



# **Senior School Curriculum Handbook**

**Course Selection Information 2024**

# Year 10 2024

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In Year 10, students can select from a wide range of electives. This is an opportunity to try out a range of subjects before Years 11 and 12 when your course may become more narrowly focused. The pathways available to students in Year 10 are also designed to provide opportunities for all students to experience success. Some students will be offered the chance to study a Units 1 and 2 VCE subject and some students will be offered the chance to study a vocational studies pathway.

The Vocational Pathways Certificate (VPC) is another option for Year 10 students. Students in this program may be able to study a VET subject. [Please refer to the Victorian Pathways Certificate course information on pages 56 – 62.](#)

## Core subjects

English, Mathematics and Health and Physical Education are all core subjects.

### English

All students study one of three English options for the whole year. These options include English Enhancement, English or English as an Additional Language (EAL). Students will be provided with a recommended choice based on their eligibility (EAL) and Year 9 reports.

### Health and Physical Education

All students study Health and Physical Education for the whole year. They may also choose to do a Health and Physical Education elective.

### Mathematics

All students study one of three Mathematics options for the whole year. These options are designed to provide students with the opportunity to engage with a curriculum that best suits their needs and readiness. Students will be provided with a recommended choice based on their intended Year 11 subjects and Year 9 reports.

- **Mathematics Enhancement**

This subject has been designed to meet the needs of students who are passionate and highly engaged with mathematics. It has a strong emphasis on developing algebraic skills and content knowledge. It is suitable for students who are interested in undertaking VCE Mathematical Methods and/or VCE Specialist Mathematics

- **Mathematics**

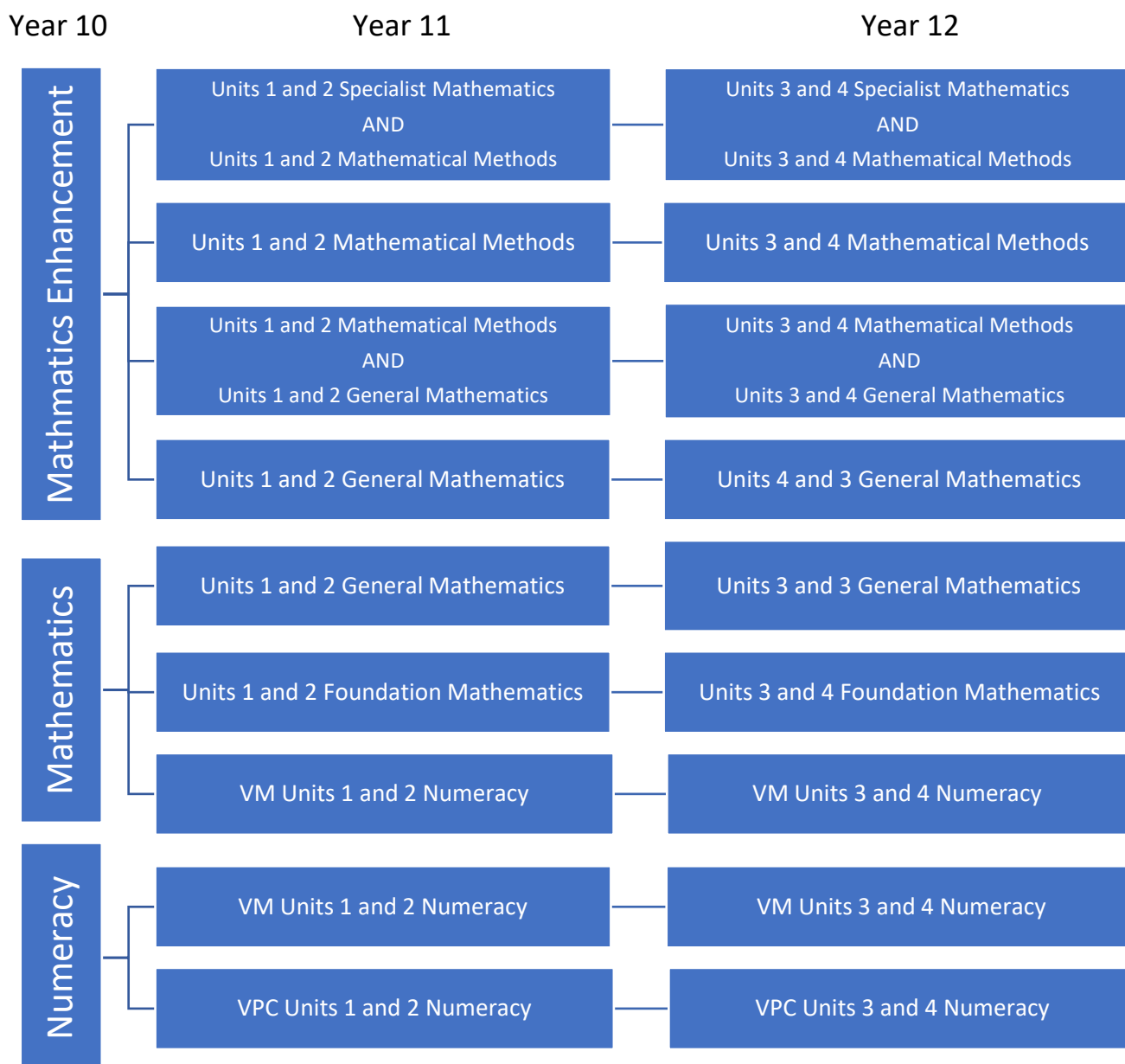
This subject has been designed to meet the needs of students who are interested in applied mathematics studies. This subject has a strong emphasis on supporting students to apply mathematical skills and knowledge to statistical, financial and business contexts. It is suitable for students who are interested in undertaking VCE General Mathematics.

- **Numeracy**

This subject has been designed with a strong emphasis on using mathematics in practical contexts, relating to everyday life, recreation, work and study. It provides learning opportunities for students who have found Year 9 mathematics very challenging and is well-suited for students who planning to complete a Vocational Major or Victorian Pathway Certificate (VM or VPC).

A graphic showing the pathways that the different Maths options lead to is shown below:

## Mathematics Suggested Pathways



## Elective subjects

The rest of each student's subjects are electives. Students are encouraged to select a broad range of electives.

- Students have **six** elective slots across both semesters.
- Students must select at least one subject from each of the Arts, Humanities, Science and Technology groups.

### Languages

Languages take up two elective slots as they must be studied for the full year.

Students must have studied the language at Year 10 in order to study VCE Chinese or Japanese in Year 11.

### Sciences

Students are strongly encouraged to have studied the corresponding science elective at Year 10 in order to study VCE Biology, VCE Physics or VCE Chemistry in Year 11.

### VCE Electives

Some students will be invited to study an accelerated VCE subject at the Units 1 and 2 level. A VCE subject takes **two** elective slots as it must be studied in both semesters.

Students will be offered this opportunity based on an established history in their school reports of excellent grades and excellent work habits. Attendance and wellbeing data will also be considered.

### Vocational pathway

The vocational pathway provides students with the opportunity to study a VET course or a workplace learning program. Students studying a VET will select **four** electives. Students in this pathway will begin a Vocational Pathways Certificate (VPC)

Students will be offered this opportunity based on their individual needs.

## Year 10 electives

Learning area	Subjects
Arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Art</li> <li>• Ceramics</li> <li>• Dance</li> <li>• Drama</li> <li>• Music</li> <li>• Visual Communication</li> </ul>
Health and Physical Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exercise Science and Sports Coaching</li> <li>• Human Development</li> <li>• Outdoor Recreation and Leisure</li> </ul>
Humanities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Business and Economics: Wealthy and Wise</li> <li>• Legal Studies: Law and Order</li> <li>• Geography: Human and Planet Wellbeing</li> <li>• History: War and Freedoms</li> </ul>
Languages <i>* Two elective slots</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Japanese</li> <li>• Chinese (Mandarin)</li> </ul>
Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction to Biology</li> <li>• Introduction to Chemistry</li> <li>• Introduction to Physics</li> <li>• Environmental Science (Earth and Space)</li> <li>• Introduction to Psychology (must be studied with another Science subject above)</li> </ul>
Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Digital Technology (Computers)</li> <li>• Food Studies - Exploring the Menu*</li> <li>• Food Studies - Let Them Eat Cake*</li> <li>• Systems Engineering</li> <li>• Fashion and Textiles</li> </ul> <p>*Note: Students are only permitted to choose one Food Studies elective in Year 10).</p>
VCE/VET Options	Some students may be eligible to study a Unit 1 and 2 subject or enrol in a VET certificate as part of their Year 10 program. This will be discussed with individual students.

# Year 10 Subject Descriptions – The Arts

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## Subject: Art

Elective Unit: One Semester

### Aim

This course is designed for students who have an interest in the Visual Arts and wish to refine their skills whilst exploring original approaches to conceptual ideas. It encourages creative and critical thinking in students by offering more freedom in their choice of expression, developing personal subject matter and individual styles.

### Learning Focus

Students will:

- Create, make and respond to art.
- Consolidate skills in art making, building upon the students' understanding of the design elements of line; tone; texture; shape, form and colour.
- Consolidating an understanding of the Principles of Art- emphasis, focal point, balance, movement, unity, variety, contrast, rhythm, repetition, scale, proportion & space.
- Learn about a range of different art styles, materials and techniques in art making.
- Broaden their understanding of professional artists and the working methods that they use in the making of art works.
- Communicate and express ideas/feelings by making artworks.
- Gain a sense of fulfilment through art making.
- Achieve a positive self-concept and confidence through creative experiences.

## Subject: Ceramics

Elective Unit: One Semester

### Aim

This course aims to develop practical skills, creativity and knowledge in activities involving ceramics.

### Learning Focus

Students will:

- Create hand-built small/medium sculptural pieces
- Develop expressive skills through design
- Decorate sculptural pieces using various techniques.

## Subject: Dance

Elective Unit: One Semester

### Aim

This course aims to develop dance skills and techniques focusing on creating dance works with meaning and intent. Students study various movement techniques and devices to create their own dances collaboratively.

### Learning Focus

Students will:

- Create their own dance performance with an expressive intention
- Experiment with improvisation using stimulus
- Understand dance works from different times, places and cultures
- Learn choreography focusing on the technical and physical skills
- Develop knowledge of dance terminology and anatomy
- Compare and evaluate their dance works and processes used
- Perform routine

\* It is not necessary for students to have previous dance experience to select this subject.

## Subject: Drama

Elective Unit: One Semester

### Aim

This course aims to enable students to develop their expressive skills, including voice and movement, by using a range of processes, styles and techniques. Students will develop the ability to explore, evaluate and respond to their own work and the work of others through the creation of characters and performances based on their interests and research.

### Learning Focus

Students will:

- Continue to build upon their acting skills by applying methods and techniques to their own performance work.
- Explore both naturalistic and non-naturalistic performance styles.
- Devise their own performance based on a provided topic that will be formally presented to an audience.
- Be required to use the theatrical styles studied in this unit within the performance.

## Subject: Music

Elective Unit: One Semester

### Aim

Students will improvise and arrange music, using aural recognition of texture, dynamics and expression to manipulate the elements of music to explore personal style in composition and performance

### Learning Focus

Students will:

- Practise and rehearse to refine a variety of performance repertoire with increasing technical and interpretative skill
- Plan and organise compositions with an understanding of style and convention
- Evaluate a range of music and compositions to inform and refine their own compositions and performances

## Subject: Visual Communication

Elective Unit: One Semester

### Aim

In this course, students will develop their understanding of the design process in 2 fields of design – Architectural Design and Communication Design. The unit emphasises the importance of developing a variety of drawing skills to communicate visual ideas using freehand, technical and computer assisted drawing.

