



GORDONVALE STATE HIGH SCHOOL

JUNIOR SECONDARY SUBJECT INFORMATION BOOKLET YEAR 7 ~ 2026



ADMINISTRATION

PRINCIPAL

Geoff Moore

DEPUTY PRINCIPALS

Davida Laney - Years 7 & 8

Ellie Taylor - Years 9 & 10

Jacinta Evans - Years 11 & 12

HEADS OF DEPARTMENT

English

Christopher Bowers

Humanities

Kristal Kinnane

Mathematics

Louise Barbour

Health and Physical Education

Matt Sperring

Sciences

Kylie Sheehan

Student Services 7 & 8

Joel Jerome

Student Services 9 & 10

Todd Chatterton

Student Services 11 & 12

Jean Richter

Diverse Learning Centre (Special Education)

Caroline Elliott

The Arts & Technologies

Tennille Farnsworth

BUSINESS MANAGER

Sharlene Brosseuk

SUPPORT STAFF

Guidance Officer

Kate Veronese

Community Education Councillor

Thecla Mathew & Allan Yeatman

Youth Support Coordinator

Tamara Sugden

School Based Youth Health Nurse

Shane Dustin

Clontarf

Rickki Sutherland

Industry Liason Officer/Executive Assistant

Lyndal Jones

SCHOOL CONTACT DETAILS

Mailing Address

PO Box 66, Gordonvale QLD 4865

Street Address

85 Sheppards Street, Gordonvale

Phone

4043 3222

Email

admin@gordonvalehigh.eq.edu.au

Website

gordonvalehigh.eq.edu.au

Facebook

www.facebook.com/gordonvaleshs

OFFICE HOURS

The school office is open Monday to Friday from 8:00am until 4:00pm.

Payments for school fees, excursions or camps may be made by cash, cheque or EFTPOS during office hours.

SUMMIT

JUNIOR SECONDARY ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE PROGRAM

The Gordonvale State High School SUMMIT Academic Excellence Program is a selective program designed for high-performing students who demonstrate exceptional ability, motivation, and a strong commitment to learning. The program provides a rigorous and enriching pathway that challenges students to achieve academic excellence while developing the skills and dispositions required for future success.

The four-year program (Years 7–10) supports students during the critical junior secondary phase, fostering advanced cognitive development alongside social and emotional growth. SUMMIT students are encouraged to set ambitious goals, demonstrate resilience, and persist through challenge as they work towards their academic potential.

The program focuses on extension and enrichment within the learning areas of English/Humanities and Mathematics/Science. Students may apply to participate in one or both academic pathways, depending on their strengths, interests, and aspirations. SUMMIT students combine with the remainder of their cohort for all other subject areas.

A defining feature of the SUMMIT Program is its emphasis on 21st Century Thinking Skills, including critical and creative thinking, collaboration, communication, and independent learning. Students engage in a range of extension opportunities such as academic competitions, inquiry-based projects, and enrichment experiences. In the early years of the program, particular emphasis is placed on individual learning projects, allowing students to explore areas of interest in depth while developing strong research, organisation, and self-management skills.

ENROLMENT INTO SUMMIT

Students enrolling in SUMMIT can apply to be part of the Mathematics/Science strand or English/Humanities strand. Eligible students may enrol in both.

The school has high expectations of students offered places in the SUMMIT program and therefore their progress and behaviour is closely monitored. Students falling below the expected standards undergo a review and consultation process which may result in them being removed from the program. If places become available during the year, they may be offered to other students in the year level.

Access to the program is through a separate application process which is outlined on our school website.

STUDENT RESOURCE SCHEME

The school operates a Student Resource Scheme (SRS) under Education Queensland guidelines. The scheme aims to provide all students with the necessary textbooks and associated learning materials at considerable savings to parents. Parents have a choice of either joining the scheme or privately purchasing all the various textbooks, novels and other materials as well as paying for all other items included in the scheme. Stationery items are provided to Year 7, 8, 9 & 10 students as part of the scheme. Year 11 & 12 students are required to purchase what is listed on the booklist on the Gordonvale State High School Website. For further information regarding the Student Resource Scheme (SRS) please see the school website. During mid 2026 the Student Resource Scheme (SRS) charges will be reviewed by the school and endorsed by our Parents & Citizens' Association. Excursions and Camp fees are not included in the Student Resource Scheme.

