

# Year 12 VCE/VCE VM Information Evening



*Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2026*

# Completing VCE at Catholic College Sale: Expectations



To get the most out of their final year at CCS, students are expected to:

- Attend regularly (minimum attendance expectation is 90%)
- Set the example for respect and behaviour
- Complete all assigned tasks
- Wear the correct uniform with pride
- Attend all SACs and SWLs/TAFE (unless unwell or attending a school approved activity such as Marist Basketball)
- Participate in school activities

# Supporting students in their studies: VCE

## Helping them to create good study habits

- Is there a quiet space, away from distractions they can use?
- Have they created a study planner to organise their time?
- Are they using our supervised study times at school (3.15pm-6.00pm Monday-Thursday)?

## Helping them prepare for SACs and Exams

- Is there a SAC calendar/Family calendar with these marked on?
- Do they have the facilities to revise (Edrolo, textbooks, practice tests)
- Do they have the resources they might need? (Cue cards, pens and paper etc)
- Can you revise with them?

## Making them accountable

- Are you across their scores and performance on PAM?
- Can you ask them how they are going?
- When you can see SACs and assessments come up, are you supporting them in their preparation?

# Supporting students in their studies: VCE VM

Helping them to  
create good study  
habits

- Is there a quiet space, away from distractions they can use?
- Have they created a study planner to organise their time?
- Are they keeping up to date and catching up on any missed work?

Helping them prepare  
for and arrange work  
experience

- Are there family or friends who could help?
- Can they role play making phone calls with you?
- Have they filled out the necessary forms?
- Are you submitting your forms in a timely manner?

Making them  
accountable

- Are you across their engagement and performance on PAM?
- Can you ask them how they are going?
- Are they meeting their deadlines?
- If they are unwell or unable to attend for another reason, can they provide documentation (medical certificate, Statutory Declaration or similar)?

# Supporting Wellbeing

A student's final year in school can be a very trying and confronting time. Whilst success is important, it is vital that we are supporting our students through this process.

- Our Wellbeing Support Officers are available through SIMON for students to talk to during school hours
- House Leaders, pastoral teachers and our VM & VCE staff will be keeping an eye on any obvious issues and will get in touch if they are concerned.
- At home, being open for discussion and supporting students in continuing activities they love, such as sport and similar hobbies can help students effectively deal with stress.
- Watch out for students who are doing too much – if they are never home, always studying or seem overcommitted, it's better to have a conversation earlier than later

# Communicating between home and school

## Pastoral Teacher

- General concerns
- Email or telephone

## Subject Teacher

- Study support
- Specific marks
- Concerns regarding general engagement or performance in the subject
- Email or telephone

## House Leader

- More significant concerns
- In cases of longer absences
- Where additional support may be needed
- Where there are issues in more than one subject area
- Email, telephone or meeting at school

## Director of Senior Studies/VM Coordinator

- If you have contacted others and you feel that the issue has escalated
- Where the issue involves an external exam or provider (E.g. TAFE)
- Where you are concerned about the validity of a SAC or similar assessment
- Email, telephone, meeting at school

# Communication methods used by the school:



PAM notifications - received via email



Newsletter – received via email



Letters (attendance, at risk) received via email and hard copy



Phone calls and emails from teachers, learning area leaders, pastoral leaders and house leaders



General announcements through social media



Emergency announcements via SMS

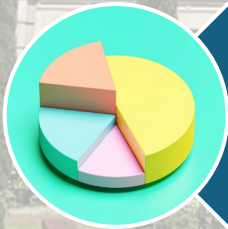
# What does it mean to successfully complete VCE?



Students must successfully complete 3 English units.



Students must complete a further three VCE unit 3/4 studies.



In this case, each subject makes up 25% of a student's ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admissions Ranking)



Many students complete additional studies or subjects. This has two advantages:

- If they have a bad day on one of their other subjects, they have another chance at achieving a high ATAR
- It reduces the impact that one bad result can have

# What does it mean to successfully complete VCE VM?



Successfully complete 3 literacy or English Units



Successfully complete 2 VM Numeracy or VCE Mathematics Units



2 VM Work Related Skills Units



2 VM Personal Development Skills Units



3 Other Unit 3/4 VCE or VCE VM sequences



180 hours of VET at Certificate II level or higher

# What does 'Successfully complete' mean?

For VCE and VCE VM subjects, it is possible to receive an 'S' or satisfactory achievement of each outcome even if a student struggles to pass assessments.

