



Issoudun Learning Program

2026

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Introduction

Issoudun (year 9)

The year 9 program has a special name - Issoudun - in recognition of this pivotal year in our students' learning journey. Issoudun is the town in France where Father Jules Chevalier founded the Congregation of the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. The decision made by Father Chevalier nearly 150 years ago touches our lives today and provides an opportunity to continue to pursue excellence in the education we offer to our students. All Issoudun students study the regular Victorian curriculum in addition to two exciting learning programs and one residential experience which operate simultaneously in four-week blocks.

- *Je Suis* – meaning 'I am' – students engage in an independent and collaborative research project relating to their place in an evolving Melbourne.
- *Nous Sommes* – meaning 'we are' – provides imaginative and engaging opportunities to present the Victorian curriculum content through workshops, excursions, and immersion days.
- *Hartzer* – a residential program at the Hartzer Campus located in Burradoo, NSW.

Hartzer Residential Experience

The four-week Hartzer residential experience located in Burradoo, NSW, is an integral component of the Issoudun program and allows students to thrive in an environment distinct from the main campus, fostering academic and personal growth. Students celebrate their giftedness, grow in faith, embrace their learning, grow emotionally, develop independence, build positive relationships, venture beyond their comfort zones, develop confidence and teamwork, connect with our OLSH history, and continue to grow in belief that OLSH girls can do anything. Students not at Hartzer undertake the *Je Suis* and *Nous Sommes* programs.

Issoudun Course Requirements

All Issoudun students will undertake the following core subjects:

- Religious Education
- English
- Humanities
- Mathematics
- Science
- Health and PE

In addition to the core subjects, students undertake six elective subjects studied as semester units – three per semester. Students are required to complete a minimum of one Semester of languages unless they have been involved in the Literacy Support Program during years 7 and 8. Students have the option to study language for the whole year with a view to taking it on as a subject in year 10 and potentially into the VCE.

Students are encouraged to discuss electives with relevant teachers and their parents/guardians. Information about each elective is explained in this handbook. Electives can be chosen from the following subject disciplines:

- The Arts
- Languages
- Sport Science
- Technologies

Issoudun Chinese

Are you Interested in.....

Enhancing your global communication skills, boosting your university applications, and connecting with one of the world's oldest and richest cultures? Let's learn Chinese!

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

Hold basic conversations on a variety of topics; read and comprehend short passages; write coherent paragraphs in Chinese; and have a greater appreciation for Chinese culture. This course will prepare you for more advanced study in subsequent years.

Topics Studied

My house - Locations and rooms; Asking about locations

My clothes

Shopping

Nous Sommes program: Chinese Festivals and Food

My friend

Issoudun Dance: Choreography

Are you Interested in.....

Dance Performance and Choreographic Development?

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

Engage with the choreographic processes to create a Group Dance Work that is performed for a live audience; explore the connection between intention, music and choreography in a Composition Task; appreciate the work of a professional choreographer by reflecting on the influences of the intention, movement vocabulary and describe phrases of movement from the work.

Topics Studied

Group Dance Work

Dance Analysis

Composition Task

Issoudun Dance: Styles and Techniques

Are you Interested in.....

Dance Performance and Technique Development?

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

Explore the technical and expressive skills found in a variety of dance styles, through group and solo learnt dance work. The students select a dance style of their choice to research and analyse in reference to origin, costumes and movement vocabulary.

Topics Studied

Learnt Group Dance Work

Dance Style Assignment

Learnt Solo Dance Work

Issoudun Digital Technologies

Are you Interested in.....

Learning how to unleash the power of IT in solving real-world problems, designing and coding modular programs, and learning about future innovations and sustainability?

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

Decompose real-world problems to design, code, test, and evaluate innovative digital solutions using the Python programming language; Learn how artificial intelligence and robotics advances are evolving how we work and interact; Enhance design, coding, and problem-solving skills.

Topics Studied

Coding

Artificial Intelligence and Robotics

Issoudun Drama: Workshop for a Dramatic Performance

Are you Interested in.....

Furthering your public speaking abilities; Creativity and imagination; Teamwork and collaboration; Critical thinking skills; Communication skills; Time management.

