

# HGC

# Pathways & Careers



Our Pathways and Careers Program at HGC aims to develop our students' career development skills through a number of programs, activities and services throughout the year, to prepare them for their transition into higher education, and develop their employability skills to enter the workforce. Managing your career requires effective career management skills, life-long learning and continual upskilling, something school is pivotal in developing and building a students' capacity in, to support them well beyond their schooling. This focus on careers and pathways also reinforces the importance of enabling our students to follow their dreams and pursue a career that connects with their passions, interests, values and lifestyles.

As educators, our role is to prepare students for careers and jobs that are yet to exist. Young people today can expect to have on average 17 different employers across 5 industries in their future. Their occupations will change and many jobs will completely disappear. Building and developing transferrable skills will support them to remain employable and able to adapt to a variety of industries and occupations.

It's also incredibly important to know what the emerging industries are and what is happening in the labour market – where will the jobs be when they finish school or higher education, and what skills will employers be looking for. Technology is certainly at the forefront of such rapid change and sees jobs disappear as new ones appear and evolve. Artificial intelligence (ie robots, automation) is either replacing roles or changing the way we do them and the skills we need to do them.

Whilst technology, globalization and climate change are key drivers of the change, there will still be plenty of opportunities that don't include a robot. Ford Australia, alongside Deakin and Griffith universities, have created an [extensive report](#) on what the workforce will look like in the years ahead, and describes potential future roles and skills needed, as well as a [student quiz](#) to help identify what career/occupation they are best suited to. I encourage students to take the test and see if the occupations from their quiz make the [100jobsofthefuture.com](http://100jobsofthefuture.com) list!

## YEAR 9 PROGRAM

Year 9 is an ideal time for students to reflect on who they are, and what they might want from a career. It's a time for self-discovery and an opportunity to think about their strengths and find new ones. The 'My Career Insights' program provides a unique opportunity for students to learn more about their strengths and abilities, while exploring potential future career options. It also supports students to learn and discover the:

- skills and abilities they could bring to a job/role;
- careers and occupations that match their abilities, interests and personality; and
- subjects they may need to study at school to obtain jobs within their chosen industry and career of interest.

As part of this program, students:

- complete a series of online questions and quizzes (on the Morrisby Profile website);
- receive a personalized Morrisby profile report showing the results from the questions and quizzes, and possible career/occupations that match their abilities, interests and personality; and
- have a 30 minute one-on-one career counselling session with an accredited career advisor to discuss their results.

Following participation in this program, students are able to make better choices about subject selections for Year 10, Vocational Education and Training (VET), Senior Secondary School Certificates (VCE/VCAL) and Further Study.

## YEAR 10 PROGRAM

### Work Experience

In Year 10, students undertake a full week's work experience placement in Term 2 as part of their senior school program. Work Experience provides a number of benefits for students to experience life in the workforce, help to identify careers and future pathways of interest, as well as develop confidence, independence and key employability skills, including:

- communication and people/interpersonal skills
- emotional intelligence
- problem solving and critical thinking
- organisation and time management skills.



Undertaking work experience also helps students to build their professional networks, which can lead to future employment opportunities and referees to add to resumes!

### Year 11 Subject Selection Interviews

In Term 3, Year 10 students (parents/carers are invited to attend) will have a one-on-one individual interview with either the Pathways Leader or another senior school leader to discuss their Year 11 program and future careers of interest. In this interview, support and guidance is provided to help students design their senior school program for Years 11 and 12, the pathways programs available (VCAL or VCE) and subjects to study.

### VCE Early Start

In Year 9, students will be offered the opportunity to consider and apply for the VCE Early Start program as part of their Year 10 program. Interested students must submit an application, with successful selection based on their academic history, readiness and capability, and their commitment to their own learning. For us, it is all about setting students up for success and supporting them through their learning journey at a pace that not only challenges them, but that is also achievable. See more info on the VCE program below.

### VET studies (Vocational Education & Training)

In Year 10, students are able to undertake an industry based nationally accredited course as part of their Year 10 Program. Please see further details below under the VET section.

## YEAR 11 PROGRAM

Year 11 is an important part of the senior secondary school journey. It requires making decisions about what their Year 12 program will look like and reflecting on their experience so far, their interests, strengths and passions. How will they use this self-knowledge to support pathways of interest moving forward?

