



PERTH MODERN SCHOOL CURRICULUM OPPORTUNITIES



School Vision

Perth Modern School's purpose is to nurture a love of learning in order to develop academically gifted and talented students, enabling them to reach their full academic potential. We aspire to develop engaged, creative independent lifelong learners who will be contributing and responsible members of the global community.

The Perth Modern School experience reflects both an exceptional academic program for academically gifted learners and an exceptional 'rounded' experience in a coeducational environment. Students can be confident they are involved in the highest quality teaching and learning environment with a cohort of like-minded peers. Additionally, students enjoy a wide variety of co-curricular opportunities through music, sport, arts, clubs and tours.

The curriculum is designed to provide opportunities for students intending to progress to tertiary studies, with many of our students being awarded significant university scholarships.

Teaching and learning programs reflect the expectation that our highly able students have the ability and desire to be challenged through a broad education.

Our curriculum encompasses:

- high expectations for all students
- gifted and talented teaching and learning principles
- curriculum which is differentiated, compacted and accelerated
- appropriate challenge
- deep learning
- breadth of curriculum
- learning beyond the classroom
- personalised learning opportunities
- co-curricular opportunities
- support for all students
- personal development.



PERTH MODERN SCHOOL

Exceptional schooling. Exceptional students.

INDEPENDENT PUBLIC SCHOOL



CURRICULUM OPPORTUNITIES

TIMETABLE STRUCTURE

Our innovative curriculum is supported on a 10-day timetable cycle and with designated weeks A and B. This allows for a smoother curriculum delivery. Periods are 54 minutes in length with some doubles to encourage deep learning, exploration and **flow**.

ADVOCACY

Our Advocacy program contributes to the wellbeing and well-rounded growth and support of our students through emphasis on social and emotional wellbeing. Advocacy will add to the curriculum through developing effective organisational skills, interpersonal relationships and an appreciation of the value of community service and 'giving back'. School spirit and connection will be advanced through participation in House activities, social and whole school events.

The Advocacy program for students in the Middle Years will build self-confidence, awareness and aspirations whilst embedding the School Values of: Respect Yourself, Respect Others and Respect the Space. Students will participate in camps to develop relationships, health and wellness and leadership skills. Students will explore:

- Year 7: Sense of Belonging and Sense of Worth
- Year 8: Sense of Community and Sense of Humour
- Year 9: Sense of Purpose and Sense of Future

In the Senior Years, students will participate in health and wellness activities, career and university lectures as well as listening to guest speakers and experts in the field. Special Advocacy groups are formed for those students involved in the Student Council and those students interested in Sustainability, Community Service and Wellbeing.

MUSIC

Central to the Perth Modern School experience is our renowned music program. Perth Modern School has an international reputation for excellence in performance and music studies. Over 500 Music students take part in a dynamic, classically based program taught by highly skilled musicians and educators utilising the Kodály philosophy to support active music-making as part of the curriculum.

Individuals benefit from working with like-minded students who are passionate about music, in an engaging and creative environment. Students enjoy the opportunity to grow their skills through a variety of performances in a range of choirs, orchestras and ensembles and are frequently invited to perform publicly at major cultural and community events. Students in the music program have the opportunity to travel overseas to perform, experience music making in other cultures and to visit other centres of music excellence.

MOD TIME

Mod Time encompasses all year groups and provides a structured cross-year group time to develop skills and knowledge outside the regular curriculum. Students will have the opportunity to be involved in cross-year Clubs which centre around common interests. These Clubs include Drama, Music, Writing, Computing, Coding and Sport (for example).

