

YEAR 7 AND 8 AT ST MARTINS LUTHERAN COLLEGE

As a Christian school, St Martins Lutheran College strives to provide a high quality education preparing students for an evolving future with genuine care for them as a unique individual. All staff are committed to providing an engaging, challenging and enjoyable educational experience for the students in our care. We are guided by our St Martins Spirit values of Respect, Faith, Compassion, Growth, Encouragement and Hope.

Year 7 and 8 are a time where students experience a great deal of change, physically, emotionally, socially and in other ways as they enter and progress through adolescence. To cater for these changes and the needs of students at this age, St Martins has established specific middle school practices and strategies to support the transition from primary school to secondary. With all that is going on in their lives, we want this transition to be as smooth and effective as possible.

Our Year 7 students have their classrooms located in “The Ark”, the building which houses our secondary students, specifically in the new wing built with best practice for Middle school students in mind. Students spend the majority of their class time with their class teacher to provide stability in their first year in the secondary setting. They have the added bonus of access and exposure to shared specialist facilities (the Trade Training Centre, Science Labs, Art Room) and specialist teachers.

We have built our Year 8 programme to maintain the idea of students having a limited number of teachers to provide stability and smooth transition into this year level. Students will have their two home group teacher for two subjects each (e.g. one of their home group teachers for Maths and Science, and the other for English and Humanities). The familiarity with these key teachers and the ability to build positive relationships is vital to their overall achievement and settling in to the College.

When in Year 8 the students experience a slightly greater number of specialist subjects, and benefit from the expertise of specialist teachers.

Parents are invited to get to know the students’ homeroom teachers. To achieve our shared aim of the best possible education for your children, it is vital that we work in partnership. I encourage parents/caregivers to contact the college with any questions or concerns relating to the education and well-being of your child. Two way communication is vital.

It is an exciting time as these young people grow and mature, heading into their senior school years. St Martins provides a safe and nurturing environment as students continue to grow and change whilst striving to achieve their best. I pray that you and your child will experience much joy and satisfaction in the coming years.

Please feel free to contact me at any time for a tour, or to help with any issues that may arise.

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SPORT

All students in Years 7-10 participate in compulsory Physical Education lessons. Those in Years 9 and 10 have the option to select Specialist PE in addition to their compulsory subjects and Physical Education can also be taken as a SACE subject in Year 11 and 12. A Certificate III in personal fitness is delivered to interested students commencing in Year 10. In addition, students are encouraged to compete in interschool and club sport. St Martins can facilitate contact between the relevant community club and students who express interest or reveal a talent in a particular area. Club notices and opportunities are promoted to students as the school becomes aware of them. Members of various clubs also conduct specialist units within the Physical Education program.

Secondary inter-school sport in Mount Gambier is organised and governed by the South East Secondary School Sports Association acting on behalf of the Secondary School Sports Association of South Australia. Mr Andy Costin is the St Martins representative on this body and attends regular SESSSA meetings. SESSSA has chosen to conduct inter-school sport through a number of regional carnivals, knockout competitions and 'come and try' events. St Martins has now been involved in a broad range of these competitions for a number of years. The table below indicates the sports involved.



CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

In addition to house and school based activities the following table provides information about co-curricula activities available to various students in the secondary school.

Inter-School Sport

Swimming (Yr 8-12)
Athletics (Yr 8-12)
Touch Football (Yr 8-12)
Snooker (Yr 10)
Netball (Yr 8-12)
Golf (Yr 8-12)
SAPSASA (Yr 7) Golf, Football, Softball
Netball, Hockey, Soccer, Athletics,
Swimming, Lawn Bowls, Tennis, Cricket
SMLC Swimming Carnival (Yr 7-12)
SMLC Athletics (Yr 7-12)
Clay Target Shooting (Yr 8-12)
9-a-side Football (Yr 8-12)
5-a-side Soccer (Yr 8,9)
Festival of Sports (Yr 8-10)
Cross County (Yr 8-12)
Hockey (Yr 8-12)