What are the costs involved? These are yearly fees and are correct as at 1st March 2026.

YEAR 7

All-inclusive fee per year - \$404 less \$164 (TRA) = \$240

A full breakdown of individual subject costings can be found on our Gordonvale State High School Website at <https://gordonvalehigh.eq.edu.au/enrolments/resource-scheme>

TRA = Government Textbook & Resource Allowance

DIVERSE LEARNING CENTRE

The Diverse Learning Centre (DLC) combines the traditional roles of Special Education and Learning Support units.

The DLC team supports students with verified disabilities, including Intellectual Disability, Autism Spectrum Disorder, Speech–Language Impairment, Physical Impairment, Hearing Impairment, and Vision Impairment, as well as students who require additional support to access the mainstream, age-appropriate curriculum.

The DLC can access support and training for students from a range of specialists and services, including Department of Education personnel such as Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists, Speech Pathologists, Regional School Nurses, and Advisory Teachers (Hearing Impairment, Vision Impairment, Physical Impairment, and Alternative/Augmented Communication).

Most students supported by the DLC participate in mainstream classes for some or all of their lessons. Some students may access curriculum at a different year level, depending on their individual needs.

Other programs offered through the DLC include:

- ASDAN – A program designed to develop life skills and work-readiness.
- Cooking Program – Supports students to develop independent living skills by learning to prepare simple meals.
- Social Skills for Living – Focuses on communication, emotional regulation, and interpersonal skills.
- Work Experience – Opportunities for students to engage in workplace learning (availability dependent on workplace access and transport).

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11 & 12
STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES			English Maths Science Humanities Electives		<i>Queensland Certificate of Individual Achievement in most applied/essential subjects</i>
Core Subjects		Elective	Applied/Essential Subject		VET Certificate Course

ENGLISH

Through the study of English, individuals learn to analyse, understand, communicate and build relationships with others and the world around them. It helps create confident communicators, imaginative and critical thinkers, and informed citizens.

The English curriculum is presented in year levels from Foundation to Year 10. Content is organised under 3 interrelated strands:

- Language
- Literature
- Literacy

Literary texts that support and extend students in Year 7 as independent readers may be drawn from a range of realistic, fantasy, speculative fiction and historical genres. These texts may explore themes of interpersonal relationships and ethical dilemmas in real-world and fictional settings, and represent a variety of perspectives. Informative texts may present technical information and content from credible sources about specialised topics

Year 7 students create a range of texts whose purposes may be aesthetic, imaginative, reflective, informative, persuasive and/or analytical; for example, narratives, performances, reports, reviews and arguments for different audiences. They learn the mechanics of writing through a Functional Grammar approach.

Assessment: Short response, Extended response, Examination, Multimodal presentation

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11 & 12
ENGLISH	English			English Extension English	English Literature
					<i>Essential English</i>
Core Subjects	Elective	General Subject		Applied/Essential Subject	

MATHEMATICS

In Year 7 Mathematics, students build strong foundational numeracy skills and begin to explore more abstract mathematical ideas. They work with integers, fractions, decimals and percentages, and develop an understanding of ratios and proportional reasoning. Students are introduced to algebraic expressions, investigate perimeter, area and volume, and explore geometric relationships. They also begin to analyse data and understand chance. Throughout the year, students are encouraged to explain their thinking, use mathematical language and apply their learning to everyday situations, helping them develop confidence in reasoning and solving practical problems.

Assessment: Students in Maths are assessed by written exams, portfolios and/or a PSMT each semester.

Semester 1		Semester 2	
Unit 1	Unit 2	Unit 3	Unit 4
Number and Probability	Money and Algebra	Measurement	Geometry and Statistics

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11 & 12
MATHEMATICS	Mathematics			Mathematics	General Maths Maths Methods Specialist Mathematics
				Mathematics Extension Short Course in Numeracy	<i>Essential Maths</i>
Core Subjects	Elective	General Subject		<i>Applied/Essential Subject</i>	eLearning

HUMANITIES

In Year 7, students will spend the year studying History, Geography, Civics and Citizenship and Economics and Business.

