

2022 The ABCs of VCE



Year 9 Parent Information Evening



East Doncaster
Secondary College



Acknowledgement of Country

“We would like to acknowledge the Wurundjeri people, the Traditional Owners of the land on which we are gathered and pay our respects to their Elders both past, present and emerging.”





Kate Leumont



Head of Senior School

- Unpacking the VCE – what does it all mean?
- The different options available for VCE
- Year 10 subject selection policies and criteria
- Accelerated VCE subject selection policies and criteria
- What next?



Lynette Smith

.....
Year 12 Coordinator



Jonathan Davies

.....
Year 12 Coordinator



Cassandra Brock



Year 11 Coordinator



Paul Basford



Year 11 Coordinator



Emily Mathews



Year 10 Coordinator



Tim Bourke



Year 10 Coordinator



Craig Browne

.....
Careers and Pathways Coordinator



Kelly Kingham

.....
VCE-VM Coordinator



Karen Boyle

.....
Assistant Principal (Curriculum)

What is the VCE?

- **Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE)**
- Victoria's senior secondary qualification
- Completed over two years for most students (Years 11 & 12)



So many letters.....

ATAR = Australian Tertiary Admission Rank

A number between 0.00 and 99.95 that ranks a student's VCE results relative to all the students in their age group in Victoria. It is used by universities to select Year 12 students for entry into their courses.

It is not a score out of 100 – it is a rank...more on this later..

So many letters.....

VET = Vocational Education & Training

Develops industry specific knowledge and skills, as well as general skills needed for employment, training, and further education.

VDSS = VET delivered to secondary schools

Priority access for secondary students to a set of VET pathways

TAFE = Technical & Further Education

The educational facilities that provide vocational education & training

So many letters.....

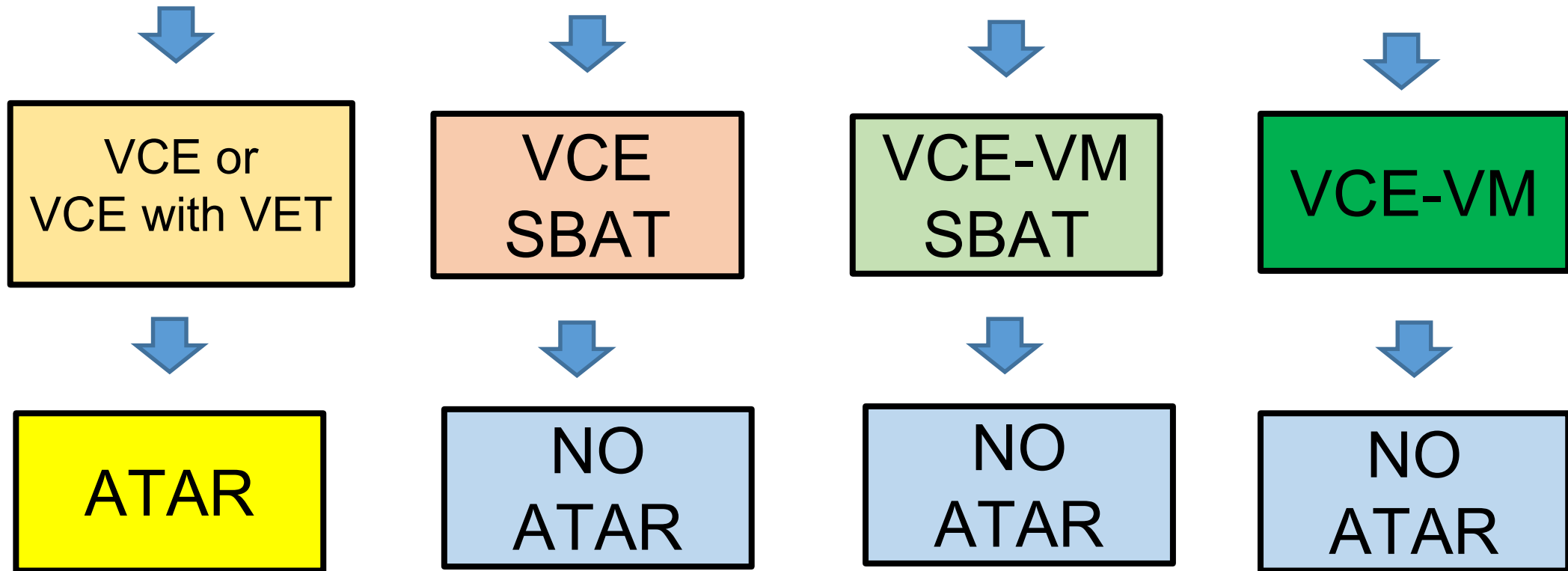
SBAT = School -based Apprenticeship & Training

