

INTRODUCTION

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to Year 10!

Year 10 is a significant and exciting milestone in a student's educational journey. As our students step into this pivotal year, we warmly welcome you as partners in supporting them through this important phase of growth and preparation.

Year 10 marks a key transition from junior secondary to senior secondary education. It is a year where students begin to develop greater independence in their learning, aligning their interests and abilities with future career choices. This is the preparatory phase for senior study, designed to build self-directed, motivated learners ready to take on the challenges of Years 11 and 12.

Year 10 is also a year where students begin their Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) journey. Year 10 serves as a foundation year, helping students prepare for the demands of senior secondary schooling in 2026. With this shift comes increased responsibility—not only from the college but importantly from the students themselves. We encourage families to establish consistent learning routines at home, as these habits are vital for success in the senior years.

Beyond academics, Year 10 offers a rich variety of experiences designed to help students grow holistically. Through faith formation, leadership opportunities, and work experience placements, students gain valuable insights into themselves and their future aspirations. Additionally, the Student Education Profile Interview (SEP) provides a clear roadmap, enabling students to plan their learning patterns with their career goals in mind.

At MacKillop Catholic College, we deeply value the partnership between home and school. This collaboration is crucial in supporting students' development and success. We look forward to working closely with you throughout this year, ensuring your child is well-prepared and confident as they embark on their senior secondary education.

Thank you for your ongoing support and involvement.

Melissa Headridge Deputy Principal - Secondary

YEAR 10 CURRICULUM

All students in Year 10 study the mandatory core subjects of Religion, English, Mathematics, Science, History and HPE. Students will also choose three additional year-long subjects from other Learning Areas to ensure that a breadth and depth of learning occurs, as well as semester based senior taster subjects.

Please note that some specialist courses attract an <u>additional fee of \$20 a semester</u>, due to the significant level of resourcing required, beyond that of a standard subject.

The structure of the subject offerings for Year 10 2026 will be as follows:

Core Subjects

- Religion Semester 1
- Religion & Ethics Semester 2
- An English Subject:
 - o Essential English Prep
 - o General English Prep
 - o Literature Prep
- A Mathematics Subject
 - Essential MathematicsPrep
 - General MathematicsPrep
 - o Mathematical Methods Prep
- Science
 - o General Science Prep
 - o Applied Science Prep
- Health and Physical Education
- Humanities and Social Sciences
 - o 1 semester of History

Specialist Subjects - Year Long

- Food Specialisations
- Industrial Technology
- Design Technology
- Digital Technologies
- Textiles
- Engineering Principles
- Drama
- Japanese
- Music
- Visual Arts
- Business and Economics
- History Extension
- Global Peace & Justice Studies
- Science Extension Marine & Aquatics
- HPE Physical Education Prep
- HPE Sport & Recreation Prep
- Certificate I in Construction
- Certificate II in Workplace Skills

Year 9–12 Progressions and Pathways

*Denotes Applied Subject

^Denotes VET Course

	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11 and 12
Religious Education	Religious Education	Religious Education (S1) Religion and Ethics (S2)	Religion and Ethics
English	English PHIL Extension Japanese	Essential English Prep General English Prep General Literature Prep Japanese	Essential English* General English General Literature
Humanities and Languages	History Geography Business	History (CORE) History Extension Business and Economics Global, Peace and Justice Studies	Modern History Ancient History Certificate III Business Certificate IV Crime and Justice Economics Geography
Mathematics	Mathematics	Essential Mathematics Prep General Mathematics Prep Mathematics Methods Prep	Essential Mathematics* General Mathematics Mathematical Methods Specialist Mathematics
Science	Science STEM Extension	General Science Prep Applied Science Prep Science Extension - Marine and Aquatic Practices Prep	Biology Chemistry Physics Psychology Marine Science Aquatic Practices*
The Arts	Drama Music Visual Arts	Visual Arts Drama Music	Visual Arts Drama Music Visual Art in Practice* Media Art in Practice*
The Technologies	Industrial Design Technology Design Technology Food Technology Digital Technologies Textiles Engineering Principles	Industrial Design Technology Design Technology Food Technology Textiles Engineering Principles Digital Technologies Cert I Construction/Construction Pathways	Food and Nutrition Industrial Technology Skills* Hospitality Practices* Cert III Hospitality^ Certificate II Engineering Pathways - Fabrication Digital Solutions Design Information Technologies*
HPE	Health and Physical Education HPE Extension	Health and Physical Education HPE – Physical Education Prep HPE – Sport and Recreation Prep	Physical Education Sport and Recreation* Cert III in Fitness^

Vocational Education and Training (VET)

At MacKillop Catholic College, students can engage in Vocational Education and Training in the Senior Phase of learning. VET refers to education and training that focusses on developing knowledge and skills required for specific industries. VET qualifications also focus on the development of transferrable skills that develop job ready characteristics needed to participate fully in the workforce. VET in schools allows students to remain at school while completing nationally recognised training qualifications.

Participating in VET can:

- provide credit towards a student's attainment of a QCE
- attainment of a nationally recognised qualification or statement of attainment
- support a student to transition to employment or further education.

School based traineeships and apprenticeships

School based apprenticeships and traineeships can contribute to a student's senior education plan. The College supports students in their pursuit of these employment and training opportunities. School based apprenticeships and traineeships (SAT's) require one a combination of work and school each week. Students should speak with the Leader of Pathways if they are interested in an opportunity of this nature.

Student roles and responsibilities

Students are asked to:

- make a serious commitment to undertaking a nationally recognised qualification
- provide any materials and equipment requested by the College
- meet all aspects of work health and safety requirements
- meet the expectations and requirements of the College in terms of participation, cooperation, punctuality, behaviour and conduct.

Complaints and Appeals Policy

MacKillop Catholic College has a complaints and appeals policy specific to the Registered Training Organisation (RTO) operations.

A complaint can be made to the College regarding:

- College Trainers and Assessors
- Students of MacKillop Catholic College
- Third party services providing training on behalf of MacKillop Catholic College. The Complaints and Appeals Policy is also available on the College website.

All complaints or appeals must be directed to the Principal as CEO of MacKillop Catholic College.

Unique Student Identifier (USI)

All students who wish to study a VET course will be required to obtain a USI.

We ask that you access the USI website www.usi.gov.au and complete the process at home. This is a simple process that only takes approximately 5 minutes. Please note that a Medicare card, Birth Certificate or Passport is required to complete this process.

