

# Studying for the 2024 HSC

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Curriculum information  
for students and parents



**KIRRAWEE HIGH SCHOOL**  
Measure by Achievement

We acknowledge the ancestors of this land,  
the Dharawal speaking people.  
We are grateful that they cared for  
these lands, and invite all people to learn,  
flourish and achieve.



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# The 'credential' journey towards the HSC

Year 10 Record of School Achievement (RoSA)	Year 11 Record of School Achievement (RoSA)	Year 12 High School Certificate (HSC)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Replaced the School Certificate in 2012.</li><li>• The culmination of Kindergarten to Year 10.</li><li>• Students are awarded grades A-E for each subject.</li></ul> <p>Students can leave school prior to the Year 10 RoSA (and after the completion of Year 9) if they are transitioning to an apprenticeship/traineeship <u>with</u> TAFE study.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Students are awarded grades A-E for each subject.</li><li>• Achieved at the completion of 12 units in Year 11.</li></ul> <p>Students can leave school at the beginning of or during Year 11 if they have and apprenticeship/traineeship OR are enrolled at TAFE OR are working 25 hours a week or more.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Students are awarded a mark and rank.</li><li>• Achieved at the completion of 10 units in Year 12.</li></ul> <p>Students can leave school from the age of 17 with parent/carers support.</p>



# Course Information

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## UNITS

All Courses have a unit value

Most courses are 2 unit (120 hours of study)

A 2 unit course is studied 8 periods a fortnight

2 unit = 100 marks in the HSC



# Unit Requirements

## Stage 6

### Preliminary Course (Year 11)

- Minimum of 12 units
- Students must satisfactorily complete the preliminary course before they are eligible to sit the HSC

### HSC Course (Year 12)

- Minimum of 10 units



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# Pattern of subject Requirements

Both the preliminary and HSC course must include at least:

- 2 units of Compulsory English
- At least 6 units from Board developed courses
- At least 3 courses of 2 units or greater value
- At least 4 subjects

At most 7 units of Science courses can count towards the HSC



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# The minimum standard tests

All students need to demonstrate they have met a minimum standard in literacy and numeracy to be eligible for a HSC.

Students will show they meet the HSC minimum standard by passing 3 online tests of basic skills (reading, writing, numeracy), these tests will first be administered in term 3 and are available for them to sit for up to 5 years after the HSC.



# The minimum standard tests

Student can have four opportunities each year to sit the tests

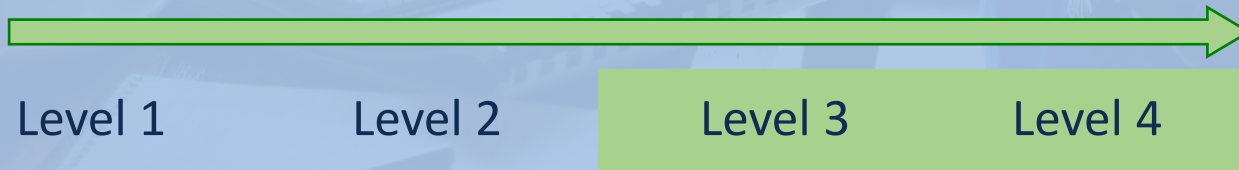
## About the tests:

Reading: 45 multiple choice computer adaptive questions (45 minutes)

Numeracy: 45 multiple choice computer adaptive questions (45 minutes)

Writing: answer one question out of a choice of two prompts (approximately 500 words)

[More information and sample questions is linked here](#)





# HSC: All My Own Work

All students need to complete the 'all my own work' program before commencing year 11. This will be administered during Year 10, Term 4 after assessments have been completed. It will be administered online & during class time.

It consists of five modules:

- Scholarship Principles and Practices
- Acknowledging Sources
- Plagiarism
- Copyright
- Working with Others

Students who have completed the program will know how to avoid malpractice. Year 11 and 12 assessments that demonstrate malpractice receive a mark of zero.



