

## Belconnen High School

‘Caring for Students and Striving for Excellence’



### Principal's Message

Welcome to Belconnen High School. We are a year 7-10 high school dedicated to preparing our students to be future ready. Belconnen High School is a professional learning community, with expert and dedicated teachers who create a culture of learning and get to know every child they teach.

At Belconnen High School we place students at the centre of their learning, designing and delivering curriculum that includes opportunities and flexibility for our students across all subject areas. Our pastoral care program ensures all our students are individually known and have a sense of belonging. Our school has a rich 50-year history, within a beautifully modernised building, purposefully designed and used to maximise teaching and learning in the 21st century.

Belconnen High School is very much a part of the local community, and we value being part of each child's education. I speak for myself, our staff, our students and our community when I say we are proud of our school, and I look forward to sharing it with you.

**John Alston-Campbell**  
**Acting Principal**



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**Belconnen High School**

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# VISION, MISSION, VALUES

**Belconnen High School**

‘Caring for Students and Striving for Excellence’

## **Vision**

We are an innovative learning community that empowers all to achieve excellence.

## **Mission**

With high expectations and a culture of success, we collaboratively develop and deliver rigorous and relevant learning. We nurture a safe and supportive environment to develop courageous life-long learners.

## **Values**

Strength, Knowledge and Integrity





# SCHOOL TO HOME COMMUNICATION

**Belconnen High School**

'Caring for Students and Striving for Excellence'

❑ School Phone Number	6142 1690
❑ School E-Mail	info_blch@ed.act.edu.au
❑ School Website	www.blch.act.edu.au
❑ School Newsletter	Emailed twice a term
❑ Student Reports	Each term
❑ Parent Teacher Interviews	Terms 1 and 3
❑ Parent Information Evenings	As advertised
❑ P&C Meetings & Forums	Each term
❑ School Board Meetings	Each term
❑ SMS messaging of student absence	Daily
❑ Student Announcements	Daily

## ENROLMENT

Enrolment is through an online form available through the ACT Education Directorate website [www.education.act.gov.au](http://www.education.act.gov.au)

The Education Directorate enrolment policy can also be accessed through the above website.



# EDUCATION FACILITIES

**Belconnen High School**

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Flexible learning spaces

Hospitality Trade Skills Centre including café and hospitality commercial kitchen

Building and Construction Trade Skills Centre

Open learning common area

Modern gymnasium with change rooms

Science laboratories

Specialised visual learning art spaces

Technology areas

Graphics and Digital spaces

Photography spaces with specialised equipment

Music/Band suite

Performing Arts studio

Inclusive Education hub

Assembly Hall

Canteen

Artificial turf futsal field and quality basketball court





ACT Education and Belconnen High School have committed to embedding the use of personal mobile devices at school with Bring Your Own Device (BYOD). As we prepare students for life in the 21st Century we must equip them with the skills in our everyday lives.

This will:

- Prepare students for college and life.
- Support a personalised, student-centred approach, shifting instruction towards more student-centred learning. Emphasising inquiry and authentic learning.
- Increase student engagement through ICT.
- Focus on the role of technology in 21st Century Learning: critical and creative thinking, collaboration, communication and self-awareness.
- Belconnen High School is committed to facilitating students and staff in creating a 21st Century Learning environment. Students bring their own device to school and access our wireless network as a tool to enhance the learning experience.

With classroom teacher approval, students will use these devices, accessing the internet and online learning platforms (Google Apps for Education and Education Perfect) to develop skills and collaborate with each other. Students will have constant access to a broad range of course content, both in and out of the classroom, interacting with a suite of ICT based learning tools beyond the constraints of the traditional classroom.

Every child and young person deserves an equal chance for a great education and access to technology for learning will not be an educational barrier in the ACT. Through the Technology Enabled Learning (TEL) program, the Directorate offers a modern, loaned device to all year 7-12 students to facilitate their learning, irrespective of family circumstances.

**All Year 7 and new students will be issued with their new Chromebook in Week 1 providing they have completed and submitted all their forms.**

### **Recommended Device**

We recommend the use of a Chromebook because they are inexpensive, fast, lightweight and the most secure device, and so best suited to our school environment. The Chromebook meets all the 21st Century learning needs of students to actively engage in their learning at Belconnen High School.

# CURRICULUM



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At Belconnen High School we offer the following core subjects in Year 7 and 8. Students also do a rotation through Arts, Technology and Languages classes over these two years, which gives them the opportunity to sample a wide variety of learning areas and identify strengths and areas of interest.

