

Model Farms High School

"Achieving Personal Excellence Through Quality Teaching"



THE HSC COURSE OUTLINES

An Information Package for Students

Preliminary Course 2018

HSC Course 2019

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The HSC

General Information

- NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) oversees all curriculum requirements for all NSW schools. It replaces the old Board of Studies.
- The Higher School Certificate recognises 13 years of schooling. In the interests of greater career choices and increased opportunities at university and TAFE, it offers you a full range of study areas matching individual abilities, interests and goals.
- Courses will be linked to further education and training.
- Extension courses will enable students to undertake more in-depth study in areas of special interest.
- Vocational Education and Training courses will count towards the HSC and will also lead to qualifications recognised across a range of industries.
- The HSC will include life skills courses for students with special education needs.
- The HSC will fairly assess each student's knowledge and skills.
- If you meet the minimum standard expected in a 2 Unit course you will receive a mark of 50. If you have a higher standard of performance you will receive a higher mark.
- For each course you will receive easy-to-understand reports. These reports provide clear indications of what you have demonstrated you know, understand and can do in each course.
- **Some subjects attract compulsory fees to allow Model Farms High School to purchase consumable items to assist in with teaching and learning activities. All Fees MUST be paid by the end of term 1. Failure to pay fees by this date will mean that students will be given alternative activities that do not require consumable items. Families that are undergoing financial difficulties should contact Mrs Pledger for financial assistance.**
- During Term 4 2016, all students will be made aware of the courses they will be undertaking in 2018 and the course fees. To assist the purchasing of materials to be used in 2018.

What Types of Courses Can I Select?

There are different types of courses that you can select in Years 11 and 12.

- All courses contribute to the award of a HSC
- Not all contribute to an ATAR

Board Developed Courses (Yellow Section)

These courses are developed by the NESA. There is a syllabus for each course which contains:

- the course objectives, structure, content and outcomes
- specific course requirements
- assessment requirements

All students entered for the HSC who are studying these courses follow these syllabuses.

These courses are:

- examined externally at the end of the HSC course and
- can count towards the calculation of the Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR).

Board Endorsed Courses (Green and Pink Sections)

- Board Endorsed Courses have syllabuses endorsed by NESA to cater for areas of special interest not covered in the Content Developed Courses E.g. Exploring Early Childhood (1 Unit) (**Green Section**)
- Most HSC VET (Vocational Education and Training) courses delivered by TAFE are Board Endorsed Courses. (**Pink Pages**)
- Some Board Endorsed Courses are one year courses.
- There is no external examination for any Board Endorsed Courses
- All Board Endorsed Courses count towards the Higher School Certificate and appear on your Record of Achievement

- Board Endorsed Courses **do not count** in the calculation of the ATAR.

Vocational Education and Training (VET) Courses Either Board Developed or Board Endorsed (White and Pink Pages)

- Vocational Educational and Training (VET) courses are offered as part of the Higher School Certificate
- Enable students to study courses which are relevant to industry needs
- Have clear links to post-school destinations
- Allow students to gain both Higher School Certificate qualifications and accreditation with industry and the workplace as part of the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF)
- Qualifications are recognised across Australia and help students to move easily between the various education and training sectors and employment
- Have a specific workplace component and a minimum number of hours students spend in the workplace or a simulated workplace at school
- Have special documentation showing the competencies gained
- Framework courses (Board Developed) can count towards the calculation of the Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) if optional examination is undertaken

Some of these courses will be delivered by schools, while others will be delivered by TAFE or other providers.

Further information about VET courses appears in the section listing the HSC Courses available.

School Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships

- School based apprenticeships and traineeships prepare students for a career in a particular industry, provide a training wage and skills training both on-the-job and off-the-job at school, TAFE NSW or with a private training provider.
- School based apprenticeships and traineeships can be undertaken via a range of HSC VET courses. All Industry Curriculum Frameworks provide for an opportunity to undertake either a school based apprenticeship or traineeship pathway.
- A school based traineeship is generally completed over two years while students are at school and undertaken as part of the HSC Program.
- A school based apprenticeship is undertaken over two years part-time while students are at school as part of their HSC, and then continued over three years full-time post school

Life Skills Courses as part of a Special Program of Study

Stage 6 (Years 11 and 12) Life Skills courses will be available for students following a Special Program of Study for the Higher School Certificate.

