

Year 9 2026 Subject Selections

SEPTEMBER 2025





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

NESA requirements

- ▶ The Record of School Achievement (RoSA) is a cumulative credential containing a student's record of academic achievement
- ▶ RoSA is for eligible students who leave school before completing the HSC (rare at SBHS)



NESA requirements



To be eligible for a RoSA, students must have:

- ▶ Completed the mandatory curriculum requirements for Years 7 to 10
- ▶ Completed courses of study that satisfy Education Standards' curriculum and assessment requirements for the RoSA

Mandatory Stage 5 RoSA Requirements

- ▶ English
- ▶ Mathematics
- ▶ Science
- ▶ PDHPE
- ▶ History (completed in Year 9)
- ▶ Geography (completed in Year 9)



Criteria for satisfactory completion of a course



The student is considered to have satisfactorily completed a course if he has:

1. followed the course developed or endorsed by NESAs;
2. applied themselves with diligence and sustained effort to the set tasks and experiences provided in the course by the school; and
3. achieved some or all of the course outcomes.

N.B Satisfactory completion of the Year 9 component of a course is a pre-requisite for entry into the Year 10 component of the same course

SBHS Electives

- ▶ Year 9
 - ▶ TWO Electives
- ▶ Year 10
 - ▶ THREE Electives



Year 9 Courses Offered



Core Subjects	Two Electives	
English	Chinese	Graphics Technology
Mathematics	Chinese Advanced	Japanese
Science	Classical Greek	Latin
History	Commerce	Music
Geography	Design & Technology	NSW School of Languages (see Ms Matsos)
PDHPE	Drama	Photographic & Digital Media (Film)
Values Education	French	Visual Arts
	German	Visual Design

N.B. Visual Art, Music, Languages and D&T are not mandatory after Year 8

Year 10 Courses Offered at SBHS



Core Subjects	Three Electives	
English Mathematics Science PDHPE Careers Ed	Business Studies (Accelerated) Chinese Chinese Advanced Chinese Continuers (Accelerated) Classical Greek Commerce Computing Tech (Games & Simulations) Computing Tech (Mechatronic Systems) Design & Technology Drama French French Continuers (Accelerated) Geography Geography (Accelerated) German German Continuers (Accelerated) Graphics Technology Health & Movement Science (Accel.) History Elective	International Studies Japanese Japanese Continuers (Accelerated) Latin Latin Continuers (Accelerated) Modern History (Accelerated) Music Music 2 (Accelerated) NSW School of Languages (See Ms Matsos) Online Open Course Philosophy Photographic & Digital Media Photographic & Digital Media Advanced Physical Activity & Sports Studies Visual Arts Visual Design

Subject choices should be based on:



1. Interests

- ▶ What provides you with enjoyment?
- ▶ What will motivate you to apply yourself?

2. Strengths

- ▶ Which course are you more likely to succeed in?

3. Career or future study needs (including HSC or University)

- ▶ Should align with points 1 & 2 anyway
- ▶ Information on Year 11 and 12 subjects is on the school website under Curriculum/Subject Choices

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 class that you are not in



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



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

Therefore:

- ▶ If a boy wishes to study Continuers Languages or Music at HSC level, he should choose that subject to study in Year 9
- ▶ For other subjects it may be an advantage to study the subject in Stage 5, but is not a requirement

Choosing Electives



- ▶ Students submit their preferences online through Edval
- ▶ They nominate four preferences:
 - ▶ the first two preferences are used unless some problem arises
 - ▶ If there is a problem, the third choice (or if necessary fourth) will replace the preference with the problem

How are these preferences used?



- ▶ Subjects 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 subjects often have only one class or may not run due to low numbers e.g. French, Music, German, Latin, Visual Design
 - ▶ Some of these subjects will have to appear in the same line causing "clashes"
 - ▶ Highly demanded courses may have limits due to staffing
e.g. 32 boys might choose a subject and only one class of 30 may be running. 2 boys will have to be eliminated.

Boys who have given the subject the lowest ranking will be identified and 2 boys will be removed.

Subject Lines

Based on student needs & change every year – irrelevant to your subject decisions



2023	
Line Z	Line X
Commerce D&T Film Making Visual Arts	Chinese Adv Commerce French German Japanese Latin Photography

2024	
Line Z	Line X
Chinese Chinese Adv Commerce D&T Graphics Tech Latin Photography	Classical Greek Commerce D&T Drama German Photography

2025	
Line Z	Line X
Classical Greek Commerce D&T Graphics Technology Visual Design	Chinese Chinese Adv Commerce German Japanese Latin PDM

Some considerations

- ▶ Always place subjects in order of preference – TWO + TWO reserves
- ▶ Don't blindly list reserves you have no interest in
- ▶ No decisions on subjects are made until 9am Tuesday Week 10 – just enter preferences on time
- ▶ Many students thought they entered different courses so be careful what you enter
 - e.g. Visual Design vs Visual Arts
- ▶ You may choose to discontinue a course after completing Year 9 requirements and select another course in its place for Year 10
- ▶ Decision on entry into advanced courses based on Year 8 performance
 - ▶ Chinese vs Chinese Advanced
 - ▶ Music vs Music Advanced
- ▶ Enter your preferences early to confirm Edval access
 - ▶ go back and change later if needed
- ▶ Class numbers based on original interest
 - ▶ A later change of course request may be for a course not even running
 - e.g. Visual Design 2023 & 2024