## **Core Subjects**

English  
Humanities and Social Sciences (HaSS)  
Mathematics  
Science  
Physical Education  
Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) in CARE

## **Rotation Subjects**

Music  
Food Technology  
General Art  
Applied Technology  
Media/Photography  
Digital Technology  
Drama  
Connecting to Country





# CURRICULUM



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We have a comprehensive range of electives available for students in years 9 and 10. These are subject to change each year, but generally include:

Visual Art Practice  
Music  
VET Building and Construction (Yr 10)  
Bake House  
Forensic Science  
Sculpture  
Rock Band  
Design and Technology – Wood/Metal  
Sports Science  
Art Around the World  
Food Technology  
Design & Technology – Metal  
Myths and Legends  
Intro to Psychology  
Sports Leadership  
Young Business Owners  
Languages – eg: Chinese, Spanish, Japanese

Photography  
Media Production  
Computer Technology  
Outdoor Education  
Writer’s Worlds  
VET Hospitality (Yr 10)  
Computer Aided Design  
Global Issues  
STEM Scientific Inquiry  
Drama Studio  
War & Conflict  
Oceanography  
Robotic Technology  
Wondering through Stories  
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander studies  
Publishing: Yearbook  
Drama: Comedy and Commedia







## ENGLISH & Humanities and Social Sciences (HaSS)

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### **English**

Language skills are the key to communicating and understanding. In English classes students will expand and strengthen their literacy skills to ensure they can effectively communicate their own ideas, understand the ideas of others, and communicate their position. Students will study a range of texts including novels, poems, film, short stories, fiction and nonfiction, and multimedia texts. This immersion in texts supports students to shape their own worldview. Students will explore what matters to them as they place texts in contemporary contexts and discover how literature opens new ways of understanding, knowing, and communicating. English helps students to think about complex ideas from multiple perspectives, which is a vital skill in our global world. We also offer an English elective for years 9 and 10, for students to extend their learning.

### **Humanities and Social Sciences (HaSS)**

Humanities and Social Sciences (HaSS) focuses on the study of human behaviour and interactions in social, cultural, environmental, economic and political contexts. The HaSS learning area comprises four subjects: History, Geography, Economics and Business, and Civics and Citizenship.

Through studying HaSS, students will develop the ability to question, think critically, solve problems, communicate effectively, make decisions and adapt to change. The Humanities and Social Sciences subjects provide a broad understanding of the world in which we live, and how people can participate as active and informed citizens. We also offer HaSS elective for years 9 and 10, for students to extend their learning.



## ENGLISH & Humanities and Social Sciences (HaSS)

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### LITERACY PROGRAM YEARS 7 AND 8

At Belconnen High School we have developed flexible and targeted teaching programs to respond to the needs of our students. We have Literacy Support teachers who works with small groups of students, to support the development of their literacy skills. This support is a timetabled class, where teaching, learning and reporting is highly individualised.

Students in the Year 7 Literacy class work through the MacqLit program, which is an individualised program with explicit and systematic reading interventions. This program is supported by text studies and thematic units of work.



# SCIENCE



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The Science course at Belconnen High School is designed to provide a highly engaging learning experience where students will develop the skills to safely conduct experiments and learn through investigation. Teachers of Science provide a rich and diverse learning programme for our students where developing the skills of inquiry are a focus. Students across all year levels will continue to develop their skills in conducting investigations and writing scientifically. They will develop their skills in Numeracy and Literacy in order to write a scientific investigation report which analyses and explains their findings.

The units cover the branches of Science, namely Chemistry, Physics, Biology, and Earth Science. The content of each year of study is varied and follows the Australian Curriculum. In each year group there is an enrichment class and general classes.

All classes of the same year level study the same curriculum. There are also opportunities for excursions within our local community to extend the learning beyond our classroom. Some excursions that students have attended have included The Pinnacle, Canberra Deep Space Communication Complex, CSIRO Discovery Centre, and the Future Skills Academy at Lake Ginninderra College.

Education Perfect is used in the teaching and learning of Science in classes and students are required to complete assessable tasks. This Online tutorial program assists students and parents with the learning of Science.

Enrichment in Science is offered through a wide range of activities that are open to all students. These include the National Chemistry Quiz and participation in WINGS (Girls in STEM event).

When students reach years 9 and 10, they are able to choose electives. At Belconnen High we currently run STEM, Forensic Science, Marine Biology. Each of these electives combine the skills of scientific inquiry and applies these to real world concepts that are not explored within the Science Curriculum.



For further information on the curriculum, please look at the Australian Curriculum website: <https://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/f-10-curriculum/science/>

# MATHEMATICS



**Belconnen High School**

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The Mathematics teachers at Belconnen High School work hard to support students in developing their understanding, fluency, reasoning, and problem-solving skills in Mathematics. Our teachers consistently look for opportunities to provide real world learning opportunities to further their skills in numeracy.

The content of each year of study is varied and follows the Australian Curriculum. Mathematics provides students with essential mathematical skills and knowledge in Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry, and Statistics and Probability. It develops the numeracy capabilities that all students need in their personal, work and civic life, and provides the fundamentals on which mathematical specialties and professional applications of mathematics are built. Students are also provided with the opportunity to understand how mathematics is used in different careers and the possibilities they can explore for further study.

Education Perfect is used in the teaching and learning of Mathematics in classes and students are required to complete assessable tasks. This Online tutorial program assists students and parents with the learning of Mathematics.

In each year group there is an enrichment class and general classes. The Pinnacle Enrichment Program (PEP) course is available to students in all year levels who can work at a faster pace and is aimed at students with above average ability. All classes of the same year level study the same curriculum. Enrichment in Mathematics is offered through a range of activities that are open to all students.

- The Australian Mathematics Competition
- Da Vinci Decathlon
- WINGS (Girls in STEM event)

When students reach year 10 they are able to select Maths 10A as an elective class. The 10A course is designed to prepare students for the study of Mathematical Methods or Specialist Mathematics at College.