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

Use creative skills to develop and perform pieces of theatre largely devised by you. Theatre styles such as *Commedia dell 'Arte* and Realism are explicitly taught and you are then asked to use your skills to present a performance to the class.

Topics Studied

Commedia dell 'Arte

Naturalism/Realism

Issoudun Drama: Musical Theatre

Are you Interested in.....

The captivating world of Musical Theatre and the art of performance?

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

Learn the conventions of Musical Theatre, diving deep into expressive skills and techniques crucial for character development and audience engagement. You will explore a range of activities, including presenting monologue/duologue performances from iconic Broadway Musicals, designing and performing your own jukebox musical with songs of your choice, and analysing live theatre performances for insights and inspiration.

Topics Studied

Musical Theatre Essentials: Master the essential conventions of Musical Theatre

Performance Showcase: Present monologue/duologue performances from beloved Broadway Musicals

Jukebox Musical Creation: Design and perform your own jukebox musical

Theatre Analysis: Analyse and evaluate live theatre performances

Issoudun English

Are you Interested in.....

In Year 9 English, students read and view a variety of texts, such as short stories and films. Students learn how to effectively write - analytically, reflectively and creatively.

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

Prepare for the VCE School Assessed Coursework. It is a mandatory subject. It equips students with the foundations necessary for the successful completion of VCE English, Literature OR both subjects.

Topics Studied

A close analysis of short stories, such as Ray Bradbury or Roald Dahl

Analysing the persuasive power of advertisements

Oral Presentations

Poetry

Film study

Issoudun Food: Café Culture

Are you Interested in.....

Creating café style foods, food presentation and styling.

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

Develop food preparation and presentation skills and create your own Café experience.

Topics Studied

Designing and preparing a pop-up café menu

Exploring the potential of eggs

Designing and presenting decorated cupcakes

Food presentation and garnishing techniques

Exploration of preparation processes and cooking techniques

Issoudun Food: Tastes of the World

Are you Interested in.....

Food from around the world and how to prepare it?

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

Explore a range of ingredients and create dishes that follow a global theme.

Topics Studied

Australia: how to use indigenous ingredients

Asia: create your own curry paste

Europe:- Italy, Greece and everywhere in between

Americas

Research the food culture of a country of your choice

Issoudun Humanities

Are you Interested in.....

History, Geography and Civics & Citizenship

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

Explore topics across History, Geography and Civics & Citizenship. The focus of the Humanities program throughout the Issoudun year is to examine Australia's history, its values and place in the world.

Topics Studied

History: Race Relations in Australia

Geography: Biomes

History: World War One

Je Suis: Interconnections

Hartzer Experience: Canberra Inquiry

Issoudun Italian

Are you Interested in.....

Have you ever wondered why it's a sin to order a *risotto alla milanese* in Naples?

Have you ever dreamt about taking a gondola ride through the canals of the magical city of Venice fondly called *La Serenissima*.

Are you interested in knowing why Italians are so animated when they speak and why they use so many hand gestures?

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

- Listen, view, read and respond to texts in Italian
- Write in Italian in response to spoken, written or visual texts
- Participate in a range of spoken exchanges in Italian: role-play, conversations and dramatised reading

This course of study provides a pathway to Year 10 Italian.

Topics Studied

Film study: *Rosso come il Cielo* (Bortone) or *Cinema Paradiso* (Tomatore)

Italian Regional Specialties

My Personal World - family and hobbies

Venice: its history, monuments and changing landscapes

Issoudun Music: Mixing Music & Sound Production

Are you Interested in.....

Remixing, mastering, sampling or creating your own music? This is your gateway to all things Music technology and sound production.

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

Dive deep into DAW (Digital Audio Workstations) and begin exploring creating original music or mixing pre-existing works from other artists.

Topics Studied

Recording (Audio Takes and Tracking)

Mixing/Mastering and Editing

Remix/Sampling

Podcasting

Issoudun Music: Performance

Are you Interested in.....

What it's like to be a performing artist? Do you want to learn to be more confident as a performer?

