Subject Selection Information

Year 11 – 2020

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The future counts @ NDSHS

Information covered this afternoon…

- Compulsory participation
- QCAA
- QCE
- ATAR
- Senior Pathways
- Minimum Standards
- Choosing Subjects
- Strategies for Success
- Q & A and timelines

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Compulsory Participation

- Participation and attendance government regulations in place.
- To provide viable pathways.
- Students are required to remain at school until they complete Year 10 or turn 16. (Compulsory schooling)
- They then need to participate in education and training for two more years OR turn 17 OR work for 25 or more hours. (Compulsory participation)
PHILOSOPHY

• All students have an entitlement to the chance to complete a successful senior phase
• This is a partnership between the student, the parent and the school
• This agreement follows the SETPlan
• Adherence to Academic Achievement, Assessment, Attendance, Behaviour Policies is expected
Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority

- Writes the syllabus documents
- Endorses assessment and confirms results
- Designs and marks the External Exams
- Publishes Senior Certificates
Banking Credits

- All Yr 10 students receive a LUI number
- This opens a learning account with the QCAA to bank credits towards a QCE
- A QCE is completed after 20 credits (12 from Core and 8 others and success in literacy and numeracy)
- To achieve a QCE requires a significant amount of learning to a set standard of achievement in a set pattern
- The Learning Account remains open for 7 years
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**QCE**

- Queensland Certificate of Education
- A literacy achievement
- A numeracy achievement
- Sound achievements in subjects or completion of VET certificates
- Can add extras – SAT qualifications, other certificates and community projects
- Achievement of a QCE is expected
- A QCIA is available for ascertained students
The Senior School: Years 10 - 12

Year 11 Senior Secondary

Senior Pathways

General Courses
Leading towards an ATAR for University entrance

Applied Courses & VET
Leading towards a Vocational pathway

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Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR)

- An ATAR is calculated from a student’s 5 best General Subjects or best results in a combination of 4 General Subjects + and Applied Subject or Certificate III or higher VET qualification.
- A satisfactory completion of a QCAA English Subject is also required.
- The ATAR score begins at 99.95 and concludes at ‘less than 30’.
- The Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC) calculates ATARs from results submitted by QCAA.
- The ATAR will determine what offer a student will receive for a University course.
- QTAC will employ inter-subject scaling. Please see the QTAC website.
Senior Subjects

- General Subjects
- Applied Subjects
- VET (Vocational Education and Training) Qualifications
- Tutorials

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**Senior Subjects**

**GENERAL**
- Are academically challenging subjects.
- They contribute 4 credits toward a QCE and contribute towards an ATAR.
- Units 3 & 4 are a pair.
- Students cannot change subjects.
- All GENERAL subjects have an external exam at the end of Yr 12.
- Assessment of units 3 & 4 is endorsed and confirmed by the QCAA who marks the exams and provides the final result.

**APPLIED**
- Are not as rigorous as GENERAL subjects and they do not have external exams.
- They contribute 4 credits towards a QCE.
- One Applied subject may contribute towards an ATAR.
- Essential English and Essential Maths will have 1 external piece of assessment.

**VET**
- Nationally recognised courses that are delivered through an RTO either at school or through an external provider.
- Certificate II contributes 4 credits towards a QCE.
- Certificate III or higher can contribute up to 8 credits for a QCE & may contribute towards an ATAR.
- Consider duplication of learning.
Minimum Standards for General Subjects

- General subjects are academically challenging
- They require consistent application in class and extensive study time at home for revision and quality assessment
- Students studying these subjects are in competition across the state for a good ATAR
- To ensure success in General Subjects there are minimum standards of entry as the best prediction of success in the future is demonstration of ability in the past
- Most subjects require a pass in English, some subjects have minimum standards in Science and Maths
**DO:**
- Select subjects you are good at and enjoy
- Discuss with your teachers and parents
- Focus on your goals for senior and post-school
- Use the work you have been doing in Planning for Excellence
- Talk to the GO
- Choose your Senior Pathways
- Check QTAC tertiary prerequisites for particular courses to determine subject selection.

**DO NOT:**
- Select subjects you think will be easy
- Select subjects just because your friends are doing them
- Select subjects that you don’t really like or have struggled with in the past
- Select subjects based on the teacher
- Select subjects that do not set you up for Senior Schooling
Flexible Learning

• School Based Traineeships
• VET Qualifications from other Learning Providers
• Distance Education

These subjects to be approved by Head of Department
Senior School

• Recorded Subjects by outside organisations eg. AMEB
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Industry Conquers All

Strategies for Success

- Careful and appropriate subject choice for SETPlan and considered subject changes
- Clear information on ATAR, QCE, VET
- Completion of quality assessment
- Tutorial Arrangements
- Every Day Counts
- Communication with parents
- Planning For Excellence to improve results as all credits are counted
- Intervention – report checks, ASP interviews

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Make the most of Senior

Academic Achievement
Leadership Opportunities
Cultural pursuits
Sporting chances
Extracurricular involvement
Civic and community interests

Senior Success

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Timelines and Questions

31 July: Senior School Pathways Subject Booklet on NDSHS website
1 Aug: Oneschool subject selection opens
15 Aug: Begin Student subject selection checking and class establishment
15 Oct: SETPlan interviews

School Opinion Survey is coming up

Moving from Excellent to Outstanding

Please keep your eye out for the School Opinion Survey coming home next week with your individual log on and instructions. You can access the website by using the link in the newsletter or through our NDSHS Facebook page.

We value your feedback