Welcome to Red Cliffs Secondary College’s

Years 10, 11 & 12
VCE and VCAL
Course Information Evening for 2014.

Between 6.30-7.30pm
parents and students will hear about the offerings at Red Cliffs Secondary College and will then be able to speak to individual teachers about subject choices, or course counsellors about options for 2015 and beyond.
## Current Staff Roles

- **Mr. David Browne**  Principal  
- **Mr. Damian Hallinan**  Assistant Principal  
- **Ms. Helen Popovski**  Assistant Principal  
- **Miss Narelle Greenwood**  Senior School Co-ordinator  
- **Mrs Kylie Morrish**  Junior School Co-ordinator  
- **Mrs. Amanda Boulton**  Careers/Pathways Co-ordinator  
- **Ms. Barb O’Hara**  Student Wellbeing Co-ordinator  
- **Mr Neil Rogerson**  Year 12 Co-ordinator  
- **Ms. Kate Murrihy**  Year 11 Co-ordinator  
- **Mr. Graeme Holmes**  Year 10 Co-ordinator  
- **Ms. Amanda Black**  Year 9 Co-ordinator
Senior School Course Information Night
Wednesday 30th of July.

Individual Course Counselling interviews will occur from Thursday 31st July to Friday 29th August.

At the individual course counselling stage, students may change their subject choices to better suit their career pathways.

Students and parents need to be aware that after the course selection interview there will be very limited opportunity for student initiated changes to selections.
What do I need to know to get started?

- In Year 10 and 11, all students study the equivalent of six subjects (12 units) per year (30 periods per week)

- In Year 12, all students study the equivalent of five subjects (10 units) per year (25 periods of classes and 5 periods of study time per week)
What do I need to know to get started?

- Year 11 level subjects ~ Units 1 and 2 or Intermediate VCAL
- Year 12 level subjects ~ Units 3 and 4 or Senior VCAL
- Year 10 students may attempt one Year 11 subject
- Year 11 students may attempt one Year 12 subject
Year 10 students follow a program where:

- they complete 6 Subjects (Units) per semester (this means 12 Subjects for the year).

- Compulsory subjects:
  - Maths (2 units)
  - English (2 units)
  - Health/PE (minimum of 1 unit)
  - Science (minimum of 1 unit)
  - Humanities (minimum of 1 unit)

* Note – if undertaking VCAL Foundation, this may look a little different! Your course counsellor will help you.
Acceleration into VCE subjects

- Students may choose to accelerate into a VCE study.

- Acceleration is **not automatic** and is dependant on availability of space, the student’s intended pathway/career and their capacity to succeed.

- Your accelerated subject will count for your ‘required subject’. For example, if you were to accelerate into Unit 1 Psychology, this would count as your minimum Science unit requirement!
VCE and VCAL

- Year 10 students can elect to complete VCAL Foundation. There are limited places in this program and selection will be based on clear vocational pathways.

- Year 11 and 12 students can elect to study either VCE or VCAL. Both are nationally recognised certificates.

- A traditional VCAL course will not attract an ATAR score – which is needed for direct entry into most university courses.
VCAL
Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning

• VCAL is a nationally recognised senior qualification. VCAL focuses on developing employability skills, for a pathway into work/training/TAFE etc.

• VCAL enables students to design a study program that suits their interests and learning needs. Students select VCAL Units, VCE units and Vocational Education and Training (VET) modules.

• If you undertake a ‘traditional’ VCAL Certificate in Year 12 you will not receive an ATAR. – however double enrolment is possible.
VCAL and Structured Work Place Learning

- This is **different** from work experience. You will be placed in either a block of time or on a one day per week basis. You will also need qualifications in OHS (Unit 1 WRS) before you can commence.

- Workcover is organised by the Education Department.

- All VCAL students must have their Work Placements finalised by the end of Term 2, 2015.
VCE: Units 1 & 2

In each Unit, students will be given:

- Assessment tasks for which they will be given a letter grade (A+ to E). These grades will appear on the end of Unit reports.

- There will be Unit 1 and 2 exams which will be reported on in the end of semester reports.

- These grades are not sent to the V.C.A.A. They are solely part of the College’s Assessment procedure.

At the end of every V.C.E unit (1-4):

- Students will be given either an S or N.
  
  S = Satisfactorily completed the unit.
  
