



STAWELL SECONDARY COLLEGE

2020



YEAR 7 HANDBOOK

RESPECT • EXCELLENCE • COMMUNITY



79-97 Patrick Street Stawell VIC 3380 | P.O Box 202 Stawell VIC 3380
Phone: (03) 53581700 | Fax: (03) 53583096
stawell.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au
www.stawellsc.vic.edu.au

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to Stawell Secondary College.

A school is much more than buildings and a timetable of classes and subjects. At Stawell Secondary College students have opportunities to engage in a wide range of activities: learn a musical instrument, create and exhibit art, compete in team or individual sports, take amazing photographs, enter craft or foods into the Stawell Show or travel to China. We encourage students to build positive relationships with friends, new and old, and also with teachers. We are fortunate to have a strong network of schools in Stawell - we are all working hard to nurture the skills and talents of our community's young people.

We have a designated team of Year 7 Co-ordinators, based in our Year 7 Hub, who will work closely with your child to assist with their transition to secondary college. In addition to our Home Group teachers your child's wellbeing is supported by a school counsellor.

In 2020, we are using electronic textbooks for students in Years 7 to 10; these textbooks will be loaded onto each students' laptop and provide high quality learning materials at your child's fingertips. Whilst these textbooks will greatly assist your child's access the curriculum, teachers will regularly diverge from the textbooks to provide your child with work that is of particular interest to them.

This Handbook outlines the first stages of a journey through secondary school, which culminates in your child continuing with their studies or entering the world of work – this seems a long way off, but the time will go very quickly. Cindy Bibby, our Registrar, will assist each student to map their individual pathway.

By working with you and your child, we hope to encourage your child to aspire to be great, do great things and make a difference to the lives of others.



Carlos Lopez
Principal of Stawell Secondary College
November 2019

CONTENTS

Year 7 Coordinators.....	4	Chinese.....	10
Daily Structure.....	5	Art.....	11
Timetable.....	6	Food Technology.....	11
Subjects.....	7	Materials-Wood.....	12
English.....	8	Digital Technology.....	12
Mathematics.....	8	Instrumental Music.....	12
Humanities.....	9	Assessment	13
Science.....	9	Textbooks.....	14
Health & Physical Education.....	9	Year 7 Camp.....	15
Digital Learning.....	9		

YEAR 7 COORDINATORS



Catherine Mackay



Wes Illig

Stawell Secondary College Year 7 Coordinators is a shared position between Ms Catherine Mackay and Mr Wes Illig.

The co-ordinators are an initial contact point for families and carers of students in Year 7. They support your child's transition into secondary education and are responsible for their welfare and behaviour management of the Year 7 students.

To assist students with their transition from primary to secondary school, Stawell Secondary College has created a Year 7 Hub. The Hub also houses teaching staff who are directly connected to the Year 7 students via the classroom or through student wellbeing. The Year 7 Coordinators are based in the Hub providing ongoing care and support for the students in their daily routine.

Contact with the co-ordinators is made via the front office on 5358 1700 or via the Parent Portal.



DAILY STRUCTURE

BELL TIMES

TIME OF DAY	TIME
Morning Bell	8.55am
Home Group	9.00am
Period 1	9.05am
Period 2	9.55am
Recess	10.45am
Locker Bell	11.10am
Period 3	11.15am
Period 4	12.05pm
Lunch	12.55pm
Locker Bell	1.40pm
Period 5	1.45pm
Period 6	2.35pm
Dismissal	3.25pm



TIMETABLE

Each student receives a time table, also available on the Portal for you.

