

# Year 11 2026

## Course Counselling Information Evening



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# Acknowledgement of Country



Pakenham Secondary College acknowledge the traditional owners of the land, the Boon Wurrung peoples and their neighbours, the Wurundjeri, members of the Kulin Nation and give thanks to their Elders, past, present and future for allowing us to share the land with them.



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# Our School Values

At Pakenham Secondary College, our students are at the centre of all that we do. We aim to develop the whole student and create pathways for their future. The College values hinge upon the acronym SOAR, which was inspired by the eagle in the school's logo.

**S** stands for  
**Social and  
Personal  
Responsibility**

**O** stands for  
**Opportunities  
for All**

**A** stands for  
**Achieving  
Personal Best**

**R** stands for  
**Respect and  
Relationships**

A stylized white eagle logo is positioned in the upper right corner of the graphic. The eagle is depicted in profile, facing left, with its wings spread wide and its tail feathers fanned out. The entire graphic is set against a dark green background that is divided into four diagonal sections by white lines, each corresponding to one of the letters in the SOAR acronym.

**S O A R**

# Structure of Bunjil & Balam Balam Sub Schools



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## Bunjil VCE

Assistant Principal  
Michelle Scheiwiller

Sub School Leader  
Nevicia Reynolds

Team Leader 10.1 – 10.5  
Evans Ndlovu

Team Leader 11.1 – 11.5  
Ally Bystersky

Team Leader 12.1 – 12.5  
Ally Bystersky

## Balam Balam VCE VM

Assistant Principal  
Michelle Scheiwiller

Sub School Leader  
Jo-Anne Duggan

Team Leader 10.6–10.10  
Gerard Meerwald

Team Leader 11.6 – 11.10  
Joanne Nadal

Team Leader 12.6 – 12.10  
Joanne Nadal

# Satisfactory Completion of Year 10

The following information is based on the satisfactory completion of Year 10 in 2025.



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Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE)

VCE Vocational Major (VM)



Apprenticeships, traineeships,  
VET, university (ATAR) or work



Apprenticeships, traineeships,  
VET, university (through alternative  
entry programs) or work

Victorian Pathways  
Certificate (VPC)



Senior secondary, entry level  
VET or work

# Year 11 Structure

► There are 3 options available in Year 11:

► **VCE**

► **VCE VM**

► **VPC** (*if suitable, individuals will be selected and contacted for this program*)

*Please note: VET can be undertaken as a component of the above 3 options*



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# Year 11 Structure

Victorian Certificate  
of Education  
(VCE)

VCE Vocational  
Major (VM)

Victorian  
Pathways  
Certificate  
(VPC)

Apprenticeships,  
traineeships, VET,  
University (ATAR)  
or work

Apprenticeships, traineeships,  
VET, University (through  
alternative entry programs)  
or work

Senior Secondary,  
entry level VET  
or work



# VCE or VCE VM?

- ▶ Your pathway should reflect your interests and goals, and whether these include further study/training or employment.
- ▶ When organising your pathway, you should consider your career options and ensure that your course selections will help you to reach your goal.
- ▶ You should be aware of any requirements for a specific career or course you have in mind.



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# VCE

Victorian Certificate  
of Education  
(VCE)