CO-CURRICULAR SPORT

Sport is a wonderful developer of teamwork, interpersonal skills and resilience. The co-curricular Sport program caters for students at all levels and is highly valued for its contribution to the development of the whole child. Students may participate in a variety of before and after school activities and day carnivals, as well as interschool sport. A wide range of sporting opportunities will continue to be available with the following sports having a very strong record of participation and success: swimming, volleyball, tennis, basketball, netball, badminton, soccer, cricket, AFL and athletics. A strong club culture complements the Sport program by giving students the opportunity to participate in table tennis, boot camp, sailing, fencing, rowing and other recreational activities. Students are able to negotiate a modified program to support high level sporting commitments out of hours.

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

We believe learning extends beyond the classroom. Students are encouraged to participate in school life through involvement in after school co-curricular activities (Clubs, for example Chess, Robotics, Engineering, Art, Esports, Sustainability and Community Service, provide opportunities to promote new skills and interests as well as friendships. Debating, Future Problem Solving, Tournament of Minds, Mathematics, Science, Languages and Writing competitions provide further opportunities to extend students' skills. Other activities including conventions, drama productions and international tours contribute to an involved **whole of life** education.



THE MIDDLE YEARS CURRICULUM (YEARS 7-9)

FUNDAMENTAL PHILOSOPHY: ENGAGE STUDENTS IN THE LOVE OF LEARNING

The Middle Years curriculum focuses on providing opportunities for academically gifted students in a broad range of areas so they may explore their strengths and passions and demonstrate their **personal best** through positive **Habits of the Mind** and **21st Century Learning Design**. The curriculum is compacted, extended and enriched with the focus on developing all aspects of our students through breadth and depth within and beyond the classroom. Within this framework, students have opportunities for acceleration by subject or by year. Self-esteem and confidence will be developed through challenge and achievement.

Typically, students in Year 7 follow a set timetable which will include Mathematics, English, Science and Humanities and Social Sciences. Additionally, a wide range of creative electives and a **Modern Innovations** component are undertaken. Perth Modern School offers **five languages** and Year 7 students will explore each major language before they settle on their preferred option. In Years 8 and 9, additional to Mathematics, English, Science and Humanities and Social Sciences, students will have the opportunity to select their language and creative electives. In Years 8 and 9 students may choose to continue with class level or the specialist extension music program.



MODERN INNOVATIONS CURRICULUM

Central to the Middle Years curriculum is our *Modern Innovations Curriculum*. In contemporary educational thinking, the teaching of innovation is considered increasingly important in a rapidly changing world. The Australian Curriculum and its General Capabilities emphasise creative and critical thinking, communication technology capability and problem-solving as well as the ability to collaborate. Cultivating these 21st Century learning skills is the cornerstone of our *Modern Innovations Curriculum* in the Middle Years. A key aim is to add depth to students learning with the teaching of structured visible thinking, particularly through the integration of the philosophical Community of Inquiry, Thinking Routines and Habits of the Mind. We believe that thinking involves the structured learning of a skills-set and the appropriate habits or dispositions for thinking.

The *Modern Innovations Curriculum* links directly to key principles of gifted and talented best practice embracing interdisciplinary approaches to learning. It encourages inquisitiveness, imagination and engages students conceptually in real world issues. It differentiates learning in accordance with each student's interests by providing opportunity for choice. The *Modern Innovations Curriculum* extends the learning experience beyond subjects by its emphasis on analysis, evaluation and synthesis, which are the phases of higher order thinking that must be used in the process of researching, problem-solving and the planning and presenting of innovative solutions and ideas to an audience.

In Years 7 and 8 this program forms part of the core subjects and integrates learning areas through problem based learning and STEAM as well as a structured Coding program. In Year 9 students complete a course in Entrepreneur/Leadership and a Thinking program designed to inspire independence, originality and perseverance.



THE SENIOR YEARS CURRICULUM (YEARS 10–12)

FUNDAMENTAL PHILOSOPHY: ACHIEVEMENT

The Senior Years curriculum provides opportunities for successful outcomes for students so they may reach their post-school goals. Fundamental to Senior Years is the young adult ethos which fosters independence, individual and social responsibility and the achievement of personal best. Opportunities to develop a broad portfolio which enhances post-school options are encouraged through a commitment to co-curricular experiences and community service. Students at Perth Modern School complete many hours of community service through Youth Ambassadors and various service clubs. Students have the opportunity to develop global understandings through co-curricular activities and extensive international tours.

