



ELEVATION
SECONDARY COLLEGE



Year 10

Subject Handbook 2025

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

RULES FOR SELECTING SUBJECTS

- All year 10 students must complete the following core subjects:
 - English (year long subject)
 - Mathematics (year long subject)
 - Compulsory History (semester subject)
 - At least one Physical Education and Health subject (semester)
 - At least one of the core Science subjects (semester)
- When choosing electives, students can choose one additional elective from each of the core domains (English, Maths, Science, PE and Health, Humanities).
- Students can choose two electives from the non-core domains (Languages, Arts and Technologies).
- Students can choose VCE subjects even if they are selecting electives from the same domain.
- If a student is recommended to study a VCE subject it will be a year long subject. They will take up two elective slots.
- Students cannot enrol in VCE Media and Year 10 Media
- Students cannot enrol in VCE Psychology and Year 10 Psychology

Semester 1	Semester 2
Personal Development	Personal Development
English	English
Maths	Maths
Science	Humanities- History
PE	Elective 1
Elective 2	Elective 3
Elective 4	Elective 5

*Subjects listed as VCE Pathways are not guaranteed to run in 2025.

*Described assessment tasks may change

VCE CLASS ATTENDANCE POLICY

The VCAA requires all schools to enforce minimum attendance policy for all VCE units of study. The attendance policy is in place to ensure students are present for the minimum hours of instruction required to participate in VCE and allow for authentication of student work.

- **Unexplained absences:** 'red' on Compass, no or insufficient explanation provided
 - Students will receive a formal warning if they have three unexplained absences that they are at risk of an N.
 - Students who have five unexplained absences in a semester will be awarded an 'N' for the Unit and enter course counselling.
- **Explained absences:** 'yellow' or 'blue' on Compass, includes: medical appointment, illness with a certificate, religious observance, school excursion, family holiday, etc.
 - Students will receive a formal warning if they have five explained absences that they are at risk of an N. A medical certificate will be required for subsequent absences.
- After **ten total absences** (i.e. five explained any reason, five with medical certificate) students will be awarded an N and enter course counselling.

VCAA allows for some exceptions to the attendance policy via the Special Provision process, however these are usually for a limited duration and apply to a narrow range of circumstances.

Families and students are strongly encouraged to share any medical diagnoses, hardship or extenuating circumstances with the school so a special provision application can be prepared before being awarded an N.



SUBJECT LIST

DOMAIN: ENGLISH	
English	Core
Extension English	Elective
DOMAIN: MATHEMATICS	
Mathematics (Year 10)	Core
Mathematics (Pre-Methods)	Core
Numeracy	Recommendation Only
DOMAIN: SCIENCE	
Environmental Science & Biology	Core
Physics and Chemistry	Core
Psychology	Elective
DOMAIN: HUMANITIES	
History	Core
Commerce and Business Management	Elective
Work Related Skills	Elective
DOMAIN: PHYSICAL EDUCATION & HEALTH	
Health & Physical Education	Core
Pre-VCE Physical Education	Elective
Pre-VCE Health and Human Development	Elective
DOMAIN: LANGUAGES	
Chinese	Electives
DOMAIN: TECHNOLOGIES	
Computer Applications	Elective
Design Technologies	Elective
Food Studies	Elective
DOMAIN: ARTS	
Media	Elective
Music	Elective
Visual Art	Elective
Visual Communication	Elective
VCE UNIT 1 AND UNIT 2 SUBJECTS	
See VCE Handbook- available on Compass & at the front office	

DOMAIN: ENGLISH

ENGLISH

CORE SUBJECT

All Year 10 students will be enrolled in this subject.

This subject provides the essential skills for VCE English and VM Literacy. Students will prepare for VCE and the Vocational Major English studies by reading, evaluating and analysing various types of texts including novels, newspapers, non-fiction and digital texts.

Students will develop their writing skills by creating a range of informative, imaginative and persuasive texts.

Additionally, students will develop their persuasive writing and speaking skills. All students will deliver an oral presentation to their class.

Length: Full Year

Future Pathways: VCE English, VM Literacy

Units	Assessments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading and creating fiction texts • Comparing texts • Analysing persuasive arguments • Writing persuasive arguments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creative writing piece • Text response essay • Persuasive argument analysis • Oral presentation • Examination

EXTENSION ENGLISH

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

Students will extend their knowledge and English skills and practise the skills required in VCE English.

Students will focus on the analysis and construction of texts that attempt to influence an audience. Students read and analyse a range of texts that attempt to position audiences in a variety of ways.

