

Year 11 2025 Subject Selections Evening

6:00PM TUESDAY WEEK 7 2024





These slides are accessible on the school website at:
<https://sydneyhigh.school/curriculum/subject-choices>

Pre-requisites for eligibility

- ▶ All My Own Work – completed in Year 9 Values Education
- ▶ Minimum Standards Online testing in :
 - ▶ Numeracy
 - ▶ Reading
 - ▶ Writing(during Year 10 Term 4 Examination Block)



Stage 6 – Years 11 & 12

- ▶ Preliminary course:
 - ▶ Terms 1 to 3 Year 11
- ▶ HSC course:
 - ▶ Term 4 Year 11 to the end of Term 3 Year 12
- ▶ Term 4 Year 12
HSC examinations



Year 11 at Sydney High



- ▶ English Advanced is compulsory
- ▶ TEN additional units:
 - ▶ FIVE 2-unit subjects (one of which must be Ancient History or Society & Culture)
- OR
- ▶ FOUR 2 unit subjects and TWO of either:
 - ▶ English Extension 1
 - ▶ Mathematics Extension 1
 - ▶ Studies of Religion

NESA requirements



▶ You must satisfactorily complete:

- ▶ A Preliminary pattern of study that includes at least 12 units
- ▶ An HSC pattern of study that includes at least 10 units.
- ▶ Both patterns of study must include at least:
 - ▶ 6 units of Board Developed Courses
 - ▶ 2 units of a Board Developed Course in English
 - ▶ 3 courses of 2 or more units (either Board Developed or Board Endorsed Courses)
 - ▶ Minimum of 4 subjects.

Assessment



- ▶ Students must make a genuine attempt at assessment tasks that total more than 50% of the available school assessment marks for the HSC courses only.
- ▶ **Assessment Mark** - a mark issued by the school, based on the formal internal assessment and moderated by the HSC examination performance. The assessment mark comprises 50% of the HSC mark.
- ▶ **Examination Mark** - the mark gained by the student in the HSC examination. The Examination mark comprises 50% of your HSC mark.
- ▶ **Medical certificates** - They need to be provided for students who are absent in the five days leading into an assessment period, as well as for any assessments that are missed. If an assessment is missed, the medical certificate must be accompanied by an illness/misadventure form.

HSC Grading



- ▶ HSC Mark – a mark which is a 50:50 combination of the external examination mark and school-based assessment mark for each course.
- ▶ Performance band: A student's HSC mark for each course will fall within one of six performance bands, where the highest achievement is Band 6 (90–100 marks) and where the minimum standard expected is 50 marks. A performance band of E1–E4 is shown for Extension courses.

Satisfactory completion of a Course

- ▶ Students must:
 - ▶ follow the course developed or endorsed by NESAC
 - ▶ apply themselves with diligence and sustained effort to the set task and experiences provided in the course by the school; and
 - ▶ achieve some or all of the course outcomes



N Warning letters



- ▶ If a student is not meeting the requirements, they are awarded a 'Non-completion Warning' (or N award). A copy is sent home, which outlines:
 1. any issues of concern or outstanding work, and
 2. a date by which students should redeem the outcomes of the missed work.
- ▶ If the work has not been completed by the due date a reminder letter will be sent home.
- ▶ If the work has not been received within one week of the date of the reminder letter, students will be placed on an in-school detention to complete the work.

Subject choices should be based on:

1. Interests
 - ▶ What provides enjoyment
 - ▶ Willing to work harder
2. Strengths
 - ▶ More likely to succeed
3. Career or Tertiary study needs
 - ▶ Should align with the points 1 & 2 anyway



Subject choices should NOT be based on:

- ▶ What your friends choose
 - ▶ Different interests, strengths & potentially different classes
- ▶ A specific teacher
 - ▶ The teacher might not teach the subject next year or may teach a different class to yours
- ▶ How it scales
 - ▶ Subjects scale differently every year & it depends on how well you do on how well it scales



Subject considerations



► For Science:

There is a minimum standard that students must reach to study Chemistry and Physics in Year 11. To enter Physics, the lowest rank of 144 and a lowest mark of 70% in the Physics task. To enter Chemistry, the lowest rank of 144 and a lowest mark of 70% in the Chemistry task. This minimum standard is based on the Course Performance Descriptors for Chemistry and Physics which can be found on the NESA website. The Chemistry Skills task and Chemistry component of the half yearly exam will be used to determine this for Chemistry. The Physics Skills task and Physics exam will be used to determine this for Physics.