### Learning Focus

Students will

- Learn how to draw an Architectural Design using drawing systems that include plan and elevations, paraline and perspective drawings
- Get an understanding of space and scale to develop an effective architectural solution
- Go through a design process for both Communication Graphics and Architectural Design.
- Refine designs using computer graphics software on students' laptop computers in both folios.



# Year 10 Subject Descriptions - English

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## Subject: English

Core Subject: Full Year

### Aim

English aims to ensure that students:

- Learn to listen to, read, view, speak, write, create and reflect on increasingly complex and sophisticated spoken, written and multimodal texts across a growing range of contexts with accuracy, fluency and purpose
- Appreciate, enjoy and use the English language in all its variations and develop a sense of its richness and power to evoke feelings, convey information, form ideas, facilitate interaction with others, entertain, persuade and argue
- Understand how standard Australian English works in its spoken and written forms and in combination with non-linguistic forms of communication to create meaning
- Develop interest and skills in inquiring into the aesthetic aspects of texts, and develop an informed appreciation of literature.

### Learning Focus

The study of English is central to the learning and development of all young Australians. It helps create confident communicators, imaginative thinkers and informed citizens. Students learn to analyse, understand, communicate and build relationships with others and with the world around them. The study of English helps young people develop the knowledge and skills needed for education, training and the workplace. It helps them become ethical, thoughtful, informed and active members of society.

## Subject: English Enhancement

Invitation Subject: Full Year

This subject replaces English for students who qualify for it and would like to do it. The aim and learning focus for this alternative English option are the same as for English. However, the curriculum content, skills and instruction for this program have the additional aim of supporting high achieving students to enhance their development in English. Specifically, this involves providing appropriate learning challenges designed to stimulate and foster sophisticated skills in reading, critical thinking, writing and speaking.

To provide for this purpose:

- The texts for the literature component of this course are chosen for their complex themes, stylistic richness, significance and potential to enhance attentive, imaginative reading, critical thinking, writing and discussion
- The materials for the contentious issues component of the course are selected for their potential to engage interest and develop sophisticated understanding of the way argument and language, spoken, written and visual, are used to communicate persuasively
- Classroom learning activities and homework are designed to foster expressive, fluent and persuasive spoken and written communication.
- Students in the SEAL Program and others who are achieving high grades in English might consider this option as appropriate to their needs.

# Year 10 Subject Description - EAL

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## Subject: English as an Additional Language (EAL)

Core Subject: Full Year

### Aim

The EAL curriculum aims to ensure that students:

- Develop fundamental functional English language and literacy skills
- Learn to listen to, speak, read, view, write and create spoken, print and digital texts, including visual, multimodal and interactive texts, across a growing range of contexts with accuracy, fluency and purpose
- Understand how Standard Australian English works in its spoken and print forms and in combination with non-linguistic forms of communication to create meaning
- Appreciate, enjoy and use the English language in all its variations and develop a sense of the ways it can be used to evoke feelings, convey information, form ideas, facilitate interaction with others, entertain, persuade and argue
- Develop their plurilingual awareness of the ways they use different languages and the roles of these languages in their lives and identities
- Develop their communicative skills, linguistic knowledge and cultural understandings in English and their other language/s, to enable their full participation in Australian society.

### Learning Focus

Eligible EAL students undertake a course of study that follows the English Victorian Curriculum and is designed to enhance students' communication skills and knowledge of the English language by focusing on the four modes of listening, speaking, reading and writing. In recognition of the specific needs of learners of English as an additional language this course will cater to the language needs of individual students, taking into account their exposure to the English language, learning needs and abilities. Students' listening and speaking skills are developed with a focus on extending their ability to use language in both familiar and formal situations, to influence the listener and negotiate in culturally appropriate ways. The student will be able to express opinions, gather and report on the views of others and attempt to persuade, orally and in writing. Students undertake a range of writing activities for different purposes and audiences, with a focus on developing their ability to produce sustained and cohesive pieces with appropriate language and grammar structures. Close studies of texts are undertaken, developing students' comprehension and analytical skills.

# Year 10 Subject Descriptions – Health & PE

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## Subject: Health & Physical Education

Core Unit: Full Year

### Aim

This course aims to enable students to develop:

- An understanding of body systems and health related fitness components
- An understanding of different types of training methods and principles that can be used in a training program to keep an individual fit and healthy
- An ability to identify ways of refining quality manipulative and movement skills in their performance during complex activities
- An understanding of illness and disease, and excellence in health in Australia
- Understanding of future theoretical concepts used in VCE Health & Physical Education.

### Learning Focus

Students will be involved in a compulsory semester in Core Health and Physical Education. This semester will focus on important fitness and health related topics, which will enable students to understand how to maintain a healthy physically, fit body. Health theory topics will be conducted once a week to link in with the key practical concepts covered in this course.

The theory component will include topics such as:

- Body Systems and Impact on Health
- Illness and Disease in Australia
- Excellence in Health
- Training Programs

The course will also assist students in developing and refining a range of movements and manipulative skills through various sports.

# Subject: Exercise Science and Sports Coaching

Elective Unit: One Semester

## Aim

This course aims to enable students to develop the following skills.

- To understand what information a Games Analysis can provide.
- To investigate several techniques and strategies that enable elite athletes to optimise their performance
- Leadership skills
- An understanding of different styles of coaching
- Organisational skills and communication skills with peers
- Confidence in presenting to target audiences
- Future concepts in VCE Physical Education

## Learning Focus

This is a comprehensive program that has the closest links to VCE Physical Education out of all the electives on offer and this course is strongly recommended for students wishing to continue with VCE Physical Education or VET Sport Recreation.

The course will examine the introduction of energy systems in several selected sports. A close look at how information can be obtained from Games Analysis will be an important part of the beginning of the course. The topics of Sport Psychology and Sports Nutrition may be explored and will enable students to appreciate some of the techniques and strategies elite athletes utilise to optimise performance.

Students will also study the practical application of coaching skills. It also includes elements of theory and introduces students to an understanding of leadership coaching, administration and management skills in relation to sporting activities. Students will be involved in peer coaching and the coaching of Lyndale Secondary College junior physical education classes, sports teams, and local primary school students.

Students will be required to undertake part day and lunchtime coaching responsibilities throughout the semester. There may be some negotiation of sports and activities chosen between the students and teacher.

# Subject: Human Development

Elective Unit: One Semester

## Aim

Address the biological, behavioural, social and physical environment determinants of health influenced by our surroundings.

- To develop an understanding of the concept of 'development' from conception to late adulthood.
- To understand the role nutrition plays in the body.
- To understand the concepts of health.

This unit is strongly recommended for students wishing to continue with VCE Health and Human Development and who anticipate taking a health and human development pathway.

## Learning Focus

This subject provides students with the skills and knowledge to make informed decisions about their own health and to recognise the importance of health in society. In actively participating in the unit students will ensure they make valued choices that allow for good health and seek appropriate advice especially in their youth.

The course will cover the four determinants of health that play an active role in the decisions and choices that may affect one's health, along with many aspects of nutrition that can have positive and negative impacts on an individual's health.

Students will critically evaluate the health of an individual across their lifespan, by assessing many injuries and illnesses. Students will understand the process of development from fertilisation and conception through to late adulthood.

The course offers students a range of pathways and caters to those who wish to pursue further formal study in areas as health promotion, community health research, allied health practices, education and the health profession.

# Subject: Outdoor Recreation and Leisure

Elective Unit: One Semester

Outdoor Recreation and Leisure is a Semester based elective. Each Semester will comprise of two specific units: Aquatic and Land Based Adventure. Each unit consists of various practical activities, within and external to the school environment, and encompasses a wide range of relevant theoretical concepts.

Theory content and assignments are largely based around intended skills and knowledge required for practical sessions undertaken, making it essential students attend all practical activities.

## Aim

- Develop an understanding of aquatic safety in differing water environments
- Enhance practical skills in a variety of activities inclusive of surfing, orienteering, hiking, base camping and cycling
- Build group cohesion, communication styles and leadership skills
- Understand and implement basic first aid principles and identify risk management strategies
- Participate in planning and evaluating a recreation and/or leisure event

## Learning Focus

There is a significant practical component in which the learning focus of each unit correlates to the development of both practical skills and knowledge, as mentioned in the above aims.

A specific focus is placed on student's developing their ability to plan, organise, implement, and manage their own safety and well-being, applicable to first aid, risk management and recreation activities.

## Pre-requisites

There are no formal pre-requisites for this elective. Due to the practical nature of this unit, it is recommended that students have an interest in participating in Outdoor Leisure and Sport and Recreation activities. The progression of the course will provide for development of both swimming and aquatic skills, packing, planning and participating in bushwalking and camping activities. Where required provision of a modified program, tasks will be available.

This course is strongly recommended for students wishing to continue with VCE Outdoor Education and or VET Certificate III Sport and Recreation.

# Year 10 Subject Descriptions - Humanities

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## Subject: Legal Studies: Law and Order

Elective Unit: One Semester

### Aim

- Develop an awareness of the impact of the legal system on the lives of individuals and on society.
- Acquire an understanding of legal rights, responsibilities and ways in which individuals can engage in the legal system.
- Explain the Australian government's roles and responsibilities at a global level, including provision of foreign aid, peacekeeping and the United Nations
- Develop and use effective methods of legal enquiry and research in order to utilise and communicate information.
- Develop an understanding of the way that crime is represented in the media.

This subject supports students to develop skills that students need for VCE Legal Studies, VCE Global Politics and/or VCE History.

### Learning Focus

This course will focus on the concept of crime, the legal system and politics in our society and it will provide students with an understanding of the function of law and the role of legal and political institutions within our society. It is designed to provide students with historical knowledge of the varying perspectives of crime and legal proceedings and aims to explore the interconnected relationships between individuals, groups and institutions within our legal and political system. Students investigate contemporary issues and events, develop points of view and make suggestions to positively contribute locally, nationally, regionally and globally. This has a particular focus on the Australian government's roles and responsibilities at a global level, including the prevention and prosecution of international crimes, foreign aid, peacekeeping and the United Nations. Students understand and apply legal concepts, principles and terminology to a variety of cases and different situations.

### Career Pathways

- Lawyer
- Advocacy
- Criminologist
- Sociologist
- Government
- Criminal Psychologist
- Journalism
- Diplomat

# Subject: Economics and Business: Wealthy and Wise

Elective Unit: One Semester

## Aim

- Measure economic performance of individuals and nations
- Understand the meaning of standard of living and how it varies between people and economies
- Understand the way businesses make decisions and the effect these have on Australia
- Managing risk and reward in financial markets with a focus on the stock market

This subject supports students to develop skills that students need for VCE Business Management, VCE Economics, VCE Accounting and/or VCE History

## Learning Focus

This course will focus on the operation and investments in the stock market, economic growth potential, profits and losses and the role of the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA). The world of economics and business is full of important choices that impact on individuals, communities and businesses around the world. The consequences associated with the choices made by individuals and governments effect all of us now and into the future. It is important that all individuals have economic and business knowledge to make the best choices after considering the costs and benefits. Students learn to measure economic performance through indicators such as GDP, inflation and unemployment.

