Electives
**Agriculture**

Through practical work and research students will be given an introduction to Agriculture. Students will investigate the following:

- **Animal Production**: which may include -
  - Chicken production
  - honey bees
  - sheep
  - yabby farming (aquaculture)

- **Plant Production**: which may include
  - hydroponics
  - growing plants organically
  - vegetable production
  - pasture production
  - Fruit

**The value of trees on farms**  
(sustainable agriculture)
- Produce may be taken home by students
- Discover the satisfaction of growing your own fruit, vegetables and native plants
- Gain practical experience in animal care and welfare

*No contribution fee*

**Computing Technology**

Students will be taught by specialized staff to effectively utilise the Duval High School Computer Network, Intranet and Internet. The content of the course covers advanced multimedia and applications so that students will be prepared at a higher than normal level for any digital work they cover in years 9-12. Applications include:

- Office Suite
- Multimedia (flash, video editing, audio editing, advanced graphic)
- Digital media
- 3D modeling and creation
- Presentation software
- Graphics software
- Web page construction

*No contribution fee.*

**Dance**

Through practical work, students will be given an introduction to the components of dance. They will have fun making up dances – composing, and possibly performing their dances at events such as the Duval High School Arts Evening, Duval Dance End of Year Concert and numerous community events. Through performing in many styles of dance, students will explore, understand and appreciate the elements of dance.
This course covers:
- Performance
- Composition
- Appreciation

No contribution fee.

**Dollars and Sense (Introduction to Commerce)**

Learn how not to be ripped off? How to get the most from your hard earned dollars? Would you like to learn about the law? This course covers key aspects of:
- Consumer rights
- Money and credit
- Avoiding debt
- Share trading
- Wheeling and dealing in property including using simulation software
- Criminal law
- Crime and arrest
- Some of Australia's most famous legal cases.

It is recommended that all students try to complete this course as part of their elective choice, as it covers many skills essential to everyday life.

No contribution fee

**Drama and Theatrecraft**

- Ever wanted to be someone else?
- Drama unlocks the door
- Through a series of seriously fun drama exercises you will learn to improvise (invent on your feet!)
- Through a lot of trust and respect you will enjoy working with others in developing scripts and scenes taking you to many other times, places and experiences!

No contribution fee

**Elective Art**

- You don’t have to be a ‘good’ drawer
- This exciting course is about unlocking your creative mind!
- You will work with digital cameras, clay, plastic, wood, paint, printing materials and pencils
- Your artistic works will say a lot about you, the people around you and where you belong!

Contribution fee $10
Elective History

Elective History is an exciting new course which is very different from the mandatory History course.

In Year 8 Elective History students may study at least one area from each of the following topics:

**Topic 1**
Constructing History. This will involve the study of biography; film as History; Historical fiction; Local History; Museum or archive studies; a History website.

**Topic 2**
Ancient, Medieval and Early Modern Studies. This will involve: archaeology of the Ancient World; The Americas; an Asian Study; Literature of the Ancient World; Africa; Medieval Europe etc.

**Topic 3**
Thematic Studies. This will involve Children in History; Sport and Recreation in History; Heroes and Villains; Myths and Legends; Terrorism; Slavery; Crime and Punishment; Music through History etc.

At the conclusion of the course, students will be expected to submit a project based on their own historical investigations.

*No contribution fee.*

Food and Fashion

This option allows students to gain practical experience in food preparation and textile item construction.

Students will spend ONE SEMESTER in the kitchen where they will prepare a range of snacks, main meals and desserts. The second semester will give students the opportunity to construct simple items of clothing or accessories for themselves and experiment with creative fabric decoration techniques. It is mostly practically based.

A contribution of $50 is required to cover the cost of food ingredients. Students will also be required to provide their own fabrics, threads, pins, bobbins etc for their textiles practical work.

