What is AVID?

AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) is a VCE and University-readiness programme designed to increase students’ ability to succeed in VCE and to be accepted into University courses. The programme can serve all students but is particularly focused on those students currently achieving in the ‘middle’ or ‘average’.

AVID was developed in 1980 by Mary Catherine Swanson at Clairemont High School in San Diego, California. There are now more than 400,000 students enrolled in AVID electives in 16 countries around the world.

Hallam Senior College is the first school in the South East of Victoria to adopt the AVID elective for Year 10 students.

Who does AVID?

The AVID elective is for students who:

✓ Want to do better than they are already
✓ Want help to be more organised
✓ Want to take more responsibility for their learning
✓ Want to improve their written and verbal skills
✓ Are prepared to work hard
✓ Have support from home to stay on track
AVID at Hallam

The AVID elective runs for the whole of Year 10 and is aimed at students who want to succeed in VCE and go on to University.

We focus on building up five skill areas: writing, inquiry, collaboration, organisation and reading (WICOR).

### Writing
- A learning tool
- A record of thinking
- A personal and public communication tool

### Inquiry
- Uncovering one’s understanding
- Asking critical questions
- Engaging in thinking, learning, and discussion

### Collaboration
- Teamwork with shared responsibility
- Sharing of ideas, information and opinions
- Formal and informal discussion

### Organisation
- Managing materials and practicing study habits
- Planning and prioritising schoolwork, work and social tasks
- Taking responsibility for one’s own learning
- Goal setting

### Reading
- Gaining meaning, understanding and knowledge from print and other media
- Interactive
- Purpose-driven

#### What does WICOR look like in the classroom?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Writing</th>
<th>Inquiry</th>
<th>Collaboration</th>
<th>Organisation</th>
<th>Reading</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cornell Note-Taking</td>
<td>Skilled Questioning Techniques</td>
<td>Socratic Seminars</td>
<td>Binders and organisational tools</td>
<td>Deep reading strategies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learning Logs</td>
<td>Costa’s Levels of Thinking</td>
<td>Tutorials</td>
<td>Calendars, planners and agendas</td>
<td>Note-taking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quickwrites and Reflections</td>
<td>Socratic Seminars</td>
<td>Philosophical Chairs</td>
<td>Graphic organisers</td>
<td>Graphic Organisers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Process Writing</td>
<td>Tutorials</td>
<td>Group Activities and Projects</td>
<td>A focused note-taking system</td>
<td>Vocabulary Building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Authentic Writing</td>
<td>Investigations</td>
<td>Peer Editing Groups</td>
<td>Tutorials and study groups</td>
<td>Summarizing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Questions that guide research</td>
<td>Service Learning Projects</td>
<td>Project planning and SMART goals</td>
<td>Reciprocal Teaching</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### How do I join AVID at Hallam?

You will need to fill in an ‘Expression of Interest’ form and bring it with you to your Hallam Senior College enrolment interview.

You will also need to meet with the AVID coordinator.