Students will explore how comparing texts can provide a deeper understanding of ideas, issues and themes. They investigate how the reader's understanding of one text is broadened and deepened when considered in relation to another text.

Length: Semester

Future Pathways: VCE English, VCE Literature

Units	Assessments
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Persuasive text analysis• Comparative text analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Written argument analysis• Comparative text essay• Examination

MATHEMATICS

Students will be enrolled in one of the following Mathematics streams.

MATHEMATICS (YEAR 10)

In Mathematics, students build on their skills within the three areas; Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry, and Statistics and Probability.

Students work with simple and compound interest. They solve problems involving linear equations, inequalities, quadratic equations, and simultaneous linear equations. They also find unknown values, manipulate linear algebraic expressions, expand binomial expressions and factorise quadratic expressions.

Students solve surface area and volume problems of plane and solid shapes. They use parallel and perpendicular lines, angles, triangle properties and similarity and congruence for geometric reasoning.

Students analyse data sets by referring to summary statistics. They describe univariate data using box-plots and bivariate data by creating scatter-plots and finding lines of best fit to investigate relationships between two variables with and without the use of digital technology. They list outcomes for multi-step chance experiments involving independent and dependent events, and assign probabilities for these experiments.

Length: Year Long

Future Pathways: VCE Foundation Mathematics, VCE General Mathematics, VM Numeracy

<p>Units</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number and Algebra • Measurement and Geometry • Statistics and Probability 	<p>Assessments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topic Tests • Maths Pathways Tests • Examination
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MATHEMATICS (PRE METHODS)

In Pre Methods, students further develop their skills within the three areas, Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry, and Statistics and Probability through covering the Year 10 and 10A curriculum.

Students work with simple and compound interest. They solve problems involving linear equations, inequalities, quadratic equations, simultaneous linear equations and use digital technology to find solutions and graph these rules. They also find unknown values, manipulate linear algebraic expressions, expand binomial expressions and factorise quadratic expressions.

Students will extend work in measurement and geometry by proving a broader range of geometric propositions, solving trigonometric problems in non-right angles triangles, and solving three dimensional problems involving surface area and volume of cones and spheres and composite shapes.

Students analyse data sets by referring to summary statistics. They describe univariate data using box-plots and bivariate data by creating scatter-plots and finding lines of best fit to investigate relationships between two variables with and without the use of digital technology. They list outcomes for multi-step chance experiments involving independent and dependent events, and assign probabilities for these experiments.

Length: Year Long

Future Pathways: VCE General Mathematics, VCE Mathematical Methods, VCE Specialist Mathematics

<p>Units</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre VCE Number and Algebra • Pre VCE Measurement and Geometry • Pre VCE Statistics and Probability 	<p>Assessments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topic Tests • Examination
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NUMERACY

This subject is by recommendation only.

This subject is designed to develop foundational numeracy skills with a focus on practical life applications for students in Year 10. The subject focuses on essential life skills, including budgeting and navigating real-life experiences. Students will learn about personal finance management, budget creation, and the importance of financial literacy. This subject equips students with the necessary skills and knowledge to navigate real-life challenges, make sound financial decisions, and establish a solid foundation for future financial well-being.

Length: Year Long

Future Pathways: VCE Foundation Mathematics, VCE: Vocational Major, TAFE, Part time and full time employment

Units <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Personal finance• Numeracy• Measurement	Assessments <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Topic Tests• Examination
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SCIENCE

Students must select at least one of the following core science subjects.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE & BIOLOGY

CORE SUBJECT

This subject provides the essential content and skills for VCE Biology and Environmental Science at a Year 10 level.

Students are introduced to DNA structure, genetics and patterns of inheritance. They examine cell division and investigate how meiosis results in genetic variation. They apply their understanding of how genetic mutations occur to explain how natural selection drives evolution and creates biodiversity.

Students learn about the carbon cycle in depth alongside other biogeochemical cycles. They explain the cause and consequences of increasing global temperatures on global systems and ecosystems. All tests and exams are closed book.

Length: Semester

Future Pathways: VCE Biology, VCE/VET Laboratory Skills, VCE Environmental Science, VCE Outdoor Education and Environmental Studies

Units	Assessments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Genetics • Evolution • Global Systems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tests • A report on ethical issues in genetics • Examination • Practical Investigation

PHYSICS & CHEMISTRY

CORE SUBJECT

This subject provides the essential content and skills for VCE Physics and VCE Chemistry at a Year 10 level, including concepts of energy and atomic structure which form parts of both studies.

In the Chemistry unit, students learn atomic bonding and rearrangement of atoms in chemical reactions in depth. By the end of the unit, they are able to balance chemical equations and use the Periodic Table to predict the formula of ionic compounds and identify the number and/or mass of atoms in a solution.

