

## Community and Family Studies

2 units for each of Preliminary and HSC  
 Board Developed Course  
 Exclusions: Nil

### Course Description:

Contemporary society is characterised by rapid social and technological change, cultural diversity, conflicting values and competitive pressures. Developing understanding about society and living in society requires a comprehensive knowledge of its complex nature. Consequently, Community and Family Studies is an interdisciplinary course drawing upon selected components of family studies, sociology, developmental psychology and students' general life experiences. This course focuses on skills in resource management that enable people to function effectively in their everyday lives, in families and communities.

Community and Family Studies explores life issues that are important to all young people and of equal relevance to female and male students. The topics investigated and the emphasis on research ensures a course that is attractive to many students, with the capacity to challenge and extend all students' ability levels.

### Main Topics Covered:

#### Preliminary Course

**Resource Management** Basic concepts of the resource management process (approximately 20% of course time).

**Individuals and Groups** The individual's roles, relationships and tasks within groups (approximately 40% of course time).

**Families and Communities** Family structures and functions and the interaction between family and community (approximately 40% of course time).

#### HSC Course

**Research Methodology** Research methodology and skills culminating in the production of an Independent Research Project (approximately 25% of course time).

**Groups in Context** The characteristics and needs of specific community groups (approximately 25% of course time).

**Parenting and Caring** Issues facing individuals and groups who adopt roles of parenting and caring in contemporary society (approximately 25% of course time). Students will experience parenting first hand using virtual parenting dolls.

**HSC Option Modules** Select one of the following (approximately 25% of course time):

**Family and Societal Interactions** Government and community structures that support and protect family members throughout their lifespan.

**Social Impact of Technology** The impact of evolving technologies on individuals and lifestyle.

**Individuals and Work** Contemporary issues confronting individuals as they manage roles within both their family and work environments.

### Particular Course Requirements:

Students are required to complete an Independent Research Project as part of the HSC internal assessment. The focus of the Independent Research Project should be related to the course content of one or more of the following areas: individuals, groups, families, communities, resource management.