



Year 10 into Year 11 2023

Subject selection and general
information session

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Course Selection Considerations

- **Abilities:** choose subjects that you know you are capable of doing well. Discuss this with your teachers and seek advice on the level of course you should select.
- **Interests/Motivation:** choose subjects that interest you.
- **Career aspirations and needs:** keep in mind future career paths but be realistic about choices.
- **Syllabus requirements - Practical/Major work components:** be mindful of how many practical works are required for your pattern of study
- **Subject combinations:** do the subjects complement each other?
- **Other commitments:** when choosing subjects, it is important to balance study with outside commitments and influences such as work, sport and family.

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21C Learning Skills over 'flavour'

Other than the specialised core content of courses like Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Mathematics, the Humanities courses offer the chance to develop similar research and formal writing skills – so don't stew over it if your flavour of course doesn't get the numbers to run. Very few Uni courses have prerequisites and you can maximise your results with well chosen courses.

Courses which 'scale well'

Don't fall in to that trap! All BDCs are academic courses. You have the best chance of maximising your ATAR in a course you have an aptitude for e.g.

If you are not in the top 25 students in English, you are not going to get better marks if you study English Advanced;

If you are not coping well with the top strand 5.3 Maths, you are not going to get better results if you study Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry!

If you are a top performing student who can write well, you will not achieve a lesser ATAR if you take Drama, Visual Arts or Society & Culture!

Apprenticeship or employment?

All students must complete Year 10. A small number of students chose to leave school after Year 10, however, this can only occur if they have...

- Secured an apprenticeship or traineeship
- Secured full-time, paid employment (minimum 25 hours)
- Arranged to be participating in an authorised training program from a Registered Training Organisation
- Turned 17



Year 11 / Year 12

Year 11 is a pre-requisite for Year 12

You must complete a minimum of 12 units in Year 11 to proceed to Year 12

Year 11 courses are studied over 3 terms – Term 1 – Term 3, 2023

Year 12 courses begin Term 4 2023 – must have a minimum of 10 units

ATAR – Australian tertiary Admission Rank (required for University entry)

Completion of All My Own Work prior to beginning Year 11 studies



HSC Course Structure

- All courses in the HSC have a unit value
- Most courses are 2 units which equates to 120 hours of study and a HSC result out of 100
- Some courses are 1 unit. This is equivalent to 60 hours of study and a HSC result out of 50
- Many 1 unit courses are extension courses, enabling 3 or 4 units of a course to be studied.

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Requirements for the HSC

Both the Year 11 and Year 12 pattern of study must include:

- 2 units of **compulsory English**
- at least **6 units** of Board Developed Courses
- at least **3 courses** of **2 units** value or greater
- at least **4 subjects** (including English)
- a maximum of **6 units** of Science may be included in the Year 11 pattern of study
- a maximum of **7 units** of Science may be included in the Year 12 pattern of study.



Types of courses

There are TWO different types of courses that can be studied:

1. NESA Board Developed Courses (may count towards ATAR)

Provides University
Entrance + HSC

2. NESA Content Endorsed Courses (do not count towards ATAR)

HSC but no Uni
Entrance

BUT both of the above will count towards a HSC



Board Developed Course	Content Endorsed Course
HSC examination – except for and optional English Studies, Mathematics Standard 1 and VET Framework courses	NO HSC examination – school based assessment only
May be included in ATAR calculation	Not included in ATAR calculation
Includes some Vocational Education and Training (VET) courses	Includes some Vocational Education and Training (VET) courses
Includes Lifeskills courses	Includes some courses studied at TAFE



Category A Courses

Category B Courses

May be included in the calculation of a student's ATAR

ONLY 2 units of Category B can count towards an ATAR

Compulsory HSC examination for MOST courses

Optional HSC examination

Includes Vocational Education and Training (VET) courses



Vocational Education & Training (VET)

Category B courses

Optional HSC examination

Have a mandatory 70 hour work placement (35 hours / year)

MUST be treated as a workplace when at school

At MHS in 2021 these include:

Construction, Hospitality, Information and Digital Technology, and Retail

Satisfactory completion of a Course

Students must:

- **follow** the course developed or endorsed by NESA
- **apply themselves** with diligence and sustained effort to the set task and experiences provided in the course by the school; and
- **achieve** some or all of the course outcomes