Some considerations



- ▶ Study of and strong performance in some Year 9 courses needed for Year 10 acceleration opportunities e.g. 9 Commerce for Business Studies, 9 Music for Music 2, 9 D&T/Graphics Design for D&T
- ▶ Some courses must be studied in Year 9 to take in Year 10:
 - ▶ Photographic & Digital Media Advanced
 - ▶ Languages (recommended – require additional study to pick up)
 - ▶ Commerce (recommended but not essential)

N.B. Students seeking direct entry into Year 10 PDM Advanced must demonstrate requisite knowledge

- ▶ Places in more challenging courses in Year 10 have minimum academic requirements e.g. Computing Tech, Online Learning, Philosophy
- ▶ NSW School of Languages applications are required by the end of October

Class Groupings



- ▶ Year 9 electives not grouped by ability
- ▶ Year 9 core classes have three grouped classes
 - ▶ English & Science combined score
 - ▶ English
 - ▶ Science
- ▶ Mathematics
 - ▶ 3 grouped classes

N.B. Mathematics classes may change for new students in Term 2 using cohort paper results

Early entry into HSC courses

- ▶ Opportunities may exist for Year 10 students to commence study of certain HSC subjects

e.g. Modern History, Geography, Business Studies, Music and languages.

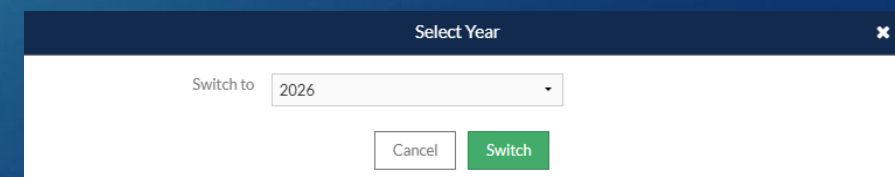
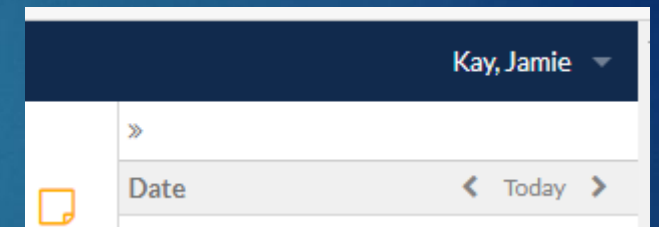
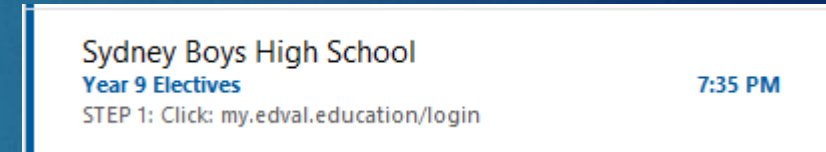
- ▶ To be eligible for acceleration, students must demonstrate in Year 9 that they are well above average in each of their subjects
- ▶ Continuation in accelerated courses based on ongoing performance

More information on acceleration found on the school website



What next?

1. Consider your subject choices
2. Speak with subject teachers as needed to gain further information
3. Webcodes will be available following presentation (new students use the paperwork – no Edval codes)
 - ▶ Check your @sbhs.nsw.gov.au email **SAVE THIS EMAIL** (ensure the correct year is **2026** by clicking your name on the top right)
4. Fill in your preferences online
 - ▶ Cut-off for preferences is **9am Tuesday Week 10 (23/9)** - **Note the date and time due**
 - ▶ You can change your preferences in Edval until this time





Choice

Peter Pan (Test student Yr9) ▾

YEAR 9 ELECTIVES 2026

Open for submission



Sydney Boys High School

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☎ 02 9662 9300

✉ noreply@edval.education



Year 9 Electives

Main Units	Subject	Units
1st Preference	<input type="text" value="No selection"/>	0
2nd Preference	<input type="text" value="No selection"/>	0
Total		0

Reserve Units	Subject	Units
1st Reserve	<input type="text" value="No selection"/>	0
2nd Reserve	<input type="text" value="No selection"/>	0
Total		0

Cancel

Submit

Errors will appear with either:



 Error: You have selected "Drama" more than once. ✕

Year 9 Electives

Main Units			Reserve Units		
	Subject	Units		Subject	Units
1st Preference	<input type="text" value="Drama"/>	2	1st Reserve	<input type="text" value="Drama"/>	2
2nd Preference	<input type="text" value="German"/>	2	2nd Reserve	<input type="text" value="Music"/>	2
		Total 4			Total 4

Cancel

Submit

or...



! You must select at least 4 reserve units. ×

Year 9 Electives

Main Units			Reserve Units				
	Subject	Units		Subject	Units		
1st Preference	Drama	2	1st Reserve	Visual Arts	2		
2nd Preference	German	2	2nd Reserve	No selection	0		
		Total	4			Total	2

What if I change my mind?



- ▶ Preferences close 9am Tuesday Week 10
- ▶ In Week 10 of Term 4 ONLY, after Year 8 reports distributed, students may email any course change requests to Mr J Kay
- ▶ Students may change courses in first 3 weeks of Term 1

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

New students in 2026

- ▶ Enter subject selections using preference sheets already sent to you & return to the school
- ▶ Same preference given as current SBHS students
- ▶ Consider background study in Languages as already enrolled students would have had 2 years of study already
 - ▶ Contact Mr Zheng (HT Languages) if unsure



Confirmed Electives



- ▶ Course places finalised end of Term 4
- ▶ Confirmation of places in courses emailed Term 4 Week 9
 - ▶ New students may email kayj@sbhs.nsw.edu.au to receive confirmation
- ▶ Students are NOT permitted to change courses after Week 3 of Term 1

N.B. NSWSL see Ms Matsos to apply at start of next term



Questions?

Use microphone with camera on

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