



Always Worthy



**Welcome to**

**Subject Selection Information**

**Year 9 2017**

**into**

**Year 10 2018**



Always Worthy

# Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) and Tertiary Entrance System





Always Worthy



Queensland Curriculum  
& Assessment Authority

## Introduction

- The Queensland Government is introducing a new senior assessment and tertiary entrance system. Our current Year 9 students will be the first group through on the new system.
- The Key changes:
  - Introduction of common External Assessment.
  - Strengthening the quality and comparability of school-based assessment.
  - Replacing the Overall Position (OP) with the Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR).
- Every subject syllabus has been rewritten by the QCAA and all teachers will be involved in subject specific Professional Development in preparation for the new system.



Always Worthy

## Why the new system is being Introduced

- Queensland's current senior assessment system began in the early 1980s. The OP system was introduced in 1992.
- In a 2014 report, the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) declared that the current system is fair and reliable but would not be sustainable in the long term.
- ACER recommended changes to achieve greater rigour in preparation for University entrance. A system that would be easier for everyone to understand and work with.
- The new system focuses on the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills that students require to be successful following Year 12.



Always Worthy

## Pathways

- The aim for all students is to graduate with a Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) or a Queensland Certificate of Individual Achievement (QCIA) at the end of Year 12. This aim has not changed since the QCE was introduced in 2008.
- Cleveland District State High School will continue to offer three main pathways through the Senior School:
  - International Baccalaureate (no change to this pathway).
  - Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR).
  - Vocational (little change to this pathway).



NATIONALLY RECOGNISED  
TRAINING



Always Worthy

# ATAR (Australian Tertiary Entrance Rank)

Best five (5) QCAA General Subjects

**OR**

Best four (4) QCAA General Subjects

**plus**

Best result in one (1) QCAA Applied Subject

**or**

Certificate III/Certificate IV/  
Diploma/Advanced Diploma

- If eligible for an ATAR in both categories, the highest will be used.
- Student **must** achieve at least a sound in an English subject (English, Essential English or Literature) to be eligible for an ATAR.
- The English result will only be used if it fits the pattern above.



Always Worthy

# General Subjects

Accounting	Drama	Legal Studies
Agricultural Science	Economics	<b>Literature</b>
Ancient History	English	Marine Science
Biology	<b>Food and Nutrition</b>	<b>Mathematical Methods</b>
<b>Business</b>	French	Modern History
Chemistry	FTV and New Media	Music
Chinese	<b>General Mathematics</b>	Physical Education
Dance	Geography	Physics
<b>Design</b>	Health	<b>Specialist Mathematics</b>
<b>Digital Solutions</b>	Japanese	Visual Art

- 30 General Subjects will be offered to the class of 2020.
- Students must study at least four General Subjects to achieve an ATAR.
- All General Subjects have External Exams.





Always Worthy

# Applied Subjects

Agricultural Practices	Hospitality Practices
Building and Construction Skills	Industrial Graphics Skills
Business Studies	Information and Communication Technology
Early Childhood Studies	Media Arts in Practice
Engineering Skills	Music in Practice
<b>Essential English</b>	Recreation
<b>Essential Mathematics</b>	Tourism
Furnishing Skills	Visual Arts in Practice

- 16 Applied Subjects will be offered to the class of 2020.
- A maximum of one Applied Subject can be used in the ATAR calculation.
- Applied Subjects do not have External Exams but Essential English and Essential Mathematics will have one common State-wide test.





Always Worthy

# General Subject Requirements

- Each subject will include Preparation Units (formative), Units 1 and 2 (formative) and Units 3 and 4 (summative).
- Units are developmental and subject changes will disadvantage students. Subject selection is more important than ever before.
- All summative assessment including the External Exam must be completed for the subject to count towards the ATAR.

