

WILDERNESS SCHOOL



WILDERNESS  
SCHOOL

ALWAYS *True*

YEAR 9-12  
PATHWAYS BOOKLET  
2025

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# Pathways at Wilderness

At Wilderness School we aim to prepare students for successful participation in a complex and globalised world. To ensure each student learns a breadth of skills, knowledge and capabilities, course choices are minimal in Years 7 and 8. As students enter Years 9 and 10, their choices increase and course offerings become more diverse, allowing students to start making important decisions about their unique learning pathway. A wide range of SACE offerings in Years 11 and 12, ensures students can choose a mix of courses that suit their interests, strengths and passions.

## The SACE Certificate

At Wilderness School, we offer the South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE) for our senior secondary students. A comprehensive, balanced and contemporary curriculum, with a broad range of courses, the SACE facilitates the development of our girls' individual talents. It challenges our students with appropriate academic rigour and the option to specialise in areas of interest, while providing flexibility and responsiveness to individual interest and expertise. Designed to prepare students for life beyond school, the internationally recognised certificate places an emphasis on students becoming independent life-long learners, as well as critical and compassionate thinkers.

## Our Course Offerings

We respect that many students do not know exactly what they want to do when they leave school, which is why our course offerings are responsive to student needs and the demands of our fast-paced, global society. We believe it is essential that in every girl's course of study she is provided with choice and the opportunity to be challenged. This includes certified Vocational Education Training and Higher Education courses.

## Course Selection

Selecting courses is an exciting but sometimes daunting task. When students and their families are making these important decisions, we encourage careful consideration of the following:

- Any relevant 'prerequisites' or 'assumed knowledge' (see below for further information)
- Personal strengths
- Courses that students have enjoyed at school so far
- Passions or areas of considerable interest and enjoyment.

# Prerequisites, Assumed Knowledge & Course Eligibility.

## Tertiary Prerequisites

Tertiary prerequisites are courses that must be completed at Stage 2 level for certain university courses. Many higher education courses, especially in STEM fields like Engineering, Mathematics, Computer Science, Dentistry, and Medicine, have prerequisites. Check Tertiary Admission Centre and university websites for specific course requirements. Some tips:

- STEM Courses: Student must study specific courses and achieve at least a C- at Stage 2
- Medicine or Dentistry: Students are encouraged to choose Chemistry and Maths Methods, especially if studying interstate
- English is required for many interstate university applications
- Check the prerequisites closely for your desired courses.

## Assumed Knowledge

Some university courses assume students have certain knowledge from school. This isn't always essential but is recommended. Check the university websites for details.

## Wilderness Course Prerequisites

To take certain courses at Wilderness, students must successfully complete related courses in previous years. Please check the course pathways flowchart. These courses include:

- French and Chinese Continuers
- Maths Methods
- Specialist Maths
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Visual Art
- Music

## Useful Resources

- The Wilderness pathways website has a wide range of information for students and parents to support career planning and should be their first resource for post-schooling options
- The SATAC Guide is released annually online outlining application processes, key dates for different South Australian applications and course descriptions.

# SACE Certification, ATAR & Aggregate Calculations

## SACE Certification

To complete the SACE qualification, students need to attain 200 credits from a selection of Stage 1 and Stage 2 courses. A 10-credit course usually represents one semester of study, while a 20-credit course typically spans two semesters. Students must achieve a minimum C- to receive the SACE credits. Requirements are as follows:

### Compulsory Courses (50 credits)

- Stage 1 Exploring Identities and Futures (EIF) (10 credits)
- Stage 1 Literacy (English) Requirement (20 credits)
- Stage 1 Numeracy (Maths) Requirement (10 credits)
- Stage 2 Activating Identities & Futures (10 credits)

### Student Selected Courses (150 credits)

- 90 Credits: Choose and successfully complete a selection of Stage 1 and Stage 2 courses, recognised VET courses, or community learning
- 60 Credits: Choose and successfully complete a selection of Stage 2 or VET courses worth at least 60 credits in total. Stage 2 courses are externally assessed by the SACE Board.

## ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admission Rank)

The ATAR is a percentile ranking that shows how a student's performance compares to other Year 12 students in Australia. The ATAR is derived from the student's 'aggregate' score which is reported on a range of 0 - 90.0, based on the student's best 90 credits (typically 4.5 courses) in Stage 2 (or equivalent) courses. For example, an aggregate of 85/90 might result in an ATAR of 98, placing the student in the top 2%. This ranking varies each year based on the national cohort.