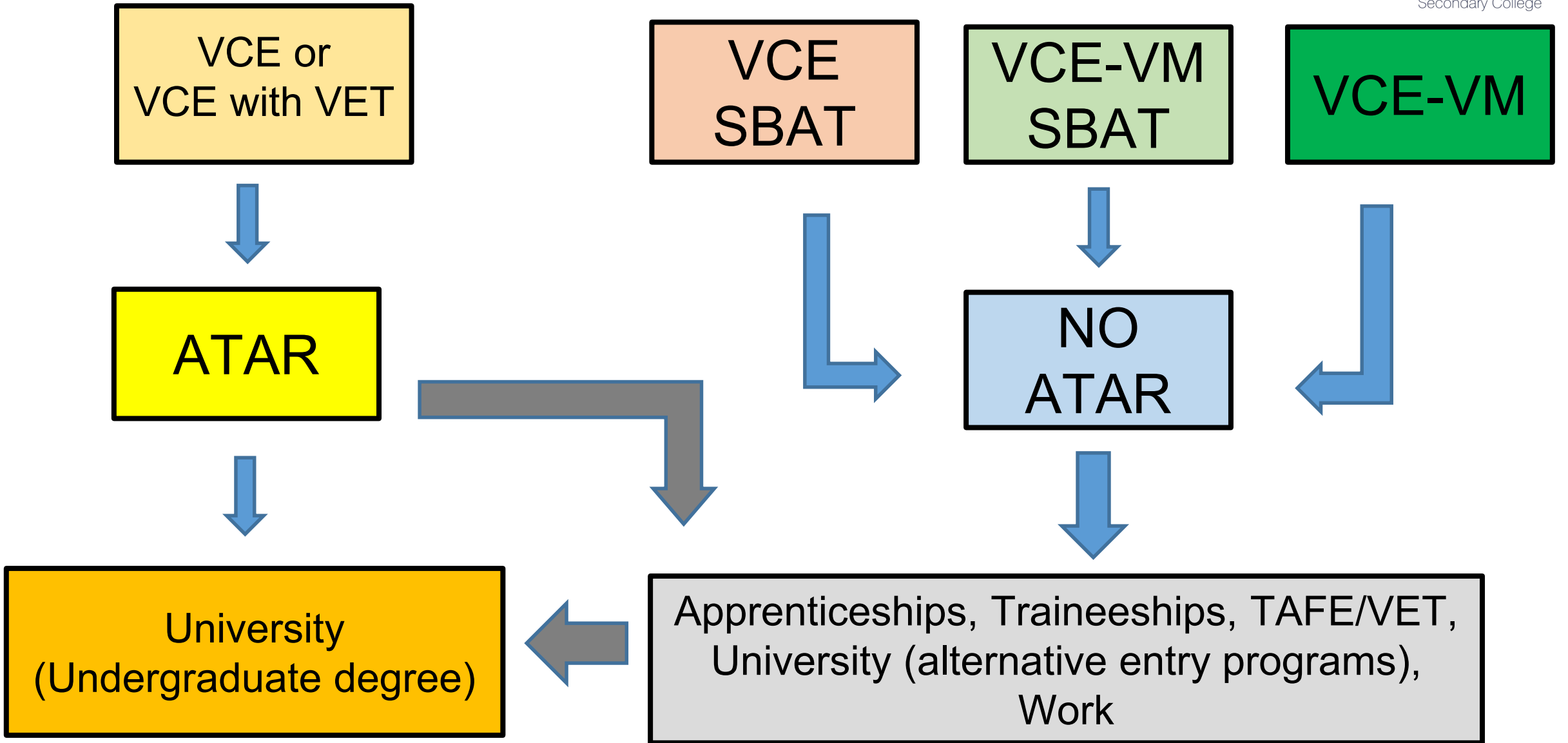
(VCE option that combines part-time employment, school and vocational training)