# Course Information

## Extension Courses:

- are worth 1 unit each
- build on the content from the 2 unit course
- are designated for students with a particular aptitude and talent for the corresponding 2 unit course

## Preliminary Extension Courses

- English
- Mathematics

## HSC Extension Courses

- English 1 & 2\*
- Mathematics 1 & 2\*
- Science
- History
- Music
- Languages

\*students who undertake 2 units of extension in one subject area are required to maintain > 10 units until completion of the first assessment



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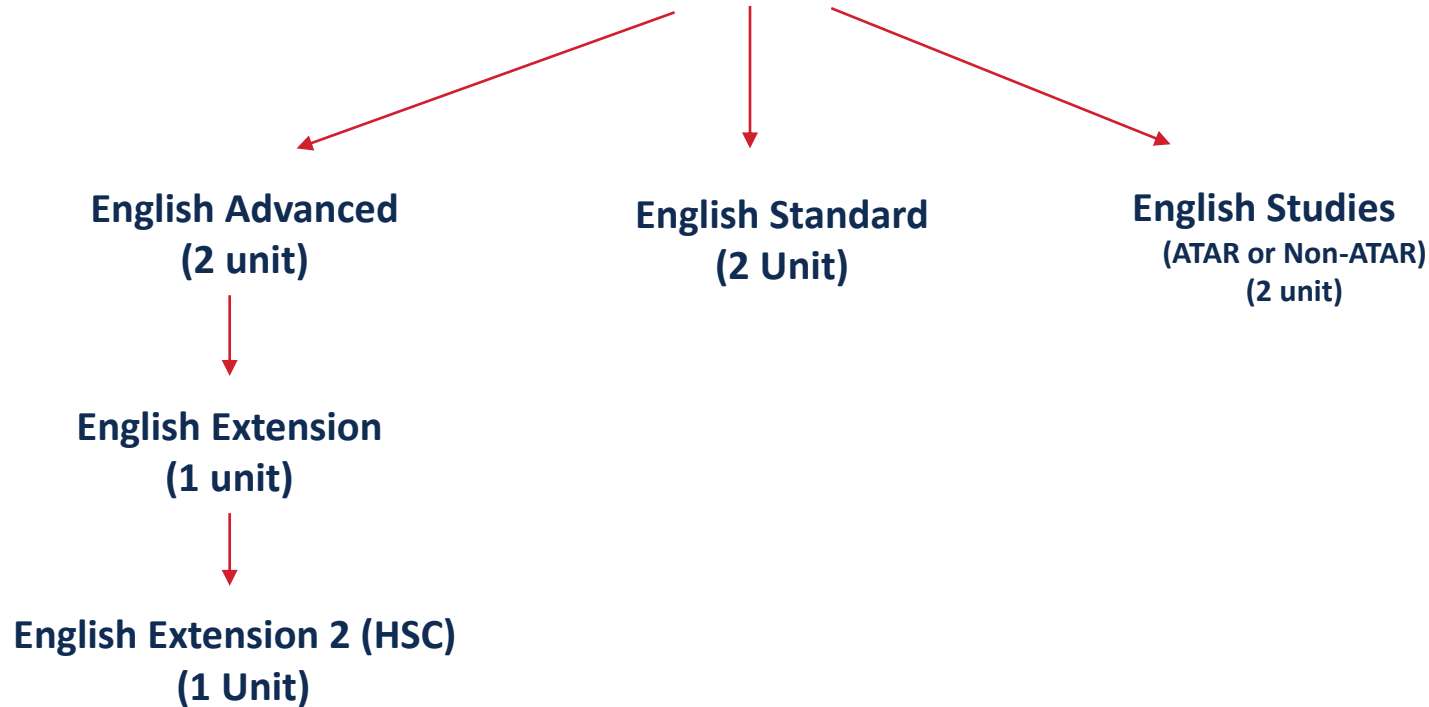
# English

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English is a compulsory subject in Preliminary (Yr 11) and the HSC (Yr 12).



# English Preliminary and HSC



# English Standard

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Over 40% of HSC students completed English Standard in 2021

Focuses on contemporary texts and ideas, and enables students to experiment with new language forms and features.

HSC modules include: Texts and Human Experiences; Language, Identity and Culture; Close Study of Literature; The Craft of Writing.



# English Advanced

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Focuses on complex literary texts.  
Challenges students to critically question  
the value of language and concepts  
across a range of contexts.

This course is for students who love  
literature and includes the study of  
**Shakespeare** on the prescribed list.

HSC modules include: Texts and Human  
Experiences; Textual Conversations;  
Critical Study of Literature; The Craft of  
Writing.





# English Studies

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Provides the opportunity for students to apply English to real-world situations.

Supports students to refine their skills and knowledge in order to feel empowered to use English beyond school.

Traditionally a non-ATAR course, but an optional HSC Examination was introduced in 2019.



