



Bacchus Marsh
Grammar

2021

Senior School Handbook

VCE

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Key Personnel

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Glossary of Terms

Assessment

In Units 3 and 4 the student's level of achievement is determined by a combination of School-Assessed Coursework (SACs), School-Assessed Tasks (SATs) and Examinations.

Assessment task

A task set by the teacher to assess student achievements of unit outcomes (see also Outcomes).

Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR)

The overall ranking on a scale of 0.05 – 99.95 that a student receives, based on his or her Study Scores. The ATAR is calculated by VTAC and used by universities and TAFE institutes to select students for courses.

Authentication

The process of ensuring that the work submitted by students for assessment is their own.

Chief Assessor

An expert appointed by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority in each study to supervise the marking of the external examination(s) in that study.

Coursework Assessment

See School-Assessed Coursework.

Derived Exam Score

Students who are ill or affected by other personal circumstances at the time of a VCE external assessment and whose result is unlikely to be a fair or accurate indication of their learning or achievement in the study may apply for a DES. This is done through the Year Level Coordinator and approved by VCAA.

Equivalent Qualification

For applicants who have recognised qualifications at the Year 12 level or above, obtained either interstate or overseas, the Victorian Curriculum Assessment Authority issues Statements of Equivalent Qualification to the VCE. The VCAA also assesses interstate and overseas qualifications for their equivalency to Year 11.

Examinations

Unit 3 and 4 external assessments set and marked by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority. All studies have at least one examination. Written examinations, Performance and Oral examinations are held in October and November. Year 11 Examinations for relevant subjects will be conducted mid-year and end of year and are set and marked by BMG.

General Achievement Test (GAT)

The test that is done by all students doing a Unit 3 and 4 sequence. It is used by the VCAA to check that schools are marking school-assessed tasks to the same standard and as part of statistical moderation of coursework. It doesn't count towards student's ATAR, but students' GAT results are reported to them with their Statement of Results. They may be used for DES and may be considered for some tertiary entrance.

Graded Assessment

All VCE studies have three graded assessments for each Unit 3 and 4 sequence. Each study includes at least one examination, most have Coursework, and some have School-Assessed Tasks. Unit 1 and 2 assessment is marked for internal purposes, only 'S' or 'N' is reported to the VCAA.

Higher Education

Completion of a tertiary subject as part of VCE.

Outcomes

What a student must know, or be able to do, in order to satisfactorily complete a unit as specified in the study design.

Satisfactory Completion

The school's decision that a student has demonstrated achievement of outcomes for a unit. Students receive an 'S' for the satisfactory completion of a unit. If they do not satisfactorily complete a unit, they receive an 'N'.

School-Assessed Coursework (SAC)

A school-based assessment which is reported as a grade for either a Unit 3 and 4 sequence or Unit 3 and Unit 4 individually. Coursework assessment consists of a set of assessment tasks that assess the student's achievement of Unit 3 and 4 outcomes.

School-Assessed Task (SAT)

A school-based assessment for a Unit 3 and 4 sequence and reported as a grade. A School-Assessed Task is set by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority and assessed by teachers in accordance with published criteria. Tasks

are subject to review by a panel appointed by the VCAA.

SEA - Special Provisions

Special arrangements that are made to allow students who are experiencing significant hardship the maximum opportunity to demonstrate both what they know and what they can do.

Special Provision and SEAS (Special Entry Access Scheme)

The Special Entry Access Scheme (SEAS) allows tertiary selection officers to grant special consideration for course entry to applicants, but does not exempt students from meeting institutional and course entry requirements. Administered by VTAC

Semester

One-half of the academic year. Most units are completed in one semester.

Sequence

Units 3 and 4 are designed to be taken as a sequence at Year 12 level.

Statement of Marks

For each examination including the GAT, students can apply to the VCAA for a statement showing the marks they obtained for each question/criteria and the maximum mark available.

Statement of Marks – Study Score

A Statement is also available containing the scores for each of the graded assessments and describing the calculation of the Study Score. See also Statement of Results.

Statement of Results

The document(s) issued by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority showing the results a student achieved in the VCE, and whether he or she has graduated. See also VCE Certificate.

Statistical Moderation

The process used to ensure that schools' assessments are comparable throughout the State. It involves adjusting each school's coursework scores for each study to match the level and spread of the combined examination and GAT scores for students in that school doing that study.

Studies

The subjects available in the VCE.

Study Design

A study design for each VCE study is published by the VCAA. It specifies the content for the study and how students' work is to be assessed. Schools and other VCE providers must adhere to the study designs.

Study Score

A score from zero to 50 which shows how a student performed in a study, relative to all other students doing the same study. It is based on students' results in school assessments and examinations.

Units

The components of a study. They are numbered 1, 2, 3 and 4.

VCE Certificate

The Certificate awarded to students who meet the requirements for graduation of the VCE. See also Statement of Results.

Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA)

The Victorian Government Authority responsible to the Minister of Education for conducting the VCE, among other things.

Vocational Education and Training (VET)

Nationally recognised vocational certificate integrated within the VCE.

Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC)

Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre acts on behalf of universities and TAFEs coordinating the application process. It calculates and distributes the Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR).

The Victorian Certificate of Education

This handbook outlines the way the VCE is administered at Bacchus Marsh Grammar. It should be regularly consulted and is an essential guide for all VCE students.

Successful Completion of the VCE

The Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) is a senior secondary certificate of education recognised within the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF). It is designed to be completed over a minimum of two years, and includes general education curriculum components (VCE studies) and programs from Vocational Education and Training (VET) qualifications.

Each VCE study is designed to provide a two-year program. Studies at Unit 1 and Unit 2 level are nationally and internationally benchmarked to a Year 11 standard, and studies at Unit 3 and Unit 4 level are benchmarked to a Year 12 standard. In many studies there are multiple options for students to choose from, such as Mathematics and History. Units 1 and 2 can be completed as single units and Units 3 and 4 in each study are designed to be undertaken as a sequence.

Each VCE unit involves 50 hours of scheduled classroom instruction normally over the duration of a semester. In addition, it is expected that students will undertake up to 50 hours of self-directed learning for each unit.

Satisfactory completion of a VCE unit is based on successful completion of outcomes. Each VCE unit comprises between two to four outcomes. Satisfactory completion of units is determined by the school, in accordance with Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) requirements. The learning outcomes and associated assessment tasks are specified in accredited VCE study designs.

Levels of achievement for Units 1 and 2 are determined by schools and not reported to the VCAA. Levels of achievement for Unit 3 and 4 sequences are assessed using School-based Assessment and external assessments (including examinations). Each VCE study has three graded assessment components: either one School-based Assessment and two external assessments, or two School-based Assessments and one external assessment. Each of the three graded assessment components contributes to a study score. Scored VCE VET studies have only two graded assessment components, comprising one School-based Assessment and one external examination. (Graded assessments are reported on an 11-point scale ranging from grade A+ to E, or as UG (Ungraded).

Minimum Requirements

The minimum requirement is satisfactory completion of 16 units, which must include:

- Three units from the English group, with at least one sequence at Unit 3 and 4 level
- At least three sequences of Unit 3 and 4 studies other than English, which may include any number of English sequences once the English requirement has been met.

At Bacchus Marsh Grammar students typically undertake the following:

Year 10: 1 accelerated Unit 1 & 2 subject (recommended)

Year 11: 6 subjects, which include at least one study from the English group of units (English, English Language, Literature)

Year 12: 5 subjects, which include at least one study from the English group of units (English, English Language, Literature)

Students may sometimes be given permission by the Academic Review Board to vary the number of subjects.

ATARs

The ATAR is calculated from an aggregate produced by adding results of up to six Unit 3-4 sequences of studies including:

- The VTAC scale study score in English, English (EAL), Literature or English Language
- The three next highest VTAC scaled scores permissible (which together with English study make the 'Primary Four')
- and 10% of any fifth and sixth permissible studies that are available.
- Students are then ranked in order of these aggregates - the highest rank being 99.95 then decreasing in steps of 0.05.

ATAR Subject Restrictions

There are several restrictions on study combinations that will affect the calculation of the ATAR. At most two results from any of the English, Mathematics, Digital Technologies, Languages and Music study grouping can contribute to the 'Primary Four'. At most, three results from any of the listed groups can contribute to the ATAR, whether they are VCE results, Higher education study results or VET results. For a comprehensive explanation, please consult www.vtac.edu.au.

