetable

Foundations Program

Discovery Program

Friday Thematic Program

(Challenge Program)



# Handbooks

(Available now on College Website)

Year 9 Handbook

Valdocco Subject Selection Handbook

Valdocco  
Student  
Timetable  
  
(Example only)

Period	Monday A	Tuesday A	Wednesday A	Thursday A	Friday A	Monday B	Tuesday B	Wednesday B	Thursday B	Friday B
1	Challenge A	MAB	Foundations 1	MAB	Thematic	Foundations 1	MAB	Foundations 2	MAB	Thematic
2	Challenge A	Foundations 1	Foundations 1	Oratory/ Mass	Thematic	Foundations 1	Foundations 2	Foundations 2	Oratory/ Mass	Thematic
3	Foundations 2	Challenge B	Foundations 2	Foundations 1	Thematic	Foundations 2	Challenge B	Foundations 1	Foundations 1	Thematic
4	Foundations 2	Challenge B	Foundations 2	Foundations 2	Thematic	Foundations 2	Challenge B	Foundations 1	Foundations 2	Thematic
5	Foundations 1	Discovery	Challenge A	Discovery	Thematic	Challenge A	Discovery	Challenge A	Discovery	Thematic
6	Foundations 1	Discovery	Challenge A	Discovery	Thematic	Challenge A	Discovery	Challenge A	Discovery	Thematic
7	RE	Sport		Challenge B	Thematic	RE	Sport		Challenge B	Thematic
8	RE	Sport		Challenge B	Thematic	RE	Sport		Challenge B	Thematic



# Foundations Program

Core studies including Mathematics, English and Religious Education are explored (to a large extent) during the first part of the school day where student attention and energy levels are arguably at their greatest.

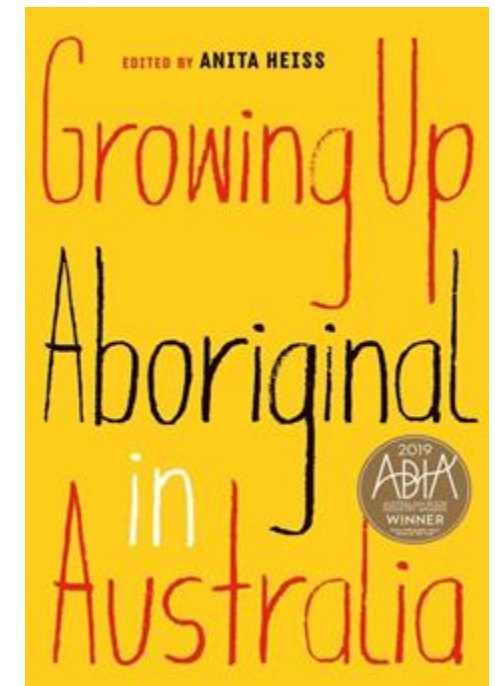
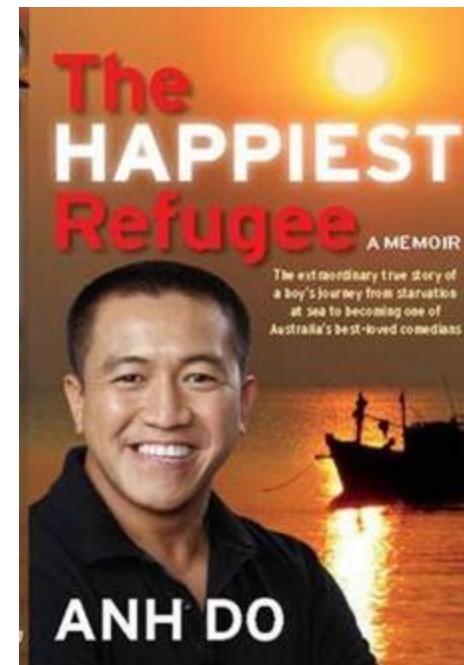
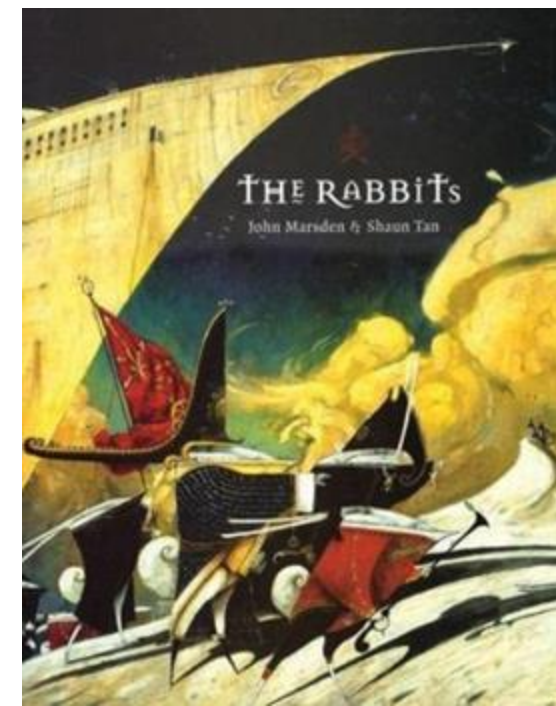
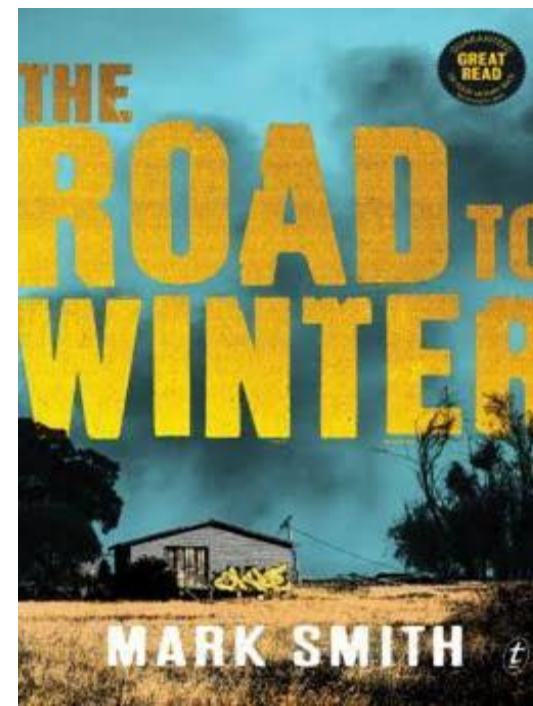
Mind & Body