Students and parents will be required to complete a USI form and Parent permission to store form and have it returned to Ms Flockhart or Mrs Coleman at Student Reception prior to enrolment and admission into the course.

Enrolment and Admission

Access to VET Certificates is open to all students, regardless of race, gender, and ability. Subjects will be offered if enrolment numbers are viable and human and physical resources comply with AQTF standards for Registered Training Organisations. Students must meet the minimum levels of literacy and numeracy.

Fees

For qualifications delivered by MacKillop Catholic College, tuition costs are varied. Any additional fees are highlighted in the Subject Selection Handbook.

In cases where students have exhausted VETiS funding, supplementary costs could be incurred for further VETiS qualifications.

Please note, that VETiS (VET in Schools) funding will cover the cost of ONE Certificate II course. Any additional certificate courses (in Year 11 for example) and Certificate III courses have fees attached.

Senior Learning Pathways

Commencing in Year 10, students will begin working towards their desired pathway. When choosing a career pathway, it is important to remember that all learning and all subjects have value. It is also important to note that all subjects provide a variety of skills that will equip students for entry to the workforce either after Year 12 or after further training or study.

5 Day Senior Pathway	Blended Pathway	Workforce Pathway
For students who plan on going to University or	For students who are considering both work and/or	For students who wish to join the workforce,
Tertiary institution for further study after	further study after successfully completing Year 12.	undertake Vocational Education and Training, or a
completing Year 12.	In Year 11 and 12, these students wish to be ATAR	School Based Traineeship or Apprenticeship.
Students wish to achieve an ATAR	eligible, and must study a minimum of 4 General	This pathway may provide students with excellent
Students Wish to achieve an ATAN	Subjects, plus a mix of Applied or VET subjects.	preparation to transition from school to TAFE or the
In Year 11 and 12, students Complete 5 General	Subjects, plus a IIIIx of Applied of VET subjects.	1
Subjects, and either an Applied subject, or	Some of this may be delivered offsite.	workforce after graduating school.
Certificate III or IV that is delivered onsite.	·	
	In Year 10, they can complete a Certificate II Course	
In Year 10, they can complete a Certificate II Course		
AIMS	AIMS	AIMS
 Full time study at university 	 Full time study at university or TAFE 	o Traineeship or Apprenticeship
o Part-time study and part-time work	o Part-time study and part-time work	o Full time work of a practical nature
	o Full Time Work	
	o To be ATAR eligible	
Year 10 SUBJECTS	SENIOR SUBJECTS	SENIOR SUBJECTS
o General English or Literature Preparation	o General English/Essential English Preparation	General English/Essential English
o General Maths or Maths Methods Preparation	o General Maths/Essential Maths Preparation	o General Maths/Essential Maths
o Religion and Ethics	o Religion and Ethics	o Religion and Ethics
o History/HPE (Semester of each)	o History/HPE (Semester of each)	o History/HPE (Semester of each)
o General Science Preparation	o General or Applied Science Preparation	o General or Applied Science Preparation
o Elective	o Elective	o Elective
o Elective	o Elective	o Elective
o Elective	o Elective	 Training/Work experience/ Apprenticeship

Strategies for choosing subjects

Students are advised to select subjects and courses based on the following criteria:

- the subjects are of interest; success happens in them and there is a willingness to work hard in them. For example, Mathematics Methods Preparation requires hard work (even for a student who likes the subject) in order to be successful.
- what may interest them or may lead to **possible career directions**. For example, thinking about becoming a carpenter suggests that Industrial Design Technology would be advantageous.
- the match to the learning style that happens within the subject area. For example, extensive reading and synthesis may suit some students, while designing and making may suit others.
- the **skills development** that will build for Year 11 and 12 courses.

Students should not choose a subject based on

- Friends taking it
- They've heard it's easy
- They have heard they need to do it, even though they hate it and haven't passed it previously

How can parents help?

- Supporting students in the subject selection process by discussing the topics studied in the subject outline provided in this handbook
- Encouraging participation in subjects where students can feel success
- Being aware of the College's expectations and assessment programs
- Taking opportunities to communicate with teachers to discuss their child's options for future pathways

Useful websites:

- TAFE QLD http://tafeqld.edu.au
- QTAC http://www.qtac.edu.au
- MyFuture https://myfuture.edu.au
- Job Guide https://www.education.gov.au/job-guide
- Good Universities Guide https://www.gooduniversitiesguide.com.au
- School-based apprenticeships and traineeships https://training.qld.gov.au/apprentices/sats

Points to note:

Before selecting subjects, students should carefully read the Course Outlines in this handbook. They should also note the following points:

- If insufficient students opt for a given subject, it may not be offered.
- The specialists chosen for the curriculum each year will be arranged on lines and students will then be asked to select one subject from each line. It is quite likely that two subjects, which a student wishes to take, may occur on the same line. A choice will then have to be made between the two subjects.
- Quota restrictions apply to all subjects and selection of a specialist does not guarantee a place in the subject.

Religion



Why study this subject?

- Appreciate the diversity of belief and faith systems
- Understand the importance of faith and belief systems
- Develop critical and creative thinking skills
- Appreciate the spiritual and the divine

Possible topics covered

- Beliefs
- Sacred Texts
- Church
- Christian Life

What will students do?

- Investigate various ways in which humans have understanding of the mystery of God or the 'Other', which is ultimately beyond human language, concepts and stories.
- Explore how the Church has responded to the range of unprecedented threats to both human ecology and environmental ecology facing Australia and the Modern World (c. 1918 to the present) from science, technology, materialism, consumerism and political ideologies.
- Develop critical understanding of the various sources that guide the Church's action in the world today, including the teaching of Jesus and the early Church, the principles of Catholic social teaching and the reasoned judgements of conscience, carefully formed and examined.
- Examine the Eucharist as the primary and indispensable source of nourishment for the spiritual life of believers, who carry on Jesus' mission in the world.
- Continue to develop their understanding of prayer in the Christian tradition through an exploration of Centering Prayer; prayers for justice, peace and the environment, including the Prayer of St Francis, the Magnificat and the Canticle of Creation; and meditative prayer practices, including praying with the help of nature.

How will students be assessed?