Clubs, Cultural and other activities

Meals on Wheels community service (Yr 10)
Theme Days
SA Lutheran Colleges Interschool public speaking
Competition in Adelaide (Yr 8)
Eisteddfod Debating
Meet the Writers Festival in Adelaide
Peer Tutoring
Art Show
40 Hour Famine
Instrumental and Choral Ensembles
Worship Band
Generations in Jazz Choir
Lions Youth of the Year
Rotary Public Speaking
Rostrum Voice of Youth Public Speaking
Competition
Active After School Coaching (Yr 8-12)
Human Powered Vehicle (HPV) Murray Bridge,
Mount Gambier, Adelaide
Secondary Musical—every second year
House Performing Arts—competition every
second year

SPECIALIST GOLF PROGRAM

Program Overview and Course Structure

The St Martins Specialist Golf Program (SMLCGOLF) provides a comprehensive golf program of the highest quality. The St Martins Specialist Golf Program caters for Year 5 to Year 10 students who are genuinely interested in becoming better golfers. The program is designed for students capable of self-discipline and respect for self, others and the environment. Conveniently located just a short drive from the picturesque Mount Gambier Golf Course at Attamurra, the program is dedicated to providing opportunities for promising golfers whilst complementing their overall academic education.

The program runs each week on Wednesdays on a three week rotating roster, so that students are off campus at a different time each week. There are three groups—students are placed in the girls group, the beginning boys group or the experienced boys group.

St Martins pay for the students' junior memberships and the professional tuition. This amounts to a significant cost. Students travel to and from Mount Gambier Golf Club on St Martins Lutheran College buses.

Specialist Instruction

The SMLCGOLF students work under the coaching guidance of Mr Craig Davis (PGA Professional at the Mount Gambier Golf Club) and Mr Duncan Savage (Level 1 Coach and Mount Gambier Golf Club member). Students will also benefit from the support of Golf SA through its development team assistance in delivering the program.

The Facilities

SMLCGOLF students receive full Junior Membership at the Mount Gambier Golf Club for the entire time they are in the program.

Students in the program have full use of the Mount Gambier Golf Club's excellent playing and practising facilities. As well as having one of the state's finest 18 hole championship courses, the Mount Gambier Golf Club has a practice fairway, short iron approach and chipping green and practice putting green.

TRADE TRAINING CENTRE

The Trade Training Centre enriches learning opportunities for all students at the College, empowering them to broaden their skills, and provides technology education to students from Year 7 through to Year 12.

The Trade Training Centre has enabled students to develop skills in metalwork, woodwork, CNC router, laser cutting and plasma cutting. Combining these skills with welding and machining metal in later years of schooling gives students challenging, useful and diversified projects. It is very satisfying to see the progress of students as they begin their experiences in Year 7 by drawing in two dimensions electronically, while in Year 9 they are already able to construct and machine objects in three dimensions.

The final chapter will come when students can design unique projects in Autodesk Inventor and Turbocad. They then have the ability to manufacture the whole project using hand and power tools, CNC lathes, mills, plasma and laser machines.

The Trade Training Centre also provides the development of pathways to trade training at the College. It is a facility to provide opportunities for the young people of this region to access Metals and Engineering and Furnishing trades that will help meet local needs. Students are able to gain TAFE/Trade qualifications while still completing their studies at school.

YEAR 7 CAMP

In Term 4 the Year 7 students participate in a 5 night / 6 day camp to Canberra. Highlights include both Parliament Houses, the National Gallery of Australia, the High Court of Australia, the Australian War Memorial, Questacon, the Australian Institute of Sport and the National Museum of Australia, amongst others.

YEAR 8 CAMP

The Year 8 Camp has an outdoor, physical activity and team and relationship building focus and is based at the Cape Bridgewater Coastal Camp. Students are away for 3 days (2 nights). Throughout the camp students participate in a range of activities which may include surfing, Seal Tours, snorkelling, abseiling, caving and sandboarding. The camp is held in Term 1 each year.