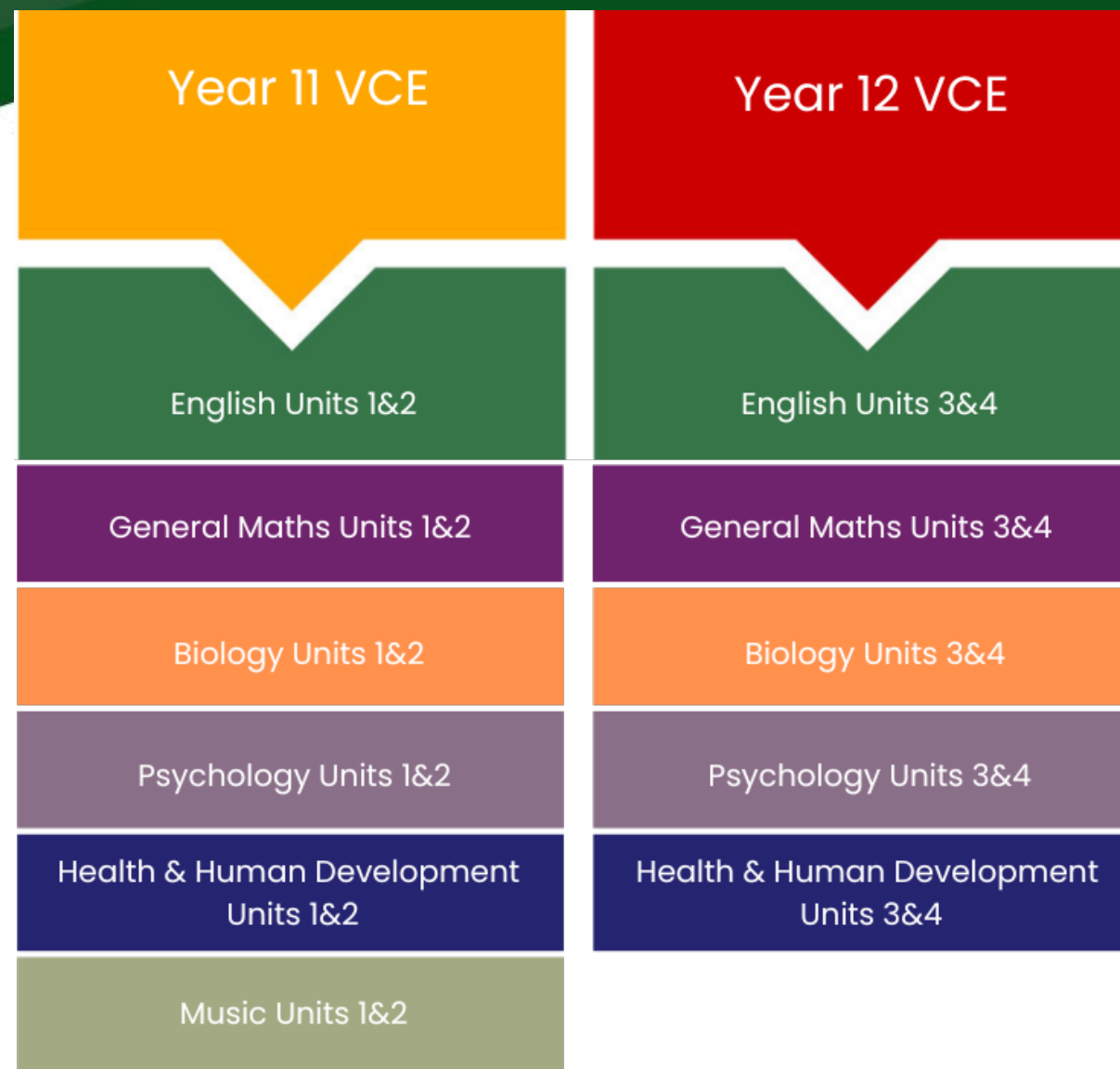
Apprenticeships,  
traineeships, VET,  
University (ATAR)  
or work

# Structure of the VCE

To graduate with your VCE you must satisfactorily complete:

A minimum of 16 units and complete:

- ▶ Three units from the English group which include a Unit 3 & 4 sequence
- ▶ Three sequences of Unit 3 & 4 (including up to two VET sequences) other than English.



# VCE Subjects

- VCE English/EAL
- VCE Literature
- VCE Art Making and Exhibiting
- VCE Visual Communication Design
- VCE Music
- VCE Drama
- VCE Health & Human Development
- VCE Physical Education
- VCE Outdoor & Environmental Studies
- VCE Accounting
- VCE Business Management
- VCE Modern History (Units 1 & 2)
- VCE Australian History (Units 3 & 4)

- VCE Geography
- VCE Legal Studies
- VCE Sociology
- VCE Foundation Mathematics
- VCE General Mathematics
- VCE Mathematical Methods
- VCE Specialist Mathematics
- VCE Biology
- VCE Chemistry
- VCE Physics
- VCE Psychology
- VCE Computing (Units 1 & 2)
- VCE Data Analytics (Units 3 & 4)
- VCE Food Studies
- VCE Product Design & Technology: Textiles
- VCE Product Design & Technology: Wood



# VCE VM

VCE Vocational  
Major (VM)



Apprenticeships, traineeships,  
VET, University (through  
alternative entry programs)  
or work



# Victorian Certificate of Education Vocational Major VM



## What is the VCE Vocational Major (VM)?

- ▶ The VCE Vocational Major is a vocational and applied learning program that sits within the VCE.
- ▶ It takes what is called an 'Applied Learning approach'.
- ▶ It is a two-year program over Years 11 and 12.