Belconnen High School offers targeted numeracy support to students in Year 7 -10. We have numeracy teachers who work with small groups of students who have committed to work on developing their numeracy skills. Numeracy sessions are held weekly and are designed around curriculum knowledge, skills, behaviours and dispositions that students need to use mathematics in a wide range of situations. These opportunities help students recognise the interconnected nature of mathematical knowledge, other learning areas and the wider world, and to have confidence to use their mathematical skills broadly.

For further information on the curriculum, please look at the Australian Curriculum website:  
<https://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/f-10-curriculum/mathematics/>



# PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH

**Belconnen High School**

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Our Physical Education curriculum is innovative and progressive. Through movement, students will develop the knowledge and skills that promote a well-balanced and holistic lifestyle. The aim of the Physical Education curriculum is to engage and extend students' physical fitness, skill acquisition, self-esteem, cognitive processing and social skill development as a means of promoting lifelong participation in physical activity. Physical Education is a compulsory subject for all students unless exempt for medical reasons with a medical certificate.

The Curriculum focus varies for each year group.

**Year 7** - Students participate in a variety of units that focus on the development of fundamental motor skills. These skills include throwing, catching, kicking, striking and accuracy and are developed through modified games and cooperative learning tasks.

**Year 8** - Students participate in traditional sports and develop skills, tactics and sportsmanship. This is a progression on the fundamental skills built in Year 7 as students apply this learning in a game situation.

**Year 9** - Students participate in Sport Education. Students learn about all facets of a sporting competition. The students develop and implement all aspects of the competition including Sports Board, Scorers, Media Officers, Coaches, Captains and Equipment Officers. The sports played are new and modern sports, challenging students to further develop their movement skills.

**Year 10** - Community and Leisure. Students learn about and access various activities that are available for the general community in combination with other traditional, sport based Physical Education units.

## **All year groups**

Each year group also participates in a school wide Movement unit each term. The skills taught in these units are further developed as the students progress through the years.

**Athletics** - Students develop skills in traditional athletic events. They practise, apply and transfer movement concepts and strategies with and without athletic equipment. By Year 10, students apply criteria to make judgements about and refine their own and others' athletic skills and movement performances.



# PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH

**Belconnen High School**

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**Cross Country/Fitness** - Students investigate and apply movement concepts and select strategies to achieve movement and fitness outcomes. They participate in physical activities that develop health-related and skill-related fitness components and create and monitor personal fitness plans. By Year 10, students can propose and evaluate interventions to improve fitness and physical activity levels in communities.

**Dance** - Students apply the elements of movement to compose and perform movement sequences while participating in social dance. By Year 10, students can analyse the impact of effort, space, time, objects and people when composing and performing movement sequences.

**Cultural Games** - Students participate in and investigate cultural and historical significance of a range of physical activities. By Year 10, students can explain the role physical activity has played historically in defining cultures and cultural identities.

## **Clothing**

Students are expected to wear the following:

- Black and red Belconnen High School PE t-shirt
- Black tracksuit pants or shorts
- Footwear appropriate for physical activity (these must have laces)
- A hat, drink bottle and sunscreen are also recommended.







# PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH

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## **PE Electives**

### **Outdoor Education**

Outdoor Education is a subject that fosters and encourages leadership and teamwork. We aim to prepare students for different situations, teach students how to identify and respond to safe and unsafe situations and apply the necessary skills to demonstrate a positive environmental ethic. Students can complete outdoor education in years 9 and 10 with the focus on outdoor activities dependent on the season. Activities may include surfing, sea kayaking, snorkelling, stand-up paddling, rock climbing, abseiling, orienteering, skiing, snowboarding, hiking, bushwalking, outdoor specific first aid and Caving.

### **Sports Science**

Sports Science studies how the healthy human body works during exercise, and how sport and physical activity promote health and performance from cellular to whole body perspectives. Throughout the semester, students will be exposed to a range of practical and theoretical classes that will develop and enhance knowledge of injury management, exercise prescription and how to apply these skills within real life settings.

### **Sports Leadership**

Sports Leadership is designed to improve students' leadership skills, self-confidence, and knowledge of the principles and science of sports coaching. We aim to provide students with the opportunity to develop their public speaking skills, their ability to be adaptable and flexible in different situations as well as their ability to successfully work as a team to deliver positive learning experiences to younger students.







## TECHNOLOGY AND THE ARTS

**Belconnen High School**

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**Music** is heavily performance based, using practical skills as evidence to consolidate learning. Information Technology (I.T.) is used as a self-paced tool to learn theory in detail while classroom I.T. provides a platform for music writing including original composition. All music courses at Belconnen High School accommodate students with varying skills, including those who have had little or no music education. In the introductory course students focus on performance skills, reading and writing music notation and understanding the basics of musical elements and composition techniques. As their skills and confidence increase, students are provided with opportunities to develop performance skills and techniques from a selection of instruments (guitar, keyboard, drums, vocals or their own instrument). Students learn to value and appreciate the power and enjoyment of music.

**Extracurricular music** at Belconnen High School involves an active program that includes numerous ensembles, according to strengths and ambitions of its community. Presently we have an orchestra that is the school’s premier music group, American style drumline that is arguably the highest profile and a small choir. There are small student-led groups also. A highlight of the performance calendar is taking to the Stage 88 during Floriade. The music program is also intertwined with the Drama Department, which holds the annual school, production.