Religious Education

English

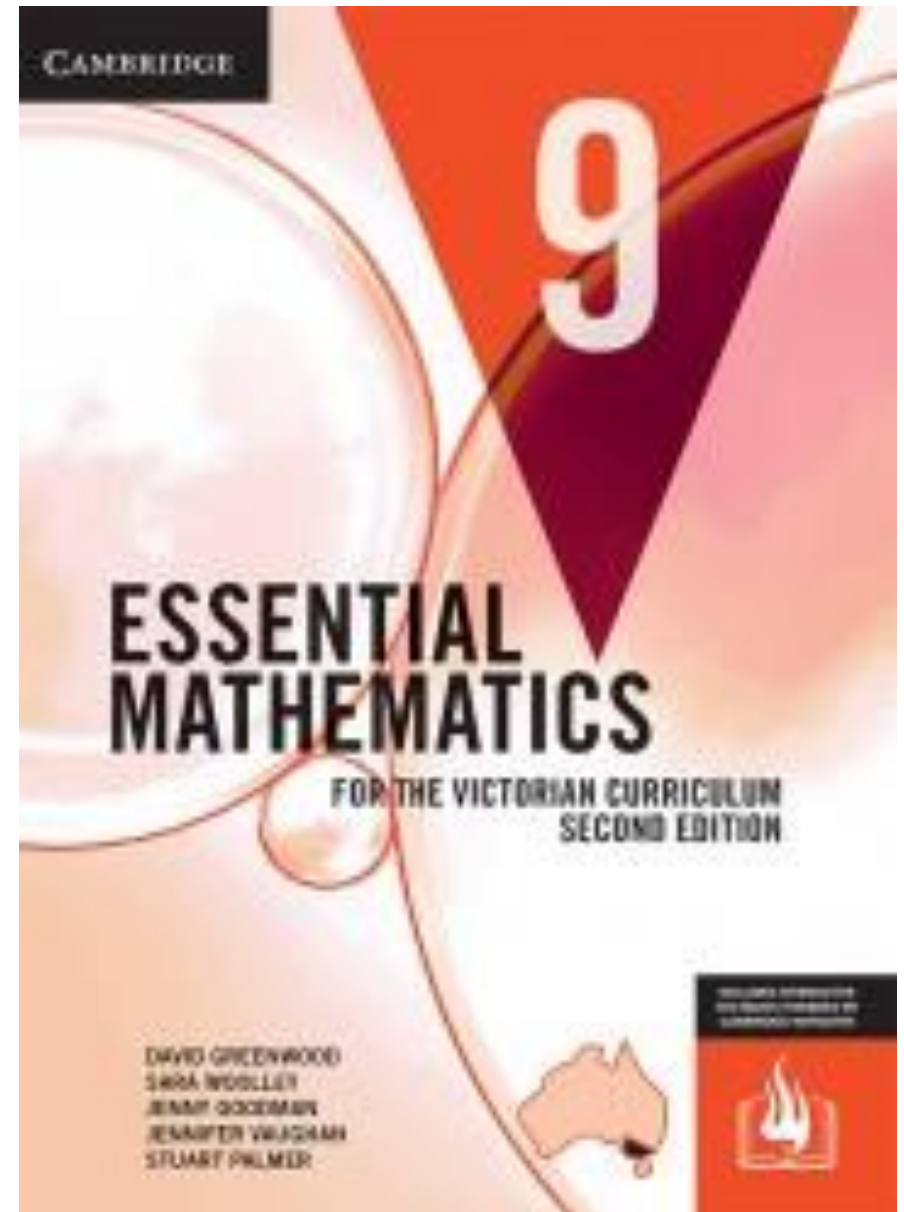
Mathematics

# English

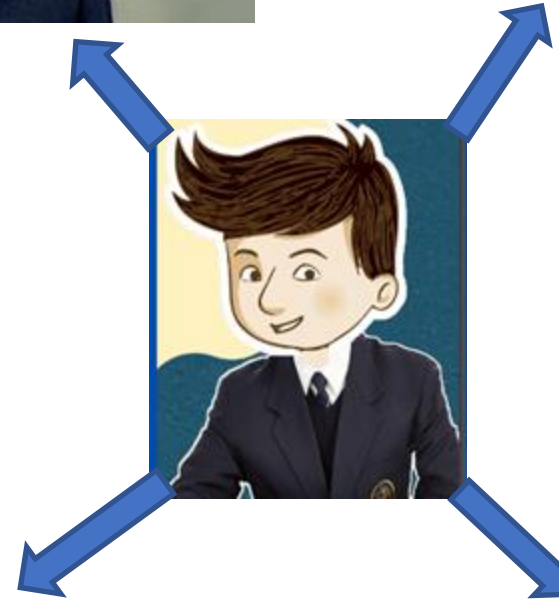




# Mathematics



# Religious Education





# Mind & Body





# Discovery Program





# Discovery Program

STEM

Humanities

Technology and Design

Integrated Skills and Curriculum















Liam Shottle

9 Cantemassa

How to make a cruising  
longboard

By Archie Roper

TOP

# Friday Thematic Program

My Homeroom

My Town

My City

My Market

































## Play and illusion

*Magic and science collided in the Victorian era. While scientists forged inventions out of light and vision, magicians and showmen adapted their experiments for mass entertainment. Through lantern projections, tricks of light and following smoke, they would enthrall and bewitch audiences by conjuring shadowy figures and invoking a world between the known and unknown. These optical toys and games didn't just create illusions of illusion and trickery. They helped devise the visual storytelling techniques, shots and sequences of the moving image.*







# Valdocco

## Support and Consolidation

*Valdocco learning tutors work  
alongside teachers to provide  
academic support across all  
subject areas and across each  
homeroom*

Within class OR withdrawal support

LANE

Exam Support



**Valdocco**

After School Support

Homework Club Tuition

Program runs:

Monday to Thursday Nights

Assisting with completion of work

Assisting with preparation for  
assessments and examinations

Small Group Tutoring

# Challenge Program





# Challenge Program

*“...In order to build greater engagement with learning it has been suggested that teachers need to give students choices and control over their learning...”*

**Publication: Understanding Year Nine Students 2006, p18**

# Core Challenge

## Language

(Japanese or Italian)

/

## LANE

(Literacy and Numeracy Enhancement)



