

Mid-Year Examination & Assessment Newsletter



Mid-Year Examination & Assessment Period: Thursday June 5 – Thursday June 12

Year 10 & Year 11 VCE Exams

- Mid-Year Exams will run for the majority for Year 10 & Year 11 VCE Subjects.
- No Year 10 or Year 11 VCE classes will run during the entire examination period.

Year 10 & Year 11 VCE Examination Assembly Areas

- **ECA / Gym** - Assemble at the Gym entrance and await further instructions.
- **Rooms 21, 32 & 33 or The Great Space**- Assemble in the nearest courtyard to the exam room and await further instructions.
- **TTC Seminar/T6** – Assemble on the ground floor of the TTC and await further instructions
- **Portables (A3 & B7)** – Assembly outside the room and await further instructions
- **Yr 10 Sports Academy exams** are required to meet at the Bus bay by 1.30pm sharp.
- **Other 'Practical' Exams** – please check the rooms listed on your timetable.

Year 12 VCE & VET classes

- **All Year 12 VCE and 2nd Year VET subjects will be running throughout the exam period (excluding Wed 12th June GAT)**
- Year 11 students completing a Unit 3/4 subject are required to attend the relevant classes – these are printed on exam timetables.
- If the Year 12 class is normally in a room where there is an exam please check for room changes.
- 1st Year VET classes WILL NOT run during the Year 10 & 11 examination period

VCAL Classes

- Thursday June 5 & Friday June 6, these have been set aside for Senior Folio presentations, all 2nd Year VET's will continue to run.
- Normal Senior VCAL classes will run on the Tuesday (June 10) & Thursday (June 12) of the second week of examinations. No Senior VCAL classes will run on Wednesday June 11 due to the GAT.
- Intermediate VCAL students will have portfolio presentations, Year 11 VCE or Structured Workplace Learning (SWL) from Thursday June 5 to Thursday June 12 as per exam timetable.

Attendance

- If you are unable to attend a Year 10 exam, Year 11 VCE exam or VCAL presentation for a valid reason, please see your sub school leader to discuss alternative arrangements.
- Changes to exam timetables will not occur once the exam period has begun (Thursday 6th June).
- If you are unwell during the exam period please contact your Sub School. Sub School leaders may request a change of exam time(s) in cases where students are unwell and have a medical certificate.
- In cases where there is a gap between exams on the same day students are expected to **remain at school** and complete private study until their next exam. **Students do not have permission to 'come and go' between exams.**

**Students must attend all exams, folio presentations & classes
in FULL school uniform.**

The GAT (General Achievement Test)
Wednesday June 11, 10:00am – 1:15pm

Who has to sit the GAT?

All Year 12 VCE students and Year 11 students who are doing a Year 12 VCE/VET subject that has an end of year examination.

What is the GAT?

- It is 3 hour general achievement test
- The exam contains
 - * 70 multiple choice questions (2 hours approx)
 - * 2 written tasks (about 30 mins each).
- Assesses the range of knowledge and skills that students have built up in Secondary School. These include;
 - * The ability to write clearly and logically, and to express a point of view in writing
 - * The ability to read, understand and make appropriate inferences from written materials, pictures, cartoons and diagrams
 - * The ability to extract information and draw conclusions from text, charts and tables.

What is the GAT used for?

- Statistical moderation of marks.
- Checks that internally marked assessments (SAC's and SAT's) have been correctly marked
- Special Consideration and Derived Examination Score if a student becomes ill, injured or experience personal hardship around the exams.
- Validates externally assessed exams
- Made Available to Universities and Higher Education Institutions can be used in middle band selection process

Why should students do their best on the GAT?

- It's an insurance policy if something goes wrong during exam time.
- The higher your score, the more likely it is that the GAT will help you.
- Accepting a challenge is more fun than not accepting a challenge.
- Three hours will pass quickly if you are absorbed in the task and slowly if you are not.

IMPORTANT!!!

The GAT cannot be rescheduled. If you are unable to attend the GAT please contact the school ASAP. (School Phone 9703 1266)

END OF GAT BBQ!!!