# TECHNOLOGY AND THE ARTS

**Belconnen High School**

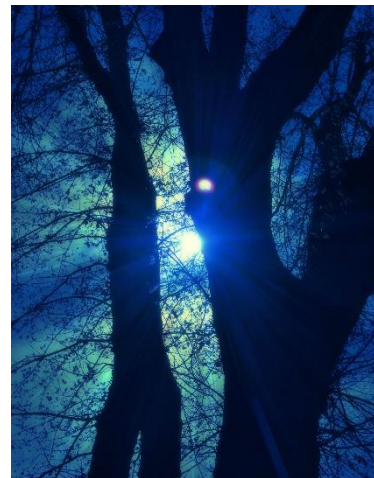
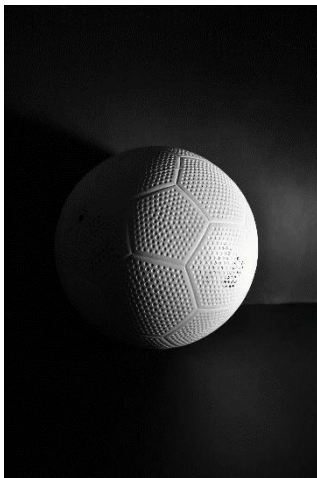
‘Caring for Students and Striving for Excellence’

During Years 7 and 8, students will rotate through the Arts, Technologies and Connecting To Country. Each student will sample drama, media, music, visual art, food, digital and applied technology. In Years 9 and 10 Arts & Technology offer a variety of elective classes, where students can specialise in one or more subjects.

## Visual Arts

### Photography

This course provides the opportunity to learn basic photography skills using digital SLR cameras and editing software like Photoshop. Students will produce their own images, experiment with depth of field, shutter speed, composition, camera angles to capture interesting and creative artistic photographs.





# TECHNOLOGY AND THE ARTS

**Belconnen High School**

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## **Studio Art**

Students will explore a range of 2D mediums in depth including drawing in graphite and charcoal and painting in acrylic. Students explore a range of techniques, refining their skills for independent art development. Drawing is an integral part of this unit with an emphasis on skill development alongside a support for self-expression. Art appreciation (historical and contemporary) and analysis of student artwork is included.



## **Sculpture**

Sculpture introduces students to a range of three-dimensional art materials, both traditional and contemporary, to create their own artwork. With references to some of the world's most recognised sculptures, statues and monuments, from realism to pure abstraction, students experience working through various multi-stage processes in developing their art. Modelling, chiseling, carving and casting are the featured practical skills students will develop in this course along with an aptitude for pushing the boundaries of a given material and problem-solving through various design stages.





# TECHNOLOGY AND THE ARTS

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## **Art Around the World**

Students will combine sculpture, textile and fine art. This elective will introduce students to the significance of Art across various cultures and periods of time. Students will make, adapt and personalise 3 dimensional and tactile objects that draw on cultural artwork and art movements. Techniques and mediums such as mask/head pieces, soft sculpture, mixed media, mosaics, painting, wire manipulation, ceramics, threading and weaving will be explored in this subject.



# TECHNOLOGY AND THE ARTS



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## Media Arts

### Publishing: Yearbook

How will you remember high school?

Students will work together to compile the Year 10 yearbook, as well as creating screencasts, websites and planners. Working with text, photos, and compilation programs students will make professional quality publications, providing information to our student body and wider community, as well as developing a yearbook full of memories that the Year 10s will treasure forever.



### Media: Script to Screen

Students develop skills in front of and behind the camera, learning the processes involved in writing, producing, filming and editing mixed media. Creating short films, trailers, screencasts and more, students will learn to collaborate effectively and enjoy popcorn at the screenings! Learn skills to enhance your own social media presence, direct your own feature film or tell any story you want to!







# TECHNOLOGY AND THE ARTS

**Belconnen High School**

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## **Performing Arts**

**Music Curriculum** - There are two distinct courses at Belconnen High School. They are the junior classroom course and the senior music course.

**Junior classroom music** is designed around experiencing a wide variety of music-making while learning as much as possible about the rudiments of music to support further learning. The class learns together, albeit at time being self-paced. The curriculum is “whole of class” and offers all Year 7 and 8 students an opportunity to make an informed decision on pursuing music into their senior years as an elective. Instruments learnt in class include learning notation on Guitar TAB (picking), Piano, Drums, Ukulele strumming & Guitar chords. Student will progress through music theory using Music Ecademy as well as composing on Flat, an online music writing program. There are numerous performance assessments such as initial, mid-course, final, class and group.

**Senior music** is designed around the individual needs and ambitions of the students. All seven Achievement Standards are available to students, who in turn select the Standards they wish to pursue. There are no whole-of-class lessons, rather each student gets on with their own course, which is a minimum of three Standards. Collaboration is encouraged along with performance. Some Standards are literacy based and there are opportunities for originality through composition. Due to the students designing their own course that includes only three Standards of a possible seven, students may successfully complete this course and to a high standard without performing on an instrument.

## **Drama: Production Company**

Students will create a production company to develop the elements of Drama collaboratively. They will be honing performance skills to create Children’s Theatre to perform at Southern Cross Early Learning Centre and one of our feeder primary schools. Working on providing the essentials within the Children’s Theatre genre including tech, costume, hair, make-up, scripting, sets, props, media, and devised performances which can all be developed by those in the Production Company. Come and work inclusively as part of a fun, creative ensemble.



