



Terrigal High School

PASSION PROJECTS

A guide for students entering
Year 8 in 2026



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Key Dates & School Directory	3
Curriculum Information & Online Selection Process	4
Ball Sports	5
Drama	6
Electronics	7
Guardians of the Earth	8
I'm With the Band	9
Metal Technology	10
Mini Market Makers	11
Not So... Horrible Histories	12
Outdoor Education	13
Rebel With A Brush	14
Science Club	15
STEM	16
Theatre Production	17
Viva Spanish	18
My Questions/Notes	19

KEY DATES

Tuesday 10th June 2025

Subject Selection Information Evening for parents and students. This is being held in the School Hall at **5pm** for our current Year 7 cohort.

Wednesday 11th June 2025

Email sent to students with link and individual access code to submit elective subject choices online.

Friday 20th June 2025

Submission of elective subject choices online closes at **3pm**.

SCHOOL DIRECTORY

Senior Executive

Principal	Mr Riley
Deputy Principal (Yr 7, 9 & 11)	Ms Forrest
Deputy Principal (Yr 8, 10 & 12)	Mr Montgomery

Head Teachers

Administration	Mr Taylor
CAPA	Mrs Pennings
English/Drama	Mrs Howe
HSIE	Mrs Evans
LOTE	Mr Taylor
Maths	Mr Quinn
PDHPE	Ms Playford & Mr Storey
Science	Dr Nugent
TAS	Ms Turner
Teaching and Learning	Mr Blanch
Wellbeing	Mr Yates

Careers Advisor	Mrs J Bates & Mr J Coroneos
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Year 7 Advisor	Mr Bond
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CURRICULUM INFORMATION

In 2026 students in Year 8 at Terrigal High School will study a compulsory core of eight courses. These are English, Maths, Science, Geography, History, Personal Development/Health/Physical Education (PDHPE), LOTE and Technology.

In addition, students are required to study two Passion Projects over the course of the year. Each Passion Project runs for one semester.

Passion Projects

These projects are designed to develop student skills and interests. Each project will culminate with a display or celebration where students can showcase what they have achieved.

Details of the courses to be offered are described in this guide. Please familiarise yourself with the options available before making your decision. Students are encouraged to make choices based on their interests and talents.

Parents and students should note the costs related to each of the courses where applicable. These costs are compulsory. The school can only offer these courses on the basis that students meet the obligations for the cost of materials.

ONLINE PASSION PROJECT SELECTION PROCESS

Selection of the Passion Projects will be completed via an online process.

Students will receive an email that will include their own individual access code and the link to the website to complete their selections.

Students will need to select their first two preferences and two reserves. Selections must be made in preferential order.

After submitting their choices online, a confirmation page will be displayed. **This page needs to be printed, signed by the student and parent/carer and returned to Mr Taylor in the LOTE Staffroom (top Red) no later than 3pm on Monday 23rd June.**

PLEASE NOTE

- Every effort will be made to allocate students their first choices, however, due to class size limits this may not always be possible.
- Prices listed in this booklet are subject to change.

BALL SPORTS

Course Description

Do you enjoy being active, playing outdoors, and collaborating with others? The Ball Sports course immerses students in a dynamic learning environment, focusing on a diverse range of popular ball sports such as basketball, soccer, volleyball, and tennis.

Students will explore the fundamental rules and regulations of each sport while developing essential skills like ball handling, passing, and shooting. Through various drills, they will enhance their coordination, agility, and overall fitness.

Emphasising teamwork, communication, and sportsmanship, students will collaborate with peers to create effective strategies for both attacking and defending during games.

The course culminates in an exciting round robin competition, allowing students to showcase their skills and teamwork in a friendly yet competitive atmosphere. Join us for an engaging journey that fosters a love for sport and active living!

What will students learn about?

- The rules and regulations of various ball sports
- Essential skills required for each sport
- Teamwork, communication, and sportsmanship
- Attacking and defensive strategies to enhance gameplay



What will students learn to do?

- Participate in a range of activities that promote physical fitness and coordination
- Apply learned skills in practical game situations
- Formulate and implement strategies during play
- Compete in an exciting round robin competition to showcase their skills and teamwork in a friendly and competitive environment

How will students be assessed?

Students will be assessed on their:

- practical skills
- ability to function as an effective group member
- ability to assess and apply strategies to games
- ability to demonstrate communication and leadership

Excursions/Activities planned:

Possible excursions include the use of Breakers Stadium and Terrigal Tennis courts

Course Fee: \$20

Other: Costs for bus fares and entry fees



DRAMA

All The World's A Stage –

Let's see it light up at Terrigal High School!