Teachers: JHE - J. Hemley, STR - S. Tregoning, JPO - J. Pollock, CWH - C. White, RAN - R. Anastasio, GRA - G. Radovic, SSL - S. Slavich, JPN - J. Poulton, FDC - F. Deb Chaudhuri, RTA - R. Tatana, ZBU - Z. Burnett, WIL - W. Illig

You know your child's teachers

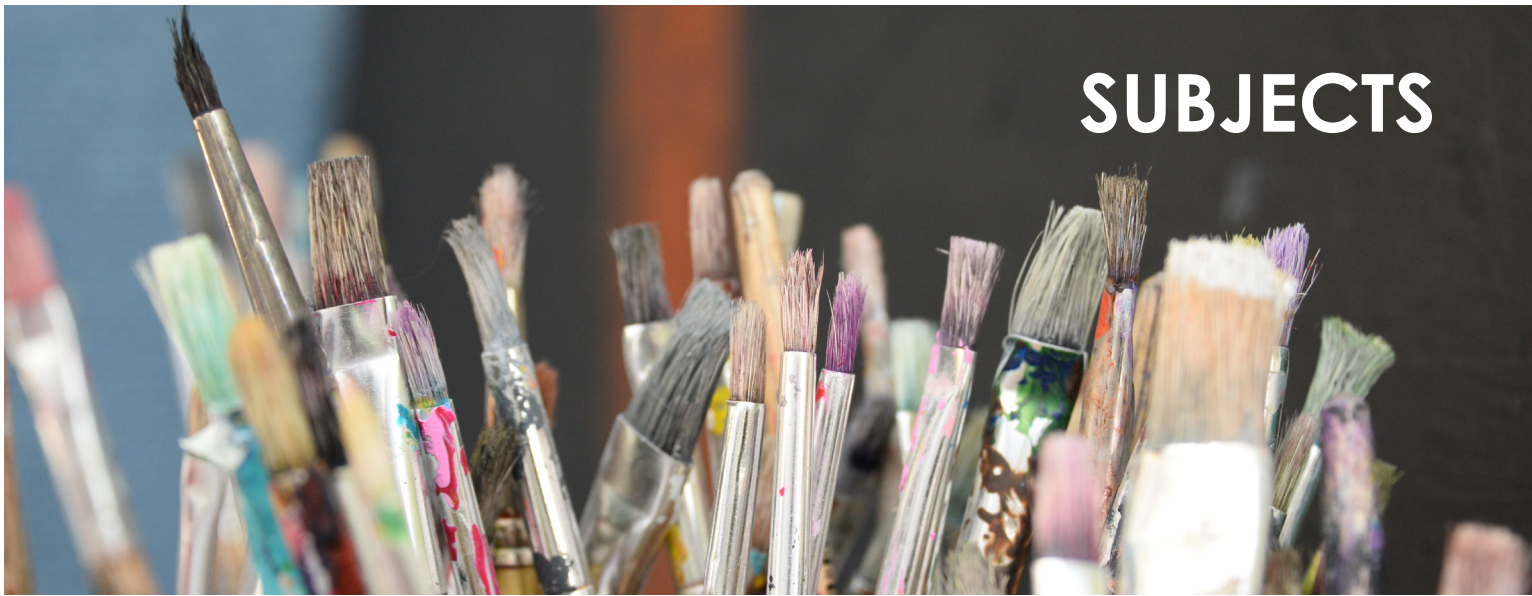
	Monday Week 1	Tuesday Week 1	Wednesday Week 1	Thursday Week 1	Friday Week 1	Monday Week 2	Tuesday Week 2	Wednesday Week 2	Thursday Week 2	Friday Week 2
Home Group	Lonsdale House Home Group 5 L511 & 12H- GRA, JHE Room 03	Lonsdale House Home Group 5 L511 & 12H- GRA, JHE Room 03	Lonsdale House Home Group 5 L511 & 12H- GRA, JHE Room 03	Lonsdale House Home Group 5 L511 & 12H- GRA, JHE Room 03	Lonsdale House Home Group 5 L511 & 12H- GRA, JHE Room 03	Lonsdale House Home Group 5 L511 & 12H- GRA, JHE Room 03	Lonsdale House Home Group 5 L511 & 12H- GRA, JHE Room 03	Lonsdale House Home Group 5 L511 & 12H- GRA, JHE Room 03	Lonsdale House Home Group 5 L511 & 12H- GRA, JHE Room 03	Lonsdale House Home Group 5 L511 & 12H- GRA, JHE Room 03
Period 1	7 English C 7ENC7.3-STR Room 19	7 Chinese Group B 7CHB7A-SSL L2	7 Performing Arts C 7MAC7.3-RTA Room 34	7 Maths C 7MAC7.3- JPO,JPN Room 05	7 Science C 7SCC7.3-FDC Room 09	7 Woodwork C 7WDC7.3-CWH Room 26	7 Humanities C 7HUC7.3-RAN Room 19	7 Maths C 7MAC7.3- JPO,JPN Room 05	7 Maths C 7MAC7.3- JPO,JPN Room 05	7 Science C 7SCC7.3-FDC Room 09
Period 2	7 Maths C 7MAC7.3 JPO,JPN Room 05	7 English C 7ENC7.3-STR Room 19	7 Performing Arts C 7PAC7.3-RTA Room 34	7 English C 7ENC7.3-STR Room 19	7 English C 7ENC7.3-STR Room 19	7 Digital C 7DIGC7.3-WIL Room 13	7 Chinese Group B 7CHB7A-SSL L2	7 PE C 7PEC7.3-ZBU Room 19	7 Chinese Group B 7CHB7A-SSL Room 13	7 Maths C 7MAC7.3- JPO,JPN Room 05