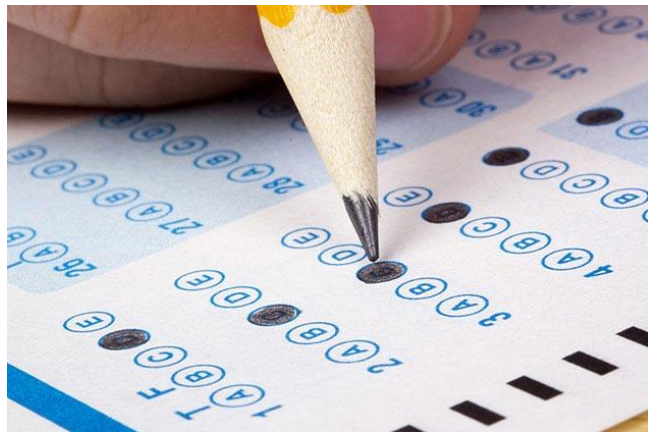




Always Worthy

# General Subject Requirements

- All summative Internal Assessment (three pieces) will be checked and confirmed by the QCAA.
- All General Subjects will have an External Exam which will be set by the QCAA and marked by the QCAA.
- Regardless of pathway, all students enrolled in General Subjects must sit all assessment (including the External Exam) to gain credit for the subject.





# Advice for Students and Parents

- All things going well, students will study the same six subjects for Years 10, 11 and 12.
- Students should choose the subjects that they enjoy and that they believe they can complete successfully.





Always Worthy

## Advice for Students and Parents

- There is no advantage in choosing subjects that are too challenging just because they may scale higher. Information on scaling has not been released but we do know that more challenging subjects will scale higher than less challenging subjects.
- If students require a high ATAR for the University course of their choice, they should choose six General Subjects. General Subjects will scale higher than Applied Subjects.





Always Worthy

# Year 10

- Is the beginning of three years of

## **Senior Secondary.**

- Expectations of participation in class and with homework/assignment work increase.
- This is the start of a three year course of study.



Always Worthy

# New Subjects

- In Year 10 many subjects will be new to you.
- Students will study **six** subjects all of which will roll into Year 11 and 12 subjects.  
Maths and English subjects are compulsory.
- There is a variety of academic (General) subjects and vocational (Applied) subjects.





Always Worthy

# Maths

- **General Mathematics** is mainstream Maths.
- **Mathematical Methods** is extension Maths.
- **Essential Maths** is an Applied (vocational pathway) subject in preparation for the work place. It qualifies students for a QCE and most Traineeships and Apprenticeships.
- **Specialist Mathematics** is an elective.





Always Worthy

Subject	Stream	Pre-requisite grade in Year 9	Difficulty	Work load outside classroom (rough guide)
Mathematics Essential	Non-tertiary	C- and below must do Mathematics Essential	Least concept dense	2+ hours
Mathematics General	Tertiary	Middle C and above	Hard	3+ hours
Mathematics Methods	Tertiary	Low B and above	Harder	4+ hours
Mathematics Specialist	Tertiary	Low A and above	Hardest	4+ hours
If a student chooses Mathematics Specialist they <b>MUST</b> do Mathematics Methods. This is outside of the school's control.				



Always Worthy

# English

- **English** is the mainstream course.
- **Essential English** is an Applied (vocational pathway) subject. It qualifies students for a QCE and most Traineeships and Apprenticeships.



Always Worthy

# Rolling into Year 11

- Year 10 subjects roll into subjects in Year 11 and continue in Year 12.
- To continue into Year 11 you need to be successful in your subjects in Year 10.
- If you are not successful in Year 10 we will need to discuss alternatives to Year 11 (e.g. repeat Year 10, find a traineeship or apprenticeship, enrol at TAFE or trade college).



Always Worthy

# Subject Selection Process

1. Complete Senior Education and Training (SET) Plan.
2. Students consult with teachers and parents to discuss subject choices.
3. Log onto OneSchool and choose subjects online.
4. Print off a copy and get parents to sign in appropriate space. Add to your subject selection a second subject choice.



Always Worthy

4. Return the signed hard copy of the Subject Selection form and SET Plan on Monday 11 September.

**\*\* Forms will be collected on Parade Monday 11 September at 9.15 am.**  
Forms returned on time will be processed first and will be given priority in subject selections.



Always Worthy

# SET Plan Interviews

On Monday 4 September parents and students are able to attend interviews with staff to check students Senior Education and Training (SET) Plan and subject selections.

Interviews will go for 15 minutes with students coming out of class for that period of time.

Bookings can be made through the online booking system.