Study Scores

For each student, the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority calculates a Study Score for each Unit 3-4 VCE study which has been satisfactorily completed and for which the student has received grades for the various school-assessed work components and the examinations. The Study Score is a score on a scale of 0 to 50 showing the student's achievement relative to that of all other students doing a particular study. The Study Scores are normalised to a mean of 30 and a standard deviation of 7. Scores of 23 – 37 indicate that the student is in the middle range. A score above 37 is evidence that the student is in the top 15% of students taking this study. For studies with large enrolments (1000 or more) the following table shows the approximate proportion of students who will achieve a Study Score higher than the stated values. For studies with fewer enrolments, the proportion may vary slightly.

Study Score (Relative Position)	Percentage of students above this position (approximate)
45	2
40	8
35	24
30	50
25	76
20	92

Study Scores are the starting points for the calculation of the Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR). Note that it is the VCAA which calculates the Study Score and the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre which calculates the ATAR.

Higher Education

For high achieving or highly motivated and independent students Higher Education is an opportunity to complete two first year university units alongside VCE studies. These studies will be completed at a University campus or online. Students will need to commit to being able to attend the tertiary institution in which they enrol into. Students who select this option will be given a study period in their timetable to allow them to work on their university subject and allow more flexibility in attending a tertiary institution. The Higher Education study will count towards a student's ATAR and also provide credits towards a certain university degrees.

Approval for students to undertake Higher Education studies as part of their VCE must be given by the VCE Academic Review Board. Students must consider carefully if they believe they are able meet the demands of a Higher Education subject, if they have the means to travel to the institution and if it is the best option for them.

Once approval has been granted students must apply directly to the tertiary institution who will advise if the student was successful in gaining a position. Applying does not guarantee a position will be offered to students. This option is not controlled by Bacchus Marsh Grammar; it is the decision of tertiary institutions.

Most Higher Education subjects do not incur University tuition fees, but there may be a cost for attending the course and these will vary.

VCE Curriculum

The studies offered by Bacchus Marsh Grammar will depend on student interest, student numbers and staffing availability. Subjects offered are determined by the Director of Studies in consultation with the Heads of Senior School and the Principal and will cover a variety of interests and academic rigour. The selections are reviewed annually to ensure that we offer courses that reflect student needs and where possible, we endeavour to fulfil student programs.

Selecting VCE Units

Each VCE study or subject is divided into four units: Units 1, 2, 3 and 4. In most cases students are able to enter particular studies at the commencement of Units 1, 2 or 3. Units 3 and 4 form a consecutive sequence. Once a student has selected Unit 3 of a particular study, he or she **must** also select Unit 4.

When choosing subjects students should consider their:

- Interests
- Abilities
- Possible career paths
- Qualifications required for those careers
- Prerequisites for particular tertiary courses.
- Possibility of Higher Education Subject (consider any co-requisite and pre-requisites)
- Possibility of any 'Other' Language Studies (offered externally) * approval required.

It is essential students consult the 'VTAC Pre-requisite and Course Explorer' at www.vtac.edu.au using 'the year of intended tertiary study' to determine pre-requisite VCE studies.

Acceleration

At Bacchus Marsh Grammar we recommend that all students accelerate in at least one VCE subject. This will enable students to develop the skills required for VCE success and provide them with valuable experience. It will also contribute to their ATAR.

Please note: There are a number of studies where acceleration is not recommended:

- Mathematical Methods
- Specialist Mathematics
- Chemistry
- Languages
- Physics

Special note regarding Mathematics:

- General Mathematics (1-2) leads to Further Mathematics (3-4).
- Mathematical Methods (1-2) may lead to Units 3-4 in Further Mathematics, Mathematical Methods and/or Specialist Mathematics.
- Specialist Mathematics (3-4) can only be undertaken if Mathematical Methods (3-4) is also being studied.
- Only two Unit 3-4 sequences of Mathematics count towards the primary four of the ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank).

VCAA Requirements:

When a student begins VCE they sign a VCE enrolment form; the signing of the VCE enrolment form by individual students in a VCE course shall be binding. Such signing indicates that the student understands that they are undertaking to meet the School and the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority's rules and requirements. Therefore, it is essential that the material in this handbook be fully understood.

Each student:

- Can expect to receive an outline of assessment tasks and learning outcomes as well as grade criteria for assessment tasks
- Shall be given a list of due dates and an assessment schedule (*note that this may be revised*)
- Shall be given the opportunity to undertake specific training in examination techniques and revision practices
- Shall sign and update his/her enrolment form as required by the School on behalf of the VCAA.

Policy Making

The VCE Coordinator, in consultation with the Heads of Senior School and Director of Studies, is responsible for the smooth and efficient implementation of the VCE at Bacchus Marsh Grammar. The school's VCE Subject Administrative Handbook is reviewed annually and, in accordance with VCAA guidelines, decisions relating to the VCE are final after being approved by the Principal.

Administration of the VCE

The VCE Coordinator/Head of Year 12 is responsible for liaising with the VCAA, monitoring the implementation of the VCE, overseeing the performance of VCE students (in conjunction with the Heads of Senior School and Director of Studies) and approving all VCE academic related activities. The VASS Coordinator / Director of Studies is responsible for communicating with the VCAA via the VASS system. A VCE Administrative Panel is responsible for hearing appeals or adjudicating disputes in respect of the VCE.

Satisfactory Completion

For satisfactory completion of a unit, a student must demonstrate achievement of each of the outcomes for that unit as specified in the Study Design. This decision will be based on the teacher's judgment of the student's performance on assessment tasks and class work designated for the unit. *The key knowledge and skills and the Advice for Teachers included in the Study Design will assist teachers in making this judgment.* The judgment of satisfactory completion is a school responsibility.

To achieve an outcome the student must:

- Attend a minimum of 80% of all classes
- Produce work that meets the required standard
- Submit work on time
- Submit work that is clearly his or her own
- Observe the VCAA and school rules
- Satisfactorily complete all outcomes as judged by the teacher

Please Note: Examinations do not determine an 'S' or 'N' grade.

At Year 11 level examinations are extremely important as part of preparation for Unit 3 and 4 studies, however, it is work undertaken during the semester which determines whether learning outcomes have been achieved.

Changing or Withdrawing from Courses/Subjects

Students wishing to change their courses must first collect a Change of Subject form from the VCE Coordinator/Head of Year. These will be reviewed by the Heads of Senior School. A student will not be able to change courses until the form is complete and submitted to the Head of Senior School and approval given. The VASS Coordinator will then submit a Change of Entry Information to the VCAA. Heads of Year Level will be informed of all course changes. Late changes or changes that may affect a student's pathways may require a meeting with the VCE Review Board.

Resubmission

Units 1- 2:

Students may be permitted to resubmit unsatisfactory work up until the end of the semester. This can be negotiated individually for satisfactory completion of a unit to occur. The decision to allow a student to resubmit work is a serious one. It is not a student's right and occurs in exceptional circumstances.

Units 3-4:

If, in the judgment of the teacher, work submitted by a student for the assessment of an outcome does not meet the required standard for satisfactory completion, the teacher may take into consideration work previously submitted by the student in order to achieve a Satisfactory Completion, or allow the student to submit further work. Students **may not** resubmit tasks for the reconsideration of coursework scores awarded by the school. Normally, students complete work for a unit during the semester in which the unit is undertaken. The school may decide to delay the decision about satisfactory completion to allow for a student to complete or resubmit work.

School-assessed Coursework (SAC) and School-assessed Task (SAT)

Note: SATs only apply to the following studies at BMG: Art, Design & Technology-Textiles, Food Studies, IT Computing Software Development, Media, Studio Arts, Systems Engineering and Visual Communication & Design.

All VCE studies have SAC or a SAT designed to enable the student to demonstrate the achievement of an outcome. The class teacher, based on VCAA criteria, will allocate scores on each of these tasks. SAC and SAT are to be completed mainly in class time.

School-assessed Coursework – SAC

At Bacchus Marsh Grammar students will be provided with the following feedback on their SAC performance:

- Advice on particular problem areas and advice on where improvements can be made in future tasks, and
- Achievement on criteria and a numerical score for the task that contributes to the study score.