Course Description

Do you love being creative? How about working collaboratively? Are you looking for a fun and physical way to express yourself and your ideas?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, the Drama Club is the perfect way for you and your friends to come together and share an unforgettable experience!

This emphasis will be the collaborative and creative nature of Drama, and a chance for you to express yourself through performance. You can also choose Theatre Production if you wish to continue your dramatic education.

What will students learn about?

In the Drama Club you will learn to confidently express your thoughts and feelings through drama. Each lesson will provide you with skills and strategies to express your emotions in ways that you never thought was possible. You will be involved in using body movement, gestures and voice to persuade and engage an audience to create your very own piece of drama that will be performed in front of a live audience.

The Drama Club will not only cater to you if you love performing but it will suit anyone who enjoys production management, as all aspects of costume design, set design script writing are explored in this project.

If you are a student who wants to dive into the world of theatre, sign up and prepare to entertain and be entertained!

What will students learn to do?

The project will include individual and group practical components, as well as a range of behind the scenes production management skills:

- Practical improvisation skills through theatre sports games
- Teamwork and communication through playbuilding and production management of your very own piece of theatre
- Critical and creative thinking in all aspects of design, including individual and group performances, costume, set and script.

How will students be assessed?

Assessment will be based on the playbuilding of a dramatic performance and application to the creation of this piece through a reflective log book.

Course Fee: \$0

ELECTRONICS

Course Description

Electronics Technology is a practical based course in which students will gain a basic understanding of electricity and how electrical components work together to create functional electronic circuits.

Students will be given the opportunity to develop practical skills and be exposed to a range of tools and equipment they may not have used before.



What will students learn about?

The skills and knowledge gained during the course will include a basic understanding of the nature of electricity, including safety aspects, the safe and correct use of the different equipment to create basic electronic circuits, such as soldering irons, screwdrivers, pliers and wire strippers and use of the Technology workshop equipment available to Year 8 to construct project housings. Computer skills may be integrated into the course with computer graphics and assignment work.

Students will develop an appreciation for and an understanding of the value of working with an important technology for society. Skills learned may prove useful in future career options such as electrical and auto-electrical based trades, also STEM and Engineering based professions.

What will students learn to do?

- Recognise & safely use appropriate equipment
- Identify & use a selection of electronic components
- Construct a range of basic circuits
- Create appropriate housings for their circuits

How will students be assessed?

Assessment will be based on:

- completed project work
- safe working processes in the electronics workshop
- demonstrated understanding of theoretical concepts

Course Fee: \$30 for electronic kits, components and materials



GUARDIANS OF THE EARTH

Course Description

The project is based completely around each student's own interest in the environment. Requiring students to develop research and investigative skills as an individual and collaboratively by working with others and actively engaging in their learning. Students will have their project exhibited, promoting self-expression and creativity which supports student confidence and wellbeing.

What will students learn about?

Students will learn about an environmental issue/concern of their choice, while learning about how to act individually and with others to support ecologically sound, economically prosperous, and solutions for present and future generations.

What will students learn to do?

Students will learn how to research and investigate based on the environmental issue they have chosen, by developing the knowledge, skills, and understanding of environmental principles to analyse environmental issues and put forward informed decisions in an exhibition. This passion project will prepare students to be critical thinkers, environmentally conscious citizens, advocates for problems that exist today and into the future, while taking an understanding of the nuanced interconnections that exist between people and the environment.

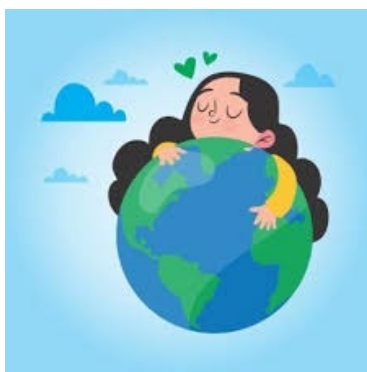
How will students be assessed?

Students will be assessed on individual work, evidence of research and investigation, the creation of their presentation and the final exhibition of their work.

Excursions/Activities planned:

The project primarily takes place at school, however, there will be community links through inviting parents/caregivers/grandparents to an intimate exhibition of the students' work.

Course Fee: \$0



I'M WITH THE BAND - CREATING MUSIC TOGETHER!