Students interested in these courses should see the Deputy Principal. Life Skills courses will have Board Developed status and can be used in place of other Board Developed Courses to meet requirements for the award of the Higher School Certificate. Each Life Skills course comprises a 2 Unit Preliminary Course and a 2 Unit HSC Course.

What are units?

All courses offered for the Higher School Certificate have a unit value. Subjects may have a value of 1 Unit or 2 Units. Most courses are 2 Unit.

Each unit involves class time of approximately 2 hours per week (60 hours per year). In the HSC each unit has a value of 50 marks. Hence a 2 Unit course has a value of 100 marks.

The following is a guideline to help you understand the pattern of courses.

2 Unit Course

This is the basic structure for all courses. It has a value of 100 marks.

Extension Course

Extension study is available in a number of subjects. Extension courses build on the content of the 2 Unit course, and carry an additional value of 1 Unit. Extension courses are available in English, Mathematics, History, Music and some Languages.

English and Mathematics Extension Courses are available at Preliminary and HSC levels. Students must study the Preliminary extension course in these subjects before proceeding to the two HSC extension courses (Extension 1 and Extension 2). The Extension 2 course requires students to work beyond the standard of the Extension 1 course.

HSC Extension courses in subjects other than English and Mathematics are offered and examined in Year 12 only

1 Unit Course

1 unit equals approximately 2 hours of class time each week or 60 hours per year.

There are several 1 Unit Board Endorsed Courses. These courses do not count in the ATAR.

There is a 1 unit Board Developed Course – Studies of Religion I which does count in the ATAR

Requirements for the Award of the HSC

If you wish to be awarded the HSC:

- You must have **satisfactorily completed** courses that meet the pattern of study required by NESA. This includes the completion of the practical, oral, and aural or research projects required for specific courses and the assessment requirements for each course.
- You must have sat for and made a serious attempt at the Higher School Certificate examinations.
- You must study and **successfully complete** a minimum of **12 units** in the **Preliminary Course** and a minimum of **10 units** in the **HSC Course**. The Preliminary Course and the HSC Course must include the following:
 - at least **6 units** from Board Developed Courses (**Yellow Pages**)
 - at least 2 units of English
 - at least three courses of 2 units value or greater
 - at least four subjects
- At most 6 units of courses in Science can contribute to Higher School Certificate eligibility.
- If you do not wish to receive an ATAR, the rest of your courses may be made up from other Board Developed Courses or Board Endorsed Courses once you have met the above conditions.
- The NESA publication, *Studying for the New South Wales Higher School Certificate – An Information Booklet for Year 10 students*, contains all the HSC rules and requirements you will need to know.
- You can only study ONE strand of Industrial Technology – Multimedia or Timber.

Requirements for the Award of an ATAR

Universities choose students for their courses by ranking them in order of their HSC results. This rank – the Australian Tertiary Admission Rank, or ATAR, is calculated by including the marks achieved in a student's best **10 Board Developed HSC units**. To get an ATAR:

- You must satisfy the requirements for the award of the Record of Achievement for the HSC
- You must study a minimum of 10 Board Developed units in the HSC Course (see Yellow Pages)
- Included in the calculation of the ATAR will be your results in at least 2 units of English.

Only Board Developed Courses qualify you for the ATAR. The Universities have classified all Board Developed Courses into Category A and Category B. The Category B Courses available at Model Farms High School or through TAFE are listed below.

A maximum of 2 units of Category B courses can be included in the calculation of your ATAR.

Category B Courses
Accounting*
Automotive (240 hours)#
Business Services – Office Administration (240 hours)#
Construction (240 hours)#
Electrotechnology(240 hours)#
Entertainment Industry (240 hours)#
Financial Services (240 hours)#
Hospitality (240 hours)#
Information & Digital Technology (240 hours)#
Metal and Engineering (240 hours)#
Primary Industries (240 hours)#
Retail Services (240 hours)#
Tourism, Travel and Events (240 hours)#
Notes: * These are Board Developed courses delivered by TAFE. # These are 240 hour Vocational Education and Training (VET) courses. An optional written examination will be offered for the HSC. If students want the results from these courses to be available for inclusion in the calculation of their ATAR, they must undertake the optional written examination.
These courses are available at TAFE and/or school.