School-assessed Tasks – SAT: (a more extended folio based task)

At Bacchus Marsh Grammar students will be provided with feedback on work in progress in a SAT, one of which should be in written form. They will also receive a score/grade. Teachers are required to complete the Authentication Record for School-assessed Tasks form from the VCE and VCAL Administrative Handbook to ensure the authentication of student work.

NB: It must be pointed out to students that the SAC or SAT scores awarded by BMG staff are unmoderated and may change after the VCAA statistical moderation process.

Failure to attend SAC tasks or to submit a SAT on time

Most SAC tasks will be conducted in class time (there are some exceptions to this in subjects which require practical reports). Students who fail to attend a scheduled SAC task **MUST** be able to provide acceptable documented support for the absence and notify the school by 8.45 a.m. on the day of the SAC task. Students will be required to complete the SAC task on the next Wednesday afternoon or at another approved time.

A SAT may be over an extended period but with a final due date. Students who fail to submit a SAT by the assigned deadline **MUST** be able to provide documented evidence to explain the situation. Students not complying with the above requirement will be given NA (Not Assessed) for the SAC task or SAT, which may result in 'N' for the unit.

Dates of SAC tasks and SAT

Individual teachers will provide relevant dates to their students for each SAC or SAT at the commencement of the year. Students must record these in their diaries. There is no excuse for not knowing the dates for SAC tasks and SAT as an individualized Assessment schedule will also be emailed to students.

Absence from SAC tasks

If a student is absent due to personal illness, family bereavement or pressing family circumstances (NOTE that an appointment that can not be rescheduled is NOT a valid excuse) they must go through a four steps process to gain approval to sit a re-scheduled SAC:

1. They must see the relevant subject teacher AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
2. The students will receive a rescheduling of VCE Tasks form. This form must be signed by the student and parent/guardian and returned quickly with the documentation attached (a medical certificate or written authorisation – not a note in the diary – from a parent) to validate their absence.
3. Where the absence is APPROVED then a SAC will be completed on the first appropriate Wednesday after school or at another approved time. It will be assessed as normal or when appropriate.
4. Where the absence is NOT APPROVED, an “N” grade will be awarded for that task.

In circumstances where the approved absence is of a lengthy duration that prevents the student from completing SAC or SAT tasks, the arrangements for completion of any missed assessment will be negotiated upon the student’s return as part of VCAA’s Special Provision process.

If the absence is NOT APPROVED the student will receive “N” for the SAC Task or SAT and “N” for the outcome and the unit.

Redemption Policy (a BMG policy)

If a student has not satisfactorily achieved the outcome, the student will be given the opportunity to redeem the “N”. The relevant teacher and the Year Level Coordinator will negotiate with the student as to the method of redemption.

Redemption ONLY applies to SAC task or SATs that have been completed, assessed and deemed unsatisfactory. Redeemed work will not be reassessed for a new numerical score and can only be redeemed to “S” level. If this occurs the students will receive “S” for the outcome. Failure to meet requirements for redemption will result in “N” for the outcome and therefore “N” for the unit.

Retention of assessed work

The School will retain all assessed work, including any development/design work for the VCAA required period of time. Such work may be required for VCAA sampling/auditing purposes. Students may collect their work after the final examinations.

General Achievement Test (GAT)

All VCE students undertaking any graded Unit 3 & 4 study will be required to sit the GAT. It is an important part of the VCE assessment process and is used as checking device for SAC, SAT and final examinations as well as in the calculation of the Derived Examination Score. It is also being used more frequently by higher education providers.

BMG requires students to sit a Practice GAT as the GAT is of a type and duration unlike all their other exams. Attendance at the GAT Practice Examination is compulsory for all Unit 3 students.

Unacceptable behaviour in an Assessment Task

- If a student attends the class or classes in which an Assessment Task is to be completed but chooses not to attempt the task, they may receive “N” for the task and therefore may receive “N” for the unit. They will be expected to complete the task to redeem the “S”.
- A review panel of the Director of Studies, the relevant Year Level Coordinator and the classroom teacher will examine the circumstances of the incident and recommend a course of action.
- Satisfactory completion of the task will enable a student to receive an S for the outcome but the letter grade for the assessment task will be a “UG” (Ungraded).
- Failure to attempt the task could result in students being given an “N” for the outcome and therefore the unit.

In the event a teacher deems that an Assessment Task has not been completed to an acceptable level and has therefore been awarded “NAR”, the student will be required to resubmit the work or complete similar work in order to achieve an “S” for the relevant outcome. The relevant teacher and the Year Level Coordinator will negotiate with the student as to the outcome.

Authentication

This issue, unfortunately, is becoming more and more of a problem. In order to meet the requirements for Satisfactory Completion of a unit, students must submit work that is clearly their own. Apart from reference to, and incorporation of appropriate text and source material, no part of a student's work may be copied from any other person's work. A student may not accept from nor give undue assistance to any other person in the preparation and submission of work.

Students are responsible for ensuring that the teacher has no difficulty in authenticating their work. Teachers cannot authenticate work about which they have doubts until further evidence is provided.

Students will observe the following procedures to ensure authentication of Unit 1 & 2 Assessment Tasks, and Unit 3 & 4 SAC Tasks and SAT:

The student must retain ALL materials that have been used in the development of the task to enable the teacher to determine that the work is the student's own. All materials must be retained until the end of the year.

- Students must not submit the same piece of work for assessment in more than one subject.
- Students who knowingly assist another student in a breach of rules will be penalized.
- Teachers of studies that have SATs are required to complete the Authentication Record for School-assessed Tasks form to ensure authentication of student work.

Teachers will observe the following procedures to ensure authentication of Assessment Tasks, SAC Tasks and SAT:

- The teacher will monitor the development of the task by sighting preliminary work where appropriate, and by observing the individual tasks being undertaken by the student in class.
- The teacher may consider it appropriate to ask the student to demonstrate his or her understanding of the task at or about the time of submission of the work.
- The work will be assessed only if a teacher can determine that, to the best of his or her knowledge, the work is the student's own.

Please refer to the Policy on Plagiarism, Cheating and Authentication.

Breach of AUTHENTICATION Rules:

If any part or all of the work cannot be authenticated, then the matter must be dealt with as a breach of rules. If a teacher believes that there is a breach of authentication rules, he or she will address the issue with the appropriate Year Level Coordinator and if verified, refer the breach to the Principal. The Principal and or VCE Review Panel may impose a number of penalties for a substantive breach of the rules. These may include:

- Reprimanding a student.
- Requiring the student to resubmit the work to achieve "S".
- Refusing to accept that part of the work that infringes the rules and deem the remaining part to have been assessed.
- Refusing to accept the whole work and the student will receive "N".

VCE Review Panel

This panel appointed by the Principal deals with student issues relating to the VCE (Breach of Rules, Discipline, Authentication and Attendance). This panel will be a combination of the Director of Studies, Heads of School, the relevant Head of Department, the relevant Year Level Coordinator(s) and the classroom teacher if required. The recommendation of the panel will be referred to the Principal who will make the final decision.

Student Appeals

- Units 1 and 2: Students may appeal to the VCE REVIEW PANEL in regard to authentication and attendance issues.
- Units 3 and 4: Students have the right of appeal to VCAA if a penalty has been imposed because of a breach of rules.

In relation to SAC & SAT, the student shall have the right of appeal to VCAA against a decision not to authenticate work or if an alleged breach of rules has occurred. There is no appeal to the VCAA in the case of the school refusing to accept the late submission of work. Students may appeal against the Principal's written decision concerning a breach of the regulations. Correspondence must be addressed to the Secretary, VCAA.

Reporting and Interviews

The school utilizes a Continuous Reporting System, meaning that both students and parents can access student results and feedback as the year progresses. This can be accessed through the myBMG Parent Portal and is designed to help facilitate up-to-date feedback and improvement strategies for students. Although the statement of results from the VCAA simply indicates when a student has passed ('S'), our Year 11 reports will include Grades (A+ to E) and 'S' (Satisfactory) or 'N' (unsatisfactory completion). A 'J' result will be given where the student withdrew late and did not complete outcomes due to exceptional circumstances. Letters during the year may also be sent out to update on progress.

