

LATIN

The study of Latin is the gateway into a treasury of great literature and leads to an understanding of many aspects of modern society. Latin, the language of ancient Rome, has left an enormous legacy in the vocabulary of the English language; this fact enables students of Latin to expand their knowledge of English to include many sophisticated words. Latin further develops their literacy through a structured course in a highly inflected language, requiring careful analysis of every word encountered.



Students are also introduced to the world of ancient Rome, and are encouraged to compare the customs, beliefs and values of that world with those of 21st century Australia. Through the reading of myths, legends and stories in Latin and, ultimately, authentic Latin literature, students develop their imaginations, examine their cultural assumptions, translate the idiom of Latin into fluent English and analyse the use of language to persuade, describe, narrate and entertain. The study of Latin enables students to learn to analyse language, including their native language, and to organise thought and discourse in a logical and persuasive manner.

Stage 4

In years 7 and 8, students observe the differences between Latin and English in sentence structure and the use of word-changes. They learn all the forms of nouns and the present tense of verbs, and discuss English derivatives from Latin vocabulary. They are introduced to Roman society and life in the countryside. They read some stories from mythology and others recounting the early life of the poet Horace.