Students establish the connection between force and energy in the Physics unit. Newton's laws and the principle of conservation of energy are applied to predict and explain an object's motion. Students identify evidence supporting the Big Bang theory and examine how the theory can explain the origin of the Universe and conservation of matter.

All tests and exams are closed book, with a periodic table, formula and/or data sheet provided.

Length: Semester

Future Pathways: VCE Chemistry, VCE Physics,, VCE/VET Laboratory Skills

Units	Assessments
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chemistry• Physics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tests• Examination• Practical Investigation

YEAR 10 PSYCHOLOGY

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

Students will explore mental processes and behaviours, and the research methods that are applicable in the study of Psychology.

Students will develop their understanding of the nervous systems and other biological systems that impact the mind, as well as theoretical models that assist in understanding behaviours and mental health.

All tests and exams are closed book.

Length: Semester

Future Pathways: VCE Psychology, VCE Biology

Units	Assessments
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The study of Psychology• The nervous systems impact on mental process and behaviour• Mental Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tests• Practical investigations• Presentation• Written Examination

HUMANITIES

HISTORY

CORE SUBJECT

All Year 10 students will be enrolled in this subject.

Students will expand their knowledge of the development of the modern world. Students will explore historically important events, movements, ideas and people throughout the 20th Century. Students will continue their study of World Wars by learning about the causes and consequences of World War II upon Australian and the world. Furthermore, students will examine the historical significance of the Holocaust.

Finally, students will follow the growth of the civil rights movement by exploring the changes it made to society and its significance in modern Australia.

Students will learn historical concepts and skills essential for studying VCE History, including using sources as evidence, sequence chronology, and to determine historical significance through continuity and change, and cause and effect.

Length: Semester

Future Pathways: VCE History

Units	Assessments
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• World War II and the Holocaust• Civil Rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Source analysis• Tests• Examination

COMMERCE & BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

Students continue to develop their consumer and financial literacy knowledge and skills by identifying sources of finance for consumers, businesses and the government and explaining the role of financial institutions in their interactions with consumers, businesses and the government.

Students examine the role of innovation and its influence on business success. Students explore the way the work and business environment is changing in contemporary Australia and globally, and the implications this has for current and future work and the work of entrepreneurs.

Length: Semester

Future Pathways: VCE Business Management

Units	Assessments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Business Environment • Work and Work Futures • Economics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tests • Business Development Plan • Examination

WORK RELATED SKILLS

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

This subject focuses on developing essential work-related skills and knowledge for students with a focus on practical work-related skills for students in Year 10.

Through a combination of theoretical and practical learning experiences, students will gain a solid foundation in critical work-related competencies, including communication, teamwork, problem-solving, time management, and professional ethics. The subject equips students with the necessary skills to succeed in various occupational settings and lays the groundwork for future vocational pursuits and career pathways.

Length: Semester

Future Pathways: VCE Vocational Major, TAFE, Full time or Part Time employment

<p>Units</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 1 Getting Job Ready - resumes, interview skills, communication and teamwork • Unit 2 Getting Job Ready - problem-solving, time management and professional ethics 	<p>Assessments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written assessments • Practical assessments
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DOMAIN: PHYSICAL EDUCATION & HEALTH

*Students must select at least one of the following subjects.
Students can select a maximum of two PE and Health subjects.*

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

CORE SUBJECT

Health and Physical Education will provide students with the opportunity to take part in both theoretical and practical classes through the course of the semester. The practical component of the subject will predominantly focus on ‘lifelong physical activities’ and community based activities.

The theoretical component will explore the importance of relationships, safe behaviours, accessibility of resources in our community and the importance of lifelong physical activity.

Length: Semester

Future Pathways: VET Sport and recreation, VCE Health and Human Development, VCE Physical Education, VCE Outdoor Environmental Studies.

<p>Units</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationships: decisions and behaviours • Gender: power, roles and imbalances • Accessibility or resources in our community • Community and lifestyle physical activities 	<p>Assessments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practical component assessment • Theoretical assessment
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PRE-VCE HEALTH & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

CORE SUBJECT

Pre-VCE HHD is a theoretical subject that introduces students to key Unit 1-4 concepts such as health and well-being, health status, and the social and cultural factors that impact these concepts. In preparation for VCE Health and Human Development, important key skills will also be covered, such as data analysis and case study analysis.