CURRICULUM

Middle Schooling at St Martins allows students to experience a wide range of subjects. Years 7 and 8 have trimester subjects, which allows them to experience Drama (yr 8), Digital Technology, Home Economics (yr8), Music, Technology, and Visual Art, whilst keeping to a minimum the number of subjects that students are studying at any one time. Year 7 students also study Chinese and German (LOTE, Languages other than English) in Trimesters as a way of deciding which language they would like to focus on in Year 8.

The Core subjects: Christian Studies, English, Humanities, Mathematics, and Science remain a priority to develop students' Christian worldview, engagement with society, and literacy and numeracy skills. In a changing world, core understandings and skills remain important so that in the future, students can apply these skills across various work and life contexts.

Year 7

| Full Year Subjects | | | | | | Trimester Subjects | |
|--------------------|---------|-------------|------------|---------|-----------------------------|------------------------|------------|
| Christian Studies | English | Mathematics | Humanities | Science | Health & Physical Education | German | Visual Art |
| | | | | | | Chinese | Music |
| | | | | | | Information Technology | Technology |

Year 8

| Full Year Subjects | | | | | | Trimester Subjects | | |
|--------------------|---------|-------------|------------|---------|-----------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|------------|
| Christian Studies | English | Mathematics | Humanities | Science | Health & Physical Education | Chinese or German | Food Technology | Visual Art |
| | | | | | | | Drama | Music |
| | | | | | | | Information Technology | Technology |

Year 9

| Full Year Subjects | | | | | | Semester Subjects | | |
|--------------------|---------|-------------|------------|---------|-----------------------------|-------------------|----------|----------|
| Christian Studies | English | Mathematics | Humanities | Science | Health & Physical Education | Elective | Elective | Elective |
| | | | | | | Elective | Elective | Elective |

Chinese

Level Year 7

Length 1 Trimester

Subject Description

Year 7 Chinese is aimed at enhancing both students' understanding and communicating in Chinese. It will enable students to ask both open questions and wh-questions in Chinese based on topics involving pets, sports, food and drinks, family members, locations, jobs and hobbies.

What you'll learn

- Vocabulary
- Creating seven types of wh- questions
- Talking about likes and dislikes
- Creating short written texts in Chinese characters
- Present ideas in Chinese
- Interviews
- Experiencing Chinese culture through online research and cooking lessons

Level Year 8

Length Full year

Subject Description

Chinese is designed to enable students to develop communication skills in interpreting, creating and exchanging meaning, as well as understanding Chinese culture. Experiencing the distinctive differences between the Chinese language and the English language, and between the Western culture and Asian culture, will greatly broaden students' vision and understanding of the 21st Century. Roughly a billion people in the world speak Mandarin Chinese. If you wish to learn a language that one in six people in the world speak, then this is a subject for you.

What you'll learn

- Introduction to Chinese
- Chinese New Year festival celebrations
- Family members and greetings
- Likes and dislikes in terms of colour and sports
- Numbers and units
- Travelling, cities and countries
- Chinese tea
- Time, routine and school life
- Food and cooking

Christian Studies

Level Year 7

Length Full year

Subject Description

In Christian Studies, students have the opportunity to grow in their knowledge of the Christian faith. Students use the Bible regularly throughout the year to begin to understand its role as the Word of God and as pointing to Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour. Within this framework, students look at God-given gifts and how these can be used to care for and edify one another, moral choices in life, the history and beliefs of the church, and Christian beliefs about the Kingdom of God.

What you'll learn

- Moral choices
- Christian denominations
- Christ and his kingdom
- Gifts and service

Level Year 8

Length Full year

Subject Description

Christian Studies is about the fascinating worlds of religion and spirituality, which are part of the fabric of all cultures. The aim of this core subject is twofold: to inspire students in their learning about Christianity and to give students the skills to reflect on their own spiritual journey. In Christian Studies, students are encouraged to choose freely how they will respond to the ideas and concepts they meet.

