

College Acceleration Policy

2023

Statement

Hampton Park Secondary College endeavours to provide all students with the opportunity to maximise their learning potential whilst at school. All students, as appropriate, are encouraged to improve their educational outcomes through accelerating their learning by studying a pre-VCE, VCE, or VET subject whilst undertaking the Enhance and Excel programs. Students who have accelerated their learning in Years 10 and 11 may also include a University Enhancement Study in their Year 12 program.

Purpose

Subheading

- To provide students with the opportunity to further extend their learning opportunities
- To enable students to study a sixth subject as part of their scored VCE/VET program over three years
- To create opportunities for students to engage in tertiary education through studying a university subject in Year 12
- To familiarize students with the work requirements and expectations associated with the Excel Program by providing the experience of studying a VCE or VET in Year 12 and a Pre-VCE subject in Year 9

Implementation Guidelines

The table outlines below provides specific acceleration guidelines for each year level transition:

Year 6 into 7	<p>All year 7 students will undertake the Explorer curriculum program. In exceptional circumstances, a Year 7 student may be granted permission to study an Enhance subject, if the following eligibility criteria are met:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The student submits an Enhance Subject Recommendation Form to the Junior Sub School by the due date. This form must include a recommendation from the Grade 6 teach and Parent/Carer consent.• The student demonstrates a strong interest or passion for the subject area• The student is deemed suitable for acceleration based on data including but not limited to the ACER Testing that will occur in Term 3 of Grade 6. <p>The student may be required to attend an interview with the Sub School Leader and nominated panel members. All requests must be approved by, and are at the discretion of, the Sub School Leader or nominated delegate.</p>
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<p>Year 7 into 8</p>	<p>All Year 8 students will undertake the Enhance curriculum program. All of our nominal Year 8 students, in their first year of the Enhance program are highly encouraged to accelerate their learning 'outside of classroom'. Hampton Park Secondary College enables students to organise, lead and participate in a variety of co-curricular activities, programs, learning activities and leadership opportunities that will complement their academic pathway. We believe that this is an opportune time for students to really begin to extend themselves as they contribute to the life of the College, and to the local and global community.</p>
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<p>Year 8 into 9</p>	<p>All Year 9 students will undertake the Enhance curriculum program.</p> <p>However, Year 9 students who are categorized as High Ability by meeting the following eligibility criteria, are expected to select and undertake at least one Pre-VCE subject.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is deemed suitable based on data including but not limited to GPA reports, ACER Stanine of 6 and above, and relevant teacher relevant teacher recommendation. <p>Students who have been identified as High Ability and do not wish to undertake a Pre-VCE subject must submit an Acceleration Exemption Application Form. The student may be required to attend an interview with the Sub School Leader and nominated panel members. All Opt-Out requests must be approved by, and are at the discretion of, the relevant Sub School Leader or nominated delegate.</p>
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<p>Year 9 into 10</p>	<p>All Year 10 students will undertake the Enhance curriculum program.</p> <p>All Year 10 students are expected to select and undertake a program that consists of numerous (minimum of one) Pre-VCE subjects. It is strongly recommended that all Year 10 students select and study one accelerated VCE or VET subject as part of their Year 10 course.</p> <p>Accelerated VCE subjects must be approved by the overseeing course counsellor and Senior Sub School leader, who must deem each student suitable based on teacher recommendation and data sets. Accelerated VET subjects must be approved by the Senior Pathways Coordinator. Students who are approved to undertake a VCE or VET subject are not expected to undertake Pre-VCE subjects however are encouraged to do so.</p> <p><i>Note: Students must be at least 15 years of age at the commencement of a VET course.