

Chatswood High School

CLASS OF 2023

Stage 6 Information

Evening

2021

What are the requirements?

To qualify for the **Higher School Certificate** students must satisfactorily complete **22 units**.

- ▶ Preliminary (Year 11) a minimum of 12 units and
- ▶ HSC (Year 12) a minimum of 10 units.

- ▶ Note: You need to complete a preliminary course before you can proceed to the HSC course. That means that if you want to pick up Biology in year 12, you won't be able to if you haven't done it in year 11.

Minimum Standards and All My Own Work

- ▶ Students sit **Minimum Standards** literacy and numeracy tests and have an opportunity meet the standards up to five years from starting their preliminary courses.

Note: The above does not apply to students who are completing a program that only includes Life Skill courses.

- ▶ **The All My Own Work program**

5 modules about principles and practices of good scholarship. Informs students about the consequences of cheating and understand best practice.

Students need to complete the All My Own Work program before they submit any work for Preliminary (Year 11) or HSC (Year 12) courses.

Note: The above does not apply to students who are completing a program that only includes Life Skill courses.

What do I need?

Your pattern of study must include:

- ▶ at least **six units** from Board Developed Courses;
- ▶ at least **two units** of **English**;
- ▶ at **least three courses** of two or more units (either Board Developed or Board Endorsed Courses);
- ▶ at least **four subjects**.

Courses and Subjects

What's the difference between a course and a subject?

A **SUBJECT** is the name given to an area of study. For example English or Mathematics.

A **COURSE** is a branch of study within a subject. For example Standard English, Advanced English, EALD, English Studies, Advanced Mathematics, Standard Mathematics.

Board Developed/Endorsed Courses

- ▶ A Board Developed course is one which will count towards your HSC **AND** may be included for ATAR calculation.

Eg; English, Mathematics, English extension 1 or 2, Music Extension and History Extension, Mathematics Standard 1 (category B – HSC exam), English Studies (category B – HSC exam).

- ▶ HSC Extension courses are one unit courses and allow more rigorous, in-depth study in certain subjects.

- ▶ A Board Endorsed course is one which will count towards your HSC **BUT cannot** be included for ATAR calculation.
Eg; Numeracy and SLR (Sports, Leisure and Recreation).

What is 'a unit'? What's it worth?

- ▶ All courses have a unit value and each unit involves class time of about two hours per week (60 hours per year).
- ▶ Most Preliminary and HSC courses are of **2 units** value.
- ▶ In the HSC each unit has a value of 50 marks, so a two unit course has a value of 100 marks.

Choosing HSC Courses

It's important to consider;

- ▶ your interests and values.
- ▶ courses for which you have an aptitude.
- ▶ courses that will give you a level of understanding and foundation to succeed in tertiary studies.
- ▶ Don't choose courses because of a perceived ATAR or scaling as this could set you up for failure.

What subjects do I need?

- ✓ **English** – everyone **MUST** do it to be eligible for the HSC.

Unless a tertiary institution states a specific English course, any 2 unit HSC English course is acceptable.

This includes Advanced, Standard, EALD English and English Studies (Category B).



Examples of patterns of study:

Emily's Preliminary Pattern of Study

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|
| ▶ English Advanced | 2 units |
| ▶ Mathematics Standard | 2 units |
| ▶ Biology | 2 units |
| ▶ Financial Services (Category B) | 2 units |
| ▶ Visual Arts | 2 units |
| ▶ Software Design Development | 2 units |

Emily's Pattern HSC Pattern of Study

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|
| ▶ English Advanced | 2 units |
| ▶ Mathematics Standard 2 | 2 units |
| ▶ Financial Services (Category B) | 2 units |
| ▶ Visual Arts | 2 units |
| ▶ Software Design Development | 2 units |



Examples of patterns of study:

Nick's pattern Preliminary Pattern of Study

▶ English Advanced	2 units
▶ Mathematics Advanced	2 units
▶ Chemistry	2 units
▶ Ancient History	2 units
▶ Legal Studies	2 units
▶ Drama	2 units
▶ English extension 1	1 unit

Nick's Pattern HSC Pattern of Study

▶ English Advanced	2 units
▶ Mathematics Advanced	2 units
▶ Chemistry	2 units
▶ Ancient History	2 units
▶ Legal Studies	2 units
▶ English extension 1	1 unit

Nick



Changing your mind

- You only have a small window once you start Year 11 to change from one subject to another.
- Remember – just because it is the same subject doesn't mean it's the same course. For example Standard Maths and Advanced Maths are different courses.
- Check with your teachers for advice before you decide.

