



Senior Schooling Pathways

What will be covered

- Planning for Years 11 and 12
- The Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE)
- Subjects and courses
- Tertiary entrance
- Results
- Information and support

This presentation provides an overview of senior pathway planning for Year 10 students. It includes information about the Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE), eligible subjects and courses, tertiary entrance, and results.

Preparing for senior school learning

- Planning for Years 11 and 12 is an important step for students.
- A wide range of learning options is available.
- ESHS works with Year 10 students and their families to develop a plan – SetPlan meetings to be held week beginning 13th September 2021.

Deciding what to study in Years 11 and 12 is an important step for students.

Students can choose from a wide range of learning options to suit their interests, abilities and goals.

Planning for senior schooling starts in Year 10. The school will work with students and their families to develop a plan.

Planning a pathway

The plan helps students:

- think about their education, training and career goals
- structure their learning around their abilities, interests and ambitions
- map their pathway to a Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE).

The plan will help students consider their goals, tailor their learning to their interests, abilities and ambitions, and map their pathway to a Queensland Certificate of Education.

Things for students to consider

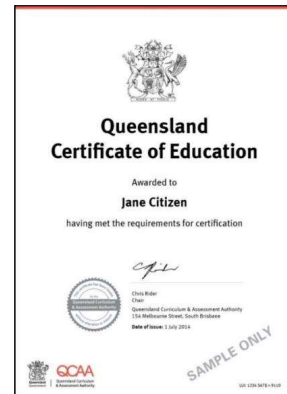
- What are my career goals?
- Which subjects am I good at?
- Which subjects do I like?
- Do I want to continue studying after Year 12?
- Are there prerequisite subjects?
- Are there special entry requirements?

There are a lot of things for students to consider. They should think about their career goals, which subjects they're good at, whether they'd like to go to university, learn a trade, or go straight into the workforce. It also helps to know if there are any prerequisite subjects or courses, or special entry requirements students need to keep in mind.

What is the QCE?

The QCE is Queensland's senior schooling qualification.

- Internationally recognised
- Shows student achievement
- Flexible
- Wide range of learning options



The QCE is Queensland's senior schooling qualification. It is internationally recognised and a sign of academic and personal success.

The flexibility of the QCE allows students to tailor their learning to suit their individual interests, abilities and ambitions.

A wide range of learning can contribute to a QCE, including QCAA-developed subjects and courses, vocational education and training, and other recognised courses.

How does the QCE work?

- Set amount: 20 credits
- Set pattern:
 - 12 credits from completed Core courses
 - 8 credits from Core, Preparatory & Complementary courses
- Satisfactory completion
- Literacy & numeracy



To be eligible for a QCE, students must achieve a set amount of learning at a set standard, in the set pattern, and meet literacy and numeracy requirements.

A total of 20 credits is required — 12 must come from completed Core courses and the other 8 can come from a mix of Core, Preparatory and Complementary courses. A maximum of 4 credits from Preparatory and 8 credits from Complementary courses can contribute to the QCE.

Most students will achieve their QCE when they complete Year 12, but students can continue to work towards it after they have left school.

Set amount

- 20 credits from a range of learning options:
- QCAA courses
 - General subjects
 - Applied subjects
 - Short Courses
- Vocational Education and Training (VET) certificates or qualifications
- Other recognised studies



Students can choose from a range of learning options and need a total of 20 credits. Learning options include QCAA subjects and courses, vocational education and training, and other recognised studies, such as university subjects studied while at school. Some courses will contribute more credit than others.

The learning options are grouped into three categories — Core, Preparatory and Complementary courses.

Set pattern — Core courses

•12 credits from completed Core courses:

Course	Credits per course
QCAA General subjects and Applied subjects	up to 4
QCAA General Extension subjects	up to 2
QCAA General Senior External Examination subjects	4
Certificate II qualifications	up to 4
Certificate III and IV qualifications (includes traineeships)	up to 8
School-based apprenticeships	up to 6
Recognised studies categorised as Core	credit varies

Set
pattern

Core courses are the main courses that students do at school. They are quality assured by the QCAA or a recognised authority and are generally available for implementation statewide by schools or registered training organisations.

To be eligible for the QCE, students need 12 credits from completed Core courses.

Courses include QCAA General and Extension subjects, QCAA Applied subjects, vocational education and training (including traineeships and school-based apprenticeships) and selected recognised studies.

QCAA General and Applied subjects are the foundation of the new QCE system.