- 1. Exams
- 2. Research assessment
- 3. Critical analysis of source material
- 4. Visual representations
- 5. Biblical criticism

Pathways to Senior Subjects

- Religion & Ethics
- Study of Religion

Recommendations

• Core Subject

Pre-requisite for Senior Subjects

• Nil

English



During the year, students will have the opportunity to demonstrate Australian Curriculum criteria associated with the Learning Area of English. All students will be taught from the ACARA Year 10 syllabus embedding the criteria of Language, Literacy and Literature. The selection of preparatory courses allows for the exploration of assessment, expectations and genres associated with the senior syllabi in the Learning Area of English.

Essential English Preparation

Why study this subject?

- The study of English is central to your learning and development
- It helps create confident communicators, imaginative thinkers and informed citizens.
- It is through the study of English that individuals gain increasing control over language to analyse, understand, communicate and build relationships with others and with the world around them.

Possible topics covered

- Identity
- Pop Culture
- Representations
- Current Issues

What will students do?

- In Essential English, the students engage with a range of literary texts for enjoyment
- These contemporary and classic texts are aimed to support and challenge new ways of thinking
- Using these texts, students will develop skills around knowledge, understanding and skills in listening, reading, viewing, speaking, writing and creating.

How will students be assessed?

- Students will complete assessment tasks that allow for creative responses using imaginative, informative, and persuasive text types. This may include:
 - Essays and feature articles

- Multimodal presentations
- Short answer response

Pathways to Senior Subjects

- English Short Course
- Essential English (Applied)
- English (General)

Recommendations

Compulsory English Option

Pre-requisite for Senior Subjects

nil

General English Preparation

Why study this subject?

- The study of English is central to your learning and development
- It helps create confident communicators, imaginative thinkers and informed citizens.
- It is through the study of English that individuals gain increasing control over language to analyse, understand, communicate and build relationships with others and with the world around them.

Possible topics covered

- Media Texts and Documentary
- Speculative Fiction
- Shakespearean Texts
- Poetry

What will students do?

- In English, the students engage with a range of literary texts that reflect a variety of contexts
- These contemporary and classic texts are aimed to support and challenge new ways of thinking
- Using these texts, students will develop skills around knowledge, understanding and skills in listening, reading, viewing, speaking, writing and creating.
- Students analyse and evaluate by deconstructing texts to explore use of language features, aesthetics, vocabulary, context and structure for a range of purposes and audiences.

How will students be assessed?

Students will complete assessment tasks that mirror the styles of assessment expected in QCE General English. This may include:

- Essays and Feature articles
- Multimodal presentations
- Imaginative Writing Tasks

Pathways to Senior Subjects

- Essential English (Applied)
- English (General)
- Literature (General)

Recommendations

- Compulsory English Option
- C in Year 9 English

Pre-requisite for Senior Subjects

- General English
- Literature

Literature Preparation

Why study this subject?

- The study of the English language is central to your learning and development
- It helps create confident communicators, imaginative thinkers and informed citizens.
- Literature provides you with the opportunity to develop valuable, transferable skills in analysis, critical thinking, expression, and communication
- You will develop a clear and expressive writing style by learning how to relate texts to their cultural and historical contexts.

Possible topics covered

- Literature as social commentary: Frankenstein
- A national voice? A study of Australian prose, poetry and film
- A romp with the Bard: Romeo and Juliet
- Dreams and Nightmares: The Great Gatsby

What will students do?

- examine a variety of classic and contemporary works, including poetry, prose, drama, film, new media and critical essays. Through studying key texts, students gain knowledge from writers throughout the centuries, from William Shakespeare to May Shelley, including Australian writers
- These contemporary and classic texts are aimed to support and challenge new ways of thinking
- Using these texts, students will develop skills around knowledge, understanding and skills in listening, reading, viewing, speaking, writing and creating.

How will students be assessed?

- Students will complete assessment tasks that mirror the styles of assessment expected in QCE Literature. This includes:
 - o Comparative and analytical essays
 - o Original imaginative response
 - o Transformative imaginative response

Pathways to Senior Subjects

- Literature (General)
- English (General)

Recommendations

- Compulsory English Option
- B in Year 9 English highly desirable

Pre-requisite for Senior Subjects

- General English
- Literature

Humanities and Social Sciences

The Humanities and Social Sciences are the study of human behaviour and interaction in social, cultural, environmental, economic, business, legal and political contexts. This learning area has a historical and contemporary focus, from personal to global contexts, and considers the challenges that may occur in the future. It plays an important role in assisting students to understand global issues, and building their capacity to be active and informed citizens who understand and participate in the world.

History



Why study this subject?

- The study of History is fundamental to understanding how the modern world works, and why it is the way it is
- It helps create an appreciation of the vast differences among humans, allowing people to become effective global citizens
- History promotes critical thinking, analysis, and evaluation skills, which are transferrable across a range of subject areas

Possible topics covered

- World War Two
- Making the Modern World

What will students do?

- examine the history of the modern world and Australia from 1918 to the present, with an emphasis on Australia in its global context.
- develop an understanding of the context and chronology of the period, and the broad patterns of historical continuity and change from 1918, such as significant events and ideas during the inter-

- war years between World War I and World War II, including the Great Depression, and developments post World War II, including Cold War international relations
- analyse, interpret, and evaluate a range of historical sources to understand the range of perspectives on a given topic
- apply historical thinking skills, such as significance, causation, and change and continuity.

How will students be assessed?

- Assessment may include:
 - Combination Exam
 - Independent Source Investigation
 - Extended response to research

Pathways to Senior Subjects

- Ancient History (General)
- Modern History (General)

Recommendations

• Core

Pre-requisite for Senior Subjects

 Highly recommended for the study of Modern History and Ancient History

History Extension



Why study this subject?

- Ancient History provides opportunities for students to study people, societies and civilizations of the past
- Study of the ancient world allows you to develop a deeper understanding of events throughout history, and why the world has developed the way that it has.
- It helps build an understanding of themes, ideas, individuals and events that appear in other Learning Areas, and builds a broader knowledge base

Topics covered

- Gladiator: History and Hollywood?
- Alexander the Great: Man or Myth?
- Suffragettes: Terrorists or Freedom Fighters
- Amazing Grace: The abolition of Slavery

What will students do?

- explore the representation of individuals, events, and civilisations in a range of formats
- analyse, interpret, and evaluate a range of historical sources to understand the range of perspectives on a given topic
- apply historical thinking skills, such as significance, causation, and change and continuity.

How will students be assessed?

