

Warwick State High School



**Year 8
Information
Booklet
2026**

~ Excellence through Effort ~

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Message from the Principal

Thank you for entrusting us with the education of your child at Warwick State High School. We pride ourselves on building a positive school culture based on our values of Respect, Responsibility and Relationships. Teachers ensure that students are supported in their learning through the use of Relational Pedagogy.

Your child will have access to a variety of opportunities; through the wide range of curricular and co-curricular offerings we have at Warwick State High School.

Before starting at this school, all new students and their parent/caregiver are required to attend an enrolment interview. These interviews allow us the opportunity to ensure a smooth transition to Warwick State High School for your child.

The following documents are to be returned to the school, fully completed, and then an interview will be scheduled at a convenient time.

- Application for Student Enrolment
- Birth Certificate (to be sighted only)
- Student Resource Scheme forms
 - o Participation Agreement (compulsory)
 - o SRS Fee Payment Arrangement (compulsory)
- Court Orders (if applicable)

Thank you once again for choosing Warwick State High School.

Mr Will Curthoys
Principal



Mrs Michelle Ferdinand
Deputy Principal



Mr Dan Finn
Deputy Principal



Mr Daryl Thompson
Deputy Principal
Monday - Thursday



Mrs Tanya Wright
Deputy Principal
Friday

~ COMPULSORY SUBJECTS ~

~ English ~

Acting Head of Department – Mrs Kirsty Catterson

Email: kcate1@eq.edu.au

The English curriculum is built around the 3 interrelated strands of *Language*, *Literature* and *Literacy*. Together, the 3 strands focus on developing students' knowledge, understanding and skills in listening, reading, viewing, speaking, writing and creating. Learning in English is recursive and cumulative, building on concepts, skills and processes developed in earlier years. In Year 8, students communicate with others for a variety of purposes. Students engage with a variety of texts for enjoyment. They listen to, read, view, analyse, interpret, evaluate, create and perform a range of spoken, written and multimodal texts. Texts may include various types of media texts including online and digital texts, novels, non-fiction, poetry and dramatic performances. Students develop their understanding of how texts are influenced by context, purpose and audience. They understand how the features of texts may be used as models for creating their own work.

Key Topics:

- Movie study
- Indigenous Texts
- Novel study – narrative intervention and personal reflection
- Persuasion

Assessment:

- Students create a range of texts whose purposes may be aesthetic, imaginative, reflective, informative, persuasive and/or analytical; for example, narratives, performances, reports and discussions, literary analyses and reviews for different audiences.

Extra-curricular opportunities – Debating, Spelling Challenge, Reader's Challenge

~ Mathematics ~

Head of Department – Mr Brian Amedee

Email: bamed2@eq.edu.au

Mathematics and numeracy skills are critical to the learning and overall education of all students. Studying mathematics allows students to be able to think critically, problem solve using logic, think outside the box to develop multiple solutions, manage their time effectively and make connections creatively. Students will learn to use arithmetic, algebraic, spatial awareness and logical skills to solve contextual and abstract problems using a range of strategies.

Tutorials: Students are encouraged to participate in the free maths tutorials our teachers organise both after school, Tuesday 3:10pm to 4:30pm, and during school, Tuesday second break and Thursday second break.

Homework: Students are encouraged to complete one hour of study at home every week in order to consolidate their learning in class.

Key topics:

- Integers, fractions, decimals and percentages
- Statistics and geometry
- Number facts and algebra
- Measurement, probability and geometry

Assessment:

- Students will participate in two styles of assessment for maths in the form of exams and assignments. Both types of assessment will show the students' knowledge in understanding and fluency and problem solving and reasoning.

~ Science ~

Head of Department – Mr Brian Amedee

Email: bamed2@eq.edu.au

In Science, students participate in hands on experiments and activities under teacher supervision to provide opportunities for them to develop an understanding of important concepts and processes. There are strict laboratory rules to ensure safety with chemicals and equipment.

Science provides an empirical way of answering interesting and important questions about the biological, physical and technological world. The curriculum supports students to develop the scientific knowledge, understandings and skills to make informed decisions about local, national and global issues.

Science education is organised according to The Australian Curriculum: Science and has three interrelated strands: Science Understanding, Science as a Human Endeavour and Science Inquiry Skills.

At Warwick State High School, students engage in four units of work throughout the year that cover each of the strands mentioned above.

Costs: Students may be required to participate in fieldwork or competitions.

Key Topics:

- Physical and Chemical Properties
- Cells and Body Systems
- Energy Types and Transformations
- Rock Formations

Assessment: Includes a variety of approaches that allow students to exhibit what they know, understand and can demonstrate. The techniques utilised include: Exam/test student experiment with report, research task with report.