Students do not sit exams in VCE VM however they will sit the GAT (General Achievement Test)

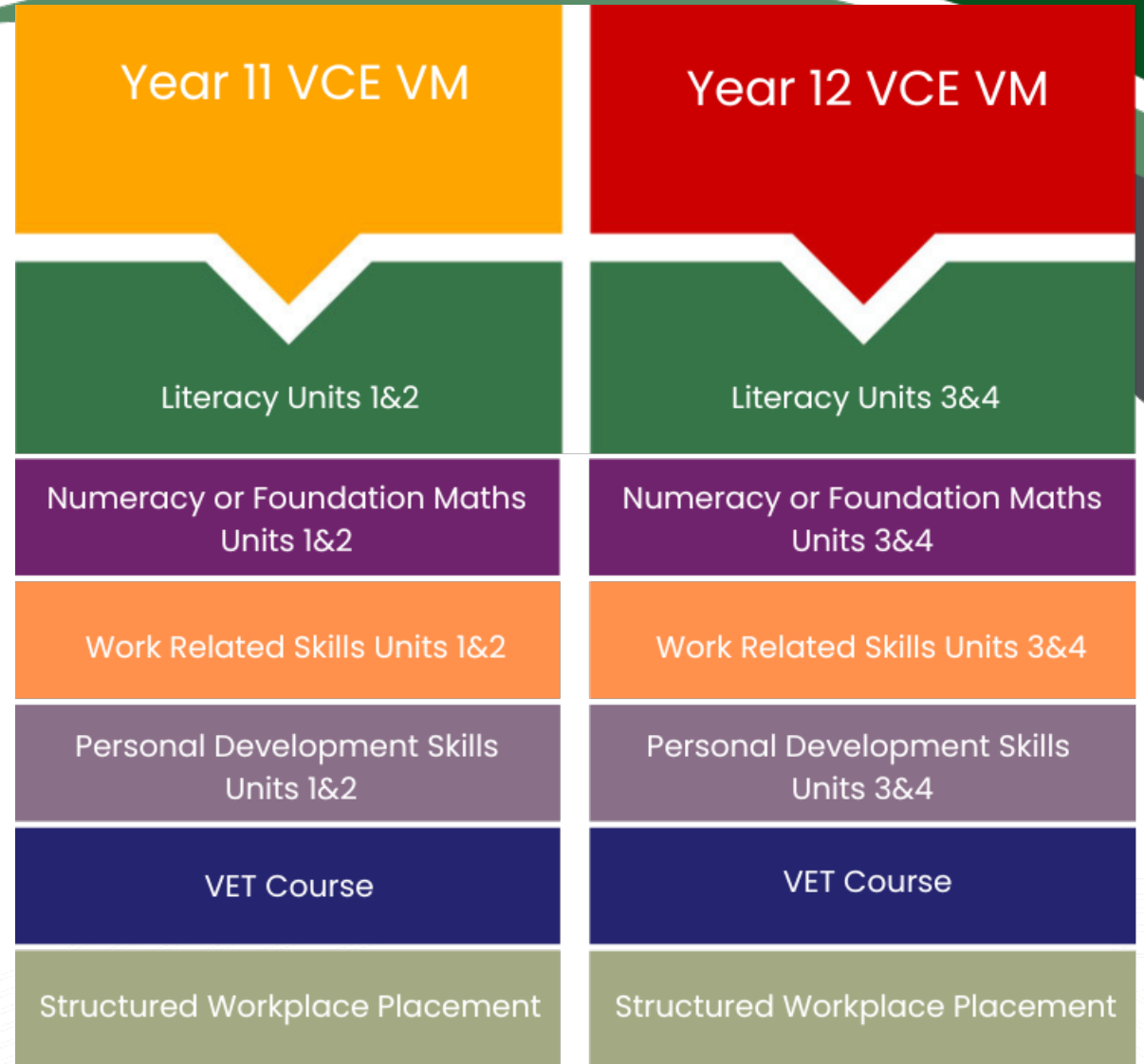


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# Structure of the VCE VM

Students must successfully finish at least 16 units including 180 hours of VET

- ▶ Most students will undertake between 16-20 units over the two years.
- ▶ You also do a VET course and structured workplace learning.



