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# KSC - EDSC

Koonung Secondary College and East Doncaster Secondary  
College

Issue: #1

Aydreanne Wong

## What is VHAP?

The VHAP program, also known as the Victorian High Ability Program allows higher-ability students across all Victorian Schools to be challenged and extend their thinking in a safe environment.

People attend VHAP in a ten-week online course in both Math and English for students in years 5-8. Students engage in Webex classes with their online teachers, along with other students from various schools who are also participating in the program. In the VHAP English course, students explore reality and fiction by noticing the world around them, and their journeys into fictional worlds. VHAP English empowers students through boosting their reading abilities, and confidence, in not only reading and writing, but also their public speaking as they share their story with the rest of their online class.



Students in the works at the VHAP Masterclass.

Kara Tan

## The VHAP English 2023 Semester 1 at Koonung and East Doncaster Secondary College

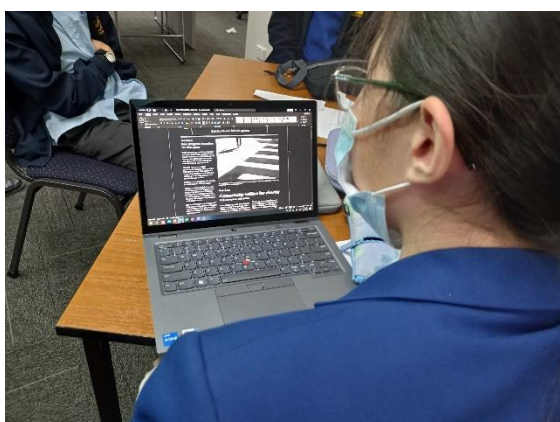
The updated experience on online classes for Year 7.

In an English VHAP session, students are allowed to read a short novel, relating to the topic that the class will be focused on, such as HIVE, written by A.J Betts, which tells a story on the dystopian setting in a society, with the main character Hayley, who asks question and is revealed the truth to how their society really worked. A dystopian story focuses on multiple main topics, such as technology, government, economical or environmental crisis.

Towards the end of VHAP sessions, students are told to plan and draft a story of many media to choose from. Students could write a short story on how their dystopian tale goes, or can write an opening sequence to a story.

VHAP's assessing process is also quite unique compared to other programs in a positive way. Rather than judging grades that can give negative feedback, they show no grades but a simple participation certificate in honor of their efforts.

The VHAP program at Virtual School Victoria is a massive contribution to the Victorian curriculum and lets students adapt in new ways, further in the regular school curriculum.



The photo taken at the VHAP Masterclass at the Koonung school library complex.

Aanya Rajput

## 2023 English VHAP Story - HIVE

Written by A.J Betts.

The topic of the 2023 VHAP course was dystopian fiction. The novel "Hive" written by A.J Betts was the book that VHAP chose to introduce the topic to the students. Hive was an extremely interesting novel, which took place in the past. The dystopian aspect in the book was how their society was controlled by their leaders; and the community was living under many lies about the world they live in. A curious young girl named Hayley, who was always wondering and asking questions soon came to know that the life she was living was all a lie. Hayley, who often got headaches, was afraid that this was a sign of madness and to escape the throbbing pain in her head she would allow herself to enter a room that wasn't ever supposed to be entered. This

room contained a different pressure that would ease the pain; and one day when she entered, a droplet of water came tumbling down from the roof above, question after question, Hayley thought, water only comes from one place in Hayley's world and well, water couldn't have come from there. The story continues, with the plot intensifying and Hayley answering questions that she shouldn't have known existed.



The students, from schools EDSC, East Doncaster Secondary Collage and KSC, Koonung Secondary College have come together to extend their works on dystopian stories.



The image shows students from East Doncaster and Koonung working together in the Koonung Secondary College school library.

Sahil Patwardhan

## The VHAP Masterclass

### The Koonung - East Doncaster Collaboration Class

On the 12th of July, English VHAP students from Koonung and East Doncaster Secondary College met at the Koonung school library complex and joined brains to formulate a VHAP masterclass. During this period, students covered English subtopics, starting by using knowledge of vocabulary, students played a word game.

Then the students read short stories by famous authors, such as Ray Bradbury and recited quotes to create short paragraphs on how the text was dystopian. Students then explained how to properly punctuate speech in a story, being asked to edit a letter in both positive and negative ways.

### The VHAP Masterclass Pt. 2 The continuation

The students then shared the stories created in VHAP with one another and embarked on a mission to create an anthology for all the stories that students created, with cover art, the introduction of each author, the final acknowledgements for all the people that were involved in the event. All students had an amazing time during this VHAP masterclass.