In Year 11, students are encouraged to attend career expos and tertiary institution (Universities & TAFES) open days, information sessions and events to help with finalising their Year 12 program, and start planning their pathways beyond school. It's also a pivotal time for students to start planning for life beyond school, whether that be further study, apprenticeships/traineeships and employment. If further study, it takes time to research and decide on courses and where to study so students are encouraged to start early! It's a time to explore what programs the universities offer for early entry or extension studies in Year 12 – there is a lot to consider and plan for!

### VCE Students

For our Year 11 VCE students, this is the year they start to really develop their academic resilience and rigor to ensure they are 'match fit' going into their final year of schooling and VCE studies.

VCE Students may also look at university extension studies and subjects they would like to include in their Year 12 VCE program. Undertaking university extension studies in Year 12 can help boost their ATAR, receive an early entry offer into their desired course, obtain credits towards your tertiary degree/course, and also provide good preparation for what to expect at a tertiary level when entering their chosen course to study.



## YEAR 12 PROGRAM

As our Year 12 students embark on their final year of secondary school, determining pathways following school and the steps you need to take to get there is incredibly important. Some students will have a clear plan and others are still in a journey of self-discovery of figuring out what their interests, skills, strengths, abilities and passions are. They are all at different stages and there is no right or wrong way of getting to their destination of choice, only the way that is right for them. The role of our Pathways Leader is to help students identify and explore pathways of interest, provide resources and options to help them get there, and support them with their planning and transition.

To support our Year 12 students with their future career planning following their secondary schools studies, throughout terms 2 and 3, they will participate in an individual careers interview with our Pathways Leader. These interviews provide a meaningful discussion around careers and pathways of interest, and support students to plan for a smooth transition upon the completion of Year 12, whether this be into further education (Tafe, University), employment, traineeship/apprenticeships, a GAP year or volunteering.

For students wishing to go on to further study, we support students through the VTAC course application process, and support students with preparation for employment, apprenticeships and traineeships.

### University Extension Subjects

Some universities offer Year 12 students the opportunity to undertake university subjects as part of their final year of secondary studies which can count towards their VCE program. This can provide many benefits including; tertiary preparation, study & ATAR score boost, credits towards a degree or an early offer into their chosen degree.

## VET PROGRAM

In Year 9, students are invited to apply to undertake a VET (Vocational Education & Training) course as part of their Year 10 program. Most VET courses run for 2 years, continuing into Year 11.

VET enables senior school students to combine their Year 10, VCAL or VCE studies, with vocational training that will provide them with a nationally recognised industry qualification (some courses partial completion), as well as their secondary schooling certificates upon finishing school. For example, students can finish school with a Year 12 Certificate and a Certificate II in Engineering or Automotive (pre-apprenticeship) or a Certificate III in Allied Health Assistance.

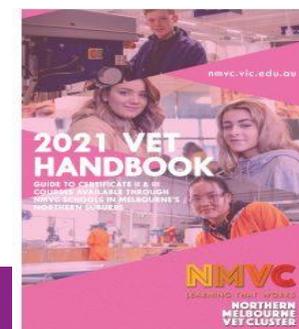
Note: undertaking a VET course is compulsory for those in the **VCAL program**.

VET opens up many future career opportunities in areas to over 500 careers where there are increasing employment demands (ie health, technology, trade, engineering, food, science). The practical nature of VET allows students to develop valuable practical and theoretical skills, and employability skills that they can then apply in the workplace.

At HGC, we deliver the VET Certificate III in Sport & Recreation and VET Certificate III in Early Childhood Education & Care. Students can also attend a VET course at another school 1 day per week and choose from a very broad range of courses, including:

- Trades; building & construction, engineering, automotive, plumbing, electrotechnology, furniture making
- community services, allied health, animal studies, business, events management, floristry, agriculture, Auslan
- beauty services, retail cosmetics, salon assistant (hair)
- Art & Design; fashion, visual arts, screen & media, games development, music (sound production, performance), dance
- IT; integrated technologies, digital media & technology, computer assembly & repair
- Hospitality and Kitchen Operations

Information is provided to both students and parent/guardians in Term 2 to advise of the program details and processes, and course enrolment for the following year. Click [here](#) to see a range of VET programs available.



## VCE AND VCAL PATHWAY PROGRAMS

As students approach their senior secondary schooling years, our Year 9 and 10 students undertake activities such as work experience, the 'My Career Insights' program, and other career development activities, to help develop self-knowledge, discover and deepen passions/interests and then explore future careers options. Their future career interests will then help guide students on whether they take a VCE or VCAL pathway as part of their Year 11 and 12 program. What is VCAL and what is VCE? Let us explain below..