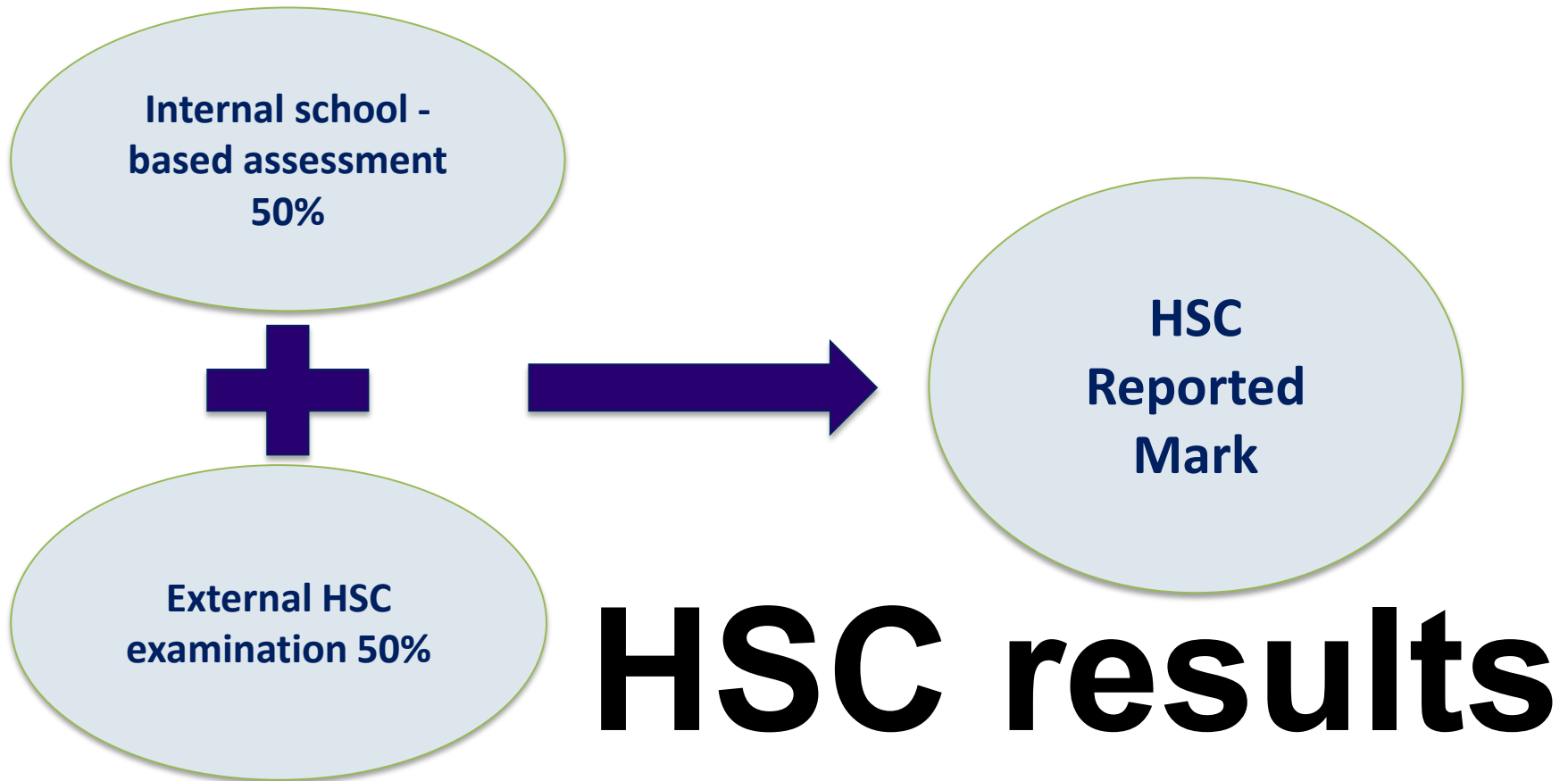
VET Board Developed Courses require students to complete **mandatory work placement**.



Additional completion requirements for HSC courses

Students must:

- complete HSC assessment tasks that contribute **in excess of 50 per cent** of available marks in courses where internal assessment marks are submitted; and
- sit for and make a **serious attempt** at any requisite Higher School Certificate examinations for a course

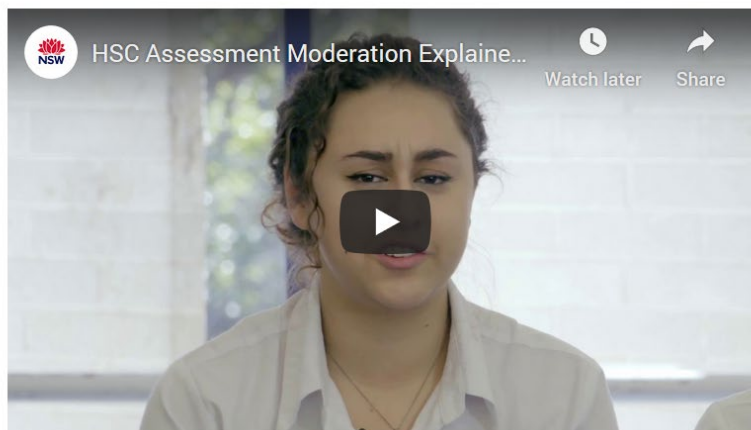


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How the HSC mark is calculated

The HSC mark is a 50:50 combination of a student's examination mark and school-based assessment mark for each course.

Watch the video below to find out how school assessment marks are moderated to make them fair.



**Excellent video
explaining how the HSC
mark is calculated.**

<https://www.educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/11-12/hsc/results-certificates/understanding-results>



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HSC

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Your aim is to attain the best HSC result you can. So, you should choose courses that you are good at, interested in and may use in the future.

When considering which courses to study, explore the content of a course. For example, what are the course outcomes? Will you be required to submit a major work, or perform, as part of your exams? Talk with your teachers about your

HSC Science Extension

Watch the video on the new [1-unit Science Extension Course](#).

The NESA website is a good place to find out more about choosing HSC courses.

Go to <https://www.educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/11-12/hsc/subject-selection>

NESA home > Year 11 – Year 12 > HSC > Subject Selection

Study and exam resources

- [Past exam papers](#) which include marking guidelines and marker notes.
- [Syllabus pages](#) which contain:
 - The course syllabus
 - Course outcomes
 - Assessment and reporting guidelines
 - Sample exam questions for new courses.
- [Glossary of key words](#) with some of the terms commonly used in exam questions.
- [HSC Study Guide](#) produced each year in partnership with *The Sydney Morning Herald*.
- [Multiple choice quiz](#) helps you prepare for your HSC exams with multiple choice questions.
- [NESA shop](#) where you can buy:

HSC Study Guide



Practical information and advice to help you achieve your best in the HSC exams.

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