

Shirley Smith High School Vision and Values

Grow with us.

At Shirley Smith High School, teaching and learning is authentic, rigorous, and designed to maximise student agency. We align deep disciplinary knowledge and excellent pedagogical practice to ensure our learners are empowered to find their purpose, fulfil their potential, and shape their own futures.

Students at Shirley Smith High School are:

Curious

brave and open minded inquirers with a desire to know and understand

Connected

inclusive young people connected to each other, connected to their community and connected to Country

Learners

creative empowered learners with boundless potential for their futures and the future of our planet

Subject Details

Subject/s:	Jewellery	Learning Area:	Design and Technology
Teacher/s:	Claire Pullan	Learning Period:	Semester 1, 2026

Engagement in Learning

In order to facilitate active engagement in their learning, students are expected to:

- Arrive prepared for their lessons, equipped with a fully charged chromebook, a notebook, a pen or pencil, and any other subject-specific materials that may be necessary.
- Independently make an effort to retrieve and complete any missed assignments or coursework due to absences or extracurricular activities during their own time.
- Embrace the principles of the school's Yindyamarra wellbeing framework by treading lightly. This involves taking moments to pause, authentically connecting with others, engaging in deep listening, thoughtful reflection, and considering the impact of their actions on others.

Learning and Assessment Policies

Please see the school website for policies regarding the submission of late work, extension requests for assessment tasks, and plagiarism and academic integrity.

Description of Learning

Unit overview:

In the Year 9 Jewellery elective, students develop foundational metalworking skills through two major projects: crafting a sterling silver ring and designing and casting an original jewellery piece. The unit begins with a strong emphasis on workshop safety, including PPE requirements, hot-work protocols and correct tool identification and handling. Students investigate the properties of sterling silver, including malleability, ductility and soldering behaviour, and learn how these properties influence design and production decisions. They generate and communicate design ideas, evaluate alternatives against established criteria and apply accurate measurements for ring sizing, including allowances for solder joints and material shaping.

Throughout the semester, students apply detailed production plans as they bend and shape half-round wire, safely apply flux, control heating techniques, and complete processes such as quenching and pickling. They refine pieces using filing, progressive sanding and polishing techniques to achieve a professional finish. In the casting project, students extend their knowledge by designing forms suitable for mould-making, creating and preparing moulds, and safely casting molten metal to produce unique jewellery objects. Students evaluate their work against design criteria, reflect on craftsmanship and justify their decisions using technical language. Extension opportunities—including twisted wire rings, stacked ring sets and textured hammer techniques—allow students to further develop precision, creativity and refined metalworking skills, fostering both technical competence and artistic expression.

Unit learning outcomes:

By the end of this unit, students will demonstrate a level of achievement for the following standards:

- For one or more of the technologies contexts, explains the features of technologies and their appropriateness for purpose, and creates designed solutions based on an analysis of needs or opportunities
- Creates, adapts and refines design ideas, processes and solutions and justifies their decisions against developed design criteria that include sustainability
- Communicates design ideas, processes and solutions to a range of audiences, including using digital tools
- Independently and collaboratively develops and applies production and project management plans, adjusting processes when necessary
- Selects and uses technologies skilfully and safely to produce designed solutions

Assessment:

Task	Approximate Due Date
- OnGuard Safety	Week 2
- Design and Process Portfolio	Week 7
- Stirling Silver Ring	Week 9
- Design Journal	Week 18
- Casting Project	Week 19
- Classwork	Ongoing

Learning Experiences

Throughout the unit, students may have the opportunity to engage in the following learning experiences:

Incursions/Excursions - N/A