► For Mathematics:

The Report rank will be based only on the Semester 2 tasks and this will help determine the 168 positions in Extension 1 for 2025.

Scaling

- ▶ Boys are able to achieve a high ATAR score in subjects which are both “scaled down” and “scaled up”
- ▶ If a boy scores 90 in Subject A and this is “scaled down” to 80, this is still better than scoring 60 in Subject B which is “scaled up” to 70



How many units should be studied in Year 12?

- ▶ Depends on the student:
 - ▶ more than 10 units with a backup in case of problems
- OR
- ▶ use additional time wisely (i.e. study periods, less homework and fewer assessments) to remove the need for a backup subject

i.e. opportunity cost



Major works

- ▶ The following courses include practical examinations or major works/ projects:
 - ▶ D&T
 - ▶ Drama
 - ▶ English Extension 2
 - ▶ History Extension
 - ▶ Music 2
 - ▶ Music Extension
 - ▶ Society & Culture
 - ▶ Visual Arts





Best 8 of remaining units
(up to 2 units of Category B
courses)



Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank

The **Australian Tertiary Admission Rank** (ATAR):

- is for students wishing to gain a place at a university
- is a rank **NOT** a mark
- provides information about how a student performs overall in relation to other students
- is calculated by the University Admissions Centre (UAC)



The Subject Selections Process

12 Units for Preliminary Course



- ▶ English Extension 1 is no longer compulsory at SBHS
- ▶ Students may choose to take their 12 units as a combination of:
 1. English Advanced + English Extension 1 (1 unit) + Mathematics Advanced + Mathematics Extension 1 (1 unit) + 3 other electives
 2. English Advanced + English Extension 1 (1 unit) + Studies of Religion (1 unit) + 4 other electives
 3. English Advanced + Studies of Religion (1 unit) + Mathematics Advanced + Mathematics Extension 1 (1 unit) + 3 other electives
 4. English Advanced + 5 other electives (one of which must be Ancient History or Society & Culture as this will run during the extension courses periods)

Subjects offered at Sydney Boys High School for Year 11 2024



Ancient History

Biology

Business Studies

Business Studies (HSC Accelerated)

Chemistry

Chinese Beginners

Chinese Continuers

Chinese in Context (Heritage)

Classical Greek Continuers

Drama

Economics

Engineering Studies

English Advanced

English Extension 1

French Beginners

French Continuers

Geography

Geography (HSC Accelerated)

German Beginners

German Continuers

Health and Movement Science

Investigating Science

Japanese Beginners

Japanese Continuers

Latin Continuers

Legal Studies

Mathematics Advanced

Mathematics Extension 1

Modern History

Modern History (HSC Accelerated)

Music 1

Music 2

Music 2 (HSC Accelerated)

NSW School of Languages (See Ms Matsos)

PDHPE (HSC Accelerated)

Physics

Society & Culture

Software Engineering

Studies of Religion II

Visual Arts

Which subjects are prerequisites for HSC study?

- ▶ Study of Continuers Languages in Years 11 & 12 assumes study at Year 10 level
- ▶ Preliminary Music 2 (and HSC Music Extension) require study at Year 10 level



Choosing Courses



- ▶ Students submit their preferences online through Edval
- ▶ Nominate English Advanced plus 10 additional units
- ▶ If picked Mathematics Extension, ONE reserve 1-unit course is required
 - ▶ You may pick Ancient History or Society & Culture if not taking English Extension
- ▶ ONE reserve 2-unit course is required (a second 2-unit reserve may be added if you want or if you picked Physics and Chemistry)
- ▶ Students' main choices are used unless a problem arises. This will be communicated with the student
- ▶ Every year several accelerated students list the wrong course – pick the **HSC course** as you may not get your correct subject selections!

