

ENTERING THE SENIOR YEARS

An important choice for you is to decide whether to enrol in either the:

Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) and Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL)

VCE and VCAL – What's the difference?

VCE - Victorian Certificate of Education	VCAL - Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning
A two-year certificate.	Foundation, Intermediate or Senior certificates awarded as each level is completed.
A main requirement for entry into University or TAFE courses. Some employers also require it for selection purposes.	Best suited to students seeking employment, vocational training, traineeships, apprenticeships or TAFE courses.
All units have a theoretical component. Some subjects have a large practical component.	All units have large practical components and require students to demonstrate this through evidence.
Courses consist of VCE units and can include VET Units.	Courses consist of VCAL and VET units at school and/or TAFE. Students can elect to undertake some VCE Units.
Semester-long units of work where set outcomes must be completed by the end of the semester.	Semester-long units of work where set outcomes must be completed by the end of the semester.
All students studying a Unit must meet the same outcomes. Assessment is based on tasks completed in class and exams.	All students studying a Unit must meet the same outcomes. Assessment is based on evidence collected through a wide range of activities, including work placement, TAFE coursework and classroom activities.
Students must satisfactorily complete 16 Units, including 3 Units of English, and Units 3 & 4 in at least 3 other subjects.	Students must complete a minimum of 10 credits, VCAL core subjects and credit gained through VET or VCE studies.
Students attend school for four periods per day, five days a week.	Students attend school for four periods per day, three days a week, including an approved Work Placements and TAFE attendance.

- VCAL and VCE students are subject to the same discipline and welfare policies, uniform policies and attendance requirements. All students are enrolled in, and their progress reported on, the same computer system (VASS). Both VCE and VCAL are overseen by VCAA.

A decision to enrol in either VCE or VCAL can be changed at the end of year 11. If you want to keep this option open you will need to state this clearly because it will influence the subjects you can select.

The school provides the services of a Careers Advisor and VET managers. The advisors work individually with students in planning future education, training and employment.

Each student will have an individual pathway plan which may include options for internal and external courses, and will provide links to future education, training and employment.