Choosing the Right Course in English and Mathematics

It is crucial that students choose courses in English and Mathematics, appropriate to their ability and interest. This will ensure a positive and successful experience for students in Year 11 and 12.

The following guidelines should help students and their parents to choose the most appropriate courses in English and Mathematics. The Head Teachers of these subjects are available to answer any further questions.

- Students who have placed in the top 24 positions in the year should cope positively with the demands of Advanced English and/or above, and 2 Unit Mathematics and/or above.
- Students who have placed in the last 25 positions in the year in English should undertake the English Studies course.
- Students who have placed in the 26th – 35th position in the year for English, and in the 25th – 40th positions in the year for Maths **could be considered** for Advanced English or 2 Unit Mathematics but should understand that they may struggle with some aspects of the course and could be placed on probation in the course.
- Students who have placed below the above positions in the year should undertake Standard English and Standard Mathematics. Those students who undertake Standard Mathematics in Year 11 may, in Year 12, choose to study either the Standard Mathematics 2 course (ATAR eligible) or the Standard Mathematics 1 course (not calculated as part of the ATAR).
- When it comes to determining the appropriate senior pathway for a student in mathematics, students need to be aware that one major university –the University of Sydney – recently announced that from 2019 a number of its programs will require senior mathematics courses as prerequisites.
- The Preliminary Mathematics Standard course, and the HSC Mathematics Standard 1 and Standard 2 courses provide students with opportunity to develop understanding and competence in aspects of mathematics relevant to a range of vocational pathways, with a strong foundation for university courses such as the humanities, nursing and paramedical sciences.

- Preliminary and HSC Mathematics courses are recommended as the most appropriate basis for tertiary studies that require mathematics. These tertiary studies include life sciences, economics, business, finance, technology, psychology and education. For students who require more substantial mathematics at a tertiary level, one or both Stage 6 Mathematics Extension courses are recommended.
- Mathematics Extension 1 provides students with the opportunity to develop a thorough understanding and competence in aspects of maths for further studies in maths itself, and in areas such as physics, chemistry, engineering, statistics, and computer science. Students with outstanding mathematical ability should also consider undertaking Mathematics Extension 2. This course provides a strong basis for a wide range of useful applications of maths at a high level, as well as a strong foundation for the further specialised study of the subject

HSC Courses and Subjects – A Summary

HSC Board Developed Courses

Courses offered at Model Farms High School (Yellow Pages)

All courses can count towards calculation of an ATAR

(See course notes following this table for explanation of symbols)

For course descriptions see Yellow Section of Booklet

Subject	Preliminary & HSC Courses (2 Unit)	Preliminary Extension Courses (1 Unit)	HSC Extension Courses (1 Unit)	Prelim Fees	HSC Fees
English	English Advanced English Standard English Studies	Eng Ext 1	Eng Ext 1 Eng Ext 2		
Agricultural Technology	Agricultural Technology			\$80	\$60
Ancient History	Ancient History		Hist Ext		
Biology	Biology				
Business Studies	Business Studies				
Chemistry	Chemistry				
Community & Family Studies	Community & Family Studies			\$45	\$35
Dance	Dance				
Design & Tech	Design & Technology			\$100	\$60
Drama	Drama				
Earth & Environmental Science	Earth & Environmental Science				
Economics	Economics				
Engineering Studies	Engineering Studies			\$55	\$55
Food Technology	Food Technology			\$90	\$70
French	French Beginners # French Continuers				
Geography	Geography				
Industrial Technology- Timber Industrial Technology - Multimedia	Industrial Technology - Timber, Multimedia#			\$135 \$30	\$80 \$30
Information Processes and Technology	Information Processes and Technology			\$30	\$30
Investigating Science	Investigating Science				

Subject	Preliminary & HSC Courses (2 Unit)	Preliminary Extension Courses (1 Unit)	HSC Extension Courses (1 Unit)	Prelim Fees	HSC Fees
Japanese	Japanese Beginners # Japanese Continuers				
Legal Studies	Legal Studies				
Mathematics	Mathematics # Standard (Preliminary) Mathematics Standard 2 (HSC) Mathematics Standard 1 (HSC) Mathematics 2 Unit	Maths Ext 1	Maths Ext 1 Maths Ext 2		
Modern History	Modern History		Hist Ext		
Music	Music 1 Music 2 #		Music Ext	\$22	\$22
PD/Health/PE	PD/Health/PE				
Physics	Physics				
Society & Culture	Society & Culture				
Software Design and Development	Software Design and Development			\$40	\$40
Textiles	Textiles and Design			\$40	\$30
Visual Arts	Visual Arts			\$120	\$120

You may select one course only from each of these subject groups.

