

Albany Senior High School



Year 11 and 12 Pathway Information Booklet 2024

Table of Contents

Foreword	3
Introduction	4
Sources of Information	5
WACE Essential information	6
WACE Requirements for 2024	10
University Entrance: ATAR Pathway	12
University Entrance: Alternative Pathways	14
Vocational Education and Training	16
Course Selection	19

Foreword

Dear parents,

The transition from Year 10 into Year 11 is a significant milestone in your child's secondary education, marking the beginning of a new chapter filled with exciting possibilities, personal growth, and academic exploration.

This booklet has been carefully crafted to equip you, as parents, with the necessary tools to navigate and understand the opportunities that await your child in Year 11 and beyond. Within these pages, you will discover valuable information about the Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE) and its requirements. Additionally, you'll find a wide range of pathways available to students during their senior school years, each offering unique subjects and areas of study tailored to your child's interests and goals.

Whether your child aspires to pursue tertiary education, enter the workforce, or explore vocational training, this resource will assist you in comprehending their options and making informed decisions about their future.

As you explore the possibilities and choices outlined in this booklet, we encourage you to engage in open conversations with your child, their school counsellors, and teachers. By working together, we can ensure that they make the most suitable decisions for their future success.

We wish you and your child all the best as you navigate the exciting opportunities and challenges that lie ahead.

Sincerely, Mr J. Ritchie



Principal

Albany Senior High School



Introduction

This booklet has been developed for parents and students to help them choose courses for their intended year 11 and 12 pathways.

Parents may be aware of the recent changes in Senior School, particularly in the Year 11 and 12 programs. These changes have brought about increased vocational pathways, a broader range of courses that contribute to university entrance, as well as alternative pathways for university admission.

While every effort has been made to ensure that the information in this booklet is current and correct, it is up to the student, in consultation with parents, to ensure that the entry requirements for Technical and Further Education (TAFE) are met. University information is available through the Tertiary Information Service Centre (TISC) website. The School Curriculum and Standards Authority website offers information on course content and other relevant details. The TAFE website will also offer information on courses available.

Selecting Courses

Meeting the requirements for the WACE or for entrance to a TAFE or a University depends largely on a student's ambitions and abilities. There are many factors to be considered when choosing courses. Even if you have not yet decided on a career area it is important to look at a number of possibilities and check prerequisites so that you do not restrict future options.

When choosing a program of study, consider

- Abilities
- Future goals
- Interests
- Mental/Emotional resilience

Abilities

It is important to check the recommended levels for different courses to ensure that you select a course that is best suited to you. Your Year 10 achievement is the best indicator. Your teachers' recommendations are also an important part of the senior school course selection process.

Future Goals

You must ensure that courses chosen meet criteria for future employment or study. If your career goals are not clear, select a course that offers flexibility, interest and a realistic chance of success.

Interests

Choose courses that you enjoy, as you will spend a considerable amount of time studying them in Years 11 and 12

Mental/Emotional resilience

Students who choose an ATAR pathway are taking on a significant workload. It is important that you reflect on your capacity to manage your mental/emotional well-being and navigate periods of pressure.

Sources of Information

School Process

Information Source

Career/Choice

- Jobs and Skills Centres
- Websites
- www.myfuture.edu.au



University options
TAFE/VET options

Course Guides

- Universities
- TAFE

Websites

- TAFE
- Universities
- SCSA
- TISC

Councillors

- School
- University



Prerequisites

i.e: recommended senior school
courses for tertiary study



Prerequisites year 10 grades
recommended for entry to select senior
school courses

Year 11/12 Handbook

Recommendations

Course information
Careers practitioner
Associate Principal

WACE essential information

School Curriculum and Standards Authority (SCSA)

This body sets requirements for achievement of the WACE and issues students with a statement of results. For more information refer to www.scsa.wa.edu.au.

TAFE Colleges

For more information on TAFE please refer to page 15 of this handbook.

Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE)

This certificate is awarded to secondary school students who satisfy its requirements (see page 8 of this handbook). The WACE is recognised by universities, industry, TAFE and other training providers.

Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR)

The ATAR is a number between 0.00 and 99.95 that reports the rank position of a student relevant to all other Year 12 leaving age students in Australia. That is, an ATAR of 70.00 means you have performed better than 70% of all Year 12 school leaving age people in Australia.

Tertiary Institutions in Western Australia

University of Western Australia, Murdoch University, Curtin University, Edith Cowan University, University of Notre Dame.