Course Description

The project is totally based around practical performance requiring students to develop organisational skills and work as part of a team. Performing in an ensemble requires students to collaborate, listen to each other and be actively engaged in their learning. Performance fosters and promotes confidence and wellbeing which is an outlet for self-expression and creativity.

Students will be encouraged to develop their passion for an instrument/s and learn to play pieces together in small group and class ensembles.



What will students learn about?

Students will learn about playing music together whether that be as a vocalist or instrumentalist. They will learn how to keep in time and how to develop their individual skills as a performer. They will learn about playing and performance techniques, how to set up a simple PA, use a microphone and be part of a band, including creating promotional material.

What will students learn to do?

Students will learn how to develop their skills on their chosen instrument: voice, piano, guitar, drums etc. and learn how to play in a small ensemble e.g. duet, trio, vocal group or rock band. Students will learn how to work a simple PA and a wireless microphone and will use a PC to develop promotional posters and make a small radio blurb for their final concert/performance. The students will learn how to use Adobe Audition to record their radio blurb.

How will students be assessed?

Assessment will be based on individual and group work, evidence of the application of rehearsal skills, the creation of a promotional radio blurb and material for a final performance.

Excursions/Activities planned:

The project primarily takes place at school, however, there will be community links through inviting parents/caregivers/grandparents to a small concert/recital and afternoon tea at the end of the course. Students may also visit a nursing home/retirement village and some of our primary feeder schools to perform their pieces. This will alternate across the three terms of different classes

Approx. Cost: Bus fare to any venue outside of the school.

Course Fee: \$5

METAL TECHNOLOGY

Course Description

Metal Technology is a practical based subject in which students will be given the opportunity to design and construct a sheet metal toolbox. The emphasis will be on the enjoyment of practical work in the context of a fun and exciting project. Students will be taught how to overcome the problems involved in sheet metal design. Students will be given the opportunity to develop practical skills and be exposed to a range of tools and equipment they may not have used before.

What will students learn about?

The skills and knowledge gained during the course will include the safe and correct use of fixed machinery, portable power and hand tools, different metal materials and a range of finishing hardware. Computer skills may be integrated into the course with computer graphics and theory assignment work.

Students will develop an appreciation for and an understanding of the value of working with an important material resource. Skills learned may prove useful in future trade based career options such as fabrication, fitting and machining, electrical, plumbing and automotive based trades.

What will students learn to do?

- Marking and cutting out
- Metal folding and bending
- Fabrication and joining methods such as spot welding and riveting
- Fitting of allied hardware such as hinges and latches

How will students be assessed?

Assessment will be based on completed project work and safe working processes in the metal workshop.

Course Fee: \$35 for materials and hardware



MINI MARKET MAKERS



**DESIGN
CREATE
SELL
SHINE!**



Course Description

Love crafting, cooking, and creating? This subject is all about hands-on fun as you turn your ideas into real products – from handmade jewellery and sweet treats to small sewing projects and creative crafts- all with a mini business twist and a market stall in mind!

What will you learn?

Get ready to cook, craft, and shine in this exciting, project-based subject! Unleash your creativity, learn new skills, and discover the joy of making and selling your own products and create your way into the world of mini business!

You will learn:

- How to take a product idea from concept to creation
- Basic cooking skills to prepare simple, sellable food items
- Use of tools like sewing machines, embroidery machines, small kitchen appliances, laser cutters & 3D printers
- Business and marketing skills through creating and promoting your own mini product line
- Problem-solving and creative design techniques

What will you make?

- Delicious treats
- Handmade jewellery
- Beautiful small crafts like macramé, embroidery, and simple sewn items
- Custom-designed products ready for display and sale



How you will be assessed?

You'll create a small folio featuring the marketable goods you've designed and made throughout the semester, showcasing your skills and creativity.

Course Fee: \$35 for materials

NOT SO.... HORRIBLE HISTORIES

Course Description

This course is for anyone who is fascinated by the past in all its weird and gory glory. The emphasis will be on examining different topics and individuals who stand out in history as both interesting and unusual. Students will look at case studies and develop skills in historical analysis, source analysis, questioning, research, and critical thinking skills. They will also look at the role of archaeology and technology in giving us new perspectives on famous figures in history and the lives of people of the past.

The emphasis will be on examining some of the world's great history mysteries, themes in history and why we can't always rely on books, movies, and popular culture to tell the truth about what happened in the past. There is no "absolute truth" in history and so students look at famous historical issues and ideas from many different angles to form their own conclusions.

What will students learn about?

