

Galileo Program



Year 9

Why 'Galileo'?

- Galileo was a revolutionary, critical thinker and innovator who wanted us to challenge our preconceptions.
- Galileo questioned everything around him and his place in the world.
- Galileo sought the truth and went out and found it!

This reflects what students experience during the Galileo Program.



What's different about the Galileo Program?

The program is a term-long, intensive course with approximately 60 students and 3 Uni High teachers - Matt, Ester & Trent.

It's a mixed cohort with two mainstream classes and half an AP class per term.

The students leave regular subjects for the term, enrolled in Galileo for 24/30 sessions per week. They will complete elective subjects with the rest of their Year 9 cohort for the remaining 6 sessions. The students are still free to participate in their normal extracurricular activities, e.g. music lessons, sports days, the musical etc.

The students will be placed into smaller homegroups during the second week of the program for assessment and pastoral care purposes.

The course is largely experiential with students participating in: an excursion (trail) most weeks; a community service placement; surveying the public; interviewing an expert; and going on camp.

Project-based Learning

In a project-based environment, students gain knowledge and skills by investigating and responding to an engaging question, problem or challenge.

A project-based learning and teaching framework addresses cross-curricula content and learning dispositions through rigorous, authentic, hands-on, interactive learning experiences.



Skill Development

Collaboration

Digital Literacy

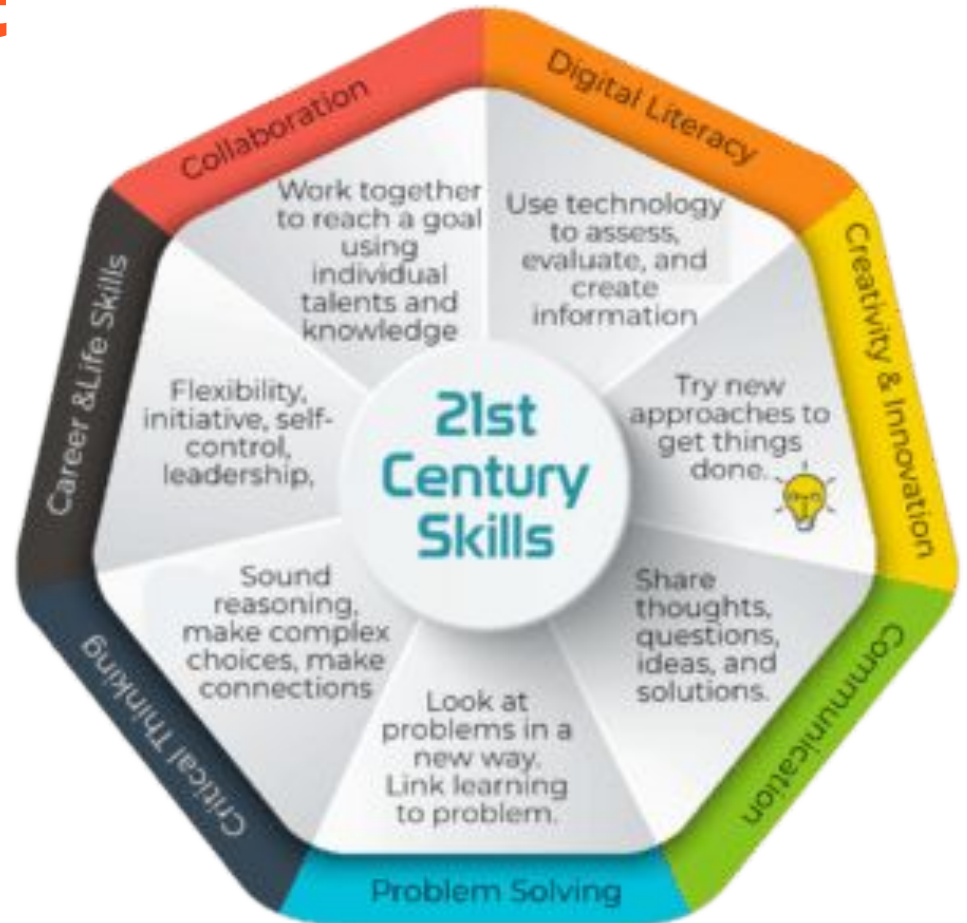
Creativity and Innovation

Communication

Problem Solving

Critical Thinking

Career and Life Skills



What does a typical week look like?