## Vocational Education & Training (VET)

VET can go towards the SACE (points vary by course, but the average Certificate 3 is approximately 60 credits). A Certificate 3 can also go towards the ATAR by being included in the student's aggregate score; as the average of their best 3.5 courses.

\* Please note there is an additional cost to complete a Certificate 3.

## Higher Education Courses

Higher education courses, such as 'Head Start' or 'Extension Studies' can also be studied whilst in Year 11 and 12. Such University courses are usually 10-credits for a one semester course or 20-credits for two semesters. It must be noted that a student may only use 20 credits of either a Certificate 3 or a university course towards their ATAR.

→ \* Wilderness Prerequisite  
Compulsory

## Course Pathways

### YEAR 9

ARTEMIS\*

CREATIVE PRODUCT DESIGN

VISUAL ART

SUBS IN SCHOOLS

MEDIA STUDIES

CHINESE

DIGITAL FUTURES

SPACE AND ROBOTICS

DRAMA

ENGLISH\*

FRENCH

GEOGRAPHY

HISTORY\*

MATHEMATICS\*

MUSIC

PHILOSOPHY

PHYSICAL EDUCATION\*

SCIENCE\*

### YEAR 10

EXPLORING IDENTITIES & FUTURES\*

ARTEMIS\*

VISUAL ART

BUSINESS INNOVATION (STAGE 1)

CERTIFICATE III - SCREEN & MEDIA

CERTIFICATE III - SPORTS COACHING

CHINESE

DTE - DIGITAL FUTURES (STAGE 1)

DTE - INDUSTRY & ENTREPRENEURIAL SOLUTIONS (STAGE 1)

DRAMA

ENGLISH\*

FRENCH

FUTURES AND FORESIGHT

GEOGRAPHY

HISTORY AND POLITICS\*

MATHEMATICS A

MATHEMATICS\*

MUSIC (STAGE 1)

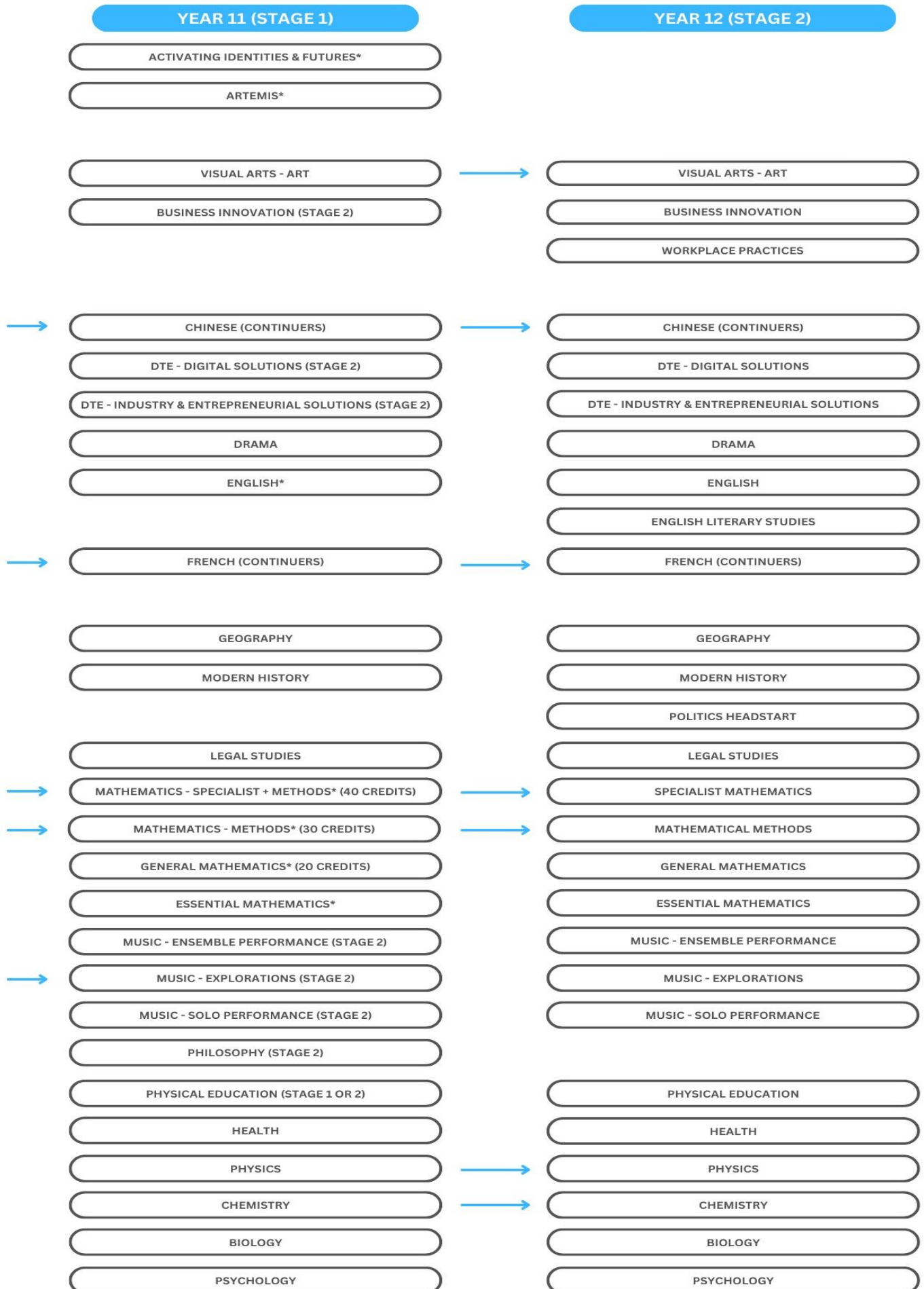
PHILOSOPHY (STAGE 1)