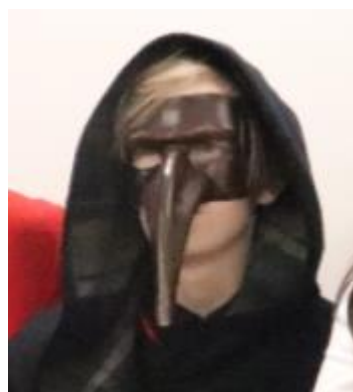
## TECHNOLOGY AND THE ARTS

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### **Drama: Comedy and Commedia**

Students will explore the elements of comedic drama, creating and acting in collaborative performances. They will experiment with acting techniques to develop comedy, experimenting with characterisation, tone, voice and movement. As skills develop, students will build their own performances with the opportunity to develop various stock characters within Commedia dell'Arte; 18th Century masked, physical comedy techniques still prevalent today. Students will perform their final performance within the school at an organised year level performance or for a college audience.







# TECHNOLOGY AND THE ARTS

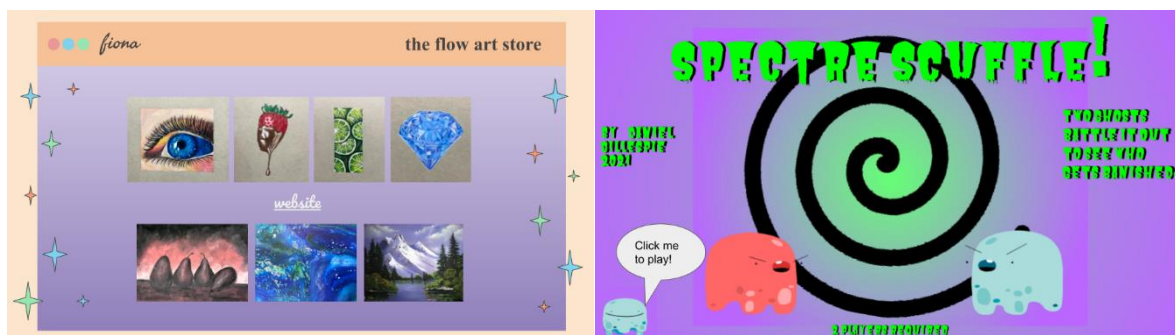
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## Digital Technologies

### COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY

In Computer Technology students will further develop a wide range of computer based, problem solving projects in a collaborative class environment. They will extend their knowledge of programming structure and problem solving using a variety of programming languages and hardware to complete a series of programming challenges.



### COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY Web Design and Data Collection

In Computer Technology Semester 1 students will further develop a wide range of computer based, problem solving projects in a collaborative class environment. They will extend their knowledge of programming structure and problem solving, extending on the skills developed from 7/8 Digital Technologies. They will learn to use and create spreadsheets, create websites using HTML and develop games through scratch or other identified programs.





# TECHNOLOGY AND THE ARTS

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## COMPUTER

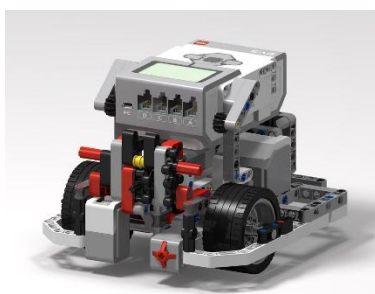
### TECHNOLOGY Game design and Programming

In Computer Technology Semester 2, students will further develop a wide range of computer based, problem solving projects in a collaborative class environment. They will extend their knowledge of programming structure and problem solving, extending on the skills developed from 7/8 Digital Technologies and Semester 1 Computer Technology. They will learn to use Python to create a text based RPG adventure, create 3D models and assets using Blender and develop games through the Unity Engine.



## ROBOTICS

This course is an introduction to the basic concepts of robotics, focusing on the construction and programming of autonomous mobile robots. Students will build and test increasingly more complex robots using a variety of sensors and motors to overcome a series of robotic challenges.



Training  
Robots,  
Sumo  
Robots  
& More





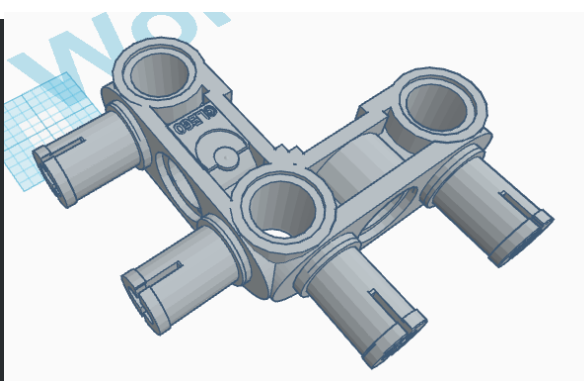
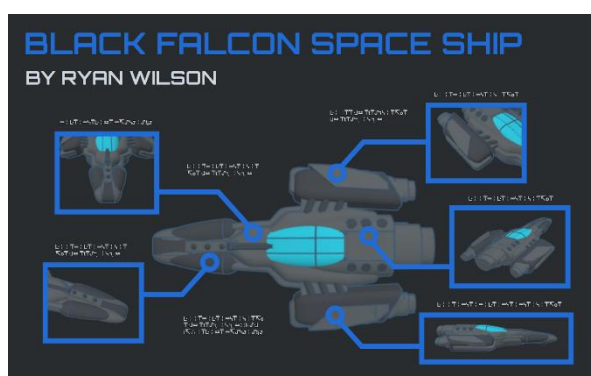
# TECHNOLOGY AND THE ARTS

