

# Marine Biology Program

PREPARING STUDENTS FOR A THRIVING FUTURE IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA'S BLUE ECONOMY.

**\$12B**

INVESTED IN WA  
MARITIME CAPABILITY

**YEAR 7-12  
PATHWAY**

**INDUSTRY  
PARTNERSHIPS**

**Australia's Blue Economy currently generates \$229 billion annually and supports more than 700,000 jobs. With Federal Government recently committing \$12 billion towards the strengthening of our maritime capability here in WA, opportunities not only in defence but also in marine science, aquaculture, conservation and ocean innovation are rapidly accelerating. There is no doubt the Future is Blue and Fremantle Christian College is perfectly placed to lead students into it.**

Fremantle Christian College's unique coastal location, strong community partnerships, and proven success in ATAR Marine and Maritime Studies position FCC as a leading gateway for students who aspire to study, protect, and work with the ocean.

The FCC Marine Biology Program offers a comprehensive Year 7–12 pathway, guiding students from foundational marine skills through to advanced scientific and vocational learning. The program combines hands-on fieldwork, practical marine science, environmental stewardship, and meaningful exposure to emerging careers within the Blue Economy.

Students graduate with clear pathways into TAFE and university programs, defence and maritime services, aquaculture enterprises, and broader Blue Economy industries.

Through authentic, place-based learning, students engage in regular coastal excursions, ecosystem investigations, student-led research projects, and applied marine studies. Strong industry partnerships — including collaboration with the Department of Fisheries, Fremantle Port Authority, shipwreck researchers, and local aquaculture organisations — provide real-world insight and industry connection.

Rooted in the Christian belief that we are called to care for God's creation, the program empowers students to understand, appreciate, and steward marine environments with wisdom, curiosity, and responsibility.



**Fremantle  
Christian  
College**

*The future is blue, and for FCC students, it starts right here on our coastline.*

## Year 7 - Foundations in Marine Discovery (Compulsory)

Students begin their journey with a practical and engaging introduction to the marine world:

- Basic fishing skills, knot tying, and introductory sailing experiences.
- Guest presentation from Jayson Spencer (Department of Fisheries) on local species and sustainable practices.
- A major excursion to Fremantle Port for an industry tour, linking learning to the Blue Economy.
- Practical science lessons are built around local marine habitats, tides, and ecosystems.

## Year 8 - Marine Science and Coastal Environments (Compulsory)

Students extend their scientific and humanities learning through meaningful marine-centred study:

- Deeper exploration of fishing, species identification, and coastal ecosystems.
- Introduction to early research skills, data collection, and environmental observation.
- Media and storytelling connections, including case studies from Shipwreck Hunters.
- Guest speakers, museum visits, and short field trips to reinforce real-world links.



## Years 9 and 10 – Marine Biology Elective: Research, Innovation and the Blue Economy

Students step into more independent, inquiry-based learning as they begin shaping their own interests:

- Student-led research projects based on real marine issues (e.g. overfishing at the Abrolhos Islands).
- Design and construction of small aquariums, including maintaining yabby tanks in class.
- Creation of advanced species ID posters, presentations, and fieldwork journals.
- Snorkelling excursions with habitat surveys, organism identification sheets, and practical fieldwork.
- Exploration of WA aquaculture, including trout farms and commercial systems.
- Engagement with shipwreck researchers, maritime historians, and industry professionals.
- Workshops with the Department of Fisheries and Blue Economy specialists.

## Years 11 and 12 ATAR Marine and Maritime Studies

Students transition into advanced study that deepens their scientific knowledge and prepares them for university or industry pathways:

- ATAR Marine and Maritime Studies curriculum provided by the School Curriculum and Standards Authority.
- Excursions to the Maritime Museum with a focus on Abrolhos Island shipwrecks, maritime history, and ecological change.
- Research assessments linked to navigation, marine ecosystems, ocean hazards, and WA's maritime future.
- Culinary crossover with Hospitality students, exploring sustainable seafood.
- Ongoing involvement with fisheries scientists, archaeologists, and marine researchers.

*Excellent Education As Preparation for Life*

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