# Vocational Education and Training (VET)

- ▶ Vocational Education and Training (VET) Certificates are courses of study that are nationally recognised and accredited.
- ▶ VET enables students to gain industry training in preparation for further learning or entry into the workforce (e.g. Certificate II in Building and Construction).
- ▶ Most certificate programs run over two years and are made up of several Units of Competence.
- ▶ VET can be completed offsite e.g. at Chisholm or onsite as part of our VET Cluster



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# Key VET Courses Available

- Agriculture
- Animal Care
- Automotive
- Building and Construction
- Computer Assembly & Repair
- Early Childhood Education & Care
- Equine Studies
- Hospitality
- Make-up
- Retail Cosmetics
- Screen & Media

- Visual Arts
- Engineering Studies
- Allied Health Assistant
- Community Services
- Beauty Services
- Applied Fashion Design & Technology
- Construction Pathways
- Electrotechnology
- Horticulture
- Integrated Technologies
- Plumbing
- Salon Assistant
- Sport & Recreation
- Workplace Skills



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# VPC

Victorian  
Pathways  
Certificate  
(VPC)



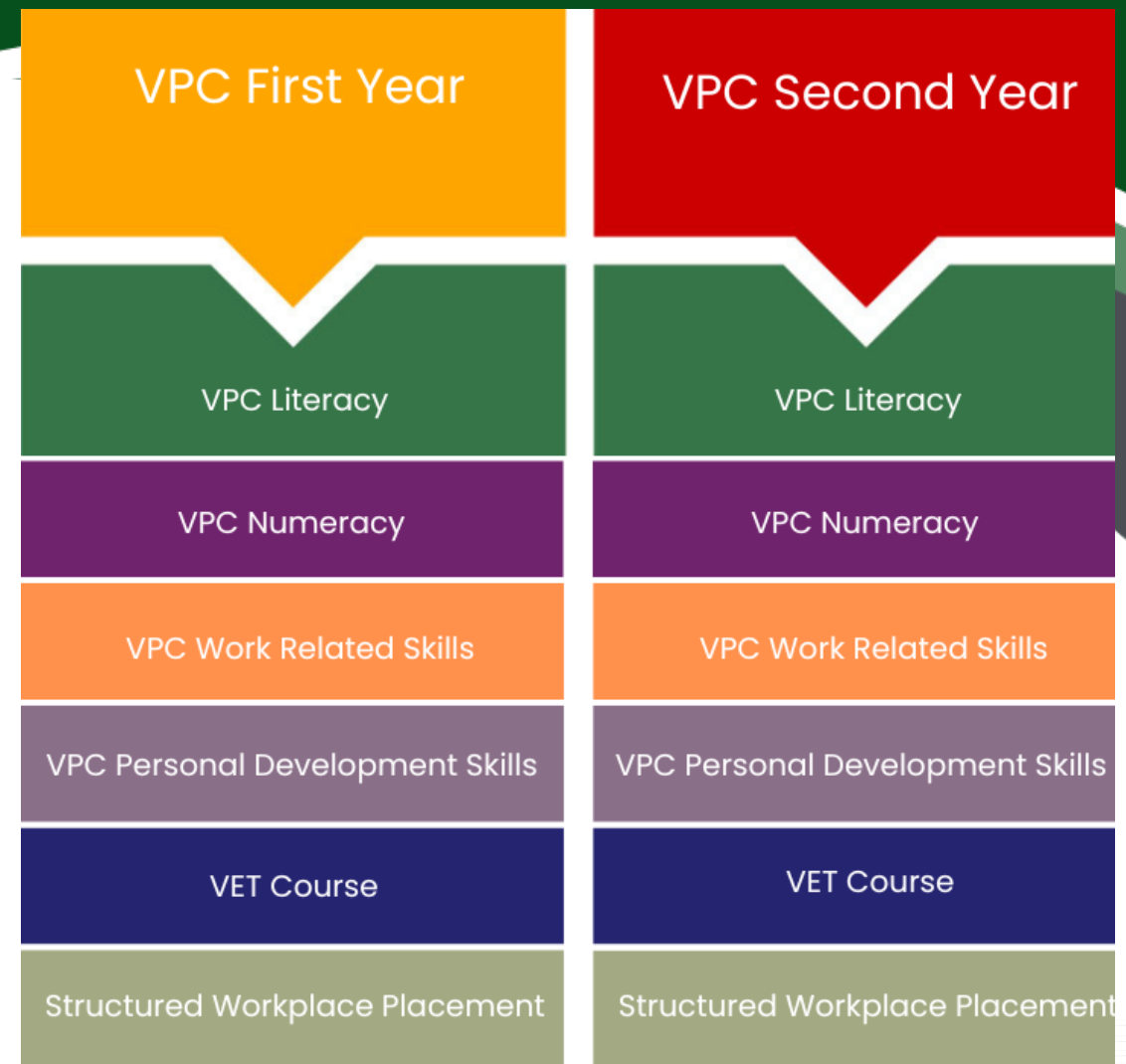
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Senior Secondary,  
entry level VET  
or work