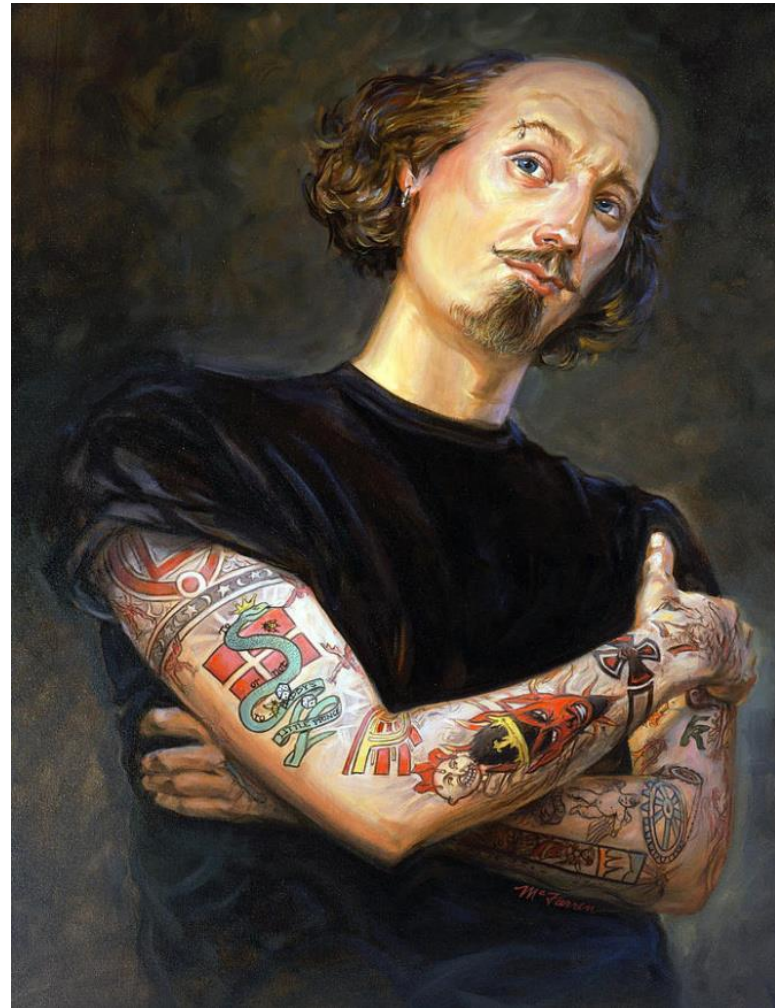
# English Extension

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**English Extension 1** enriches learning for passionate students who wish to immerse themselves in independent research, literary theory and highly complex textual concepts.

**English Extension 2** is an HSC subject that allows Extension 1 students to independently develop their own Major Work, based on a form and concept of their own choosing.

**Advanced English** is a prerequisite for all Extension subjects in Preliminary and the HSC courses.





# A Final Note...

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Because **English** is a compulsory subject for the Preliminary and HSC courses, it is important that you choose the right course for you to maximise your potential and marks

Talk to your English teacher for suggestions and guidance when making your decision.



# MATHEMATICS

Mathematics is  
not compulsory  
in Year 11

The 4 Courses:

## Numeracy Stage 6

### Mathematics Standard *(No Calculus)*

(previously called Mathematics General)

- > Standard 2 (ATAR course)
- > Standard 1 (Category B course)

### Mathematics Advanced *(Calculus Based)*

### Mathematics Extension 1 *(Calculus Based)*



# NUMEARCY COURSE

New for 2022

- New course focused on the development and consolidation of core numeracy skills
- Content endorsed course (CEC)
- Can be chosen alongside another maths course
- Does not contribute to ATAR
- Supports students to develop the core numeracy skills required to become active and successful participants in society. This course offers students the opportunity to prepare for post-school options including employment or further training.



# MATHEMATICS STANDARD 1 & 2

Approximately 60% of all HSC Mathematics students will complete the standard course.

Success in this course requires commitment and hard work.

Applied mathematics that covers a variety of contexts including:

- Financial mathematics
- Statistics
- Measurement
- Algebraic modelling



# MATHEMATICS ADVANCED

Effectively a calculus course

Requires a strong algebraic ability and a 'liking' of Maths

As a recommendation, only students in 5.3 (Advanced) Year 10 Mathematics should consider choosing this course

A prerequisite for many mathematics based university courses



# MATHEMATICS EXTENSION 1

Builds on top of the Mathematics Advanced course

Requires strong algebraic skills and a love of Maths

As a recommendation, only students at the top of 5.3 (advanced) should consider this course.