## Career Pathways

- Business owner
- Entrepreneur
- Sales and Customer Service
- Retail
- Stockbroker
- Accountant
- Banking and Finance
- Economist
- Advertising and Marketing
- Financial Analyst



# Subject: Geography: Human and Planet Wellbeing

Elective Unit: One Semester

## Aim

This subject aims to ensure that students develop:

- A sense of wonder, curiosity and respect for places, people, cultures and environments throughout the world
- A deep geographical knowledge of their own locality, Australia, the Asia region and the world
- The ability to think geographically, using geographical concepts
- The capacity to be competent, critical and creative users of geographical methods and skills
- The capacity to be informed, responsible and active citizens who can contribute to the development of a world that is environmentally and economically sustainable and socially just

This subject supports students to develop skills that students need for VCE Geography, VCE Global Politics and/or VCE History

## Learning Focus

Environmental Change and Human Wellbeing

- a. **Biomes and food security** focuses on investigating the role of the biotic environment and its role in food and fibre production. Students examine the biomes of the world, their alteration and significance as a source of food and fibre, and the environmental challenges and constraints on expanding food production in the future
- b. **Geographies of human wellbeing** focuses on investigating global, national and local differences in human wellbeing between places. Students examine the different concepts and measures of human wellbeing and spatial differences in wellbeing, and evaluate the differences from a variety of perspectives

Geographical inquiry skills and actual fieldwork are included.

## Career Pathways

- Urban Planning
- Ecotourism
- Surveyor
- Geotechnical Engineer
- Geologist
- Meteorologist
- Sustainability

# Subject: War and Freedoms

Elective Unit: One Semester

## Aim

Students will develop:

- Capacity and willingness to be informed and active citizens
- Knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the past and the forces that shape societies, including Australian society
- Understanding and use of historical concepts and skills, including sequencing chronology, using historical sources as evidence, identifying continuity and change, analysing cause and effect and determining historical significance
- Capacity to undertake historical inquiry, including skills in the analysis and use of sources, and in explanation and communication of arguments

This subject supports students to develop skills needed for VCE History, VCE Global Politics and VCE Legal Studies

## Learning Focus

This unit provides a history of the modern world and Australia from 1918 to the present and has an emphasis on Australia and its global context. The twentieth century became a critical period in Australia's social, cultural, economic and political development. There are two main areas of study:

### **Australia at war: World War II (1914 – 1945)**

In this area of study, students examine the Australian experience at war in Europe and the Pacific. Students will explore:

- Causes of World War II and the reasons why Australians enlisted to go to war
- Significant events, turning points of World War II and the nature of warfare, including the Holocaust and use of the atomic bomb
- Effects of World War II, and the changes and continuities brought to the Australian home front

### **Rights and freedoms (1945 – the present)**

In this area of study, students examine rights and freedom movements across the globe with a focus on the Indigenous Civil Rights movement. Students will explore:

- Significance of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, including Australia's involvement in the development of the declaration
- Causes of the struggle of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples for rights and freedoms before 1965
- Significance of events in changing society, such as 1967 Referendum, Reconciliation, Mabo decision

## Career Pathways

- Human Rights
- Journalism
- Media and Publishing
- Curator
- Archaeologist

# Year 10 Subject Descriptions - Languages

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## Subject: Chinese or Japanese

Elective Subject: Full Year (this subject requires two elective slots)

### Aim:

- To further reinforce and extend competence in the four strands of language learning: Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing.
- To consolidate and apply knowledge and skills in a broad range of communicative situations.
- To further advance students' intercultural awareness and enjoyment in language study.
- To recognise the importance of the global value of learning an additional language.
- To further expand students' overall literacy and communication skills.

### Learning Focus:

The Year 10 language course consolidates the competence developed in the four strands of Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. Students enhance their communication skills in the language through topics that broaden their perspectives and knowledge. The course also enriches students' appreciation of the cultural aspects of the language, such as history, literature and arts, and encourages them to analyse and evaluate them critically.

### Pathways

This subject is primarily designed to prepare students for VCE Chinese or Japanese.

# Year 10 Subject Descriptions - Mathematics

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## Subject: Mathematics

Core Subject: Full Year

### Aim

This course is suitable for students who achieved successful completion of their Year 9 Mathematics to a standard that demonstrates sound core skills and strong mathematical understanding.

### Learning Focus

In this subject, students study the following mathematics topics

- Statistics
- Algebra
- Linear equations and graphs
- Trigonometry
- Simultaneous equations and graphs
- Finance and Recurrence Relations

### Pathways

This subject is primarily designed to prepare students for VCE General Mathematics. It also prepares students for VCE Foundation Mathematics.

## Subject: Mathematics Enhancement

Core Subject: Full Year

### Aim

This is a challenging course which would be suitable for students who have demonstrated advanced interest and ability in Mathematics.

### Learning Focus

In this subject, students study the following mathematics topics

- |                               |                                  |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| • Algebra                     | • Exponential functions          |
| • Circle geometry             | • Surds                          |
| • Linear equations and graphs | • Quadratic equations and graphs |
| • Trigonometry                | • Simultaneous equations         |
| • Probability                 | • Surface area and volume        |

### Pathways

This subject is primarily designed to prepare students for VCE Mathematical Method and Specialist Mathematics. It also prepares students for VCE General Mathematics.

# Subject: Numeracy

Core Subject: Full Year

## Aim

This course is intended to prepare students for either vocational studies (Vocational Major, Victorian Pathways Certificate or TAFE studies in Year 11), or for the VCE pathway of Foundation Maths units 1 and 2.

## Learning Focus

Students will be challenged with real world applications of Mathematics by developing every day problem solving skills. Topics include: Money and Balancing an Account, Running a Business, Building and Trade Mathematics and other theme based applications of real world Mathematics. Preparation for VCE Foundation Mathematics will be achieved by covering the topics of Algebra, Linear Equations and Graphs and Trigonometry. This course takes into consideration that students may need to reinforce and consolidate their Year 7, 8 and 9 Mathematics. Students perform a diverse range of problem-solving activities that take them outside the realm of the classroom.

## Pathways

This subject is primarily designed to prepare students for the VCE/Vocational Major (VM) or Victorian Pathways Certificate (VPC).

# Year 10 Subject Descriptions - Science

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## Subject: Introduction to Biology

Elective Unit: One Semester

### Aim

- To increase knowledge of key scientific ideas including genetic inheritance and evolution by natural selection
- To provide sufficient background knowledge and skills for VCE Biology
- To further develop students' ability to apply the scientific method and to use evidence to support claims

### Learning Focus

Students will study genetics, including learning about DNA structure and function and the process of how heritable characteristics are transmitted from one generation to the next. They learn the skills involved in naming alleles, determining parental crosses and creating Punnett squares to determine the probabilities of predicted outcomes from specified crosses. Students learn to represent patterns of inheritance through the use of pedigree charts. They will explore the inheritance of genetic diseases and the ethics governing the use of genetic technologies.

Students will next study the theory of evolution. This will include observing and examining the living things present on Earth today and comparing this to past life on Earth. They will explore the process of natural selection and develop an understanding of how populations adapt to their environment. They will examine and evaluate the scientific evidence supporting the theory of evolution, including the fossil record, chemical and anatomical similarities and the geographical distribution of species.

## Subject: Environmental Science – Earth and Space

Elective Unit: One Semester

### Aim

- To increase knowledge of key scientific ideas including earth and space sciences
- To provide sufficient background knowledge and skills for VCE Environmental Science
- To further develop students' ability to apply the scientific method and to use evidence to support claims

### Learning Focus

Students will study the rapidly changing environmental issues facing the world today. It will provide them with different perspectives on current environmental challenges, such as climate change, water and land management, resource use and sustainability. In addition students will learn about plate tectonics and geological activities. They can explore different physical environments including the solar system and how the Big Bang theory can be used to explain the origin of the Universe and earth's environments.

Studies in Environmental Science can contribute to the following: protecting and managing biodiversity; developing new approaches to environmental issues that contribute to a healthier society; and identifying and developing cleaner and more sustainable resources.

## Subject: Introduction to Chemistry

Elective Unit: One Semester

### Aims

- To increase knowledge of key scientific ideas
- To provide sufficient background knowledge and skills for VCE Chemistry
- To further develop students' ability to apply the scientific method and to use evidence to support claims

### Learning Focus

Students will study the principles of Chemistry including atomic theory, the Periodic Table and bonding. Students will explore atomic structure including electron shells and understand how this structure relates to properties and bonding.

Students will also study chemical reactions. They will explore what chemical reactions are and learn about common reaction types including acid-base, precipitation and combustion reactions. Throughout this subject, students will learn key skills and understandings such as: balancing equations, unit conversion and scientific notation, which will help them in their future Science studies. Topics will be explored using experiments, case studies and investigations.

## Subject: Introduction to Physics

Elective Unit: One Semester

### Aims

- To increase knowledge of key scientific ideas around energy, force and motion
- To provide sufficient background knowledge and skills for VCE Physics
- To develop the ability to think analytically and to apply theoretical knowledge to solve practical problems

### Learning Focus

Students explore energy transfers and transformations within systems. Students use the law of conservation of energy to demonstrate the conversion of mechanical and potential energy quantitatively, draw conclusions on the efficiency of machines and study real life phenomena, such as car crashes. Students learn about Newton's laws of motion and describe the motion of objects based on these laws.

Students will gather data to analyse the motions of everyday objects caused by unbalanced forces and exchanges of momentum and become familiar with concepts such as displacement, velocity and acceleration. Students will also investigate basic DC circuit models and apply this knowledge to simple battery-operated devices and household electrical systems.

# Subject: Introduction to Psychology

Elective Unit: One Semester

## Aims

- To increase knowledge of key scientific ideas around human psychology, behaviours and thought processes
- To provide sufficient background knowledge for VCE Science subjects (particularly Psychology)
- To develop critical thinking skills and familiarity with the scientific method

## Learning Focus

In this topic, students will explore human behaviours, thoughts and emotional processes in a variety of contexts and settings. Students will study the framework for complex interactions between biological, behavioural, cognitive and socio-cultural factors that influence behaviours and thoughts processes.

Students will develop an understanding of mental health issues in society and apply psychological models and principles to the workplace and social relationships. They will develop an appreciation on the importance of research methods in psychology and will undergo scientific investigations to analyse phenomena including memory, attitudes and group behaviour. Students will be equipped with valuable critical thinking skills that can be applied throughout their study, work and everyday lives.

Year 10 students are only allowed to study Year 10 Psychology in addition to another Science elective (Introduction to Biology, Chemistry, Physics and/or Environmental Science).



# Year 10 Subject Descriptions - Technology

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## Subject: Digital Technology

Elective Unit: One Semester

### Aim

The subject of Digital Technology focuses on further developing understanding and skills in computational thinking such as precisely and accurately describing problems and the use of modular approaches to solutions. It also focuses on engaging students with specialised learning in preparation for learning in the senior secondary years.

### Learning Focus

- Explain the control and management of networked digital systems and the data security implications of the interaction between hardware, software and users
- Explain simple data compression and why content data are separated from presentation.
- Take account of privacy and security requirements when selecting and validating data and use digital systems to analyse, visualise and model salient aspects of data
- Share and collaborate online, establishing protocols for the legal and safe use, transmission and maintenance of data and projects
- Define and decompose complex problems in terms of functional and non-functional requirements.
- Design and evaluate user experiences and algorithms, and develop and test modular programs, including an object-oriented program.

### Equipment Requirement

Students will need a laptop, which they will be required to bring (fully charged) to each lesson.