Except for students currently undertaking Year 8 LANE, students in Year 9 will complete at least ONE unit of Language study (two if they choose to do the VET Applied Languages)



Year 8 LANE students will transition into Year 9 Lane for at least one of the two semesters (most LANE students do LANE in both semesters)



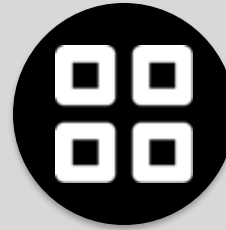
All other students will move from their Language study in Year 8 into that study in Year 9 for a single semester



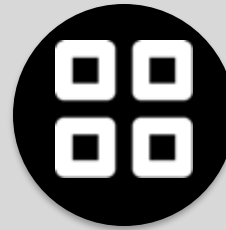
Students choosing to do the VET Applied Language Program (rather than the Core Language Challenge) do this over the year (two challenge units)



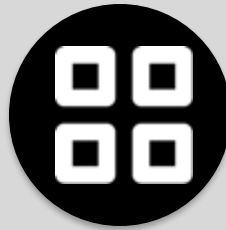
# Challenge Program



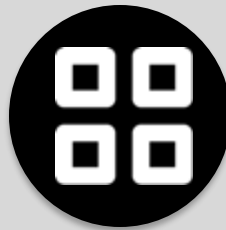
In addition to Core Language/LANE, students in Year 9 will undertake up to three units of Challenge electives for the year.



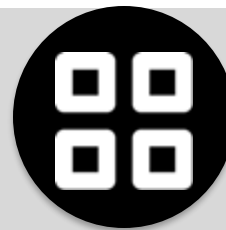
Each unit will be taught over two doubles a week (8 periods a cycle)



Units will be selected from two groups of subjects, Group A and Group B.

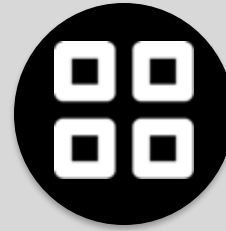


Group B Subjects includes subjects from The Arts, Technology, and VET studies including Languages and Agriculture.



Group A subjects include all other Challenge subjects.

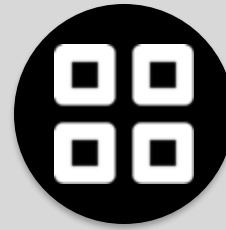
# Challenge Program



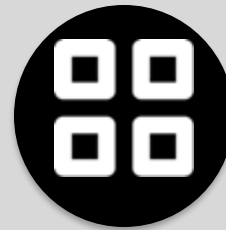
Student in Year 9 MUST complete as minimum one Group B challenge elective subject (they can do more!)



VET Language Subjects (Japanese and Italian) are year-long subjects and must be undertaken in both semesters. All other Units are Semester based



Most of these subjects are conducted on the Valdocco campus



With the exception of the Music Performance, VET Languages and VET Agriculture, none of the subjects are prerequisites for year any 10 studies



## Group A Options

Advanced Health and Physical Education

VET Cert. II Agriculture

Australian Money and Markets

Forensic Science

Physical Sciences  
(Physics and Chemistry)

Psychology

The Great Escapes:  
Geographies of Interconnection

World History (Global Empires)

Writer's Craft

## Group B Options

Digital Technologies

Drama/Theatre Studies

Food Studies

Japanese  
(VET Cert. II Applied Language)

Italian  
(VET Cert. II Applied Language)

Media

NoiseWorx  
(Music Performance and Sound Production)

Product Design and Technologies

Systems Engineering

Visual Arts



# Course Selection Process

Choosing Challenges

Submitting Application

Allocation of Subjects

# Course Selection Process

What should I think about when choosing my Challenge electives?



**The key questions**



Am I good at this subject?



Do I enjoy this subject?



Do I need this subject?



# Course Selection Process

What do I have to do?



Talk to people



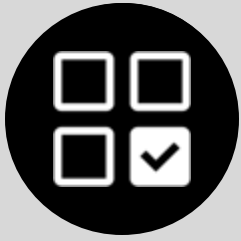
Read the St Joseph's  
*Valdocco Subject Selection  
Handbook 2026*  
[College Website](#)



Remember the three key  
questions:  
**Am I good at it? Do I like it?  
Do I need it?**



Submit selections on the Subject  
Selection Portal by:  
**9am Friday, August 8**



Students will receive an email containing their personalised link to the **Online Subject Selection Portal**.