N.B. timetable and staffing capacity limits students to 12 units maximum in Year 11

How are these preferences used?



- ▶ Courses are grouped into timetable lines based on student preferences to maximise student choice
 - ▶ It's not always possible for every student to study what he has chosen
 - ▶ Some courses often have only one class e.g. languages, creative arts, industrial arts and history
 - ▶ Some courses will have to appear in the same line causing “clashes”
 - ▶ Highly demanded courses may have limits due to staffing
- e.g. 26 boys might choose a course and only one class of 24 may be running. 2 boys will have to be eliminated.

Boys who have given the course the lowest preference will be identified and 2 boys will be removed.

N.B. In the sciences and mathematics, this decision will be based on results in Year 10 assessments

How to Pick Courses



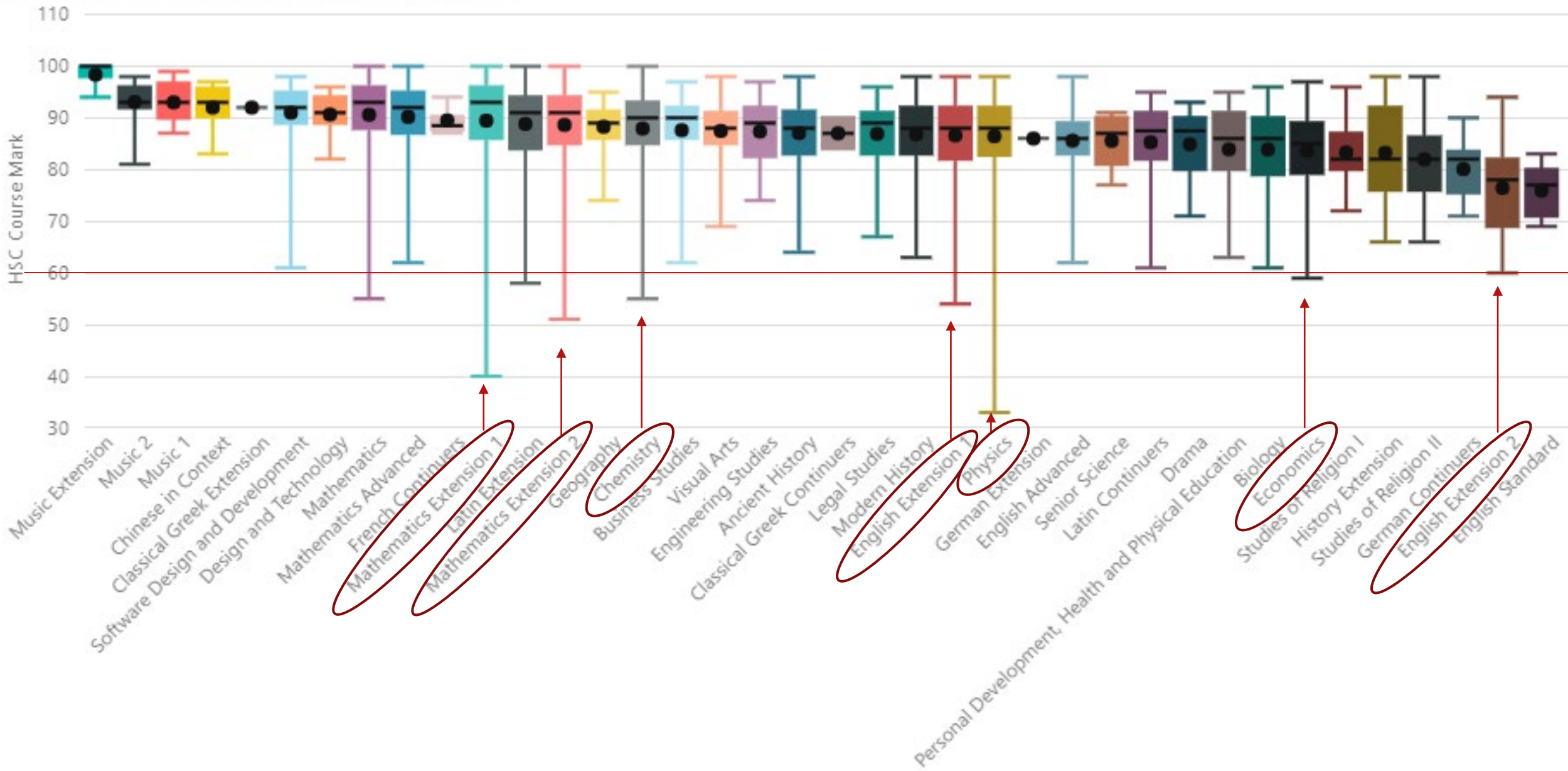
- ▶ Pick wisely
 - ▶ initial preferences are largely met, later decisions often not
- ▶ Know what the courses are about before finalising your choices
 - ▶ E.g. Business Studies greatly differs to Economics
- ▶ Class numbers based on original interest
 - ▶ Your changed decision may not be possible
e.g. 2022 Economics and Drama classes, 2023 Legal Studies, 2024 Drama
- ▶ Don't blindly list reserves that you have no interest in
- ▶ Don't leave out courses because you think you won't be accepted
 - ▶ you'll automatically get the next reserve
 - ▶ you don't want to be stuck doing a course you don't want to do just because your preferences were incorrectly entered