This course is recommended to aid in preparation for VCE Applied Computing

## Subject: Fashion and Textiles

Elective Unit: One Semester

### Aim

This course is about designing and making, exploring creativity and solving 21<sup>st</sup> Century design problems. It is about learning to make with new and unusual materials and new technologies including laser cutters and 3D printers, but also sewing machines and conventional fabrics.

### Learning Focus

The design focus will be on sustainability and 'fashion as an outer shell' and students will have some choice over their design and production. Some examples of possible design and production include '21<sup>st</sup> Century Hoodies' and 'T-shirts to Save the Planet'.

Excursion: There will be an excursion as part of this course.

## **Subject: Food Studies - Let Them Eat Cake**

Elective Unit: One Semester

### **Aim**

This course of study aims to develop skills in planning and preparation of food items suitable for a small-scale bakery.

### **Learning Focus**

Students participating in this unit will develop an understanding of:

- The design process
- Functional properties of ingredients
- Baking, cake making and yeast-based products
- Operation of basic and specialist kitchen equipment
- Basic knowledge of the cooking skills and terminology used in a recipe.

This course is recommended to aid in preparation for VCE Food and Technology Units.

## **Subject: Food Studies - Exploring the Menu**

Elective Unit: One Semester

### **Aim**

To develop skills in planning and preparation of food items with consideration given to the standards required in the hospitality industry.

### **Learning Focus**

Students will develop skills in:

- Menu planning
- Production work based on courses within the menu, beginning with hors d'oeuvres and finishing with desserts
- Food allergies and intolerances
- Application of the design process.

Safety and hygiene standards will be a focus of each production lesson. A variety of careers within the hospitality industry will be studied, with students researching those they are most interested in.

This course is recommended to aid in preparation for VCE Food and Technology.

Year 10 students are only permitted to study one Food Studies subject so must choose between the two options above.

# Subject: Systems Engineering

Elective Unit: One Semester

## Aim

Systems Engineering involves both electrical and mechanical systems. It is one of the fastest growing areas of technology today. Students will learn to work safely in a workshop and become competent in the safe use and care of tools. Students will learn about practical electronics and its theory relating to more complex circuits and systems, which were covered in Year 9. This will help them to creatively design, build, modify and evaluate working electronic models using a variety of common electronic components. This will develop students' confidence with circuit theory in Science, Physics and Technology design.

## Learning Focus

This study enables students to:

- Develop an understanding of the Systems Engineering Process and the range of factors that influence the design, planning, production, evaluation and use of a system
- Understand the concepts of and develop skills in the design, construction, fault-finding, diagnosis, performance analysis, maintenance, modification, and control of technological systems
- Acquire knowledge of mechanical, electrical/electronic and control systems and apply this knowledge to solve technological problems
- Develop skills in the safe use of tools, measuring equipment, materials, machines and processes, including using relevant information and communications technologies, and understand the risk management processes
- Acquire knowledge of project management, and develop problem-solving and analytical skills.

# Year 11 2024

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In Year 11, students can select from a variety of pathways including VCE, VCE/Vocational Major or they can continue with their Victorian Pathways Certificate. Some students may decide to undertake a VET option and others will be offered the chance to study a Units 3 and 4 VCE subject if they successfully completed Units 1 and 2 in the previous year.

Students wishing to study the VCE/Vocational Major or Victorian Pathways Certificate will find all relevant course information on pages 56 – 62.

The following VCE/VET subjects are offered for Year 11 students in 2024.

Learning area	Subjects
Arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Art Making and Exhibiting</li><li>• Visual Communication Design</li><li>• Theatre Studies</li></ul>
English	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• English</li><li>• English as an Additional Language</li></ul>
Health and Physical Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Health and Human Development</li><li>• Physical Education</li><li>• Outdoor Education</li></ul>
Humanities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Business Management</li><li>• Economics</li><li>• Geography</li><li>• History (Ancient History and Empires/Modern History)</li><li>• Legal Studies</li></ul>
Languages (External)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Students can enrol in a language with the Victorian School of Languages (VSL) as part of their Year 11 program</li></ul>
Mathematics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Foundation Mathematics</li><li>• General Mathematics</li><li>• Mathematical Methods</li></ul>
Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Biology</li><li>• Chemistry</li><li>• Physics</li><li>• Psychology</li><li>• Environmental Science</li></ul>
Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Applied Computing</li><li>• Food Studies</li></ul>
Vocational Major	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Literacy</li><li>• Numeracy</li><li>• Personal Development Skills</li><li>• Work Related Skills</li></ul>

The following VET courses may be offered for students that have been recommended this pathway option in Year 11 for 2024:

VET Please see page 40 for more information regarding these VET offerings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• VET (External)*</li><li>• VET II Workplace Skills (Internal)</li><li>• VET II Cookery (Internal)</li><li>• VET II Hospitality (Internal)</li><li>• VET II Applied Digital Technology (Internal)</li><li>• VET II Dance (Internal)</li><li>• VET Sports Coaching (Internal)</li></ul>
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\*Additional VET options are available through external providers.

## VCE Units 1 and 2 Subject Descriptions

### VCE Applied Computing



#### Learning Focus

VCE Applied Computing focuses on the strategies and techniques for creating digital solutions to meet specific needs and to manage the threats to data, information and software security. The study examines the attributes of each component of an information system and how their interrelationships affect the types and quality of digital solutions. VCE Applied Computing provides students with opportunities to acquire and apply knowledge and skills to use digital systems efficiently, effectively and innovatively when creating digital solutions. Students investigate legal requirements and ethical responsibilities that individuals and organisations have with respect to the security and integrity of data and information. Through a structured approach to problem solving, incorporating computational, design and systems thinking, students develop an awareness of the technical, social and economic impacts of information systems, both currently and into the future.

This study enables students to:

- Understand how digital systems and solutions can be used by individuals and organisations
- Develop an understanding of the roles and applications of cybersecurity, data analytics and programming
- Apply the problem-solving methodology to analyse needs and opportunities, design and develop solutions to problems and evaluate how effectively solutions meet needs and opportunities
- Apply project management techniques to assist with the development of digital solutions
- Develop an informed perspective on current and emerging digital technologies and disseminate findings.
- Identify and evaluate innovative and emerging opportunities for digital solutions and technologies
- Develop critical and creative thinking, communication and collaboration, and personal, social and ICT skills.

Students study “Applied Computing” in Units 1 and 2 and the “Software Development” pathway in Units 3 and 4.

#### Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for Units 1 and 2 Applied Computing.

# VCE Art Making and Exhibiting

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## Learning Focus

VCE Art Making and Exhibiting introduces students to the methods used to make artworks and how artworks are presented and exhibited. Students use inquiry learning to explore, develop and refine the use of materials, techniques and processes and to develop their knowledge and understanding of the ways artworks are made. They learn how art elements and art principles are used to create aesthetic qualities in artworks and how ideas are communicated through the use of visual language. Their knowledge and skills evolve through the experience of making and presenting their own artworks and through the viewing and analysis of artworks by other artists.

Visiting and viewing exhibitions and displays of artwork is a necessary part of this study. It helps students understand how artworks are displayed and exhibitions are curated.

## Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for Units 1 and 2 Art Making and Exhibiting.

# VCE Biology

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## Learning Focus

VCE Biology enables students to investigate the processes involved in sustaining life at cellular, system and species level. In undertaking this study, students develop an understanding that, in the dynamic and interconnected system of life, all change has consequences that may affect an individual, a species or the collective biodiversity of Earth. Students gain insights into how molecular and evolutionary concepts and key science skills underpin much of contemporary biology, and how society applies such skills and concepts to resolve problems and make scientific advancements.

In VCE Biology, students develop and enhance a range of inquiry skills including practical experimentation, research and analytical skills, problem-solving skills including critical and creative thinking, and communication skills. Students pose questions, formulate hypotheses, conduct investigations, and analyse and critically interpret qualitative and quantitative data. They assess the limitations of data, evaluate methodologies and results, justify their conclusions, make recommendations and communicate their findings. Students use biological knowledge, scientific skills and ethical understanding to investigate and analyse contemporary bioethical issues and communicate their views from an informed position.

Biology is an evolving science that explores the nature of life. It is the study of the dynamic relationships between living things, their interdependence on each other, their interactions with the non-living environment and the many processes that maintain life and ensure it continues. The VCE course draws on diverse aspects of Biology including the study of cells and their organelles, cellular communication, the maintenance of homeostasis, genetic inheritance and the mechanisms of evolution. Students undertake investigation and discuss contemporary issues related to Biology.

## Prerequisites

It is recommended that students selecting Units 1 and 2 Biology have undertaken the Introduction to Biology subject in Year 10 and achieved at least a C grade in assessment tasks.

# VCE Business Management

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## Learning Focus

VCE Business Management aims to enable students to understand and apply business concepts such as innovation, entrepreneurship and corporate social responsibility to the complex and changing environments that businesses operate in. This study will also enable students to recognise the contribution and significance of a business within local, national and global markets, to analyse and evaluate the effectiveness of management strategies in different contexts and to propose strategies to solve real and simulated business problems.

Students learn about planning a business including the factors an owner needs to consider including taking advantage of business opportunities, different business structures and undertaking market research. Students also learn how to establish a business, including marketing, staffing and the impact of technology on business operations. Students apply their skills and knowledge to develop and pitch their own business idea.

## Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for Units 1 and 2 Business Management.

# VCE Chemistry

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## Learning Focus

The study of VCE Chemistry involves investigating and analysing the composition and behaviour of matter, and the chemical processes involved in producing useful materials for society in ways that minimise adverse effects on human health and the environment. Chemistry underpins the generation of energy for use in homes and industry, the maintenance of clean air and water, the production of food, medicines and new materials and the treatment of wastes.

An important feature of undertaking a VCE science study is the opportunity for students to engage in a range of scientific investigation methodologies, to develop key science skills and to interrogate the links between knowledge, theory and practice. Students work collaboratively as well as independently on a range of scientific investigations involving controlled experiments, fieldwork, case studies, correlational studies, classification and identification, modelling, simulations, literature reviews, and the development of a product, process or system. Knowledge and application of the safety considerations, including use of safety data sheets and ethical guidelines associated with undertaking investigations is integral to the study of VCE Chemistry.

As well as increasing their understanding of scientific processes, students develop insights into how knowledge in chemistry has changed, and continues to change, in response to new evidence, discoveries and thinking. They explore the impact of Chemistry in their own lives and on society and the environment. They 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 contexts of scientific endeavours. Students consider how science is connected to innovation in addressing contemporary chemistry-based challenges.

## Prerequisites

It is recommended that students selecting Units 1 and 2 Chemistry have undertaken the Introduction to Chemistry subject in Year 10 and achieved at least a C grade in assessment tasks.

# VCE Economics

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## Learning Focus

The study of Economics aims to develop an understanding of how resources are allocated to meet the needs and wants of society. It attempts to explain how and why individuals behave the way they do and the consequences of their decision making. Studying Economics as a social science enables students to gain valuable insight into the economic problems that they may face on an individual basis and collectively as a society to meet the needs and wants of citizens and may therefore assist them in making more informed and responsible decisions. VCE Economics focuses on the relationship between supply and demand, both at a market level and at a national level. Students will learn about how their lives are affected by macroeconomic issues such as inflation, unemployment and budgetary policies. Students will also learn about how to encourage or discourage behaviour in people through the study of behavioural economics.

## Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for Units 1 and 2 Economics.