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## COMPUTER AIDED DESIGN

This course is an introduction to Computer Aided Design and Computer Aided Manufacture. Students will learn to resolve 3D design problems in creative ways using 3D modelling software. Tinkercad will be used to make complex models, where students look in detail at creating shapes and objects, and utilise 3D printing to realise the Computer model as an actual product. The projects undertaken in the course may include CAD, CAM, Character Modelling, 3D Printing, Design for Manufacture, Product Design and Engineering challenges.



## Applied Technologies

### METALWORK

This subject will introduce and develop both practical and design skills in the Metal Workshop. Students will safely complete a number of Metalwork projects utilising a range of tools.





# TECHNOLOGY AND THE ARTS

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## **Metal Art**

Metal Art introduces students to three-dimensional art using metal, and both traditional and contemporary creations will be explored, referencing some of the world's most recognised sculptures, statues and monuments as inspiration. From realism to pure abstraction, students experience working through various multi-stage processes in developing their art. Developing techniques and practical skills such as forging and welding, students will use a range of recycled materials to problem-solve through the various design stages.



## **Woodwork**

Learning to work with wood has taught humans to survive through the ages, create tools for hunting and eating, build structures that we can live in, and protect ourselves during the changing seasons. In woodwork, students will learn how to develop practical skills in using hand and machine tools to work with wood and other materials. With an emphasis on safety, students will work in a collaborative workshop environment to design, personalise and build a range of practical projects that they can use at home.





# TECHNOLOGY AND THE ARTS

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## **VET Building & Construction**

This is a competency based course which provides students with the opportunity to develop vocational skills and nationally recognised training necessary for the construction industry. Students in year 10 may have the opportunity to gain a Statement of Attainment and work towards a Certificate 1 in Construction.



### **Relevant VET Competencies**

CPCCWHS1001	Prepare to work safely in the construction industry (White Card)
CPCCVE1011A	Undertake a basic construction project
CPCCCM1015A	Carry out measurements and calculations
CPCCCM2005B	Use construction tools and equipment





# TECHNOLOGY AND THE ARTS

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## Food Technologies

### Bakehouse

Students will learn and practice the skills of baking through a series of weekly challenges featuring a range of baking techniques. These challenges will include developing an understanding of the role of ingredients and equipment in different cooking processes and an opportunity for students to develop their own creative baked product. The course will include the element of product design to meet the needs of various situations, clients and occasions.



### Hospitality

This qualification reflects the role of individuals who participate in a range of routine and predictable hospitality work activities. They work under close supervision and are given clear directions to complete tasks.

This qualification provides a pathway to work in various hospitality settings, such as restaurants, hotels, motels, catering operations, clubs, pubs, cafés, and coffee shops.

Possible job titles include:

- bartender
- food runner
- glass runner
- housekeeping assistant
- kitchen steward
- chef



# TECHNOLOGY AND THE ARTS

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## **Farm to Fork**

Students will investigate food related issues associated with the production of food from the farm to the fork. Key topics covered will be the growth of organic produce, setting up a kitchen garden, sustainability of food and presentation of dishes.

Students will work in teams to design a street food stall to be presented at the Annual Belconnen High Street Food Market.





# English as an Additional Language or Dialect (EALD)



**Belconnen High School**

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Belconnen High School has an English as an Additional language or Dialect (EALD) program to support students from a language background other than English. It is run each year based on the needs of students in the school. Students who need more language support are in a smaller class group. Students with stronger language skills are also able to access support through the EALD teacher.

The EALD program aims to provide students with the opportunity to improve their reading, writing, speaking and listening, and to acquire skills to enable them to understand and complete tasks in all subject areas.





## CONNECTING TO COUNTRY

**Belconnen High School**

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We have introduced Aboriginal languages of our region as the Language course for Belconnen High School. All Years 7 and 8 students will rotate through the semester language course called Connecting to Country. The students will learn about a variety of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander language and cultures from Country. We start with the area where the students live and work, Ngannawal Country. We then investigate and learn about our surrounding regional Countries of Ngarigo, Gundungurra, Yuin and Wiradjuri.



Through learning the original languages of Australia all students have the opportunity to develop a deeper appreciation of the nature and diversity of languages and cultures and acquire knowledge and skills necessary to learn and understand an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander language, culture and Country.

Each Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander language is unique to the Country/Place on which it arose. It gives voice to the landscapes, thoughts and ways of seeing and interpreting the world. When the language of the land is spoken, it brings together all of the elements of the landscape and its people. It encompasses the relationships of these people with one another and with the landscape, past, present and future. The learning of an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander language incorporates the realities of its people and facilitates students' deep engagement with knowledge, ways of being and ways of knowing. It develops in students an understanding of historical, current and ongoing connection to Country/Place and culture.