How to Pick Courses (for parents)

- ▶ Your son will be studying the course
- ▶ Happier children will be better off
- ▶ Success and enjoyment filters to other courses studied
- ▶ Students often struggle doing courses not suited to them



Distribution of HSC Course Marks by Course



Subject Lines

Based on student needs & change every year



2022

Line 1

Line 2

Biology
Chemistry
Classical Greek
D&T
Economics
English Adv
Geography
Legal Studies
Modern History
Physics
Visual Arts

Ancient History
Chinese in Context (HSC)
Chinese Continuers
Chemistry
Economics
Geography (HSC)
Mathematics Adv
Music 2 (HSC)
Physics

2023

Line 1

Line 2

Biology
Business St
Chemistry
D&T (HSC)
English Adv
Engineering St
Geography (HSC)
German Cont.
Latin Cont.
Modern History
Music 2
Physics

Biology
Business St
Chemistry
D&T
Economics
Mathematics Adv
PDHPE
Physics

2024

Line 1

Line 2

Business St
Business St (HSC)
Chemistry
Economics
English Adv
Geography (HSC)
German (HSC)
Latin (HSC)
Music (HSC)
Physics

Chemistry
D&T (HSC)
Economics
Geography
Legal Studies
Mathematics Adv
Physics

Common questions answered



- ▶ Always place subjects in order of preference – English + 10 units of courses + reserves
- ▶ No decisions on subjects are made until 9am Tuesday Week 9 – just enter preferences on time
 - ▶ You can change your preferences anytime up until this cut-off in Edval
 - ▶ Log in to Edval early to ensure webcode works
- ▶ Mathematics is NOT compulsory for Years 11 and 12
- ▶ Current accelerated students continuing **MUST** select the HSC course in their preference & this makes up 2 of the 12 units for next year
- ▶ Accelerated students may choose to discontinue their course & choose another 2-unit course
 - ▶ Repeating not recommended
- ▶ The current Year 11 & 12 Assessment Schedules are on the student portal to provide task information if curious

What next?

1. Consider your subject choices & how to balance your time
 - ▶ Fill in the interview preparation sheet – distributed by Mr Cotton
2. Speak with your allocated teacher in Week 8 & any subject teachers to gain further information
3. Webcodes will be available from tonight
 - ▶ Check your @sbhs.nsw.gov.au email (**SAVE THIS EMAIL**) (ensure the correct year is **2025** by clicking your name at top right and press Switch Year if needed)
 - ▶ new students use the paperwork – no Edval codes
4. Fill in your preferences online AFTER your teacher interview
 - ▶ Cut-off for preferences is **9am Tuesday Week 9 (17/9)**

Year 10 into 11 Subject Selections

To help finalising your subject choices for next year, you need to complete the following form. Use the subject overview booklet to help you start thinking about your choice of subjects. Once the form is completed, book a 10-minute meeting with a member of staff in **Weeks 7 or 8** this term to discuss your likely subject selections or any other thoughts you'd like to raise going into Years 11 and 12.