HISTORY

Students will undertake a study of the history of the Ancient World from the time of the earliest human communities to the end of the ancient period.

Topics of study include:

- Deep Time History of Australia
- Ancient Egypt

ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS

Students will study the purposes and structures of organisations and how scarce resources are used to meet needs and wants.

The topic being studied is:

- Seeking individual and business success in the market (entrepreneurship)

GEOGRAPHY

Students will study environmental resources and factors that influence place and liveability.

Topics of study include:

- Water in the world
- Place and liveability

CIVICS

Students will study key features of Australia's system of government and explore how this system aims to protect all Australians. Students look at how the rights of individuals are protected through the justice system. They explore how Australia's secular system of government supports a diverse society with shared values. The topic being studied is:

- Australia's legal and political systems in a diverse society

Assessment: Students in Humanities are assessed by examinations and assignments with a choice of mode.



	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11 & 12
HUMANITIES	History		History	History	Ancient History Modern History Legal Studies Business Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Studies
	Geography		Geography	Civics & Citizenship	<i>Social & Community Studies</i> <i>Business Studies</i>
	Civics & Citizenship		Civics & Citizenship	Geography	<i>Certificate II in Workplace Skills</i> <i>Certificate II in Tourism</i> <i>Certificate III in Conservation & Ecosystem Management</i>
	Economics & Business		Economics & Business	Economics & Business	
Core Subjects	Elective	General Subject	Applied/Essential Subject	VET Certificate Course	



SCIENCE

Science is a dynamic, collaborative and creative human endeavor arising from our desire to make sense of our world.

Students are encouraged to engage and raise questions to inquire, explore through hands on activities, explain skills and concepts, elaborate by applying their knowledge to a new situation and evaluate by reviewing and reflecting on their learning. Many of the fastest growing occupations and emerging industries require Science expertise.

In Year 7 Science, students will cover:

- Biological Sciences (study of living things)
- Chemical Sciences (study of matter, its properties and reactions)
- Physical Sciences (study of the nature and properties of matter and energy)
- Earth & Space Sciences (study of the Earth's dynamic structure and its place in the cosmos).

Assessment: Students in Science are assessed by examinations, investigations and experimental investigations.

Semester 1		Semester 2	
Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
Biological Sciences: Ecosystems and Animal Classification	Earth and Space Sciences: Movement of celestial bodies and their influence on Earth	Chemical Sciences: Water filtration and separation of mixtures	Physical Sciences: Factors that affect the motion of Balloon Cars

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11 & 12
SCIENCE	Science			Science Science Extension	Biology Chemistry Physics
				Aquatics	Agricultural Practices Science in Practice Aquatic Practices
Core Subjects	Elective	General Subject		Applied/Essential Subject	

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The Years 7–8 curriculum builds on each student’s prior learning. During this time, a major influence on students is the world around them, and their peers become a key source of motivation and support when managing their health and wellbeing.

Students reflect on factors that influence their perception of themselves and their capacity to be resilient. Students explore behavioural expectations for different social situations. They develop the knowledge, understanding and skills to recognise instances of disrespect, discrimination, harassment and violence, and to act assertively to support their own rights and feelings and those of others.

Students investigate a range of health issues relevant to young people to understand the choices people make about their health and wellbeing. They examine the factors that can influence an individual’s choices, and explore and evaluate options, consequences, and healthier and safer alternatives. Students continue to refine their health literacy skills as well as their understanding of the sources of support available, to seek early help when they or people around them need it.

In these years, Health and Physical Education plays an important role in maintaining physical activity participation, through opportunities for skill development in a variety of movement forms that enhance performance and competence, as well as providing enjoyment and a sense of achievement.

Students practise and apply more complex combinations of skills and strategies in a range of movement situations and settings. They explore the range of factors and movement concepts that influence the quality of movement performances. They practise techniques that can be used to enhance their own and others’ performances.