VM = Vocational Major

A vocational and applied learning program within the VCE, that will be introduced in 2023 to replace Senior and Intermediate VCAL

“One VCE”





VCE
or
VCE with VET

Year 11
6 subjects
(studies)



Year 12
5 subjects
(studies)

UNIT 1

UNIT 2

UNIT 3



UNIT 4

Can be completed as stand alone
units

Must be completed as a sequence in
the same year for a study score to be
calculated

Year 11

6 UNITS PER
SEMESTER

=

12
UNITS

At least
one Unit of
English

+

Year 12

5 UNITS PER
SEMESTER

=

10
UNITS

Minimum of
8 Units
(including 2
of English)

To achieve your VCE you must gain a
satisfactory result in at least **16 units**

22 UNITS

Units 1 & 2

- Units 1 and 2 are marked by the school
- Students will receive either S (Satisfactory), or N (Non-Satisfactory).
- **The school may give students a grade for certain tasks, but only the S counts towards the VCE.**

Units 3 & 4 School -Assessed Component

- School-assessed Coursework (SACs) and School-assessed Tasks (SATs) - given an S or N
- These are also Graded Assessment Tasks: numerical scores sent to the VCAA are converted to grades from A+ to E.
- The VCAA adjusts these grades as required to make sure all schools in Victoria are marking to the same standard (moderation).

Unit 3 & 4 External assessments

- Set and marked by the VCAA assessors, with grades calculated from A+ to E
- They are the same for all students taking the same VCE study.
- Usually this will be an examination – whether written, oral, performance or in an electronic format.
- Exams are held each year in October and November.

Study Scores

- The three graded Assessments for a study (SACs, SATs and External Exams) are used to calculate the Study Score.
- A study score shows how well you have performed in a study at Units 3 and 4 levels compared to everybody else in Victoria who took that study.

Study Scores

- The maximum study score is 50.
- Each year, and for every study, the mean study score is set at 30.
- A score of between 23 and 37 shows that you are in the middle range of students; a score of 38 or more indicates that you are in the top 15%.

Across Victoria, approximately...

- 2% of students will get a score on or above 45
- 9% of students will get a score on or above 40
- 26% of students will get a score on or above 35
- 53% of students will get a score on or above 30
- 78% of students will get a score on or above 25
- 93% of students will get a score on or above 20.

Scaling

The study scores are raw scores.

- VCAA sends the student's raw scores to VTAC (Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre) where they are converted into subject scores.

Subject scores are scaled scores.

- The scaled subject scores are then used to calculate the student's ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admission Rank).

Scaling

- Scaling adjusts for the fact that it is more difficult to obtain a high VCE study score in some studies than others. This is not because some studies are inherently harder or easier, it is because some studies attract a more competitive cohort of students.
- Scaling ensures that students are neither advantaged nor disadvantaged based on the studies they choose.

Scaling

- Students should never select a subject based solely on the fact that they believe it will scale up.
- If a student struggles in a subject or does not enjoy it, scaling will not help!

How is the ATAR calculated

An aggregate is created by adding together:

1. Scaled study score in English
2. Highest scaled study scores in three additional studies
3. 10% of scaled study scores for fifth and sixth studies

Students are then ranked in order of their aggregate and a percentage rank is assigned – it shows the percentage of the population doing VCE that you outperformed.



VCE
SBAT

The diagram features a central maroon circle with a white border, containing the text 'VCE SBAT'. To the right of this circle are three rows of information. Each row consists of a colored rounded rectangle on the left and a corresponding yellow, orange, or green rounded rectangle on the right. The rows are: 1. School (yellow), VCE English and 2 other VCE Subjects (yellow). 2. Work (orange), Employed for minimum of 7 hours per week (orange). 3. Vocational Training (green), TAFE or RTO Cert II, III or IV (green).

