

Bryce VCE Newsletter

Term 2 2009

Dear parents /guardians and students,

As we start Term 2, students will need to be preparing themselves for many SACs and exams, as most Year 11 and some year 12 subjects will have formal half-year exams. A timetable for Year 12 half-year exams is given below. Year 11 students will be issued with an exam timetable early in the term.

Dates for Term 2

Wednesday 28th April

Athletics Sports

VCE Photographs.

Friday 8th May

Thursday 28th May

Mid Year Concert. Recital Hall

Monday 8th June

Queen's Birthday Holiday

Tuesday 9th to Thursday 11th June Year 12 Exams and GAT

Please note there are no year 12 classes on these days.

Thursday 11th June

GAT. For all year 12 students and all year 11 Students attempting a Unit 3&4 subject. 10.00 am till 1.15 pm. No classes.

Friday 12th June.

Pupil Free Day. Report Writing.

There are no classes for any student on Friday 12th as this day is a designated Pupil Free Day for report writing.

Monday 15th June

Start of Unit 4

Tuesday 9th– Friday 19th June

Year 11 Exams.

Students need only attend when they have a timetabled exam. If they are ill or have any difficulty please contact Mr Bickham, in the

VCE office.

A medical certificate must be provided for any exam that is missed. Students doing a Year 12 subject are expected to attend these classes if they do not clash with an exam.

Monday 22nd of June.

Start of Unit 2.

Friday 26th June

Last day of term. 2.30pm dismissal.

VCE reports will be sent home with students.

Time table for Year 12 exams

June 9 th	9.00-10.45	Biology
	11.45-1.30	Physics
	2.45-4.30	Accounting
June 10 th	9.00- 10.45	Psychology
	11.45-1.30	Chemistry

June 11th 10.00 –1.15pm GAT

For all exams students should arrive at school at least half an hour early. There is no special provision for misreading the timetable or for late arrival.

GAT

The General Achievement Test is to be completed by all students attempting a Unit 3&4 subject. Students will receive a brochure explaining the make up of the GAT. It is a test of general knowledge and skills in

- written communication
- mathematics, science and technology
- humanities, the arts and social sciences

The GAT is a general test and it is not recommended that students do any special study for it. Students should take the test seriously and complete all sections conscientiously.

The GAT is used for the following purposes:

- contributing to the statistical moderation of SACs in some subjects.
- reviewing school assessments in SATs
- checking the accuracy of exam marking.
- obtaining a derived exam score in special circumstances.

Sample questions and previous GAT papers are available on the website

www.vcaa.vic.edu.au.

Students need to take the GAT seriously and make a genuine effort to complete all sections to the best of their ability. If they do not do this they can be disadvantaged when the checks listed above are carried out.

Tertiary Information Service

Year 12 students will be attending this program on Wednesday May 20th, from 9.30-11.30 am, at the Wilson Hall Melbourne University. Representatives from all Victorian Universities (plus some interstate), local TAFEs, and other education providers will be available to provide course information to students.

All year 12 students are expected to attend.

An expert panel will cover topics such as VTAC Applications, Scholarships, Special Admissions, Fees, Finances, Open Days, and also be available to answer student questions.

Tutoring.

From time to time parents ask if the VCE office has any recommendations on the use of tutors. We always recommend that students in the first instance approach their own class teacher for extra assistance.

Apart from this, there are many commercially available programs and also private tutors. As a service, we place the material available on the notice board in the 700 corridor. We do not endorse any of the programs or tutors but do this as a service to students and parents.

Absence Notes.

If a student is away, could parents either ring the coordinator on the day or please provide a note to the coordinator on the next day. If a student misses a Year 12 SAC, we ask that a Medical Certificate be provided.

Year 11 students will not be permitted to complete missed SACs unless their absences are satisfactorily explained. This can be by either a note or telephone call to the student's coordinator.

Special Provision and Special Consideration.

VCAA has a revised set of policies in this area. If you require a copy of these statements please consult the Web Site: www.vcaa.vic.edu.au or the VCE Office. If you have any questions or concerns in this area please contact your student's coordinator in the VCE office.

A message from our Student Welfare Coordinator.

We have a Student Welfare Coordinator, Ms Kath Klopsteins, who is available to students for personal counselling and advice. All matters are confidential.

To make an appointment students should see their coordinator or go directly to room 905.

Change of Subjects, Units 1 and 2. (Year 11 subjects)

There is an opportunity for year 11 students to change a limited number of subjects at mid year. These changes are limited by the constraints of the blocking grid and maximum class sizes.

Students are requested to see Mrs. Ritter in the VCE Office from Monday, 25th of May if they wish to discuss possible changes. Students will only be seen if they have a note from home authorizing the change.

Students should consult the curriculum booklet they were given last year or the UHS website for more detailed information on the VCE subjects offered.

<http://www.unihigh.vic.edu.au/curriculum.htm>.

Subject changes come into effect in the last week of Term 2. Students are expected to complete all Work Requirements in the subject they wish to leave. This includes sitting the half year exam.

Year 11 Students and rules on leaving the school grounds.

Year 11 students must be not leave the school grounds at any time including recess and lunchtimes.

The following exceptions apply.

1. Wednesday pm if they have no classes.
2. Period 6 and their teacher is absent. In other periods of the day Year 11 students will be allocated a replacement teacher and they are to attend class. If a student's teacher is away on periods 3 and 4 on Wednesday and these are the last classes for the day for these students, then they will also be dismissed.
3. If students do not have a time tabled class period 1 they may arrive by 9.25 to start period 2.

When students do not have a timetabled class they are expected to use the library or the VCE Study Centre.

Concerns about progress in VCE

If you as a parent or guardian have any concerns about the progress of your student at VCE or have any worries about any aspect of their schooling or other issues that you would like to discuss I encourage you to contact either your students particular coordinator or me at UHS on 93472022

Reports.

All Year 11 and 12 students will receive a written report to take home on the last day of term. If you have any queries about these reports or questions after you have received them please contact your student's coordinator.

Yours Sincerely,

Mr. K. Campbell.
Head of Bryce VCE Sub School