

Electives (1 of 2)

Middle School students can select from several options on a semesterly basis for two periods a week. Some electives such as Native Language require a commitment for the whole year. The elective period is designed to give students an opportunity to make choices and pursue special interests. Elective choices for Middle School may vary depending on the interests of students and the expertise of available teachers.

Students are issued a selection form, which requires a parent's signature and needs to be submitted by a published deadline. Students who miss the deadline will be assigned an elective by the school based on available places. Students are required to choose three electives in order of preference and most students get their top choice, however some electives are oversubscribed. In the rare event that a student does not get any of their three choices they will be informed and asked to choose again. If this occurs in semester 1 that student will be given their top choice in semester 2, however this cannot be carried past semester 2 into a new year. Students are asked to choose different options in semester 1 and 2 unless the course runs for a year.

Previous years elective choices have included:

Art

This course will give students the opportunity to work in 2 and 3 dimensions and develop skills using a variety of materials and techniques. Students will cover a range of themes, and be given the opportunity to develop their own lines of enquiry. This course aims to encourage a lively and inquiring attitude towards both art and design.

Book Club

Book Club is an elective for students who enjoy reading. Students will choose novels to discuss and analyse within a group dynamic. In addition, students will also be given individual reading time within the elective period.

Community and Service

This elective provides students with additional opportunities for community service. Students will be involved in projects and initiatives in all aspects of the school community.

Concert Band

This class is open to all instrumentalists of intermediate and advanced levels. It is a participatory class for musicians to increase skills. Students will have the opportunity to play together in small groups and will work toward performances for music department concerts, assemblies and graduation ceremonies. Members of this group are required to be enrolled in weekly private lessons outside of the school day.

Choir

Open to all students with a desire to sing, this course gives students an opportunity to take part in a vocal performing group outside of their regular music class. Students learn a wide variety of songs sung in unison and harmony. The choir will work toward performances for music department concert and assemblies.

Creative Writing

Classes will incorporate creative writing exercises and workshops, practical applications of revision, editing and proofreading, and desktop publishing to produce a professional looking finished product.

Debate

This elective will give students the opportunity to develop the skills of articulating opinions based upon research and of public speaking.

Electives (2 of 2)

Drama

This elective is open to all students who are interested in developing their creative and dramatic skills. Please note that in the second semester students in all electives in Middle School/High School may audition for the annual spring production, which is not part of the Drama Elective. If they are successful the student will withdraw from their chosen elective for a number of weeks during semester 2.

EAL

This is an opportunity for students with English as their second or additional language to work on language skills and study techniques. This elective is organised on an individual basis by the EAL teacher.

Global Issues

This elective helps students look in more detail at the pressures faced by our planet, environmentally, politically and socially. Students will learn the causes and consequences of these pressures and examine ways that we can make a difference now and in the future.

Maths Challenge

This course will approach mathematical concepts in a unique and challenging way. It will be represented as problems, for which the students themselves will develop methods of solution, and open-minded investigation, which will allow students to develop their own lines of research. It will deal largely with topics not normally on the curriculum, but will involve the applications of familiar ideas. In this way the familiar ideas will be seen in new contexts, in greater and wider depth.

Native Language Elective (all year commitment)

This is organised on an individual basis by our Native Language Coordinator. Please contact the Native Language Coordinator directly if you wish to discuss native language options.