- A number of subjects include a research project for either internal or external assessment, for example, Visual Arts, Drama, Design and Technology, Community & Family Studies, Agriculture, Software Design and Development and Society and Culture. Projects developed for assessment in one subject are not to be used either in full or in part for assessment in any other subject.
- Students studying Industrial Technology (Metal and Engineering Industries) are not permitted to study courses relating to the Metal and Engineering Industry Framework.
- There is only one History Extension Course. It can be studied with Ancient History and/or the Modern History Course in Year 12.

Board Developed VET Curriculum Frameworks (Category B courses) (White Pages)

- The Board has developed curriculum frameworks for seven industries.
- Within each framework there are a number of courses.
- The 240 hour course in each framework can contribute towards the ATAR providing the Optional Written Exam is undertaken (marked with a *).
- Only 1 Category B Course can contribute towards an ATAR.
- You must undertake a work placement to complete these courses successfully.

SECTION I: These courses are offered through Model Farms High School			
Subject	Course	Prelim Fees	HSC Fees
Construction	Construction Pathways (240h) *	\$130 plus cost of white card course	\$75
Information & Digital Technology	Information and Digital Technology (240h) *	\$40	\$40
Hospitality	Hospitality – Food and Beverage (240h) *	\$120 plus cost of uniform	\$120
Business Services	Business Services (240h) *	\$50	\$50
Metal and Engineering	Metal and Engineering (240h) *	\$90	\$90
Primary Industries	Primary Industries – Agriculture (240h) * This will be offered through Model Farms dependent upon the teacher being accepted into training program.	\$100	\$80

SECTION II: These courses are offered through TAFE
Automotive
Business Services #
Construction #
Electrotechnology
Entertainment Industry
Financial Services
Hospitality #
Human Services
Information & Digital Technology #
Metal and Engineering #
Primary Industries #
Retail Services
Tourism, Travel and Events

NOTE: Students studying Industrial Technology (Metal and Engineering Industries) are NOT permitted to study courses relating to the Metal and Engineering Industry Framework.

You should only opt to complete these courses through TAFE if Model Farms does not get enough students to run a class.

Board Developed, TAFE Delivered VET Course (White pages)

Accounting

Board Endorsed Courses

These courses have no external examination but count towards your HSC and are listed on your Record of Achievement. They do **NOT** count towards calculation of the ATAR.

Content Endorsed Courses - Offered at Model Farms High (Green Pages)

Course	Units	Prelim Fees	HSC Fee
Ceramics	1 unit	\$70	\$70
Exploring Early Childhood	1 unit	\$20	\$15
Photography, Video and Digital Imaging	1 unit	\$75	\$75
Sport, Lifestyle Recreation Studies	1 unit		
Visual Design	1 unit	\$90	\$90

VET Board Endorsed Courses (Pink Pages)

All offered through TAFE in a broad range of industry areas

Please see the TAFE Handbook available through our Careers Adviser.

If you wish to do a TAFE Course you must see the Careers Adviser and register the application with her and get her to sign your subject selection form.

The HSC at Model Farms High School

We offer a comprehensive range of senior subjects as well as linking in with Saturday Schools of Community languages, TAFE, and Distance Education Services and these will cater for your specific career needs as well as your interests. We have a supportive, caring and flexible staff who are willing to assist you with your subject selections and studies.

HSC Pathways at Model Farms High School

Recommended for students who intend to go to TAFE, a private College or go directly into the workforce when they leave school.

HSC + ATAR

Recommended for students who intend going to University

Any of the above + TAFE Award

Useful to students who wish to gain advanced standing into a related TAFE course after the HSC. TAFE Awards are also helpful in assisting students to find a cadetship, apprenticeship, traineeship or employment in an industry relating to their TAFE Award.

