HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE

WHAT STUDENTS AND PARENTS NEED TO KNOW
Types of Courses

Board-Developed Courses

Board-Endorsed Courses
Board-Developed Courses
Category A

- Developed by the Board of Studies (2 Unit General Maths, 2 Unit Biology, 2 Unit Business Studies)
- They have an external examination at the end of the HSC course
- Marks gained count towards the calculation of the Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR).

(Refer to page 10)
Board-Developed Courses
VET Courses Category B

- Business Services
- Hospitality Operations
- Building & Construction
- Information Technology
- Retail

(Refer to VET/TVET handbook for courses)
How are VET Courses Different?

- VET courses are designed to enable students to acquire a range of technical, personal and organisational skills valued both within and beyond the work place.
- Complete MANDATORY work placement hours (70 hours) to qualify for the Higher School Certificate.
- To qualify for a Certificate I or II – complete and achieve all competencies determined by the course.
- VET competencies determine the level of achievement of students.
What are Board Endorsed Courses?

- *Board Endorsed Courses* have been approved by the Board of Studies.
- They have been designed in areas of special interest not covered by *Board Developed Courses*.
- Maybe 1 or 2 unit courses taught over 1 or 2 years.

*(Refer to page 41 of the handbook)*
Include

1 Unit Courses:
- Ceramics
- Computing Applications
- Photography
- Sport, Lifestyle and Recreation Studies

2 Unit Courses:
- English Studies (Counts as a Board Developed course)
- Sport, Lifestyle and Recreation Studies
- Work Studies
What are TVET courses?

- Most courses delivered by TAFE are Board Endorsed Courses (expect VET framework courses)
- No HSC examinations
- DO NOT count towards the Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR) except Accounting, Tourism & Automotive
- ALL courses require an application form
  DUE 9 August 2013.

(Refer to VET/TVET handbook)
Skills Pathways to Youth Program

Courses

- 4 units  Automotive (ATAR)  Blacktown - Thursday
  leads to a Statement of Attainment 240 hours – credit towards Auto Electrical/Mechanical Apprenticeship
- 8 units  Children's Services  Nirimba - Wednesday
  leads to a Certificate III Children's Services
- 4 units  Hairdressing  Nepean - Friday

These courses lead to a Certificate II

- Studied in Year 11 ONLY
- One year – one day a week pattern of study
- 70 hours work placement (simulated for Hairdressing)
School Based Traineeships and Apprenticeships combine:

- Higher School Certificate
- Part time PAID work
- Skills training both on-the-job and off-the-job at School, TAFE NSW or with a private training provider
- Completed INSTEAD of other school subjects
- Counts as UNIT CREDIT towards your HSC
What is the difference?

TRAINEESHIPS
- 18 month contract
- Signed up after School Certificate
- Options at completion of going to university, going to TAFE or working in this career or any other field they may choose

APPRENTICESHIPS
- 60 months or 5 year contract
- Signed up as soon as possible
- Complete the 1st year of Apprenticeship over Years 11 and 12
- Continue on with the same employer as a 2nd Year full time Apprentice after December 31st of your HSC year
Popular Industry areas chosen by students

Retail
Hospitality
Business Services
Construction
Automotive
Hairdressing
Plumbing
Electrotechnology
Beauty Therapy
Vet Nursing
Engineering
REQUIREMENTS

Minimum 100 days on-the-job for most industry areas
Minimum 144 days for the Building trades
Minimum 180 days for the Plumbing and Electrical trades

During Yr 11 and Yr 12
Completed by 31st December, HSC year

The off-the-job training
Completed by October, HSC year

Log and Journal of on-the-job training to be kept up-to-date
Examples comparing a School week for Traineeships and Apprenticeships

Traineeship Typical week
3½ days at School
1 day at work
½ day TAFE
Or delivery through School or a Private Provider

Apprenticeship Typical week
3 days at School
1 day at work
1 day TAFE
What do I do now?

If you think a SCHOOL BASED TRAINEESHIP or APPRENTICESHIP is for you

Speak to your Careers Adviser for more information
Deciding on a Pattern of Study
The Golden Rules

- **ABILITY** – choose the courses you are good at
- **INTEREST** – choose the courses you are interested in
- **MOTIVATION** – choose the courses you really want to learn about.
**HSC Pattern of Study to Include**

- Have satisfactorily completed *12 units in Year 11* and *10 units in Year 12*
- Study at least **SIX** units of Board Developed courses
- Study at least **THREE** course of 2 units in value
- Study at least **FOUR** subjects (one needs to be 2 Units of English)
- *No more* than **SIX units of Science** can contribute to the HSC.
Also!