*Contribution fee $50.*

German

Continue on with German in Yr 8! In fact, you can start German as a beginner in Year 8. We will be planning a restaurant in a German-speaking location and creating a guidebook for exchange students. Festivals will be celebrated with fun craft activities as well as cooking and eating delicious German specialties. We will enjoy another mid-year gala day at Thalgarrah for an intense day of fun and language games. Excellent films will be viewed and studied to give an insight into the culture of German-speaking countries.
For the scientists among you, did you know that German is the second most commonly used scientific language? Germany is a world leader in science and engineering (particularly environmental engineering). The German government offers many tertiary scholarships to Australian students and Australia has strong trade relations with Germany.

Over the years there have been students from Duval who have enjoyed full-year exchanges in Germany or shorter exchanges experiencing a white Christmas.

You have already discovered that those long German words are just lots of short words stuck together - like Gummibärchen (little gummy bear), and the pronunciation is easy when you know a few simple rules. Learning German adds to your understanding of the structure of English. Join us in a small class to learn the language of Einstein....and the Gummibärchen!

No contribution fee.

**Health, Wealth and Amazing ME**

This course is all about YOU.
Think confidence; fashion; food and health; hair and makeup; interview readiness; investigating powerful youth movements around the world.

Health, Wealth and Amazing ME is a life-skills enrichment program that will develop the self-esteem and self-worth of young people by changing their outlook on life, strengthening their physical and emotional health, and helping them become more intrinsically empowered.

This enrichment program covers opportunities for personal deportment and confidence, health, nutrition and developing skills in job readiness.

The program provides support in deepening their-self worth, achieving their goals, dealing with young adult challenges, and stepping into their destiny for their lives.

Students will gain an increase four areas.
- Self-efficacy (belief in one’s personal power to produce an effect)
- Authentic relationships
- Social Change skills (critical thinking, problem solving, resource development, and networking)
- The ability and confidence to express and implement their ideas

Contribution $40

**Music**

This fun course is for anyone who loves to play music, listen to music, and create music. You don’t have to be ‘good’ on an instrument, just willing to have a go and get involved. You will get a chance to work with microphones, keyboards, guitars, computers, drums and make an original CD with your own band or ensemble. Year 7 music is all the prior experience you need to get involved in this class.

*Contribution fee $10*
**Sport for Life**

Sport 4 Life is an exciting course where students actively participate in a range of recreational, leisure and sports options to enhance positive physical habits and a commitment to lifelong health.

They will develop skills in Lifesaving and Resuscitation, learn about injury assessment and management, explore a range of movement skills through gymnastics/aerobics, appreciate the enjoyment and challenge of physical activity through recreational pursuits and learn about the meaning of the Olympics, where challenges, goals and decisions are made by athletes striving for the Olympic spirit.

**Term 1**  
Lifesaving/Resuscitation/Aquatics

**Term 2**  
Extreme Sports  
The Olympic Games

**Term 3**  
Movement Machine  
- Gymnastics, dance, aerobics

**Term 4**  
Lifelong Recreational Pursuits  
- Fitness vs physical activity  
- Exploring new physical opportunities (elective sports)  
- Developing a plan for lifelong health  
- Fitness training

*No contribution fee.*

**Travelling Out and About (Elective Geography)**

This course has two strands:

- This is a practical based strand that endeavours to apply key environmental concepts learnt in the classroom to the real world by using both a virtual and real fieldwork based approach. This course will therefore involve excursions to the local area and the use of simulation software. Topics covered may include local issues such as water quality, weed study, recycling, wood smoke, retail developments, residential developments. These issues will be used to develop a local environmental web site.

- Travelling the world in the classroom. This strand involves the study of people and places throughout the world. You will investigate people, places and issues from around the globe. In your travels you will experience food, clothing, sport, entertainment, customs, beliefs, school, work, and architecture.

*No contribution fee.*

**Workshop Wonders**

Discover the satisfaction of making products through developing skills with Material, Tools and Machines and improve your self confidence with your successes. Make a range of useful projects designed for you to be fun as well as educational and gain an appreciation for the type of work undertaken in Industrial Technology subjects in Years 9 and 10.

*Contribution $35.*