What you'll learn

- Christian Beliefs
 - What is sin and what is grace?
 - Allegories of sin and grace
 - Easter, God's grace to us
- Christianity in the World
 - World Religions
 - How different beliefs shape people's thinking
 - How Christians interact with other religions
- Christian Living
 - What is vocation?
 - What is a "Christian Vocation"?
 - How do I find my vocation?
- Christian Church
 - What is worship?
 - How to lead whole school worship
 - Christmas, worshipping Jesus

Drama

Level Year 8

Length 1 Trimester

Subject Description

In Drama students use body, gesture, movement, voice and language to create roles that explore and depict real and imagined worlds. Students create meaning through Drama as they enjoy and analyse their own work and the work of others. Like all art forms, Drama has the capacity to engage, inspire and enrich students, excite the imagination and encourage students to reach their creative and expressive potential.

What you'll learn

- Mime
- Tableau
- Improvisation
- Monologues
- Play building



English

Level Year 7

Length Full year

Subject Description

The aim of the English curriculum is twofold: to instil an appreciation and enjoyment of reading, and to give students control as users and consumers of language. The English program is designed in a way that maximises the students' opportunities to develop their listening, speaking, reading, writing and viewing skills. In order to meet these challenges the course offers students: a wide range of reading and viewing, writing, and speaking and listening experiences; a structured approach to the building of literacy skills such as analytic essay writing; and lots of writing practice.

What you'll learn

- Independent reading
- Weekly literacy tasks
- Narratives
- Procedures
- Novel studies
- Poetry
- Movie appreciation
- Canberra review question

Level Year 8

Length Full year

Subject Description

English focuses on language, literature and literacy. Students are encouraged to appreciate and develop proficiency in reading and writing through the study of a range of texts and genres, both historical and modern in perspective. Students learn to communicate effectively, work collaboratively and critically and creatively produce their own texts.

What you'll learn

- Novel study
- Narrative writing
- Film study
- Oral presentations
- Poetry
- Introduction to Shakespeare

Food Technology

Level Year 8

Length 1 Trimester

Subject Description

Food Technology introduces students to food through learning and experiences that focus on nutrition, health and well-being. Students undertake a variety of theoretical and practical tasks that emphasise nutrition basics and the importance of making good food choices. Practical food preparation tasks are focused on preparing and serving food safely and hygienically, learning basic skills and techniques and developing personal competence in the kitchen.

What you'll learn

- Food safety and hygiene
- Understanding and interpreting recipes
- Measurement and equipment
- Nutrition – including the Australian guide to healthy eating, food groups and nutrients.
- Understanding and interpreting food labels
- Factors that influence food choices



German

Level Year 7

Length 1 Trimester

Subject Description

German forms part of Australia's cultural heritage and is the most widely spoken language in Europe. Students will learn basic skills to begin communicating by listening, speaking, reading and writing in German. Students will also study aspects of German culture.

What you'll learn

- Vocabulary: greetings, classroom objects, numbers, colours, body parts, feelings, verbs, calendar.
- Pronunciation
- Grammar: word order, gender, verb conjugation.
- Culture: celebrations, geography, history, daily life, food

Level Year 8

Length Full year

Subject Description

German involves learning to communicate in a range of ways and developing an understanding of, and appreciation for, German culture. You will develop skills in speaking, writing and understanding German, and reflecting on cultural identity.

You will explore the similarities and differences between English and German and develop strategies to enable you to master this exciting and unique language.

What you'll learn

- Greetings and personal information
- German pronunciation
- Family
- Countries
- Colours/weekdays/months & seasons
- Pets
- School
- Hobbies and sports
- Time
- German celebrations and festivals

Health and Physical Education

Level Year 7

Length Full year

Subject Description

The Health and Physical Education Curriculum supports students to refine a range of specialised knowledge and skills related to movement. Students are taught specific skills in relation to Athletics at the beginning of the year. Throughout the remainder of the year, students are taught a variety of sports, with an emphasis on fair play and encouragement, as well as game modification. Students design their own games, giving consideration to fun and inclusivity. In class, students are required to investigate practices that enhance their own and other's health, safety and wellbeing.