		Health Week				
		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		18.02.19	19.02.19	20.02.19	21.02.19	22.02.19
S1	Health Intro: Different perspectives on health	Electives	Trail: 1000 Steps	Electives	Community Service / Rock Climbing (8:45-10:30)	
S2						
S3	Research Review article 2	Mental first aid/ Psychology-self criticism/ Mindfulness		Research Review working on articles 2 and 3		Research Review Conclusion
S4						
S5	Community Service / Rock Climbing A (1:30-3pm)	Research Review teacher feedback in class		Hip Hop 2-3pm		
S6						

Where does it take place?

The Loft at UHS



The Loft
garden

Melbourne



Excursions (Trails)

We want to encourage our students to create stronger links between what they learn at school and their city.

Trails are linked to the weekly theme, e.g:

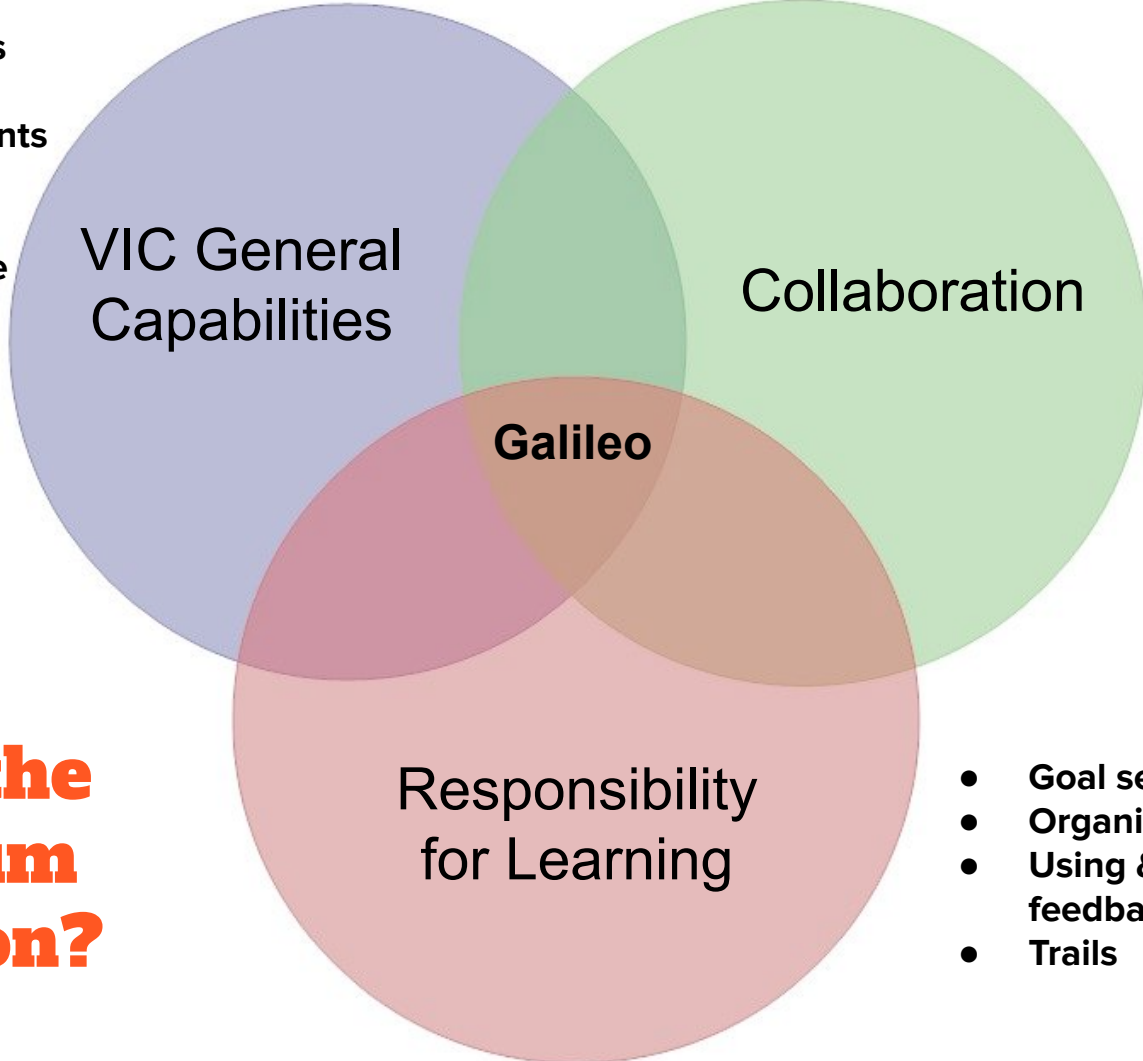
Justice week - The Neighbourhood Justice Centre in Collingwood