School

VCE English
2 other VCE Subjects

Work

Employed for minimum
of 7 hours per week

Vocational
Training

TAFE or RTO
Cert II, III or IV



2 DAYS



School

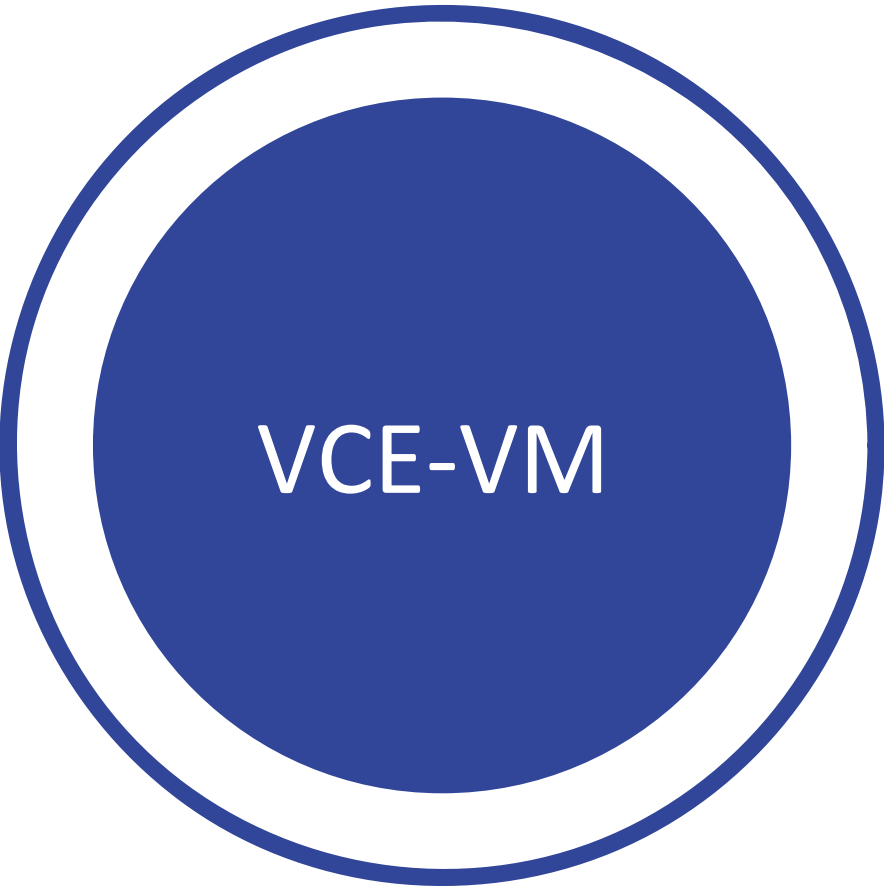
VCE-VM Subjects
Literacy, Numeracy,
WRS & PDS