Period 3	7 Woodwork C 7WDC7.3-CWH Room 26	7 Woodwork C 7WDC7.3-CWH Room 26	7 PE C 7PEC7.3-ZBU GY1	Lonsdale House Home Group 5 L511 & 12H- GRA,JHE Room 03	7 Chinese Group B 7CHB7A-SSL Room 13	7 English C 7ENC7.3-STR Room 19	7 Maths C 7MAC7.3- JPO,JPN Room 05	7 Performing Arts C 7PAC7.3-RTA Room 34	7 Science C 7SCC7.3-FDC Room 12	7 Chinese Group B 7CHB7A-SSL Room 13
Period 4	7 Woodwork C 7WDC7.3-CWH Room 26	7 Maths C 7MAC7.3- JPO,JPN Room 05	7 PE C 7PEC7.3-ZBU GY1	7 Performing Arts C 7PAC7.3-RTA Room 34	7 Humanities C 7HUC7.3-RAN Room 19	7 Maths C 7MAC7.3- JPO,JPN Room 05	7 English C 7ENC7.3-STR Room 19	7 Performing Arts C 7PAC7.3-RTA Room 34	Lonsdale House Home Group 5 L511 & 12H- GRA,JHE Room 03	7 Performing Arts C 7PAC7.3-RTA Room 34
Period 5	7 Humanities C 7HUC7.3-RAN Room 19	7 Science C 7SCC7.3-FDC Room 09	7 Maths C 7MAC7.3- JPO,JPN Room 05	7 Humanities C 7HUC7.3-RAN Room 19	7 English C 7ENC7.3-STR Room 19	7 Science C 7SCC7.3-FDC Room 12	7 PE C 7PEC7.3-ZBU GY2	7 English C 7ENC7.3-STR Room 19	7 Woodwork C 7WDC7.3-CWH Room 26	7 Humanities C 7HUC7.3-RAN Room 19
Period 6	7 Humanities C 7HUC7.3-RAN Room 19	7 Science C 7SCC7.3-FDC Room 09	7 Science C 7SCC7.3-FDC Room 09	7 Chinese Group B 7CHB7A-SSL L2	7 PE C 7PEC7.3-ZBU Room 19	7 Humanities C 7HUC7.3-RAN Room 19	7 PE C 7PEC7.3-ZBU GY2	7 English C 7ENC7.3-STR Room 19	7 Woodwork C 7WDC7.3-CWH Room 26	7 Humanities C 7HUC7.3-RAN Room 19