- Essay in response to Historical Evidence
- Extended response to research
- Independent Source Investigation
- Short Response Exam

Pathways to Senior Subjects

- Ancient History (General)
- Modern History (General)

Recommendations

• Interest in history and the past

• C in English and History

Pre-requisite for Senior Subjects

• Highly recommended for the study of Senior History

Business and Economics



Why study this subject?

- Develop enterprising behaviours and capabilities that can be transferable into life, work and business opportunities
- Understand the ways society allocates limited resources to satisfy needs and wants, and how to participate in the economy as consumers, workers and producers
- Understanding of the work and business environments within the Australian economy and its interactions and relationships with the global economy, in particular the Asia region
- Develop reasoning and interpretation skills to apply economics and business concepts to make informed decisions
- Develop understandings that will enable you to actively and ethically participate in the local,
 national, regional and global economy as economically, financially and business-literate citizens.

Topics covered

- Economics in Motion: Tracking Trends and Government Impact
- Beyond the Budget: The Ripple Effect of Financial Decisions
- Enterprise Architects: Building Brilliant Businesses
- Startup Enterprise: from ideas to impact!

What will students do?

- Explore economic indicators that influence the Australian Government with decision making
- Understand Government incentives to improve economic performance and living standards
- Develop business strategies that can be used to manage workplace productivity
- Explore the Australian superannuation system
- Explore the role businesses play in society
- Entrepreneurial characteristics and skills
- Develop financial literacy
- Reflect on the effectiveness of their business venture.

How will students be assessed?

- Assessment may include:
 - o Exams
 - Research assessment

- o Feasibility Study
- o Practical Application

Pathways to Senior Subjects

- Certificate III in Business (VET)
- Economics (General)

Recommendations

• C in English and Year 9 Business

Pre-requisite for Senior Subjects

• Highly recommended for the study of Cert III Business and/or Economics

Global, Peace and Justice Studies



Why study this subject?

In a rapidly changing and interconnected world, the challenges of conflict, inequality, disease, and environmental change require young people to think critically, act ethically, and participate as informed global citizens. This integrated subject combines Year 10 Geography and Civics and Citizenship to explore how concepts of peace, justice, human wellbeing, and equity are shaped by political, environmental, social, and economic factors.

Topics covered

- Stop the Spread" Geographies of Disease
 O
- Wellbeing for All" Geographies of Human Wellbeing III
- Conflict Zones" Peace, War, and Justice 🔇 💥
- "Act Now!" Australia's Role in Global Peace and Justice AU

What will students do?

- Investigations → Using GIS, maps, data, and infographics to analyse global wellbeing and disease patterns.
- Source analysis → Evaluating treaties, statistics, maps, news articles, and NGO reports.
- Case studies → Exploring global and local issues, such as disease outbreaks, human rights crises, and climate migration.

- Debates and simulations → Engaging in mock UN summits, humanitarian negotiations, and advocacy campaigns.
- Collaborative projects → Designing and presenting strategies for improving wellbeing or resolving conflict.
- Critical reflection → Considering ethical dilemmas and diverse cultural perspectives.
- Learning experiences are designed to be explicit, inquiry-driven, and collaborative, allowing students to engage with complex global challenges while developing practical problem-solving skills.

How will students be assessed?

- Assessment may include:
 - o Investigative Report
 - o Source Analysis Exam
 - o Projects

Pathways to Senior Subjects

- Modern History
- Geography
- Economics

Recommendations

• C in English and Year 9 Humanities

Pre-requisite for Senior Subjects

Highly recommended for Senior Humanities

Japanese



Why study this subject?

- Continue to develop knowledge and appreciation of the Japanese language
- Develop critical thinking skills
- Continue to develop an understanding and appreciation of Japanese culture.

Possible topics covered

- Socializing
- Entertainment
- Media

What will students do?

- initiate and sustain Japanese language to exchange and compare ideas and experiences about their own and others' personal world.
- communicate using non-verbal, spoken and written language to collaborate, plan and reflect on activities and events.
- interpret and analyse information and ideas in texts and demonstrate understanding of different perspectives.
- synthesise information and respond in Japanese or English, adjusting language to convey meaning and to suit context, purpose and audience.
- use structures and features of spoken and written Japanese to create texts.
- use a combination of kana and a range of familiar kanji appropriate to context.
- select and use sentence and grammatical structures to interact, make meaning and create texts.
- identify multiple readings of familiar kanji in different compounds.
- discussion of structures and features of texts

How will students be assessed?

- Examinations
- Extended responses

Pathways to Senior Subjects

• Japanese (General)

Recommendations

• A C Grade in Year 9 Japanese

Pre-requisite for Senior Subjects

• A C is required for Senior Japanese

Mathematics



The organisation of the Year 10 Mathematics course has been designed to accommodate an increased scope for students seeking to pursue the range of Mathematics Subjects in Year 11 and 12 and ensures that they are suitably prepared for these. This structure will allow exposure to the specifics of the various Mathematics courses and provide a firm grounding for success in those areas.

All students will be taught from the ACARA Year 10 syllabus.

Essential Mathematics Preparation

Why study this subject?

- Essential Mathematics Preparation focuses on enabling students to use mathematics effectively, efficiently and critically to make informed decisions in their daily lives.
- Provides students with the mathematical knowledge, skills and understanding to solve problems in real contexts, in a range of workplace, personal, further learning and community settings.
- Offers students the opportunity to prepare for post-school options of employment and further training.
- Recommended for those who struggle with mathematics and have received additional support across Year 8 and 9

Topics covered

- Number and Algebra
- Measurement and Geometry
- Statistics and Probability

What will students do?

- develop an understanding of concepts and techniques drawn from mathematics and statistics
- solve applied problems using concepts and techniques drawn from mathematics and statistics

- develop reasoning and interpretive skills in mathematical and statistical contexts
- communicate in a concise and systematic manner using appropriate mathematical and statistical language
- choose and use technology appropriately.

How will students be assessed?

- Examinations
- Problem-solving and modelling tasks

Pathways to Senior Subjects

• Essential Mathematics (Applied)

Recommendations

Compulsory Mathematics Option

Pre-requisite for Senior Subjects

• C Grade in Year 10 required for Senior Essential Mathematics

General Mathematics Preparation

Why study this subject?

- General Mathematics Preparation is designed for those students who want to extend their mathematical skills beyond Year 10 level, but whose future studies or employment pathways do not require knowledge of calculus.
- The subject is designed for students who have a wide range of educational and employment aspirations, including continuing their studies at university or TAFE.

