



ACCELERATION PROCESS

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Authorised by: **Principal**

Tabled and noted at School Council:
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Rationale:

The Purpose of this process is to provide explicit information to Horsham College students, families and broader community about the eligibility and retention requirements of undertaking a VCE Unit 1-2 sequence in a year prior to the student's nominal Year 11 Year and/or a VCE Unit 3-4 sequence in a year prior to the student's nominal Year 12 year.

Objective:

The process seeks to clarify and streamline the processes surrounding students applying to accelerate their study program and ensure that students are personally and academically suited to accelerated study. Furthermore, to ensure students are selecting appropriate subjects for acceleration, students and families understand the commitment expected of accelerating a VCE sequence, and the understanding that participation is subject to ongoing review.

Scope:

Year 8 students applying to study a VCE 1-2 sequence in Year 9
Year 9 students applying to study a VCE 3-4 sequence in Year 10
Year 9 students applying to study a VCE 1-2 sequence in Year 10
Year 10 students applying to study a VCE 3-4 sequence in Year 11

Definitions:

VCE Sequence: a subject that is studied in both Semester 1 and 2.

VCE 1-2 Sequence: A subject that is normally taken in the first year of the VCE (Year 11)

VCE 3-4 Sequence: A subject that is normally taken in the second year of the VCE (Year 12) and may be used in the calculation of the Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR)

Related Processes/Documents/Policies:

- Horsham College Subject Selection Process
- Transition processes
- Interim and End of Semester Reporting Policy
- Academic Expectations Policy

Process Overview:

Students who wish to accelerate a VCE subject will be required to submit an application to Horsham College. They will need to demonstrate or provide evidence of their previous attitude, behaviour and academic standard, their commitment to maintaining a high academic standard in their accelerated study, and their acceptance of other curriculum requirements specific at each year level that may impact on the availability of subjects, including electives. Students can only accelerate in a maximum 1 VCE subject (Unit 1-2 only) in Year 9, and a maximum of 2 VCE subjects (Unit 1-2 or Unit 3-4) from Year 10. The approval process will be undertaken by the Sub-committee designated by the Principal.

Eligibility Criteria:

TWO-YEAR ACCELERATION

Year 8 students applying to study a VCE 1-2 sequence in Year 9 will need to submit an application prior to the Term 3 deadline and meet the following requirements:

1. The most recent Interim Report shows mostly *'Always.'*
2. Attendance of 90% in the previous 18 months.
3. Consistent results of 80% or above in the subject most relevant to the desired accelerated subject and English and endorsement of teachers of both of these subjects.
4. Commit to continuing in a LOTE in Year 9 (SEALP students only).
5. Understand that not all VCE subjects block against the Year 9 Program and may not therefore be available (where possible, consider backup preferences).
6. Undertake to complete a minimum of four hours of study per week for their VCE subject.
7. Commit to maintain grades of a minimum 70% or above the average in the VCE subject in order to maintain their place in the program.
8. Agree to attend their normal Year 9 classes on Year 11 Study Days.
9. Understand that there is no entitlement to study periods.
10. Understand that their participation may be reviewed at any time. This may be triggered by any attendance, behaviour or academic concerns.
11. Agree that the application will be reviewed by a sub-committee.
12. Understand that a VCE sequence takes the place of two out of five Year 9 electives and may therefore reduce the availability of elective subjects, particularly for SEALP students, for whom a language is compulsory for the entirety of Year 9.

Year 9 students applying to study a VCE 3-4 sequence in Year 10 will need to submit an application prior to the Term 3 deadline and meet the following requirements:

1. The most recent Interim Report shows mostly *'Always.'*
2. Attendance of 90% in the previous 18 months.
3. Consistent results of 75% or above in the 1-2 sequence of that that subject in the previous year and endorsement from the teacher of that subject.
4. Agree that they will undertake a full study program, and that they are not eligible for study periods.
5. Undertake to complete a minimum of four hours of study per week for their VCE subject.
6. Commit to maintaining grades of a minimum 70% or above the class average in the VCE subject in order to maintain their place in the program.
7. Understand that their participation may be reviewed at any time. This may be triggered by attendance, behaviour or academic concerns.