A FREE BBQ will run for all students who sit the GAT outside the entrance to the TT Sub – School at the front of the school.



Materials authorised for use in examinations

YES



- Basic stationary – pens, pencils, eraser, sharpener, ruler
- Clear water bottle – water only
- Clear Plastic pocket for stationary storage



NO



- Liquid paper, Pencil case, School bags, handbags,
- Water bottle with label and / or filled with any other liquid that is not water
- Mobile phones, ipod, iphones, or any other electronic device.

Students found carrying any of these items (switched on or off) will be required to hand the items over to a VCAA representative.

Items will be held by VCAA for up to 3 months. Students may also be required to seek legal representation and attend a disciplinary hearing at the VCAA offices



Dictionaries

- **GAT, English and English as an Additional Language (EAL)** – English and/or bilingual printed dictionary may be used.
- **Language Written Examinations** – Any printed monolingual and/or bilingual dictionary in one or two separate volumes.
- Dictionaries may be consulted during reading time and throughout the above examinations, but must not contain any highlighting or annotation.
- Dictionaries are **NOT** permitted in any other examination including Language oral examinations.
- Dictionaries that contain a thesaurus are **NOT** permitted. Electronic dictionaries are **NOT** permitted.



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Examination Rules and Procedures for Student Conduct

- Students are to wear **full school uniform** to each exam.
- Bags, books and pencil cases are not to be taken into the exam room and should be left in student's lockers. Any such items brought to the exam room will have to be left outside. This includes mobile phones/listening devices **which may not** be taken into the exam room – these will be confiscated.
- The subject teacher must approve language dictionaries in advance. No Thesauruses are allowed including combined Thesauruses /Dictionaries. EAL students are allowed a bilingual Dictionary.
- **There is to be no talking or communicating with other students in the examination room.**
- Students are not to write anything in the reading time. Students will be directed when to commence writing.
- The instruction to **stop writing at the end of the exam is to be strictly followed.**
- No student will be permitted to leave an examination early.
- If you need to communicate with a supervisor, raise your hand and wait in your seat.
- Students can only go to the toilet one at a time and accompanied by a supervisor.

Students are advised to:

- Be in attendance at the exam area **at least 20 minutes** before the exam
- Have Photo ID & VCAA number (for GAT & VCE exams) on them for identification & seat allocation purposes
- Have their own materials including spare biros/pens and pencils etc., as it is not permissible to borrow in the examination room. Paper will be supplied for rough working out
- Only bring water bottles that are clear/see through and have no labels

IF A STUDENT IS UNABLE TO ATTEND AN EXAM, THEY MUST CONTACT THEIR SUB SCHOOL AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE (PH 9703 1266). A MEDICAL CERTIFICATE WILL BE REQUIRED.

Regards,

Mr Simon Cameron
VCE & Examinations Coordinator

VCAA Rules for the conduct of VCE Examinations and the General Achievement Test (GAT) 2014

Students are required to observe the following rules for the conduct of VCAA examinations conducted by or on behalf of the VCAA, as well as the day-to-day rules and examination rules of their school and of the examination venue.

VCAA examination rules shall apply with appropriate and reasonable modifications to students who have disabilities or other impairments.

All supervisors are issued with directions for the administration of the examinations and are required to report all alleged breaches of VCAA rules to the VCAA. Supervisors have the right to check any calculator or dictionary that is taken into an examination.