Topics covered

- Number and Algebra
- Measurement and Geometry
- Statistics and Probability

What will students do?

- develop their understanding of concepts and techniques drawn from the topic areas of number and algebra, geometry and trigonometry, graphs and networks, and statistics
- solve applied problems using concepts and techniques drawn from the topic areas of number and algebra, geometry and trigonometry, graphs and networks, and statistics
- develop reasoning and interpretive skills in mathematical and statistical contexts
- communicate the results of a mathematical or statistical problem-solving activity in a concise and systematic manner using appropriate mathematical and statistical language
- choose and use technology appropriately and efficiently.

How will students be assessed?

Examinations

• Problem-solving and modelling tasks

Pathways to Senior Subjects

- Essential Mathematics (Applied)
- General Mathematics (General)

Recommendations

- Compulsory Mathematics Option
- C in Year 9 Mathematics

Pre-requisite for Senior Subjects

- C in Year 10 required for Senior General Mathematics
- B in Year 10 required for Senior Mathematics Methods

Mathematical Methods Preparation

Why study this subject?

- Continue to develop essential mathematical skills, knowledge and understanding in Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry, and Statistics and Probability
- Continue to develop the numeracy capabilities required in their personal, work, and civic life
- Develop the fundamentals on which mathematical specialties and professional applications of mathematics are built.

Topics covered

- Number and Algebra
- Measurement and Geometry
- Statistics and Probability
- Introduction to calculus.

What will students do?

- develop understanding of concepts and techniques drawn from algebra, the study of functions, calculus, probability and statistics
- solve applied problems using concepts and techniques drawn from algebra, functions, calculus, probability and statistics
- reason in mathematical and statistical contexts and interpretation of mathematical and statistical information including ascertaining the reasonableness of solutions to problems
- communicate in a concise and systematic manner using appropriate mathematical and statistical language
- choose and use technology appropriately and efficiently.

How will students be assessed?

- Examinations
- Problem-solving and modelling tasks

Pathways to Senior Subjects

- General Mathematics
- Mathematical Methods
- Specialist Mathematics

Recommendations

- Compulsory Mathematics Option
- B in Year 9 Mathematics

Pre-requisite for Senior Subjects

- B in Year 10 required for Mathematical Methods
- B in Year 10 required for Specialist Mathematics

Science



General Science Preparation

The organisation of the Year 10 General Science Preparation course has been designed to accommodate an increased scope for students seeking to pursue the range of Science Subjects in Year 11 and 12, and ensures that they are suitably prepared for these subjects. This structure will enhance exposure to the specifics of the various Science courses, both General and Applied, and provide a firm grounding for success in those areas with the intention to extend students. It should be considered for students that intend to select ATAR courses as part of their senior pathways and be taught in trimester rotations throughout the year.

All students will be taught and assessed from the ACARA Year 10 syllabus.

Why study this subject?

- Develop an interest, curiosity and willingness to explore as well as investigate, inquire and speculate on the changing world in which you live
- Continue to develop your critical, analytical and creative thinking skills to solve problems
- Develop a stronger understanding of the scientific disciplines to confidently support subject selection and decision-making processes for Years 11 and 12.

Topics covered

- Chemistry
- Physics
- Biology

What will students do?

- Understand that science provides of the nature of living things, and of the physical and chemical processes that explain the behaviour of all material things
- Understand the nature of scientific inquiry and the ability to use a range of scientific inquiry methods, including questioning; planning and conducting experiments and investigations based on ethical principles; collecting and analysing data; evaluating results; and drawing critical, evidence-based conclusions
- communicate scientific understanding and findings to a range of audiences, to justify ideas based on evidence, and to evaluate and debate scientific arguments and claims
- solve problems and make informed, evidence-based decisions about current and future applications of science while considering ethical and social implications of decisions
- develop a solid foundation of knowledge of the biological, chemical and physical sciences, including being able to select and integrate the scientific knowledge and methods needed to explain and predict phenomena, to apply that understanding to new situations and events, and to appreciate the dynamic nature of science knowledge.

How will students be assessed?

- Data Analysis
- Experimental Investigations
- Research Investigations
- Examinations

Pathways to Senior Subjects

- Biology (General)
- Chemistry (General)
- Physics (General)
- Psychology (General)
- Aquatic Practice (Applied)

Recommendations

• Core

Pre-requisite for Senior Subjects

- B in Year 10 highly recommended for Senior Science in the corresponding discipline (Biology, Physics, Chemistry)
- C in Year 10 is highly recommended for Aquatic Practices (Applied)

Applied Science Preparation

Why study this subject?

- Develop an interest, curiosity and willingness to explore as well as investigate, inquire and speculate on the changing world in which you live in a more practical program
- Develop a stronger understanding of the applied practical disciplines to confidently support subject selection and decision-making processes for Years 11 and 12.

Topics covered

- Chemistry
- Physics
- Biology
- Earth Science
- Careers

What will students do?

- Understand that science provides of the nature of living things, of Earth and its place in the cosmos, and of the physical and chemical processes that explain the behaviour of all material things
- Understand the nature of scientific inquiry and the ability to use a range of scientific inquiry methods through practical based applications
- communicate scientific understanding and findings to a range of audiences
- solve problems and make informed, evidence-based decisions about current and future applications of science while considering ethical and social implications of decisions
- apply a solid foundation of knowledge of the biological, chemical, physical, earth and space sciences, to new situations and events, and to appreciate the dynamic nature of science knowledge.

How will students be assessed?

- Experimental Investigations
- Research Investigations
- Examinations

Pathways to Senior Subjects

• Aquatic Practice (Applied)

Recommendations

Core

Pre-requisite for Senior Subjects

• C in Year 10 is highly recommended for Aquatic Practices (Applied)

Science Extension - Marine and Aquatic Practices

Why study this subject?

- Develop an interest, curiosity and willingness to explore. Students will know, analyse, plan and evaluate all aspects of Marine and Aquatic Practice environments, careers, human endeavours and their abiotic and biotic factors
- Develop a stronger understanding of both the general and applied disciplines to confidently support subject selection and decision-making processes for Years 11 and 12.

Topics covered

- Fisheries and Aquaculture
- Water safety
- Freshwater and Saltwater ecology

- Careers
- Recreational fishing
- Marine and Aquatic Practice policy

What will students do?