General subjects prepare students for tertiary study, further education, training, and work, and contribute up to four credits to a QCE. Examples include English, General Mathematics, Ancient History, Biology, and Music Extension.

Applied subjects focus on practical skills and prepare students for further

education, training and work. They also contribute up to four credits to a QCE. Examples include Essential English, Essential Mathematics, Business Studies, Industrial Technology Skills and Tourism.

Set standard

- QCE credits are accrued when the set standard for each subject/course has been met.



Set
standard

- Depending on the course, that may be:
 - satisfactory completion grade of C or better
 - competency or qualification completion pass or equivalent.

Students earn credit towards their QCE when they complete their subjects or courses to a set standard. Depending on the type of course, the set standard may vary. In some courses it may be a grade, but for other courses, such as VET qualifications, the result may be a pass.

Literacy & numeracy options

- QCAA General or Applied English/Mathematics subjects
- QCAA Short Course in Literacy/Numeracy
- Certificate II in Skills for Work and Vocational Pathways



As well as meeting the set amount and set pattern requirements for the QCE, students must also meet literacy and numeracy requirements. There are several options available to students.

QCE pathways

- The QCE is flexible.
- There is no single pathway — hundreds of course combinations can lead to a QCE.
- A student's pathway will depend on the subjects and courses the school offers and their individual goals.
- Typically, students will study six subjects/courses across Years 11 and 12.
- At ESHS we start banking credits for QCE in Year 10 through Cert II FSK and Short Course.

It's important to remember there are multiple pathways to a QCE. Most students will study six subjects or courses across Years 11 and 12, but what they choose to study will depend on their individual goals and what the school offers.

There are hundreds of possible course combinations that can lead to a QCE. Let's look at some examples.

How do I know if my student is on track for a QCE?

- Review each report card with a QCE lense:
 - Is there a pass grade for math and English?
 - Is there a pass grade for 5 or more subjects?
 - If you have answered no to any of the above, student may be at risk of not achieving a QCE.

This student chooses six QCAA Applied subjects (from the Core category) and they are completed over Years 11 and 12 to a set standard. The student meets the literacy requirement through Essential English and also completes a Short Course in Numeracy (from the Preparatory category) for one semester. The student will receive four credits for each Applied subject and one for the Short Course (a total of 25 credits) and will be eligible for a QCE.

Learning Area/Subject	Teacher	Achievement	Effort	Behaviour
Essential English (Applied)	Mr P Sanson	C	Very Good	Very Good
General Mathematics (General)	Mr L Coromandel	D	Satisfactory	Very Good
Biology (General)	Miss J Whybird	D	Very Good	Excellent
Drama (General)	Miss C Prior	C	Very Good	Very Good
Japanese (General)	Mr R Neill	C	Very Good	Excellent

Learning Area/Subject	Teacher	Achievement	Effort	Behaviour
Essential English (Applied)	Miss K Deighton	C	Satisfactory	Very Good
Essential Mathematics (Applied)	Miss R Venardos	C	Very Good	Very Good
Science in Practice (Applied)	Mr L Coromandel	C	Very Good	Excellent
Modern History (General)	Mrs L Ross	D	Needs Attention	Satisfactory
Sport and Recreation (Applied)	Mr J Fitzpatrick	C	Very Good	Excellent
Visual Arts in Practice (Applied)	Miss A Cochrane	C	Satisfactory	Very Good

Example 1 – student is at risk as they have a “D” result for maths and biology – numeracy tick, 20 credits and completed core.

Example 2 – although student has “D” for Modern History they are still on track for a QCE. We would need to review subject choice.

Tertiary entrance

- The Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) will replace the Overall Position (OP) in 2020.
- The ATAR is used nationally to measure a student's position relative to other ATAR-eligible students.
- The Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC) will calculate and issue ATARs.

Tertiary entrance is a key consideration for many students.

In the new QCE system, students will no longer receive an Overall Position (OP) for university entrance. Instead, the Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) will be used from 2020 to measure a student's position relative to others.

QTAC will calculate and issue ATARs for Queensland students from 2020.

ATAR eligibility

- To be eligible for an ATAR, students must successfully complete:
 - 5 General subjects, or
 - 4 General subjects + 1 Applied subject or completed VET qualification at Certificate III or above.
- Students must also successfully complete an English subject.

To be eligible for an ATAR, students need to successfully complete five QCAA General subjects, or four QCAA General subjects plus one QCAA Applied subject, or a VET qualification at Certificate III or higher.