Parent/Teacher Interviews are held twice yearly, in Term 1 and Term 3. Bacchus Marsh Grammar Staff welcome dialogue with parents on student progress and are happy to meet with parents by arrangement. Please contact Reception to arrange a time.

Whilst students studying Unit 3-4 Subjects get internal results, these are used to provide a ranking of students, with the final results determined by the VCAA. Final results for VCE 3-4 Subjects form part of the ATAR and are released by the VCAA in December. Students may access results in Unit 3-4 studies via the VCE Results and ATAR service. Results are also posted out to students.

How the Higher Education Subject can contribute to an ATAR:

A Higher Education study can be used as a **fifth or sixth study** in the calculation of a student's ATAR. Depending on the mark achieved, between three and five points will be added to an ATAR aggregate (the score that is used to calculate the final ATAR). The table below outlines the points a student will receive, and the equivalent VCE study score value.

<u>Average mark for Higher Education subjects you take</u>	<u>Higher Education ATAR aggregate contribution</u>	<u>Equivalent VCE study score</u>
90 or more	5.0 points	50
80-89	4.5 points	45
70-79	4.0 points	40
60-69	3.5 points	35
50-59	3.0 points	30

Applications for Higher Education generally open in Term 3 (the year prior to studies).

Attendance Policy

Students undertake the majority of their learning and assessment in class and consequently attendance is critical. The school expects that students will not make personal appointments during the normal school day.

At Bacchus Marsh Grammar 80% attendance in all scheduled classes, study periods, tutor group sessions and House, Year Level and Senior School Assemblies for each term is required. Students who are absent without the express approval of the School for more than 20 % of scheduled class time for any one unit in a term may receive "N" for that unit. The responsibility rests with each individual student to account for all absences. The school will maintain and retain documentation and records relating to each VCE student's attendance and record approved and unapproved absences.

The following do not contribute to student absences: VET classes, compulsory subject-based expeditions, excursions, and House or ICCES activities.

The school must be notified on the morning of any other absence and absences must be followed up by:

- A note from a parent/guardian; or
- A medical certificate submitted to the student's tutor teacher on the day of his or her return to school. The tutor teacher will be responsible for the safe storage of such evidence.

Please note: Students receiving any form of Government assistance need to be aware that all unexplained absences must be forwarded to Centrelink for auditing purposes. This may result in the withdrawal of payment or repayments of monies received by students.

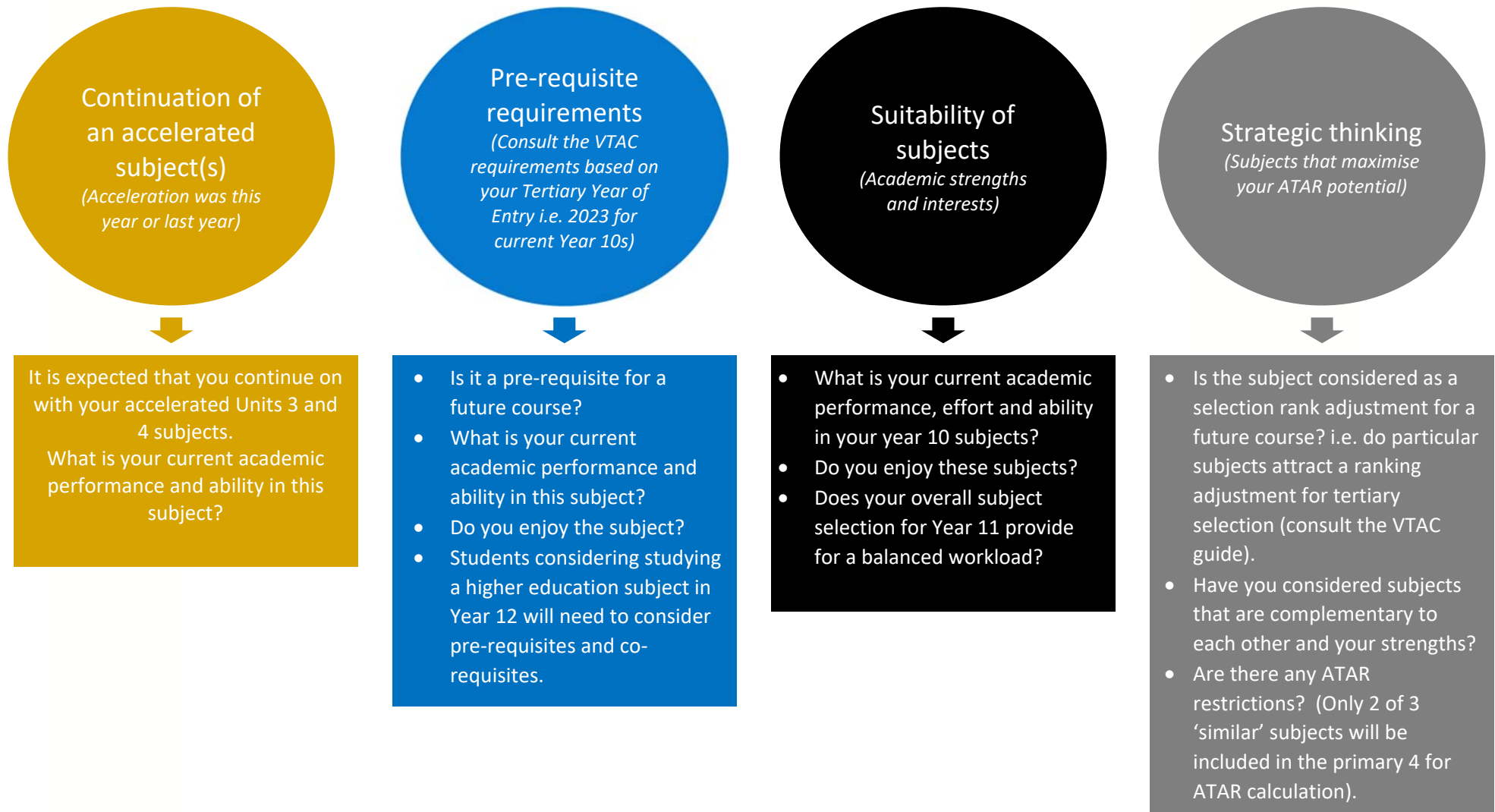
Unauthorised Absences

Unauthorised absences are absences not related to illness or unavoidable and extenuating circumstances. Examples of unauthorised absences include hair appointments, driving lessons, missing the bus and shopping.

1. Absences from class which are unauthorised will result in an after school detention.
2. After three unauthorised absences from school or class the parent/guardian will be contacted by the Head of Year Level or Head of School to determine the consequences.

❖ **As well as the above VCE requirements students are also expected to follow BMG uniform, behaviour, ICT and Social media policies that are set out in the diary and can be found on the school website.**

Year 11 Subject Selection Considerations *student choices should involve the following considerations:*



It is the responsibility of the student to carefully consult VTAC for all course information. This includes pre-requisites, selection rank bonuses and additional requirements. Students must use the correct tertiary admissions information based on the year of entry. Eg. Current Year 10 would be accessing course information for 2023.

Year 12 Subject Selection Consideration *Most students will fit into the following categories when finalising their Year 12 subject selections*

If you accelerated
in one or more
subjects

*(Acceleration was this year
or last year)*



It is expected that you continue with the remaining Unit 1 and 2 subjects you have studied this year as Units 3 and 4 subjects next year.

The majority of you have completed one or two Unit 3 or 4 subjects in Year 10 or 11, so you will have either one or two study blocks next year.

Currently
completing Six
Unit 1 and 2
subjects

(Discontinue one subject next year)



Considerations when deciding on which subject to discontinue:

- Is it a pre-requisite for a future course?
- Is it considered as a selection rank adjustments for a future course?
- What is your current academic performance and ability in this subject?
- Do you enjoy the subject?

Selecting a new
subject

*(On rare occasions, a student
may need to select a new subject
in Year 12 without having
studied the Unit 1 and 2 subject).*



Reasons for this would include:

- Academic suitability.
- To satisfy pre-requisites for future course requirements.
- To enhance or extend student strengths in faculty areas.

