

A message to Year 11 students and their parents

Welcome back to 2019, and exciting year as Year 11 students commence work on subjects using new QCAA syllabuses.

You will recall from subject selection and the Year 11 information evening that the new subjects, both General and Applied, are all organised in four units of work. The Senior Subject Selection Guide 2019 can be found on the College website, should you need a summary of the courses. Syllabuses for the courses, and further resources are available via the QCAA website using the link below. <https://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/senior/senior-qce>

It is important that students and parents note a few main points:

- In General subjects, students will complete External assessments (set by QCAA and unseen by Shalom teachers) in Term 4 2020. To allow students revision opportunities before the assessments, courses have been planned across 7 terms in Year 11 and 12. Clearly, units do not fit neatly into Semesters.
- Linking to the point above: you will have noticed that no Year 11 exam blocks are planned for 2019. This is because assessment will occur in different subjects at different times through the year. All information about assessment tasks will appear in Student Café and Parent Lounge and these need to be entered carefully in Record books.
- QCAA has outlined details of Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments which relate to students who need particular consideration of needs. However, it is essential that students and parents are aware of the following rules stipulated in the QCE/QCIA Handbook 2019:

6.3.2 Ineligibility

Students are **not** eligible for AARA on the following grounds:

- *unfamiliarity with the English language*
- *teacher absence or other teacher-related difficulties*
- *matters that the student could have avoided (e.g. misreading an examination timetable, misreading instructions in examinations)*
- ***matters of the student's or parent's/carer's own choosing (e.g. family holidays)***
- *matters that the school could have avoided (e.g. incorrect enrolment in a subject).*

Please note particularly the highlighted section above.

- Credits towards a QCE will begin with Unit 1 work. Therefore, students' work from Term 1 2019 is very important. For credit, a student must overall be awarded S (successful) which will be indicated by an overall grade for a Unit of A, B or C.
The syllabus documents (links above) describe reporting standards – these gather information from a student's demonstration of the syllabus objectives to arrive at an overall A-E standard.

As we navigate new ground, please know that I am available and very willing to answer questions you may have about courses, processes or arrangements. If I cannot answer a question I will seek advice. Please don't hesitate to contact me by email or telephone. Students: you may find me via Student Reception.

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