

# 2017 COURSE INFORMATION HANDBOOK

FOR YEARS 11 AND 12



ISSN: 2200-7776

Department of Education  
GPO Box 169  
HOBART TAS 7000  
web: [www.education.tas.gov.au](http://www.education.tas.gov.au)

Published: June 2016

This handbook has been prepared by the senior secondary schools of the Tasmanian Department of Education. Information contained within this handbook was correct at the time of printing. Some subjects/programs are awaiting code confirmation and/or accreditation. These are marked with \*\*\*.

Additional copies are available online at [www.education.tas.gov.au/parents\\_carers/schools-colleges/Pages/Years-11-and-12.aspx](http://www.education.tas.gov.au/parents_carers/schools-colleges/Pages/Years-11-and-12.aspx)

CRICOS Provider 03352G



© 2016 State of Tasmania (Department of Education)

# Contents

Welcome	4
Using this course information handbook	5
Steps to planning your Years 11 and 12 studies	5
Understanding the terminology	6
Making up a course of study	7
How do I enrol?	8
Course Information	9
Creative Arts: Performing	10
Creative Arts: Visual	19
English	23
Health and Physical Education	28
Humanities and Social Services: Behavioural Studies	37
Humanities and Social Services: Civics and Citizenship	42
Humanities and Social Services: Economics and Business	46
Humanities and Social Services: History, Culture and Environment	51
Languages	57
Mathematics	59
Mixed Field Programs	62
Programs for Students with High or Additional Learning Needs	65
Science and Primary Industries	69
Technologies: Design and Technologies	77
Technologies: Digital Technologies	86
Technologies: Food and Hospitality	90
Contacts	93
Index	94

# CONTENTS



“  
**Years 11 and 12 are important steps in your learning... Tasmania’s potential for growth will depend on its most important asset – young people just like you!**  
”

## Welcome

Years 11 and 12 are very important steps in your learning and preparation for your future plans. In fact, your future starts now!

Most of today’s jobs require at least a Year 12 qualification. Our schools offer you a rich choice of subjects to support your chosen pathway, whether that be vocational training, further study or moving straight into work.

In the years ahead, Tasmania’s potential for prosperity will depend on its most important asset – young people just like you.

Building on the work you have already done in *My Education*, this course information handbook will help you match your strengths, interests, abilities and career plans with courses.

You may already have a career in mind and know which choices you need to make to get there. If not, then don’t be concerned. Use the information here, talk to your teachers, parents or carers and research further education and employment options. Your teachers can also give you advice about the Tasmanian Certificate of Education (TCE).

As you consider your choices it is important to remember that learning new skills opens up new life opportunities and when you have gained your qualification you are ready to achieve your goals. With those extra skills and experiences behind you, you’ll be more attractive to potential employers and able to bring a lot more to your future job.

Whether you decide to continue Years 11 and 12 at a local high school or attend a senior secondary college, it’s all about making informed choices and getting the best possible start to senior secondary learning for you as an individual.

It is important to remember that learning is a lifelong endeavour, and the choices you make now will go a long way in assisting you throughout your future.

All the very best with your studies and I wish you well as you prepare for Years 11 and 12.

**Jenny Gale**  
**Secretary**

# Using this course information handbook

The Course Information Handbook is designed to assist you in choosing subjects and programs of study for Years 11 and 12.

The information is accurate at the time of printing. The up-to-date online version of this guide is available at [www.education.tas.gov.au/parents\\_carers/schools-colleges/Pages/Years-11-and-12.aspx](http://www.education.tas.gov.au/parents_carers/schools-colleges/Pages/Years-11-and-12.aspx)

For each of the subjects and programs available in Years 11 and 12 the handbook includes detailed information on what you will learn about and the type of learning activities involved, as well as any prerequisites needed and where they might lead to.

Subject and program descriptions are organised in the following learning areas:

- Creative Arts
  - » Performing
  - » Visual
- English
- Health and Physical Education
- Humanities and Social Sciences:
  - » Behavioural Studies
  - » Civics and Citizenship
  - » Economics and Business
  - » History, Culture and Environment
- Languages
- Mathematics
- Mixed Field Programs
- Programs for Students with High or Additional Learning Needs
- Science
- Technologies
  - » Design and Technologies
  - » Digital Technologies
  - » Foods and Hospitality

Not all subjects and programs are available in all regions, nor at all Year 11 and 12 schools and colleges. For details on where programs are delivered, visit the online **Where Do I Study** ([www.education.tas.gov.au/parents\\_carers/schools-colleges/Pages/Years-11-and-12.aspx](http://www.education.tas.gov.au/parents_carers/schools-colleges/Pages/Years-11-and-12.aspx)) table to find details on subjects and programs available at your preferred school.



## Steps to planning your Years 11 and 12 studies

You need Year 11 and 12 qualifications to be considered for the majority of jobs being advertised today.

During Year 10 you will work with your teachers to gather information about possible careers, explore options relevant to your interests and ability, and plan how you might achieve your personal and career goals.

Your teachers will help you to identify your ambitions and expectations for the future, and also be on hand to provide advice about making the transition to Year 11.