### VCE Program

The VCE program is a senior secondary certificate that provides pathways to tertiary education (ie advanced certificates and degrees) and the workforce. Most students receive their VCE when they complete their secondary schooling. VCE is a rigorous academic program that requires a high level of commitment from students towards their learning, and sound study habits established to support a large workload during and outside of school hours. You have a variety of study options in VCE through which you can pursue your interests and build your skills.

There are over 90 VCE studies and over 20 VCE VET (Vocational Education and Training) programs for you to choose from across the humanities, sciences, mathematics, technology, arts and languages, as well as vocational studies (VET). Each year at HGC, we provide a large range of VCE subjects for our students to choose to study as part of their VCE studies. Subjects with enough student interest are run, those with insufficient interest are unable to run however, students may look at undertaking subjects we do not run at another provider, via Distance Education Victoria, or the Victorian School of Languages.

The VCE program is made up of studies and units, some of which must be studied as a sequence. At HGC, VCE students study 22 units across Years 11 and 12 (12 in Year 11 and 10 in Year 12). Subjects are made up of four units, each unit is a semester long. For example, in Year 11, students will undertake 6 subjects of units 1 & 2 (semester 1 & semester 2 blocks) and then in Year 12, they will complete 5 subjects of units 3 & 4 of 5.

To achieve your VCE, students must successfully complete 16 units including:

- three units from the English group, two of which must be a Unit 3 & 4 sequence
- at least three additional Unit 3 & 4 sequence.



Student performance is assessed by:

- a series of tasks, School Assessed Coursework (SACs) and School Assessed Tasks (SATs); and
- externally set examinations

VCE is generally undertaken across 2 years at Year 11 and 12, however we do offer for students to undertake one VCE subject (early start) as part of their Year 10 Program.

Choosing VCE studies – you should choose studies that:

- interest you and you are good at; and
- lead to a job of interest or will help you get into the university or TAFE course you want to do.

### University Extension Subjects

Some universities offer Year 12 students the opportunity to undertake university subjects as part of their final year of secondary studies and VCE program. This can provide many benefits including: tertiary preparation, boost to study and ATAR scores, credit towards an eligible degree and perhaps an early offer into their chosen degree.

## VCAL Program

The Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) is a recognised senior secondary certificate and qualification that develops your personal skills, provides you with practical work-related experience, and builds key literacy and numeracy skills that are important for life and work. It suits those who like to learn in a more hands-on practical way and want to find out more about work or TAFE pathways.

Students in the VCAL program must also undertake a VET qualification as part of their VCAL program – see the VET Program section in this document for more details on our VET program.

### The VCAL Structure

- 3 days (at HGC in class) comprises 4 units: Literacy, Numeracy, Personal Development and Work Related Skills
- 1 day VET course/studies (at VET Host school) – do not attend any classes at HGC unless doing HGC VET course
- 1 day Structured Workplace Learning (with employer in industry that aligns with VET course)

VCAL STRAND	Yr 11 - Intermediate	Yr 12 - Senior
Literacy	Intermediate VCAL English (Intermediate Literacy Reading and Writing AND Intermediate Literacy Oral Communication (2 Units))	Senior VCAL English (Senior Literacy Reading and Writing AND Senior Literacy Oral Communication) (2 Units)
Numeracy	Intermediate VCAL Numeracy (2 Units)	Senior VCAL Numeracy
Personal Development	Intermediate Personal Development Skills Units 1 & 2 (2 Units)	Senior Personal Development Skills Units 1 & 2 (2 Units)
Work Related Studies	Intermediate Work Related Skills Units 1 & 2 (2 Units)	Senior Work Related Skills Units 1 & 2 (2 Units)
Industry Specific Skills	VET Subject	VET Subject

To be eligible to join the VCAL Program, students must have:

- been enrolled at HGC for a minimum of 12 months
- completed Work Experience and have received positive feedback from their employer
- enrolled/applied for at least one VET subject
- demonstrated mature and responsible behaviour in all situations
- the ability to work independently and as part of a team
- the ability to keep accurate, up to date and complete records
- a strong work ethic and the ability to see tasks through to the end
- demonstrated high level of attendance

## RESOURCES

Regular newsfeeds and newsletters are sent via our student and parent Compass portal throughout the year. For more information on our Senior School pathways and programs, please visit the below or contact our Pathways Leader:

- [Senior School Handbook](#) on the [Hazel Glen College](#) website; and
- [HGC Careers](#)

Please also visit and 'like' the [HGC Careers](#) Facebook Page and [HGC Careers](#) Instagram pages.