~ Humanities ~
Acting Head of Department – Mrs Kirsty Catterson
Email: kcate1@eq.edu.au

Through the study of Humanities, students develop their knowledge about the complex interactions between people, and between people and their environments by investigating historical, geographical, economic, legal and political ideas and issues. They clarify their personal values and acknowledge others' values and world views in a range of contexts and settings.

Therefore, Humanities provides students with fascinating and challenging units that enable them to: develop valuable research and communication skills; think critically; make informed decisions; and become responsible and active citizens.

Costs: Students may be required to participate in fieldwork, excursions and competitions in order to enhance their understanding of the work covered in class.

Key Topics:

History

- Medieval Europe
- Shogunate Japan

Geography

- Landforms and Landscapes
- Changing Nations

Economics and Business

- Aussie Marketing

Civics and Citizenship

- Democracy in Action

Assessment: Students will complete a range of tasks, including: short answer/response to stimulus, research assignments, reports, practical exercises and projects.

~ Health and Physical Education ~
Head of Department – Mrs Tanya Wright
Email: twrig75@eq.edu.au

Health and Physical Education Course aims to involve students in regular physical activity each week, as well as regular classroom lessons on key topics. Physical activity is essential for all students. Regular active and purposeful participation in physical activity promotes health and wellbeing, and supports the achievement of academic goals.

There are 2 main strands included in the subject - **Personal, Social and Community Health** and **Movement and Physical Activity**. Health and Physical Education is compulsory for Year 8.

Costs: Students may be required to participate in/or use community facilities in order to enhance learning opportunities which may incur a cost eg. WIRAC

Key Topics:

Personal, Social and Community Health

- Identities and change
- Interacting with others
- Making healthy and safe choices

Health topics include: Alcohol and Other Drug, Online Safety, Respectful Relationships, Health Benefits of Physical Activity.

Movement and Physical Activity

- Moving our bodies
- Making active choices
- Learning through movement

Practical movement activities include: Game Skills, Touch Football, Recreational Games and Challenge Activities, Athletics.

Assessment:

- **Health/Fitness Topics** assessed with written assignments and practical projects, as well as written exams.
- **Physical Activity** units assessed on subjective assessment of skills, participation and effort.

~ Japanese - Languages Other Than English ~
Acting Head of Department – Mrs Kirsty Caterson
Email: kcate1@eq.edu.au

Through the study of Japanese, students will produce formulaic Japanese language and short phrases. They will develop proficiency in reading and writing the *hiragana alphabet*. Students will engage in processes such as analyzing, comparing and reflecting on aspects of Japanese language and cultural and their own. All students will study Japanese in Year 7 and 8. Japanese is offered as an elective in Year 9, 10, 11 and 12.

Extra-curricular opportunities – Hosting a Japanese student from our sister-school.

Key Topics: *Students will work through a variety of topics which might include:*

- Hiragana Alphabet
- Food
- Daily Routines and Hobbies
- Manga and Anime

Assessment:

- Students are assessed in Comprehending (Listening and Reading) and Composing (Speaking and Writing) in Japanese, based on the units selected, in both formal and informal contexts.

~ ELECTIVE SUBJECTS ~

~ The Arts ~
Head of Department – Mr Ian Follett
Email: ifoll1@eq.edu.au

Essential foundation skills are taught within this subject with students given the opportunity to apply these skills in a creative manner on set tasks. This subject allows each student to find their artistic strength. The three strands of the Arts offered at Warwick State High School are Drama, Music and Art.

~ Art ~

Art is the study of visual communication and visual expression. Students design and produce their own expressive artworks in a variety of 2D mediums and processes. Through this they develop skills in visualising and planning work.

Key Topics:

- The Art course is designed to give students a foundation in both theoretical and practical aspects of art with the focus on portraiture. Students will experience different two-dimensional media and learn fundamental art theory. As they create art works which relate to the world they live in. The elements and principles of design are taught and students are expected to apply them to art work they make and analyse.

Assessment: *Students are assessed on the following criteria*

- **Making:** Students create art works using 2D mediums inspired by the Archibald Prize, and present their artworks in an informal display.
- **Responding:** Students respond to the artworks of others as well as their own (300 words).

~ Drama ~

In Drama, students will explore, depict and celebrate human experience by imagining and representing other people through live enactment. Drama is a collaborative art, combining physical, verbal, visual and aural dimensions. In Drama students will experience theatre and develop an understanding of the performer/audience relationship. Students will combine the elements of drama to make, present and respond to representations of human situations, characters, behaviour and relationships. They will make drama through dramatic play, role-play and improvisation, structuring the elements into play-building, directing and scriptwriting. In presenting drama they will learn, as actors, to use body and gesture, voice and language, in responding, students will learn about how drama contributes to personal, social and cultural identity.

Key Topics:

- Students will learn to apply all the basic elements of drama, including more complex use of dramatic tension and sub-texts. They will make, refine and present student-devised drama, working in groups and as individuals, and experiment with small-scale improvisation. They will explore characterisation in improvisation. In performance, they will use characterisation, experiment with design, and develop a performance vocabulary as they learn the basic principles of dramatic production. They will present informal and formal performances. They will experience and respond to a diversity of forms and styles from contemporary performance.

