COURSE INFORMATION 2016

A guide to subject selection in Years 11 and 12
Year 11: A snapshot

Possible Year 11 courses:

• **VCE pathway** (Victorian Certificate of Education). VCE is needed if you require an ATAR score to enter tertiary studies.

• **VCAL** (Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning). The focus is on hands-on learning. Students are at school 3 days per week, undertake a VET (Vocational Education and Training) course on one day and work placement on another.

• **A VET course with your VCE studies**
To gain a VCE certificate, students must successfully complete a minimum of 16 units across years 11 and 12. Most students at MESC complete 22 units. This must include:

- Three units of English, with at least one unit at Unit 3/4 level
- At least three sequences of Units 3 & 4 studies other than English

**VCE Units 1 and 2**
- Units 1 and 2 may be undertaken separately or as a pair.

**VCE Units 3 and 4**
- Units 3 and 4 of all studies must be undertaken as a sequence. Unit 3 must be offered in Semester 1 and Unit 4 must be offered in Semester 2.
A focus on VCE

Satisfactory completion of a VCE unit is based on successful completion of **ALL** outcomes. Each VCE unit comprises a set of two to four outcomes.

**VCE Unit Results are reported as:**

\[ S = \text{Satisfactory Completion} \quad \text{N} = \text{Not Satisfactory} \]

**VCE/VET unit of competence/module results are reported as:**

\[ S = \text{Satisfactory Completion} \quad \text{N} = \text{Not Yet Completed} \]
If you select a VCE pathway, you will complete 6 subjects. This must include:

- English or
- Literature

(You may select both English and Literature as part of your VCE course).
Vocational Education and Training (VET)

- Students can undertake VET as part of a VCE course and must undertake VET as part of a VCAL course.

- The VCE can include components of nationally recognised VET qualifications. Training from a nationally recognised VET qualification may contribute towards the VCE.
Students can apply to complete a subject through Distance Education Victoria: http://www.distance.vic.edu.au/

Students may choose to do this if the subject is not offered or if there is a clash with two of the subjects they select. There is a payment associated with each subject.

Students will apply to enrol through the year 11 Coordinator. Once they have enrolled, they will receive materials through the post or online.

It is up to students to ensure they keep up with the workload each week or they may be withdrawn from the subject.
VET: The impact on VCE

- VET programs are included in the VCE and therefore offer credit and Units 1&2 and 3&4 level.
- VET units are counted in the minimum 16 units students need to gain a VCE.
- Some VET courses, such as Business and Sport and Recreation have a study score that may contribute to an ATAR score. VET programs that have a study score component have either a 90 minute written exam or a performance exam at the end of the year.
- Students will generally continue with a VET course from year 10. This will mean they will complete the VET course in year 11.
- If students continue with a VET course into year 12, it is recommended that VET course take place on a Wednesday afternoon so students do not miss classes.
The Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) is a senior secondary certificate of education. VET training is a compulsory requirement for completion of VCAL.

The VCAL is accredited and issued at three award levels:

- Foundation
- Intermediate
- Senior
VCAL aims to provide the skills and knowledge to enable students to make informed choices about pathways.

The VCAL focuses on:

- Knowledge and employability skills that help prepare the individual for employment and for participation in the broader context of family, community and lifelong learning
- Knowledge and skills that assist the individual to make informed vocational choices within specific industry sectors and/or to facilitate pathways to further learning.
Students undertaking a VCAL program at MESC:

- Attend school 3 days a week on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday (subjects include Literacy, Numeracy, Personal Development and Work Skills)
- Attend a VET course one day a week
- Undertake a work placement one day a week

The assessment of VCAL unit learning outcomes may be in the context of programs that include community, school, work and sports-based projects and/or activities.
Assessment in VCAL

A student will receive an S (satisfactory achievement) for a unit in:
- Work Related Skills,
- Personal Development Skills,
- Skills for Further Study – Senior,
- and some Literacy Skills units

when they have demonstrated achievement in all learning outcomes for the unit.
The VCE Baccalaureate provides an additional form of recognition for students who choose to understand the demands of studying both a higher level of mathematics and a language in their VCE program of study.

To be eligible, a VCE program must include:

- A Units 3 and 4 sequence in English or Literature or EAL
- A Units 3 and 4 sequence in Mathematics Methods or Specialist Mathematics
- A Units 3 and 4 in a VCE language
- At least 2 other Units 3 and 4 sequences

Tertiary institutes have indicated they strongly support initiatives that encourage students to study a higher level of mathematics and a language in the final years of schooling.
Special things to note about Year 12 VCE

- Students study 5 subjects during their Year 12 year.