University Admission

Achievement of the WACE is a mandatory requirement by all universities. The normal pathway for University admission is based on the student's ATAR, competence in English and in some cases the meeting of prerequisite courses. For more information refer to www.tisc.edu.au.

Tertiary Institutions Service Centre (TISC)

100 Royal Street

EAST PERTH WA 6004

9318 8000

Phone-line times 9:00am – 4:30pm (Mon-Fri) Counter times 9:00am – 4:00pm

Email: info@tisc.edu.au

Vocational Education and Training (VET) Programs

The Australian VET system is a nationally agreed system for recognising qualifications that can only be delivered through a Registered Training Organisation (RTO). The qualifications gained are recognised by employers and industries across Australia, contribute towards a WACE and lead to further study at TAFE or university.

In addition to on campus (face-to-face) courses, students at Albany Senior High School can also access one day-per-week TAFE courses and/or other online courses as a part of their Senior School program.

Courses (normal school subjects)

Albany Senior High School offers a range of courses to support students pursuing WACE, ATAR and a variety of VET pathways.

- Courses are divided into two units, which will generally make up one year of study.
- Courses are divided into two broad groups - ATAR courses which are primarily used for university entrance and also contribute towards the achievement of the WACE, and
- General courses, which contribute to WACE requirements but do not contribute to an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR).
- All ATAR courses taken in Year 12 have external examinations (WACE examinations).
- General courses are wholly school assessed, with one compulsory externally set task in Term 2 of Year 12.
- Foundation based courses are available for those who need additional help in demonstrating the minimum standard of literacy and numeracy required to achieve a WACE.
- Preliminary course units are available for students who may need modification to the curriculum to meet their special needs. These units do not contribute to the achievement of the WACE.







WACE Requirements

To achieve a WACE, a student must satisfy the following:

General Requirements

- Demonstrate a minimum standard of literacy and numeracy based on the skills regarded as essential for individuals to meet the demands of everyday life and work in a knowledge-based economy. See below, Minimum Standard of Literacy and Numeracy.
- Complete a minimum of 20 units or equivalents as described below.

Breadth and Depth

Students will complete a minimum of 20 course units or the equivalent. This requirement must include at least:

- A minimum of ten Year 12 units or the equivalent
- Two completed Year 11 English units and one pair of completed Year 12 units
- One pair of Year 12 course units from each of List A (Arts/English/Language/Social Sciences) and List B (Mathematics/Science/Technology).

Achievement Standard

Students will be required to achieve a minimum of 14 C grades (or equivalents, see below) in Year 11 and Year 12 units, including at least six C grades in Year 12 units (or equivalents).

Explanatory Notes Relating to WACE Requirements:

- Unit equivalence can be obtained through VET programs and/or endorsed programs. The maximum unit equivalence available through these programs is eight units – four Year 11 and four Year 12 units. Students may obtain unit equivalence as follows:
- Up to eight unit equivalents through completion of VET programs, **or** up to four unit equivalents through completion of endorsed programs, **or** up to eight unit equivalents through a combination of VET and endorsed programs, but with endorsed programs contributing no more than four unit equivalents.

The amount of unit equivalence allocated to VET and endorsed programs is as follows:

- **Certificate I** is equivalent to two Year 11 units
- **Certificate II** is equivalent to two Year 11 and two Year 12 units
- **Certificate III** or higher is equivalent to two Year 11 and four Year 12 units.
- **Endorsed programs** – unit equivalence is identified on the School Curriculum and Standards Authority's approved list of endorsed programs.

The implication of this is that students will need to complete at least three subject courses in Year 12.

Minimum Standard of Literacy and Numeracy

Students who achieve Band 8 or above in any of the components of reading, writing or numeracy in Year 9 NAPLAN assessments will be recognised as meeting the minimum standard required for that component. Students who do not achieve Band 8 for any of the components will be required to demonstrate the minimum standard through the Online Literacy and Numeracy Assessment (OLNA).

Students that have not met the minimum standard of Literacy and Numeracy by the end of September in Year 10 will be strongly encouraged to enrol in the Foundation English and Mathematics courses respectively and remain in these courses until they have met the minimum standard.



University Entrance: ATAR Pathway

To gain entry to a particular course at Curtin University of Technology, Edith Cowan University, Murdoch University and the University of Western Australia, the requirements are:

- An Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) sufficiently high to gain a place in the particular institution, faculty or course. In a limited number of courses, the rank required varies from year to year and depends on places available in the selected course and the standard of the applicants.
- Competence in English as designated by the university concerned – normally a scaled mark of at least 50 in ATAR English, English Literature, or English as an Additional Language.
- The Western Australian Certificate of Education.