Assessment: *Students are assessed on the following criteria*

- **Making:** Student-Devised Performance

~ Music ~

In Music, students will listen to, compose and perform music from a diverse range of styles, traditions and contexts. They will create, shape and share sounds in time and space and critically analyse. Music practice is aurally based and focuses on acquiring and using knowledge, understanding and skills about music and musicians.

Key Topics:

- The music course is designed to provide a firm base from which students are exposed to the world of music. Students learning music listen, perform and compose. They will learn about the elements of music: rhythm, pitch, dynamics and expression, form and structure, timbre and texture. Aural skills and ear training are the particular listening skills students will develop to identify and interpret the elements of music. Students will learn to make music using the voice, body, instruments, found sound sources and information and communication technology.

Assessment: Students are assessed on the following criteria

- **Making:** Students will demonstrate an understanding of basic musical notation and manipulation of musical elements by performing on various classroom instruments in small groups.
- **Responding:** Students will be exposed to a variety of music styles and be able to talk and write about musical works using correct vocabulary. Students will also demonstrate aural recognition and discrimination of the concepts of music.

~ Design Technologies ~
Head of Department – Mr Brad Hutchinson
Email: bhutc64@eq.edu.au

Design Technologies is studied for two lessons per week over a Semester. Students will focus on the knowledge and understanding, and processes and production skills required to manage projects from conception to realisation. Students will work independently and collaboratively. They apply design and systems thinking, and design processes, to investigate ideas, generate and refine ideas, plan, produce and evaluate designed solutions.

Key Topics: Materials and Technologies is organised around the following topics:

- Materials and technologies and how they impact on designed solutions.
- Generating and designing products, services and environments.
- Communicating design decisions.
- Evaluating using criteria for success.
- Creating and using project management skills.
- Selecting techniques and tools to manipulate or process materials.
- Independently and safely producing designed solutions in a workshop environment.

Students will engage in the above topics through:

- The designing and manufacturing of simple wood, metal and/or plastic products.

Assessment:

- Students will be required to provide evidence of what they are learning in a variety of forms. These may include practical tasks, project/design folios, written tasks, peer and self-evaluation and reflection.

Design Technologies, students will focus on knowledge, understanding and skills required to create design solutions. These solutions will be designed to promote healthy living and wellbeing. Food preparation, textile production and management skills will be included. Students will be working independently and collaboratively. They will be using a range of equipment in both the kitchen and textile classroom.

Costs:

Ingredients will be required to be brought from home to produce food items (which are then taken home) on 3-4 occasions. Providing ingredients from home is essential for learning and succeeding in this subject.

Key Topics:

- Introduction to Food and Textile technology
- Working safely and hygienically
- Basic cookery skills
- Simple textile skills
- Management skills

Assessment:

- Students will be required to provide evidence of what they are learning through practical demonstration.

The information in this booklet is correct at time of publication (June 2025) but maybe subject to change



Warwick State High School

2026 STATIONERY LIST - YEAR 8

This list includes subject-specific items required in addition to general multi-purpose items such as: Diary, 8GB USB stick, headphones (specifications to be provided later in the year), blue and red pens, HB pencils, scissors, highlighter pens, pencil sharpener, white plastic eraser, ruler, coloured pencils, felt pens, white board marker, small stapler, glue stick, pencil case.

Students are **NOT** to bring the following items to school:

- Steel rulers - use plastic or wood
- Large "Nikko" type marking pens (if these are needed, they will be supplied by the subject area)
- Liquid correction fluid

ENGLISH	5 x A4 64 page ruled exercise books 1 whiteboard marker (for individual student use)
DESIGN TECHNOLOGIES	1 plastic sheet protector Ingredients will need to be purchased for Food Studies lessons 12 cup muffin pan/pizza tray/cake and slice tin will be required to use throughout the term Shoes with impervious uppers (no mesh) will need to be worn Apron, hairnet
HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION	(Recycled from previous year/inexpensive product) School Hat/Cap mandatory for practical lessons General stationery as listed above for theory lessons 1 x 48 page exercise book
HUMANITIES	2 x A4 exercise books (Separate to other subjects)
JAPANESE	2 x A4 96 page ruled exercise book 1 display folder
MATHEMATICS	Preferred scientific calculator: TI 30XB calculator from Texas Instruments 2 x 128 page notebooks – separate from other subjects Kent Set – protractor, compass etc. 15 cm ruler (30 cm flexible)
SCIENCE	1 x 128 exercise book Scientific calculator (same as Maths calculator)
THE ARTS	General multi-purpose items listed above

PLEASE NAME ALL PROPERTY CLEARLY AT THE START OF THE YEAR

"It is much easier to return named property to the rightful owner"