# LANGUAGES



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In Year 9/10 electives we offer two Language electives.

The first is a general language course where students select the language they wish to learn with a trained language teacher, for example Spanish or Mandarin language teachers. The students will learn their chosen language in a ‘flipped’ learning style where they will do online learning as well as cultural activities with the teacher. The aim is for students to delve into a semester of learning language where they can find the joy of language and other world-wide cultures.

The second elective that is on offer is Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies. Students can be introduced and learn a number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages for example they could complete a Curtin University Noongar course or learn Wiradjuri through Uncle Stan’s Wiradjuri language kit that is supported by the teacher completing the Charles Sturt University Graduate Certificate of Wiradjuri, Heritage and Culture Course.

The group of students will take the course in the direction of their interests. This could be art, history and cultural activities.

We try to have Elders involved in the course and work with the students.





# INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

**Belconnen High School**

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Belconnen High School’s Inclusive Education Faculty addresses the academic, social, behavioural and emotional needs of students, supporting them to participate meaningfully in all aspects of school life with as much independence as possible. Belconnen High School supports differentiated learning, facilitating small group lessons with a number of students accessing the Disability Education Program (DEP) or Inclusion Support Program (ISP).

Eligibility into these programs is determined by the school psychologist and allocation of placements is determined by a central Education Directorate panel.

The Inclusive Education faculty is staffed by a specialist trained Executive Teacher, Disability Education Coordinator (DECO), case Managers, Learning Support classroom teachers and Learning Support Assistants (LSAs). Faculty staff offer strategies, resources and practices to enable all students to achieve their full potential. This is achieved by helping to remove barriers whether physical, social, emotional or intellectual, allowing all students to access school and the curriculum. The primary focus of lessons is Numeracy and Literacy, however, students study Integrated topics including HASS, Science and Life Skills. Tutorial classes are offered to further shape and model social/emotional development in addition to supporting study skills. Students integrate into the wider school setting through Physical Education and Elective classes.

Faculty teachers work with students to develop individualised learning programs (ILPs), implementing adjustments and making modifications to ensure progression and success across all curriculum areas. Standardised tests are used to provide diagnostic information and data to identify strengths, weaknesses and learning styles of the individual. Continued communication between parents/carers, class and faculty staff is vital to developing a holistic student-centred approach to learning.

The level of support received is primarily based on the adjustments identified and required to enable access to participation in curriculum learning and school events. Adjustments and student needs are identified through Student Centred Appraisal of Needs (SCAN) Meetings and the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD), resulting in one of the following levels of adjustment being recognised:

# INCLUSIVE EDUCATION



**Belconnen High School**

‘Caring for Students and Striving for Excellence’

- Quality Differentiated Teaching
- Supplementary
- Substantial
- Extensive

The adjustments being made must be based on a disability as defined under the [ACT Student Disability Criteria Disability](#)

Other relevant links for further information:

<https://www.education.act.gov.au/support-for-our-students/students-with-disability>



Inclusive Education Quiet Space

# STUDENT WELLBEING SCHOOL CULTURE & COMMUNITY



**Belconnen High School**

‘Caring for Students and Striving for Excellence’

Belconnen High School operates a whole school approach to Student Wellbeing. The needs of each student are catered for through a holistic approach for each student’s individual need.

## THE STUDENT WELLBEING TEAM

- ❑ Student Services Executive Teacher
- ❑ School Psychologist
- ❑ Year 7 Coordinator
- ❑ Year 8 Coordinator
- ❑ Year 9 Coordinator
- ❑ Year 10 Coordinator
- ❑ PCG Teachers also play a vital role in supporting the Wellbeing team.
- ❑ School Youth Health Nurse

All members of the team are available to listen to any concerns students or parents may have. The Student Wellbeing Suite is always open with the executive teacher or one of the Year Coordinators available on a roster system.

## POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) is an evidence based, whole school approach for creating safe, supportive school environments. Positive Behaviour for Learning is created through:

- Leadership and school-wide support
- Common language, vision and experience
- Clarifying expected behaviours (expectations and rules)
- Teaching and practising expected behaviours
- Encouraging expected behaviours
- Discouraging problem behaviours
- Ongoing monitoring of data



# STUDENT WELLBEING SCHOOL CULTURE & COMMUNITY



**Belconnen High School**

**'Caring for Students and Striving for Excellence'**

PBL highlights the relationship between academic achievement, social behaviour, positive school culture and individual student success. It also enhances school culture through systems that support strong personal relationships.

**We are respectful. We are responsible. We are learners.**



## **PASTORAL CARE**

The objective of the CARE program is to create a positive school culture where social and emotional learning is developed in all students. Throughout the term, Pastoral Care Group (PCG) teachers deliver an age specific lesson focussed on respect and caring for oneself and others in a variety of situations.

CARE assists students to:

- ❑ Develop self-confidence and positive self-esteem,
- ❑ Develop a wide range of interpersonal skills,
- ❑ Develop valuable skills for everyday life including basic communication and stress management.
- ❑ Develop decision making skills and the ability to resist negative peer pressure.



# STUDENT WELLBEING SCHOOL CULTURE & COMMUNITY



**Belconnen High School**

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## **LEADERSHIP**

The Leadership program at Belconnen High School is aimed at supporting the transition process from primary to high school for Year 7 students. Year 10 student leaders are assigned to year 7 Pastoral Care groups. In this setting they provide daily support new Year 7 students, while also supporting Pastoral Care teachers with the delivery of the CARE program.

