



# Senior pathway planning

For Year 10 students



**QCAA** Queensland Curriculum  
& Assessment Authority



*For all Queensland schools*

240258

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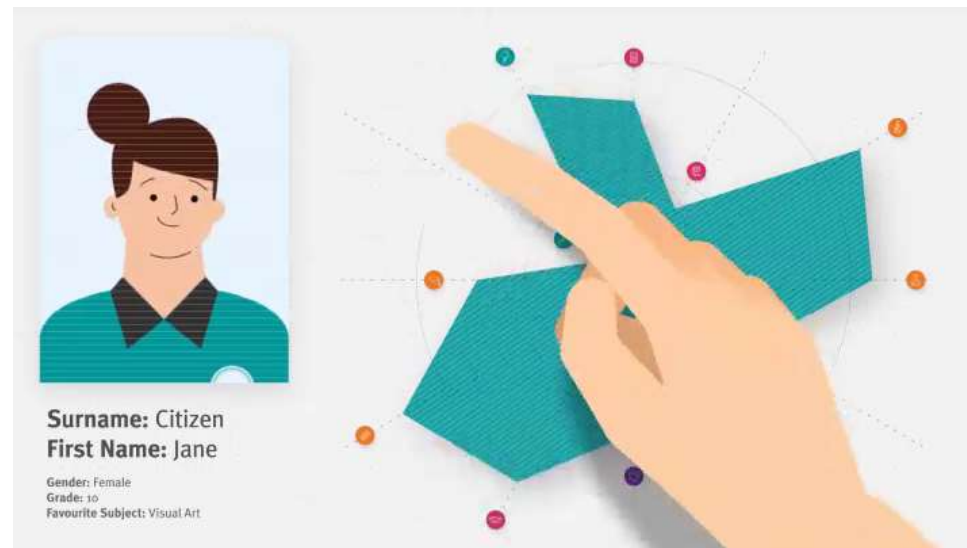
## What will be covered

- Planning for Years 11 and 12
- The Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE)
- Subjects and courses
- Tertiary entrance
- Results
- Information and support

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## Setting the scene

Lets begin with a [short animated video](#) that suggests an approach to pathways planning.



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## Preparing for senior school learning

- Planning for Years 11 and 12 is an important step for students.
- A wide range of learning options is available.
- Schools work with Year 10 students and their families to develop a plan.

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## Planning a pathway

The plan helps students:

- think about their education, training and career goals
- structure their learning around their abilities, interests and ambitions
- map their pathway to a Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE).

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## Things for students to consider

- What are my career goals?
- Which subjects am I good at?
- Which subjects do I like?
- Do I want to continue studying after Year 12?
- Are there prerequisite subjects?
- Are there special entry requirements?

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## Putting the plan into action

- The plan is documented.
- The student is registered with the QCAA and their learning account is opened.
- Schools review the plan regularly to monitor progress.

# What is the QCE?

The QCE is Queensland's senior schooling qualification.

- Internationally recognised
- Shows student achievement
- Flexible
- Wide range of learning options





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## How does the QCE work?

- Set amount: 20 credits
- Set pattern:
  - 12 credits from completed Core courses
  - 8 credits from Core, Preparatory & Complementary courses
- Satisfactory completion
- Literacy & numeracy



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## Set amount

20 credits from a range of learning options:

- QCAA courses
  - General subjects
  - Applied subjects
  - Short Courses
  - Senior External Examination syllabuses
- Vocational Education and Training (VET) certificates or qualifications
- Other recognised studies



Set  
amount

## Set pattern — Core courses

12 credits from completed Core courses:

**Set  
pattern**

Course	Credits per course
QCAA General subjects and Applied subjects	up to 4
QCAA General Extension subjects	up to 2
QCAA General Senior External Examination subjects	4
Certificate II qualifications	up to 4
Certificate III and IV qualifications (includes traineeships)	up to 8
School-based apprenticeships	up to 6
Recognised studies categorised as Core	credit varies

## Set pattern — Preparatory courses

Maximum of 4 credits from:

**Set  
pattern**

Course	Credits per course
QCAA Short Courses <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>QCAA Short Course in Literacy</li><li>QCAA Short Course in Numeracy</li></ul>	1
Certificate I qualifications	up to 3
Recognised studies categorised as Preparatory	credit varies

## Set pattern — Complementary courses

Maximum of 8 credits from:

Set  
pattern

Course	Credits per course
QCAA Short Courses <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>QCAA Short Course in Aboriginal &amp; Torres Strait Islander Languages</li><li>QCAA Short Course in Career Education</li></ul>	1
University subjects (while enrolled at a school)	up to 4
Diplomas and Advanced Diplomas (while enrolled at a school)	up to 8
Recognised studies categorised as Complementary	credit varies

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## Set standard

QCE credits are accrued when the set standard for each subject/course has been met.