University pathways:

Advanced Science

Engineering

Actuarial Studies



# Course Recommendations

	2021 Class	Recommended Year 11 Course	
5.3	10MA531 (Mitchell)	Extension	Advanced
	10MA532 (Scott)	Advanced	Standard 2
	10MA533 (Hunt)	Advanced	Standard 2
5.2	10MA521 (Cantlon)	Standard 2	
	10MA522 (Pollock)	Standard 2	
	10MA523 (Haynes)	Standard 2	Standard 1/Numeracy /No Maths
5.1	10MA511 (Wang)	Standard 2	Standard 1/Numeracy /No Maths



# MATHEMATICS

## A Final Note

Maximum enjoyment and meaning out of senior Mathematics

Best possible HSC/ATAR result

Conversations and course selection need to be honest. Please consider:

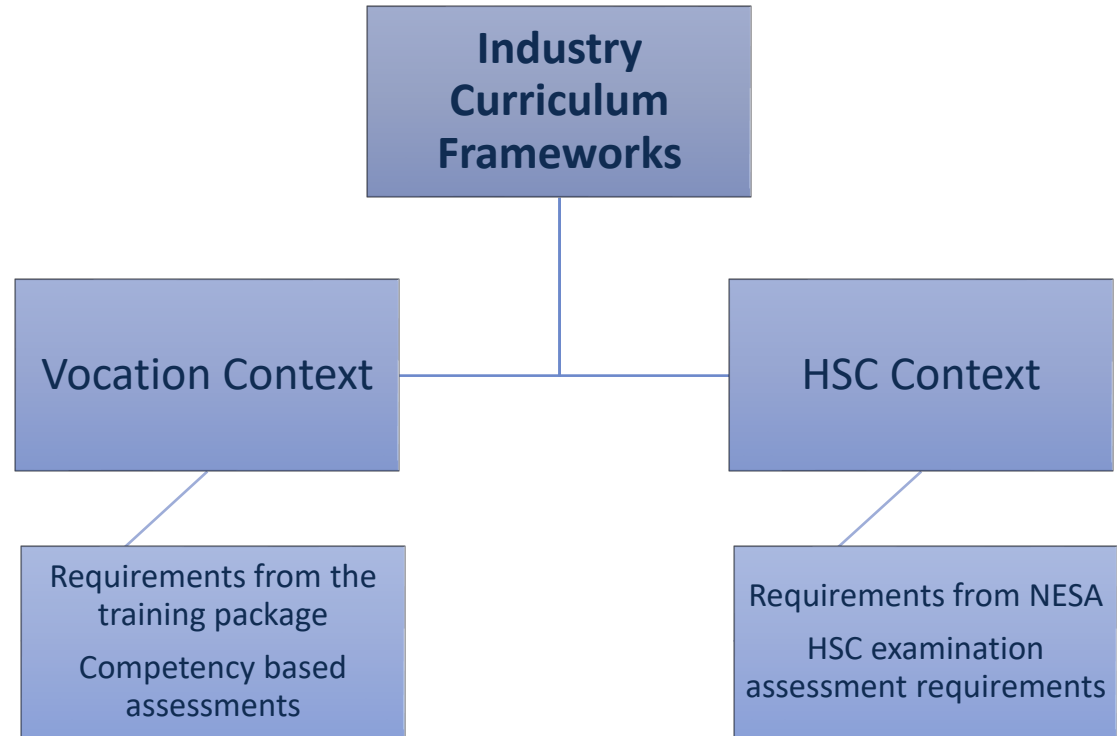
- Ability in Mathematics
- Genuine interest in Mathematics
- Commitment and affect on other subjects
- Future goals





# VET in the HSC

Vocational  
Education  
and Training



- VET lets you complete a workplace credential while still at school.
- Qualifications are recognized Australia-wide (AQF – Australian Qualifications framework).



# Curriculum Frameworks

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Vocational  
Education  
and Training

- Construction (KHS)
- Hospitality (KHS)
- Business Services (KHS)
- Entertainment Industries (KHS)
- Metal and Engineering
- Accounting
- Tourism and Events
- Automotive
- Electro technology
- Retail Services

Students are required to complete 35 hours of mandatory work placement per 120 hours of coursework



# Considerations for courses

You need to make an informed decision

## **Ability:**

Choose what you are capable of doing well.

