

The Hills Sports High School



ORIENTATION DAY

YEAR 7 - 2008

SCHOOL COMMENCES

Wednesday, 30th January 2008
(for Years 7, 11, 12)

Thursday, 31st January 2008
(for Years 8, 9 and 10)

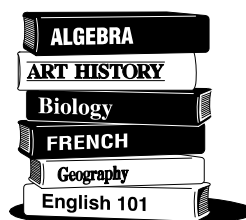
INTRODUCTION

The Hills Sports has served the local community for over 30 years. In that time the staff and students have built up a school with a fine tradition of care and support. You and your child will become part of this tradition.

Over the next four to six years of schooling, each student will be faced with many challenges and opportunities to achieve. The Hills' staff and community will be there to provide the opportunities and support each student's needs.

This small booklet contains a summary of some of the many topics and activities covered in Year Seven at The Hills Sports. Welcome to The Hills Sports High School. A new year and a new Year 7 that will continue The Hills' proud tradition into 2008 and beyond.

Ms. N. Watson,
Year Advisor 2008



ENGLISH

The focus in English in the junior school is on **Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening**. We seek to provide a range of experiences for Year 7 students by providing the opportunity to explore the areas of *Novel, Film, Electronic Media, Poetry, Public Speaking and Performance*.

While recognising that each student is different and may have individual needs, we encourage all students to develop their skills and achieve their best personal outcomes.

Students are encouraged to read widely in order to develop their individual writing styles and close study of texts provides them with an opportunity to widen their literary skills.

In keeping with the new syllabus students are encouraged to prepare and present a variety of oral tasks including poetry readings, story telling and public speaking.

Students are also offered opportunities to participate in debating, public speaking and writing competitions throughout the year. We also offer a number of opportunities to attend drama performances and excursions relevant to the course of study.

MATHEMATICS

Mathematics is a common two-year course in Years 7 and 8. Based on their performance at the end of Year 8, students are placed in one of 5.1, 5.2 or 5.3 outcomes-based courses for Years 9 and 10.

During Year 7, students study topics including: decimals, number lines, fractions, shapes, area, algebra, angles, geometry and statistics. Problem-solving activities are done throughout the course.

It is essential that all Year 7 students purchase a scientific calculator (available from the Front Office). Casio FX100AU is recommended and will be used by the teachers. This calculator will meet all their maths needs to the end of Year 12. The students will also spend time researching topics related to their studies.

SCIENCE

Year 7 Science is divided into eight modules:

1. Matter & Material
2. Separating Substances
3. Introducing Energy
4. Cells
5. Classifying Living Things
6. Earth Changing Face
7. The Story of Rocks
8. Exploring the Solar System

Each module is used to expand student awareness and knowledge of their environment and to develop skills that improve their ability to investigate the environment.

Students will be required to participate in practical work and to develop skills in scientific report writing that help communicate the purpose of a practical investigation, the findings and the interpretations of the findings.

Students will be assessed on their knowledge and understanding of science concepts, science skills, homework and class work (including practical report writing), and the record of work that the student maintains throughout the year. Students will also undertake a research project under the guidance of their teacher.

GEOGRAPHY

Geography has never been more important. Understanding how weather, oceans, deserts and rainforests work will help us to survive into the future.

The Year 7 and 8 course provides students with the tools and skills they need to understand our global environments. How does the weather and climate affect people's lives? Why should we try to save areas of world heritage?

In Year 8 we study the reasons why some areas are rich while others are poor. How is it that some people in the world have access to water, education and health care while others have none?

Sustainability will also be studied. Can we survive into the future while using the earth's resources as we do? As part of this study, major global issues will be examined such as tourism, climate change and the destruction of the oceans.

Fieldwork is a big component of Geography and students will be studying land use around Sydney Harbour as a very enjoyable and educational excursion.

Geography offers students the chance to really understand our world and how it is used. It is a course which looks to the future and how our lives will be changed by climate and our use of resources.



HISTORY

Do you know how the Ancient Egyptians preserved dead bodies? Why did the Ancient Greeks invent the Olympic Games?



In Year 7 History we will be first looking at the way time is measured and the reasons why we study History.

In the second section we will be studying some ancient societies such as Ancient Egypt, Ancient Greece and Ancient Rome. How did these people live, dress work, play and fight? All these questions will be answered.

Historians are like detectives. We will become historical detectives examining the past to work out what it can tell us. Students will write about History and research about interesting people and events from the past. Students will be expected to complete a research assignment each term. There will also be opportunities to enter inter-school competitions.

TECHNOLOGY (Mandatory)

This course is studied across a number of prescribed context areas. Students will spend 6 periods per cycle.

Students will be involved in a wide variety of practical activities, and will be required to bring equipment from home. This includes school uniform, black school shoes, pencil, apron, tea towels etc. Aprons may be purchased from the school.

Safety equipment for personal use is mandatory in our work area. This includes black, closed-in traditional school shoes – even on Sports days.

Areas of Study

These will include:

- The Built Environment
- Products
- Information and Communication

Design projects will come from each of these areas.

Design & Technics contribution \$35
Food Tech contribution: \$35

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT /HEALTH /PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The Hills Sports High students study an integrated PD/Health/PE program in Year 7 which continues through until the end of Year 10.

AREAS OF STUDY IN PD/HEALTH/PE, YEAR 7 - 2008

Year 7 PD/H/PE consists of practical and theoretical components. Both components are worth 50% of the final mark and grade.