Depending on the course, that may be:

- satisfactory completion
- grade of C or better
- competency or qualification completion
- pass or equivalent.



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## Literacy & numeracy options



- QCAA General or Applied English/Mathematics subjects
- QCAA Short Course in Literacy/Numeracy
- Senior External Examination in a QCAA English/Mathematics subject
- International Baccalaureate examination in approved English/Mathematics subjects
- Recognised studies listed as meeting literacy/numeracy requirements



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Government

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## QCE pathways

- The QCE is flexible.
- There is no single pathway — hundreds of course combinations can lead to a QCE.
- A student's pathway will depend on the subjects and courses the school offers and their individual goals.
- Typically, students will study six subjects/courses across Years 11 and 12.



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## Example pathway

### Example 1

A student enrolls in six General subjects (Core category) over four semesters.



English

Mathematical Methods

Psychology

Geography

Philosophy & Reason

Dance

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## Example pathway

### Example 2

A student enrolls in six Applied subjects (Core category) over four semesters and a Short Course (Preparatory category) for one semester.



Essential English

Business Studies

Religion & Ethics

Arts in Practice

Information &  
Communication Technology

Agricultural Practices

Short Course in Numeracy

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## Example pathway

### Example 3

A student enrolls in a combination of General and Applied subjects (Core and Preparatory categories) and completes learning as part of a school-based apprenticeship in Carpentry.



Essential English

General Mathematics

Certificate I in Engineering

Science in Practice

Certificate III in Carpentry,  
30% of certificate completed  
50 days/year on-the-job  
(100 total)

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## Tertiary entrance

- The ATAR is used nationally to measure a student's position relative to other ATAR-eligible students.
- The Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC) calculates and issue ATARs.

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## ATAR eligibility

To be eligible for an ATAR, students must successfully complete:

- 5 General subjects, or
- 4 General subjects + 1 Applied subject or completed VET qualification at Certificate III or above.

Students must also successfully complete an English subject.

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## Assessment — QCAA subjects/courses

QCAA General subjects:

- three internal assessments (set/marked by schools)
- one external assessment (set/marked by the QCAA and held at the same time in schools across Queensland)

Most external assessment will contribute 25% to the final subject result. In Mathematics and Science subjects, it will contribute 50%.

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## Assessment — QCAA subjects/courses

QCAA Applied subjects:

- four internal assessments (set/marked by schools)
- Essential English and Essential Mathematics — one of the four is a common internal assessment (set by the QCAA and marked by schools)

QCAA Short Courses:

- two internal assessments (set/marked by schools)

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## Assessment — VET and other courses

VET assessment may include

- observation
- written assessment
- work samples
- questioning.

Assessment for other courses will vary depending on the course.



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## Results and reporting

- Final results are released at the end of Year 12 via student learning accounts in the Student Portal on the myQCE website.
- All students receive a senior statement.
- Eligible students receive a QCE.
- Students can keep working towards their QCE after Year 12.

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## More information

- myQCE website: [myqce.qcaa.qld.edu.au](http://myqce.qcaa.qld.edu.au)
- myQCE Instagram: [www.instagram.com/myqce](http://www.instagram.com/myqce)
- QCAA website: [www.qcaa.qld.edu.au](http://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au)
- QTAC website: [www.qtac.edu.au](http://www.qtac.edu.au)

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## QCAA social media



[www.facebook.com/qcaa.qld.edu.au](https://www.facebook.com/qcaa.qld.edu.au)



[twitter.com/QCAA\\_edu](https://twitter.com/QCAA_edu)



[www.youtube.com/user/TheQCAA](https://www.youtube.com/user/TheQCAA)



[www.linkedin.com/company/queensland-curriculum-and-assessment-authority](https://www.linkedin.com/company/queensland-curriculum-and-assessment-authority)



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