# VPC Structure

- ▶ The Victorian Pathways Certificate (VPC) is an inclusive and flexible certificate. It is not part of the Victorian Certificate of Education and is not a senior qualification.
- ▶ It offers an engaging curriculum and additional support for you to develop the work-related skills and capabilities you need to succeed.
- ▶ The VPC is normally completed in Year 11 and 12, but it is flexible so it can be finished over a longer period than 2 years. Students need to meet entry criteria to undertake the program.



- ▶ You must complete at least 12 units.
- ▶ Many students will undertake more than 12 units in their VPC.

# VET 'Mini Cluster'

Department of Education & Training  
Secondary Schools Network  
VET Programs offered  
for 2026

## Edenbrook Secondary College

Contact: Leanne Wilson - Careers & Pathways Leader  
Phone: 5943 9200 | Email: [leanne.wilson2@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:leanne.wilson2@education.vic.gov.au)

SHB30121 Certificate III Beauty Services

## Koo Wee Rup Secondary College

Contact: Kylie Borchers - VET Coordinator  
Phone: 5997 1444 | email: [kylie.borchers@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:kylie.borchers@education.vic.gov.au)

ACM20121 Certificate II Animal Studies

AHC21020 Certificate II in Conservation & Ecosystem Mgmt

UEE22020 Certificate II Electrotechnology



# VET 'Mini Cluster'

Department of Education & Training  
Secondary Schools Network  
VET Programs offered  
for 2026

## **Pakenham Secondary College**

Contact: Nicole Robertson - VET Coordinator  
Phone: 5945 1433  
Email: [nicole.robertson2@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:nicole.robertson2@education.vic.gov.au)

22614VIC Certificate II Building & Construction  
Pre-apprenticeship  
CHC22015 Certificate II Community Services  
CHC32015 Certificate III Community Services  
CHC30121 Certificate III Early Childhood  
Education & Care  
BSB20120 Certificate II Workplace Skills



## **Officer Secondary College**

Contact: Alister Quinn - VET Coordinator  
Phone: 5942 4000  
Email: [alister.quinn@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:alister.quinn@education.vic.gov.au)

22632VIC Certificate II Engineering Studies  
BSB30120 Certificate III Business  
CUA30920 Certificate III Music - Sound Production  
SIS30122 Certificate III Sport, Aquatics & Recreation



# VET 'Mini Cluster'

Department of Education & Training  
Secondary Schools Network  
VET Programs offered  
for 2026

## NEXT STEPS



Contact the Careers Department at each College to learn more about the VET Program proposed for 2026.



Express your child's interest in the VET Program of choice by registering your details with the relevant school.



