YEAR 8 & 9 ELECTIVES

Rationale
As students progress through school they need to be encouraged and supported to take greater responsibility for their own learning and participation as members of the whole school community. This involves developing as individual learners who increasingly manage their own learning and growth by setting goals and managing resources to achieve these goals. The purpose of electives at Years 8 & 9 is to allow students to explore curriculum areas additional to those prescribed as core. Participation in electives should enhance the student’s independence and support successful participation in school life.

Aim
To provide Year 8 & 9 students with the opportunity to explore and develop their skill sets and interests in the areas of The Arts, Physical Education and Health and Technology.

Implementation
• Flexibility in the elective selection process will be considered for all students, including those with special needs.
• The Principal will call for expressions of interest for elective programs from Domain Leaders for The Arts, Physical Education and Technology at the end of Term 2.
• The Leading Teacher (Curriculum) will ensure the Elective Handbook is updated and published in Term 3.
• Year 8 & 9 Home Group teachers will discuss elective opportunities with students in early in Term 3.
• The Leading Teacher will plan and coordinate, in consultation with Leadership and Domain Leaders, an elective information session for students and their parents to be held in Term 3.
• Students and their parents, with the support of Domain Leaders, will discuss and complete their elective selection for the following year following an information session to be held in Term 3.
• Students who do not attend the information session with their parents will be required to attend an information session to be held during the school day by either the Assistant Principal (Curriculum) or the Leading Teacher and have their form signed by a parent.
• The Timetabler, in consultation with Leadership, will develop the elective blocking to determine which electives will run in the following year. A minimum of 16 students will be required for an elective to be timetabled.
• Students and parents will be informed of successful elective choices in the first week of Term 4.
• The full deposit of $200 for Academies and the full payment of Optional Elective Subject charges must be paid by the advised due date to secure placement in these programs. In the event of non-payment students will remain in their chosen subject however they will not participate in the practical components of the course until full payment is received or arrangements for payment have been made with the school.
• Only those students who submitted their elective choices by the due date will be granted the opportunity to change electives on educational grounds.
• Students wishing to change **ANY ELECTIVE CHOICES FOR THE YEAR** will need to submit a formal letter outlining their educational reasons for change.

• Students will need to meet a strict timeline, submitting their request to the Principal no later than Friday of Week 2, Term 1.

• The Principal, in consultation with the Leading Teacher (Curriculum), timetabler and Year Level Student Manager, will determine whether the change of electives will proceed.

• In consultation with the timetabler, the Leading Teacher (Curriculum) will be responsible for reallocating a student into elective blocks to accommodate an elective change.

• The timetabler will generate a new student timetable and inform staff of changes to class lists (if required).

**Evaluation of Policy**
The policy will be reviewed annually by the Principal and Secondary Years Team.

This policy was ratified at School Council on 13/08/19.

*The Lakes South Morang College Child Safety Statement:*
*To thrive, children need a safe and supportive environment at school, at home and in the broader community; no exceptions. At The Lakes South Morang College, we believe meeting the physical and emotional needs of our students is paramount in laying the foundations for a fulfilling future. We pledge to provide an environment that has zero tolerance to child abuse and will strive to work in partnership with our parents and community members to keep our students safe every day, in every way.*