## **Interest/motivation:**

Choose subjects that interest you and you are motivated to learn.

## **Career:**

Keep in mind future career paths, but be realistic about your choices.

This is the first step towards your future pathway, not your final step.

[The UAC \(Universities Admission Centre\) information for Year 10 students](#)



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# Practical Considerations

## **Assessment requirements:**

What does the assessment requirements for the course involve? (Major works, essays)

## **Subject combinations:**

Do the subjects compliment each other?

What style of learning are you suited to?

Students who receive a good ATAR do well in all their subjects.

Does your selection work to your strengths and assist you in achieving your goals?



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# Course Completion

## **Students must:**

- Follow the course.
- Apply themselves with diligence and sustained effort to the set tasks and experiences that the school provides in the course.
- Achieve some or all of the outcomes.

## **Assessment Tasks:**

There is a maximum of THREE formal tasks in the preliminary course and FOUR formal tasks in the HSC course.



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# Course Completion

## **Non-award determinations:**

N-Determinations are issued for non-completion of a course. This attributes back to reasons on the previous slide.

Class Teachers issue N-warning letters to students who are in danger of not meeting course completion criteria.

The letters inform students and parents of issues with course completion and provide information on what needs to be completed.

Two or more warning letters in a course can result in an N-Determination.



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# Course Completion

## Additional requirements

### Students must:

- Complete HSC assessment tasks that contribute in excess of 50 per cent of available marks.
- sit for and make a genuine attempt at the Higher School Certificate examination for the course.



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# Illness/Misadventure

## Year 10, 11 & 12:

If an unforeseen illness or misadventure stops you from attending or significantly affects your performance in assessments.

The application needs to be substantiated with independent evidence (e.g. medical certificate, police report etc).

The student is to make arrangements with their teacher to complete the task.

Always attend assessments if you can, even if you have an illness or misadventure application.

More information is on the school website under the 'senior students' tab.



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# Illness/Misadventure

These applications do not cover:

- difficulty preparing or lost preparation time.
- alleged deficiencies in teaching.
- misreading exam timetables/instructions.
- long-term illness unless you can show it recurred suddenly and unexpectedly during the assessment period.
- conditions for which you should have applied or have been granted disability provisions, unless you have further difficulties.
- attending sporting or cultural events.
- Organisational issues/technology failure.



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## HSC

- Highest secondary school credential.
- Report student achievement in terms of standards achieved in individual courses – each course receives a mark.
- Presents a profile of student achievement across a range of subjects.

### Qualifications:

- Successfully complete a minimum of 12 units in Preliminary and 10 units in HSC.
- Sit for and make a serious attempt in HSC exams.
- Complete 'All my own work' program.
- Complete 'Life Ready' course.
- Achieve a level 3 or above in the three HSC minimum standards tests.

## ATAR

- For students wishing to gain entry to University after High School.
- It is a rank, not a mark.
- Provides information about how students perform overall, compared to the rest of the state.
- Provides the discrimination required by universities for the selection process.
- Calculated from the ten best units (including 2 units of English).

### Qualifications:

- Must complete 10 units of Board Developed Courses.
- Must have  $\geq 8$  units of category A subjects.
- At least four subjects.
- At least three courses of 2 units or greater value.



# Subjects offered at KHS

## BDC Category A

- Ancient History
- Biology
- Business Studies
- Chemistry
- Community & Family Studies
- Dance
- Design and Technology
- Drama
- Earth & Environmental Science
- Economics
- Engineering Studies
- English Advanced or Standard
- Food Technology
- French Courses
- Geography
- Industrial Technology
- Information Processes and Technology
- Investigating Science
- Japanese Courses
- Legal Studies
- Mathematics Advanced or Standard 2
- Modern History
- Music 1 or 2
- PDHPE
- Physics
- Society and Culture
- Software Design and Development
- Textiles and Design
- Visual Arts
- Extension Courses (1 unit each)

## BDC Category B

- English Studies
- Mathematics Standard 1
- Business Services (VET)
- Construction (VET)
- Entertainment Industry (VET)
- Hospitality (VET)

## CEC Courses

- Creative Arts (Ceramics and Visual Design)
- Exploring Early Childhood
- Numeracy
- Photography, Video and Digital Imaging
- Sport, Lifestyle and Recreation Studies



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### HSC Qualifications for subjects:

Minimum units: 12 (Preliminary), 10 (HSC)

At least 2 units of English

At least 6 units from Board Developed Courses

At least 3 courses of two unit or greater value

At least 4 subjects

### ATAR Qualifications:

Must complete 10 units of Board Developed Courses (Category A and/or B)








Must have  $\geq 8$  units of category A subjects.