It is the responsibility of the student to carefully consult VTAC for all course information. This includes pre-requisites, selection rank bonuses and additional requirements. Students must use the correct tertiary admissions information based on the year of entry.

Eg. Current Year 11 would be accessing course information for 2022.

VCE Study Choice

Commerce

Accounting Unit 1 - 4
Business Management Unit 1 - 4
Economics Unit 1 - 4
Legal Studies 1- 4

Design Technology

Product Design & Technology Unit 1 – 4:
Textiles or Wood
Systems Engineering Unit 1 - 4

Digital Technology

Computing & Software Development Unit 1- 4

English

English Language Unit 1 - 4
English Unit 1 - 4
Literature Unit 1 - 4

Geography

Geography Unit 1 - 4

History

History Unit 1 & 2 Global Empires
History Unit 1 & 2 Twentieth Century
History - Australian Unit 3 & 4
History - Revolutions Unit 3 & 4

Hospitality

Food Studies Unit 1 - 4
VCE/VET Hospitality Food and Beverage Unit 1-4

Languages Other Than English

French Unit 1 - 4
Indonesian Unit 1 - 4
Japanese Unit 1 - 4
Other Language Studies (offered externally)*

Higher Education

Range of discipline areas Unit 3 & 4 *

Mathematics

General Mathematics Unit 1 & 2
Further Mathematics Unit 3 & 4
Mathematical Methods Unit 1 - 4
Specialist Mathematics Unit 1 - 4

Music

VCE/VET Music Industry Unit 1 - 4

Performing Arts

Dance Unit 1 - 4
Drama Unit 1 - 4

Physical Education, Sport & Health

Health & Human Development Unit 1 - 4
Outdoor & Environmental Studies Unit 3 & 4
Physical Education Unit 1 - 4

Politics

Australian and Global Politics Unit 1 & 2
Global Politics 3 & 4

Science

Biology Unit 1 - 4
Chemistry Unit 1 - 4
Physics Unit 1 - 4
Environmental Science Unit 1 - 4
Psychology Unit 1 - 4

Visual Arts

Art Unit 1 - 4
Media Studies Unit 1 - 4
Studio Arts Unit 1 - 4
Visual Communication Unit 1 - 4

*Approval Required

Study Descriptions

Commerce

Accounting Units 1 - 4

VCE Accounting explores the financial recording, reporting, analysis and decision-making processes of a sole proprietor of a small business. Students study both theoretical and practical aspects of accounting. They collect, record, report and analyse financial data, and report, classify, verify and interpret accounting information, using both manual methods and information and communications technology (ICT). Students apply critical thinking skills to a range of business situations to model alternative outcomes and to provide accounting advice to business owners. In business decision-making, financial as well as ethical considerations (incorporating social and environmental aspects) are taken into account.

VCE Accounting prepares students for a university or TAFE vocational study pathway to commerce, management and accounting, leading to careers in areas such as financial accounting, management accounting, forensic/investigative accounting, taxation, environmental accounting, management and corporate or personal financial planning.

Unit 1: Role of accounting in business

Unit 2: Accounting and decision-making for a trading business

Unit 3: Financial accounting for a trading business

Unit 4: Recording, reporting, budgeting and decision-making

Business Management Units 1 - 4

VCE Business Management examines the ways businesses manage resources to achieve objectives. The VCE Business Management study design follows the process from the first idea for a business concept, to planning and establishing a business, through to the day-to-day management of a business. It also considers changes that need to be made to ensure continued success of a business. Students develop an understanding of the complexity of the challenges facing decision makers in managing these resources. A range of management theories is considered and compared with management in practice through contemporary case studies drawn from the past four years. Students learn to propose and evaluate alternative strategies to contemporary challenges in establishing and maintaining a business.

Unit 1: Planning a business

Unit 2: Establishing a business

Unit 3: Managing a business

Unit 4: Transforming a business

Economics Units 1 - 4

Economics is the study of how resources are allocated to meet the needs and wants of society. It examines the role of consumers, businesses, governments and other organisations in the decision making about the allocation of resources, the production of goods and services and the effect that these decisions may have on material and non-material living standards. Developing students' understanding of economics enables them to appreciate the reasons behind these decisions and the intended and unintended consequences. Through studying economics students develop a range of skills including the ability to gather, organise, analyse and synthesise a wide selection of economic information.

Unit 1: The behaviour of consumers and businesses

Unit 2: Contemporary economic issues

Unit 3: Australia's economic prosperity

Unit 4: Managing the economy

Legal Studies Units 1 - 4

VCE Legal Studies examines the institutions and principles which are essential to Australia's legal system. Students develop an understanding of the rule of law, law-makers, key legal institutions, rights protection in Australia, and the justice system.

Through applying knowledge of legal concepts and principles to a range of actual and/or hypothetical scenarios, students develop their ability to use legal reasoning to argue a case for or against a party in a civil or criminal matter. They consider and evaluate recent and recommended reforms to the criminal and civil justice systems, and engage in an analysis of the extent to which our legal institutions are effective and our justice system achieves the principles of justice. For the purposes of this study, the principles of justice are fairness (fair legal processes are in place, and all parties receive a fair hearing); equality (all people treated equally before the law, with an equal opportunity to present their case); and access (understanding of legal rights and ability to pursue their case).

Unit 1: Guilt and liability

Unit 2: Sanctions, remedies and rights

Unit 3: Rights and justice

Unit 4: The people and the law

Design Technology

Product Design and Technology Units 1 - 4 Textiles or Wood

Product design is a response to changing needs and to improve quality of life by designing creative, innovative and sustainable products. Product design is enhanced through knowledge of social, technological, economic, historical, ethical, legal, environmental and cultural factors. These factors influence the aesthetics, form and function of products. Central to VCE Product Design and Technology is design thinking, which is applied through the product design process providing a structure for creative problem solving. The design process involves identification of a real need, problem or opportunity that is then articulated in a design brief. The need, problem or opportunity is investigated and informed by research to aid the development of solutions that take the form of physical, three-dimensional products. Development of these solutions requires the application of technology and a variety of cognitive and physical skills, including design thinking, drawing and computer-aided design, testing processes and materials, planning, construction, fabrication and evaluation.

For VCE Product Design and Technology students assume the role of a designer-maker. In adopting this role, they develop and apply knowledge of factors that influence design and address the design factors relevant to their design situation. The knowledge and use of resources is integral to product design. These resources include a range of materials, and the tools, equipment and machines needed to safely transform these materials into products. Increasingly, the importance of sustainability is affecting product design and development, and so is at the forefront throughout the product life cycle.

Unit 1: Sustainable product redevelopment

Unit 2: Collaborative design

Unit 3: Applying the product design process

Unit 4: Product development and evaluation

Systems Engineering Units 1 - 4

VCE Systems Engineering is a fusion of design thinking, mechanical, electro-technological and digital technologies. The course involves the design, creation, operation and evaluation of integrated systems, which mediate and control many aspects of human experience. Integral to Systems Engineering is the identification and quantification of systems goals, the development of alternative system design concepts, trial and error, design trade-offs, selection and implementation of the best design, testing and verifying that the system is well built and integrated, and evaluating how well the completed system meets the intended goals.

Unit 1: Mechanical systems

Unit 2: Electro-technological systems

Unit 3: Integrated and controlled systems

Unit 4: Systems control

Digital Technology

Computing and Software Development Units 1 - 4

VCE Computing provides students with opportunities to acquire and apply knowledge and skills to use digital systems efficiently and effectively when creating digital solutions both individually and as part of a network.

VCE Computing focuses on the application of a problem-solving methodology, and strategies and techniques for managing information systems in a range of contexts, to create digital solutions that meet specific needs. The study examines each component of an information system (data, people, processes and digital systems) and how their interrelationships affect the types and quality of digital solutions. Through a structured approach to problem solving, incorporating computational, design and systems thinking, students are equipped to orient themselves towards the future, with an awareness of the technical and societal implications of digital systems.

Unit 1: Computing

Unit 2: Computing

Unit 3: Software Development

Unit 4: Software Development

English

English Units 1 - 4

VCE English focuses on how English language is used to create meaning in written, spoken and multimodal texts of varying complexity. Literary texts selected for study are drawn from the past and present, from Australia and from other cultures. Other texts are selected for analysis and presentation of argument.