# VCE English & English as an Additional Language

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## Learning Focus

This study enables students to:

- Extend their English language skills through reading, writing, speaking, listening, thinking and viewing to meet the demands of further study, the workplace and their own needs and interests
- Enhance their understanding, enjoyment and appreciation of the English language through all modes
- Discuss, explore and analyse the form, purpose, context, text structures and language of texts from a range of styles and genres
- Discuss, explore and analyse how culture, values and context underpin the construction of texts and how this can affect meaning and understanding
- Convey ideas and demonstrate insight convincingly and confidently
- Create print, digital and spoken texts
- Demonstrate the ability to make informed choices about the construction of texts in relation to purpose, audience and context

Students must successfully complete either English or EAL in order to be awarded the VCE. Achieving a study score of at least 25 in English or a 30 in EAL is a requirement for most university courses.

## Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for Units 1 and 2 English.

Only students who are unfamiliar with the English language because they are from a non-English speaking background or who are deaf or hard of hearing may enrol in EAL. Students must have approved EAL status. Most commonly this will require the student to have not lived in an English-speaking country or attended a school where English is the language of instruction for more than seven years.

# VCE Environmental Science

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Earth has been dramatically altered over the past 4.5 billion years by naturally occurring climate swings, volcanic activity, drifting continents and other transformative processes. Human activities and lifestyles have an impact on, and are impacted by, Earth's systems both directly and indirectly, and with both immediate and far-reaching effects.

In Environmental Science, students examine the processes and interactions occurring within and between Earth's four interrelated systems – the atmosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere and lithosphere. They focus on how ecosystems can influence environmental conditions such as plant productivity, soil fertility, water quality and air quality. Students explore how changes that have taken place throughout geological and recent history are fundamental to predicting the likely impact of future changes.

Students also consider pollution as well as food and water security as environmental challenges facing current and future generations. They explore factors that limit and enable the sustainable supply of adequate and affordable food and water.

## Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for Units 1 and 2 Environmental Science.

## VCE Food Studies

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### Learning Focus

VCE Food Studies explores food with an emphasis on extending food knowledge, 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 influences and choices. Students explore food from a wide range of perspectives. They study past and present patterns of eating, Australian and global food production systems and the many physical and social functions and roles of food. They research economic, environmental and ethical dimensions of food and critically evaluate information, marketing messages and new trends. Practical work is integral to Food Studies and includes cooking, demonstrations, creating and responding to design briefs, dietary analysis, food sampling and taste-testing, sensory analysis, product analysis and scientific experiments.

### Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for Units 1 and 2 Food Studies.

## VCE Health and Human Development

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### Learning Focus

This study provides students with broad understandings of health and wellbeing that reach far beyond the individual. Students learn how important health and wellbeing is to themselves and to families, communities, nations and global society. Students explore the complex interplay of biological, sociocultural and environmental factors that support and improve health and wellbeing and those that put it at risk. The study provides opportunities for students to view health and wellbeing, and development, holistically – across the lifespan and the globe, and through a lens of social equity and justice.

### Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for Units 1 and 2 Health and Human Development.

## VCE History - Ancient History

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### Learning Focus

History is the practice of understanding and making meaning of the past. Students undertake inquiry into human actions, forces and conditions that have shaped the past and present. This study prompts students to use history to understand themselves, others and the present world. It aims to broaden their perspective through the examination of events, ideas, individuals, groups and movements. The study provides the opportunity to explore history as historians, asking questions and using analysis and evaluation of historical sources and interpretations to construct historical arguments. In Ancient History students will learn about the features and development of ancient civilisations. Students will aim to understand the perspectives of people and changes throughout these periods, as well as the significance of ancient times today. They will investigate the past through archaeological artifacts completing their own inquiry into the histories of these civilisations.

Students study “Ancient History” in Units 1 and 2 and “Ancient History” in Units 3 and 4.

### Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for Units 1 and 2 History.

**\*Depending on student interest one History class may run in 2024 with one unit focusing on Ancient History and another unit focusing on Empires or Modern History.**

## VCE History - Empires/Modern History

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### Learning Focus

History is the practice of understanding and making meaning of the past. Students undertake inquiry into human actions, forces and conditions that have shaped the past and present. This study prompts students to use history to understand themselves, others and the present world. It aims to broaden their perspective through the examination of events, ideas, individuals, groups and movements. The study provides the opportunity to explore history as historians, asking questions and using analysis and evaluation of historical sources and interpretations to construct historical arguments. In Empires students will learn about the foundations and features of empires during their quest for power, prestige and influence. They will investigate the features in these empires which led to global changes in the early modern period. In Modern History students will investigate the nature of social, political, economic and cultural change in the later part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. They explore factors which have shaped the modern world through changing empires, world wars, new governments and emerging ideologies.

Students study “Empires” in Unit 1, “Modern History” in Unit 2 and “Revolutions” in Units 3 and 4.

### Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for Units 1 and 2 History.

**\*Depending on student interest one History class may run in 2024 with one unit focusing on Ancient History and another unit focusing on Empires or Modern History.**

## VCE Legal Studies

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### Learning Focus

VCE Legal Studies focuses on criminal and civil law to enable students to become active and informed global citizens. It develops knowledge and skills to access and participate in the legal system and appreciate how legal systems and processes aim to achieve social cohesion, and how students can create positive changes to laws and the legal system. Students research and analyse legal information and case studies to apply the law and solve legal problems that may arise. Students look at the criminal justice system, and the role that the police, judges and community services have in delivering a verdict and a sanction. Students also look at how parties may resolve civil disputes and how rights held by Australians are protected by Australian and global institutions.

### Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for Units 1 and Legal Studies.

## VCE Theatre Studies

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### Learning Focus

Theatre as a form of cultural expression has been made and performed for audiences from the earliest times and is an integral part of all cultures.

In VCE Theatre Studies students work individually and collaboratively in various production roles (acting, directing, costume, make up, props, lighting etc) to creatively and imaginatively interpret scripts and to plan, develop and present productions.

Students analyse and evaluate the production of professional theatre performances and consider the relationship to their own theatre production work.

The study of theatre, in all its various forms, prepares students for further study in theatre production, theatre history, communication, writing, acting, direction and design at tertiary level. VCE Theatre Studies also prepares students for further learning in vocational educational training settings or for industry or community-related pathways.

### Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for Units 1 and 2 Theatre Studies.

## VCE Foundation Mathematics

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### Learning Focus

Foundation Mathematics emphasises the use of mathematics in practical, every day and work-related situations. Students learn to use appropriate technology in all areas of their study. The areas of study for these units are Algebra and number, Statistics, Financial and consumer mathematics and Space and measurement. Foundation Mathematics enables students to consolidate and continue their mathematical development. This study is useful for students who need mathematical skills to support their other VCE subjects, including VET studies.

### Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for Units 1 and 2 Foundation Mathematics.

## VCE General Mathematics

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### Learning Focus

General Mathematics caters for a range of student interests and students study a broad range of mathematical topics. In undertaking Units 1 to 4, students are expected to be able to apply a variety of mathematical techniques and routines with and without the use of technology. They should have the ability to perform relevant mental and by-hand calculations for estimation and computation. The use of technology is to be incorporated throughout each unit.

### Prerequisites

Students must be studying Year 10 Mathematics A or Mathematics B to select General Mathematics.

## VCE Mathematical Methods

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### Learning Focus

VCE Mathematical Methods introduces simple elementary functions of a single real variable, algebra, calculus, probability and statistics and their applications in a variety of practical and theoretical contexts. Students also study of simple transcendental functions, the calculus of polynomial functions and related modelling applications

In undertaking Units 1 to 4, students are expected to be able to apply a variety of mathematical techniques and routines with and without the use of technology. They should have the ability to perform relevant mental and by-hand calculations for estimation and computation. The use of technology is to be incorporated throughout each unit.

### Prerequisites

Students must have studied Year 10 Mathematics Core A to select VCE Mathematical Methods. It is only recommended for students who are demonstrating a high-level understanding of the Year 10 Mathematics curriculum.

## VCE Physical Education

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### Learning Focus

The study enables students to integrate a contemporary understanding of the theoretical underpinnings of performance and participation in physical activity with practical application. Through engagement in physical activities, this study enables students to develop the knowledge and skills required to critically evaluate influences that affect their own and others' performance and participation in physical activity.

### Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for Units 1 and 2 Physical Education.

## VCE Physics

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### Learning Focus

Physics is a natural science based on observations, experiments, measurements and mathematical analysis with the purpose of finding quantitative explanations for phenomena occurring from the subatomic scale through to the planets, stellar systems and galaxies in the Universe. While much scientific understanding in physics has stood the test of time, many other areas continue to evolve. In undertaking this study, students develop their understanding of the roles of careful and systematic experimentation and modelling in the development of theories and laws. They undertake practical activities and apply physics principles to explain and quantify both natural and constructed phenomena.

In VCE physics students develop a range of inquiry skills involving practical experimentation and research, analytical skills including critical and creative thinking, and communication skills. Students use scientific and cognitive skills and understanding to analyse contemporary physics-related issues and to communicate their views from an informed position.

### Prerequisites

It is recommended that students selecting Units 1 and 2 Physics have undertaken the Introduction to Physics subject in Year 10 and demonstrated a high level of understanding.

# VCE Psychology

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## Learning Focus

In Psychology students study contemporary research, models and theories to understand how knowledge in psychology has developed and how this knowledge continues to change in response to new evidence and discoveries in an effort to solve day-to-day problems and improve psychological wellbeing. Where possible, engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ways of doing, being and knowing have been integrated into the study, providing students with the opportunity to contrast the Western paradigm of psychology with Indigenous psychology. An understanding of the complexities and diversity of psychology provides students with the opportunity to appreciate the interconnectedness of concepts both within psychology and across psychology and the other sciences.

As a science, psychology aims to describe, explain and predict behaviour and in doing so it relies on empirical procedures rather than intuition. The application of research methods in psychology allows students to develop useful skills in analytical and critical thinking and in making inferences. VCE Psychology is not intended as a prerequisite for tertiary studies in psychology. Rather, it provides a challenging yet accessible introduction to the science of psychology, allowing students to increase their knowledge of human behaviour.

## Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for Units 1 and 2 Psychology.

# VCE Visual Communication Design

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## Learning Focus

This study enables students to:

- Develop and apply drawing skills using a range of techniques
- Develop design thinking
- Develop a range of skills in selecting and applying media, materials and manual and digital methods to support design processes
- Apply a design process to create visual communications
- Understand how key design elements, design principles, media, materials and manual and digital methods contribute to the creation of their own visual language
- Develop a capacity to undertake ongoing design thinking while conceiving, communicating and presenting ideas
- Understand how historical, social, cultural, environmental, legal, ethical and contemporary factors influence visual communications.

This subject prepares students for future study and work in the area of design. You will gain a greater understanding of design in industry and how to approach and solve design problems through studying the subject. You will also have the opportunity to develop work, which can contribute to your folio for entrance into university level design courses.

## Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for Units 1 and 2 Visual Communication Design.

# VET Subject Descriptions

## VET Certificate II in Workplace Skills

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### Learning Focus

The Certificate II level program prepares students for entry-level positions across a diverse range of business services settings and can help to open the door to a vast array of non-technical employment opportunities. It can also lead to further study in either technical or non-technical vocations and aims to develop the most common and transferable skills and knowledge required of almost any workplace.

### Learning Areas

- Planning and preparation
- Prioritisation and time management
- Teamwork and workplace etiquette
- Effective work habits
- Common digital technologies
- Common business applications
- Safe and sustainable work practices
- Communication skills
- Teamwork and workplace etiquette
- Critical thinking and basic problem solving

### Requirements

The weeks delivery per unit is based on a 35-week delivery period.