Who do I ask?

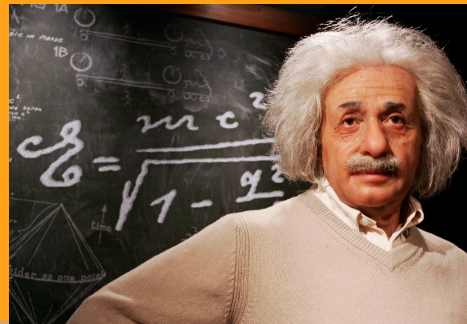


- ▶ **Your Teachers** know what you are capable of and can tell you what is required to successfully undertake this course in Year 11 and 12.
- ▶ **Family** have known you the longest and can give you a reality check.
- ▶ **Your Careers Adviser** can give you advice on what you will need to pursue certain careers.



Words of Wisdom!

- Do your homework when it comes to exploring and deciding on what courses to choose.
- It will be much easier if you don't leave all the hard work until Year 12.
- Not everybody has to go to university.
- Get really good advice before you drop to 10 units in Year 12.



TVET

- Students can start a TAFE NSW course whilst still at school.
- Courses are for Year 11 and/or Year 12 students.
- All courses count toward HSC NESA units and some also count toward an ATAR.
- Courses are taught at TAFE NSW campuses by specialist teachers.
- Students can gain practical, work-ready skills.
- It can be an excellent pathway to a worthwhile career.

and more...

- Most courses run on Tuesday afternoons.
- Industry Curriculum Framework Courses include mandatory work placement organised by TAFE NSW.
- Students can spend time with other like minded students with similar interests.
- Study in an adult learning environment.
- Students apply through their school Careers Advisor/ EVET Coordinator.

Framework vs Non-Framework Courses

There are two types of TVET courses:

Industry Curriculum Framework courses (Board developed)

Some count towards a student's ATAR.

Includes compulsory work placement.

Students must be prepared by TAFE NSW for the HSC examination if one is offered for their particular course.

Non Framework courses (Board endorsed)

Does not count towards a student's ATAR but counts towards the HSC.

May or may not include compulsory work placement.

Does not include an HSC examination.

Some TVET Courses

- Financial Services
- Business Services
- Children's Services
- Construction
- Electrotechnology
- Hospitality
- Plumbing
- Retail Makeup and Skincare
- Information and Digital Technology
- Horticulture
- Design Fundamentals
- Entertainment
- Human Services
- Sport and Recreation
- Tourism and Events



The ATAR

HSC vs ATAR

- ▶ **Performance vs Position.**
- ▶ HSC marks are about a student's **performance**.
- ▶ ATAR is about a student's **position** against all other students in NSW.

What is the ATAR?

The **Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR)** is...

- ▶ A numerical measure of a student's overall academic achievement in the HSC in relation to that of other students.
- ▶ A number between 0.00 and 99.95 (only ATARs above 30.00 are reported).
- ▶ Intended for use by universities to rank and select school leavers for admission to university.

ATAR Eligibility

- ▶ To get an **ATAR** you need at least **10 units** of Board Developed courses in year 12 – these are HSC courses that are examined by the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA).
- ▶ Your teachers will tell you which courses will count.
- ▶ Your ATAR is based on your **best** two units of **English** and the best **eight** units from your remaining courses. NOTE: Only 2 units of a Category B Course can be counted for the ATAR calculation and you must sit its HSC exam.

What do tertiary institutions mean by...

Pre-requisite?

Means you must have done that subject for the HSC otherwise you will not be offered a place in the course.