Planning your Years 11 and 12 program is not about 'locking in' a decision for your future career. It's more about exploring your interests, abilities and goals – and the types of things you will need to do in the future if you want to achieve those goals.

When deciding on a program or course of study for Years 11 and 12, make sure you:

- Choose programs and subjects that will enable you to obtain the TCE
- Plan a two year program relevant to your goals and interests, keeping in mind that some subjects have pre-requisites
- Read the course details carefully and ask your teachers for more information if you need it
- Use the online **Where Do I Study** ([www.education.tas.gov.au/parents\\_carers/schools-colleges/Pages/Years-11-and-12.aspx](http://www.education.tas.gov.au/parents_carers/schools-colleges/Pages/Years-11-and-12.aspx)) tables to see where you can study the programs and subjects you are interested in (keep in mind that it may be possible to study subjects and programs at more than one place).
- Consider any pre-requisite subjects that may be required for study at either TAFE or university after you complete Year 12.

You may choose to do a Vocational Education and Training (VET) program, TASC subjects, or a combination of both.

# Understanding the terminology

## Vocational Education and Training (VET)

VET is a style of learning that focuses on learning through doing.

VET qualifications are recognised nationally, and are developed with industry consultation and for industry-specific requirements. This gives you real-life, practical and industry-relevant skills. Most courses also provide you with the opportunity to undertake work placements so you can get a real understanding of the industry and an opportunity to develop practical links to employment. More detailed information is available on the National Training Information Service website: [www.training.gov.au](http://www.training.gov.au).

In Years 11 and 12, VET subjects ranging from Certificate I to Certificate IV are available, with many continuing through to Advanced Diploma level after Year 12.

Many VET Diploma and Advanced Diploma courses allow you to transition to university, which reduces the time and money you need for a degree. Where there is a transition arrangement, you may receive credit towards your university degree based on the VET study you have undertaken.

## The Office of Tasmanian Assessment, Standards and Certification (TASC)

TASC is responsible for the accreditation of senior secondary courses, and their external assessment and quality assurance. TASC issues qualifications and certificates – including the TCE – to students who meet the required standards.

### TASC subjects

TASC subjects provide a broad range of learning opportunities which can lead to employment and further education.

TASC subjects are organised into four levels of difficulty – levels 1, 2, 3 and 4 (with 4 being the most difficult).

Level 3 and 4 subjects, also known as **pre-tertiary** subjects, can contribute to an Australian Tertiary Admission Ranking (ATAR) (more information following).

Level 1 and 2 subjects are non-pre-tertiary and do not count towards an ATAR but do count towards the TCE. They can be preliminary or foundation study for a pre-tertiary program.

More detailed information is available on the TASC website: [www.tasc.tas.gov.au](http://www.tasc.tas.gov.au)

## Tertiary Entrance score (TE)

TASC calculates a score for each pre-tertiary subject.

Your TE score is the combined scores of your best four or five pre-tertiary subjects over two years. At least three of these must be completed in your final year of senior secondary study. The TE score is then used to calculate an ATAR.

## Australian Tertiary Admission Ranking (ATAR) /University Entrance

The ATAR is used by Australian universities to allocate places to students. Your ATAR is calculated automatically by TASC from your results in Level 3 and 4 (pre-tertiary) subjects.

In Tasmania, the University of Tasmania (UTAS) has the responsibility for determining what subjects can be counted towards your ATAR. The University of Tasmania has indicated that from 2016 onwards, students will also have to meet the standards for the Tasmanian Certificate of Education (TCE) to be eligible for the calculation of an ATAR.

Entry requirements vary by course and by university. Generally, the higher your ATAR, the better your chances are of being accepted into your preferred course. That is why the personalised learning support you will receive is so important. It will help you to maximise your ATAR.

TASC will advise eligible students of their TE score and ATAR in late December.

More detailed information is available on the university's website: [www.utas.edu.au/students](http://www.utas.edu.au/students).

## Tasmanian Certificate of Education (TCE)

The Tasmanian Certificate of Education is a qualification that has five standards:

- Everyday adult reading, writing and communication (literacy skills)
- Everyday adult maths (numeracy skills)
- Everyday adult use of computers and the internet (ICT skills)
- Completing a full program as part of your senior secondary education and training (participation and achievement)
- Development and review of plans for your future (Pathway Planning).

Students must meet all five standards to achieve a Tasmanian Certificate of Education.

Full details on the **Tasmanian Certificate of Education** can be found at the TASC website: [www.tasc.tas.gov.au/1906](http://www.tasc.tas.gov.au/1906)

# Making up a course of study

The *Participation and Achievement Standard* for the TCE will generally be met or exceeded if you study a reasonably challenging two-year program of at least 1200 hours of study.

Year 12 students should include a minimum of three pre-tertiary subjects or a Certificate program.

## If you are interested in a pathway to a vocational qualification...

Your course should be centred around a vocational (VET) certificate program in your chosen industry area. This can lead you to direct employment, higher level Certificate and Diploma programs, and university courses.

You can make up your study program by choosing some TASC-accredited subjects to add to your certificate program. These may complement your vocational learning, and may also include some recreational and interest subjects.

