



NEWMAN
COLLEGE

A CATHOLIC SCHOOL
EDUCATING IN THE
MARIST TRADITION

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Electives Handbook

For 2026 Year 8 students

Contents

Introduction.....	3
How to select your electives	4
Design and Technology	5
Foods	5
Textiles	5
Woodwork	5
Digital Technology.....	6
Performance Arts.....	7
Dance	7
Drama.....	7
Music.....	7
Visual Arts.....	8
Art.....	8
Media.....	8

Introduction

In Year 8, students will study four elective subjects in addition to their core (compulsory) school subjects.

Please note that elective subjects are divided into four categories, detailed in the table below. In Year 8, students will study one elective from each category.

Category	Elective subjects in this category
Design & Technology	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Foods 2. Textiles 3. Woodwork
Digital Technology	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Digital Technology (therefore this elective subject will be automatically allocated to you)
Performance Arts	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dance 2. Drama 3. Music
Visual Arts	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Art 2. Media

This booklet provides details of the Year 8 electives, and the College encourages students and families to use the information to make an informed choice.

Please choose carefully as there is often minimal flexibility in the College timetable and later changes can be difficult or impossible to accommodate.

How to select your electives

1. Dates and access

Opening date: Thursday 7 August, 8.00am
Closing date: Sunday 17 August, 11.55pm

Link for access: <https://client.subjectselectiononline.com.au/?school=sd27n>

Please note that the site is only available between the dates and times above.

2. How do I login?

1. Go to the website above and click the 'Forgotten Your Password' link.
2. Enter your College email address (in the format ...@student.newman.wa.edu.au)
3. Click 'Submit'.
4. An email will be sent to your College email address.
5. Open the email that you have been sent, and note the **login code**.
6. Click the 'Login and Reset Password' button in your email.
7. Create your new password.
8. Use the login code (from your email) to login, with the newly-created password.
Do not use your email address as your login code, it will not work.

3. What do I do once I login?

1. Ask your parent/guardian to sit with you when you make your selections, and discuss what you are choosing.
2. Read the instructions and proceed through the screens. The automated process will guide you through your subject selections.
3. Make sure you have completed all sections. As you make your way through the process, you will see relevant error messages or items for attention in yellow at the bottom of the screen.
4. Near the end of the selection process, your parent/guardian will need to enter a code that they have been sent, called their **Parent PIN** (this is different to yours). They need to enter this code to confirm they have approved your selections.

4. What do I do if I need help?

For queries relating to pathways and selecting subjects, please contact:

Justin Farley (Leader of Pathways and Partnerships)

Tel. 9204 9457

Email: Justin.Farley@newman.wa.edu.au

For assistance with administrative or technical issues, or lost codes, please contact:

Flora Hughes (Student Data Administrator)

Tel. 9204 9434

Email: Flora.Hughes@newman.wa.edu.au

Design and Technology

Foods

This Year 8 Food Technology course is designed to build on student's essential kitchen skills, safety and hygiene practices, and cooking techniques. Students will develop their food preparation skills to be able to independently prepare food items. Over a semester, students will engage in both theoretical and practical lessons, focusing on key aspects such as food preparation, nutrition, and recipe design.

In practical sessions students will prepare various dishes such as:

- warm chicken salad
- ANZAC biscuits
- steak sandwiches
- sausage rolls
- chow mein
- tacos
- and more

Textiles

This Year 8 Textiles course is designed to introduce students to the basics of textiles design. Students will develop machine sewing skills and learn a range of decorative techniques.

In practical sessions, students will:

- learn to use the sewing machine
- explore the decorative features of the sewing machine
- understand elements of design and garment construction
- produce textile items such as simple garments and accessories

Woodwork

This course builds on the knowledge learnt in the Year 7 introductory course. Students will expand their knowledge and skills in using tools and machinery to manipulate wood to create solutions to design problems. Students will produce two projects creating small items for outdoor dining.