Look for updates as to any further information sessions relating to the VET Program of interest at each of the Secondary Schools (Term 3, 2025 - *tbc*)



Limited places available in each of the VET Programs proposed so be quick to Express Your Interest



**Edenbrook**  
SECONDARY COLLEGE



**KOO WEE RUP**  
SECONDARY COLLEGE



**OFFICER**  
Secondary College



**Pakenham**  
SECONDARY COLLEGE  
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# HeadStart

## WHAT IS HEADSTART?

- ▶ Head Start is a program that provides support to all Victorian government school SBATs.
- ▶ Head Start's Vision is that all Victorian government school students wishing to pursue an apprenticeship or traineeship are supported to explore SBAT pathways.
- ▶ Head Start's aim is that all SBATs:



1. Are **SAFE** in the workplace

2. **COMPLETE** their secondary school certificate

3. **TRANSITION** into full time employment once completing school

4. **INCREASE** apprenticeship and traineeship completion to benefit employers

# What are School-Based apprenticeships and traineeships?

- ▶ A **school-based apprenticeship or traineeship** (or SBAT) is an apprenticeship or traineeship that starts while a student is still completing school.
- ▶ SBATs allow students to get a head start on their career by combining paid on-the-job training that leads to a qualification while completing a secondary school certificate.

All SBATs combine:

-  Approx. 7 hours per week of employment
-  Approx. 6 hours per week of training
-  Minimum required\* secondary school attendance

\*each school sets minimum class time and attendance rules



# Student Experiences

- ▶ Gurleen Kaur
- ▶ Finley Clayton



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# Year 12 Destinations

## UNIVERSITY COURSES

- Education (Honours) Degree - Monash Uni
- Nursing (Scholars Program) – Monash Uni
- Bachelor of Science – Uni of Melbourne
- Biomedical Science Degree – Federation Uni
- Civil Engineering Degree – Deakin Uni
- Visual Arts and Animation – RMIT
- Forensic Science – Deakin Uni

## TAFE / VET

- Diploma of Early Childhood Education – Chisholm
- Aviation – Holmes Institute
- Nursing – Chisholm
- Certificate IV in Cyber Security – Chisholm
- Certificate IV in Business Admin – Swinburne
- Automotive – Gippsland TAFE
- Veterinary Nursing – Boxhill TAFE

*Where our  
Class of 2024  
Graduates are  
now –  
A selection of  
their pathways*



## APPRENTICESHIPS AND TRADES

- Carpentry
- Plumbing
- Concreting

## EMPLOYMENT

- Australian Navy
- Australian Defence Force

# Course Counselling Interviews

- **Course Counselling Interviews** will be held on **Tuesday, 22nd July**. There will be **no scheduled classes** that day for Year 10 students, but **students must attend their course counselling appointment**, which is now available in their Compass schedules.



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# Resources to consult in your decision making

- Course Counsellor
- My Future – <https://myfuture.edu.au>
- The Good Universities Guide – [gooduniversitiesguide.com.au/careers-guide](http://gooduniversitiesguide.com.au/careers-guide)
- Mid & End of Year Reports, Exam Results
- NAPLAN
- Your teachers
- Senior School Handbook 2026
- Labour Market Insights – [jobsandskills.gov.au/data/labour-market-insights](http://jobsandskills.gov.au/data/labour-market-insights)

- “Where to Now?”  
Your guide to Senior Secondary School Pathways in Victoria 2026
- Morrisby Careers Program
- Career Action Plans



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# Important things to note

- ▶ Year 11 2026 **Course Counselling** is on **Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July**
- ▶ **Year 10 students do not attend school on this day**, but they are expected to come to their scheduled Course Counselling interview
- ▶ Parents/guardians are invited to attend with their child. If that is not possible, a Webex link has been provided on Compass for parents/guardians to attend online.
- ▶ Appointment times are allocated and are on your Compass. If you can't make the allocated time, please call your Counsellor to organise either an online meeting or another time.
- ▶ The Course Handbook and descriptions for each subject are available on our website at: <https://pakenhamsc.vic.edu.au/curriculum-handbooks>



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# Senior School Handbook

- ▶ Available on our website:  
[pakenhamsc.vic.edu.au/learning](https://pakenhamsc.vic.edu.au/learning)
- ▶ Or visit your Compass Newsfeed

