



CHES is a new centre of excellence for high-achieving and high-ability senior secondary students from across Victoria's government schools. From Term 1 2023 CHES will commence Higher Education Studies with universities and specialise in VCE Extended Investigation and VCE Algorithmics.

About CHES

The Victorian Government is establishing the Centre for Higher Education Studies (CHES) to provide senior secondary students from right across the state with opportunities for even greater stretch and challenge in their studies.

CHES will enable you to access first year university-level studies and select VCE subjects, accompanied by an innovative enrichment program. Through CHES, you can study a subject aligned to your skills and interests that may contribute to your ATAR, and potentially earn university credits, providing a head start on your undergraduate degree. To accommodate as many eligible students as possible, these programs will be available through a hybrid and flexible approach, with opportunities to study online, on-site at CHES, or a combination of the two.

Include a subject at CHES in your VCE program

If staff at your school think that you'd benefit from taking a subject through CHES as part of your 2023 VCE program at your school, then consider applying through our website. The enrolment process and application timelines will be published soon on: www.ches.vic.edu.au

Through CHES you will meet other high-achieving students from across Victoria and establish new connections with students, CHES teachers and university academics, while maintaining your existing friendships at school. CHES provides a strong foundation for future university study.

You will be able to access your classes at CHES regardless of where you live in Victoria. Our state-of-the-art centre in South Yarra is surrounded by public transport options, providing convenient access for many students. Additionally, you will be able to participate in classes at CHES from your home or school. Students engaging remotely will be able to interact with their teachers and peers who may be on-site or located elsewhere in Victoria.

CHES subjects and programs

Higher Education Studies: In partnership with universities, CHES will become a hub for Higher Education Studies (HES). These first-year university subjects will be offered across a wide range of disciplines. HES can contribute ATAR points and potential university credits, while you are completing VCE at school. This offers a valuable head start into university. The time requirement for a HES is equivalent to a VCE Unit 3/4 subject and there may be pre-requisite (or co-requisite) VCE subjects related to the selected HES.

VCE Extended Investigation: This exciting subject enables you to carry out extensive research in an area of choice based on your interests. You will be supported to develop and refine research skills, critical thinking, academic writing and presentation capabilities, offering excellent preparation for university.

VCE Algorithmics: Although technically a VCE subject, Algorithmics is a first-year university subject that involves solving real-world problems using computational methods. Algorithmics provides the foundation for studying computer science and software engineering at tertiary level and, on completion, some universities may offer students an accelerated tertiary pathway.



Student Enrichment Series: Students who undertake a HES study or a VCE subject through CHES will also have access to our Student Enrichment Series which includes workshops, masterclasses, special events and mentoring opportunities with a range of universities and industry leaders.

How will CHES reach out to students across Victoria?

CHES is a new specialised provider for students in government schools and will offer access for students across Victoria, including those in regional and rural areas. The CHES building is technology-rich enabling students to participate and engage in online learning through a virtual environment.

A comprehensive induction and transition program will provide additional opportunities for you to build positive relationships with staff and peers. We will work closely with your school and with universities to support your success.

What will the enrolment criteria be?

There will not be a single entry-test for enrolment into a CHES program. The application will consider key information provided by your school including your academic achievements, as well as a statement to confirm your suitability to undertake a CHES program and any special or extenuating circumstances that should be considered.

Students will be required to initiate the application process through a simple online application form. The application process and key dates will be published on the CHES website soon. CHES encourages applications from students regardless of their location or background and will take into consideration any extenuating or special circumstances.

For more information

Visit the CHES website for regular updates on programs, application processes, selection criteria and upcoming information evenings: www.ches.vic.edu.au

Why study with CHES?

There are numerous benefits to studying a Higher Education Study or a VCE subject through CHES:

We have established partnerships with universities to support pathways into university and to provide opportunities such as mentoring and masterclasses, further enhancing transition to tertiary study.

Independent study and collaborative working groups will be a key feature at CHES and our dedicated team of staff will offer challenging programs and wrap-around support and guidance. CHES is a combination of a tertiary learning environment with the style of a senior secondary school.

This is an exciting time to be part of the first intake of students into CHES in 2023. Our programs will enable you to accelerate and deepen your learning, experience university while still at school, and continue to build an impressive CV for the future.

CHES students will remain enrolled at their current school with their CHES subject factored into their VCE program as per arrangements for students undertaking a VET subject or studying a VCE subject through Virtual School Victoria.