The study of English contributes to the development of literate individuals capable of critical and creative thinking, aesthetic appreciation and creativity. It also develops the students' ability to create and analyse texts, moving from interpretation to reflection and critical analysis. Students studying English become confident, articulate and critically aware communicators and further develop a sense of themselves, their world and their place within it.

Unit 1 Reading and creating texts / Analysing and presenting argument

Unit 2 Reading and comparing texts / Analysing and presenting argument

Unit 3 Reading and creating texts / Analysing argument

Unit 4 Reading and comparing texts / Presenting argument

English Language Units 1 - 4

VCE English Language explores the ways in which language is used by individuals and groups and reflects our thinking and values. English Language builds on students' previous learning about the conventions and codes used by speakers and writers of English. Informed by the discipline of linguistics, it provides students with metalinguistic tools to understand and analyse language use, variation and change. Students studying English Language examine how uses and interpretations of language are nuanced and complex rather than a series of fixed conventions. Students explore how people use spoken and written English to communicate, to think and innovate, to construct identities, to build and interrogate attitudes and assumptions and to create and disrupt social cohesion. The study of English Language enables students to understand the structures, features and discourses of written and spoken texts through the systematic and objective deconstruction of language in use.

Unit 1: Language and communication

Unit 2: Language change

Unit 3: Language variation and social purpose

Unit 4: Language variation and identity

Literature Units 1 - 4

In VCE Literature students undertake close reading of texts and analyse how language and literary elements and techniques function within a text. Emphasis is placed on recognition of a text's complexity and meaning, and on consideration of how that meaning is embodied in its literary form. The study provides opportunities for reading deeply, widely and critically, responding analytically and creatively, and appreciating the aesthetic merit of texts.

VCE Literature enables students to examine the historical and cultural contexts within which both readers and texts are situated. It investigates the assumptions, views and values which both writer and reader bring to the texts and it encourages students to contemplate how we read as well as what we read. It considers how literary criticism informs the reading of texts and the ways texts relate to their contexts and to each other.

Unit 1: Approaches to literature

Unit 2: Context and connections

Unit 3: Form and transformation

Unit 4: Interpreting texts

Geography

Geography Units 1 - 4

The study of Geography is a structured way of exploring, analysing and understanding the characteristics of places that make up our world. Geographers are interested in key questions concerning places and geographic phenomena: What is there? Where is it? Why is it there? What are the effects of it being there? How is it changing over time and how could, and should, it change in the future? How is it different from other places and phenomena? How are places and phenomena connected?

Students explore these questions through fieldwork and investigation of a wide range of secondary sources. These methods underpin the development of a unique framework for understanding the world, enabling students to appreciate its complexity, the diversity and interactions of its environments, economies and cultures, and the processes that helped form and transform them. Ten key geographic concepts underpin the study – place, scale, distance, distribution, movement, region, process, change, spatial association and sustainability. These concepts are used in the exploration of each area of study to assist in the observation, description, interpretation and analysis and explanation of geographic phenomena.

Unit 1: Hazards and disasters

Unit 2: Tourism

Unit 3: Changing the land

Unit 4: Human population – trends and issues

History

The study of VCE History assists students to understand themselves, others and their world, and broadens their perspective by examining people, groups, events, ideas and movements. Through studying VCE History, students develop social, political, economic and cultural understanding. They also explore continuity and change: the world is not as it has always been, and it will be subject to change in the future. In this sense, history is relevant to contemporary issues. It fosters an understanding of human agency and informs decision making in the present.

The study of history fosters the ability to ask searching questions, to engage in independent research, and to construct arguments about the past based on evidence. Historical comprehension enables a source to be understood in relation to its context; that is, students make links between the source and the world in which it was produced. VCE History enables students to engage with a range of times, people, places and ideas.

Global Empires Units 1 & 2

Global Empires explores the ideas and power relations accompanying the growth of empires in the Early Modern period 1400 – 1775.

Twentieth Century History Units 1 & 2

Twentieth century history examines the aftermath of the Great War as well as the causes and consequences of World War Two.

Australian History Unit 3 & 4

Australian History investigates national history from colonial times to the end of the twentieth century and includes the histories of Indigenous Peoples.

Revolutions Unit 3 & 4

Revolutions explores the causes and consequences of revolution in two of America, France, Russia and China.

Hospitality

Food Studies Units 1 - 4

VCE Food Studies takes an interdisciplinary approach to the exploration of food, with an emphasis on extending food knowledge and skills and building individual pathways to health and wellbeing through the application of practical food skills. VCE Food Studies provides a framework for informed and confident food selection and food preparation within today's complex architecture of influences and choices. Practical work is integral to Food Studies.

Unit 1: Food origins

Unit 2: Food makers

Unit 3: Food in daily life

Unit 4: Food issues, challenges and futures

VCE/VET Hospitality Food & Beverage Units 1 - 4

The VCE VET Hospitality program is drawn from a national training package and offers portable qualifications which are recognised throughout Australia. These qualifications provide students with the knowledge and skills to prepare them for a diverse range of occupations in the hospitality industry. At BMG we offer as part of the VCE program the **SIT20316 Certificate II in Hospitality** which prepares students with a limited range of hospitality operational skills and basic knowledge. It includes units such as; preparing/serving expresso coffee, non-alcoholic beverages, food and beverage service, advice on food, and functional transactions.

During the year, students work towards completing the key competencies in theory and practical work. Students are enrolled as William Angliss TAFE students and complete **compulsory** school holiday programs at the TAFE in Melbourne CBD. Please be aware that this commitment requires one full week in the June/July holidays for Yr. 11 students in a back-of-house role. This is followed by two full weeks for Yr. 12 with one during the June/ July holidays and the other during the September holidays. At this time, front-of-house competencies are completed and assessed. All other work is completed on campus at BMG. A study score is available for this subject.

Languages

Indonesian Second Language Units 1 - 4

Japanese Second Language Units 1 - 4

French Units 1 - 4

VCE Languages focus on student participation in interpersonal communication, interpreting the language of other speakers, and presenting information and ideas on a range of themes and topics. Students develop and extend skills in listening, speaking, reading, writing and viewing languages in a range of contexts and develop cultural understanding in interpreting and creating language. Students develop their understanding of the relationships between language and culture in new contexts and consider how these relationships shape communities. Throughout the study students are given opportunities to make connections and comparisons based on personal reflections about the role of language and culture in communication and in personal identity.

Music

VCE/VET Music Performance Units 1 - 4

Music Performance Specialisation: provides students with the opportunity to apply a broad range of knowledge and skills in varied work contexts in the music industry. Units 1 and 2 include genre specific research, composing simple songs or musical pieces and preparing for performances. Units 3 and 4 offer scored assessments and include units such as developing improvisation skills, applying knowledge of genre to music making and performing music as part of a group or as a soloist.

Mathematics

General Mathematics Units 1 & 2

General Mathematics provides for different combinations of student interests and preparation for study of Further Mathematics Unit 3 and 4. The areas of study for General Mathematics Unit 1 and Unit 2 are 'Algebra and structure', 'Arithmetic and number', 'Discrete mathematics', 'Graphs of linear and non-linear relations' and 'Statistics'.

In undertaking these units, students are expected to be able to apply techniques, routines and processes involving rational and real arithmetic, sets, lists and tables, diagrams and geometric constructions, algebraic manipulation, equations and graphs. They should have facility with relevant mental and by-hand approaches to estimation and computation. The use of technology is incorporated throughout each unit as applicable.

Further Mathematics Units 3 & 4

Further Mathematics consists of two areas of study, a compulsory Core area of study to be completed in Unit 3 and an Applications area of study to be completed in Unit 4. The Core comprises 'Data analysis' and 'Recursion and financial modelling'. The Applications comprises two modules to be completed in their entirety, from a selection of four possible modules: The two chosen modules are: 'Matrices' and 'Networks and decision mathematics'.

In undertaking these units, students are expected to be able to apply techniques, routines and processes involving rational and real arithmetic, sets, lists and tables, diagrams and geometric constructions, algebraic manipulation, equations, and graphs. They should have a facility with relevant mental and by-hand approaches to estimation and computation. The use of technology is incorporated throughout each unit as applicable.