If completing 2 units of category B, the student must elect to sit the HSC Examination

# Scaling Myths from the

UAC

UNIVERSITIES  
ADMISSIONS  
CENTRE.

Myth	Fact
 <p>Some courses are always 'scaled up', therefore I should study those.</p> <p>-----</p>  <p>Some courses are always 'scaled down', therefore I should avoid those.</p>	 <p>The way a course is scaled depends entirely on the average academic performance of all the students doing that course that year – and it can change from year to year. For most courses, your scaled mark will be lower than your HSC mark. To get the best possible position and maximise your scaled marks, select the courses you'll do best in.</p>
 <p>I need to study 'hard' subjects to get high scaled marks.</p>	 <p>'Hard' is a subjective term. Everyone has different strengths and interests. Students who achieve an ATAR of 99.95 study a large variety of subjects.</p>
 <p>I should study Mathematics Standard 2 rather than Mathematics Advanced to get a better ATAR.</p>	 <p>It's very difficult to predict which course will lead to a higher scaled mark. Your scaled mark depends on the average academic ability of the students studying that course and your position in the course. When considering which maths course to study, remember that some university courses have prerequisites or assumed knowledge of Mathematics Advanced. It's important to choose the level of maths that best suits your plans for further study.</p>

## NOTE

Some courses offered in the curriculum information booklet may not run because of insufficient student numbers and/or resource constraints.



# Subject selection is online

On Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> July all Year 10 students will be sent an email to their school email address.

The email will contain a link and unique booking code to enter subjects online.

This portal closes on Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> July.

The screenshot shows the 'Kirrawee High School Student Portal' interface. At the top, it says 'Year : 2017' and 'Print Page (Print student Y17S)'. Below the header, there's a 'Show Forms' button. The main content area is titled 'Kirrawee High School Subject Selection Year 10 (2016 to Year 11 2017)' and includes instructions: 'Students are to select 12 units minimum English plus 10 units as a pattern of study. This may be made up of 3 x 2 unit subjects or 4 x 2 unit subjects and 2 x 1 unit subjects. These reserve subjects must be included in case first choices are unavailable. Subjects should be nominated in priority order.'

Main Units	Subject	Units
English		0
Choice 1		0
Choice 2		0
Choice 3		0
Choice 4		0
Choice 5		0
Reserve 1		0
Reserve 2		0
Reserve 3		0
1 Unit Subjects		0
1 Unit Subjects		0
Main Units:		0

At the bottom left, there is an 'edval' logo. At the bottom right, there are 'Rules reminder' and 'Submit' buttons.



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# Subject selection

Students will need to:

1. Select the level of English
2. Select their subject choices in priority order from the drop down boxes in each choice.
3. Select 3 Reserve subjects

A minimum of twelve units need to be chosen, plus 3 Reserve subjects. Your Total units (18+) will be displayed.

**Print a confirmation of your subject selections and have it signed by a Parent/Carer.**

**The form is to be submitted to the School Admin Office by Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> August.**



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# Personal Profile

## for Year 11 students

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_



1. What are my goals/aspirations over the next two years?

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2. What subjects have I done well in this year? Why?

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3. What were the positive comments and results on my Year 10 Semester 1 report?

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4. Were there any suggestions about how to improve? What were they?

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5. Describe any special achievements that I need to express at my interview.

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6. What contributions have I made to the wider life of school in Years 7-10?

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7. What kind of attitudes, behaviours and practices do I need to leave behind from Years 7-10?

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8. What areas do I really need to work on to make Year 11 and 12 fulfilling and successful?

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9. What are my priorities for the next two years?

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# Where to from here?

1. Explore your subject interests and personal strengths.
2. Reports will be issued via the parent portal by Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July,
3. Parent Teacher Night will be on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July.
4. The subject selection portal will open on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July and close on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> July.

Prospective enrolments please see Mrs Blanch  
(HT Administration) at the front of the hall



# Staff for advice:

- Class Teacher (student capabilities for specific subjects)
- Head Teachers & course coordinators (information about specific subjects)
- Careers adviser (Post-school intentions, Uni pre-requisites, TAFE, pattern of study)
- Deputy Principal (pattern of study)

**Subject specialists are in the library to answer your questions.**