PHYSICAL EDUCATION (RECREATIONAL)

SCIENCE\*

→ Wilderness Prerequisite  
\* Compulsory

## Course Pathways





# Course Selection

## Year 9

At Year 9, students begin to choose courses in a range of faculty areas. Whilst several core courses are compulsory, students are given the opportunity to individualise their learning pathway through a range of unique courses. One unit is equal to one semester of a course, i.e. one semester of Geography. Whereas a full year (two semesters) would be two units.

Compulsory Courses	
All Wilderness students study the following courses in Year 9:	
English (Full Year)	Compulsory
Artemis (Full Year)	Compulsory
Physical Education (Full Year)	Compulsory
Science (Full Year)	Compulsory
Mathematics (Full Year)	Compulsory
History (1 Semester only)	Compulsory

Elective Course Choices			
Students choose a total of 7 units from below with at least one course being from Technology and Enterprise (light blue) and at least one course from The Arts (dark blue):			
	Can only be chosen as 2 units	May be chosen for 1 or 2 units	Can only be chosen as 1 unit
1	L & L	Music	Creative Product Design
2	Chinese #	Drama	Visual Art
3	French #		Geography
4	Subs in School		Philosophy
5			Digital Futures
6			Media Studies
7			Space & Robotics

# Prerequisite: Students must successfully complete this course in the previous year.



## Year 10

In Year 10, students must choose 6 units. One unit is equal to one semester of a course, i.e. one semester of Geography, whereas a full year (two semesters) would be two units. Courses fall into three categories:

- 2 Units Only: If chosen, these courses must be studied for the full year
- 1 or 2 Units: These courses can be chosen for a semester or full year
- 1 Unit: These courses may only be studied for one semester.

<b>Compulsory Courses</b>	
All Wilderness students study the following Year 10 courses:	
English (Full Year)	Compulsory
Exploring Identities and Futures (EIF) / Artemis (Full Year)	Compulsory
Physical Education (Full Year)	Compulsory
Science (Full Year)	Compulsory
Mathematics (Full Year)	Compulsory
History & Politics (Full Year)	Compulsory

<b>Elective Course Choices</b>			
Students choose a total of 6 units from below:			
	<b>Can only be chosen as 2 units</b>	<b>May be chosen for 1 or 2 units</b>	<b>Can only be chosen as 1 unit</b>
1	Certificate 3 in Screen & Media	Music (Stage 1)	Business Innovation (Stage 1)
2	Certificate 3 in Sports Coaching	Drama	Futures & Foresight
3	French #	Geography	Philosophy (Stage 1)
4	Chinese #	Visual Art	Mathematics A
5			DTE – Digital Futures (Stage 1)
6			DTE – Industry & Entrepreneurial Solution (Stage 1)

# Prerequisite: Students must successfully complete this course in the previous year.



[Year 11 Course Info](#)

## Year 11

At Year 11, student choice is dependent on the Maths course they choose to study. All students study a full year of English, as well as semesters of AIF and Artemis. Students are required to choose between Essential Maths, Maths General, Maths Methods and Maths Specialist. Based on their Maths choice, students will have between 4 and 6 units remaining. One unit is equal to one semester of a course, i.e. one semester of Geography, whereas a full year (two semesters) would be two units.