8. Agree that the application must be approved by the Year Level Coordinator and relevant subject teacher.
9. Agree that a VCE subject might clash with Year 10 subjects and that the student will have to make a choice. Horsham College will not undertake to change timetable blockings to accommodate acceleration students.

ONE-YEAR ACCELERATION

Year 9 students applying to study a VCE 1-2 sequence in Year 10 will need to submit an application prior to the Term 3 Deadline and meet the following requirements:

1. The most recent Interim Report shows mostly '*Always.*'
2. Attendance of 90% in the previous 18 months.
3. Consistent results of 75% or above in both the subject most relevant to the desired accelerated subject and English, and the endorsement of the teachers for both of these subjects.
4. Undertake to complete a minimum of four hours of study per week for their VCE subject.
5. Commit to maintain grades of a minimum 70% or above the class average in the VCE subject in order to maintain their place in the program.
6. Understand that their participation may be reviewed at any time. This may be triggered by attendance, behaviour or academic concerns.
7. Understand that there is no entitlement to study periods.
8. Agree that the application must be approved by both the Year Level Coordinator and relevant subject teacher.
9. Agree that a VCE subject might clash with Year 10 subjects and that the student will have to make a choice. Horsham College will not undertake to change timetable blockings to accommodate acceleration students.

Year 10 students applying to study a VCE 3-4 sequence in Year 11 will need to submit an application prior to the Term 3 deadline and meet the following requirements:

1. The most recent Interim Report shows mostly '*Always.*'
2. Attendance of 90% in the previous 18 months.
3. Consistent results of 75% or above in the subject most relevant to the desired accelerated subject and endorsement from their subject teacher.
4. Undertake to complete four hours of study per week for their VCE subject.
5. Commit to maintain grades of a minimum 70% or above the class average in the VCE 3-4 sequence in order to maintain their place in the program.
6. Understand that there is no entitlement to study periods.
7. Understand Yr 12 classes take priority over Yr 11 study days and commit to attending classes on these classes unless I have an exemption for VET.
8. Understand that their participation may be reviewed at any time. This may be triggered by attendance, behaviour or academic concerns.
9. Agree that the application must be approved by both the Year Level Coordinator and relevant subject teacher.
10. If a scaled score of 33 and over is achieved in a VCE 3-4 Sequence, students can be eligible for spare periods.

Sub-Committee:

Two-Year Acceleration

- Relevant Leading Teacher
- Relevant Assistant Principal
- Careers Team Representative
- Chaired by Principal or Delegate

One-Year Acceleration

- Relevant Leading Teacher
- Relevant Assistant Principal
- Careers Team Representative
- Chaired by Principal or Delegate

Review Committee

- Relevant Year Level Coordinator
- Relevant Leading Teacher
- Relevant Assistant Principal
- Chaired by Principal or Delegate

Removal from VCE Class:

Participation in the VCE class can be reviewed at any time by the Sub-Committee for students not meeting expectations (attendance, behaviour, academic concerns) when the concerns are raised by the classroom teacher.

Prior to a student being removed from the class the following must take place:

- Communication to parent regarding the concerns by the classroom teacher
- Concerns recorded on SEQTA by the classroom teacher
- A meeting between the Assistant Principal (or delegate), the classroom teacher, the parent(s)/guardian(s) and the student to create a support plan for the student

If a student continues to not meet the expectations outlined in the process, the Review Sub-Committee will then meet to make the recommendation to withdraw the student from their VCE subject(s). The relevant Assistant Principal (or delegate) will then communicate the outcome with student and their parent(s)/guardian(s) and support the student in selecting a replacement subject.

Appeals process:

Appeals must be lodged in writing to the Principal. They will be reviewed by a sub-committee appointed by the Principal. The Principal reserves the right to be the arbiter of any appeal.

Communication of Process:

The eligibility, application processes and timeline will be communicated to the school community via the school's social media channels and newsletter.