**1 Year In-class 6 hrs, Homework 2 hrs**

### Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for VET Workplace Skills. VCE students may study this subject as a scored VET.



# VET Certificate II in Applied Digital Technologies

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## Learning Focus

This Certificate II level program develops some of the most common and transferable skills and knowledge in order to prepare students for entry level positions in the ICT services industry. It can also lead to further study in general ICT pathways or in a particular IT specialisation. The program composition can easily be customised to exclude and include certain units (permissible substitute electives) in order to create a particular flavour or specialisation the school and student cohort may require.

## Learning Areas

- Operating systems
- Digital devices
- Digital communication technology
- Hardware peripherals
- Developing web presence through social media
- Cyber security
- Device security and protection
- Common digital technologies
- Common business software applications
- Safe and sustainable work practices

## Requirements

The weeks delivery per unit is based on a 70-week delivery period (over 2 years).

**2 Years In-class 4.5 hrs, Homework 1 hr**

## Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for VET Applied Digital Technologies. VCE students may study this subject as a scored VET.

# VET Certificate II in Hospitality

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## Learning Focus

This qualification offers individuals general Hospitality knowledge and a range of food and beverage service skills. The course is well-suited to students that enjoy practical learning. The course focuses on front of house Hospitality skills, such as barista skills, food hygiene, food advice, and financial transactions. Year 2 of this program offers the opportunity to achieve a study score that contributes to a student's ATAR.

## Learning Areas

- Hospitality skills
- Coffee making skills
- Work health & safety
- Hygienic practices for food safety
- How to interact with customers

## Job Opportunities

- Bar attendant
- Cafe attendant
- Catering assistant
- Food & beverage attendant
- Front office assistant
- Customer service
- Sales

## Requirements

The weeks delivery per unit is based on a 35-week delivery period (across 4 terms).

**1 Year In-class 6 hrs, Independent Learning 1 hr**

## Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for VET Hospitality. VCE students may study this subject as a scored VET.

# VET Certificate II in Cookery

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## Learning Focus

Students will develop a range of food preparation and cookery skills to prepare menu items. The course emulates the role of a cook working in a kitchen, under the direct supervision of a chef and focuses on the back-of-house skills typically used in a restaurant or food outlet. Students will learn hygienic practices in food preparation and the skills to prepare and present simple dishes. learning needs.

## Learning Areas

- Hygiene practices
- Work health and safety
- Food preparation
- Basic cookery skills
- Teamwork

## Job Opportunities

- Cook
- Catering assistant
- Sandwich hand

## Requirements

The weeks delivery per unit is based on an 70-week delivery period (across 8 terms).

**2 Years In-class 5 hrs, Independent Learning 1 hr**

## Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for VET Cookery. VCE students may study this subject as a scored VET.

# VET Certificate II in Dance

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## Learning Focus

Do you have a passion for dance and want a nationally recognised qualification to improve your future employment opportunities? **VCE VET Dance** covers the fundamentals of dance training and prepares you for a career in dance with industry-relevant skill and valuable experience. All training takes place within a studio or school setting and is suitable for students who are new to dance, or currently studying dance.

## Job Opportunities

- Professional dancer
- Studio Dance Teacher
- Dance Therapist
- Dance Administrator
- Casting Agent
- Choreographer
- School Dance Teacher
- Event Manager
- Dance Studio Owner

## Requirements

The VCE VET Dance program can be completed over two years and commence in either year 10 or year 11.

## Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for VET Dance. VCE students may study this subject as a scored VET.

# VET Certificate II in Sports Coaching

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## Learning Focus

The Sport Coaching program has been developed with community sport and passionate sporting students in mind. Students who complete this program will develop a variety of skills and the knowledge to contribute to sport at the community level in assistant coaching or official roles. The program includes practical coaching and officiating experience that will challenge and ultimately build student confidence, and decision-making skills. The opportunity also exists for students to improve their own sporting performance by learning about physical conditioning. This program is flexible, allowing teachers to incorporate their own sporting experience and knowledge to tailor the practical experiences to manage classes that include varied sporting ability and to meet student learning needs.

## Learning Areas

- Communication with key stakeholders (e.g., participants, other coaches, parents)
- Planning training and competition
- Instructional styles
- Match day and training Management

## Job Opportunities

Assistant coach

Possible job role titles depend on the specific sport.

## Requirements

The weeks delivery per unit is based on a 35-week delivery period.

The core unit SISSSCO002 requires students to complete 10 hours of practice in a community coaching role in a sport of their choice (which is incorporated into the assessment).

**1 Year In-class 4.5 hrs Homework 1 hr**

## Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for VET Sports Coaching. VCE students may study this subject as a scored VET.

# Year 12 2024

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In Year 12, students can select from a variety of pathways including VCE, VCE/Vocational Major or they can continue with their Victorian Pathways Certificate. Some students may decide to undertake a VET option and others will be offered the chance to complete a University Enhancement subject if they successfully completed prerequisites in the previous year.

Students wishing to study the VCE/Vocational Major or Victorian Pathways Certificate will find all relevant course information on pages 56 – 62.

The following VCE/VET subjects are offered for Year 12 students in 2024.

Learning area	Subjects
Arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Art Making and Exhibiting</li></ul>
English	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• English</li><li>• English as an Additional Language</li></ul>
Health and Physical Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Health and Human Development</li><li>• Physical Education</li></ul>
Humanities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Business Management</li><li>• Economics</li><li>• History (Revolutions)</li><li>• Legal Studies</li></ul>
Languages (External)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Students can enrol in a language with the Victorian School of Languages (VSL) if they completed Units 1 and 2 in 2023</li></ul>
Mathematics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• General Mathematics</li><li>• Mathematical Methods</li></ul>
Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Biology</li><li>• Chemistry</li><li>• Physics</li><li>• Psychology</li></ul>
Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Applied Computing – Software Development</li><li>• Food Studies</li></ul>
Higher Education Study (External)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Some students may qualify to enrol in a University Enhancement Program if they achieved a very high study score for a Unit 3 and 4 course in 2023.</li></ul>
Vocational Major See pages 56 – 62	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Literacy</li><li>• Numeracy</li><li>• Personal Development Skills</li><li>• Work Related Skills</li></ul>

The following VET courses may be offered for students that have been recommended this pathway option in Year 12 for 2024:

VET Please see page 40 for more information regarding these VET offerings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• VET (External)*</li><li>• VET II Workplace Skills (Internal)</li><li>• VET II Cookery (Internal)</li><li>• VET II Hospitality (Internal)</li><li>• VET II Applied Digital Technology (Internal)</li><li>• VET II Dance (Internal)</li><li>• VET Sports Coaching (Internal)</li></ul>
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\*Additional VET options are available through external providers.

## VCE Units 3 and 4 Subject Descriptions

### VCE Applied Computing – Software Development



#### Learning Focus

VCE Applied Computing requires students to apply the problem-solving methodology to identify and extract data through the use of software tools such as database, spreadsheet and data visualisation software to create data visualisations or infographics. Students develop an understanding of the analysis, design and development stages of the problem-solving methodology. Students focus on determining the findings of a research question by developing infographics or dynamic data visualisations based on large complex data sets and on the security strategies used by an organisation to protect data and information from threats.

This study enables students to:

- understand how digital systems and solutions can be used by individuals and organisations
- develop an understanding of the roles and applications of cybersecurity, data analytics and programming
- apply the problem-solving methodology to analyse needs and opportunities, design and develop solutions to problems and evaluate how effectively solutions meet needs and opportunities
- apply project management techniques to assist with the development of digital solutions
- develop an informed perspective on current and emerging digital technologies and disseminate findings
- identify and evaluate innovative and emerging opportunities for digital solutions and technologies
- develop critical and creative thinking, communication and collaboration, and personal, social and ICT skills.

#### Prerequisites

Students should have studied Units 1 and 2 Applied Computing.

# VCE Art Making and Exhibiting

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## Learning Focus

VCE Art Making and Exhibiting introduces students to the methods used to make artworks and how artworks are presented and exhibited. Students use inquiry learning to explore, develop and refine the use of materials, techniques and processes and to develop their knowledge and understanding of the ways artworks are made. They learn how art elements and art principles are used to create aesthetic qualities in artworks and how ideas are communicated through the use of visual language. Their knowledge and skills evolve through the experience of making and presenting their own artworks and through the viewing and analysis of artworks by other artists.

Visiting and viewing exhibitions and displays of artwork is a necessary part of this study. It helps students understand how artworks are displayed and exhibitions are curated.

## Prerequisites

Students must have studied Units 1 and 2 Art Making and Exhibiting in 2023.

# VCE Biology

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## Learning Focus

VCE Biology enables students to investigate the processes involved in sustaining life at cellular, system and species level. In undertaking this study, students develop an understanding that, in the dynamic and interconnected system of life, all change has consequences that may affect an individual, a species or the collective biodiversity of Earth. Students gain insights into how molecular and evolutionary concepts and key science skills underpin much of contemporary biology, and how society applies such skills and concepts to resolve problems and make scientific advancements.

In VCE Biology, students develop and enhance a range of inquiry skills including practical experimentation, research and analytical skills, problem-solving skills including critical and creative thinking, and communication skills. Students pose questions, formulate hypotheses, conduct investigations, and analyse and critically interpret qualitative and quantitative data. They assess the limitations of data, evaluate methodologies and results, justify their conclusions, make recommendations and communicate their findings. Students use biological knowledge, scientific skills and ethical understanding to investigate and analyse contemporary bioethical issues and communicate their views from an informed position.

Biology is an evolving science that explores the nature of life. It is the study of the dynamic relationships between living things, their interdependence on each other, their interactions with the non-living environment and the many processes that maintain life and ensure it continues. The VCE course draws on diverse aspects of Biology including the study of cells and their organelles, cellular communication, the maintenance of homeostasis, genetic inheritance and the mechanisms of evolution. Students undertake investigation and discuss contemporary issues related to Biology.

## Prerequisites

Students should have studied Units 1 and 2 Biology in 2023.



# VCE Business Management

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## Learning Focus

VCE Business Management aims to enable students to understand and apply business concepts such as efficiency, effectiveness and corporate social responsibility to the complex and changing environments that businesses operate in. This study will also enable students to recognise the contribution and significance of a business within local, national and global markets, to analyse and evaluate the effectiveness of management strategies in different contexts and to propose strategies to solve real and simulated business problems.

Students learn about the foundations of managing a business including management styles and skills required to run a successful business and meet objectives. They further develop their skills and knowledge to be able to apply, evaluate and propose strategies to improve business operations and the management of employees. Students also analyse how to effectively transform a business in relation to current and simulated business scenarios.

## Prerequisites

Students should have studied Units 1 and 2 Business Management in 2023.

# VCE Chemistry

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## Learning Focus

The study of VCE Chemistry involves investigating and analysing the composition and behaviour of matter, and the chemical processes involved in producing useful materials for society in ways that minimise adverse effects on human health and the environment. Chemistry underpins the generation of energy for use in homes and industry, the maintenance of clean air and water, the production of food, medicines and new materials and the treatment of wastes.

An important feature of undertaking a VCE science study is the opportunity for students to engage in a range of scientific investigation methodologies, to develop key science skills and to interrogate the links between knowledge, theory and practice. Students work collaboratively as well as independently on a range of scientific investigations involving controlled experiments, fieldwork, case studies, correlational studies, classification and identification, modelling, simulations, literature reviews, and the development of a product, process or system. Knowledge and application of the safety considerations, including use of safety data sheets and ethical guidelines associated with undertaking investigations in integral to the study of VCE Chemistry.