Student Name	
Which subjects are you passionate about and really enjoy?	
Which subjects are your current strengths?	

Sydney Boys High School

Year 11 Electives

7:36 PM

The following is to be completed once you have had

Kay, Jamie ▾

»

Date < Today >



Select Year ✕

Switch to 2025 ▾

Cancel Switch



Choice

Peter Pan (Test student Yr11) ▾

YEAR 11 ELECTIVES 2025

[Open for submission](#)

Sydney Boys High School

📍 556 Cleveland Street MOORE PARK

📞 02 9662 9300

✉ noreply@edval.education

Year 11 Electives

Main Units	Subject	Units
English Advanced	<input type="text" value="No selection"/>	0
Priority 2	<input type="text" value="No selection"/>	0
Priority 3	<input type="text" value="No selection"/>	0
Priority 4	<input type="text" value="No selection"/>	0
Priority 5	<input type="text" value="No selection"/>	0
11th Unit	<input type="text" value="No selection"/>	0
12th Unit (if not picking Ancient History or Society & Culture for your 11th unit)	<input type="text" value="No selection"/>	0
Total		0

Reserve Units	Subject	Units
1 unit Reserve for Mathematics Extension 1 (in case you don't get in)	<input type="text" value="No selection"/>	0
2 unit Reserve 1 (mandatory)	<input type="text" value="No selection"/>	0
2 unit Reserve 2 (optional)	<input type="text" value="No selection"/>	0
Total		0

Cancel


Print

Submit




Errors will appear with either:





You are not allowed to have more than 2 units from the following subjects: Business Studies, Business Studies (HSC Accelerated)



Year 11 Electives

Main Units	Subject	Units
English Advanced	<input type="text" value="English Advanced"/>	2
Priority 2	<input type="text" value="Ancient History"/>	2
Priority 3	<input type="text" value="Mathematics Advanced"/>	2
Priority 4	<input type="text" value="Business Studies"/>	2
Priority 5	<input type="text" value="Business Studies (HSC Accelerated)"/>	2
11th Unit	<input type="text" value="English Extension 1"/>	1
12th Unit (if not picking Ancient History or Society & Culture for your 11th unit)	<input type="text" value="Mathematics Extension 1"/>	1
		Total 12

Reserve Units	Subject	Units
1 unit Reserve for Mathematics Extension 1 (in case you don't get in)	<input type="text" value="Society & Culture"/>	2
2 unit Reserve 1 (mandatory)	<input type="text" value="Drama"/>	2
2 unit Reserve 2 (optional)	<input type="text" value="No selection"/>	0
		Total 4

Cancel

Print

Submit

or...

⚠ If you select "Mathematics Extension 1", you must also select: "Mathematics Advanced" as a main preference.

Year 11 Electives

Main Units	Subject	Units
English Advanced	English Advanced	2
Priority 2	Ancient History	2
Priority 3	Chinese Beginners	2
Priority 4	Engineering Studies	2
Priority 5	Business Studies (HSC Accelerated)	2
11th Unit	English Extension 1	1
12th Unit (if not picking Ancient History or Society & Culture for your 11th unit)	Mathematics Extension 1	1
Total		12

Reserve Units	Subject	Units
1 unit Reserve for Mathematics Extension 1 (in case you don't get in)	Society & Culture	2
2 unit Reserve 1 (mandatory)	Drama	2
2 unit Reserve 2 (optional)	No selection	0
Total		4

Cancel


Print

Submit




or...