- Recognize boating applications and policy for recreational or commercial applications including legislation and zoning.
- Analyze practical aquatic knots and their purposes
- They will investigate that water quality is essential for animal/plant production.
- Monitor fish population/breeding in a classroom tank including feeding, caring, measuring and checking water quality.
- Investigate the biotic and abiotic factors influencing life on the great barrier reef. Students will understand food webs and chains, feeding relationships. Students will classify organisms from a reef ecosystems using classification techniques.
- Measure biodiversity using quadrats and transects

How will students be assessed?

- Projects
- Investigations

Pathways to Senior Subjects

- Aquatic Practice (Applied)
- Marine Science (General)

Recommendations

• Core

Pre-requisite for Senior Subjects

- C in Year 10 is highly recommended for Aquatic Practices (Applied)
- A in year 10 is highly recommended for Marine Science (General)

The Arts

Music



Why study this subject?

- Develop practical performance skills specialising on an instrument of choice so you can learn songs that you enjoy and perform music with other musicians
- Learn the fundamentals of music theory and apply this knowledge in your performances and compositions
- Learn to compose music in a range of styles and genres as you develop your own personal style as a composer
- Learn to use music technology so you can record and produce your own original music
- Learn about a range of music genres and styles, which will lead you to a deeper understanding and appreciation of music you listen to

Possible topics covered

- Music genres and styles from Classical, Jazz and Rock repertoire
- Composition
- Performance
- Elements of Music

What will students do?

- Analyse different scores and performances aurally and visually
- Evaluate the use of elements of music and defining characteristics from different musical styles
- Interpret, rehearse and perform solo and ensemble repertoire in a range of forms and styles
- Interpret and perform music with technical control, expression and stylistic understanding
- Use aural skills to recognise elements of music and memorise aspects of music such as pitch and rhythm sequences
- Use knowledge of the elements of music, style and notation to compose, document and share their music.

How will students be assessed?

- Performance
- Composition
- Written Responding Tasks

Pathways to Senior Subjects

• Music (General)

Recommendations

• Enjoyment in performance

- Involvement in College Music Program
- C or higher in Year 9 Music

Pre-requisite for Senior Subjects

• Completion of Year 10 Music is highly recommended for General Music

Visual Art



Why study this subject?

- Gain a thorough foundation for further study in Visual Art
- Problem solve through self-directed learning
- Embed your own ideas, thoughts, feelings and observations into your learning
- Develop as an individual equipped with 21st century, transferable skills.

Possible topics covered

- Making Art
- Responding to Art

What will students do?

- Evaluate how representations communicate artistic intentions in artworks they make and view
- Evaluate artworks and displays from different cultures, times and places
- Analyse connections between visual conventions, practices and viewpoints that represent their own and others' ideas. They identify influences of other artists on their own artworks
- Students manipulate materials, techniques and processes to develop and refine techniques and processes to represent ideas and subject matter in their artworks.

How will students be assessed?

- Folio of Work
- Visual Journal
- Written Assignments

Pathways to Senior Subjects

- Visual Art (General)
- Visual Arts in Practice (Applied)

Recommendations

• C or higher in Year 9 Visual Art and English

Pre-requisite for Senior Subjects

 Completion of Year 10 Visual Arts is highly recommended for Senior Visual Arts

Drama



Why study this subject?

- Build personal confidence and express individuality and social identity
- Manage the interpersonal and intrapersonal skills required to work effectively both individually and in groups
- Learn to be an innovative thinker
- Become adept at communicating
- Engage in learning experiences that integrate oral, kinaesthetic and visual communication to create meaning.

Possible topics covered

- Melodrama
- Non-linear storytelling
- Musical theatre
- Comedy

What will students do?

- Explore the dramatic forms of Melodrama, Musical Theatre and Comedy
- Investigate linear and non-linear storytelling
- The history of Comedy everything from Greek theatre to Commedia dell'arte to contemporary sit coms and explore its impacts on different audiences throughout time
- Develop understanding of the conventions of given dramatic forms as well as how the dramatic elements are manipulated for particular effects
- Work collaboratively and individually to create theatre

- Journaling
- Performance critique/evaluations
- Ongoing observation of practical performances and application
- Research assessment
- Performances

Pathways to Senior Subjects

• Drama (General)

Recommendations

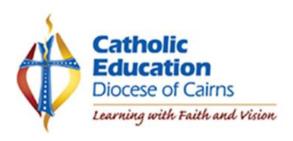
• C or higher in Year 9 Drama and English

• Enjoyment of and commitment to live performance

Pre-requisite for Senior Subjects

• Completion of Year 10 Drama is highly recommended for Senior Drama

Technologies



Certificate I in Construction (CPC10120)

Catholic Education Dioceses of Cairns (RTO:40807)

Description

This qualification provides a pathway to the primary trades in the construction industry with the exception of plumbing.



The units of competency within the qualification cover essential work health and safety requirements, the industrial and work organisation structure, communication skills, work planning, and basic use of tools and materials and have core units of competency requirements that are required in most Certificate III qualifications.

The qualification is suited to vocational education and training (VET) in Schools programs or learners with no previous connection to the construction industry or relevant employment history.

The course is delivered in the school workshops, during normal school hours as a part of the student's regular school timetable. The course can be commenced in Year 11.

Application

The learning program should develop trade-like skills but not attempt to develop trade-level skills. The qualification is suited to VET in Schools programs or learners with no previous connection to the construction industry or relevant employment history.

RTO				
RTO 40807 Catholic Education Dioceses of Cairns				
Cost				
To be Confirmed				
VETIS Funded				
	YES	NO		



Why study this subject?

The study of Digital Technologies provides students with opportunities to:

- Gain a thorough foundation in digital literacy skills.
- Use problem solving skills, that involves critical, creative, and innovative thinking.
- Develop collaborative and communication skills that are essential for 21st century careers and study pathways.
- Develop an in-depth understanding of cybersecurity, coding, technological impacts, innovative futures, and global connectivity.

Possible topics covered

- Intermediate programming concepts and languages.
- Algorithms and computational thinking
- Web and app development
- Data handling and databases
- Networking and the internet
- Cybersecurity and digital citizenship
- Robotics, automation, and emerging technologies
- Project-based learning and digital literacy

What will students do?

- Explore more complex programming languages like Python, JavaScript, or Java.
- Practice problem-solving strategies, algorithms, and the logic behind programming, including flowcharts and pseudocode.
- Use HTML, CSS, and JavaScript to create and style interactive web pages.

