



At Merrimac you will do 6 subjects. We ask that you read this carefully so you have an idea of the subjects you would like to do at Merrimac SHS. The subject selection form should be given to the ISC when you start school. You will have an interview with the Deputy Principal to finalise your timetable during the first week.

Compulsory Subjects are English and Math.

English	<p>A literature based subject which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ examining a wide range of texts which encompass different representations and show attitudes, values and beliefs of cultures ➤ identifying discourses (language used to identify individual's social and cultural practices) ➤ transforming written text to spoken – imaginative (dramatic creations) and persuasive, exposition/reflection – group/individual ➤ considering how texts position a 'reader' through character, setting, culture, language etc
English Communication	<p>A more practical course which focuses on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Real Life Scenarios are used during the 3 aspects ➤ working in groups and teams ➤ prepare and write documents using appropriate formats ➤ using appropriate technology ➤ reading, viewing news media ➤ addressing community problems ➤ inviting/listening guest speaking ➤ reading fiction/non-fiction ➤ visiting cinema/theatre ➤ viewing popular culture
English for ESL Learners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ This course is designed for students for whom English is predominantly their second language ➤ It has been approved as an entry level for University ➤ Focus is on reading a variety of text, researching global issues, analysing the news
Prevocational Maths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The easiest Maths choice and designed for those who do not intend going on to university. ➤ Not recommended for International Students unless you are weak at Maths in your home country.
Maths A	<p>The Math subject that most students choose.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The course involves real life applications
Maths B	<p>This is advanced Math and includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Understanding and graphing functions (Linear, Quadratic, Trigonometric) ➤ Using Graphics Calculators and other software to find Statistical measures ➤ Understanding Calculus ➤ Finding Optimum values when solving – when there is more than one answer.
Maths C	<p>This is not recommended as it is very advanced and designed for those continuing on to university to study math. The course includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Understanding new number systems (Complex Number) ➤ Solving simultaneous equations using Matrices ➤ Learning about Navigation and Pathways using Vector Theory ➤ Discovering the mathematics found in structures and patterns ➤ Using further Calculus methods

There are two subjects that we strongly recommend – usually 95-100% of the international students do both of these subjects and they are very popular.

International Sport	This subject is specially designed for international students and has a long unit on learning to surf and enjoy the beach. Students who do this subject have the chance to go on a 3 day Surf Camp to Byron Bay.
Australian Studies	This subject gives you an overview of Australian history, geography and culture through practical activities. In this course we visit tourist attractions such as Dreamworld, Seaworld, the state capital Brisbane, Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary and the Australian Outback Show and cook Australian food and learn about national events.

Science Subjects Offered are:

Chemistry	➤ Studies in Atomic structure, behaviour of gases, chemical bonding, electro-chemistry
Physics	➤ Gravity, electricity, magnetism, particle physics
Biology	➤ Cell biology, human and plant physiology and genetics
Science in Practice	➤ This subject outline Forensic Science, Psychology, Myth busting and Modern Medicine

Other subjects popular with International Students are:

Recreation Studies	Topics including – surf lifesaving, first aid and safety and resistance training. Student will participate in a wide range of sporting and recreational activities.
Marine and Aquatic Pursuits	This subject allows students to develop practical skills and gain knowledge and understanding of the many aspects associated with boating and the marine environment. Students will cover such topics as; Power Boating and Licence, Marine Communications, Navigation, Outboard Engine Maintenance, Tides and Weather, Marine Environmental Issues, Sailing and Snorkelling. Students have the opportunity to visit Heron Island Reef.
Tourism	This subject gives you the chance to find out a lot about Australia and the local attractions. Topics include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Introduction To The Tourism Industry ➤ Working in the Tourism Industry ➤ The local area and South East Queensland ➤ Australian and International Destinations ➤ Conventions and Special Events ➤ Marketing
Dance Studies	Students will be engaged in learning activities including the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Participate in workshops with professional artists ➤ Perform for live audiences ➤ Choreograph for performances ➤ Critically reflect on their own and others' choreography ➤ Participate in focused technique classes <u>This is only suitable for those with extensive dance training and there is a significant theory and written component.</u>
Junior Dance	This is designed for those students who have a general interest in Dance. Assignments are minimal with more practical activities.
Visual Art Studies	Students will be engaged in learning activities including the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Development of skills in drawing, painting, sculpture, printmaking, photography and digital media ➤ Study of legal issues, galleries, commission, marketing and web page development ➤ Employment options through excursions, workshops and work experience ➤ Portfolio presentation

Fashion	<p>This course includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Advanced sewing skills and garment repair and maintenance➤ Pattern making➤ Textile studies (fabric performance)➤ Figure types and styling to suit figures➤ Colour and design application➤ Workplace policies & procedures➤ Modelling and Styling➤ Principles of design➤ Fashion and marketing➤ Brand names and logos➤ Sketching and designing➤ Contemporary Fashion Designs & Designers
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