Work

Employed for minimum
of 7 hours per week

Vocational
Training

TAFE or RTO
Cert II, III or IV



3 DAYS



School

VCE-VM Subjects
Literacy, Numeracy,
WRS & PDS

Work

Work Experience one
day per week

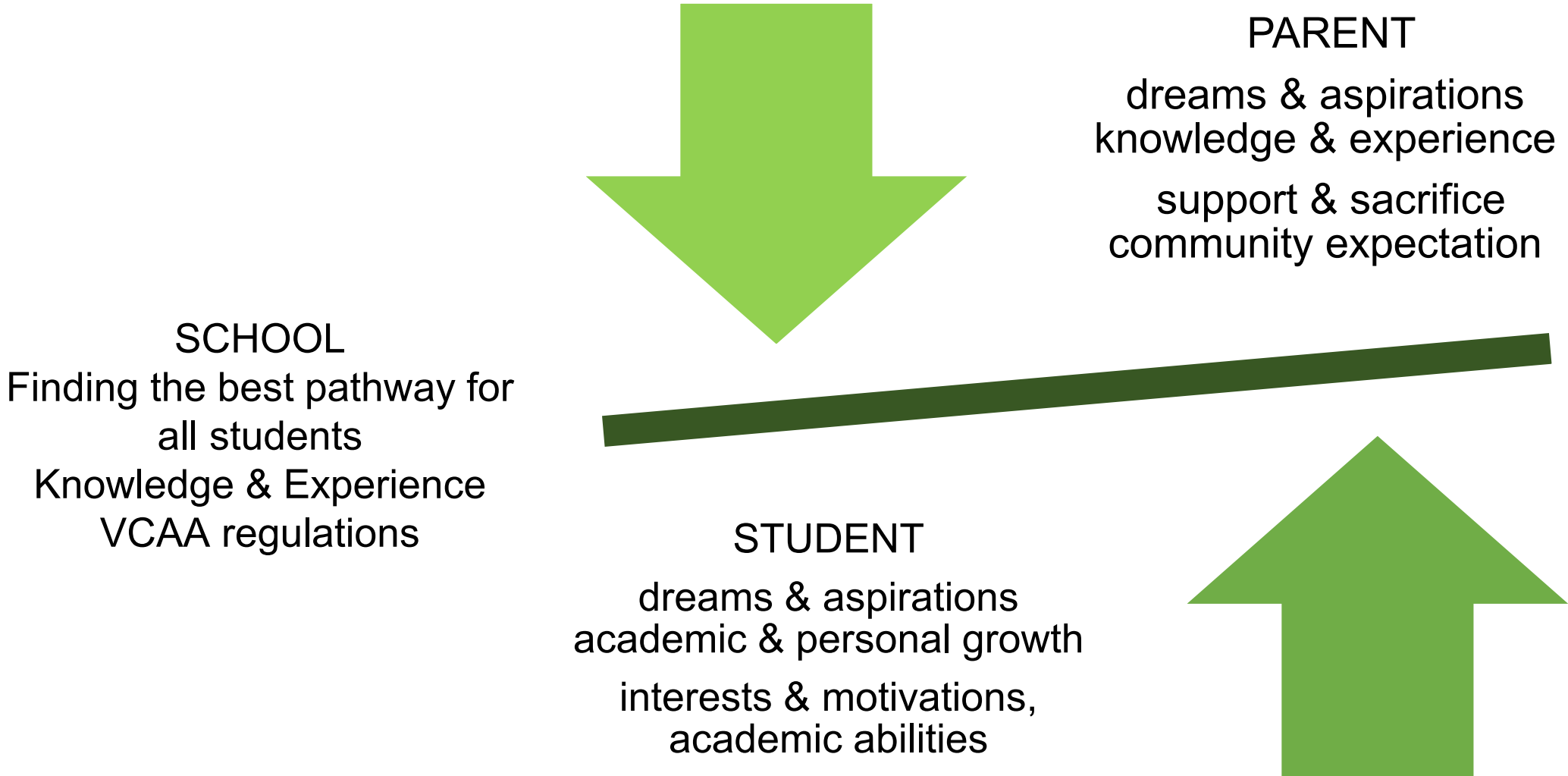
Vocational
Training

VDSS



Senior School Pathways

- Year 7 & 8 = set course for all students
- Year 9 = small number of elective choices
- **Year 10, 11 & 12** = individual student pathways (with a few restrictions)
- **Aspirations, interests** and **academic abilities** all affect the choices that students will make.



Year 10 2023 Information Evening

Both parents and students should attend:

- **Course Selection Workshops**

(information presented to small groups by Leading Teachers)

- **Subject Expo**

(Subject information displays in the JLC with teachers available for advice)

Thursday 21 July 7pm -8pm

Other Resources

- **Course Selection Handbook**

Available on Compass Newsfeed

- **Craig Browne** – Careers & Pathways Coordinator
- **Kelly Kingham** – VCE-VM Coordinator
- **Year Level Coordinators**

Year 10 Course

- 6 subjects per semester
- English/EAL for both semesters
- Maths for both semesters (three options - criteria apply)
- Language other than English - no longer compulsory but can be selected and runs for both semesters (Chinese or Italian)

