

Extension Opportunities

At Craigslea SHS, we offer and encourage a range of English extension opportunities suited for every passion:

Debating and Public Speaking

- Queensland Debating Union (QDU) competition
- Brisbane Girls Debating Association
- UN Voice
- UN Evatt competition

ICAS (English) Exam

The International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) are independent skills-based assessments with a competition element.

Brisbane Writers Festival

The State Library of Queensland welcomes thousands of readers, writers and thought-leaders to ignite their imaginations, ask big questions, showcase literature and celebrate stories in all forms.

ICAS Exam References

International Competitions and Assessments for Schools



For more Information

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HOD English



Year 7 English



Department of Education
Trading as Education Queensland International (EQI)
CRICOS Provider Number 00608A



Craigslea
State High School

Explicit Teaching of Essential Skills

Writing

Students at Craigslea SHS are taught the skills of writing through an explicit focus on sentence composition and paragraph structure. With the assistance of writing consultant, Dr Ian Hunter, we are transforming the writing ability and engagement of all our students.

Reading

In Year 7, students are taught comprehension strategies explicitly and take part in a Book Whispering challenge to promote a love of reading. Every year, we monitor individual reading progress with an ACER diagnostic test (Pat-R). Based on these results, we work to adjust our programs to maximise student achievement.

Spelling

Year 7 teachers teach spelling explicitly through the implementation of the Words Their Way program. This balanced approach enables students to develop all four kinds of spelling knowledge: phonological, visual, morphemic and etymological. Importantly, using this approach enables teachers to fully differentiate between all students and allows each student to work at the level they need to improve.

We don't use one-size-fits-all spelling lists!

Year 7 Curriculum Overview

Unit 1 - Let me persuade you: the influential world of advertising. *Viewing, interpreting and creating persuasive texts.*

Students read and view a range of persuasive texts with a particular focus on newspaper, magazine and digital advertisements. They develop their understanding of how these texts are influenced by context, purpose and audience.

Unit 2 - In their shoes: understanding life through writing. *Reading and creating life writing: biographies.*

Students read, view and interpret a range of different styles of life writing (including diaries, memoirs and biographies) understanding how these texts are influenced by context, purpose and audience.

Unit 3 - Hero or Villain?: The Daring of Ned Kelly. *Reading and interpreting literature about Australia and Australians.*

Students listen to, read and view literature about Australia and Australians. This includes the close study of a literary text.

Unit 4 - The power and the passion: poetry and social commenter. *Exploring poetry and song.*

Students listen to, read and interpret a variety of poems and songs, including those that put forward different perspectives on a number of issues.

Our Learning Spaces

Year 7 students learn English in a specially designated Year 7 precinct while still being able to take advantage of our other English facilities.

The English/Arts block utilises a range of flexible working spaces that include not just traditional classrooms, but purpose-built (and air-conditioned), collaborative learning spaces and a central area used for a range of innovative learning experiences.

English and ICTs

English students engage with a variety of innovative literacy-based ICTs including but not limited to:

- Writer's Toolbox online tool
- OneNote and the Learning Place
- Various apps, including Plickers, Socrative etc.

