TELOPEA PARK SCHOOL
LYCÉE FRANCO-AUSTRALIEN

ACT Government Education

Course Outline Year 8 Semester 2 2026

Science

Course Description and Aims

With inquiry at the core, the MYP sciences framework aims to guide students to independently and collaboratively investigate issues through research, observation and experimentation. The MYP sciences curriculum explores the connections between science and everyday life. As they investigate real examples of science applications, students discover the tensions and dependencies between science and morality, ethics, culture, economics, politics, and the environment. Scientific inquiry fosters critical and creative thinking about research and design, as well as the identification of assumptions and alternative explanations. Students learn to appreciate and respect the ideas of others, gain good ethical-reasoning skills and further develop their sense of responsibility as members of local and global communities.

MYP Assessment Criteria

Criterion A: Knowing and understanding

Students develop scientific knowledge (facts, ideas, concepts, processes, laws, principles, models and theories) and apply it to solve problems and express scientifically supported judgments.

Criterion B: Inquiring and designing

Students develop intellectual and practical skills through designing, analysing and performing scientific investigations.

Criterion C: Processing and evaluating

Students collect, process and interpret qualitative and/or quantitative data, and explain conclusions that have been appropriately reached.

Criterion D: Reflecting on the impacts of science

Students evaluate the implications of scientific developments and their applications to a specific problem or issue. Varied scientific language is applied to demonstrate understanding. Students should become aware of the importance of documenting the work of others when communicating in science.

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Middle Years Programme

Course Outline

In Semester Two, Year 8 students apply an understanding of the theory of plate tectonics to explain patterns of change in the geosphere, and explain how the properties of rocks relate to their formation and influence their use. They classify and represent different types of matter and distinguish between physical and chemical change. In Term Three, students study the topic Rocking Earth. They investigate tectonic activity, including the formation of geological features at divergent, convergent, and transform plate boundaries, and describe the scientific evidence for the theory of plate tectonics. They describe the key processes of the rock cycle, including the timescales over which they occur, and examine how the properties of sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic rocks reflect their formation and influence their use. In Term Four, students study the topic What's the Matter. They classify matter as elements, compounds or mixtures and compare different representations of these, including 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional models, symbols for elements and formulas for molecules and compounds. They compare physical and chemical changes and identify indicators of energy change in chemical reactions.

Assessment Tasks

Assessment Task	**Due***
Earthquake Triangulation Analysis	Week 3
Natural Disaster Management Essay	Week 5
Rocking Earth Test	Week 9
Physical & Chemical Changes Practical Report	Week 16
Chemistry Test	Week 17

**Due date subject to change at classroom teacher discretion.*

Approaches to Learning

Communication skills, Self-Managements skills, Research skills, Thinking skills and Social skills.

Australian Curriculum Achievement Standard

The Achievement Standard for Year 8 Science is based on the Australian Curriculum v9 Science https://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/.