The admission process for The University of Notre Dame is different from the other four universities in Perth. Prospective students need to apply directly to the university and entry is based on a range of factors, including Australian Tertiary Admission Rank, academic record, contribution to school or community life, work history/experience, motivation to study, personal qualities and school references. Application forms are available from the Admissions Office or at www.nd.edu.au. The Tertiary Institutions Service Centre (TISC) provides a website with all these details. Their definitive statement on university admission can also be downloaded from their website www.tisc.edu.au

Calculating results for ATAR Courses

A student's overall course results are calculated using a 50/50 combination of their school result, and an external examination, taken in Year 12. These results are then scaled to adjust for varying degrees of course difficulty.

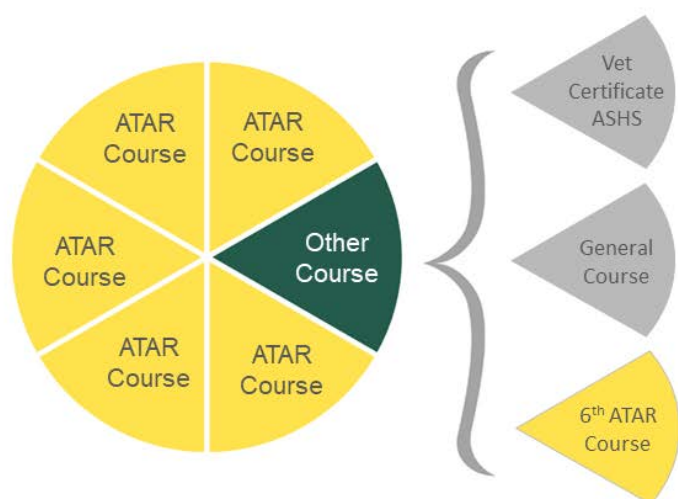
Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR)

For school students, access to courses at public universities is usually decided by a student's Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR). A student's ATAR will be determined by the aggregation of their best four results from final scaled scores in ATAR courses. In addition, there are incentives for students who complete high level Mathematics and Languages Other Than English (LOTE) courses.

The ATAR is a number out of 100 that indicates a student's position relative to that of all other students who were eligible for a tertiary entrance score that year. The top-ranking score for any one year is 99.95. The top student and all other students within the top 0.05% of the state are also on that rank. A student with an ATAR of 88.50 would realise that they are in the top 11.5% of the state, and a student with a rank of 70.00 would be in the top 30%. By using this measure, comparability from year to year is more accurate and comparability between different Australian universities more consistent.

Typical Course Selection Combinations: ATAR Pathway

An ATAR pathway is made up of a minimum of 4 x ATAR courses and must include English. University bound students at Albany Senior High School, would typically choose:



5 ATAR Courses and 1 other

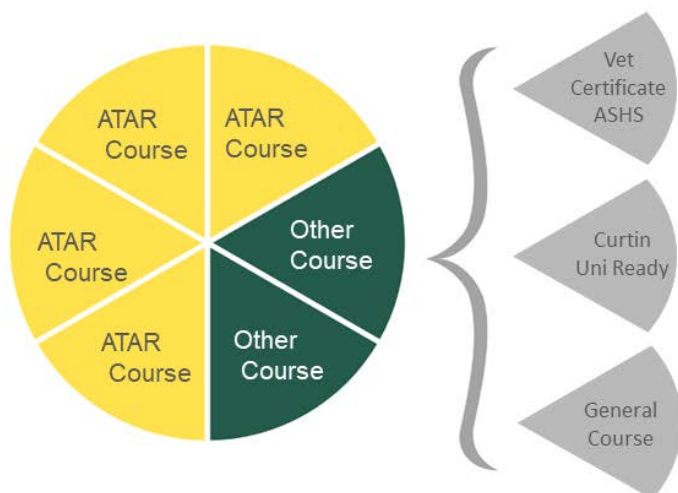
Recommended in most cases for students considering an ATAR pathway.

This combination allows students to round out their timetable with either a General course or a Vocational Qualification and/or transition to a Study Line in Year 12 if required.

6 ATAR Courses?

This heavy academic load is usually only undertaken by strong students who are aiming at a high level University course such as Medicine, Law, Engineering, etc.

Usually, students would continue with at least 5 of these in year 12.



4 ATAR Courses and 2 others

Recommended for students who may struggle with a 5 ATAR course load.

