

## Section 3 - VET or TVET (TAFE) Courses

Vocational Education and Training (VET) Courses are an exciting opportunity for students to combine their HSC studies with an Australian Training Quality Framework (ATQF) certification in such trades areas as Electrotechnology, Auto Mechanics and Constructions as well as Maritime, Design and Tourism. Many VET courses are available through TAFE although there are other external organisations that also run them. VET courses are for students who are aiming to continue in a career post school and are aimed at students who have demonstrated a genuine interest a course area. Students should not choose the courses simply to determine if they are interested in that career.

Most TAFE courses equate to 2 units of study and can contribute to the mandatory 12 units in Year 11 and 10 units in Year 12. The completion of a VET course during your HSC does NOT guarantee a TAFE certification. Further study may be required. Courses that run for only one year normally do not see full accreditation granted.

Some VET courses can lead to an ATAR. These courses require you to complete an HSC examination. The assessment for these subjects is based solely on the HSC examination. The mark for the examination constitutes 100% of the course mark which leads to the ATAR. Please note that not all VET courses allow students to gain an ATAR. Please see the Director of Curriculum or the Careers Advisor for details on such courses.

Attendance at TAFE or another institution usually requires students to leave Inaburra early, at approximately 12:30 pm, or maybe earlier depending on the location of the Campus. Students will therefore miss their afternoon classes. VET classes usually finish around 5:30 pm so students need to take into consideration that they will be returning home much later than this. Students are responsible for catching up any missed work from other courses at school. Some VET courses are run on Saturdays whilst others are run as blocks in School Holidays. Please see the Careers Advisor for information on when particular courses are run.

Many VET courses include 35 hours mandatory work placement per year. This usually results in missing school time. Students are responsible for catching up missed work and negotiating absence from school and assessment tasks.

Students attending VET courses must do the following in order to be allowed to study these:

- Keep up with school classes missed because of attendance at VET courses. Perhaps a friend can take notes for you.
- Sign out at school BEFORE leaving in the Senior School Office with the Student Services Secretary.
- Provide proof of illness to your VET provider, as well as Inaburra, in the event of absence.
- Attend VET during school examination periods - unless an examination occurs during VET class time - or school holidays and take individual responsibility for this.
- Term time for VET courses can be different to Inaburra term time and thus attendance at TAFE even when on a school break is expected.
- Please note: Non-attendance at TAFE could lead to you not completing the course and consequently putting your completion of Year 11 or Year 12 in jeopardy. A student must be committed to doing their VET subject throughout the duration of the course.

Parents should note that students attending VET courses who are enrolled in independent schools like Inaburra are required to pay **additional fees** that range from **\$750 to \$4500 per year**.

Students should discuss the options available to them for VET courses with the Careers Advisor as soon as possible as there is little flexibility with the application process.

As VET course places cannot be guaranteed, students will be allocated standard subject options until confirmation of the VET course is provided by the TAFE or College. Once students have attended their first week of TAFE (usually around Week 3 of Term 1) then they can look at amending their subject range at Inaburra.

Please note, once enrolled into a course, the fees for VET courses cannot be refunded, even if a student withdraws from the subject.

If you are interested in pursuing a VET course, then please discuss this with the Careers Advisor.

#### How to Apply for VET Courses

**Step 1.** Discuss course options with the Careers Advisor.

**Step 2.** Read the course description and discuss ATAR implications with the Careers Advisor and Director of Curriculum.

**Step 3.** Collect the relevant application forms from the Careers Advisor and complete.

**Step 4.** Hand the application form into the Careers Advisor before the closing date, as advised by the Careers Advisor (most likely **Monday 9 August 2021**).

**Step 5:** Once an offer of course place is received by Inaburra, a Letter of Acceptance and Parent Letter with fee permission response slip will be provided to the student and parents for signing off (usually December).

**Step 6:** Inaburra then accepts the course place once both letters in step 5 have been returned to the Careers Advisor. After this point the course is billable and must be paid for whether the student attends or not.

**Step 7:** VET courses usually begin around Week 3 of Term 1.

For more information on VET courses visit the NESA website at:

<http://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/11-12/stage-6-learning-areas/vet>