1. Students must not cheat or assist other students to cheat.
2. Students must not take any action that gives or attempts to give them or another student an unfair advantage in an examination.
3. Students must not allow, induce or assist any other person to present for an examination in their place.
4. Students must not present for an examination in another student's place.
5. Students must not present for an examination under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
6. Students must obey and observe all proper instructions or directions given by their supervisor.
7. Students attending an examination may bring only materials and equipment approved for that examination into the examination room.
8. Students must not possess mobile phones and electronic devices that are capable of storing, receiving or transmitting information or electronic signals, such as recorded music and video players, organisers, dictionaries and computerised watches during an examination.
9. Students detected with any device defined in Rule 8 must, upon the direction of a supervisor, surrender that device for inspection. Any confiscated device will be retained, pending any investigation into an alleged breach of VCAA rules.
10. Students must not bring into or possess in the examination room any drinks or food except under special circumstances as approved and directed by the VCAA. Bottled water is permitted in the examination room under approved conditions.
11. Students must not communicate with any other student while the examination is being conducted.
12. Students must not cause any nuisance, annoyance or interference to any other student during an examination.
13. Students must not remove, tear out or damage any part of a bound reference, script book, question and answer book or answer book, except formula sheets or similar permitted examination materials.
14. Students must not remove any response material, used or unused, from the examination room.
15. Students must not begin to write or mark their paper or response material in any way, or use a calculator, until advised by a supervisor that writing may commence.
16. Students must raise their hand if they wish to communicate with a supervisor.
17. Students must not leave their place until permitted by a supervisor.
18. Students will not be permitted to leave the examination before 30 minutes have elapsed from the start of writing time.
19. Students will not be permitted to leave the examination in the last five minutes of the examination.
20. Students must cease writing when instructed to do so by a supervisor.
21. Students must remain silent and seated in their place at the end of the examination until response materials have been collected and checked, and an announcement is made permitting students to leave the examination room.
22. Students must not communicate with an assessor, either before or after a written examination or during a performance examination, except when communication is necessary for the conduct of the examination.



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Mid-Year Examination & Assessment Period - Overview

Yr	Course	Mon 2 nd	Tues 3 rd	Wed 4 th	Thur 5 th	Fri 6 th	Weekend	Mon 9 th	Tues 10 th	Wed 11 th	Thur 12 th	Fri 13 th
10	Yr 10	Coursework Revision			Yr 10 Exams		Queen's Birthday	Yr 10 Exams				
11	VCE Yr 11	Coursework Revision			Unit 1 Exams			Unit 1 Exams				
	VCE Yr 11 with a Unit 3 enrolment	Unit 1 revision & Unit 3 revision tasks / coursework redemption / GAT feedback sessions**			Unit 1 Exams			Unit 1 Exams	GAT	Unit 1 Exams		
	VCAL Intermediate	Normal classes			Folio presentations / SWL / VET Placement / Unit 1 Exams*			Folio presentations / SWL / VET Placement / Unit 1 Exams*	GAT* / Folio presentations / SWL	Folio presentations / SWL / VET Placement / Unit 1 Exams*		
	VET 1 st Yr	Normal classes			No classes			No classes				
12	VCE Yr 12	In class revision tasks / coursework redemption / GAT feedback sessions**						Normal classes/ coursework redemption	GAT	Normal classes/ coursework redemption		
	VCAL Senior	Normal classes + Unit 3 in revision tasks* / coursework redemption / GAT feedback sessions**			Unit 1 Exams* / SWL / Folio Presentations / GAT feedback sessions**			Normal classes	GAT*	Normal classes		
	VET 2 nd Yr	Normal classes						Normal classes	No classes	Normal classes		

Final Semester 1 coursework submission – Friday 30th May

Notes:

- *Denotes relevance to individual students, for example many Intermediate and Senior VCAL students have a varied enrolments that contain a variety of VCAL, VET and VCE classes, where the enrolment contains a VCE class students are encouraged to complete the related exam. VCAL students are also required to complete the GAT in cases where a study score is desired.
- ** GAT feedback sessions/workshops will be scheduled in English & Maths classes during the last double before the GAT from Wednesday June 4 – Friday June 6. Year 11 students enrolled in a Unit 3/4 have been timetabled to attend both an English and a Maths (if studying Maths) GAT feedback session/workshop on around their exams on either June 5 or June 6.
- Yr level and course variation – There are numerous cases where students are enrolled in courses and units ‘outside’ their year level. The exam timetable seeks to accommodate all variations on a case by cases basis, also classes have been cancelled according to the majority of enrolments.