Mathematical Methods Units 1 - 4

Mathematical Methods Units 1 and 2 provide an introductory study of simple elementary functions, algebra, calculus, probability and statistics and their applications in a variety of practical and theoretical contexts. They are designed as preparation for Mathematical Methods Units 3 and 4 and contain assumed knowledge and skills for these units.

In undertaking this unit, students are expected to be able to apply techniques, routines and processes involving rational and real arithmetic, sets, lists and tables, diagrams and geometric constructions, algebraic manipulation, equations, graphs and differentiation with and without the use of technology. They should have facility with relevant mental and by-hand approaches to estimation and computation.

Mathematical Methods Units continued

Mathematical Methods Units 3 and 4 consist of the areas of study 'Functions and graphs', 'Calculus', 'Algebra' and 'Probability and statistics'.

In undertaking these units, students are expected to be able to apply techniques, routines and processes involving rational and real arithmetic, sets, lists and tables, diagrams and geometric constructions, algebraic manipulation, equations, graphs, differentiation, anti-differentiation, integration and inference with and without the use of technology. They should have a facility with relevant mental and by-hand approaches to estimation and computation.

Specialist Mathematics Units 1 - 4

Specialist Mathematics Units 1 and 2 provide a course of study for students who wish to undertake an in-depth study of Mathematics, with an emphasis on concepts, skills and processes related to mathematical structure, modelling, problem solving and reasoning. This study has a focus on interest in the discipline of Mathematics in its own right and investigation of a broad range of applications, as well as development of a sound background for further studies in Mathematics and Mathematics related fields. Mathematical Methods Units 1 and 2 and Specialist Mathematics Units 1 and 2, taken in conjunction, provide a comprehensive preparation for Specialist Mathematics Units 3 and 4. The areas of study are 'Arithmetic and number', 'Geometry, measurement and trigonometry', 'Graphs of linear and non-linear relations' and 'Statistics'.

In undertaking these units, students are expected to be able to apply techniques, routines and processes involving rational, real and complex arithmetic, sets, lists and tables, diagrams and geometric constructions, algebraic manipulation, equations and graphs with and without the use of technology. They should have facility with relevant mental and by-hand approaches to estimation and computation.

Specialist Mathematics Units 3 and 4 consist of the areas of study: 'Functions and graphs', 'Algebra', 'Calculus', 'Vectors', 'Mechanics' and 'Probability and statistics'. Specialist Mathematics Units 3 and 4 assumes familiarity with the key knowledge and skills from Mathematical Methods Units 1 and 2 and Specialist Mathematics Units 1 and 2 and a concurrent or previous study of Mathematical Methods Units 3 and 4.

In undertaking these units, students are expected to be able to apply techniques, routines and processes involving rational, real and complex arithmetic, sets, lists and tables, diagrams and geometric constructions, algebraic manipulation, equations, graphs, differentiation, anti-differentiation and integration and inference with and without the use of technology. They should have facility with relevant mental and by-hand approaches to estimation and computation.

Performing Arts

Dance Units 1 - 4

VCE Dance develops students' physical skills, personal movement vocabulary, and application of choreographic and analytical principles. Students create and perform their own dance works as well as studying the dance works of others through performance and analysis. They consider influences on the expressive intention and movement vocabulary of their own dances and also on works created by choreographers working in a range of styles, genres and traditions. Influences on aspects of production in dance works are also studied.

In each unit, students are required to undertake systematic dance training to build physical skills and develop their ability to execute safely a diverse range of expressive body actions. Students develop and refine their choreographic skills by exploring personal and learnt movement vocabularies, and ways in which movement can be created and arranged to communicate the expressive intention of the dance-maker. Students perform choreographed or learnt solo and group dance works using different dance-making processes.

Unit 1: The body as an instrument of expression

Unit 2: Movement vocabulary and choreographic skills

Unit 3: Solo Dance work

Unit 4: Unified Solo Dance work

Drama Units 1 - 4

The study of Drama focuses on the creation and performance of characters and stories in naturalistic and non-naturalistic ways. Students draw on a range of stimulus material and play-making techniques to develop and present devised work. Students also explore a range of performance styles and conventions, dramatic elements and stagecraft. They use performance and expressive skills to explore and develop role and character. They analyse the development of their own work and performances by other drama practitioners.

Unit 1: Dramatic storytelling

Unit 2: Non-naturalistic Australian drama

Unit 3: Devised non-naturalistic ensemble performance

Unit 4: Non-naturalistic solo performance

Politics

Australian and Global Politics Unit 1 & 2

VCE Australian and Global Politics is the study of contemporary power at both national and global levels. Through this study students explore, explain, analyse and evaluate national and global political issues, and events. Australian and Global Politics offers students the opportunity to engage with key political, social and economic issues, and to become informed citizens, voters and participants in their local, national and international communities.

Unit 1: Ideas, actors and power

Unit 2: Global connections

Global Politics 3 & 4

Global Politics is the study of the political, social, cultural and economic forces that shape interactions between states and other global actors in the contemporary world. It examines the interconnectedness of the contemporary global political arena and the impact of globalisation on culture, sovereignty, human rights and the environment. It examines the nature and power of key global actors and the types of power used by an Asia-Pacific state to achieve its national interests. It considers global ethical issues including human rights, people movement, development and arms control and explores the nature and effectiveness of global responses to crises such as climate change, armed conflict, terrorism and economic instability

Global Politics provides students with an insight into the political, social, cultural and economic forces that shape our rapidly changing world. Students develop a critical understanding of the world in which they live and of contemporary global issues.

Unit 3: Global actors

Unit 4: Global challenges

Physical Education and Health

Health and Human Development Units 1 - 4

VCE Health and Human Development takes a broad and multidimensional approach to defining and understanding health and wellbeing. Students investigate the World Health Organization's definition and other interpretations of health and wellbeing. Students examine health and wellbeing, and human development as dynamic concepts, subject to a complex interplay of biological, sociocultural and environmental factors, many of which can be modified by health care and other interventions. Students consider the interaction of these factors, with particular focus on the social factors that influence health and wellbeing; that is, on how health and wellbeing, and development, might be influenced by the conditions into which people are born, grow, live, work and age.

Students consider Australian and global contexts as they investigate variations in health status between populations and nations. They look at the Australian healthcare system and research what is being done to address inequalities in health and development outcomes. They examine and evaluate the work of global organisations such as the United Nations and the World Health Organization, as well as non-government organisations and the Australian government's overseas aid program.

Unit 1: Understanding health and wellbeing

Unit 2: Managing health and development

Unit 3: Australia's health in a globalized world

Unit 4: Health and human development in a global context

Outdoor & Environmental Studies Units 3 & 4

VCE Outdoor and Environmental Studies is concerned with the ways humans interact with and relate to outdoor environments. 'Outdoor environments' covers environments that have experienced minimum influence by humans, as well as those environments that have been subjected to different levels of human intervention. The study enables students to make critically informed comment on questions of environmental sustainability and to understand the importance of environmental health, particularly in local contexts.

In this study both passive and active outdoor activities provide the means for students to develop experiential knowledge of outdoor environments. Such knowledge is then enhanced through the theoretical study of outdoor environments from the perspectives of environmental history, ecology and the social studies of human relationships with nature. The study also examines the complex interplay between outdoor environments and humans.

Unit 3: Relationships with outdoor environments

Unit 4: Sustainable outdoor relationships

Physical Education Units 1 - 4

VCE Physical Education explores the complex interrelationships between anatomical, biomechanical, physiological and skill acquisition principles to understand their role in producing and refining movement, and examines behavioural, psychological, environmental and sociocultural influences on performance and participation in physical activity. The assimilation of theoretical understanding and practice is central to the study of VCE Physical Education. Students participate in practical activities to examine the core concepts that underpin movement and that influence performance and participation in physical activity, sport and exercise.

Unit 1: The human body in motion

Unit 2: Physical activity, sport and society

Unit 3: Movement skills and energy for physical activity

Unit 4: Training to improve performance

Science

Biology Units 1 - 4

Biology seeks to understand and explore the nature of life, past and present, through four themes: how living things stay alive, how living things reproduce, how cellular processes help cells maintain life, and how life changes over time.