<b>Compulsory Courses</b>	
All Wilderness students study the following Year 11 courses:	
English (2 Units)	Compulsory
Activating Identities and Futures (AIF) / Artemis (Full Year)	Compulsory
Maths: Essential Maths or Maths General or Maths Methods (3 units) or Maths Methods/Maths Specialist (4 Units)	Compulsory

<b>Elective Course Choices</b>			
Students choose the numbers of remaining units based on their Maths choice:			
1	2 Units: Maths General/ Essential Maths	3 Unit: Maths Methods #	4 Unit: Maths Methods and Maths Specialist #
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			

# Prerequisite: Students must successfully complete 'Maths A' in Year 10.

## Year 12

Wilderness students generally study 3 to 5 Stage 2 courses in Year 12. Students should consider their personal requirements in regard to SACE, ATAR and any prerequisite requirements for their potential post-school pathway options.



[Year 12 Course Info](#)

## University Prerequisite Overview

SA University	Course	Pre-Requisites
<b>Flinders University</b>	<u>Computer Science</u>	General Maths
	<u>Engineering</u>	Maths Methods and/or Specialist Maths and/or Physics (depending on Engineering discipline)
	<u>Medicine</u>	UCAT
<b>Uni SA</b>	<u>Data Analytics</u>	Maths Methods
	<u>Engineering</u>	Maths Methods, Physics (depending on Engineering discipline)
	<u>Pharmacy</u>	1 of: Stage 2 Biology, Chemistry or Physics
<b>University of Adelaide</b>	<u>Computer Science</u>	Mathematical Methods
	<u>Dentistry</u>	2 of: Stage 2 Chemistry, Maths Methods, Specialist Maths, Physics AND 1 of: Stage 2 Biology, Chemistry, Physics or Earth and Environmental Science
	<u>Engineering Pathway</u>	Maths Methods
	<u>Medicine</u>	1 of: Stage 2 Chemistry, Biology or Maths Methods
	<u>Veterinary Bioscience</u>	1 of: Stage 2 Maths Methods, Chemistry or Biology

Interstate Course	University	Pre-Requisites
<b>Commerce</b>	<u>Melbourne University</u>	English, Maths Methods (B-) or Specialist Maths
	<u>Monash University</u>	English, Maths Methods (B-) or Specialist Maths
<b>Dentistry</b>	<u>Curtin University</u>	Chemistry (and optional/desirable but not necessary: Math Methods and/or Math Specialist)
	<u>James Cook University</u>	English, Maths Methods and Chemistry
	<u>La Trobe University</u>	English, (and desirable but not necessary: Chemistry or Biology)
	<u>UQ</u>	English and Chemistry (Biology Recommended)
	<u>Bond University</u>	English
<b>Medicine</b>	<u>Curtin University</u>	Chemistry (and optional/desirable but not necessary: Math Methods and/or Math Specialist)
	<u>James Cook University</u>	Maths Methods, Chemistry and English
	<u>Monash University</u>	English and Chemistry
	<u>University of Central Queensland</u>	English, Maths Methods and 1 of: Biology, Chemistry or Physics
	<u>UTAS</u>	Chemistry and English (not EAL)
<b>Variety of Courses</b>	<u>ADFA</u>	Research Project/Language rich course instead of English
	<u>Monash University</u>	English
	<u>Sydney University</u>	Maths Methods B- or above

*Disclaimer: All information provided is for reference only and may be subject to change. Students and families are strongly encouraged to do their own research.*

## Key Staff

Staff Member	Role
Brad Snell	Deputy Principal –Learning and Teaching
Ben Manifold	Deputy Principal- Student Experience
Dr Rhiannon Giles	Head of Middle School
Kate Hanson	Head of Senior School
Matthew Hawkins	SACE Coordinator
Caroline Palmer	Careers Counsellor
Mathew D'Aloisio	Acting Head of English
Sarah Wheeler	Acting Head of Science
Dawn Davies	Head of Mathematics
Cathy Went	Head of Humanities
Travis Henderson	Head of Physical Education
Anna Lenartowicz	Head of Music
Jessica Foster	Head of Drama
Brooke Porter	Head of Art
Liam Sloan	Head of Technology and Enterprise
Brad Waller	Head of Languages
Liana Rossi	Acting Head of Artemis

