SUBJECT OUTLINE: The Ancient World
The Year 7 curriculum provides a study of history from the time of the earliest human communities to the end of the ancient period, approximately 60,000 BC (BCE) – c.650 AD (CE). It was a period defined by the development of cultural practices and organised societies. The study of the ancient world includes the discoveries (the remains of the past and what we know) and the mysteries (what we do not know) about this period of history, in a range of societies including Australia, Egypt, Greece, Rome, China and India.

The content provides opportunities to develop historical understanding through key concepts, including evidence, continuity and change, cause and effect, perspectives, empathy, significance and contestability. These concepts may be investigated within a particular historical context to facilitate an understanding of the past and to provide a focus for historical inquiries.

The history content at this year level involves two strands: Historical Knowledge and Understanding and Historical Skills. These strands are interrelated and should be taught in an integrated way; and in ways that are appropriate to specific local contexts. The order and detail in which they are taught are programming decisions.

A framework for developing students’ historical knowledge, understanding and skills is provided by inquiry questions through the use and interpretation of sources. The key inquiry questions at this year level are:

- How do we know about the ancient past?
- Why and where did the earliest societies develop?
- What emerged as the defining characteristics of ancient societies?
- What have been the legacies of ancient societies?

CONTRIBUTES TO OP: N/A

ASSESSMENT OUTLINE:
1. Historical skills unit
   Short response/ Response to stimulus exam
2. Ancient Egypt
   Descriptive account
3. Ancient China
   Research presentation (spoken)

CAREER PATHWAYS:
The study of History has direct relevance to the careers of teaching and archaeology, but also in the fields of journalism, law, politics, art, travel, religion and anthropology.

COSTS: General costs are covered in the Student Resource Scheme.

STUDENT REQUIREMENTS/PREREQUISITES: NIL