Students have opportunities to practise using creative and collaborative processes to work in a group or team to communicate effectively, solve problems, resolve conflicts, and make decisions in movement and social contexts.

Unit 1	Unit 2	Unit 3	Unit 4
Theory: Physical Activity Guidelines Practical: Physical Activity Levels	Theory: Identities – managing emotions Practical: Athletics	Theory: Nutrition Practical: Modified games	Theory: Online Safety Practical: Tournament based games

Specific Subject Requirements: Hat, appropriate footwear, participation in practical activities

Assessment: Students in HPE are assessed with practical and theoretical tasks.

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11 & 12
HPE	HPE	HPE	HPE Fitness	Health Education Physical Education Recreation & Fitness	Health Physical Education Sport & Recreation Certificate III in Fitness
Core Subjects	Elective	General Subject	Applied/Essential Subject	VET Certificate Course	

LANGUAGES

All students in Years 7 and 8 are required to do a semester of either Japanese or Intercultural Understanding. It is recommended students study the same subject in both year levels.

JAPANESE

Japan is Australia's 2nd largest trade partner in the world with many goods and services exchanged between the two countries. Japan is also the 10th most visited country in the world for Australians to travel to and there is a strong advantage for individuals who can communicate appropriately with Japanese people, be it for work or pleasure.

Year 7 Japanese does not require any prior study with the language and teaches students an experience to read, write, listen and speak aspects of the language of 130 million people worldwide.

Unit 1	Unit 2
Dragon Ball Z, My Hero Academia, Naruto and Haikyuu!! are all anime series with lots of characters. Study this unit and you will be able to study them all.	A week in the life of a Japanese student - record a diary entry and learn how the lives of Japanese teenagers are both similar and different to that of your own.

Assessment: Students in LOTE are assessed by the following tasks: speaking, writing, listening and reading.

LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH (LOTE)	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11 & 12
	Japanese	Japanese	Japanese	Japanese	Japanese
	Core Subjects	Elective	General Subject	eLearning	

TECHNOLOGY

Technologies at Gordonvale SHS involves the study of Digital Technology, Design and Technology, Food and Fibre, and Food Specialisation. During Year 7, students have the opportunity to experience each of the Technologies subjects. In Year 8, students select two Technologies areas of focus from, studying one subject in Semester 1 and a different subject in Semester 2. As students progress through the year levels, they may elect additional Technologies subjects.

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

Year 7 Digital Technologies engages students in developing coding and software skills to create solutions to real world problems. Students work both independently and collaboratively as they learn the foundations of visual programming and explore how digital systems operate. Throughout the unit, they will conduct research, evaluate information systems, and manipulate data to inform their design choices. Students apply a range of processes—including investigating problems, designing solutions, and implementing and evaluating their work—culminating in the creation of an educational game that demonstrates their understanding of digital technologies and computational thinking.

Assessment: Students in Digital Technology will be assessed through their digital projects and folio work.

FOOD & FIBRE PRODUCTION

Food & Fibre Production is an engaging subject that focuses on environmental sustainability and sustainable agriculture, with students investigating future farming practices around the world and the social and environmental factors influencing modern food and fibre production. In this unit, students use Minecraft as a digital design tool to create and refine an environmentally sustainable farm, applying design thinking to develop, adapt, and justify their ideas against clear sustainability and design criteria. They will complete formal theoretical learning and collaborative digital design tasks as they explore how innovative, sustainable farming systems can support a more sustainable future..

Specific Subject Requirements: Nil

Assessment: Students in Technologies will be assessed through their digital project and work folio.

FOOD SPECIALISATION

Year 7 Food Specialisation develops students' knowledge and skills to safely and hygienically plan, prepare, and serve a variety of food products in a kitchen environment. Students learn to create and adapt design ideas, apply processes and solutions, and justify their choices using established design criteria. Throughout the unit, learners also explore how to make ethical, sustainable, and healthy food choices, building practical and theoretical understanding that supports confident and responsible participation in food preparation.

