



# ACADEMIC INNOVATION

at St Alban's College

## SHIFTING MINDSETS



### Stretching the team & challenging convention

Teachers at St Alban's are being challenged to rethink their educational philosophies; to research; to critically analyse; to reimagine; to engage with the future; to ask why?

## CURRICULAR DISRUPTION

### An evolving curriculum

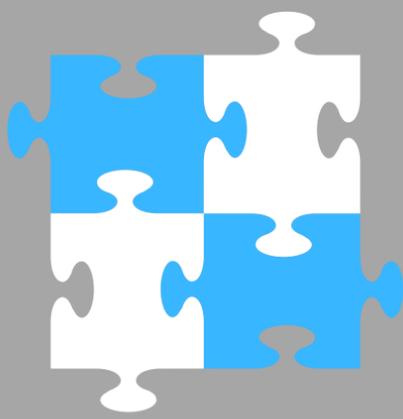
In 2018 we piloted 3 new modular options: Research; Robotics and Experiential Learning and initiated a successful career day. In 2019 we are planning to introduce 12 new elective modules for Juniors & M.A.D. modules for The Arts. We are also questioning other traditional "givens" like learning space design, tech use and assessment protocols.



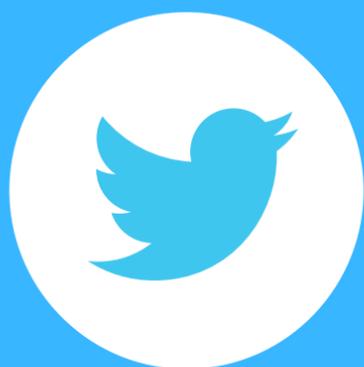
## STEAM EDUCATION

### Science. Technology. Engineering. Arts. Mathematics.

STEM tour + school visits in the USA; The SASOL Solar Challenge; Envisioning a Maker and Ideation Space; Connection to Industry; etc.



## UBIQUITOUS TECH INTEGRATION



**Bruce Collins**  
@brskln

What if one of the most innovative things a school can do is NOT to flood their space with devices? @ShaneKidwell #exponentialthinking

9:49 AM - 15 Oct 2018 from Midrand, South Africa

1 Retweet 11 Likes



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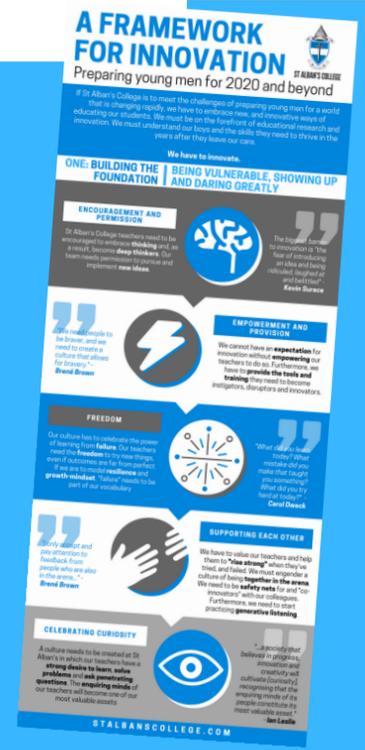
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# CURRICULAR DISRUPTION

Guided by our Framework for Innovation working document, we are in the process of introducing a revised junior curriculum that will continue to be academically rigorous, preparing boys adequately for the FET phase of their schooling but will also meet the need to develop foundational literacies (literacy, numeracy, ICT literacy, scientific literacy, civic and cultural literacy, and financial literacy), critical competencies (critical thinking, creativity, problem solving, communication and collaboration) and important character qualities (curiosity, persistence, leadership, initiative, adaptability, and social and cultural awareness)

As a result, we are in the process of working out the logistics to introduce the following termly choice modules over and above the regular curriculum demands in Form 1 and 2 (Full curriculum planning documents are available from Moira Gundu):



Africa Connection - a module that focuses on what it means to be South African, and African. It will draw on History, Art, Literature, Philosophy, Politics, and Economics in order for boys to examine their own cultural identity; promote cultural and intercultural understanding; generate interest in South Africa, African countries and their cultures; promote respect for the cultures and achievements of others; promote and initiate active participation in the development of South Africa through a constructive discussion process; deepen students' economic, political and historical knowledge of South Africa, and Africa in general; and promote knowledge sharing.



Three STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) modules will be introduced and continued: Robotics - this draws on and exposes boys to coding, mathematics, physics, problem-solving, collaboration, communication and design, amongst others Introduction to Coding - coding is not only an IT skill; exposure to the logic behind coding is valuable in itself. Digital Literacy - basic computer skills and digital literacy will be explored in this module.



Four conversational language course will be introduced over and above the First Additional and Second Additional language options:  
 Conversational French  
 Conversational Sepedi  
 Conversational isiZulu  
 Conversational Afrikaans



Three experiential learning offerings will be introduced:  
 Outdoor Education & Orienteering - currently running for Form 1s, this module uses orienteering to explore Geography, Mathematics, Life Science, Languages and more. Competencies like leadership, adaptability, communication, curiosity and persistence are developed, too.



Information Literacy - this module (currently running) focuses on research, research processes, gathering information, gauging the reliability of sources, communicating effectively, listening, formulating arguments and more. Digital citizenship is also an important part of this module. The content of this module prepares our boys for future research projects.



The Young Investors' Society - we will be piloting a new investment module in partnership with YIS (<https://yis.org/>). The Young Investors Society is dedicated to preparing the next generation of investors. Its mission is to inspire youth to be outstanding investors – investors in companies, investors in their communities, and investors in themselves. Their curriculum runs in schools globally and we will be the first school in South Africa to be running their program. YIS's programs are written and directed by a group of over 30 professional investors. High-school students have the unique privilege to be taught fundamental, long-term investing in a fun and exciting way, improving their financial literacy and developing real skills along the way.



Life 101 - this is a new module in which boys' Personal and Interpersonal skills will be developed. They'll explore the impact of their social interactions, develop emotional agility, and grow their functional literacies (these include academic writing, study skills, practical skills, communication skills and the art of negotiation). They will also explore, amongst others, human rights and the opportunities that exist for them to make an impact in the world.



Gender Studies - This is a new module we believe is crucial to boys understanding the world around them and will explore, amongst others, stereotypes, gender in economics and politics, sexuality, biology and gender, law, culture, communication, patriarchy, masculinity and gender privilege