Students learn about the role of an archaeologist. What do they do and how "Indiana Jones" does it really get on a dig? Students will learn about the young Pharaoh Tutankhamun. Who was he, what did he do in his 18 years on the planet and what theories exist as to how he died? Students examine how modern archaeology has given us some better ideas about the real life and death of the boy king. Did Pirates really exist? If so, were they as bad as they have been portrayed in movies and history books? Did Blackbeard and other pirates really sail ships and plunder and pillage? How accurate is the portrayal of pirates and their code in film texts such as "Pirates of the Caribbean"? Do pirates still exist? Who was Jack the Ripper? Why was he never caught? What theories exist as to his real identity and his horrible crimes? How did the investigation of this documented killer create the birth of modern forensic science?

What will students learn to do?

Students will learn to critically analyse history, the stories of history and analyse historical sources to examine their value and limitations. What can sources tell us and what must we interpret for ourselves? How can studying the past give us a better sense of our place in the modern world? How is history continually being rewritten as new technology gives us better insights into the past? Through examination of these themes and topics students will develop critical thinking skills which will help them in their education and lifelong learning.

How will students be assessed?

Students will work through a series of thematic modules where they will examine and analyse different source evidence- in film, documents, documentaries etc. They will complete worksheets and assignments on their theme-based topics. Students' final assessment will be an Historical Investigation where they chose their own personality, event or theme to analyse and create a presentation in written and visual form to create a display in the library.

Course Fee: \$0

OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Course Description

Do you love being outdoors, participating in recreational activities and working as part of a team? The Outdoor Education course engages students in practical and active learning experiences in our local natural environments. Students will develop the skills and understandings to move safely and competently, while valuing a positive relationship with the natural environments and promoting sustainable use.



What will students learn about?

- **Water Activities** (Term 1/Term 4): Students are introduced to the fundamentals of water activities that could include water safety, fishing, watercrafts, swimming.
- **Bush Safety & Survival** (Term 2/Term 3): Students will learn how to travel safely in the Australian environment, whilst studying survival techniques in accordance with the five priority areas (Shelter, Signalling, Water, Warmth and Food).

What will students learn to do?

Students will learn to:

- discover opportunities to develop positive relationships with the environment, others and themselves through interaction with the natural world
- engage in practical and active learning experiences in natural environments and settings typically beyond the school classroom

How will students be assessed?

Students will be assessed on their:

- practical exploration skills
- ability to function as an effective group member
- ability to assess and manage risks
- ability to demonstrate conservation and management of the natural environment

Excursions/Activities planned:

Possible excursions include fishing trips, pool swims and bush walks

Course Fee: \$20

Other: Costs for bus fares and entry fees

REBEL WITH A BRUSH

Course Description

Students will be given the opportunity to make art that is meaningful to them about important personal, community and world issues. A range of works from drawing, graphic design and sculpture design will be created and displayed in our school and local environment.



What will students learn about?

Students will be challenged to think up different social issues in society and in learning new techniques in art making. Some other challenges that may arise are the implications from social issues that may directly relate to students for example mental health, bullying, suicide rates, domestic violence and the environment.

What will students learn to do?

Students will learn new skills in art-making while encompassing issues about their world that they feel strongly about. Students will create artworks that involve learning new techniques in a range of skills from drawing, painting, printing, sculpture, computer generated design, poster and t-shirt design to communicate these ideas.

How will students be assessed?

An exhibition of posters and artworks will be held in the art area where students will be able to share their ideas about their social issue of choice. This will take place once a term. The students will make small badges to distribute at this event advocating their issue. Students will be assessed on the quality of their work and their ability to express a point of view.

Excursions/Activities planned:

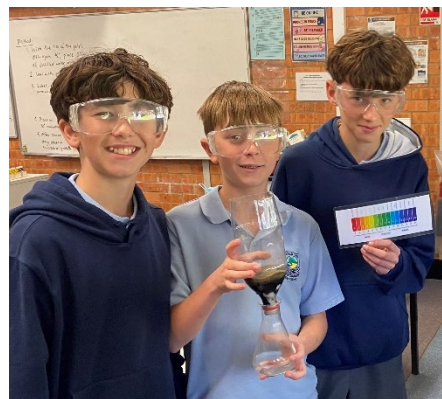
The Museum of Contemporary Art/ The Art Gallery of NSW/ Sculpture by the Sea. Approx. cost of \$25.

Course Fee: \$35





SCIENCE CLUB



Course Description

Join the inaugural THS Science Club for an exciting exploration of the wonders of science! This club is designed for students who are eager to deepen their understanding of scientific concepts while engaging in hands-on experiments, collaborative projects, and stimulating discussions.

