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# Enhancement & Enrichment Policy



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Scoresby Secondary College believes that the provision of enrichment and enhancement opportunities recognises the particular needs and special abilities of high potential students and challenges them to further develop their talents and potential capacity.

Enrichment activities 'enrich' the College curriculum providing greater breadth and depth. Enhancement activities offer students experiences both beyond their age and class level and beyond the regular College curriculum

## ENHANCEMENT

Enhancement subjects are those subjects which students complete ahead of normal. That is, a year 11 subject completed by a Year 10 student or a Year 12 subject completed by a Year 11 student.

The following enhancement programs are typical of programs offered:

- i. University Enhancement Studies Program offers first year studies in subjects such as Mathematics, Accounting, History, and French and Philosophy.
- ii. Unit 1 and 2 studies for Year 10, Units 3 and 4 studies for Year 11 students.

Enhancement Programs offer some benefits to students. The completion of a sixth subject in Units 3&4 advantages a student as 10% of the study score is included in the ATAR aggregate, i.e. if a student has a study score of 35 in the sixth subject; 3.5 points will be added to the student's aggregate.

While enhancement programs offer intellectually stimulating work for more able students and provide some benefits, students and parents should be aware of the negative aspects. Students may concentrate on their acceleration studies at the expense of a basic grounding in their current Year 10 or 11 studies, which has implications for the following year. Many students lack the maturity to compete with other students taking the same study who are one or two years their senior. The overall wellbeing of students in their final years of school must be a consideration. Students should proceed with caution when considering enhancement options.

## ENTRY TO ENHANCEMENT PROGRAMS

**University Programs:** Students enrolling in university studies will be in the top 5% based on results in Year 11. They will have demonstrated outstanding achievement and have a VCE Study Score of 41 in a preparatory study. Where no preparatory study is offered or where the study score is below 41, students may be selected on the basis of the Principal's evaluation of the student's Year 11 performance. These studies do **not** contribute to satisfactory completion of the VCE, but do contribute 4.0 to 5.5 points to the student's ATAR score according to the level of achievement **and may** provide credit and experience studying at first year university level.

**College Programs:** Selection of students to all enhancement programs is rigorous. In order to be enrolled in an enhancement subject at Year 10, Year 9 students must have **strong results in all subjects including English (High Credit+ average and a Distinction or higher in subjects directly related to the enrichment subject/s).**

Continuation in an enhancement subject in the following year in Unit 3&4 is dependent on the student's results at the end of Units 1 and 2 along with the teacher's recommendation. All Year 12 students are still expected to take five subjects in year 12 if they have undertaken an enhancement subject in Year 11.

Students wishing to participate in enhancement programs will have:

- the maturity and sound work practices to cope with the level of work and pressure
- sound organisational skills
- the recommendation of their teachers.

**The decision on whether or not a student can undertake an enhancement subject in Year 10 as one of their electives is made by the Head of Senior School in consultation with the Head of Curriculum and Pedagogy.**

## Enhancement Units 1-4 Checklist

The College will use the following checklist for enrolment of students into enhancement studies for Year 10, 11 and 12 students.

- The student meets the prerequisites stated for entry into enhancement
- Students are expected to undertake a full VCE program (minimum of 22 units) which may include an enhancement program
- The student can only undertake **ONE** enhancement study overall. Students, enrolled in an enhancement study outside the College eg. Language school, may not then enrol in an enhancement study within the College. The demands of VCE studies on students are extremely high and the associated stress levels can cause students problems and often affect their core studies;
- If a student has studied a Unit 1 and 2 at Year 10, they do not have to continue with the study the following year. They may choose, or be advised, to pick it up again in Year 12 or decide not to continue with it at all
- Students may be withdrawn from an enhancement subject if their results in other studies are impacted.
- Students in Year 9 should not undertake a VCE study. Generally, students do not have the level of maturity to compete with students two or three years their senior, and struggle with VCAA requirements.

In exceptional circumstances, the Principal may approve variations to the above requirements.

This policy was ratified at School Council in August 2015

To be reviewed August 2018