As well as increasing their understanding of scientific processes, students develop insights into how knowledge in chemistry has changed, and continues to change, in response to new evidence, discoveries and thinking. They explore the impact of Chemistry in their own lives and on society and the environment. They 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 contexts of scientific endeavours. Students consider how science is connected to innovation in addressing contemporary chemistry-based challenges.

## Prerequisites

Students must have studied Units 1 and 2 Chemistry in 2023.

# VCE Economics

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## Learning Focus

The study of Economics aims to explain how the Australian economy can achieve its domestic macroeconomic goals. Students learn about policymakers, including the Australian Government and the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA), and how these players can utilise a wide range of policy instruments to affect these goals and to affect living standards. They develop an understanding of how the Australian Government can alter the composition of budgetary outlays and receipts to directly and indirectly affect the level of aggregate demand, the achievement of domestic macroeconomic goals and living standards. Students also examine the role of the RBA with a focus on its responsibility to conduct monetary policy. Students consider how the tools of monetary policy can affect interest rates, the transmission mechanism of monetary policy to the economy and how this contributes towards the achievement of the domestic macroeconomic goals and living standards.

Australia's living standards depend, in part, on strong economic relationships with its major trading partners. Students investigate the importance of international economic relationships and the effect of these on Australian living standards. Students analyse how international transactions are recorded and analyse how changes in the value of the exchange rate, the terms of trade and international competitiveness affect the domestic macroeconomic goals.

## Prerequisites

Students should have studied Units 1 and 2 Economics in 2023.

# VCE English

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## Learning Focus

This study enables students to:

- Extend their English language skills through reading, writing, speaking, listening, thinking and viewing to meet the demands of further study, the workplace and their own needs and interests
- Enhance their understanding, enjoyment and appreciation of the English language through all modes
- Discuss, explore and analyse the form, purpose, context, text structures and language of texts from a range of styles and genres
- Discuss, explore and analyse how culture, values and context underpin the construction of texts and how this can affect meaning and understanding
- Convey ideas and demonstrate insight convincingly and confidently
- Create print, digital and spoken texts
- Demonstrate the ability to make informed choices about the construction of texts in relation to purpose, audience and context

Students must successfully complete either English or EAL to be awarded the VCE. Achieving a study score of at least 25 in English is a requirement for most university courses.

## Prerequisites

Students must have studied Units 1 and 2 English in 2023.

# VCE English as an Additional Language

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## Learning Focus

This study enables students to:

- Extend their English language skills through reading, writing, speaking, listening, thinking and viewing to meet the demands of further study, the workplace and their own needs and interests
- Enhance their understanding, enjoyment and appreciation of the English language through all modes
- Discuss, explore and analyse the form, purpose, context, text structures and language of texts from a range of styles and genres
- Discuss, explore and analyse how culture, values and context underpin the construction of texts and how this can affect meaning and understanding
- Convey ideas and demonstrate insight convincingly and confidently
- Create print, digital and spoken texts
- Demonstrate the ability to make informed choices about the construction of texts in relation to purpose, audience and context

Students must successfully complete either English or EAL to be awarded the VCE. Achieving a study score of at least 30 in EAL is a requirement for most university courses.

## Prerequisites

Only students who are unfamiliar with the English language because they are from a non-English speaking background or who are deaf or hard of hearing may enrol in EAL. Students must have approved EAL status. Most commonly this will require the student to have lived in an English-speaking country or attended an school where English is the language of instruction for not more than seven years.

Students should have studied Units 1 and 2 English as an Additional Language in 2023

## VCE Food Studies

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### Learning Focus

VCE Food Studies explores food with an emphasis on extending food knowledge, 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 influences and choices. Students explore food from a wide range of perspectives. They study past and present patterns of eating, Australian and global food production systems and the many physical and social functions and roles of food. They research economic, environmental and ethical dimensions of food and critically evaluate information, marketing messages and new trends. Practical work is integral to Food Studies and includes cooking, demonstrations, creating and responding to design briefs, dietary analysis, food sampling and taste-testing, sensory analysis, product analysis and scientific experiments.

### Prerequisites

Students should have studied Units 1 and 2 Food Studies in 2023.

## VCE General Mathematics

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### Learning Focus

General Mathematics caters for a range of student interests and students study a broad range of mathematical topics. In undertaking Units 1 to 4, students are expected to be able to apply a variety of mathematical techniques and routines with and without the use of technology. They should have the ability to perform relevant mental and by-hand calculations for estimation and computation. The use of technology is to be incorporated throughout each unit.

### Prerequisites

Students should have studied Units 1 and 2 General Mathematics in 2023.

## VCE Health and Human Development

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### Learning Focus

This study provides students with broad understandings of health and wellbeing that reach far beyond the individual. Students learn how important health and wellbeing is to themselves and to families, communities, nations and global society. Students explore the complex interplay of biological, sociocultural and environmental factors that support and improve health and wellbeing and those that put it at risk. The study provides opportunities for students to view health and wellbeing, and development, holistically – across the lifespan and the globe, and through a lens of social equity and justice.

### Prerequisites

Students should have studied Units 1 and 2 Health and Human Development in 2023.

## VCE History

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### Learning Focus

History is the practice of understanding and making meaning of the past. Students undertake inquiry into human actions, forces and conditions that have shaped the past and present. This study prompts students to use history to understand themselves, others and the present world. It aims to broaden their perspective through the examination of events, ideas, individuals, groups and movements. The study provides the opportunity to explore history as historians, asking questions and using analysis and evaluation of historical sources and interpretations to construct historical arguments.

Students study Revolutions in Units 3 and 4. Revolutions explores the causes and consequences of significant social upheaval that causes profound change in the political and social structures of a society. It develops skills to analyse the different perspectives and experiences of people who lived through dramatic revolutionary moments, and how society changed and/or remained the same.

### Prerequisites

Students should have studied Units 1 and 2 History in 2023.

## VCE Legal Studies

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### Learning Focus

Unit 3 Legal Studies focusses on the Victorian justice system. In this unit of study, students examine the methods and institutions in the criminal and civil justice systems and consider their appropriateness in determining criminal cases and resolving civil disputes. Students explore the rights available to victims and to an accused in the criminal justice system and evaluate the ability of sanctions and remedies to achieve their purposes. Students explore justice as a concept and investigate the extent to which it is achieved and upheld in the legal system.

Unit 4 Legal Studies focusses on Australia's legal system. In this unit of study, students examine the role of the people, the legal system and other institutions in influencing law reform. Students explore how the Australian Constitution establishes the law-making powers of the Commonwealth and state parliaments, and how it protects the rights of Australian citizens. Students develop an understanding of the High Court in protecting and interpreting the Australian Constitution. They investigate parliament and the courts, and consider the roles of individuals, the media and law reform bodies in influencing changes to the law, including past and future constitutional reform.

### Prerequisites

Students should have studied Units 1 and 2 Legal Studies in 2023.

## VCE Mathematical Methods

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### Learning Focus

VCE Mathematical Methods introduces simple elementary functions of a single real variable, algebra, calculus, probability and statistics and their applications in a variety of practical and theoretical contexts. Students also study of simple transcendental functions, the calculus of polynomial functions and related modelling applications

In undertaking Units 1 to 4, students are expected to be able to apply a variety of mathematical techniques and routines with and without the use of technology. They should have the ability to perform relevant mental and by-hand calculations for estimation and computation. The use of technology is to be incorporated throughout each unit.

### Prerequisites

Students must have studied Units 1 and 2 Mathematical Methods in 2023.

## VCE Physical Education

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### Learning Focus

The study enables students to integrate a contemporary understanding of the theoretical underpinnings of performance and participation in physical activity with practical application. Through engagement in physical activities, this study enables students to develop the knowledge and skills required to critically evaluate influences that affect their own and others' performance and participation in physical activity.

### Prerequisites

Students should have studied Units 1 and 2 Physical Education in 2023.

## VCE Physics

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### Learning Focus

Physics is a natural science based on observations, experiments, measurements and mathematical analysis with the purpose of finding quantitative explanations for phenomena occurring from the subatomic scale through to the planets, stellar systems and galaxies in the Universe. While much scientific understanding in physics has stood the test of time, many other areas continue to evolve. In undertaking this study, students develop their understanding of the roles of careful and systematic experimentation and modelling in the development of theories and laws. They undertake practical activities and apply physics principles to explain and quantify both natural and constructed phenomena.

In VCE physics students develop a range of inquiry skills involving practical experimentation and research, analytical skills including critical and creative thinking, and communication skills. Students use scientific and cognitive skills and understanding to analyse contemporary physics-related issues and to communicate their views from an informed position.

### Prerequisites

Students must have studied Units 1 and 2 Physics in 2023.

## VCE Psychology

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### Learning Focus

Psychology is a multifaceted discipline that seeks to describe, explain, understand and predict human behaviour and mental processes. It includes many sub-fields of study that explore and seek to better understand how individuals, groups, communities and societies think, feel and act.

Students study contemporary research, models and theories to understand how knowledge in psychology has developed and how this knowledge continues to change in response to new evidence and discoveries in an effort to solve day-to-day problems and improve psychological wellbeing. Where possible, engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ways of doing, being and knowing have been integrated into the study, providing students with the opportunity to contrast the Western paradigm of psychology with Indigenous psychology. An understanding of the complexities and diversity of psychology provides students with the opportunity to appreciate the interconnectedness of concepts both within psychology and across psychology and the other sciences.

As a science, psychology aims to describe, explain and predict behaviour and in doing so it relies on empirical procedures rather than intuition. The application of research methods in psychology allows students to develop useful skills in analytical and critical thinking and in making inferences. VCE Psychology is not intended as a prerequisite for tertiary studies in psychology. Rather, it provides a challenging yet accessible introduction to the science of psychology, allowing students to increase their knowledge of human behaviour.

### Prerequisites

Students should have studied Units 1 and 2 Psychology in 2023.



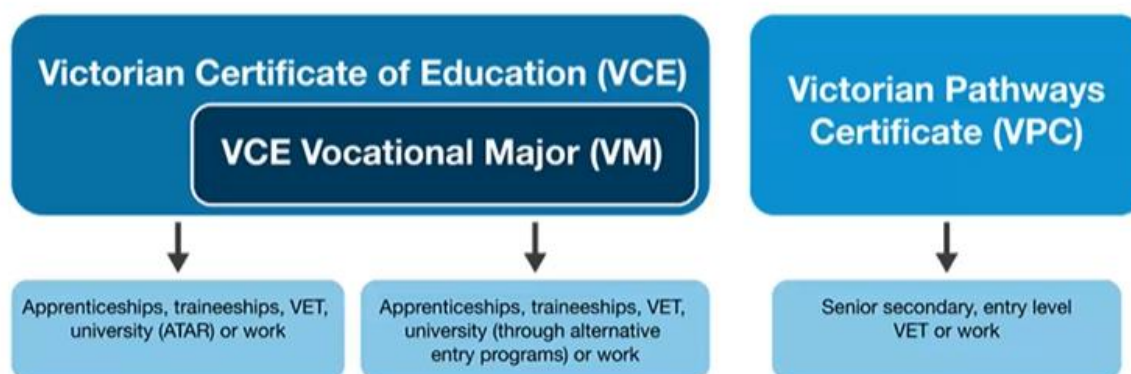
# **VCE Vocational Major Certificate**

## **Victorian Pathways Certificate**

Course Information

2023-2027





The VCE Vocational Major is a 2-year vocational and applied learning program within the VCE. The VCE VM will enable students to transition into apprenticeships, traineeships, further education and training and university (via non-ATAR pathways). It aims to develop students’ personal and practical life skills and prepare them for the next important stage of their life.

