

Acceleration Policy



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Hampton Park Secondary College on 03 8795 9400.

Statement

Hampton Park Secondary College endeavours to provide students with the opportunity to maximise their learning potential whilst at school.

Across all classrooms and subjects, the practice of differentiation is implemented to support students at every stage on the learning continuum – which includes the stretching of students above the expected levels.

Where required, informed by data and a holistic understanding, **suitable students** may accelerate their learning to study subjects above their current year level, which can include studies from the VCE-VM, General VCE, or VET pathways whilst undertaking their usual years studies.

At Hampton Park Secondary College, students may accelerate (either if recommended or applying to), in Years 8, 9, 10, or 11. Year 7 students (new cohort), are given 12 months to show their learning abilities before acceleration is considered – unless exceptional circumstances exist.

Students can either:

- **Be recommended to accelerate** - by their Student Achievement Leader, the High Abilities Leader and relevant classroom teachers, with expertise from the Assistant Principal for Senior Studies and relevant Domain Leader
- **Or apply to accelerate**

Students recommended, will have their recommended/approved subjects visible in Edval during subject selection. Students applying to accelerate must complete an application form within the required time frame.

Final decisions about acceleration are made by the curriculum vetting team.

Purpose

- To provide suitable students with a chance to stretch their understanding and learning growth
- To support suitable students to reach their full academic potential
- To provide suitable students the chance to balance their VCE/VET program over three years
- To familiarise students with the work requirements and expectations associated with learning in Years 11/12

Implementation Guidelines

Timing for acceleration considerations:

- **During Terms 1 and 2** – Teachers refer students, via the High Ability referral on Compass, who are showing signs of being 'High Ability'. Students engage in ACER testing, NAPLAN and a series of CATs/assessment
- **Term 2 (Weeks 1 -8)** – The High Abilities Leader and Student Achievement Leaders review the available data and test the students referred. High Ability students are identified. High Ability students are recommended to study an accelerated subject that links to their potential. Recommendations are provided to the Assistant Principal for Curriculum Design and Learning
- **Term 2 (Weeks 8-10)** – Domain Leaders review the recommendations made for acceleration, to support/endorse the recommendations from the High Abilities Team
- **Term 3 Week 1** – All recommendations for acceleration are put into Edval for students when they are choosing subjects. This is done by an Edval expert
- **Students are informed of the acceleration process, at the following times:**
 - o Year 7 into 8, and Year 8 into 9 – Week 1 of Term 3
 - o Year 9 into 10 – Week 2 of Term 3
 - o Year 10 into 11 – Week 3 of Term 3

Students **not successful in their application for acceleration**, will have a course counselling conversation organised. Reasons, informed by data, will be shared with the student and their family.

Guidelines

Subject	Considerations
ENGLISH	Students may be recommended/apply to follow an 'Advanced English' pathway. Advanced English subjects include: - English Language (Year 10, 11 and 12) - English Literature (Year 10, 11 and 12) - Gothic Literature (Year 8) - Dystopian Texts (Year 9) - Unit 1 and 2 BEAL (Year 10 student) - Unit 1 and 2 Foundation English (year 10 student) these two are an intervention for Yr 11 but an acceleration for Yr 10. Selection/placement across year levels: • Students in Year 8 can be recommended/apply to study a Year 8 Extension elective in English (Gothic Literature) • Students in Year 9 can be recommended/apply to study a Year 9 Extension elective in English (Dystopian Texts) • Students in year 10 can be recommended/apply to study a Year 10 Extension elective in English (Banned Books – Literature, or English Language) • Students in Year 9 can be recommended/apply to study a Year 10 Extension elective in English. • Students in Year 10 can be recommended/apply to study English Literature or English Language as a Unit 1 & 2 study • Students studying EAL in Year 10, can be recommended/apply to study Unit 1 & 2 Bridging EAL (for very low literacy in Year 10) or Foundation English Unit 1 and 2 (low literacy in Year 10) • Students in Year 10 can apply or be recommended to study a VET course, providing they are over 15 years of age <i>Students do not accelerate into Unit 1 and 2 English or EAL as it is important we build key skills and knowledge before they embark on Year 11 and 12 English/EAL.</i> Students accepted to accelerate are identified as: - Have an LLN at Level 3 or above - Have an ACER result in Reading above 140.5 (Year 10+) - Have a NAPLAN Reading, Writing, Grammar and Punctuation result of Exceeding