Welcoming
home group
meeting each
morning

ICT Training
- to enable
students to
make best use
of the College
network

Enrichment
electives

Core subjects
studied the
whole year



SUBJECTS

In 2020, Year 7 students will all study these core subjects for the whole year:

- English
- Science
- Health & Physical Education
- Chinese
- Mathematics
- Humanities
- Digital Learning

Students in 2018 will also study one Art and one technology subject for the year from the list below:

TECHNOLOGY

- Materials-Wood
- Food Technology
- Digital Technology

THE ARTS

- Art





CORE SUBJECTS

ENGLISH

English at Stawell Secondary College in Year 7 builds on skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening and provides students with the competence, experience and work habits necessary to successfully continue studies in this subject through secondary school. Through the study of novels, poetry, films and other forms of literature we explore themes and ideas students will be encountering at school, at home and in their community. Using Literature Circles we encourage students to explore texts at their own pace and develop a cooperative and investigative approach to learning about literature. We encourage students to write about their own experiences and to value writing as a creative and practical skill. Whether in formal oral presentations, debates or informal class discussions we encourage our students to develop confidently as effective and skilled communicators.

All Year 7 students further develop their writing, spelling and comprehension skills as they prepare for, and undertake the NAPLAN tests. The results of these tests contribute to teacher assessment of student's ability and possible areas for improvement as they continue their secondary education.

MATHEMATICS

Mathematical knowledge and skills play a fundamental role in our society. This subject creates the opportunity for students to develop the numeracy capabilities that all students need in their future studies, personal, work and life.

At Year 7 level, mathematics classrooms include a wide diversity of mathematics abilities and needs. Our mathematics curriculum responds to these needs by targeting student learning at their level and supporting them in improving their understanding and skill levels. Our programs prepare students with the mathematical skills and knowledge needed for future study and life. Students will aim towards working at Victorian Curriculum Level 7 where the following topics are covered:

Number & Algebra

- Real numbers, whole numbers and place value
- Patterns & Algebra
- Money and financial mathematics

Measurement & Geometry

- Using units of measurement
- Geometric reasoning
- Time and location

Statistics & Probability

- Chance (probability)
- Data Representation & interpretation

ASSESSMENT:

- Problem Solving Tasks
- Homework Sheets
- Unit Tests
- Project Investigation Reports
- Observation of Class Activities

HUMANITIES

Humanities at Stawell Secondary College includes the studies of History, Geography and Economics. Students will be studying human societies and environments, people and their cultures in the past and the present.

Students will be given opportunities to develop their skills in conducting independent research, examining historical, geographical, and economic evidence, understanding different perspectives and expressing informed points of view upon significant events and processes.

Students will develop and demonstrate these skills through inquiry-based projects in which they develop their own questions, conduct research, and present their research in multiple and creative ways.

Year 7 students will begin their exploration of world history at the beginning: focusing on the development of Ancient cultures in Asia and the Mediterranean regions. Students investigate geographical processes and environments and discuss the impact of geography upon human populations. They also investigate aspects of Australia's economy and develop personal financial literacy.

ASSESSMENT:

- Topic tests
- Practical work
- Assignments and Presentations.

SCIENCE

By the end of Year 7, students describe techniques to separate pure substances from mixtures. They represent and predict the effects of unbalanced forces, including Earth's gravity, on motion. They explain how the relative positions of the Earth, sun and moon affect phenomena on Earth. They analyse how the sustainable use of resources depends on the way they are formed and cycle through the Earth's systems. They predict the effect of environmental changes on feeding relationships and classify and organise diverse organisms based on observable differences. Students describe situations where scientific knowledge from different science disciplines has been used to solve a real-world problem. They explain how the solution was viewed by, and impacted on, different groups in society.

Students identify questions that can be investigated scientifically. They plan fair experimental methods, identifying variables to be changed and measured. They summarise data from different sources, describe trends and refer to the quality of their data when suggesting improvements to their methods. They communicate their ideas, methods and findings using scientific language and appropriate representations.

ASSESSMENT:

- Topic tests
- Practical work
- Assignments and Presentations.

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION (HAPE)

In Year 7 Health and Physical Education students will develop motor skills, tactics and strategies and apply these to improve individual and team performance.

Students will participate in a range of activities including swimming and water safety, football, netball, athletics, gymnastics, dance, soccer, bat tennis and softball.

Students will identify their own physical activity and fitness levels and gain an understanding of health-related fitness components.

Students will identify and discuss health concerns affecting young people including skin cancer awareness, bullying and smoking. They will identify health initiatives and resources designed for young people and engage in a range of activities to develop a positive identity, resilience and decision making skills.