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

Grow your confidence as a performer and upskill as a musician. We will dive deep into what skills you will need to make music easier and more fun.

Topics Studied

Performance Technique/ Ensemble Performance

Musicianship (Aural Development/ Theory Upskill)

Music Composition (Song Writing)

Masterworks (Music Analysis/ understanding what makes songs sound good)

Issoudun Photography: The Bright Side

Are you Interested in.....

Taking your own photographs, editing photographs and being creative?

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

Learn how to use a DSLR camera and editing skills using Adobe photoshop.

Topics Studied

Miniature Worlds

Movement

Appropriation

Issoudun Photography: The Dark Side

Are you Interested in.....

Learning how photographs were taken before digital cameras were invented?

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

Learn how to use a SLR film camera, develop your own film and photographic techniques.

Topics Studied

Photographic Techniques

'Everyday Abstracted'

Issoudun Sports Science: Coaching

Are you Interested in.....

Developing skills about coaching sport and then applying your knowledge to coach others?

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

This subject gives the opportunity to develop the knowledge and skills needed to become a sports coach. Students will develop an understanding of how people learn, develop and refine skills. Students will practice coaching skills by planning and conducting skill development sessions with each other, Yr 7 students and primary school children.

Topics Studied

Skill Acquisition

Sport Coaching

Sports Umpiring (if time permits)

Issoudun Sports Science: Sports Trainer

Are you Interested in.....

Learning your bones and muscles? Or the assessment and management of sport injuries?

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

Learn how the skeletal and muscular systems work together to produce movement. Students will investigate common sports injuries and ways to prevent, treat and rehabilitate them. Students will visit an elite rehabilitation and recovery center.

Topics Studied

Skeletal System

Muscular System

Sport Injuries

Recovery Methods

Issoudun Textiles: Garment Construction

Are you Interested in.....

Creativity, Design, Fashion and Trends, Fabrics and garment construction.

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

Develop creative and design skills, master construction and finishing techniques to produce a garment and have better understanding of fibres and fabrics.

Topics Studied

Design process skills & techniques (Folio)

Fashion Drawing

Fabric/ Design based investigation

Production of garments (Production)

Issoudun Textiles: Sustainable Fashion

Are you Interested in.....

Sustainability, recycling, upcycling, creativity, design, trends and garment construction.

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

Develop creative and design skills, master construction and embellishing techniques to re-purpose a garment.

Topics Studied

Design process skills & techniques (Folio)

Fashion Drawing

Sustainability Investigation

Production of garments (Production)

Issoudun VCD: Architecture & Interior Design

Are you Interested in.....

Designing and drawing highly imaginative and innovative products?
Are you interested in designing your own original radical room using
Photoshop and Illustrator?

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

Learn about the design process, showcase your creativity and tonal
drawing skills and use Photoshop and Illustrator to produce a one point
perspective original radical room.

Topics Studied

Radical wallpaper for interior design

Architectural explosion! Radical room architectural drawing (manual
perspective and digital drawing)

Respond and Interpret

Issoudun VCD: Product & Advertising

Are you Interested in.....

3D printing your design of a perfume/cologne bottle and creating your own brand for advertising?

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

Develop skills using the SketchUp program to 3D print your design. Create your own branding for a swing-tag/label for the perfume bottle and use the branding on promotional material (tote bag).

Topics Studied

Perfume bottle

Tote bag

Swing-tag

Issoudun Visual Art: Express Yourself with Sculpture and Paint

Are you Interested in.....

Working like an artist and exploring the expressive use of materials in painting and sculpture?

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

Be inspired by your pet or your favourite animal and morph it from reality to abstraction; Create an expressive free-standing sculpture.

Topics Studied

Artsy Animals (painting from reality to abstraction)

Fantasy Creature (expressive sculpture)

Issoudun Visual Art: Make your Mark with Drawing and Print

Are you Interested in.....

Drawing, designing original compositions and creating a lino print using a printing press?

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

Improve your observational and tonal drawing skills. It also gives you a chance to experience the world of printmaking through the creation of a limited edition lino print. You will also have an opportunity to learn about how artists work.

Topics Studied

Observational Drawing

Respond and Interpret

Printmaking