

Leeming Senior High School

Year 8 Directory - 2026



LEEMING SHS

H A R M O N Y ~ E X C E L L E N C E

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COURSE SELECTION IN YEAR 8

All schools in Western Australia base their curriculum on the Guiding Principles developed by the School Curriculum and Standards Authority (SCSA). The Guiding Principles comprise of:

1. Western Australian Values of Schooling
2. Principles of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment
3. Phases of Schooling

Student Diversity

Students in Year 8 will study compulsory courses in the following curriculum areas: English, Mathematics, Science, Humanities and Social Science, Health and Physical Education and Languages. In addition, students will be given the opportunity to select courses from the Arts and Technology and Enterprise.

Course Requirements

Listed below are the course requirements for Year 8 in 2026. The curriculum is designed to give students an opportunity to experience subjects across the eight learning areas.

Course Area	Hours per week
English	4
Mathematics	4
Science	4
Humanities and Social Sciences	4
Health and Physical Education	3
Languages	2
2 Elective Courses	
Technology and Enterprise and/or Arts	2
Arts	2
Total	25 hours per week

Note: It is not guaranteed that students will be able to study all of their selected elective courses due to resource and timetable constraints.

Students are given the opportunity to select elective courses to provide them with an introduction to learning area contexts in a high school setting. Parents and students should select elective courses in Year 8 that reflect interest, aptitude, and explore possible pathways for the future.

Please consider the following points in your subject selections for 2026:

- Students who are in the Music program must commit to a year-long course.
- Students who do not submit their course selection form will be placed in courses selected by the School Administration.
- Students are reminded to select carefully, as changes next year are not possible.

DETAILS OF COURSES OFFERED IN YEAR 8

THE ARTS

In the Arts learning area, the students are given the opportunity to develop creative skills, critical appreciation and knowledge of artistic techniques and technologies in Dance, Drama, Media, Music and Visual Arts.

Learning in all Arts courses is based upon the four common outcomes:

- Communicating Arts ideas.
- Using Arts skills, techniques, technologies, and processes.
- Responding, reflecting on, and evaluating the Arts.
- Understanding the role of the Arts in society.

It is recommended that, in order to have time to develop and achieve at a high level, you follow your chosen Art form through two courses in any two years. If you wish to specialise in the Arts, it is recommended that you select other complementary Art forms as your options.

In Year 8, it is a requirement that all students need to do both a Performing Arts (Dance, Drama, or Music) as well as a Visual Arts course (either Media or Visual Arts & Crafts)

DANCE (Semester Course)

What is Dance at Leeming Senior High School?

In Year 8, students are exposed to the many genres of dance such as jazz, contemporary, hip hop, and musical theatre. All students are given the opportunity to learn and develop genre-specific skills and collaborate with their peers to create dance works.

Is there a Dance Curriculum?

Like all other subjects, Dance has a theory element too. Students will learn the science behind movement, the muscles and the bones of the body, and how to maintain a fit and healthy lifestyle. Students will also explore the evolution of dance throughout history by watching, interpreting, and analysing dance movies and musicals. Students learn the dance terms that apply to different movements, which will be used throughout their dance education through to Year 12. They will then apply it practically to develop dance works in groups. There is a lot of fun and fitness in taking Dance!.

What are the benefits of choosing Dance at Leeming Senior High School?

- Teamwork, collaboration, and camaraderie.
- Fitness, fun, and coordination.
- Performance opportunities at dance festivals, competitions, and showcases.
- Excursions to state-of-the-art performance venues to see professional performances.
- Career prospects in the performance industry or future study at State Training Providers or WAAPA (Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts).

DRAMA

Fun, performance, and creativity are the heart of Drama at our school. Students have the opportunity to learn stagecraft, acting, and the discipline of performance. Apart from individual year performances, students have the opportunity to audition for the Whole School Production each year.

Why do Drama?

Drama students develop their self-confidence, creativity, and spontaneity through class work. Group work in practical lessons concentrates on the basic skills of movement, mime, and voice. Drama is one part of the Performance options that every Year 8 will do this year.

What are the benefits of choosing Drama?

- Developing confidence to perform.
- Teamwork and focus.
- Performance Opportunities within the school.
- Fun.
- Learning the skills of presentation.

MEDIA

Why do Media?

Excellent equipment, challenging projects, and the opportunity to make your own films are all part of the experience of Media at Leeming SHS. The program teaches students the skills of media and communications industry. Films are proudly showcased at Arts Performance nights. In Year 8, students are introduced to the conventions of filmmaking, camera work and editing. These skills lead onto further film units, which develop the students' experience in different media forms.

What are the benefits of choosing Media?

- Developing camera and editing skills.
- Teamwork focus.
- Producing your own films.
- Career prospects.

MUSIC (Year-Long Course Only)

Course Structure

- 2 Musicianship classes per week (Elective).
- Ensembles (as appropriate to their instrument).
- 1 individual Instrumental or Vocal lesson per week (IMSS).

Course Content

Musicianship: Kodály-based ear training and music theory.