Please READ, and then follow, the instructions written below. Each step needs to be completed CARE

**Please note: The Online Subject Selection Portal will close at 9am on Friday, August 8.**

**ALL Subject Preferences MUST be submitted online BY this date and time.**

<b>Step 1</b> Internet Access	You will need a device with an Internet connection. We recommend using Google Chrome browser. You may also use Firefox. If you are using a PC, please ensure you are using Internet Explorer version 6.0 and above.
	Navigate to the Subject Selection Portal by navigating to: <a href="#">[Student:AutoLoginUrl]</a>
<b>Step 2</b> Logging In	Note: This is your individual link to the Subject Selection Portal and should not be used by any other student.





Follow instructions on the **Online Subject Selection Portal**.



St Josephs  
College

## Subject Selection Portal



1 Click Add New Preferences

2 Select Your Study Stream

3 Select Your Preferences

4 Submit Valid Preferences

5 View/Print Receipt

Name: [redacted] - 2026 Year 9 Challenge Preferences

[View Instructions](#)

### Year 9 2026 Subject Selection

Welcome to the Online Subject Selection Portal.

On the following screens, you will be asked to nominate your preferred Challenge Subjects for the 2026 school year.

Students in Year 9 undertake a combination of Core Studies (including: Religious Education, English, Mathematics, Discovery, Friday Thematic Program, Oratory, Core Language or LANE, Mind & Body) and Challenge Electives

Students who choose a VET Applied Language will have a total of 4 Challenge Elective Units (including the two VET Applied Language Units), ALL other students will have 3 Challenge Elective Units.

#### Instructions

When instructed to do so, choose from the two options, and then continue to follow instructions provided completing all selections and reserves:

Option #1: I intend to complete a VET Applied Language **OR** Option #2: I DO NOT intend to complete a VET Applied Language

**Notes: The first selection in Option # 2 MUST be a Group B unit study**

In making these important decisions, please keep in mind your academic results to date and consult with your parents and teachers and the Learning Leadership Team.

Students should note that enrolment in Year 9 is subject to successfully completing Year 8.

Click + Add New Preferences to begin.


+ Add New Preferences

View Subject Details

Log Out



## Selecting Study Stream (VET Language OR Core Language )

 **St Josephs College** **Subject Selection Portal**

1 Click Add New Preferences   **2 Select Your Study Stream**   3 Select Your Preferences   4 Submit Valid Preferences   5 View/Print Receipt

Name [REDACTED] - 2026 Year 9 Challenge Preferences

[Return to Home Page](#)

[Log Out](#)

### Study Streams

Please select your Study Stream

☒ I intend on completing VET Applied Languages


☐ I do NOT intend on completing VET Applied Languages

Click **Proceed** to continue.






# VET Language Stream

**St Josephs College**

**Subject Selection Portal**



1 Click Add New Preferences

2 Select Your Study Stream

3 Select Your Preferences

4 Submit Valid Preferences

5 View/Print Receipt

2026 Year 9 Challenge Preferences

Subject/Unit Details: Minimum: 3 Maximum: 7 Total Selections: 6

Time Remaining: 00

Students will need to:

- You will need to select a **GROUP B** unit as Selections 1 (Note: if choosing a VET Language or VET Agriculture be sure to choose both Units)
- You will also select other preferences from Group A or B (in order of preference) including a reserve preference

Remember to:

- GROUP B subject MUST occupy Selections 1
- Selections 2 onwards can include any combination of Group A or B studies
- Choose subjects you think you might like.
- Choose subjects you think you might be good at.
- Choose subjects you think might challenge you.
- Choose subjects you need in your prerequisites.
- Not be influenced by your friends choices.

Please note:


- VET Applied Language (Italian or Japanese) will complete the study in both semesters.
- If your first preference is full or does not run you may be allocated to your second or third preference etc.

Select your preferences below, then click PROCEED.

Proceed

Cancel

Log Out

Preference boxes that have a  icon located to the right must have a valid subject selected from that box before you can submit your preferences.

