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St Francis de Sales COLLEGE

7-9 Community

21 September 2016

Re: Changes to the Elective Process Year 7 into Year 8 2017

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

The 7-9 Community at St Francis de Sales College would like to inform you of an advantageous change to the model currently being used to deliver the elective program at Year 8.

From 2017 the Year 8 students will be participating in a broader curriculum model that has been be scaffolded through Years 7 and 9 to provide opportunities for them to engage in a wider and more sophisticated range of experiences. The aim is to better develop the holistic skills and capabilities required in an increasingly complex and connected global environment and assist the students in the development of the skills and capabilities required to make more informed choices with regards to the pathways in their senior years of schooling.

All Year 8 students will study the compulsory core subjects of Religious Education, English, Health and Physical Education, HASS (Humanities and Social Sciences), Japanese, Mathematics and Science. However, from 2017 they will also participate in Art, Dance, Digital Technologies, Drama, Home Economics, Horticulture, Music and Technology along with the opportunity to be offered the choice of Soccer or Basketball Academy options. Please refer to the Curriculum Handbook for information regarding application to these academies. Should a Year 8 student successfully apply for, and be accepted into, either academy the Australian Curriculum Health and Physical Education skills and capabilities will be covered within that subject. The Basketball and Soccer Academies assist in the development and growth of the specialised sporting skills and capabilities associated with Basketball and Soccer. As students now have the advantage of experiencing all the non-core subjects, the process of elective subject selection is no longer required.

The information regarding the changes to the Year 8 Curriculum offerings will be presented to the current Year 7 students by Mrs Peta Bojanic, 7-9 Learning and Accountability Leader. This information is also contained in the 7-9 Curriculum Handbook which will be available on the St Francis de Sales College website, http://www.stfrancis.catholic.edu.au/ by Friday 23 September.

We are excited to begin this new and contemporary initiative. Should you require any additional information please contact your child's Homeroom Teacher or Mrs Bojanic via email at pbojanic@stfrancis.catholic.edu.au.

Yours sincerely,

Peta Bojanic

Peta Bojanic
7-9 Learning and Accountability Leader

Sue Knight
Acting Deputy Principal