These students generally continue with 4 ATAR courses in Year 12. They are encouraged to consider enrolling in Curtin's Uni Preparation Course (Uni Ready) and/or a Vocational qualification at ASHS.

Note: A minimum of 4 ATAR courses are required to generate an ATAR.

Important:

students should check that their courses meet the prerequisites for entry into their likely Tertiary pathways.

University Entrance: Alternative Pathways

Universities have many admissions pathways, catering for applicants with varying qualifications, such as Year 12 studies, Vocational Education and Training qualifications, tertiary studies, and work and life experience. Information on all entry pathways can be found on the TISC website (<https://tisc.edu.au/static/guide/alternative-entry-unis.tisc>) and also on university websites.

Many Year 12 students without an ATAR enrol in a university 'Bridging Course' (such as uni prep courses at ECU). These courses are free and usually take one semester.

Competency in English for University

For admission to Curtin University, Edith Cowan University and the University of Western Australia, a scaled score of at least 50 in one of the ATAR courses English, Literature or English as an Additional Language/Dialect is nearly always required.

Edith Cowan University may also recognise a grade of A, B or C in ATAR English studied in Year 12.

The universities have agreed that an alternative test for competence in English such as the STAT and IELTS may be considered if a student fails to achieve the required scaled score but has a sufficiently high ATAR to satisfy the university concerned.

Please check the TISC website www.tisc.edu.au, University Admission 2025 for the latest information

Prerequisites for University Courses

The Prerequisites designated for a particular university course (which will be outlined on the TISC website) are expected to be a scaled mark of at least 50 in the specified ATAR course.

University Admission Requirements

All of this information should be read in conjunction with the information on the Tertiary Institutions Service Centre website. TISC is the ultimate authority on admission requirements for school leavers and the document on their website has been approved by participating universities. www.tisc.edu.au

UniReady - Curtin University

Curtin's UniReady program is a university preparation pathway for Senior School students seeking entry into a range of undergraduate courses at Curtin University. It equips students with essential skills and knowledge for university-level learning, enabling them to gain entry into undergraduate courses with a minimum ATAR requirement of 70 upon completion.

UniReady is endorsed by the Schools Curriculum and Standards Authority,

- It consists of 4 units (2 core and 2 elective units).
- Successful completion earns students 4 WACE points (2 in Year 11 and 2 in Year 12).
- Passing all 4 units is necessary for direct entry into Curtin University undergraduate courses with a 70 ATAR requirement.

Students considering other universities should check to confirm whether they will accept Curtin UniReady as an alternative entry option.



Vocational Education and Training

VET

VET stands for Vocational Education and Training. VET courses are designed to train people for specific roles in various industries. VET courses are typically delivered through schools, TAFE institutes and private registered training organisations. They can lead to a range of qualifications, including certificates, diplomas, and apprenticeships.

VET is a valuable option for students who want to learn the skills they need to get a job in a specific industry. It can also be a good way to gain new skills and improve your career prospects.

If students are interested in VET, there are a few things they should keep in mind. First, students need to decide what type of VET they want to do. ASHS offers a variety of VET courses in different delivery methods. As there are so many choices, it's important to find one that is relevant to students' interests and career goals.

VET options

Think about your goals, interests & skills:

- ATAR pathway students can select a VET at School option.
- VET pathway students can select from any of the following VET options...
 1. VET at School
 2. VET at TAFE
 3. School based traineeship

VET at School

ASHS teachers with a specific set of industry skills work with Registered Training Organisations to deliver certificate courses at school in the normal timetable.

If students choose one of these courses, they will appear as another subject on their timetable.

VET at TAFE

South Regional TAFE offer a range of qualifications to senior secondary students. Students enrolled in VET at TAFE will attend TAFE one or two days a week. Some of the courses offered at TAFE have a work placement requirement.

All students are eligible for fully funded (free) VET at TAFE courses, but there may be resource and textbook costs.

There is an application process and some courses are competitive. If students intend to apply for a VET at TAFE course, they will be instructed to complete the online application after their course counselling session. Instructions on how to prepare for TAFE applications will be sent home as soon as they are made available from TAFE.

School based traineeships

School based traineeships offer students the opportunity to earn while they learn. Trainees are paid a trainee wage to work a minimum of 7.5 hours a week and complete a Certificate II or III. School-based traineeships are set up on an individual basis, by arrangement between the student, VET Coordinator, employer and Registered Training Organisation.

How VET contributes to WACE

VET courses are comprised of Units of Competency. A student must be deemed competent in all units to achieve a full qualification.

A total of 8 unit equivalents from VET and/or Endorsed courses can contribute to a students' WACE.