## **ADDITIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES**

The aim of the Student Wellbeing Team is to cater for the needs of all Belconnen High School students. To help us in this approach we access community services for support with programs and events. Some examples include:

- Breakfast Club –a free breakfast for students is provided before school one day a week
- Belconnen Community Services
- Flexible minds
- Messengers
- Young Women’s Leadership Program
- Equine Therapy
- Rainbow Club



# THE PINNACLE ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

**Belconnen High School**

**‘Caring for Students and Striving for Excellence’**

The Pinnacle Enrichment Program (PEP) provides a challenging and engaging learning experience for students with an exceptional capacity to learn. The aim is to encourage students to challenge themselves academically and take considered risks in their pursuit of deeper knowledge.

Students in PEP work with others of similar ability and commitment. The work ethos expected permits teachers to expedite progress, offering a greater range of learning experiences and allowing students to study topics both more broadly and in greater depth.

PEP classes run in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10. These classes are conducted in English, Mathematics, Science and HaSS. PEP students will be expected to take up extension opportunities such as:

- Academic competitions e.g., Australian Geography Competition, ICAS Science and English and the Australian Chemistry Quiz, Rio Tinto Big Science Competition and Australian Mathematics Competition.
- Academic challenges eg: Da Vinci Decathlon, Maths Challenges and debating and Chief Minister's Reading Challenge.

## **Suitability for the Pinnacle Enrichment Program**

The students accepted into the Pinnacle Enrichment Program will have demonstrated:

- a high standard of academic achievement in primary school or previous high school years,
- evidence of being an independent learner, and
- the ability to organise their time and prioritise learning.



# HOMEWORK

**Belconnen High School**

**'Caring for Students and Striving for Excellence'**

Homework is an essential part of academic life at Belconnen High School.

It may be –

- Work designed to be partly or wholly completed outside class time,
- Revision work necessary to prepare a student for a test, or to achieve mastery of an aspect of a unit,
- “Catch up work” made necessary by sickness or involvement in excursions, band performances or sport.

Major homework, including assignments, is set out in Semester Outlines, and can be found on the Google Classroom for each class.



# BELCONNEN LEARNING COMMON

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## **Flexible Learning Space**

Our school is a space dedicated to learning and we have purposely located our student resources at their dedicated faculties. This means, students studying a particular subject, for example, Modern Art, may step outside the classroom to loan a resource from the selection located at the Arts & Technology resource centre and an English resource from the English & Humanities resource centre.

Instead of fixed teaching spaces, carefully selected furniture allows for movement adaptability. There are areas for large group learning as well as spaces for students to pursue small group or individual study.

The Learning Common is also the place where students come to access personal computers for short term loans. The ICT helpdesk is located in the Belconnen Learning Common as well and students can access help with ICT issues during breaks.



# HOUSE SYSTEM



**Belconnen High School**

**‘Caring for Students and Striving for Excellence’**

The Belconnen High School Houses are Freeman, O’Neill, Perkins and Thorpe, named after famous sportspeople. House Captains are elected from Year 10 each year and they lead the student body in accruing points for their house at School Carnivals.



## **BELCONNEN HIGH SCHOOL CAPTAINS**

School captains are selected from the Year 10 students by the student body and staff through an interview and application process supported by the school executive.

The prestigious role of School Captains includes the representation of the school at community events. The students who fill these positions are exceptional leaders of the student body and well regarded by the staff.

School Captains are recognised as having knowledge, dedication, and a high degree of commitment to the corporate life of the school. They lead the SRC and report to the school community at the school assemblies.



# SCHOOL UNIFORM



**Belconnen High School**

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At Belconnen High School all students wear school uniform. The wearing of the school uniform demonstrates a commitment to the culture of Belconnen High School. This policy applies whenever students are present at school or on a Belconnen High School excursion (unless stipulated by organising teacher).

Belconnen High School uniform is made up of the following:

Shirt	White short sleeve with red piping with school logo embroidered on pocket
Blouse	White short sleeve with red piping with school logo embroidered on pocket
Skirt	Black and red check
Shorts	Black tailored with school logo embroidered on left leg Charcoal grey tailored with school logo embroidered on left leg
Pants	Black tailored with school logo embroidered on left leg Charcoal grey tailored pants with school logo embroidered on left leg Black fleece lined track pants

Jumper Options:

Red Woollen with school logo embroidery on chest  
Black Micro-fibre with fine red piping school logo embroidery on chest  
Black fleece lined hoodie with fine red piping school logo embroidery on chest

Jacket	Black waterproof layered jacket with school logo embroidered on the chest
Shoes	Black, fully enclosed



# SCHOOL UNIFORM



**Belconnen High School**

**'Caring for Students and Striving for Excellence'**

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Polo shirts	Choice of black/red or red/white with 'BHS' embroidered on chest
Shorts	Plain black sports shorts
Pants	Black fleece lined track pants
Shoes	Sports shoes
Optional	White plain T-shirt or skivvy may be worn under shirts and blouses
School bag	A black sturdy chiropractic approved backpack is recommended
Hat	A plain black or black/red bucket hat or black/red cap