Health week - 1000 Steps & hip-hop dancing in Brunswick

Sustainability week - an Indigenous Walking Tour around Southbank

Mobile phones are allowed on Galileo excursions for communication and safety reasons.

- Ethics workshops
- Understanding different viewpoints
- Constructing arguments
- Critical & creative thinking
- Going on trails



- Galileo Project
- Expert interview
- Trails
- Camp
- Community service

What is the curriculum centred on?

- Goal setting
- Organisation
- Using & seeking out feedback
- Trails

Student Assessment

Many of the skills and dispositions found within the General Capabilities are assessed using our *Galileo Attitude & Effort Rubric*. This is used to calculate student's A&E score for their report.

The students set goals against this rubric at the beginning of the program and reflect on their progress.

The skills assessed are set out below:



Growth Mindset	Creative & Divergent Thinking	Feedback	Digital Literacy	Organisation	Reflection	Community	Teamwork	Communication
PROBLEM SOLVING			LIFELONG LEARNING			COLLABORATION		

Galileo Project



The Galileo Project runs across the entire program.

Students choose a topic to research and are then placed in research groups.

The Galileo Project then begins and involves 3 major assessments:

Research Review - Individual research paper on a topic of their choosing.

Research Methodology - Group presentation outlining the methods through which they will pursue further information and data on their topic.

Future Solutions - Groups present their research and an innovation in response to an identified societal issue.

These assessments contribute to the student's *achievement* score on their report.

Reporting - Weeks 5 and 10



Year 9 Galileo Program Mid-Term Progress Report

Name: Sample Student
ABC0001

Class 9G1

Progress Report Scores:

	Student Goals	Student Scores
Achievement	85	78
Attitude and Effort	90	77

Please access the following document for detailed assessment results including rubrics and comments across several tabs (see bottom of document):

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1qa_PGf5QM0MFe8HZ4S49dd76ng5ailra1LQqfdrs6w/edit?usp=sharing

Community Service

Approximately 1 hour per week starting in Week 3 of the program, either on Monday afternoons or Friday mornings.

Completed during normal school hours (none of the program, other than camp, takes place outside of school hours).

The students *do not* find their own placement - we have a range of ongoing partnerships with primary schools, daycare centres, bilingual education, aged-care homes and Lentil As Anything Abbotsford.

Students will be placed based on their interests and distance from home.

We teach the students resume writing and strongly encourage them to obtain a reference from their supervisor.

Camp

Camp takes place in The Grampians National Park.

We are based at UC Camping Halls Gap in cabins.

The students are away for 3 days, 2 nights Wednesday - Friday (usually back @ 3pm to Southern Cross Station).

We catch public transport up and back (V-Line train and bus).

Camp takes place Week 6 in Term 1 (March 4th- 6th), and Week 7 in Terms 2- 4.

Permission forms and additional information are provided to students and guardians closer to the date.



Parent-teacher Conferences

PTCs run for 20 minutes and take place in the last week of the program.

Each student will be expected to present a 10 minute reflection on their learning and experiences in Galileo in front of their homegroup teacher and a parent/guardian(s).

They will be booked through Compass. Please contact the front office if you have an issue with your parent login.

Teacher emails

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Galileo Information Evening



Galileo Staff run an information evening for Year 9 students and their parents at the beginning of each year.

The information evening provides students and parents with an opportunity to ask questions and meet the Galileo Team.

Times and dates for Galileo information evenings will be communicated through Compass.