Any of the above + Open High School

If you have a particular need or wish to study a course not offered at school, you may apply to the Principal to study the course by correspondence. The Open High School will send you written or taped lessons that you must complete independently.

Any of the above + Saturday School of Community languages

Classes are held on Saturday morning at local High Schools. These courses are in addition to those studied at school

If you need any help deciding which pathway to choose or for more detailed information see the Career Adviser or your Deputy Principal.

Assessment and Reporting

- The HSC reports will provide you with more detailed descriptions of the knowledge, skills and understanding you have attained in each subject.
- A syllabus package for each course is available on the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) Website. The packages include the syllabus content which teachers use to develop teaching programs, examination specifications, sample examination papers, sample marking guidelines and a performance scale.
- The syllabuses, along with assessment and examination information and a performance scale that will be used to describe your level of achievement, give a clear idea of the standards that are expected.
- The HSC reports will provide a description of your achievements that is similar to the one you will receive in this year's School Certificate for the tests in English-literacy, Mathematics, Science and Australian History, Geography, Civics & Citizenship.
- School-based assessment tasks will contribute to 50% of your HSC mark. Your school assessment mark will be based on your performance in assessment tasks you have undertaken during the course.
- The other 50% will come from the HSC examination.
- Your HSC mark for 2 Unit courses will be reported on a scale of 0 to 100. If you achieve the minimum standard expected in a course you will receive a mark of 50. There will be documents showing performance bands for each course and where you receive a mark above 50 band descriptions that correspond to different levels of achievement in knowledge, skills and understanding. The band from 90-100 will correspond to the highest level of achievement.
- Students are required to undertake a program **HSC: All My Own Work** which is designed to help students follow the principles and practices of good scholarship.
- On satisfactory completion of your HSC you will receive a portfolio containing:
 - **The HSC Testamur** - The official certificate confirming your achievement of all requirements for the award
 - **The Record of Achievement** - This document lists the courses you have studied and reports the marks and bands you have achieved.
 - **Course Reports** - For every HSC Board Developed Course you will receive a Course Report showing your marks, the Performance Scale and the band descriptions for that course. A graph showing the statewide distribution of marks in the course is also shown.

Honesty in HSC Assessment - the Standard

This standard sets out NESA's requirements concerning students submitting their own work in HSC assessment. Candidates for the Higher School Certificate, as well as their teachers and others, who may guide them, are required to comply with the standard.

The honesty of students in completing assessment tasks, examinations and submitted works, and of teachers and others in guiding students, underpins the integrity of the Higher School Certificate. Throughout the assessment process, the highest level of honesty is required.

Each student's mark will be determined by the quality of the work produced by the student only. To demonstrate honesty, any component of a student's work that has been written, created or developed by others must be acknowledged in accordance with the Board's subject specific documentation. Use or inclusion of material from other sources such as books, journals and electronic sources, including the internet, must be acknowledged. General teaching and learning do not require formal acknowledgement.

Dishonest behaviour carried out for the purpose of gaining unfair advantage in the assessment process constitutes malpractice, or cheating. Malpractice in any form, including plagiarism, is unacceptable. NESA treats allegations of malpractice very seriously and detected malpractice will limit a student's marks and jeopardise their HSC. Should malpractice be suspected, students will be required to demonstrate that all unacknowledged work is entirely their own. Serious and deliberate acts of malpractice amount to corrupt conduct and, where appropriate, NESA will report matters to the Independent Commission Against Corruption.

These requirements should be read in conjunction with Board syllabuses and policies in related areas such as malpractice and satisfactory completion of a course. They include:

- [Rules and Procedures for Higher School Certificate Candidates](#)
- [Assessment Certification and Examination Manual](#)
- [HSC Assessments and Submitted Works-Advice to Students](#)
- [HSC Assessments and Submitted Works-Advice to Parents](#)
- [HSC Assessments and Submitted Works-Advice to Teachers](#)
- [HSC: All My Own Work](#)
- [HSC assessment in a standards-referenced framework - A Guide to Best Practice.](#)

These documents are publicly available on the Board's website at

<http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au>