You are not allowed to have more than 2 units from the following subjects: Chinese Beginners, Chinese Continuers, Chinese in Context (Heritage)



Year 11 Electives

Main Units	Subject	Units
English Advanced	<input type="text" value="English Advanced"/>	2
Priority 2	<input type="text" value="Ancient History"/>	2
Priority 3	<input type="text" value="Chinese Beginners"/>	2
Priority 4	<input type="text" value="Chinese Continuers"/>	2
Priority 5	<input type="text" value="Mathematics Advanced"/>	2
11th Unit	<input type="text" value="English Extension 1"/>	1
12th Unit (if not picking Ancient History or Society & Culture for your 11th unit)	<input type="text" value="Mathematics Extension 1"/>	1
Total		12


Reserve Units	Subject	Units
1 unit Reserve for Mathematics Extension 1 (in case you don't get in)	<input type="text" value="Society & Culture"/>	2
2 unit Reserve 1 (mandatory)	<input type="text" value="Drama"/>	2
2 unit Reserve 2 (optional)	<input type="text" value="No selection"/>	0
Total		4

Cancel

Print

Submit

or...

 You must select at least 2 reserve units.

Year 11 Electives

Main Units	Subject	Units
English Advanced	English Advanced	2
Priority 2	Ancient History	2
Priority 3	Biology	2
Priority 4	Chinese Continuers	2
Priority 5	Mathematics Advanced	2
11th Unit	English Extension 1	1
12th Unit (if not picking Ancient History or Society & Culture for your 11th unit)	Mathematics Extension 1	1
Total		12

Reserve Units	Subject	Units
1 unit Reserve for Mathematics Extension 1 (in case you don't get in)	Studies of Religion II	1
2 unit Reserve 1 (mandatory)	No selection	0
2 unit Reserve 2 (optional)	No selection	0
Total		1

Cancel

Print

Submit



What if I change my mind?



- ▶ Preferences close 9am Tuesday Week 9
- ▶ In Week 9 of Term 4 ONLY, after reports distributed, students may email any course change requests to Mr J Kay
 - ▶ Preliminary accelerants may change preferences in Week 3 of Term 4 after Year 11 reports issued

N.B. Once timetable lines are formed and the timetable is underway your new preferences may or may not be possible

- In demand-courses
- Line clashes

In-demand courses



School-imposed limits on student numbers:

- ▶ Year 11 Mathematics Extension 1 – 7 classes (max. 168 places)
- ▶ Year 12 Mathematics Extension 2 – 5 classes (120 places)
- ▶ Year 12 Mathematics Extension 1 – 2 classes (max. 48 places)
- ▶ Year 12 English Extension 1 – 2 or 3 classes (48 or 72 places)
- ▶ Where cut-offs are needed for Year 11 courses e.g. Mathematics Extension 1, Physics and Chemistry, results in Year 10 are used to determine who is accepted
- ▶ 168 places in Mathematics Extension 1 – others complete Studies of Religion or if not doing English Extension 1 they do Ancient History/Studies of Religion
- ▶ If you enter preferences after the 9am Tuesday Week 9 cut-off, your place for in-demand courses may be jeopardised

N.B. you must still list courses in order of preference, regardless of whether in-demand or not

Sciences



- ▶ If you don't get into Physics or Chemistry then your reserves are used
- ▶ Add TWO reserves if picking Physics or Chemistry and are close to the cut-off rank of 144
 - ▶ Your mark must be above 70%
- ▶ Investigating Science an option for those not doing Physics or Chemistry
- ▶ Head Teacher Science approval needed for more than TWO sciences

New students in 2025

- ▶ Enter subject selections using elective preference sheets already sent with your offer
- ▶ Interviews with SBHS staff not available – speak with current school staff or contact SBHS office for anything else
- ▶ More flexibility for entering in-demand courses – must demonstrate capacity in the Preliminary Course



Confirmed Courses



- ▶ Course places finalised end of Term 4
- ▶ Confirmation of places in courses posted in Term 4 Week 9
- ▶ Students are NOT permitted to change courses after Week 3 of Term 1

Remember - **Not every student will be able to get into a course of their choice due to staffing restrictions**

N.B. NSWSL Ms Matsos will help you apply at start of Term 4



Questions?

Use microphone with camera on

Subject-specific information should be directed to teachers within the faculty