



## Choosing Senior Subjects

Understanding the subjects, what level of performance they require, and what they entail is very important. Informed decisions made now may yield stronger results in your senior schooling. Subjects in which you have enjoyed and achieved well in, that suit your style of learning and/or involved your talent e.g. Writing, Music, Art, Mathematics or working with your hands, are good indicators.

- Talk to Teachers of that subject or Area Learning Area Coordinators
- Read about the subject in the Senior Subject Selection booklet
- Listen carefully to the subject information delivered during Personal Futures Day
- Speak to the Pathways staff (Mrs O'Donnell or Mr Robinson), Senior School Coordinator (Mrs Ivers), or Assistant Principal - Curriculum (Ms Nelson)

## Considering Careers

You may not know your ultimate career goal just yet or may need a better understanding of different careers and pathways. Research different careers to understand pathways and subjects required.

- Harrison Assessment is a great tool if you are unsure of your direction (\$33 fee involved): <https://tafeqld.edu.au/campaign-pages/discover-my-career/index.html>
- Job Outlook Career Quiz: <https://joboutlook.gov.au/CareerQuiz.aspx>
- Explore Careers: <https://joboutlook.gov.au/Career.aspx>
- Careers of the Future: <https://joboutlook.gov.au/FutureOfWork.aspx>
- Defence Jobs: <https://www.defencejobs.gov.au/>
- Australian Apprenticeship Pathways: <https://www.aapathways.com.au/>
- An interactive, online career exploration service for students wishing to explore career options, job possibilities, identify your interests and skill areas, set career goals and plans to achieve them. <https://myfuture.edu.au/>
- ATAR "My Path" helps Year 10 students choose senior subjects, determine ATAR eligibility and check whether their senior subject selection will meet university prerequisites. <https://www.qtac.edu.au/atar-my-path/my-path>

## Check Prerequisites

Some careers may require tertiary education, apprenticeship or vocational pathways. You might notice different careers have similar subject pre-requisites and this may help to choose a selection of subjects that will keep career options open.

- QTAC Course Search <http://course-search.qtac.edu.au/s/search.html?collection=qtac-courses&form=course-search>
- Explore Industries: <https://www.joboutlook.gov.au/Industry.aspx>

## Helpful Resources

The following resources provide information about various aspects of senior schooling

- Qld Curriculum Assessment Authority <https://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/senior/new-snr-assessment-te/resources-faqs>
- New senior assessment and tertiary entrance systems in Queensland <https://qed.qld.gov.au/programsinitiatives/education/Documents/advancing-futures-sate.pdf>
- Introducing Qld's new senior assessment system; from syllabus to subject result [https://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/downloads/senior/snr\\_new\\_assess\\_syllabus\\_to\\_subject.pdf](https://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/downloads/senior/snr_new_assess_syllabus_to_subject.pdf)
- ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank) Information <https://www.qtac.edu.au/atar-my-path/atar>
- ATAR: <https://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/senior/tertiary-entrance/atar>
- Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) [https://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/downloads/senior/snr\\_new\\_assess\\_te\\_qce\\_factsheet\\_requirements.pdf](https://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/downloads/senior/snr_new_assess_te_qce_factsheet_requirements.pdf)
- VET: Vocational Education and Training (VET): <http://education.qld.gov.au/students/placement/vet/index.html>
- School Based Traineeships and Apprenticeships (SATs): <https://training.qld.gov.au/apprenticeshipsinfo/school-based>
- Tafe: <https://tafeqld.edu.au/assets/oneweb/PDF/course-guides/2019/SC-WB-TAS-Guide-2019.pdf>

## Wrong Reasons for Choosing Subjects

Many students choose subjects for the wrong reasons and as a result are not happy at school or confuse their career pathway. Do not select (or avoid) a subject because:

- Another Student tells you it is a good or bad subject. What one student enjoys/does not enjoy or performs well/does not perform well in, might not be the same for you.
- Your friends are/are not selecting it.
- You like/dislike the teacher

## Senior Subject Selection Checklist

### Have I:

- Researched careers
- Aligned my subjects with my career ideas
- Aligned my subjects with further study and training aspirations(pre-requisites)
- Researched my subjects
- Aligned my subjects with my learning style
- Considered any qualifications I might like to achieve
- Consulted with Teachers, Industry, School Officers and Guardians
- Gained an understanding of QCE / ATAR
- Created a Pathways Plan

# Plan your pathway

For students completing Year 12 from 2020

## 1 Think about your abilities, interests and ambitions

Whatever you want to do when you leave school, you can choose from a wide range of senior secondary learning options to help you get there. Consider the subjects you're good at and you enjoy.

### What do you want to do?

I plan to do further study

I'd like to learn a trade

I want to find a job

### What learning options will get you there?

- |                                                                          |                                                                        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> QCAA General subjects                           | <input type="checkbox"/> school-based apprenticeships and traineeships |
| <input type="checkbox"/> QCAA Applied subjects                           | <input type="checkbox"/> university subjects completed while at school |
| <input type="checkbox"/> QCAA Short Courses                              | <input type="checkbox"/> workplace learning                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> vocational education and training (VET) courses | <input type="checkbox"/> recognised certificates and awards            |

## 2 Check what you need for your QCE

To receive a Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE), you must achieve the set amount of learning, at the set standard, in a set pattern, while meeting literacy and numeracy requirements. You can choose from the learning options above.



## 3 Check tertiary entrance requirements and VET qualifications you may need

### Tertiary entrance

To get into many tertiary courses, you'll need an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR). To be eligible, you have to:

- satisfactorily complete an English subject
- complete 5 General subjects, or 4 General subjects + 1 Applied subject or VET course at Certificate III or above.

Some university courses also have other prerequisites.