  N = Not Satisfactorily completed the unit.
Unit 3 & 4 Assessment consists of:

- SACs (School Assessed Coursework)
  ~ performed mainly in class time
  ~ completed within a limited time frame

- SATs (School Assessed Tasks)

- External Examinations
Assessment Components

Example:

Year 12 English
SAC assessment for Unit 3  25%
SAC assessment for Unit 4  25%
End of year examination  50%

- VCAA (Victorian Curriculum Assessment Authority) combines the scores for each of your Graded Assessments to calculate your Study Score for that subject which is a score out of 50.
What is a study score?

- A study score shows how well you have performed in a subject, compared to everybody else in Victoria. Study scores calculated by the VCAA will be used by the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC) to calculate the ATAR.

- The maximum study score is 50. The mean study score is set at 30. A score of between 23-37 shows that you are in the middle range of students; a score of more than 38 indicates you are in the top 15%.
What is the ATAR?

- Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank

- The ATAR is an overall percentile ranking reflecting a student’s comparative performance in a given year.

- It is calculated by VTAC solely for use by tertiary institutions.

- It is reported as a rank between 0.00 and 99.95 with increments of 0.05
Choosing Your Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) Program

To attain your VCE Certificate, you must satisfactorily complete:

- a minimum of 16 units
- three units of English and
- three sequences of Units 3 and 4 studies other than English and
- to receive an ATAR Score you must complete Units 3 & 4 of an approved English Study in the one year.
Program for students with disabilities and impairments.

- Students who have a disability may have access to an Individual Learning Plan. These are developed in consultation with students, staff, parents and professionals.

- Programs aim to develop independence through student’s strengths and weaknesses.

- Students with disabilities are able to access a range of VCE, VET and VCAL programs.

- Students have access to a range of support services both at the School and from the Region.
Privileges and Expectations

**Year 12 students have:**
- Private Study Sessions
- Year 12 Room
- A separate Year 12 Jacket/T-shirt chosen by the students.

**Year 11 students have:**
- Year 11 Study Room
- Senior School Uniform

**Year 10 students have:**
- Senior School Uniform

**Senior Students should strive to do their best:**
- In their school work
- In Sports
- In Work Experience/Work Placement
- In Extra Curricular Activities e.g SRC, School Council, etc
- In Personal Qualities such as Leadership, Behaviour, Reliability and Honesty
You need to carefully read the information provided in the Senior School Handbook.

Once you have decided on the subjects that you would like to undertake, you can log onto First Class (using your login code and individual passwords), from here you can select your subjects, submit your selections and print out the approval form to be signed.

Unless the signed sheet is returned you will not have your selections entered.

Your parents are welcome to attend the course counselling session with you.

- **Year 12 2015** – **Course Counselling**: 31/7 – 06/8
  - **Selections due**: 01/8
- **Year 11 2015** – **Course Counselling**: 07/8 – 19/8
  - **Selections due**: 18/8
- **Year 10 2015** – **Course Counselling**: 20/8 – 29/8
  - **Selections due**: 29/8
Course Selection Guidelines

Choose subjects that:

- Are prerequisites for any tertiary course that you are interested in.
- You are good at.
- You like.
What is a prerequisite?

VCE studies or specific skills you must have, to be eligible for the course.

Check for prerequisites!

**Example:**
Physiotherapy at Monash University

Prerequisites: A Study Score of 25 in English and two of chemistry, biology, maths methods, physics or specialist maths
How do you check for prerequisites?

- It is the **responsibility of students** to ensure that they make informed and accurate subject choices in line with career / training aspirations.
- Current Year 11 students should refer to VICTER2015 which they received last year.
- Current Year 10 students should refer to VICTER 2016
- Current Year 9 students may also refer to VICTER 2017 to use as a guide
- Go to [www.vtac.edu.au](http://www.vtac.edu.au)

- Mrs Boulton can help you with this after this presentation.
Vocational Education & Training (VET) at Red Cliffs Secondary College

- VET courses are nationally recognised vocational courses
- Students **must undertake** a VET Study to be eligible for a VCAL certificate
- At Red Cliffs Secondary College most VET programs are carried out at external training providers such as Sunraysia Institute of TAFE (VET Fashion is offered on site as part of the regular timetable)
- There are fees associated with undertaking VET studies and these costs while heavily subsidised by the school **are the responsibility** of families.
- Students normally spend one day per week at TAFE or another registered training organisation.
Vocational Education & Training (VET)

• At Year 10 this will **be in addition** to the 6 units (subjects) they complete at school each semester.

• As part of a student’s Year 11/12 VCAL program this VET subject will be part of their program.

• All VET courses are on Fridays and students must make their own way to and from the training organisation.
Questions ????