VCE Biology enables students to investigate the dynamic relationships between organisms, their interactions with the non-living environment, and the processes of life, from the molecular world of the cell to that of the whole organism, that maintain life and ensure its continuity. Students will learn about the ways that cells and organisms reproduce and communicate. They will study how genetics can describe patterns of inheritance including the use of genetic screening and decision making related to inheritance. Students will learn about structural, physiological and behavioural adaptations that help organisms to survive in their habitats. Evidence for evolution and changes to organisms over time will also be explored.

An important feature of VCE Biology is the opportunity for students to undertake laboratory experimentation, microscopy and fieldwork including practical investigations. Students pose questions, formulate hypotheses, collect and analyse data, evaluate methodologies and results, justify conclusions, make recommendations and communicate their findings.

Unit 1: How do living things stay alive?

Unit 2: How is continuity of life maintained?

Unit 3: How do cells maintain life?

Unit 4: How does life change and respond to challenges over time?

Chemistry Units 1 - 4

VCE Chemistry enables students to explore the relationship between materials and energy through four themes: the design and composition of useful materials, the reactions and analysis of chemicals in water, the efficient production and use of energy and materials, and the investigation of carbon-based compounds as important components of body tissues and the materials used in society. An important feature of VCE Chemistry is the opportunity for students to undertake laboratory experimentation including practical investigations. Students pose questions, formulate hypotheses, collect and analyse data, evaluate methodologies and results, justify conclusions, make recommendations and communicate their findings.

Unit 1: How can the diversity of materials be explained?

Unit 2: What makes water such a unique chemical?

Unit 3: How can chemical processes be designed to optimise efficiency?

Unit 4: How are organic compounds categorised, analysed and used?

Environmental Science Units 1 - 4

VCE Environmental Science enables students to understand Earth as a set of four interdependent systems: the atmosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere and lithosphere. Students explore how the relationships between these systems produce environmental change over a variety of timescales. They investigate the extent to which humans modify their environments and the consequences of these changes in local and global contexts with a focus on pollution, biodiversity, energy use and climate change.

An important feature of VCE Environmental Science is the opportunity for students to undertake laboratory investigations, fieldwork that may also involve the use of technologies and sampling techniques, case studies, simulations and practical investigations. Students pose questions, formulate hypotheses, collect and analyse data, evaluate methodologies and results, justify conclusions and communicate their findings. They investigate and evaluate issues, changes and alternative proposals by considering both longer and shorter term consequences for the individual, the environment and society.

Unit 1: How are Earth's systems connected?

Unit 2: How can pollution be managed?

Unit 3: How can biodiversity and development be sustained?

Unit 4: How can the impacts of human energy use be reduced?

Physics Units 1 - 4

Physics seeks to understand and explain the physical world, both natural and constructed. It examines models and ideas used to make sense of the world and which are sometimes challenged as new knowledge develops. By looking at the way matter and energy interact, we gain a better understanding of the underlying laws of nature.

VCE Physics provides students with opportunities to investigate questions related to selected areas including atomic physics, electricity, fields, mechanics, thermodynamics, quantum physics and waves. Students also have options for study related to astrophysics, flight, light and optics, particle accelerators, sound and sports science. An important feature of VCE Physics is the opportunity for students to undertake laboratory experimentation, data logging, simulations, animations and practical investigations. Students pose questions, formulate hypotheses, collect and analyse data, evaluate methodologies and results, justify conclusions, make recommendations and communicate their findings.

Unit 1: What ideas explain the physical world?

Unit 2: What do experiments reveal about the physical world?

Unit 3: How do fields explain motion and electricity?

Unit 4: How can two contradictory models explain both light and matter?

Psychology Units 1 - 4

VCE Psychology enables students to explore how people think, feel and behave through the use of a biopsychosocial approach. Students explore the connection between the brain and behaviour by focusing on several key interrelated aspects of the discipline: the interplay between genetics and environment, individual differences and group dynamics, sensory perception and awareness, memory and learning, and mental health.

An important feature of VCE Psychology is the opportunity for students to undertake a range of inquiry tasks both collaboratively and independently. Inquiry methodologies can include laboratory experimentation, observational studies, self-reports, questionnaires, interviews, rating scales, simulations, animations, examination of case studies and literature reviews. Students pose questions, formulate research hypotheses, operationalise variables, collect and analyse data, evaluate methodologies and results, justify conclusions, make recommendations and communicate their findings. As well as an increased understanding of scientific processes, students develop capacities that enable them to critically assess the strengths and limitations of science, respect evidence-based conclusions and gain an awareness of the ethical, social and political contexts of scientific endeavours.

Unit 1: How are behaviour and mental processes shaped?

Unit 2: How do external factors influence behaviour and mental processes?

Unit 3: How does experience affect behaviour and mental processes?

Unit 4: How is wellbeing developed and maintained?

Visual Arts

Art Units 1 - 4

VCE Art introduces the role of art, in all forms of media, in contemporary and historical cultures and societies. Students build an understanding of how artists, through their practice and the artworks they produce, communicate their experiences, ideas, values, beliefs and viewpoints. In this study, students view artworks and investigate the working practices of artists from different cultures and periods of time.

VCE Art challenges students to articulate their understanding of the meanings and messages contained within artworks and to examine the effects of artworks upon the viewer. Students develop skills in research, analysis, art history and criticism to interpret and debate the ideas and issues that are raised in artworks and, in response, they form and support personal points of view. Through exploration and experimentation, students develop skills in creative, critical, reflective and analytical thinking to explore, develop and refine visual artworks in a range of art forms, and to develop an awareness of appropriate health and safety practices. VCE Art equips students with practical and theoretical skills that enable them to follow pathways into tertiary art education or further training in a broad spectrum of art related careers. VCE Art also offers students opportunities for personal development and encourages them to make an ongoing contribution to the culture of their community through participation in lifelong art making.

Unit 1: Artworks, experience and meaning

Unit 2: Artworks and contemporary culture

Unit 3: Artworks, ideas and values

Unit 4: Artworks, ideas and viewpoints

Media Units 1 - 4

The media is ubiquitous in today's world. Working on a personal, local, national and global level, media is deeply embedded within life and culture. It entertains, teaches, informs, and shapes the audience's perceptions of their lives and the worlds in which they live. Stories in all their forms are at the heart of the media and its relationship with audiences. Through stories narratives are constructed that engage, and are read, by audiences. Representations of ideas, realities and imagination are constructed and deconstructed, remixed and reimagined with ever increasing technological sophistication, ease and speed to engage audiences. Developments in technologies have transformed media at a rapid pace. The interplay between print and broadcast media and multinational-networked database platforms has enabled creative communication opportunities and reworked notions of key media concepts including audiences, forms and products, storytelling, influence, institutions and industries.

Unit 1: Media forms, representations and Australian stories

Unit 2: Narrative across media forms

Unit 3: Media narratives and pre-production

Unit 4: Media production and issues in the media

Studio Arts Units 1 - 4

VCE Studio Arts introduces students to the role and practices of artists in society. Student research focuses on critical, reflective and creative thinking, the visual analysis of artworks and the investigation of how artists have interpreted sources of inspiration and influences in their art making. Students examine how artists develop their practice and have used materials, techniques and processes to create aesthetic qualities in artworks. They study how artists have developed style and explored their cultural identity in their artwork. Students use this knowledge to inform their own studio practice and to support art making.

The role of artists in society includes their relationships with others in the art industry and the presentation and exhibition of artworks in art galleries and exhibition spaces. Students research aspects of the art industry including the presentation, conservation and marketing of artworks.

Unit 1: Studio inspiration and techniques

Unit 2: Studio exploration and concepts

Unit 3: Studio practices and processes

Unit 4: Studio practice and art industry contexts

Visual Communication Design Units 1 - 4

The Visual Communication Design study examines the way visual language can be used to convey ideas, information and messages in the fields of communication, environmental and industrial design. Designers create and communicate through visual means to influence everyday life for individuals, communities and societies. Visual communication design relies on drawing as the primary component of visual language to support the conception and visualisation of ideas. Consequently, the study emphasises the importance of developing a variety of drawing skills to visualise thinking and to present potential solutions.

Unit 1: Introduction to visual communication design

Unit 2: Applications of visual communication within design fields

Unit 3: Visual communication design practices

Unit 4: Visual communication design development, evaluation and presentation



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