### VET

VET courses develop your skills and get you ready for work. When you study VET, you can leave school with:

- a statement of attainment (when you complete one or more units)
- qualification/s and a record of results (when you meet all the requirements).

## 4 Develop your plan

- Talk with your school about available courses, then explore your options and find your pathway at [www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/senior/new-snr-assessment-te](http://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/senior/new-snr-assessment-te).
- Check the QTAC website for eligibility requirements.

# QCE learning options

For students completing Year 12 from 2020

With hundreds of course combinations available, you can choose the Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) learning options that are right for you.

Course type	QCE category	QCE credit	ATAR
<b>General subjects</b> General subjects primarily prepare you for tertiary study, further education and training and work.	Core	Up to 4 per course	All subjects may contribute
<b>Applied subjects</b> Applied subjects focus on practical skills and prepare you for work.	Core	Up to 4 per course	Only 1 may contribute when combined with 4 General subjects
<b>Short Courses</b> Short Courses provide a foundation for further learning in a range of areas.	Preparatory or Complementary depending on course	1 per course	Short Courses do not contribute
<b>Vocational education and training</b> VET qualifications develop your skills and get you ready for work through practical learning. VET can also lead to further education and training.	Core, Preparatory or Complementary depending on course	Up to 8 per course	Only 1 may contribute at Certificate III level or higher, when combined with 4 General subjects
<b>Other courses</b> Other courses allow you to study a specific area of interest. These include recognised certificates and awards, and university subjects studied while at school.	Core, Preparatory or Complementary depending on course	As recognised by QCAA	Check with QTAC depends on course

## Where will your QCE take you?

Talk with your school about available courses, then explore your options and find your pathway at [www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/senior/new-snr-assessment-te](http://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/senior/new-snr-assessment-te).

## About the QCE

The Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) is Queensland's senior secondary schooling qualification. It is internationally recognised and provides evidence of senior schooling achievements.

The flexibility of the QCE means that students can choose from a wide range of learning options to suit their interests and career goals. Most students will plan their QCE pathway in Year 10 when choosing senior courses of study. Their school will help them develop their individual plan and a QCAA learning account will be opened.

To receive a QCE, students must achieve the set amount of learning, at the set standard, in a set pattern, while meeting literacy and numeracy requirements. The QCE is issued to eligible students when they meet all the requirements, either at the completion of Year 12, or after they have left school.



## QCE requirements

As well as meeting the below requirements, students must have an open learning account before starting the QCE, and accrue a minimum of one credit from a Core course of study while enrolled at a Queensland school.

**Set amount**

20 credits from contributing courses of study, including:

- QCAA-developed subjects or courses
- vocational education and training (VET) qualifications
- non-Queensland studies
- recognised studies.

**Set pattern**

12 credits from completed Core courses of study and 8 credits from any combination of:

- Core
- Preparatory (maximum 4)
- Complementary (maximum 8).

**Set standard**

Satisfactory completion, grade of C or better, competency or qualification completion, pass or equivalent.

**Literacy & numeracy**

Students must meet literacy and numeracy requirements through one of the available learning options.

## More information

For more information about the QCE requirements, see the following factsheets, which are available on the QCAA website at [www.qcaa.qld.edu.au](http://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au):

- QCE credit and duplication of learning
- QCE credit: completed Core requirement
- QCE literacy and numeracy requirement.

### Set pattern

Within the set pattern requirement, there are three categories of learning—Core, Preparatory and Complementary. When the set standard is met, credit will accrue in a student's learning account.

To meet the set pattern requirement for a QCE, at least 12 credits must be accrued from completed Core courses of study. The remaining 8 credits may accrue from a combination of Core, Preparatory or Complementary courses of study.

- **Core:** At least 12 credits must come from completed Core courses of study

COURSE	QCE CREDITS PER COURSE
QCAA General subjects and Applied subjects	up to 4
QCAA General Extension subjects	up to 2
QCAA General Senior External Examination subjects	up to 4
Certificate II qualifications	up to 4
Certificate III and IV qualifications (includes traineeships)	up to 8
School-based apprenticeships	up to 6
Recognised studies categorised as Core	as recognised by QCAA

- **Preparatory:** A maximum of 4 credits can come from Preparatory courses of study

QCAA Short Courses	up to 1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• QCAA Short Course in Literacy</li> <li>• QCAA Short Course in Numeracy</li> </ul>	
Certificate I qualifications	up to 3
Recognised studies categorised as Preparatory	as recognised by QCAA

- **Complementary:** A maximum of 8 credits can come from Complementary courses of study

QCAA Short Courses	up to 1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• QCAA Short Course in Aboriginal &amp; Torres Strait Islander Languages</li> <li>• QCAA Short Course in Career Education</li> </ul>	
University subjects	up to 4
Diplomas and Advanced Diplomas	up to 8
Recognised studies categorised as Complementary	as recognised by QCAA

### Literacy & numeracy

The literacy and numeracy requirements for a QCE meet the standards outlined in the Australian Core Skills Framework (ACSF) Level 3.

To meet the literacy and numeracy requirement for the QCE, a student must achieve the set standard in one of the literacy and one of the numeracy learning options:

#### Literacy

- QCAA General or Applied English subjects
- QCAA Short Course in Literacy
- Senior External Examination in a QCAA English subject
- FSK20113 Certificate II in Skills for Work and Vocational Pathways
- International Baccalaureate examination in approved English subjects
- Recognised studies listed as meeting literacy requirements

#### Numeracy

- QCAA General or Applied Mathematics subjects
- QCAA Short Course in Numeracy
- Senior External Examination in a QCAA Mathematics subject
- FSK20113 Certificate II in Skills for Work and Vocational Pathways
- International Baccalaureate examination in approved Mathematics subjects
- Recognised studies listed as meeting numeracy requirements