- Understand data, databases, and how to work with data, this may involve SQL, data types, and basic database management.
- Discover cybersecurity concepts, including online safety, password management, and basic security practices.
- Explore robotics concepts and programming robots, with hands-on experience with arduino kits.
- Explore emerging technologies like artificial intelligence (AI), virtual reality (VR), and augmented reality (AR).

How will students be assessed?

- Folio of Work
- Multimodal projects, including practical demonstrations.
- Written Assignments
- Exams

Pathways to Senior Subjects

- Digital Solutions (General)
- Information Communication Technologies (Applied)
- Cert III in IT (VET)

Design Technology



Why study this subject?

The study of Design provides students with opportunities to:

- experience design through exploring needs, wants and opportunities
- learn the value of creativity and build resilience as they experience iterative design processes
- take risks and experiment with alternatives
- seek creative and innovative solutions to solve basic design problems.

Possible topics covered

- Human Centred Design
- Environmental and sustainable design
- Product Design
- Technical and Ideation Sketches/Drawing Skills

What will students do?

- Solve design problems using the design process of representing ideas, design concepts and design information using drawing and prototyping
- Devise ideas in response to design problems
- Synthesise ideas and design information to propose design concepts
- Evaluate ideas and design concepts to make refinements
- Create prototypes for designed solutions.

How will students be assessed?

- Design Folio
- Projects
- Examination

Pathways to Senior Subjects

Design (General)

Recommendations

• C in Year 9 Design

Pre-requisite for Senior Subjects

• C in Year 10 Design is highly recommended for Senior Design

Industrial Design Technology



Why study this subject?

- The course provides a unique opportunity for students to experience the challenge and personal satisfaction of undertaking practical work in a safe, new and exciting environment
- This course has been designed to give stimulating learning experiences and to cater more substantially for the Year 9 students who have a developing ability and interest in practical, materials based technologies, such as woodwork and metalwork
- Work covered will provide a practical application of design skills acquired in Year 7 and 8, and will focus on practical and industrial based technologies and construction.

Possible topics covered

- Woodwork hand tools, and hand power tools.
- Technical Drawing
- Workplace Health and Safety
- AutoCAD and Graphic Design

What will students do?

- Students investigate the nature and functions of available materials and resources through the application of inquiry, research, and problem-solving methodologies
- gain knowledge of tool safety, workshop safety and personal safety as governed by Workplace Health and Safety requirements
- Students will be able to confidently transfer their skills and problem-solving abilities to future life situations
- Students will undertake a range of construction projects using a variety of construction and design methods.

- Projects
- Design folios
- Practical skills

Pathways to Senior Subjects

- Engineering Skills (Applied)
- Certificate II in Furnishing (VET)

Recommendations

• Interest in practical applications of wood and metalwork

Pre-requisite for Senior Subjects

• nil

Food Specialisations



Why study this subject?

- In Food Technology, students will be provided with opportunities to develop their practical cooking skills in the kitchen where they will learn about making relevant food choices for their future health
- This is a subject to take if you enjoy cooking at home for family and friends or are interested in developing practical cooking skills and knowledge about food trends around the world.

Possible topics covered

- Food Science
- Food product development

What will students do?

- Students will develop food-specific skills, which can be applied in a range of contexts enabling students to produce quality food products
- They will also investigate the food science behind the preparation of food end products
- Students will undertake practical cooking lessons each week to develop and refine their culinary skills.

- Projects
- Practical skills
- Examinations
- Design Tasks

Pathways to Senior Subjects

- Food and Nutrition (General)
- Certificate III Hospitality (VET)

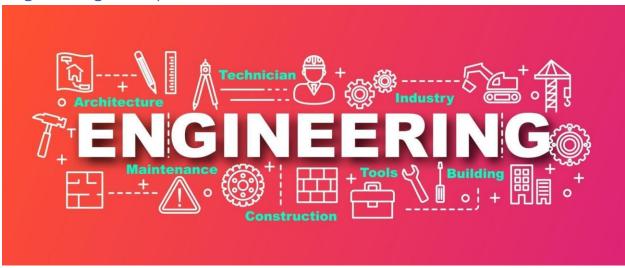
Recommendations

• C in Year 9 Food Technology

Pre-requisite for Senior Subjects

• C in Year 10 Food Technology highly desirable for Senior Food subjects

Engineering Principles



Why study this subject?

Engineering is a problem-solving subject that focuses on how things work and how they can be improved. Students learn to apply scientific and mathematical principles to real-world situations, exploring how structures, machines, and systems are designed, built, and tested. This subject develops practical skills, critical thinking, and creativity, preparing students for future pathways in engineering, design, and technology.

Possible topics covered

- Engineering design process
- Forces, motion, and simple machines
- Structures and materials
- Hydraulics and pneumatics
- Technical drawing and computer-aided design (CAD)
- Prototyping and testing of models
- Safety in workshop environments

What will students do?

Students will investigate engineering problems and design solutions using drawings, models, and prototypes. They will work with tools, materials, and technologies to test ideas, evaluate outcomes, and refine their designs. Projects may include designing bridges, hydraulic systems, or simple machines, combining both theory and hands-on practical work.

Assessment will include:

- Practical projects and prototypes demonstrating engineering solutions
- Design folios documenting research, planning, and design decisions
- Problem-solving tasks applying scientific and mathematical concepts
- Reflections and evaluations of designs and processes

Pathways to Senior Subjects

Studying Engineering in Year 10 provides a foundation for a range of senior subjects, including:

- Engineering
- Design
- Industrial Technology Skills
- Certificate courses in Construction, Manufacturing, or Engineering Skills

This subject also builds transferable skills such as problem-solving, innovation, teamwork, and technical literacy, which are valuable for careers in trades, technical fields, and engineering disciplines.

Textiles



Why study this subject?

Textiles is a creative and practical subject that allows students to design and make textile products while developing lifelong skills. Students learn how design decisions influence function, style, and sustainability, and gain confidence using tools, techniques, and processes that are valuable both in everyday life and future study.

Possible topics covered

- Introduction to hand-sewing and safe machine-sewing techniques
- Understanding fabrics, fibres, and materials
- Reading, interpreting, and adapting patterns
- Sustainable practices in textile design and manufacturing
- The role of textiles in culture, fashion, and everyday life

What will students do?

Students will engage in hands-on projects where they design and create textile products to meet a specific purpose. They will build sewing and construction skills, investigate how textiles are made and used, and apply the design process — planning, making, and evaluating their own work.

