

# Introduction to the Senior Phase of Learning



## Facts & FAQs

### DIFFERENT TYPES OF SUBJECTS?

#### General Subjects

General subjects are suited to students who are interested in pathways beyond senior secondary schooling that lead to tertiary studies, vocational education and training, and work. They include Extension subjects. Results in General subjects contribute to the QCE and may contribute to an ATAR.

Upon exit students are awarded a mark out of 100 and an A-E letter grade by QCAA.

#### Underpinning skills

All General syllabuses are underpinned by:

- literacy skills — the set of knowledge and skills about language and texts essential for understanding and conveying content
- numeracy skills — the knowledge, skills, behaviours and dispositions that students need to use mathematics in a wide range of situations, to recognise and understand the role of mathematics in the world, and to develop the dispositions and capacities to use mathematical knowledge and skills purposefully
- 21st century skills — the set of skills students need for success in life and work in the 21st century: critical thinking; creative thinking; communication; collaboration and teamwork; personal and social skills; ICT skills.

Exit results in General subjects are determined by the accumulation of marks generated through the completion of three internal assessment items and an external exam. The external exam contributes 25% of total marks towards exit results, except for all mathematics and science subjects, which have a 50% contribution towards exit results.

#### Applied Subjects

Applied subjects are suited to students who are primarily interested in pathways beyond senior secondary schooling that lead to vocational education and training or work.

Results in Applied subjects contribute to the awarding of a QCE, and one Applied subject result may contribute to an ATAR. Students are awarded A-E letter grade upon exit.

#### Underpinning factors

Applied syllabuses are underpinned by:

- literacy skills — the set of knowledge and skills about language and texts essential for understanding and conveying content
- numeracy skills — the knowledge, skills, behaviours and dispositions that students need to use mathematics in a wide range of situations, to recognise and understand the role of mathematics in the world, and to develop the dispositions and capacities to use mathematical knowledge and skills purposefully
- applied learning — the acquisition and application of knowledge, understanding and skills in real-world or lifelike contexts
- community connections — the awareness and understanding of life beyond school through authentic, real-world interactions by connecting classroom experience with the world outside the classroom
- core skills for work — the set of knowledge, understanding and non-technical skills that underpin successful participation in work.

# Introduction to the Senior Phase of Learning



## Facts & FAQs

### DIFFERENT TYPES OF SUBJECTS?

#### Vocational Education & Training

Vocational education and training, otherwise known as VET, is learning that directly relates to getting a job. Vocational education offers a huge range of opportunities to develop the skills and knowledge to 'get the job'. VET offers a practical alternative to university through standalone qualifications, as well as apprenticeships and traineeships. It leads to nationally recognised qualifications that range from Certificate I-IV to Diplomas and Diplomas. There are VET courses in some of the largest industry growth areas, as well as for jobs with a shortage of labour. A large range of training providers (called registered training organisations), including TAFE QLD, private providers and schools offer VET. Some VET courses are subsidised by the federal government.

### FAQS

#### How many subjects do I have to complete?

Students are required to study six subjects at The Gap State High School. This may include a combination of General, Applied and VET offerings. Any less than six subjects may result in students not being able to obtain the QCE. Students that enrol in an off campus program may study less than six subjects due their absence from school to attend training provide elsewhere. VET counts as one of the six subjects.

#### What if my child cannot select six subjects?

The Gap State High School has increased the scope of offerings to senior students, however we cannot provide subjects to meet all of the needs of our students. In these cases, students often find suitable subjects through one of the many Distance Education providers throughout the state. This applies particularly to the study of languages.

#### Can I change my subject choices in Year 11 & 12?

Changing subjects may negatively impact QCE and ATAR eligibility and is generally not recommended. We understand that some circumstances may require a change in subjects. This process begins with the Guidance Officers, who will determine QCE eligibility and the impact of any change. Timetabling constraints may limit any change. Once work in Units 3 & 4 in General and Applied subjects commences, students are not advised to change subjects. Any incomplete assessment program will result in a student receiving no exit results for that subject.

For subject specific information, please refer to the Senior School Course Guide.

### USEFUL LINKS

School Website	<a href="https://thegapshs.eq.edu.au/">https://thegapshs.eq.edu.au/</a>
Qld Government	<a href="https://desbt.qld.gov.au/training/training-careers/about">https://desbt.qld.gov.au/training/training-careers/about</a>
QCAA QCE information and resources	<a href="https://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/senior">https://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/senior</a>

### USEFUL CONTACTS

Guidance Officer	<a href="mailto:guidance@thegapshs.eq.edu.au">guidance@thegapshs.eq.edu.au</a>
Head of Year 10	<a href="mailto:hoy@thegapshs.eq.edu.au">hoy@thegapshs.eq.edu.au</a>
Head of Senior Schooling	<a href="mailto:seniorschooling@thegapshs.eq.edu.au">seniorschooling@thegapshs.eq.edu.au</a>
Deputy Principal	<a href="mailto:deputyprincipal@thegapshs.eq.edu.au">deputyprincipal@thegapshs.eq.edu.au</a>