Music Literature: Semester 1: Students learn about the instruments of the orchestra, score reading, and introductory music history.

Semester 2: Contemporary Guitar and Keyboard. The beginnings of Blues & Jazz.

What are the benefits of choosing Music?

- Developing your skill as a musician.
- The opportunity to play with ensembles and groups.
- Performance opportunities.
- Excellent tuition in instruments.

VISUAL ARTS & CRAFTS

Creativity comes in many forms. Visual Art and Craft offers a myriad of artistic activities for the creative student, from painting to mosaic, lino prints to clay sculptures. This course caters to both the serious artist and the student who wants to explore different mediums. The focus is on the development of original artworks using a wide variety of media, technique skills, processes, and styles. Our aim is to enable students to find their own means of expression in the Visual Arts.

What are the benefits of choosing Visual Arts?

- Creativity.
- Learning skills in different art forms.
- Achieving the completion of your own artwork.
- Enjoyment and fun.
- Development of yourself as an artist.

LANGUAGES (Year-Long Course Only)

The study of a Language is compulsory in Years 7 and 8 – students have the option to study either French or Japanese and will continue the same language for both years.

The Western Australian Languages Curriculum was introduced in 2022 and is designed to provide students with essential communication skills to enable them to become proficient in communicating in a language other than English. It builds on the skills, knowledge, and understanding developed in primary school, and students who have studied Japanese or French in primary school are encouraged to continue with the language into high school. Some students begin Year 7 with proficiency in languages other than French and Japanese, and are encouraged to select the language that is most representative of their previous experience in primary school. That is, those who have studied a European language would select French, whilst those with experience in Asian languages would select Japanese.

Through reflecting on their own use of language, students will also acquire an understanding of the role of language and culture in human communication. The mechanics of second language learning will contribute to general literacy capabilities and an appreciation of how our own language works.

Language learning broadens students' horizons to include the personal, social, and employment opportunities that an increasingly interconnected and interdependent world presents. The interdependence of countries means that people in all spheres of life have to be able to negotiate experiences and meanings across languages and cultures. It has also brought the realisation that, despite its status as a world language, a capability only in English is not sufficient, and a bilingual or plurilingual capability is the norm in most parts of the world.

At the end of Year 8, students will be in a position to make an informed choice as to whether or not they wish to pursue their language studies. The Languages Bonus is an incentive offered to students who study a language other than English in Senior school as an ATAR subject. Students who complete their language course and sit for their final examination will receive a 10% bonus on the final ATAR score.

TECHNOLOGY AND ENTERPRISE

These units are recommended to all students as they will develop useful life skills that can be applied in a variety of practical situations, including the home and workplace settings.

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES (Semester Course)

This course is designed to give the students the opportunity to develop an understanding and skills around information technology. This will help them to use the computer hardware and specific software efficiently and effectively in all their courses and for use beyond the classroom.

Specific skills the students will learn in this course include:

- Navigating the school network.
- Using various software and Web 2 tools (eg, Webpage Design, PowerPoint, Lego Digital Designer, Photo Story, etc.).
- Digital Storytelling and Design.
- Digital Footprints.
- Benefits of Digital Technologies.
- Creating Animations.
- Basic Programming/Coding with Robots
- Game Design.

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY (Semester Course)

This is an enjoyable hands-on practical subject teaching basic hand and machinery skills while making a range of projects from a variety of materials. Safety is an emphasis for all workshop tasks, as well as a familiarisation of the design process in the production of projects

This unit is an introduction to the use of various hand tools to fabricate simple projects using wood, metal, and plastics. Students will be introduced to power hand tools in addition to a familiarisation with the operation of larger machinery. Various finishing techniques, including varnishing and plastic coating, are incorporated as part of the construction process.

COMPUTER AIDED DRAWING (Semester Course)

This course provides students with an introduction to technical drawing using traditional instruments, AutoCAD, and 3D Design software. Students will be provided with specific design problems, which they will be directed through a process to devise a solution, represent the solution graphically, or print using a 3D printer.

Students will also have the opportunity to use a vinyl cutting plotter and 3D printer to produce work. Completion of the course will develop skills that can lead to careers in drafting, architecture, engineering, graphic, and product design

HOME ECONOMICS (Semester Course)

Home Economics is an enjoyable, practical subject area that provides students with many useful life skills. Using a technology focus, students are given the opportunity to work collaboratively and independently when investigating, designing, and producing solutions to given tasks. The subject fees cover the cost of all food and equipment requirements; however, students will need to supply containers each week to take their food home.

Home Economics is a fun, hands-on subject providing students with the opportunity to develop cooking skills when preparing a variety of food products. Healthy eating for healthy living is the focus in the foods area and learning to safely prepare simple healthy dishes suitable for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Students will prepare family favourites such as Spaghetti Bolognese, delicious Stir-Fries and will look at different ways of adding healthy fruit and vegetables into meals. The skills gained in this subject can be used at home and can be built on with further subjects chosen in later years.

Students will be given the opportunity to learn how to thread and use a sewing machine and then move on to designing and constructing their own personalised project.