The curriculum provides opportunities for choice through individual pathways. Students may choose to accelerate by course or year to meet their study goals. Students are encouraged to explore breadth as well as depth with a requirement from Year 10 for courses to represent a balance of both List 1 and List 2 courses, based on WACE requirements.

Our unique curriculum structure offers Year 10 students the opportunity to complete 14 semester-long courses, seven in each semester. This allows students to mix and match courses for an individually mapped program. Students will study as a minimum, two semesters of English (Year 11) and one semester each of Mathematics, Humanities and Social Science, Science and Physical Education (Year 10 or 11). Students may make up the remainder of the program with Year 10 level courses or a mix of Years 10 and 11 courses. The Year 10 program allows students to specialise in areas of interest at a level for which they are ready. Students studying a Year 11 course will make this choice for the whole year. Students are able to study an integrated Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics (STEAM) program at this level.

In Years 11 and 12 students will have seven 'year-long' course choices. Year 11 students will undertake a minimum of six WACE courses, plus one additional WACE or recreation course. Year 12 students will complete a minimum of five courses, plus one (minimum) or two additional WACE courses or one semester of recreation or private study.



INDEPENDENT RESEARCH PROJECT

Senior Years students are encouraged to undertake the Independent Research Project (IRP). This extended project is based on best practice gifted and talented in allowing students to explore in-depth their passions and interests through a topic of their choice. Through the program students will develop important university learning skills as well as enhancing commitment, self-determination and conceptual understanding through a long term project. The IRP assists students in developing a broad portfolio and can be used as evidence for scholarship applications.

Exceptional schooling.
Exceptional students.





CLUBS

Art
Badminton
Community Service
Cricket
Chess
Coding
Dance
Design and Technology
Drama
Engineering
Future Problem Solving
Homework Club
Magic Cards
Mathematics
Perth Molecules (Science Club)
Robotics
Sculpture – Design and Technology
Sustainability
Space

CAMPS AND TOURS YEARS 7–9

Year camps (Years 7–9)
Canberra Tour (Year 9)
Ningaloo Tour (Year 9)
Netball Camp
Swimming Camp

CAMPS AND TOURS YEARS 10–12

(may not run every year)

Chinese Language Tour
French Language Tour
Italian Language Tour
Japanese Language Tour
History Tour
Music Tour
NASA Space Camp
New York Arts Tour
NIDA Drama Tour
Photography Camp
Ski Trip
Volleyball – Melbourne

CONVENTIONS AND DEVELOPMENT

CCI Forum
Health Expo
Mini Science Conference
UWA
National Youth Science Forum

Premier's Anzac Student Tour
RAC BStreetSmart
Thinking Convention
Tomorrow Man
Tomorrow Woman
UNYouth State Conference

COMPETITIONS

Art Exhibitions (various)
Australian Brain Bee
Australian Geography Competition
Australian Maths Competition
Australian Space Design Competition
Australasian Intermediate Maths Olympiad
Australasian Maths Olympiad
Australasian Maths Olympiad Committee
Australasian Problem Solving Maths Olympiad
Big Science Competition
Black Swan Portraiture
Book in a Day
Creative Edge Competition.
City of Subiaco Art Awards
Dorothea McKellar Poetry
F1 in Schools
Have Sum Fun
Have Sum Fun Online
ICAS Science, Maths, English, Computing
Karen W Treanor Youth Awards (Poetry)
Make your own story book
Maths Challenge
Maths Talent Quest
Mock Trials
National Chemistry Quiz
National History Challenge
National Young Writers awards
Olympiads: Science and Mathematics
OzCLO Linguistic Competition
Perspectives
Photography (various)
Python Competition
Science Café
Science IQ
Sleek Geeks
Tim Winton Award for Young Writers
Tournament of Minds