What you'll learn

- Athletics
- Modified games
- Court games
- Fitness activities
- Tennis
- AFL
- Bat and ball sports
- Growth and development
- Mental and emotional health and wellbeing
- Food choices and advertising
- Legal and illicit drugs

Level Year 8

Length Full year

Subject Description

Students develop specialised movement skills and understanding in a range of physical activity settings. They analyse how body control and coordination influence movement, composition and performance and learn to transfer movement skills and concepts to a variety of physical activities. Students are also supported to take positive action to enhance their own and others' health, safety and wellbeing.

What you'll learn

- Functional movement skills
- Fitness testing
- Mental health
- Invasions games
- Relationships
- Decision making practices
- Dance

Humanities

Level Year 7

Length Full year

Subject Description

Humanities has four main components, History, Geography, Civics and Citizenship, and Business and Enterprise. Students learn about primary and secondary sources when investigating the Ancient world. They also focus on the skill of researching, particularly as they answer inquiry questions. In Geography, students consider the use of water as a resource and the environment in which we live. A major component of Humanities is Civics and Citizenship, which includes a trip to Canberra to help consolidate learning.

What you'll learn

- Overview of the ancient world
- Ancient Rome, Greece or Egypt
- Imperial China
- Water in the world
- Place and liveability
- Government and democracy
- Laws and citizens
- Business and enterprise

Level Year 8

Length Full year

Subject Description

Humanities at Year 8 involves studying concepts in Geography, History, Civics and Citizenship, and Economics. Students develop geographical inquiry skills such as: observing, collecting, and recording data; critical questioning, interpreting, and analysing sources; reflecting on both contemporary and historic issues and events; and communicating in appropriate formats.

What you'll learn

- Landforms and landscapes (coastal focus)
- Mega cities
- Defining democracy
- Changing nations, Australia's population
- Medieval Europe
- Shogunate Japan
- Spanish conquest of the Americas

Information Technology

Level Year 7

Length 1 Trimester

Subject Description

Digital Technologies develops understanding and skills in computational thinking. Students are required to identify problems and use digital technology to suggest solutions. Whilst coding forms the basis of this course, a key component of this course is also the problem solving that is necessary when writing code.

What you'll learn

- Design a Pencilcode game
- Write your own WebApp
- Video editing

Level Year 8

Length 1 Trimester

Subject Description

Digital Technology at year 8 involves learning about robotics, coding and image manipulation. Students develop skills that include imagination, critical thinking and problem solving. Students study 2 core topics for 10 weeks and then design their own projects in one of the topics for 3 weeks.

What you'll learn

- Robotics and Coding (EdWare) using Edisons
- Image manipulation using Photoshop



Mathematics

Level Year 7

Length Full year

Subject Description

Mathematics aims to consolidate and build on students' number, measurement and space understanding. Students also build on patterning, and are introduced to algebra through an understanding of the concepts of variables, patterning, symbols and representation.

What you'll learn

- Whole numbers
- Number properties and patterns
- Fractions and percentages
- Geometry
- Algebra
- Negative numbers
- Measurement
- Equations
- Statistics and probability

Level Year 8

Length Full year

Subject Description

Mathematics involves learning and applying numeracy to real life and abstract concepts. Students will undergo investigations and learn how to scaffold reports on them. Games and activities enforcing concepts and number skills will be used. Students will utilise calculators as a checking and finding tool more regularly. A range of assessment tasks are undertaken from investigations, problem solving, projects, folios and tests. Preparation of cheat sheets is also addressed

What you'll learn

- Integers
- Index laws
- Algebra expressions and equations
- Linear graphing
- Statistics
- Probability
- Congruence and similarities
- Rational numbers
- Measurement

Music

Level Year 7

Length 1 Trimester

Subject Description

Music focuses on experiences and involvement in largely practical musical activities.