MATH	Students achieving above their age-based peers may be recommended/apply to follow an 'Advanced Maths' pathway. Advanced Math subjects include: - Unit 1 and 2 Foundation Mathematics - Unit 1 and General Mathematics - Year 10 Math Extension - Year 9 Math Extension Selection/placement across year levels: • Students in Year 8 can be recommended to/apply to study Year 9 Core+ (Advanced Math) • Students in Year 9 can be recommended to/apply to study Year 10 Core+ • Students in Year 10 can be recommended to/apply to study General Mathematics or Foundation Mathematics Unit 1 and 2 • Students in Year 10 can be recommended to study Preparation for Math Methods at Year 10 (extension) Mathematical Methods and Specialist Mathematics are not subjects on offer for acceleration due to the skills that need to be built in Year 10 before embarking on these pathways. Students accepted into an Advanced Math Pathway, are those who: - Have an ACER Numeracy scale score of 137.1 or above (Year 10) - Have had an endorsed recommendation made by their Math Teacher - Sat an entrance exam and have a result recorded of 80% or above - Have a CogAT ACER testing stanine result of 9 - Have a high/strong or exceeding NAPLAN result in Numeracy - Have an LLN of Level 3 or above - Have a Literacy Level prerequisite of 135.5 (Year 9) A holistic view is taken when deciding on students who can advance in Math. Individual student cases will be reviewed when/if required
FOLIO SUBJECTS	Students in Year 10 can choose/be recommended to accelerate into a Folio subject, if they have the skills identified for this subject. It is recommended that most students complete only 1 folio subject and therefore acceleration is only possible into one folio subject. The subjects that have a folio are: • Visual Communication and Design • Product Design and Technology • Media • Art Making and Exhibiting • Music Each student should be looked at case by case, as there are always exceptions.

VET	Year 10 Students can accelerate into a VET, on a case-by-case basis. Students need to be at a state of readiness to complete a VET – possessing the skills, mindset and maturity to be ready for this type of learning. Students must be 15 years of age to complete a VET for compliance. It is possible for students to engage in 2 VETs. A decision is only made with support of the VET Coordinator. Students accepted into an Advanced VET Pathway, are those who: - Have an LLN of 3 or above to access a VET – reviewed by the VET Coordinator to ensure suitability to the course chosen - Current work is up to date/learning tasks - Learning dispositions are suitable for a student accelerating – identified on Compass - Minimal redemptions have been required - Over 90% attendance - ACER scale score of 140.5 or above - Results from previous assessments will be reviewed/and Achievement Standards - Have endorsement from the Senior SAL/Careers and VET Coordinator <i>Students with low level LLN and literacy levels could access VET Skills for Workplace and Vocational Learning in Year 10 to build competency before Year 11 VM</i> Any student wishing to study a VET must have completed an LLN and the required VET registration and their USI.
GENERAL INFORMATION	Students in Years 7 and 8 can apply to advance in their studies also. Recommendations can also be made by the High Abilities Leading Teacher and the SALs for Junior and Senior School. Students must meet the following criteria: • ACER scale score of 140.5 or above for Reading • Demonstrating the required learning dispositions/habits to accelerate • Have endorsement from the High Abilities Team and Junior/Senior SAL • Results from previous assessments will be reviewed/and Achievement Standards Year 10 students can apply to accelerate into a Year 11 subject or may be recommended if High Ability/data suggests suitability.

GENERAL INFORMATION CONTINUED	Students in Year 10 must meet the following criteria: • LLN at 3 or above (but we need to consider the holistic nature of the student) • 50-60% on Exams and Entrance Test (if required) • Current work is up to date/learning tasks • Learning dispositions are suitable for a student accelerating – identified on Compass • Minimal redemptions have been required • Over 90% attendance • ACER scale score of 140.5 or above • Have endorsement from the High Abilities Team and Junior/Senior SAL/Teacher • Results from previous assessments will be reviewed/and Achievement Standards • CogAT ACER – Stanine 9/standard score >130 Students who are suitable and approved to accelerate will complete an acceleration contract – which outlines the requirements and is signed by student and family. The student will be monitored during commencement/and when completing their readiness task and may be withdrawn from the subject if required, to support their success. Monitoring will continued throughout Semester 1 and during the year, in case further moves need to be made.
SUBJECTS NOT SUITABLE FOR ACCELERATION	<u>Subjects that students generally should not accelerate into are:</u> - Physics - Chemistry - Mathematical Methods - Specialist Mathematics - Accounting This is due to the specialised skills required in these subject areas and the need for students to build the required skills before embarking on them, in Year 11 and 12. Stretch opportunities can happen for all students through our guaranteed and viable curriculum across Years 7-10 and our advanced electives.

Other Information

- All applications for acceleration will be reviewed when the Course Counselling Team come together to review subject selections – as outlined above.
- To ensure overall pathway and acceleration learning area balance and appropriateness, the Assistant Principal for Curriculum Design and Learning is also part of this process and has complete oversight and decision making authority of all acceleration matters.
- The Student Achievement Leaders and the High Abilities Leader, if a student is approved, will monitor student progress in their accelerated subjects to ensure all students are performing at the expected standard. If not performing at the expected level, a conference involving parents/carers and the student will occur, and students may be withdrawn from the subject if deemed necessary. Student contracts will be implemented to monitor progress.
- Acceleration into more than one VCE or VET subject (unless the acceleration is the sequential core Maths progression of the student) is only granted in exceptional circumstances.
- Acceleration into more than one subject (in Years 7-9) is not recommended and will not be approved unless exceptional circumstances exist.
- Priority placement in subjects will be given to students of that notional year level where places are limited. Therefore, acceleration in the desired subject may not always be possible due to availability or other factors such as timetabling and staffing