UNSW Economic and Business Studies Competition
UNYouth Evatt Trophy
UNYouth Voice
WA Debating League
West Australasian Junior Olympiad
Write4Fun
Youth on Health

MUSIC PROGRAM

Chamber Ensembles both wind and string
Choir – Boys
Choir – Girls
Choir – Mixed
Classical Guitar Ensembles
Jazz Band
Junior and Senior Orchestra
String Orchestra
Wind Band

SPORT – CLUBS AND COMPETITIONS

AFL – Boys and Girls
Archery
Badminton
Beach Volleyball
Boot Camp
Cricket
Cross Country
Dance
Fencing
Hockey
House Athletics Carnival
House Beach Carnival
House Swimming Carnival
Jazz Dance
Lightning Carnivals 8–10
Netball – boys and girls
Rowing
Rugby
Sailing
Soccer
SSWA Athletics
SSWA Swimming
SSWA Triathlons
Super 8 Cricket
Swimming Club
Table Tennis
Tennis
Touch Rugby
Volleyball
Yoga

SENIOR SCHOOL COURSES: STAGE 3

List 1

Ancient History
Chinese Heritage
Chinese Second Language
Design – Photography
Drama
Economics
English
Food Science
French
Geography
Italian
Japanese
Literature
Modern History
Music – Western Art
Philosophy
Physical Education Studies
Politics and Law
Visual Art

List 2

Accountancy and Finance
Biological Sciences
Chemistry
Computer Science
Human Biological Sciences
Mathematics Applications
Mathematics Methods
Mathematics Specialist
Physics
Psychology

Languages

Chinese Background
Chinese Heritage
French
Italian
Japanese

MIDDLE YEARS ELECTIVES

Aquatic Recreation
Design and Technology
Digital Technology – Multi Media
Digital Technology – Computer Science
Drama
Food Technology
International Foods
Jewellery
Music – Class or extension
Photography
Physical Recreation
Practical Engineering
Sports Challenge
Specialised Sport – Netball/
Soccer
Visual Art
Woodwork

WORKING WITH...

Australian Girls' Choir
Aaralyn Children's Choir
Curtin University
Graduate College of Ballet
Institute of Child Health Research
Japan – Akishima City
Dr Norm Hoffman
The West Australian Mathematics Problem Solving Program
Liceo Scientifico Guglielmo Marconi School – Parma, Italy
The University of Western Australia

Special Programs

Euler Enrichment Series
Gauss Enrichment Series
IGGY membership
Noether Enrichment Series
Polya Enrichment Series
Thinking Science Australia
Skills Week
Keys for Life – Driver Education
Employment Advantage

Options which may be run by the school and may vary from year to year.

SCHOOL VALUES

Members of the school community share, model and promote the following core values:

RESPECT YOURSELF

This can be demonstrated by:

- Reaching for personal best
- Setting high ethical standards
- Engaging in the love of learning
- Self-acceptance
- Self-responsibility
- Making the most of opportunities
- Celebrating success

RESPECT OTHERS

This can be demonstrated by:

- Care of others
- Valuing individuality and diversity
- Displaying manners
- Celebrating the success of others
- Community mindedness
- Social and civic responsibility
- Being a global citizen

RESPECT THE SPACE

This can be demonstrated by:

- Care of the environment
- Care of the facilities
- Sustainable practices
- Conservation
- Conduct appropriate to the environment



PERTH MODERN SCHOOL

Exceptional schooling. Exceptional students.

INDEPENDENT PUBLIC SCHOOL

90 Roberts Road, Subiaco, WA 6008

Tel: +61 8 9380 0555

Fax: +61 8 9380 0550

www.perthmodernschool.wa.edu.au