Completed Qualification	Total equivalents	Year 11 allocation (Unit equivalents)	Year 12 allocation (Unit equivalents)
Certificate I	2 Units	2	0
Certificate II	4 Units	2	2
Certificate III or Higher (Partial)	4 Units	2	2
Certificate III or Higher (Full)	6 Units	2	4

Workplace Learning

Workplace Learning (ADWPL) is an Authority-developed endorsed program. It assists students to develop industry skills in an on-the-job learning environment and is often paired with a VET pathway.

WPL is an option for anyone who wants to:

- gain experience in a real workplace once a week
- use part time paid work to contribute up to 4 unit equivalents to their WACE

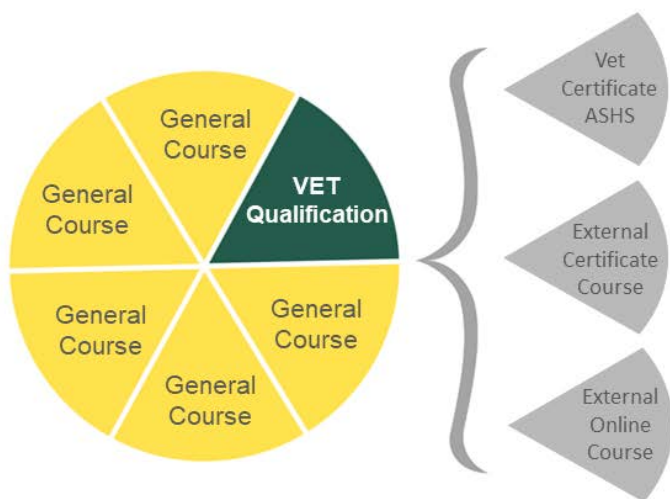
Workplace Learning involves:

- Working in one or more real workplace/s to develop skills
- Recording hours and completed tasks
- Each successful completion of a 55-hour placement counts as 1 WACE unit equivalent, up to a total of 4 unit equivalents

Workplace Learning is compulsory for some VET at TAFE courses, students should check the VETdSS course guide and discuss with their course advisor.

Vocational Pathway

At Albany Senior High School, vocational students would typically choose:

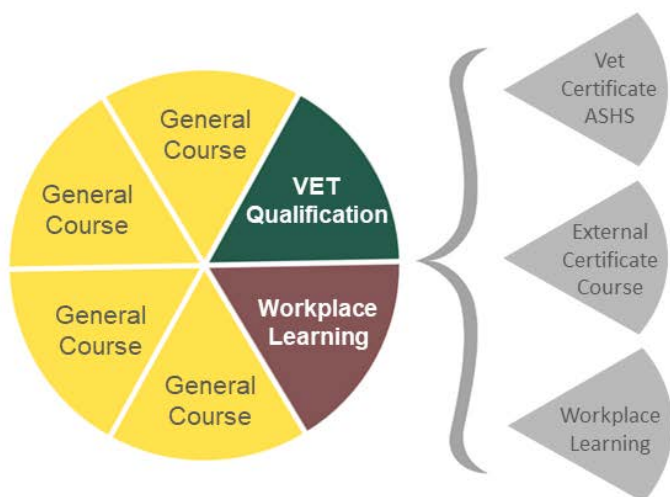


5 General Courses and 1 other

Completing 5 General courses will allow students to meet WACE requirements.

These students are encouraged to access a vocational qualification at ASHS, or through an external provider such as South Regional TAFE.

Note: A maximum of 2 VET qualifications count towards WACE.



4 General Courses and 2 others

This is a great option for students heading down a vocational pathway.

In addition to completing 4 General courses, these students are able to leave school with multiple vocational qualifications and/or choose to pair a vocational qualification with relevant workplace experience.

Note: A maximum of 2 VET qualifications count towards WACE.

Course Selection

In view of the requirements for university or TAFE entrance, the following recommendations are made to help you:

- maximise your educational opportunities
- take advantage of what the school has to offer
- make sure you give yourself every chance to qualify for courses of your choice
- achieve the WA Certificate of Education
- allow for the fact that you may change your mind.

Students must take ten course units or the equivalent in Year 11 (five different courses/VET Certificates).

- **ATAR students** must select at least 4 ATAR courses
- **Non-ATAR** students must select at least 1 option from the VET Certificates.

Year 12 ATAR course prerequisites

In order to continue their studies in Year 12, ATAR students need to achieve a passing grade (typically 55%) in their ATAR courses in Year 11.