VET Applied Languages

Preference 1

Group B - Italian (VET Cert. II Applied Language) Semester 1

Preference 2

Group B - Italian (VET Cert. II Applied Language) Semester 2

Electives - No Language

Preference 3

Group B - Drama/Theatre Studies

Preference 4

Group B - Food Studies

Preference 5

Group A - Physical Sciences (Chemistry/Physics)

Preference 6

Group A - The Great Escape (Geographies of Interconnection)

Reserve 1

Group B - Media


Reserve 2

Group A - Writer's Craft

Click **Proceed** to continue.



## Selecting Study Stream (VET Language OR Core Language )

 **St Josephs College** **Subject Selection Portal**

1 Click Add New Preferences   **2 Select Your Study Stream**   3 Select Your Preferences   4 Submit Valid Preferences   5 View/Print Receipt

Name: [REDACTED] - 2026 Year 9 Challenge Preferences

[Return to Home Page](#)

[Log Out](#)

### Study Streams

Please select your Study Stream

☐ I intend on completing VET Applied Languages

☒ I do NOT intend on completing VET Applied Languages

Click **Proceed** to continue.





# Core Language / LANE Stream

**St Josephs College Subject Selection Portal**

1 Click Add New Preferences   2 Select Your Study Stream   **3 Select Your Preferences**   4 Submit Valid Preferences   5 View/Print Receipt

Year 9 Challenge Preferences   Subject/Unit Details: Minimum: 5 Maximum: 6 Total Selections: 5   Time Remaining

### Year 9 2025 Subject Selection

Students will need to:

- You will need to select a **GROUP B** unit as Selections 1 (Note: if choosing a VET Language or VET Agriculture be sure to choose both Units)
- You will also select other preferences from Group A or B (in order of preference) including a reserve preference

Remember to:

- GROUP B subject MUST occupy Selections 1
- Selections 2 onwards can include any combination of Group A or B studies
- Choose subjects you think you might like
- Choose subjects you think you might be good at
- Choose subjects you think might challenge you
- Choose subjects you need in your prerequisites
- Not be influenced by your friends choices

Please note:

- VET Applied Language (Italian or Japanese) will complete the study in both semesters
- If your first preference is full or does not run you may be allocated to your second or third preference etc.

Select your preferences below, then click PROCEED.

[Proceed](#) [Cancel](#) [Log Out](#)

Preference boxes that have a **!** icon located to the right must have a valid subject selected from that box before you can submit your preferences.

Year 8 Language

Preference 1   Year 8 Japanese

Electives

Preference 2   Group B - Product Design and Technologies

Preference 3   Group B - Food Studies

Preference 4   Group B - Systems Engineering

Preference 5   Group B - Visual Arts

Reserve 1   Group A - Psychology

Click **Proceed** to continue.



Students confirm their preferences and sign (electronically) to acknowledge that they are correct.

St Josephs College Subject Selection Portal

Click Add New Preferences | Select Your Study Stream | Select Your Preferences | **Submit Valid Preferences** | View/Print Receipt

Please sign in the Student Signatures box and click the Save Signature button

Submit Valid Preferences | Cancel | Log Out

Parent/Guardian Email Address:

Your Preferences

Preference No	Preference Name	Unit Name
Preference 1	Unit 1: Accounting	Unit 1
Preference 2	Unit 2: Product Design and Technologies	Unit 2
Preference 3	Unit 3: Food Studies	Unit 3
Preference 4	Unit 4: Systems Engineering	Unit 4
Preference 5	Unit 5: Visual Arts	Unit 5
Preference 6	Unit 6: Psychology	Unit 6
Total		6 Units

Student Signature

Save Signature

Submit Valid Preferences | Cancel | Log Out

Click **+ Submit Valid Preferences** to continue.



# Summary

What do I need to Select?

Pick your language option  
(whole year **or** one semester?)

Pick your Challenge Electives

Must have a minimum of one  
Challenge B Elective

# Course Selection Process

## Allocation and Notification of Subjects

Students will be informed of their Challenge Electives mid Term 4 2025

Students will have their first Challenge classes during Head Start (Commencing **Tuesday, Nov. 25**)

Students may be able to make changes to electives up until Week 2 Term 1 2026 (subject to availability of places in classes)



# Concluding Remarks



Submit selections on the Subject  
Selection Portal by:  
**9am Friday, August 8**



**Year 9**  
**2026**

**Information**  
**Night**

**Thursday, July 31**



**Please scan with your phone  
and record your attendance**