- ATAR Pattern
- Non-ATAR Pattern
- Pathways Pattern
WHAT is the ATAR?

The Australian Tertiary Admission Rank

- a number between 0.00 and 99.95 (only ATARs above 30 will be reported)
- indicates your position relative to all students who entered Year 7 with you
- a rank, not a mark
- used by universities to rank applicants
**ATAR facts**

Your ATAR …

- provides information about how well you have performed **OVERALL** against other students;
- allows you to be compared with other students who have completed different combinations of courses;
- is a **RANK**, not a mark; and
- is provided by UAC
Calculating your ATAR

- You must satisfy the rules of the HSC
- Present a minimum of 10 units of Board Developed Courses
- Your ATAR is based on your best 2 units of English and the best 8 units from your remaining courses
- Maximum of 2 units from a Board Developed Category B course can be included
ATAR Example 1

- 2 unit English (Standard)
- 2 unit Maths (General)
- 2 unit Biology
- 2 unit Society & Culture
- 2 unit PD/H/PE
- 2 unit Hospitality (VET Cat B)
ATAR Example 2

- 2 unit English (Standard)
- 2 unit Maths (General)
- 2 unit Art
- 2 unit Drama
- TAFE Course (CEC)
- 2 Unit Hospitality (VET Cat B)
Non-ATAR Example 1

- 2 unit English Studies (CEC)
- 2 unit Maths (General)
- 2 unit Business Studies
- 2 unit TAFE Course (Accounting)
- 2 unit Business Services (VET Cat B)
- 2 unit Retail (VET Cat B)
Non-ATAR Example 2

- 2 unit English Studies (CEC)
- 2 unit General Maths
- 2 unit Information Technology (VET Cat B)
- 2 unit Construction (VET Cat B)
- 2 unit TAFE (CEC)
- 2 unit PD/H/PE
Pathways Pattern of Study-Example

- 2 unit English Studies
- 2 unit Maths (General)
- 2 unit Work Studies
- 2 VET course & TVET
- Or TVET/VET
- One other 2 unit Course
- Work placement ONE day per week
Oh no, there is more!
To be eligible for the Higher School Certificate a Students must:

- Fulfill all requirements of the syllabus, e.g. assignments, practical work and participation in class
- Apply themselves with diligence and sustained effort to the set tasks and experiences provided in the course.
Completion of Assessment Tasks

- Assessment Tasks are set out in the Assessment Program of each course studied
- Minimum requirement, students must make a genuine attempt at assessment tasks
- Sustained effort and diligence
Assessment tasks must be submitted by the due date or performed in class on the date specified.

If a student fails to submit or perform an assessment task by the due date, they will be awarded a zero mark.

- Unsatisfactory Progress (UPR) letters issued
- Complete Assessment Variation documentation
- Student needs to complete the task on the first day back at school.
Non-attempts and non genuine attempts will be recorded as zero and Unsatisfactory Progress (UPR) letters issued

Appeals committee considers all applications
Attendance

- As a result of poor attendance, a student can be deemed as not completing course work and objectives
- As a guide, students are expected to have approximately 85% attendance
- A doctor’s certificate should be provided for long absences.
Who gets a Record of School Achievement?

- Students who are eligible and leave school before receiving the HSC
- A student receiving the HSC can also request a copy of their Record of School Achievement
- Students in Year 11 or 12 not leaving school can access a transcript to use when seeking casual work (not an official credential).
Completing Years 11 & 12

- A - E Reporting – Grades submitted in October for Year 11
- HSC course of study to begin in October/November as is the case now
- When a student has completed HSC courses and has met eligibility requirements they receive the HSC testamur and would have their Preliminary and HSC results recorded on the HSC Record of Achievement.
Student Selection Process

- Week 1 Term III
  - Careers Market
- Week 1 Term III
  - Go-For-It Program
  - Subject Survey
- Final Selection Week 3 Term III
- Parent Interviews Weeks 3-4
  - Pathways & Traineeship Students