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# FOCUS WEEKS

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## General Information about the Focus Weeks

During Focus Weeks, the regular timetable ceases and students rotate through eight week-long, specific learning units, hence the name “Focus Weeks.” During a Focus Week, students will concentrate all of their core learning time on the set area of focus, encouraging them to delve deeply into a specific challenge. Each program addresses Year 9 students’ needs by providing relevant learning experiences which help develop 21st century skills. They collaborate, they think creatively, they problem solve and they develop products for an authentic purpose and audience. While providing a unique learning experience, Focus Weeks also address the core outcomes of the regular program, supporting the everyday learning at Year 9.

### ASSESSMENT

All Focus Weeks are assessed except for the camp at Waratah Bay. Outdoor Education camps are assessed as part of the Learning Choices program. Assessment is a combination of the final product as well as ongoing skills, such as collaboration, I.C.T. and work habits.

### Active Kids

In Active Kids, students investigate skill development and design and run a tabloid sports program for a Junior School year level. In this Focus Week program, students are engaged in activities designed to deliver an understanding of the processes of learning and Motor Skill Acquisition.

### Camps

The Outdoor Education camps which make up the “Adventurous Journey” components of the Duke Of Edinburgh Award take place in two of the Focus Weeks. Additional time during the week is dedicated to camp preparation and skill building. Students who are not studying the Outdoor Education subject participate in an outdoor camping experience through a three day camp at Waratah Bay.

### Mighty Melbourne

Throughout the Mighty Melbourne program students develop independence and confidence as they explore Melbourne’s inner city. They use their mapping and negotiation skills; undertake research; collaborate with local organisations and work in a team to discover the city of Melbourne in depth. This program takes place over two of the Focus Weeks.

### Grand Designs

The Grand Designs Focus Week program is aligned with the core subject, Mathematics. Students work in small teams to design, construct and finance a house that meets their given client’s needs. Mathematical skill in scale, measurement and financial mathematics is developed as well as mathematical fluency as students apply these learnt skills to their overall project.

### Faith in Action

In Faith In Action, students undertake an in depth exploration of religious, ethical and social values. By doing this, students are able to understand, experience and demonstrate faith and religion in action in modern societies.