What you'll learn

- Build practical skills or technique on a classroom instrument or one that you already learn.
 - Build a love and appreciation for music through listening to, and watching musical performances
 - Develop a good ear for music
 - Compose and improvise melodies
 - Build a knowledge of music theory through practical theory work
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Level Year 8

Length 1 Trimester

Subject Description

Music focuses on experiences and involvement in largely practical musical activities.

What you'll learn

- Build practical skills or technique on a classroom instrument or one that you already learn.
- Build a love and appreciation for music through listening to, and watching musical performances
- Develop a good ear for music
- Compose and improvise melodies
- Build a knowledge of music theory through practical theory work



Science

Level Year 7

Length Full year

Subject Description

Science involves learning about the physical, chemical and biological world around us. Students learn to work scientifically, developing skills such as questioning, exploring, hypothesising, collecting and interpreting evidence, and communicating. A range of practical skills are developed in a laboratory setting using a variety of scientific apparatus.

What you'll learn

- Laboratory skills and experimental design
 - Rock types and local geological history
 - Elements, compounds and mixtures
 - The structure and function of cells
 - Physical and chemical change
 - Energy types and transformations
 - The interdependence of body systems
 - How different organisms grow and reproduce
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Level Year 8

Length Full year

Subject Description

Science involves learning about the physical, chemical and biological world around us. Students learn to work scientifically, developing skills such as questioning, exploring, hypothesising, collecting and interpreting evidence, and communicating. We develop a range of practical skills using various laboratory equipment, activities, exercises and investigations.

What you'll learn

- Introduction to science
- Rocks
- Elements, compounds and mixtures
- Cells
- Physical and chemical change
- Energy
- Biological systems
- Growth and reproduction

Technology

Level Year 7

Length 1 Trimester

Subject Description

Year 7 Technology focuses on current technologies in the areas of Wood, CAD, and CAM. Students are encouraged to apply a wide range of skills to different design and construction tasks. The subject incorporates the design process of investigating, devising, producing and evaluating products.

What you'll learn

- Design
 - Wood work
 - Metal work
 - Computer Assisted Drawing (CAD)
 - Computer Assisted Machining (CAM)
 - Aspire
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Level Year 8

Length 1 Trimester

Subject Description

Year 8 Technology is a predominantly practical course. All students learn drawing techniques as a form of communication using 2D modelling computer software. Project designs are explored and modelled on computers with the final designs converted into working drawings. Workshop time is spent developing skills and producing projects using a variety of power machines and hand tools.

What you'll learn

- Safety
- Tools (hand tools & electrical machines)
- Materials
- Design Process
- Drawing and 2D modelling
- Construction techniques
- Project construction
- Computer aided machining

Visual Art

Level Year 7

Length 1 Trimester

Subject Description

The focus of this unit is the investigation of sources of inspiration which generate creative activity and the exploration of a wide range of materials, techniques as tools for translating ideas, observations and experiences into visual form. Students will discover the elements and principles of art and incorporate these elements and principles into their art activities.

What you'll learn

- Painting and drawing skills
 - Colour theory
 - Portraiture
 - Landscape
 - Still life
 - Sculpture
 - Artists and artworks
 - Art elements and principles
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Level Year 8

Length 1 Trimester

Subject Description

The focus of this unit is the investigation of sources of inspiration which generate creative activity and the exploration of a wide range of materials, techniques as tools for translating ideas, observations and experiences into visual form. Students will discover the elements and principles of art and incorporate these elements and principles into their art activities.

What you'll learn

- Drawing and painting skills
- Colour
- Rendering techniques
- Computer manipulation as an art form
- Sculpture
- Printmaking
- The role of an exhibition
- Artists and artworks
- Art elements and principles