Length: Semester

Future Pathways: VCE Health and Human Development

<p>Units</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health and Wellbeing Dimensions • Indicators of health status • Indigenous perspectives on health and wellbeing 	<p>Assessments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theoretical assessment
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PRE-VCE PHYSICAL EDUCATION

CORE SUBJECT

The pre VCE Physical education subject will be a predominantly theoretical subject with occasional practical sessions to complement the theory being completed. This subject is designed to give students the best possible opportunity of success in senior years as it introduces the key topics and concepts that will be studied during VCE Physical Education.

Length: Semester

Future Pathways: VET Sport and recreation, VCE Health and Human Development, VCE Physical Education, VCE Outdoor Environmental Studies

<p>Units</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bones and Muscles of the Human Body • Cardiorespiratory system • Energy Systems • Biomechanics 	<p>Assessments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practical component assessment • Theoretical assessment
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DOMAIN: LANGUAGES

CHINESE

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

Students will be strengthening their knowledge of the Chinese language. They will develop the skills to listen, speak, read and write in Chinese. Students will also be introduced to different aspects of Chinese culture, such as traditional families in China and cultural values.

Length: Full Year

Future Pathways: VCE Chinese Language, Culture and Society

Units	Assessments
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Travel• Clothing• Places• Jobs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Written tests• Oral examination• Written Examination

DOMAIN: ARTS

YEAR 10 MEDIA

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

Students will continue to explore how codes and conventions are used to construct meaning and engage audiences in a range of media products. They will explore the notion of how social context influences the creation of media products and how present audiences engage and receive media narratives in various ways, compared to intended audiences. Students will continue to enhance their media making skills by working within the Media Production Process to produce media products collaboratively in media forms.

Length: Semester

Future Pathways: VCE Media, VET Creative and Digital Media

<p>Units</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Media Narratives and Context • Film Trailer Production • Podcasting Production 	<p>Assessments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practical assessment • Written Reports • Presentation • Examination
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MUSIC

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

Music allows students to explore and develop practical performance skills on their chosen instrument as an individual performer and in an ensemble. Music Performance in Year 10 mirrors the Year 11 and 12 study design, where musical performance skills are required to be at an exceptional level.

Instrumental music lessons are required for this subject.

Length: Semester

Future Pathways: VCE Media, VET Creative and Digital Media

<p>Units</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performing • Analysing Performance • Responding 	<p>Assessments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance Assessment • Technical Presentation • Theory & Analysis Assessment • Examination
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VISUAL ARTS

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

Students will create and respond to art by using visual arts knowledge, understanding and skills to express meanings associated with personal views, intrinsic and extrinsic worlds. Visual Art engages students in a journey of discovery, experimentation and problem-solving relevant to visual perception and visual language, utilising visual techniques, technologies, practices and processes.

Learning in the Visual Arts leads students to become increasingly confident and proficient in achieving their personal visual aesthetic, appreciating and valuing that of others.

Length: Semester

Future Pathways: VCE Art Making and Exhibiting

<p>Units</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surrealism • Social realist analysis • Abstract Art 	<p>Assessments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Folio • Essay • Examination
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VISUAL COMMUNICATION & DESIGN

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

This subject provides the essential content and skills for VCE Visual Communication Design.

Students design and create visual communications. This subject requires the selection and application of methods, media, materials, design elements and design principles and final presentations. Collectively these are the resources of visual language.

Length: Semester

Future Pathways: VCE Media, VET Creative and Digital Media

<p>Units</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drawing as a means of communication • Applying the design process • Visual communications in context 	<p>Assessments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Folio • Brand Analysis • Product development • Examination
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DOMAIN: TECHNOLOGY

COMPUTER APPLICATIONS

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

Students define and decompose complex problems in terms of functional and non-functional requirements. They design and evaluate user experiences and algorithms, and develop and test modular programs, including an object-oriented program. Students evaluate their solutions and information systems in terms of risk, sustainability and potential for innovation.

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Length: Semester

Future Pathways: VCE Applied Computing

Units <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data Compression• Digital Systems• Data and Information	Assessments <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Designing a computer program• Evaluation of processes• Examination
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FOOD STUDIES

ELECTIVE SUBJECT

Food studies takes an interdisciplinary approach to the exploration of food, with an emphasis on extending food knowledge and skills. Students explore food from a wider range of perspectives, while integrating health and wellbeing knowledge. Students participate in practical activities including cooking, food testing, creating and responding to design briefs, scientific experiments and sensory analysis.

Length: Semester

Future Pathways: VCE Food Studies, VCE Health and Human Development, VET Hospitality

Units	Assessments
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Food Safety and Hygiene• Designing Food Solutions• Food and Nutrition	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Practical assessment• Written Reports• Presentation• Examination



ELEVATION
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