ASSESSMENT:

- Topic tests
- Practical work
- Assignments and Presentations.

DIGITAL LEARNING

This is an introductory subject, where students are shown a variety of computer programs that are available on their devices. They have the opportunity to use these programs briefly, learning some of their capabilities and are shown where these programs could be used.

Students learn the importance of computer and network security, general computer care and maintenance, accessing and saving files on the school network, and the importance of backing up their work.

This subject continues throughout the year, for one period per fortnight.



CHINESE

Chinese is the language to learn in the 21st Century. It has become one of the most useful skills for future employment in Australia. For this generation, it is essential that they understand an Asian culture in recognition of the importance of Asia for the prosperity of Australia.

In Year 7, students will build up their vocabulary and sentence structures based on the topics about themselves and Chinese community. Students will also develop an understanding and appreciation of the history and culture associated with the language through a variety of resources. The course will cater for those beginning Chinese for the first time, whilst extending the existing skills of those who have previous experience of learning Chinese.

The school provides a range of resources and opportunities for students to improve their language learning for example Education Perfect (a computer program) which helps student to consolidate their language outside of class. Students are also encouraged to participate in various excursions for example, the State-wide Chinese Speaking Competition and school-organised China study tours.

ASSESSMENT:

Students will be assessed on the four language skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing through class participation, tests and assessment assignments such as multimedia tasks, projects and role plays.





ELECTIVE SUBJECTS

Students will undertake the following subjects for one semester each. They will study one Art and three Technology subjects only at Year 7.

ART

In Year 7, students will explore the “elements of art”. This includes a range of projects that allow the students to explore and experiment with colour, line, tone, form, shape, texture, time, light and sound.

Students will experiment with materials for art making and explore self-expression through the use of symbolism and personal style. They will develop unique methods for representing their ideas through the development of individual and collaborative artworks.

Students also view and discuss artworks created in different times and places, to develop their ability to interpret artwork.

For the production classes students are required to wear;

- leather school shoes or boots (runners or sandals of any type are not acceptable)
- protective clothing such as aprons
- safety equipment as deemed necessary by the teacher

For the production classes students are required to wear;

- leather school shoes or boots (runners or sandals of any type are not acceptable)
- protective clothing such as aprons
- safety equipment as deemed necessary by the teacher

FOOD TECHNOLOGY

The focus of this course is for students to produce and analyse a range of recipes that not only look appetising, but also taste nice and meet the dietary needs and recommendations of adolescents. They develop an understanding of foods and their composition, to introduce sound dietary habits using food selection models such as the Healthy Eating Pyramid.

Students will develop their practical skills and learn different cooking methods, applying safe and hygienic use and care of utensils, equipment and appliances, when producing recipes.

Students will develop self-confidence and management skills, and to carry out the technology processes of investigating and designing, producing and analysing and evaluating recipes. Students will work individually and in teams to during food production.

Students not only develop their skills in cooking, they also extend their knowledge and understanding in the basics of food groups and food safety, that can be applied to make informed food choices that positively impacts on their health.

ASSESSMENT:

Assessment may include the following:

- Topic Tests
- Design Folio
- Practical Test

In each of the Food Technology subjects students are required to bring to each practical cooking class:

- 2 x tea towels
- 1 x bib apron
- 1 x food container

MATERIALS - WOOD

Students have the opportunity to design and make projects from a design brief based on a set project with clear guidelines. Students will make basic wood projects with personal touches being added to individualise their projects. The four main areas of study are: Investigating, Generating, Producing and Evaluating. Students will also use CAD (computer-aided design) in the design process and produce hand sketches and detailed drawings of their final production project. This learning area is a highly practical area in which students are encouraged to express themselves and develop skills in decision making and problem solving. It provides students with opportunities to apply their knowledge and skills in a practical and enterprising way, using a variety of resources tools and equipment.

ASSESSMENT:

- Practical work
- Assignments

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY

The Digital Technologies curriculum enables students to become confident and creative developers of digital solutions through the application of information systems and specific ways of thinking about problem solving.