Year 10 Course

Minimum one semester of each of the following:

- Science (three options - criteria apply)
- Humanities (History or Geography)
- Physical Education or Outdoor Education
- Arts (many options)
- Technology (many options)

Year 10 Maths Pathways

VM Numeracy

Pre-Further
Maths

Pre-Methods
Maths

Year 11 Maths
Methods

via application
only

no criteria apply

Must be scoring
70%+ in Yr 9
Maths

ALPHA
students or via
application

Pathway to Yr
11 VCE-VM

Pathway to
Year 11
General Maths
Further

Pathway to
Year 11 Maths
Methods

criteria apply

Year 10 Science Pathways

Psychological
Science

Biological
Science

Analytical
Science

Yr 11 Biology,
Psychology or
Environmental Science

no criteria apply

no criteria apply

Must be scoring
70%+ in Yr 9
Maths & Science

via application

Pathway to Yr 11
Psychology or
Environmental
Science

Pathway to Yr 11
Biology,
Psychology or
Environmental
Science

Pathway to Yr 11
Chemistry or
Physics

criteria apply

Why do we have criteria for particular subjects?

- The best way to maximise scores in VCE is for students to do subjects that they are good at and are interested in.
- Selecting a subject that is a prerequisite for a university course DOES NOT guarantee entry – very high results are often also required.
- We don't want students to be in a position where they suffer stress and anxiety due to the demands of a subject, which can lead to them dropping that subject before completion.

Pathways

- There are many pathways available to access “dream courses” at university.
- Students who select subjects for which they are academically unsuited can not only miss out on their dream course, but also make themselves ineligible for some of the alternative pathways that are available.
- **The best way to maximise scores in VCE is for students to do subjects that they are good at and are interested in.**

Accelerated VCE subject in Year 10

Students can apply to take ONE VCE study at Year 10
(with the exception of ALPHA students, who can also apply to
study Year 11 Maths Methods)

**Selection criteria apply and students need to submit an
application form to the Senior School Office in the JLC no
later than Monday 25 July**

SELECTION CRITERIA

Excellent Academic Results

- 80+ across Cycles 1-3 in Year 9 in the subject area where a student wishes to accelerate.
- 80+ across Cycles 1-3 in Year 9 in four other related subjects including English.

SELECTION CRITERIA

- **Work Practices** – *Attitude and Effort* on cycle reports will also be taken into consideration.
- **Attendance** - a minimum of 90% attendance, excluding approved absences.

Please note:

- Undertaking an accelerated VCE subject does not result in students having a reduced Year 12 workload.
- Students will still be expected to complete 5 studies in Year 12.
- This extra subject allows for students to have a bonus subject for their ATAR calculation.
- It also allows them to experience the requirements of a Year 12 subject prior to entering Year 12.

Why do we have criteria?

- Acceleration is not suitable for all students.
- It can create anxiety and stress if a student is not academically ready or if they lack the maturity required, in terms of their organisation and study habits.
- To maximise scores in VCE, it can be better to wait until a stronger knowledge and skills base at Year 10 has been established, before attempting any Year 11 subjects.

VCE SUBJECTS OFFERED FOR ACCELERATION

Accounting	Biology	Business Management
Classical Studies	Economics	Environmental Science
Studio Arts (Photography/Mixed Media)	Physical Education	Visual Communication and Design
Product Design and Technology	Outdoor Education	Psychology
Geography	Health and Human Development	Music Performance
Applied Computing	History	Theatre Studies
Media	Legal Studies	Food Studies

Where deemed appropriate, ALPHA students will gain access to Year 11 Maths Methods

Can I accelerate in Maths or Chinese?

- Acceleration in Maths and Chinese is only offered under exceptional circumstances.
- Students seeking acceleration in Maths Methods or Chinese must still meet the above criteria regarding English and other subjects being 80+, effort and attitude and attendance.
- There are also additional criteria.

Extra criteria apply

- For Chinese, students must be studying Chinese outside of school at a year level above and achieving 90+. An exam will be administered if all criteria are met
- For Maths, students must be consistently achieving 90+ in Maths. An exam will be administered if all criteria are met.

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