Specific Subject Requirements: Covered shoes and hair tied back

Assessment: Students in Technologies will be assessed through their practical assessment and written work (folio).

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

Year 7 Design & Technology is a practical, hands on subject where students learn the fundamentals of the design process while creating physical projects and prototypes. Students document their ideas and development in a project folio and learn to generate, adapt, and refine design solutions. Throughout the unit, they justify their decisions using established design criteria, building confidence in problem solving, creativity, and practical design skills.

Specific Subject Requirements: Safety glasses provided, covered in shoes, shirt tucked in, hair tied back.

Assessment: Students in Technologies will be assessed through their practical assessment and written work (folio).

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11 & 12
TECHNOLOGY	Design & Technology		Design & Technology Digital Technology Materials & Technology Specialisation Food & Fibre Production Food Specialisation		Cert II Engineering Cert II Hospitality Building and Construction
Core Subjects	Elective	General Subject	Applied/Essential Subject	eLearning	VET Certificate Course

THE ARTS

The Arts at Gordonvale SHS involves the study of Drama, Media, Music and Visual Art. During Year 7, students have the opportunity to experience each Arts subject with a specialist teacher. In Year 8, students select two Arts areas of focus from Drama, Media, Music or Visual Art, studying one subject in Semester 1 and a different subject in Semester 2. As students progress through the year levels, they may elect additional Arts subjects.

VISUAL ART

In Years 7, Art is all about exploring creativity, building foundational skills, and experimenting with different materials and techniques. Students will learn to draw, paint, and create artworks while developing confidence in expressing their own ideas. They will study artists from different cultures and time periods to understand how art communicates stories and emotions. Throughout the year, students will practise observing the world around them, using the elements of art—like line, tone, colour, texture, form and shape—to produce thoughtful, imaginative pieces. Most importantly, Art encourages curiosity, problem solving, and discovering a personal artistic voice.

Areas studied include:

- Printmaking
- Drawing
- Painting
- Mixed media

Assessment: Students will be assessed by practical folios & written work.

MUSIC

Students will explore the style and characteristics of rock and pop music while developing foundational musical skills a variety of instruments. This unit provides initial skills on guitar and keyboard, allowing students to build basic technique and confidence. Students will also use music technology to compose an original rock/pop song using provided loops, building their creativity and understanding of contemporary music production. In addition, they will analyse and evaluate music to deepen their listening skills and broaden their understanding of musical elements and stylistic features.

Assessment: Students will be assessed by digital compositions & written work.



DRAMA

Students explore scripts and short scenes by rehearsing and performing in small groups. They develop confidence, creativity, and communication skills while learning how to use voice, movement, facial expression, and space to create believable characters. Students also reflect on and evaluate performances, including their own and those of others, considering characterisation, acting skills, and how effectively the performance communicates meaning and engages an audience.

Assessment: Students will be assessed by practical performances & written work (folios).

MEDIA

In Media Arts, students are introduced to a range of techniques used by filmmakers to entertain, inspire, and educate audiences. They explore how meaning is created in moving-image media by identifying and explaining shot types, camera angles, and symbolic codes. Using digital technology, students apply these techniques to design and produce a short scene showcasing their understanding of cinematic conventions. Throughout the unit, they develop foundational skills in visual storytelling, media analysis, and creative production.

Assessment: Students will be assessed by a practical element (video/image production) and a written element (script, shotlist, storyboard, analysis).

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11 & 12
THE ARTS	Drama Media Music Visual Art		Drama Media Music Visual Art		Drama Film & Television Music Visual Art
	Visual Arts in Practice Media Arts in Practice Music in Practice				
Core Subjects	Elective	General Subject	Applied/Essential Subject		VET Certificate Course



CONTACT INFORMATION

85 Sheppards Street, Gordonvale
gordonvalehigh.eq.edu.au
Phone: 07 4043 3222
ABN: 68 256 910 892

PO Box 66. Gordonvale, QLD, 4865
Facebook: [www.facebook.com.gordonvaleshs](http://www.facebook.com/gordonvaleshs)
Email: admin@gordonvalehigh.eq.edu.au