Students acquire a deep knowledge and understanding of digital systems, data and information and the processes associated with creating digital solutions so they can take up an active role in meeting current and future needs.

The curriculum has been designed to provide practical opportunities for students to explore the capacity of information systems to systematically and innovatively transform data into digital solutions through the application of computational, design and systems thinking.

The curriculum also encourages students to be discerning decision makers by considering different ways of managing the interactions between digital systems, people, data and processes (information systems) and weighing up the possible benefits and potential risks for society and the environment.

This subjects runs for one semester, for three periods per week.

ASSESSMENT:

- Practical work
- Assignments

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

Instrumental Music is an additional co-curricular program that runs parallel to the main timetable and is offered to all students in the school. Students get a specialist lesson each week and as soon as they are ready they are strongly encouraged to join the school band, which gives them the opportunity to further develop, consolidate and extend their skills in ways that cannot be achieved in lessons alone. Participation in band also opens up opportunities to work with students from other schools.

Instruments include Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Alto or Tenor Saxophone, Trumpet, French Horn, Trombone, Euphonium, Tuba, Guitar, Bass Guitar, Percussion/Drums and Piano.

Lessons are scheduled on a rotating timetable so students do not constantly miss the same subject. This timetable is emailed to families, available in the portal and displayed on the music noticeboard near the canteen.

Students register and pay for lessons each semester, with lessons beginning the week following the submission of forms with payment. Lessons cannot commence until payment is made.

Lesson fees are \$80 per semester. Home practice is essential for success.

To support this, a limited number of hire instruments are also available at a cost of \$80 per semester.





ASSESSMENT

ASSESSMENT TASKS

Every subject will require students to complete three main common assessment tasks (CATs) spread throughout the semester. These assessment tasks may include such things as written exercises, practical work, folio work, task sheets and presentations. Parents will be notified if students have not completed or unsatisfactorily completed any of these assessment tasks, and students will be able to redeem their assessments at a later date. Students will receive their results from their subject teacher and be given feedback on how they can improve in future assessments.

REPORTING

Stawell Secondary College will issue reports on all students to inform parents and guardians of their child's progress in each subject. Each semester students will receive two reports. The first being a basic report on students learning behaviours that will inform parents/guardians about their child's progress so far in a subject. This report will be given at the end of terms 1 and 3. The second type of report will be a longer, more detailed report on students academic results as well as their learning behaviours in each subject. Every subject will report on learning behaviours (both general and subject specific), CAT results received throughout the semester, and written feedback in regards to what the student can do to improve their results in the subject. Student reports will also contain a comment from their home group teacher in regards to how students can best achieve their learning goals.

HOMEWORK

Homework is defined as learning activities related to school curriculum, which teachers expect students to complete in their own time. Homework is an essential ingredient for ongoing success at school. Parents should be aware that students are expected to undertake homework, which will be on a regular basis.

The amount of homework required will depend on each subject; however, on average a Year 7 student could expect up to 2 hours per week.

TEXTBOOKS

Digital Textbooks

We are excited to announce that from 2020 our students in Years 7 to 10 will be accessing all of their textbooks from their laptops through an online platform provided by Jacaranda. Jacaranda digital textbooks are high quality materials designed for the Victorian Curriculum and are supported by specific video resources to enhance your child's understanding of their work.