How will students be assessed?

Assessment will include:

- Practical projects where students produce textile items
- Design folios showing research, sketches, and planning
- Reflections and evaluations on sustainability and function of designs

Pathways to Senior Subjects

Studying Textiles in Year 10 provides a strong foundation for further study in senior Design and Technologies subjects, including:

- Design
- Fashion
- Industrial Technology Skills (Textiles)
- Certificate courses in Applied Fashion, Design, or Manufacturing

It also equips students with practical skills in sewing, design, and problem-solving that are useful for personal projects and future careers in the creative industries.

Health and Physical Education

HPE-CORE



Why study this subject?

- Enjoy physical activity as part of the school curriculum
- Develop skills and knowledge of a range of sports and physical activity
- Explore a range of health topics that will provide life skills.

Possible topics covered

- The 3Rs: Respect, Relationships, Resilience (Mastery) Unit 1:
- Fit for Life (Mastery) Unit 2:
- Respectful relationships
- Values identity change and emotions
- Healthy Choices and Decision Making
- Tactical awareness, ethics and integrity, and physical activity
- Energy, fitness and training, and physical activity.
- Resilience as a personal health resource
- Healthy Lifestyles
- Field Sports
- Court Sports

What will students do?

- propose and evaluate personal strategies to manage their identities, emotions and responses to change.
- evaluate how attitudes and beliefs about equality, respect, diversity and inclusion influence the nature and quality of relationships.

- propose and justify strategies to manage online and offline situations where their own or others' health, safety, relationships or wellbeing may be at risk.
- synthesise health information from credible sources to propose and justify strategies to enhance their own and others' health, safety, relationships and wellbeing.
- evaluate and refine their own and others' movement skills and performances, and apply movement concepts in challenging or unfamiliar situations.
- adapt and transfer movement strategies to unfamiliar situations to achieve successful outcomes.
- propose and evaluate community-based physical activity interventions designed to improve the health, fitness and wellbeing of themselves and others.
- apply and evaluate leadership approaches, collaboration strategies and ethical behaviours across a range of movement contexts.

How will students be assessed?

- Examinations
- Investigations
- Folios
- Multimodal presentations

Pathways to Senior Subjects

- Physical Education (General)
- Sport and Recreation (Applied)
- Certificate III in Fitness (VET)

Recommendations

Core

Pre-requisite for Senior Subjects

- B in Year 10 HPE highly desirable for Senior Physical Education
- Nil for Sport and Recreation and Certificate
 III in Fitness

HPE - Physical Education Prep

Why study this subject?

- Opportunity to learn foundation topics covered in Senior General PE
- Enjoy physical activity and the movement science in sport
- Develop extended skills and knowledge of a range of sports and physical activity
- Explore a range of health topics that will provide life skills and further your education in Sports sciences.

Possible topics covered

- Biomechanics and physical activity
- Sport psychology
- Tactical awareness,
- Equity, Ethics and integrity,
- Sports specific physical Activity
- Energy systems, fitness and training, and physical activity.
- Resilience as a personal health resource
- Healthy lifestyles and respectful relationships

What will students do?

- Learn about the role of sport and recreation in their lives, the lives of others and the community.
- Engagement in these activities provides a unique and powerful opportunity for students to experience the challenge and fun of physical activity while developing vocational, life and physical skills.
- Investigate, plan, perform and evaluate procedures and strategies and communicate appropriately in active pastimes engaged in for the purpose of relaxation, health and wellbeing and/or enjoyment and are recognised as having socially worthwhile qualities.
- Be active in recreational activities in physical exertion and human activity.
- Participate in active play and minor games, challenge and adventure activities, games and sports, lifelong physical activities, and rhythmic and expressive movement activities.

- ✓ Examinations
- ✓ Investigations
- ✓ Folios
- ✓ Multimodal presentations

HPE – Sport and Recreation Prep

Why study this subject?

- Opportunity to learn foundation topics covered in Applied Sport and Recreations Studies
- Enjoy physical activity and outdoor recreation in sport and leisure activities.
- Develop extended skills and knowledge in indoor and outdoor recreation and physical activities.
- Explore a range of health topics that will provide life skills and further your education in Sports sciences.

Possible topics covered

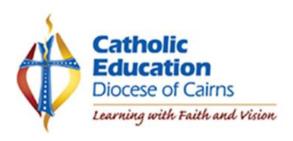
- Introductions into outdoor recreation leadership activities
 - Hiking, bushwalking and trekking
- Sustainable outdoor recreation practises.
- Marketing and communication in sport and recreation
- Sports event management
- Optimising fitness and training programmes
- Resilience as personal health resource
- Emerging trends in healthy lifestyles

What will students do?

- Learn about the movement skills and concepts
- Engagement fitness training and physical activity
- Investigate, plan, perform and evaluate procedures and strategies and communicate appropriately in active pastimes engaged in for the purpose of relaxation, health and wellbeing and/or enjoyment and are recognised as having socially worthwhile qualities.
- Be active in physical exertion, human activity, biophysical and biomechanics.
- Goal setting in performance outcomes and self-efficacy activities.
- Participate in active play and minor games, challenge and adventure activities, games and sports, lifelong physical activities, and rhythmic and expressive movement activities.

- Examinations
- Performance
- Folios
- Multimodal presentations

Workplace Skills



Certificate II in Workplace Skills (BSB20120)

Catholic Education Dioceses of Cairns (RTO:40807)

Description

This qualification reflects the role of individuals in a variety of entry-level Business Services job roles.



This qualification also reflects the role of individuals who have not yet entered the workforce, and are developing the necessary skills in preparation for work.

These individuals carry out a range of basic procedural, clerical, administrative or operational tasks that require self-management and technology skills. They perform a range of mainly routine tasks using limited practical skills and fundamental operational knowledge in a defined context. Individuals in these roles generally work under direct supervision.

The course is delivered in the school classroom, during normal school hours as a part of the student's regular school timetable.

Application

While the qualification sits under the Business Services sector, it covers number of transferrable skills for any industry, such as workplace communication, workplace health and safety, time management, etc. The qualification will be beneficial for students intending to start working during or after Year 10, either under a school-based traineeship/apprenticeship arrangement, or as a casual/part-time/full-time worker.

RTO				
RTO 40807 Catholic Education Dioceses of Cairns				
Cost		Nil		
VETIS Funded				
	YES	NO		