## Australian School-based Apprenticeships (ASbA)

A school-based traineeship or apprenticeship is a paid, employment-based training arrangement where Year 10, 11 or 12 students are able to combine work, training and education to gain a nationally recognised qualification, usually at Certificate II or III level - across almost every industry sector and training package.

### Work

ASbA students are allowed to work between 7.5 and 15 hours in the workplace each week. This can be one or two days at work in school time or after school hours and on the weekend.

### Training

ASbA students will sign a Training Plan with the employer and a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) who is responsible for the training and assessment against the requirements of the qualification.

### Education

ASbA students commit to attending school when timetabled to do so, and studying subject that are complementary to the ASbA qualification and contribute to the Tasmanian Certificate of Education (TCE). Every unit of competency achieved over the course of the contract will contribute points to the ASbA student's TCE.

For more information: [http://www.education.tas.gov.au/parents\\_carers/schools-colleges/Programs-Initiatives/Pages/Australian-School-based-Apprenticeships.aspx](http://www.education.tas.gov.au/parents_carers/schools-colleges/Programs-Initiatives/Pages/Australian-School-based-Apprenticeships.aspx)

## If you are interested in a pathway to a University qualification...

You will need to plan a two-year course, keeping in mind that some subjects are pre-requisites to certain university courses.

Most Year 11 courses should feature some English and Maths because they are fundamental to a broad range of options available at the end of Year 12.

Your chosen subjects may be directly relevant to your career direction and may also include some recreation and interest subjects.

## How do you know what level to do?

### Year 10 students enrolling in Year 11 in 2017

It is really important that you talk to your teachers early in the year to work out what standard you are at, and if this is good enough for the types of study you want to do next year in Year 11.

At enrolment, the course counsellors will discuss your results and advise you about which subjects will suit you best in Years 11 and 12.

The best indicator is how well you have done in the past.

Look at your results in English-literacy and Maths-numeracy:

- If you are achieving an A/B (or C in consultation with teachers) in Year 10 Australian Curriculum subjects, you could enrol in some Level 3 subjects in Year 11.
- If you are achieving a C/D rating in Australian Curriculum subjects, Level 2 subjects provide the necessary foundation leading to Level 3 in Year 12.
- In the areas of Arts and Technology, a strong interest and experience in optional classes in high school or a personal involvement in community-based learning could give you confidence to try Level 3 subjects.

### Year 11 students enrolling in Year 12 in 2017

Discuss your proposed learning pathway with your school/college teachers.

# How do I enrol?

There is a range of options for studying Years 11 and 12.

There are eight senior secondary schools (colleges) in Tasmania that provide a wide range of programs and study options. Some subjects are also available flexibly, so if the course you need is not available at your school or college, please check to see if you can enrol through flexible delivery.

A number of schools provide Year 11 and 12 education and training within their local communities.

Some of these have programs available through Trade Training Centre (TTC) facilities which are designed to provide practical training using industry-standard equipment.

For details on which subjects and programs are available in which locations go to the online **Where Do I Study** tables ([www.education.tas.gov.au/parents\\_carers/schools-colleges/Pages/Years-11-and-12.aspx](http://www.education.tas.gov.au/parents_carers/schools-colleges/Pages/Years-11-and-12.aspx))

Your chosen course may be a combination of these available options. Discuss this with your teachers.

## Year 10 students in government schools

If you are currently attending a government school, your Year 10 coordinator or teachers will give you details about how you can access the information you need to enrol. Your school will make all the arrangements for your enrolment into Year 11 and you will have the opportunity to attend information and taster sessions.

For senior secondary school (college) courses you will enrol through your preferred college. Your college will then organise your access to the subjects and programs at the senior secondary school/college that will deliver your course of study.

## Present Year 11 students in government schools

You will enrol through your current school.

## Other students, including non-government school students

You will enrol through a senior secondary school or college in your region. You should contact the school or college for details to arrange course counselling and enrolment.



## Enrolling in VET programs

Entry to VET programs usually requires a "suitability process". This is undertaken prior to completing enrolment to ensure that you commence your VET studies in the most appropriate course and at the right level for your learning needs. It may involve an information session, interview and/or an assessment task or test.

It is a prerequisite for enrolment in most VET programs offered in Years 11 and 12.

More details will be available from your teachers or your local school or college.

## The University College Program

The University College Program enables eligible Year 11 and 12 students to undertake introductory level university units at the same time or in addition to their TCE studies. Students can extend their TASC subject enrolment where the TASC subject curriculum closely aligns to a University of Tasmania first year unit, or study full university units.

Unit delivery is either college based, college and university combined, or solely on-campus at the university.

All colleges have close links with the University of Tasmania and provide the opportunity to participate in a range of programs and activities including:

- University College Program, where you can undertake university subjects while studying for your TCE in many areas
- University of Tasmania High Achiever Program
- Course, scholarship and application information sessions
- Step Up program using university library resources.

For further information please see:

[www.utas.edu.au/centre-for-university-pathways-and-partnerships/ucp](http://www.utas.edu.au/centre-for-university-pathways-and-partnerships/ucp) or call (03) 6324 3343.