To be awarded an 'S' a student must demonstrate an understanding of the required study. Unless the subject is English, this understanding does not need to be demonstrated in written form.

Teachers can award an S through discussion, completing questions and answers, completing classwork and other, additional tasks.

Students who are completing a VCE VM pathway do not sit external exams except for the GAT in June.

Students who are completing a VCE pathway are usually expected to sit external exams unless they are completing a non-scored pathway. These students aim to achieve an S in each unit of study

# What are SACs and SATs?

## SACs

- SACs are School Assessed Coursework Tasks. They are often completed under exam conditions and most students will have one or two SACs per term, per subject studied.
- The VCAA see them as equivalent to the end of year exams, in that if a student is unable to attend, they must provide appropriate documentary evidence to explain their absence.
- If appropriate evidence cannot be provided, a student will receive a 0 for this SAC.
- This score will directly contribute to a student's overall performance for this subject.

## SATs

- SATs are School Assessed Tasks. These are often used to assess practical and artistic subjects, such as VCE Product Design or Art Making and Exhibiting.
- SATs may continue over a several lessons or weeks, and students may not have to complete them under exam conditions.
- For authentication purposes, SATs should be completed under teacher supervision at school
- Similar to SACs, a student's SAT result will directly contribute to their final study score.

## SWL

- SWL stands for Structured Workplace Learning. All VCE VM students are required to complete 10 days per term of SWL.
- VM students cannot satisfactorily complete their qualification without attending SWL days.

# Why is performance in SACs and SATs important?



A student's SAT or SAC score directly impacts their final study score.



Performance on SACs can be used as a good indicator for teachers when ranking students and considering performance on their final exams.



The conditions of SACs often mimic the exam. This helps students to prepare for the final exam and supports them in feeling more comfortable during that time.

# Pathways and Careers Support – What happens when you finish school?

There is a wealth of information and support available to students to support them in finding the best opportunities for them. This could include:

- University (with ATAR)
- University (non-ATAR)
- TAFE
- Apprenticeship or Traineeship
- Employment



## Careers Interview:

- All Year 12 Students have a timetabled consultation with our Pathways and Careers Co-ordinator, Laura Considine
- Students may request additional interviews at any time



## Careers lessons:

- These often feature speakers from local or national employers and industries that students might want to consider as possible future options
- Support students in applying for post secondary courses through VTAC



## Careers Area:

- Has current information on many university and TAFE courses students might want to pursue
- Has up to date information about scholarships and support programs for students

# Key Dates & Events:

Autumn Break: 2<sup>nd</sup> April – 21<sup>st</sup> April (return 22<sup>nd</sup> )

GAT Practise: Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May

Unit 3 Practise Exam Week: 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> June

VM Students Short Courses (white card, barista, safe food handling, first aid, etc): 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> June

General Achievement Test: Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June

Winter Break: 27<sup>th</sup> June – 19<sup>th</sup> July

VTAC and SEAS applications open: 20<sup>th</sup> July

Extended Investigation Critical Thinking Test: 29<sup>th</sup> July

Timely VTAC applications for 2027 courses close: 1<sup>st</sup> October

Unit 3/4 Practise Exams: Monday 28<sup>th</sup> September – Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October

Spring Break: 19<sup>th</sup> September – 4<sup>th</sup> October

Final day of classes for VM students: Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October (SWL can be completed up to 20<sup>th</sup> Nov)

VCE Exams: Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October- Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November

Results released: Approx 12<sup>th</sup> December

# Key Dates & Events (contd.):

## English & General Maths Unit 3&4 SAC dates:

- Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March (General Maths)
- Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March (English)
- Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May (English)
- Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May (General Maths)
- Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May (English)
- Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June (English Orals Day)
- Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June (General Maths)
- Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July (English)
- Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> August (General Maths)
- Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September (English)