VCAL
Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning

For students who want a real alternative to the VCE
What is VCAL?

• The Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning is a hands on option for Years 11 / 12 students

• VCAL recognises the completion of 13 Years of Education with a certificate that looks not at university entrance, but at job readiness and preparation.

• VCAL gives you practical work-related experience, literacy and numeracy skills and the opportunity to build personal skills that are important to life and work.

• VCAL has three levels- it is expected that OUR Year 11’s will start INTERMEDIATE VCAL and perhaps follow on to SENIOR VCAL in Year 12.

• And like the VCE it is a recognised qualification.
VCAL - our pitch to Parents:

• A course that is complementary to the VCE, that is authorised by the Victorian Qualification Authority (VQA).
• Less theoretical and more practical than the VCE.
• Contains a mix of VCE, VET & VCAL Units delivered by the school and modules delivered by Registered Training organisations, approved and recognised by industry Australia wide.
• Involves workplace training
• Give a pathway to employment, TAFE courses and even a return to complete the VCE if required.
VCAL can lead to:

**TAFE** - as many modules of work have already been commenced and completed

**Apprenticeship** - with VET and work placements, skills are acquired that will make you more work ready

**Employment** - work skills that are displayed tell employers the skills that you have gained that they are looking for.

Gain **VCAL** units

- And still keep **VCE** alive too
What can it lead to?

VCAL

VCE

Community Involvement

Employment

VET

Life-long Learning

Apprenticeship

TAFE
## Course Structure

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<tr>
<th>Module / Units</th>
<th>Curriculum Strand</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Work Placement</td>
<td>Work Related Skills Units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VET Unit</td>
<td>Industry Specific Skills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VCE Unit 1+2 Sequence</td>
<td>Personal Development Skills</td>
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<tr>
<td>PD Skills Unit</td>
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<tr>
<td>VCE English or ESL</td>
<td>Literacy &amp; Numeracy Skills</td>
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<tr>
<td>VCE Maths or VCAL Numeracy</td>
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Literacy & Numeracy Skills

**Literacy Units**
- Students will do a choice from
  - VCE English Unit 1 & 2
  - VCE Foundation English unit 1 & 2

**Numeracy Units**
- **VCE General Maths Business** – Suitable for the majority of students who did Core Maths in Year 10
- **VCE Foundation Maths** Unit 1 and 2
Industry Specific skills

This is usually a VET course of your choosing.

- Carwatha College offers two streams of VET currently – Hospitality and Information Technology.

- Many others are available at surrounding schools and you will need to consult the VET Guide to pursue these options.

Work Related Skills

VCAL can include ...

- part time work, new apprenticeships, work experience and units and modules to assist students to prepare for work, for example occupational health and safety or job interview skills.

**ALL** Students undertaking VCAL will complete one day per week of Work Placement.
Personal Development Skills

This section is made up of 2 components

A **VCE Unit 1&2 Study** from areas such as Design and Technology, Visual Communication and Design, Drama, Media, Health and Human Development, Studio Arts etc..

**VCAL PD Skills**

Local and community projects and/or structured activities that will develop teamwork skills, self confidence and other skills important for life and work.
Assessment and Evidence

VCAL Assessment has two elements

Satisfactory completion of **Learning Outcomes** through Assessment Criteria

Eg For Intermediate Level Work Related Skills

NB There are multiple Learning Outcomes for each Unit

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Outcome</th>
<th>Assessment Criteria</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Can collect, analyse and organise information for a work related goal</td>
<td>Establish the needs of the workplace audience and the purposes of the information</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Access and record information from a variety of work related sources</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Recognise and select categories or structures by which to organise information relevant to the work place</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Check information for relevance, accuracy and completeness</td>
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</tbody>
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Evidence of Successful Performance

Eg Work Related Skills Strand Learning Outcomes:

- A portfolio of accumulated evidence
- Teacher observation and / or checklist -
- Evidence accumulated through project or program participation
  - Awards from recognised programs
  - Self assessment
  - Oral or written reports
Who should do VCAL?

VCAL is a recognised option for ALL students but especially:

- Students seriously seeking an apprenticeship
- Students considering courses offered by TAFE institutions
- Students seeking work based skills to enable them to gain employment

NB Undertaking a VCAL Certificate will not gain Students an ENTER SCORE (Tertiary Entrance Score) unless they complete a satisfactory number of Unit 1-4 Sequences.

A student can however successfully move from a VCAL Course in Year 11 to a VCE course in Year 12.
What are the benefits of completing VCAL?

- Applied Learning
- Industry Specific Knowledge
- Employment Opportunities
- Vast array of transferrable skills
- Social Justice Opportunities
- Cohesive