Assumed knowledge?

Means they assume you have done that subject for the HSC and you can still be offered a place in the course.

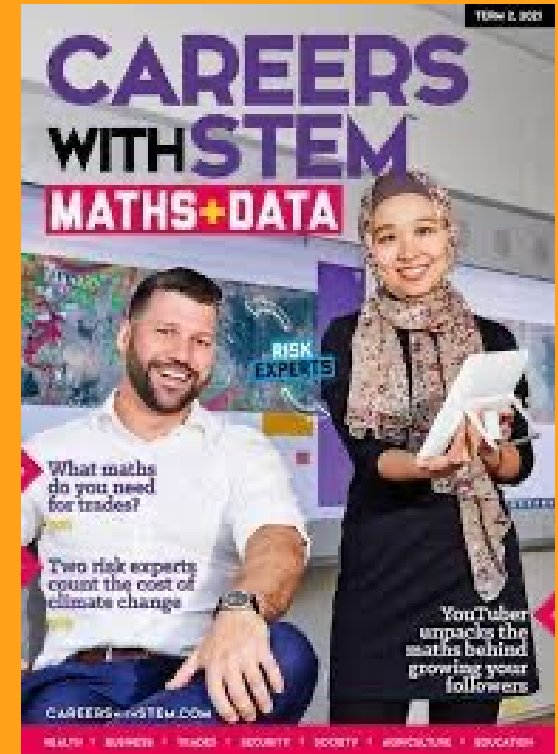
Recommended studies?

HSC or equivalent courses that will help you in your chosen university course. If you have not studied these HSC courses, your chances of selection are not affected.

What do Tertiary Institutions mean when they say...

If a university course says “Mathematics” they mean at least **2 unit (Advanced) Maths.**
(no Standard Maths)

If a university course says “any 2 Units of Mathematics” you can include **Standard Maths.**



Facts about the ATAR

- You can get a good ATAR with any course you take even VET courses.
- The ATAR is only a RANK used for university entry.
- Average marks for the majority of courses are above 75.
- The ATAR is a rank that shows your overall academic ability amongst all other students in the state.

How do I get a high ATAR?

- ▶ Choose your courses well! Interest and ability!
- ▶ Don't stress! You can only control your **Performance**. You can't control your **Position**. Just try to do your PB!
- ▶ Work hard and get the best rank you can in the subjects you have chosen.

Meet Fred & Laura

2019 – Median ATAR 70.15		FRED		LAURA	
Course	Median Mark	HSC mark	Percentile	HSC mark	Percentile
Biology	74	70	40	80	72
Business Studies	74	70	40	80	67
English Advanced	82	70	6	80	42
Mathematics Advanced	80	70	21	80	50
Modern History	76	70	36	80	65
Visual Arts	83	70	12	80	39
ATAR		58.00		78.00	

UAC

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_NNx5NVFPQk

Scaling

► What?

It's the first step in the calculation of the ATAR.

► How?

Creates level playing field by removing differences between courses.

► Why?

No student is advantaged or disadvantaged because of their subject choice.

Scaling Truths

- ▶ Based on the academic ability of students within each course.
- ▶ **Scaled mean** of a course indicates the **strength of the competition**.
- ▶ High/low scaled mean \neq a high/low ATAR.
- ▶ Course is irrelevant. Just about any combination of courses can lead to a high ATAR: just try to do as well as you possibly can!

REMEMBER:

the ATAR is about POSITION

In Summary

- **Interest + Achievement + Commitment** are factors that lead to **SUCCESS**. So get curious about your learning and how to learn deeply. Give of your best, seek help when needed and help others. Importantly; stick at it.
- The path to a destination isn't always straight. Life can throw us curve balls and put obstacles in our way. Find another way around. The ATAR is just a number and one way of getting somewhere. **YOU** are more than a number.
- Wealth of information on our school careers website:
<https://chatswoodhscareers.com>
- In Careers Education lessons we have gone through the UAC Year 10 Booklet and students have been working on the lesson around Year 11 and 12 Course Selection from our careers website.



Best Wishes from CHS Staff