Queensland ATARs will be based on a student's best five General subject results, or best results in four General subjects plus one Applied subject, or best results in four General subjects and their VET qualification.

ATAR and Tertiary Selection

- The ATAR is a percentile rank, not a mark. This rank indicates a student's position relative to other students in their age group in any given year. ATARS are expressed as a number from 99.95 down to 0.00 in steps of 0.05. So the highest ATAR is 99.95 down to 0.00. ATARS below 30 are reported as '30.00 or less'.
- ATAR will be the standard pathway used to determine entry for most tertiary courses (in addition to other entry requirements such as subject prerequisites).

To be eligible for an ATAR, students need to successfully complete five QCAA General subjects, or four QCAA General subjects plus one QCAA Applied subject, or a VET qualification at Certificate III or higher.

Queensland ATARs will be based on a student's best five General subject results, or best results in four General subjects plus one Applied subject, or best results in four General subjects and their VET qualification.

Assessment — QCAA subjects/courses

- QCAA General subjects:

- three internal assessments (set/marked by schools)
- one external assessment (set/marked by the QCAA and held at the same time in schools across Queensland)

Most external assessment will contribute 25% to the final subject result. In Mathematics and Science subjects, it will contribute 50%.

One of the main changes in the new QCE system is how students are assessed. The way students are assessed will depend on their subjects and courses.

In QCAA General subjects, a student's final subject result is based on three internal assessments and one external assessment. Internal assessments are set by schools. Before these assessments are used in the classroom, the QCAA checks they meet syllabus requirements. Teachers then mark the internal assessments, and the QCAA collects samples of student responses to check for accuracy and consistency with the marking guides.

Students also sit an external assessment for General subjects. These external assessments are set and marked by the QCAA and will be held at the same time in schools across Queensland.

In most subjects, the external assessment will count for 25% of the results for each subject. For Mathematics and Science subjects, the external assessment will count for 50%.

Assessment — QCAA subjects/courses

- QCAA Applied subjects:

- four internal assessments (set/marked by schools)
- Essential English and Essential Mathematics — one of the four is a common internal assessment (set by the QCAA and marked by schools in term 2).

QCAA Short Courses:

- two internal assessments (set/marked by schools)

In QCAA Applied subjects, students will have four internal assessments that are set and marked by schools. They are not checked by the QCAA, but they do go through an annual process where student responses are checked against marking guides.

For Essential English and Essential Mathematics, one of the four internal assessments will be set by the QCAA and marked by schools.

Assessment — VET and other courses

- VET assessment may include
 - observation
 - written assessment
 - work samples
 - questioning.
- Assessment for other courses will vary depending on the course.

Assessment in VET and other courses will vary depending on the course. Some courses may require written assessment, while others will be in the form of practical work samples.

Results and reporting

- Final results will be released at the end of Year 12 in student learning accounts on the myQCE website.
- All students receive a senior statement.
- Eligible students receive a QCE. Students can keep working towards their QCE after Year 12.

At the end of Year 12, students can access their final subject results in their learning account on the myQCE website. Student learning accounts (for students completing Year 12 from 2020) will be available later in 2019.

All students who complete Year 12 will receive a senior statement. It will show all the subjects and courses in a student's learning account and the results achieved.

Eligible students will also receive a QCE. If a student isn't eligible by the end of Year 12, they can keep working towards their QCE.

What have we (ESHS) learnt so far?

- Year 11 and 12 are like a marathon, students need to put in consistent effort throughout the 2 years. Students who just want to do the 100 metre dash at the end struggle.
- For those studying an ATAR course it is important to get those most results from the internal assessment to relieve pressure in the external exams.

What have we learnt so far?

- Attendance is key, being at school each day, in each lesson means maximum opportunity.
- Step up from 10 to 11 is real for most students.
- Setting goals helps students focus.

More information

- myQCE website: myqce.qcaa.qld.edu.au
- myQCE Instagram: www.instagram.com/myqce
- QCAA website: www.qcaa.qld.edu.au
- QTAC website: www.qtac.edu.au

The myQCE website is a great starting point for further information about senior pathways. It's designed specifically for students completing Year 12 from 2020 and contains lots of information and resources about subjects and courses, further study, training and career options.

Students can also follow myQCE on Instagram to stay up to date with the latest news about senior studies, careers, key dates and more.

For parents, the QCAA website features a dedicated section with information about education in Queensland, including frequently asked questions.

The QTAC website is the best source of information about ATAR eligibility.