Throughout the course, workshop safety is the key focus. You will be taught the fundamentals of safe workshop techniques and learn the correct use of basic machinery. You are also introduced to design through the use of the Design Process. This engaging and exciting course gives you a taste of what you can expect to learn and make in future years.

Digital Technology

Please note that all Year 8 students will study this elective.

Students will build on the knowledge they acquired in the Year 7 Digital Technology courses, as they use computational thinking and information systems to define, design and implement solutions.

In an increasingly technological and complex world, it is important to develop knowledge and skills to analyse and creatively respond to design and/or digital challenges. Topics explored during the course include networking, cybersecurity, computer hardware, binary and data.

Throughout the Digital Technologies course students will utilise a variety of different technologies that will allow them to showcase their knowledge and creativity including Minecraft Education Edition and Robotics. Students engagement with these digital learning experiences will provide skills that are transferable to other areas of schooling.

Performance Arts

Dance

Own the Floor: Dance Year 8

In Year 8 Dance you will dive into the genre of Hip Hop, learning exercises and sequences that help you master movement while also focusing on safe dance practices. Along the way, you'll learn how to use performance qualities where you'll apply these to an exciting class routine.

But the creativity doesn't stop there. You'll have the chance to collaborate with your peers, working in groups to create your choreography in a genre of your choice. Throughout this journey, you'll also learn how to reflect on your work and offer thoughtful feedback on the performances of others.

Drama

Mission: Improv – Year 8 Drama in Action

In Drama, you'll dive into the world of improvisation, honing your skills by stepping into the shoes of an international spy. Through various exercises and activities, you'll develop quick thinking, adaptability, and the ability to create compelling characters on the spot.

You will explore Children's theatre in the second term. Together, we'll work on crafting an original piece of theatre specifically designed for a primary school audience. This will culminate in a special performance where you can share your creation with the children, bringing your storytelling to life in a way that is sure to captivate and inspire them.

Music

Find your Instrument

In Year Eight Music, get ready for the vibrant world of sound and creativity! You'll master the essential skills needed to compose, perform, and record your own music. Your journey will take you through an exciting exploration of different musical styles, from the electrifying energy of contemporary hits to the soulful grooves of blues, the drama of musical theatre, and the timeless beauty of classical genres.

This is your chance to shine! Whether you choose to express yourself through your favourite instrument or your voice, you'll have the opportunity to rehearse and perform both as a soloist and in small ensembles. It's your time to make music that speaks to who you are, all while developing your aural skills and deepening your understanding of music theory.

Visual Arts

Art

Make it Pop: Paint, Texture and Imagination

In Year 8 Art, get ready to unleash your creativity with an experimental mixed media still life painting inspired by some of the most exciting modern artists. You'll bring natural, inanimate objects to life—whether it's a vibrant arrangement of food, an intriguing skull, or delicate shells.

You'll explore a variety of painting mediums, materials, and tools, from the bold strokes of a palette knife to the precision of paint pens, even incorporating 3D elements into your work. And the best part? You'll have the freedom to choose your style, whether you want to capture the realism of your subjects or dive into the expressive world of semi-abstract art. This is your chance to push boundaries and create something truly unique.

Media

Narrative Media - Stories & Showdowns

In Year 8 Media, you will start by learning some basic photography skills, as you take photos of your favourite places around the school. We will then translate these skills into a film project where we will watch some short suspense films, uncovering the secrets of this moody genre, and then use those conventions to create your own original suspense films.

In the second term, you'll shift gears and explore the iconic Western genre. You'll get hands-on experience with production equipment and software, learning how to create and capture different types of shots that bring your ideas to life. As you master these tools, you'll put together a showreel that showcases your understanding of genre conventions and filmmaking techniques. But that's just the beginning. Working in small groups, you'll channel your creativity and newly acquired skills to craft your very own short Western film, putting everything you've learned to the test.