</i></p> <p>Exemptions: Some students may be identified as not being suitable by the Curriculum & Pedagogy Leader. They will be exempt from undertaking a Pre-VCE, VCE or VET subject. Students deemed not suitable may include, but are not limited to, students who fall within these categories:</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students under the Program for Students with a Disability • Students with Additional Needs • Students with extremely low literacy skills (stanine 3 or below), generally this will include students enrolled in Literacy Support class. <p>Year 10 students who are categorised as High Ability by meeting the following eligibility criteria, are expected to select and undertake at least one VCE or ET subject as part of their Year 10 program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is deemed suitable based on data including but not limited to GPA reports, ACER Stanine of 6 or above, and relevant teacher recommendation <p>Students who have been identified as High Ability and do not wish to undertake a VCE or VET subject must submit an Acceleration Exemption Application Form. The student may be required to attend an interview with the relevant Sub School Leader and nominated panel members. All Opt-Out requests must be approved by, and are at the discretion of, the relevant Sub School Leader or nominated delegate.</p>
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<p>Year 9 into 10</p>	<p>ACCELERATION REQUIREMENTS FOR ENGLISH Students are not permitted to accelerate into English.</p> <p>ACCELERATION REQUIREMENTS FOR MATHEMATICS Specific guidelines exist for approval to accelerate into General Mathematics and Mathematical Methods. Students are not permitted to accelerate into Specialist Mathematics.</p> <p>The following information is used to determine suitability for accelerating into Maths subjects:</p> <p>Mathematical Methods Units 1&2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of the Year 1-Pre-VCE Advanced Maths course including CATs and exam in Year 9 or achievement of an average of A in Year 9 Cats, particularly algebra. • Achievement of 75% on the entry exam • Achievement of Band 9 or 10 on NAPLAN testing for numeracy • Achievement of Stanine 6-7 on ACER testing for numeracy <p>General Mathematics Units 1&2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achievement of an average of B or above on Year 9 Cats • Achievement of a minimum of 70% on the entry exam • Achievement of Stanine 6-7 on ACER testing for numeracy
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<p>Year 10 into 11</p>	<p>All Year 11 students will undertake the Excel Curriculum program.</p> <p>This will consist of completing either that Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE), the Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL), or a different pathway such as a School Based Apprenticeship or Traineeship (SBAT) or Head Start.</p> <p>Year 11 students who studied a VCE subject in Year 10 are expected to continue with this accelerated subject.</p>
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Year 11 into 12	<p>All Year 12 students will undertake the Excel Curriculum Program.</p> <p>This will consist of completing either the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE), the Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) or a different pathway such as a School Based Apprenticeship or Traineeship (SBAT), course with an external provider or full-time employment.</p> <p>Students who completed an accelerated VCE (Units 3&4) subject in Year 11 can either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study five subjects in Year 12 in order to finish their scored VCE program with the additional sixth subject that contributes to their ATAR. OR • Elect to undertake four subjects in Year 12 to reduce their study load. This must be done in consultation with the Senior Sub School Leader and is dependent on individual circumstances. OR • Choose to continue acceleration into tertiary education in Year 12 through opportunities to undertake a first-year university subject where available and suitable.
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Approval Process

- Sub School Leaders make the decision as to approval for acceleration in consultation with their Student Learning Leaders, Domain Leaders, Subject Teachers, and evidence provided by the Literacy and Numeracy Leaders. Students may appeal this decision with the Assistant Principal in charge of Curriculum and Pedagogy.
- Sub School Leaders will continue to monitor student progress in accelerated subjects throughout the year to ensure all students are performing at the expected standard/ In this instance, a conference involving parents/carers and the student will occur and students may be withdrawn from the subject if deemed necessary.
- Acceleration in more than one VCE or VET subject is only granted in exceptional circumstances and is negotiated on an individual basis; and must be approved by the relevant Sub School Leader.

Disclaimer

Priority placement in subjects will be given to students of that notional year level where places are limited. Therefore, acceleration may not always be possible due to availability or other factors such as timetabling and staffing.

Policy Review and Approval

Policy Last Reviewed	December 2022
Consultation – School Council	December 2022
Approved by	Principal
Next Review Date	December 2025