The Victorian Pathways Certificate (VPC) offers an engaging curriculum and additional support for students to develop the work-related skills and capabilities needed to succeed. The VPC can be finished over a longer period than 2 years. The coursework is designed and delivered at a more accessible level than the VCE and VCE VM. Students can begin studying the VPC in Year 10 and their teachers will assess their progress through a range of classroom learning activities. Completion of the VPC can lead to entry into a Vocational Major pathway (in Year 11) or entry level VET/employment.

## CORE STUDIES

VCE Vocational Major	Victorian Pathways Certificate
Literacy	Literacy
Numeracy	Numeracy (Units 1&2 only)
Personal Development Skills	Personal Development Skills
Work-Related Skills	Work-Related Skills

Each study has four units, and each unit has a set of outcomes which are assessed through a range of learning activities and tasks. Students will apply their knowledge and skills in practical settings and undertake community-based activities and projects.

A **VET** course is a compulsory component of the VCE VM Certificate. Although VET courses are offered at TAFE, LSC also facilitates VET courses, on site, that students may enrol in.

Students may also select a **VCE** unit of study offered, as part of their course.

A block of time during the year will be provided for students to gain some work-place experience and complete the requirements for Structured Workplace Recognition (**SWLR**).

This is a typical pathways course for students enrolled in the VCE VM.

YEAR 11		YEAR 12	
UNITS OF STUDY	Eligible credits	UNITS OF STUDY	Eligible credits
VCE VM Literacy Units 1&2	2	VCE VM Literacy Units 3&4	2
VCE VM Numeracy Units 1&2	2	VCE VM Numeracy Units 3&4	2
VCE VM Personal Development Skills Units 1&2	2	VCE VM Personal Development Skills Units 3&4	2
VCE VM Work Related Skills Units 1&2	2	VCE VM Work Related Skills Units 3&4	2
VET - minimum 90 nominal hours at Cert II (or above)		VET - minimum of 180 nominal hours at Cert II or above (over 2 years – 90hours in Year 11 and 90hours in Year 12)	2
SWLR – Structured work placement	1	SWLR – Structured work placement (recommended)	1
VCE Units (optional)	2	VCE Units (optional)	2
Satisfactory completion of VM must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 VCE VM Literacy units or VCE English units</li> <li>• 2 VCE VM Numeracy or VCE Mathematics units</li> <li>• 2 VCE VM WRS units</li> <li>• 2 VCE VM PDS units</li> <li>• A minimum of 3 additional Unit 3-4 sequences, which can include other VCE or VCE VET studies</li> <li>• A minimum of 180 nominal hours of VET at Cert II or above</li> </ul> <b>A minimum of 16 credits over the 2 years is required.</b>			

This is a typical pathways course for students enrolled in VPC.

YEAR 10		YEAR 11		YEAR 12	
LEARNING AREAS	Eligible credits	UNITS OF STUDY	Eligible credits	UNITS OF STUDY	Eligible credits
VPC Literacy Unit 1	1	VPC Literacy Unit 2	1	VPC Literacy Units 3&4	2
VPC Numeracy Unit 1	1	VPC Numeracy Unit 2	1		
Environmental Science		VPC Personal Development Skills Units 1&2	2	VPC Personal Development Skills Units 3&4	2
Health & PE, Humanities, Art, Technology		VPC Work-Related Skills Units 1&2	2	VPC Work-Related Skills Units 3&4	2
		SWLR – Structured work placement	1	SWLR – Structured work placement	1
VET (course offered at LSC)		VET (course offered at LSC) / SBAT	1	VET (course offered at LSC) / SBAT	1
The minimum requirement for the VPC is satisfactory completion of 12 units, which must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• at least two units of VPC Literacy (or units from the VCE English group, including VCE Vocational Major Literacy)</li> <li>• at least two units of VPC Numeracy (or units from the VCE Mathematics group, including VCE Vocational Major Numeracy)</li> <li>• at least two VPC Personal Development Skills units</li> <li>• at least two VPC Work Related Skills units.</li> </ul>					

# VCE Vocational Major Subject Descriptions

## VCE Vocational Major LITERACY Units 1-4



VCE Vocational Major Literacy focuses on the development of the knowledge and skills required to be literate in Australia today.

The key knowledge and key skills encompass a student's ability to interpret and create texts that have purpose, and are accurate and effective, with confidence and fluency.

Students will read or watch a variety of texts for a personal purpose, such as finding information. Texts are chosen from a range of local and global perspectives, including First Nations peoples' and multicultural perspectives, and include film, TV, online videos, song, poetry, biographies and digital content, and other texts of interest to the students.

Students will investigate, analyse and create content for the advocacy of self, a product or a community group, in a vocational or recreational setting.

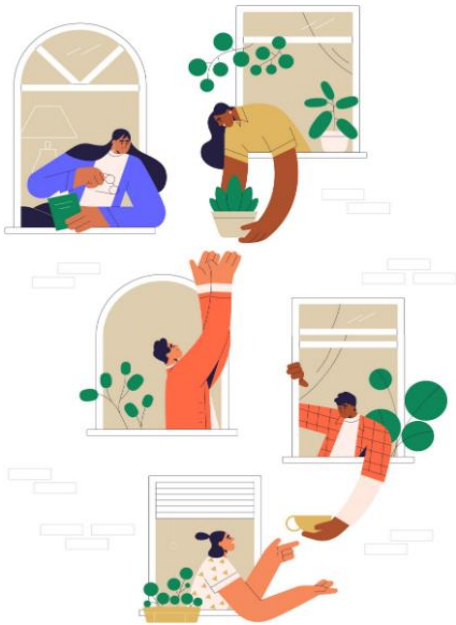
## VCE Vocational Major NUMERACY Units 1-4



VCE Vocational Major Numeracy focuses on enabling students to develop and enhance their numeracy skills to make sense of their personal, public and vocational lives. Students develop mathematical skills with consideration of their local, national and global environments and contexts, and an awareness and use of appropriate technologies. The following numerical contexts are used to develop student's knowledge and skills:

- Personal numeracy
- Civic numeracy
- Financial numeracy
- Health numeracy
- Vocational numeracy
- Recreational numeracy

## VCE Vocational Major PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT SKILLS Units 1-4



Students will be introduced to the concepts of personal identity and explore the elements of emotional intelligence (self-awareness, self-regulation, motivation, empathy and social skills).

Students will explore concepts of health and wellbeing for individuals and groups, the factors that affect wellbeing and the characteristics of inclusive and cohesive communities.

They will investigate key advancements in technology and the impact of technology on individuals and society. They will explore how technology is used to facilitate health promotion programs and understand the importance of using strategies to assess the reliability, validity and accuracy of health and wellbeing-related information.

## VCE Vocational Major WORK RELATED SKILLS Units 1-4



VCE Vocational Major Work Related Skills (WRS) examines a range of skills, knowledge and capabilities relevant to achieving individual career and educational goals. Students will develop a broad understanding of workplace environments and the future of work and education, in order to engage in theoretical and practical planning and decision-making for a successful transition to their desired pathway.

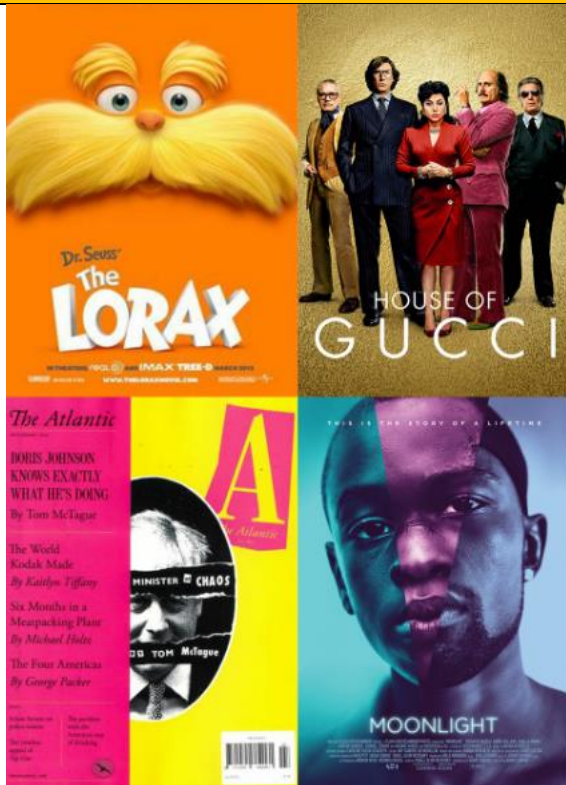
The study considers four key areas: the future of work; workplace skills and capabilities; industrial relations and the workplace environment and practice; and the development of a personal portfolio.

Students will have the opportunity to apply the knowledge and skills gained from this study in the classroom environment and through Structured Workplace Learning (SWL) or Work Experience (WE



# Victorian Pathways Certificate Subject Descriptions

## Victorian Pathways Certificate LITERACY Units 1-4



VPC Literacy enables the development of knowledge, skills and capabilities relevant to reading, writing and oral communication and their practical application in the contexts of everyday life, family, employment, further learning and community.

This study provides students with the key skills and knowledge to interpret and create texts with appropriateness, accuracy, confidence and fluency, as well as for learning in and out of school, and for participating in the workplace and community.

The word 'text' refers to any attempt to communicate through written, visual or spoken language that can be assigned meaning and can be drawn from a range of sources including media texts, multimodal texts, texts used in daily interactions such as print and social media, and workplace texts such as operational and instruction manuals in everyday and familiar settings.

## Victorian Pathways Certificate NUMERACY Units 1-2



The purpose of this study is to enable students to develop their everyday numeracy practices to make sense of their personal, public, and future vocational lives. Students develop foundational mathematical skills with consideration of their personal, home, vocational and community environments and contexts, and an awareness and use of accessible and appropriate technologies.

Numeracy focuses on providing students with the fundamental mathematical knowledge, skills, understandings and dispositions to solve problems in real life contexts for a range of workplace, personal, further learning and community settings relevant to contemporary society.

Units 1 and 2 are completed over two years with different contexts and themes covered each year.

## Victorian Pathways Certificate PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT SKILLS Units 1-2



VPC Personal Development Skills (PDS) focuses on understanding and caring for self, and then through a focus on engagement with community.

Students are supported through the curriculum to make positive connections between self-understanding, setting and achieving goals, purposefulness, resilience and enhanced health and wellbeing. They look at the significance of self-care in a range of contexts including physical care, relationships and online environments. Students articulate concepts of consent, equity and access, and reflect on how to express themselves in safe and effective ways.

PDS emphasises student participation in activities that explore and utilise skills that are essential to self-development, the pursuit of health and wellbeing, and the capacity to contribute to community.

## Victorian Pathways Certificate WORK RELATED SKILLS Units 1-4



VPC Work Related Skills (WRS) enables the development of knowledge, skills and personal attributes relevant to further education and employment. This study also provides practical, authentic opportunities for students to develop employability skills.

WRS examines four key areas: workplace health and culture; skills and capabilities; planning and executing a small-scale work-related activity; and activities related to seeking employment and further training.

Students apply their knowledge and understanding to practical and collaborative activities to prepare for the process of applying for jobs and being a valued and productive employee in the workplace.

WRS emphasises student participation in activities that develop tangible employability skills and prepares students for their desired future pathway.