- Minimum VCE requirements:
  - Successfully completing 16 VCE units
  - Successfully completing 3 units of English
  - Successfully completing 3 subjects other than English at Unit 3/4 level

- To gain an ATAR
  - Must meet the requirements above AND
  - Must satisfactorily complete BOTH units 3 and 4 English
  - Must complete SACs, SATs and Examinations
  - It is a competition and you will need to train hard
School and Home Commitment

- 5 days a week at school
- Form Assembly to Period 4 every day except Wednesdays
- At least 3 hours homework every night plus extra homework on weekends
- Homework, study and exams during study breaks at the end of Term 4 (2015), Term 1, Term 2 and Term 3 (2016)
- Work and Sport commitments may need to be limited.
3 Year VCE

- Students might choose to complete VCE over 3 years
- Please discuss with Year 11 or 12 Coordinators
For every subject, how you are learning now will affect the skills and knowledge you bring into Year 11/12 and this will affect how hard you find the work next year.
Entry into Unit 1-2 subjects is not automatic.

- English
  - Entry into Unit 1 English is obtained if you have been assessed “C -At AUSVEL Level 10”

- Other Year 11 subjects
  - Student should achieve an ‘At the AUSVELS standard’ results for the vast majority of assessments completed during Year 10 in most of their subjects.
To study a full VCE program you need to satisfactorily complete at least 4 subjects (8 units) at Unit 1/2 level.

Students not achieving this should consider an alternative pathway or may be eligible to complete a three year VCE program.

To study at particular Unit 3/4 subject you need to:

- get an S in at least one of Unit 1 or 2 in that subject
- Achieve “C – above 60%” results in the majority of the assessments in that subject at Year 11
There is an **attendance** requirement for VCE, VCAL and VET students. Students are expected to attend 95% of all classes.

**Use of study periods:** It is compulsory for students to complete work in the Senior Learning Centre during study periods. Students are not permitted to leave school grounds. You may use this time to complete work or seek help if needed.

**Wednesday afternoons:**
- Period 3 compulsory alternative programme including careers
- Period 4 study
Making subject selections

You should choose subjects:
- that you are interested in,
- that you are good at,
- that you need for entry into a TAFE or university course or
- that might lead to a job you are interested in.

Visiting the careers office is very important - you should check that you are making the right subject choices.
A guide to course selection

You will make an individual appointment to discuss your course selection.

You will have completed your subject selections on-line.

You will be permitted to make changes following the appointment if necessary.
The Handbook

- What is VCE, VCAL and VET
- Alphabetical Listing of all subjects including provisional VET offerings
- Material charges
- IMPORTANT DATES
Accessing the Handbook

- Desktop of Netbooks/iPADS
- Website
- Student and Parent Compass Portal (via News)
In choosing a course that is best for you, you should:

- Attend the ‘Expo’ (Year 8 Centre) to find out more about the individual alternatives each Domain is offering.
- Read carefully through the ‘Course Selection Guide’ (you will receive this electronically).
- Speak to your parents and teachers for more advice.
- Visit careers!
Important dates to remember

- **18th May**: Year Level Assembly introducing the process
- **19th May**: Careers Expo
- **21st May**: ‘Expo’ of electives and subjects on offer in Year 8 Centre
- **21st May**: Information Evening: Senior Learning Centre and Year 8 Centre
- **21st May**: Course Selection Website opens AND Compass Interview bookings open
- **2nd June**: DUE DATE for on-line submission of selections
- **3rd June**: DUE DATE for submitting Course Planning Sheet and Course Selection print out to mentor
- **5th June**: Last day to book Course Counselling Interview time
- **10th June**: Course Counselling Interviews
- **4th August**: Subject allocation letter sent
- **18th August**: Last day to organise payment plan for subject levies
- **5th September**: Booklists distributed
- **15th September**: Final day for payment of subject levies in full. Students may be withdrawn from subjects where payment or organisation of payment plan has not been organised.
Making Your Selections


- Compass – making a course counselling appointment
Questions
Online subject selections

To access course selection guide
Click on ‘Documents and Downloads’ (‘Our Parents’ section)
Course selection guide

DOCUMENTS AND DOWNLOADS

College Prospectus
Mount Eliza Secondary College Prospectus

Senior School
9-12 Course Selection Guide

Student Welfare Information for Parents/Carers
School Letter re: "Sexting" Incidents on the Peninsula – March 2014

Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA)
EMA Information
EMA Eligibility
EMA Amounts
EMA Application Form

Parent Occupation Information
Parent Occupation Letter
Parent Occupation Group Codes
Parent Occupation Form

College Payment Methods
BPAY Agreement
Credit Card Full Payment or Payment Plan
Direct Debit User Request

Strategic Plan
What our school is doing
2011-14 Mount Eliza Secondary College School Strategic Plan

School Council Minutes
Council Minutes 371 18 July 2013 website

Netbook Program
Netbook Incident Report
Netbook Operation Issue Report
MESC Acceptable User Agreement (Summary)
MESC Acceptable User Agreement (Full)