What will students learn and do?

- Explore key concepts from the Stage 4 Science syllabus, including:
 - Earth and Space
 - Physics
 - Environmental Science
 - Chemistry
 - Marine Science.
- Engage in practical experiments and activities that reinforce theoretical knowledge and encourage critical thinking.
- Participate in research projects on topics of interest, fostering skills in inquiry, analysis, and presentation.
- Collaborate with peers to solve real-world scientific problems and develop innovative solutions.
- Connect with guest speakers from various scientific fields to gain insight into potential careers and current scientific advancements.
- Attend Science workshops and excursion not on offer elsewhere.

How will students be assessed?

Practical completion of work in class.

Course Fee: \$25 for materials



STEM

Course Description

Are you looking for 21st Century skills? Then STEM is for you.

The STEM Passion Project will provide a fun platform to apply your science, technology, engineering and mathematical skills in an inquiry and project based learning environment. Let your curiosity blossom as you develop creative and critical thinking skills.



What will students learn about?

Students will learn about the application of science, technology, engineering and maths knowledge and skills beyond the classroom.

The students will experience hands-on and visible activities that place learning in real-world contexts to help support or spark their interest in STEM.

The STEM Passion Project will lift foundational skills in STEM learning areas, develop mathematical, scientific and technological literacy, and promote the development of the 21st century skills of problem solving, critical analysis and creative thinking.

What will students learn to do?

- Research and critical thinking skills
- Teamwork and communication
- Collaborative technology skills
- Real life problem solving

How will students be assessed?

Assessment will be based mainly on their project work, with a smaller percentage of their assessment coming from their supporting portfolio.



Excursions/Activities planned:

Students will have access to differing activities and excursions depending on when they participate in the STEM Passion project. Confirmed activities include: Use of the LEGO Mindstorms robots; creation of projects using the laser cutter; bottle rocket research and launch.

Course Fee: \$15 for materials

THEATRE PRODUCTION

Course Description

Theatre Production is for students that are interested in the creative arts but may not be confident enough to perform. Students are led through many processes involved with a stage production.

This Passion Project pairs very well with Drama. You can be in theatre all year round!



What will students learn about?

Students will be given the opportunity to complete and present costume design, make up design, a physical model for stage design, lighting design, stage management, marketing and a portfolio project. Students may also choose an area of expertise and dabble in choreography, play writing, acting or song writing/singing.

Students may foster their creative talents into a form they have not experienced before.

What will students learn to do?

Each unit will involve research and design leading to the construction of a final product.

Projects to be completed through the year include:

- Stage make up
- Costume design
- Adaption of a Book or Movie for the stage
- Creating a "Set" in the form of a Diorama
- Advertising – Multi media
- Small Performance (many jobs do not require you to perform)

How will students be assessed?

Assessment will be based on evidence of the application of the design process presented in a Portfolio, Diorama and a small performance (one of the following domains - acting, singing, dancing, musical instrument, lighting, sound, backstage manager).

Excursions/Activities planned:

Theatre/ Movie Special effects Make-up tutorial with Guest Speaker.

Course Fee: \$30 for materials and tutorial



¡VIVA SPANISH!

Coco and the Colours of Mexico

Course Description

In this engaging and creative course, you will explore the rich cultural traditions of Mexico through the lens of Disney's animated film *Coco*. Centred around the vibrant celebration of Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead), this film invites you to discover how music, memory, and family shape identity and belonging, all the while getting a taste of learning the vibrant language of Spanish.

What will students learn about?

As we watch the film *Coco*, we will dive into key aspects of Mexican culture including:

- Traditional foods, music, clothing, and family customs.
- Significance of the Day of the Dead festival
- Miguel's family photo altar (*ofrenda*) and its role in keeping family legacy and connection alive
- The meaning behind Miguel's doggy sidekick and spirit guide Dante (maybe you have one too!)

What will students learn to do?

Through visual storytelling, class discussions and interactive games, you will learn the following simple Spanish language phrases and intercultural skills:

- Make personal introductions using greetings, common phrases and typical Hispanic gestures
- Describe family members and friends
- Share interests, hobbies and traditions
- Value empathy, curiosity and respect for cultural diversity
- Build communication, confidence and creative thinking skills in a Spanish language setting

How will students be assessed?

You will be assessed on the creation of a personal family album, in which you will showcase your newly acquired Spanish skills.

Course Fee: \$5 for learning materials

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