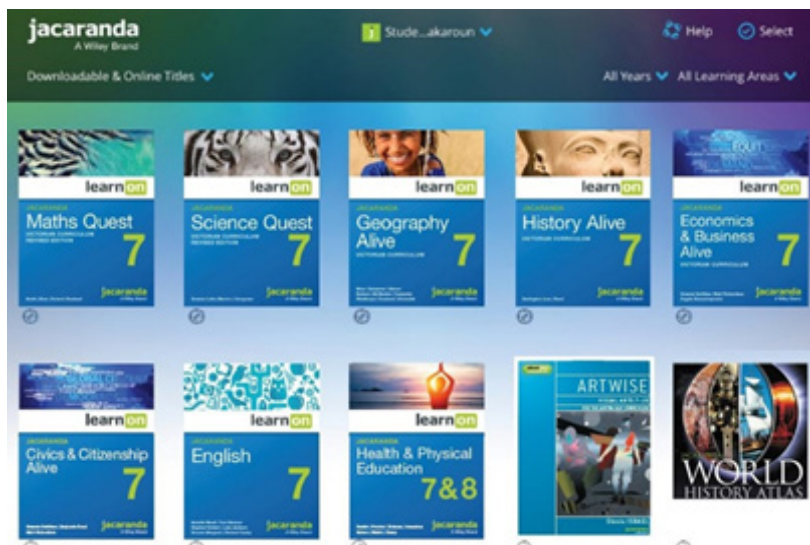
Your child will access 14 interactive digital resources (called the Jacaranda Digital Bundle) that will enrich their learning by providing them with the opportunity to complete assigned tasks at their skill level through the LearnON platform. Students' progress can be tracked and the instant feedback produced will inform students and teachers about what students need to do to improve.

The complete Jacaranda Digital Bundle costs just \$125 per year and is available through our bookseller, Ballarat Books. Parents will need to tick this item on the Stawell Secondary College 2020 Booklist that will be posted to each family. The Booklist must then be returned to the School or submitted online. Payment may be made to Ballarat Books either online or at Book Collection Day at school. Please contact Marie McAloon, Business Manager, if you have any concerns.

Each Digital Bundle contains the following texts books, appropriate to your child's year level: Maths Quest, Science Quest, Geography Alive, History Alive, Economics & Business Alive, Civics & Citizenship Alive, English, Health & Physical Education, Artwise, myWorld Atlas, myWorld History Atlas plus supplementary support materials.

Apart from being an outstanding educational resource for your child, you will not have to worry about your child losing books or carrying heavy books home, and you won't have to buy expensive books when publishers change editions.

As an example, THE YEAR 7 DIGITAL BUNDLE contains the following textbooks, and supplementary support materials:



Supplementary digital resources



assessON is an online assessment tool that assesses and tracks students' readiness FOR learning, their progress AS they learn and their levels OF achievement (includes two versions: assessON Maths Quest and assessON Science Quest).



Knowledge Quest is an immersive and motivating online skills game to improve students' grammar, spelling, punctuation, vocabulary and reading comprehension.



myWorld Atlas is Jacaranda's unique digital atlas that enables students to explore the world and test their geographical skills.



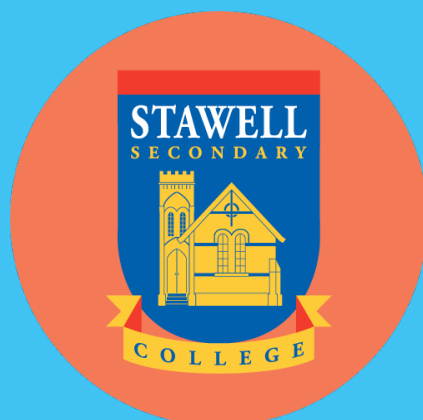
myWorld History Atlas is Jacaranda's unique digital atlas that enables students to discover not only what happened in history, but where and when.

YEAR 7 CAMP

Cave Hill Creek is a spectacular lake and bush venue, surrounded by the mountains of the Mt Cole State Forest. The lake is one of the best places in Australia to spot a platypus in the wild. It is also home to echidnas, kangaroos, wallabies, exceptional birdlife and the occasional koala. Activities include: abseiling; canoeing; mountain biking; archery; low ropes; bouldering; hike the Beeripmo Walk Cave Hill's program focuses on developing an appreciation for the outdoors through challenging and fun activities. Their programs include cultural and indigenous awareness, the environment and sustainability.

Where: Cave Hill Creek 110 The Glut Road, Raglan, VIC 3373
Cost: \$390.00. Covers all costs except lunch on the first day
When: Term 2: Wednesday 22 April - Friday 24th April 2020.
Contact: Year 7 Coordinators

More details will be available to Parents/Guardians and students early in term 1 2020.



Department of Education & Training
CRICOS Provider Code 00861K