The **theory** component will include:

1. Personal identity - self esteem and self concept
2. Decision making and communication
3. Relationships
4. Physical fitness
5. Growth and development during adolescence
6. Child protection - recognising abuse and keeping safe

The practical component of PD/Health/PE involves the development of movement sense and skills through a range of physical activities. The program emphasises active involvement by all students with a view to instilling in students a lifelong desire to participate in regular physical activity. Students are required to bring their sports uniform to school so they can wear it for practical lessons.

The **practical** component will include:

1. Minor games and modified games
2. Athletics
3. Fitness Training
4. Basic skills in a variety of sports
5. Aquatics - swim school



NB: Swim School will be held in Term 4 and it is compulsory for all students to attend. In this program students learn valuable safety and life-saving skills. All levels of ability are catered for, including special support for beginners.

YEAR 7 SPORT

(a) Talented Sporting Programs

Most of the Year 7 TSP students will be involved in the Talented Sports Program during periods 3 & 4 on Tuesday and 5 & 6 on Thursday.

Students involved in the Golf, Softball, Swimming and Tennis programs, however, will have Sport during periods 3 & 4 on Tuesday and will attend their TSP during periods 5 & 6 on both Tuesday and Thursday.

The Athletics Throws (Shot, Discus, Javelin, Hammer) program will be conducted between 3.30 & 5.00 pm on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons. Students involved in this program will need to select another TSP activity for periods 3 & 4 on Tuesday and 5 & 6 on Thursday with the approval of the Director of Sport.

(b) Mainstream Students

Year 7 Sport will be conducted for all students not involved in the Talented Sports Program.

Year 7 mainstream students will participate in a special program designed to further develop their basic movement skills and refine their talents in a variety of sports. In this way, it is hoped that students will develop greater confidence and an enhanced sense of enjoyment when participating in sporting activities.

The School's Swimming, Cross-Country and Athletics Carnivals are conducted during Terms I and II. Participation and involvement in the Carnivals are again the primary focus – all students are expected to join in and participate in these whole school events. Attendance at these carnivals is compulsory.

The Hills Sports High School competes in a variety of knockout sporting competitions throughout the year. These competitions enable talented students (both mainstream and TSP) to showcase their skills in a more competitive setting. All Year 7 students have the opportunity to gain selection in School Knockout Competition teams.



MUSIC

To begin at the beginning: Students will learn about sound - how it is produced, manipulated and recorded. The Year 7 course will take them through a musical journey, encompassing a wide variety of styles and mediums.

Students participate in the activities of performing, composing, listening and studying music. Basic reading and analysis is also taught.



All students are encouraged to explore music making, through the use of keyboards and guitars, as well as drums, sequences, and instruments.

Music contribution: \$10

VISUAL ARTS

In Year 7, Art students will explore their world through a variety of art materials and techniques. They will also explore the work of other artists in order to inform their own art making.

Students will have the opportunity to exhibit their work both within the school and in the broader community.

Students will be required to supply themselves with an A4 sketchbook, scissors, glue, a ruler, an eraser and a 2B, 4B and 6B pencil.

Visual Arts contribution: \$30



LANGUAGE

This course is designed to give students the opportunity to experience aspects of German and French lifestyles through the study of language.

The initial few weeks of the year will be spent “Exploring Languages”, a course designed to give the students an overview of the place of modern language study in the context of Australia’s multicultural society.

The languages to be studied during Year 7 are German and French. At the conclusion of each unit of study, students will be tested on the content (language and culture) of the course of study. At the end of the year students will explore festive occasions through creating cards and calendars.

Language contribution: \$5



PEER SUPPORT

Peer Support is seen as a priority at The Hills Sports High School.

During Term 1, trained Year 11 students lead Year 7 in workshop sessions, where topics such as fostering self-esteem and handling bullying are discussed. Year 7 students are encouraged to ask questions about any school related topic.



SPECIAL EDUCATION FACULTY

The Hills Sports High School caters for students with moderate and mild individual disabilities. All identified students with disabilities have Individual Education Plans or Individual Transition Plans, developed to address the academic and social skills of individual students.

The students in the Support Unit classes are, as often as possible, involved in normal routines throughout the school, involving their placement and participation in:

- Roll classes
- School camps and excursions
- The use of library facilities
- Assemblies
- School social functions, such as school disco

Years 7 and 8 will be integrated into mainstream classes for Food Technology, Industrial Arts, Creative Arts, PD/H/PE and Sports.

It is anticipated that most students will be traveling to and from school independently on enrolment. Travel training to and from school is a joint commitment between school and parents.

Students are given the opportunity to study "Work Education" which prepares them for post-school options. In Year 7 students are involved in in-school work experience or work crew. This prepares them for community based work experience.



HEAD TEACHERS

Principal: Mr Joseph K Allan

Deputy Principals: Mrs Julie Middleton
Mr Don Mitchell

Head Teachers:

English:	Mrs Leonie Eastwood
Mathematics:	Mr Chris Mahony
Science:	Ms Anne Christensen
HSIE:	Mr Greg Haynes
Art/Music/Language:	Ms Belinda Young
TAS:	Ms Fonia Wallis
PD/H/PE:	Mr Rob Murie
Special Education:	Mrs Subhag Kumar
Teaching & Learning:	Mrs Kerrie Kennon
Teacher Mentor:	Mr Brian Ewin
Director of Sport:	Mr Robert Hawkes

Year 7 Adviser 2008: Ms Nicole Watson