



Year 10 – 11 Senior Subject Selection Information

During Career Pathway Day, students are exposed to all subjects being offered for Year 11 & 12. They have also just completed a week's work experience. Students will use knowledge and experiences gained throughout the program to consider Senior School subjects that will progress on their career pathway as well as meeting prerequisites.

TERM 3 KEY DATES

EVENT	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Career Pathway Day & Work Experience Debrief	Wednesday 1 August	8.45am – 3.00pm	Crosswell Hall
10 to 11 Careers and Information Evening	Wednesday 1 August	5.00pm – 7.00pm	Crosswell Hall
MyPath Questionnaire	Wednesday 8 August	Period 4	Bridge Class
OneSchool SetPlan	Wednesday 15 August	Period 4	Bridge Class
New QCE and ATAR Parents information Evening	Monday 3 September	5.00pm – 6.00pm	Crosswell Hall
Subject selection Interviews	Tuesday 4 September	7.30am – 4.00pm	Library
	Wednesday 5 September	45min interview	

HOW CAN YOU UTILISE YOUR TEACHERS?

All students will complete a survey to determine preferred subjects for the cohort during the Career Pathway day. Using this data, students will be required to speak to their teachers and HODs to ascertain whether appropriate subject choices have been made in regards to both demonstrated ability and career pathway.

QCE

The Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) is Queensland's senior secondary schooling qualification. It is internationally recognised and provides evidence of senior schooling achievements. All students in Years 11 and 12 at Cairns State High School are required to be on a pathway to attain a QCE. Regular interviews are conducted with each student to review and check progress. The table below outlines requirements for attaining a QCE.

For an excellent video on the QCE system search on YouTube for "[From syllabus to subject result](#)" by the QCAA.

<p>Set amount</p>	<p>20 credits from contributing courses of study, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QCAA-developed subjects or courses • vocational education and training (VET) qualifications • non-Queensland studies • recognised studies. 	<p>Set pattern</p>	<p>12 credits from completed Core courses of study and 8 credits from any combination of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core • Preparatory (maximum 4) • Complementary (maximum 8).
<p>Set standard</p>	<p>Satisfactory completion, grade of C or better, competency or qualification completion, pass or equivalent.</p>	<p>Literacy & numeracy</p>	<p>Students must meet literacy and numeracy requirements through one of the available learning options.</p>

ATAR

The ATAR is the primary mechanism used nationally for tertiary admissions and indicates a student's position relative to other students. If you are aiming for an ATAR for tertiary study entry, there are a number of rules that apply. Cairns SHS recommends students choose:

- a. Six General subjects
- OR**
- b. Five General subjects, plus one Applied/IB/Certificate subjects

NB. At a minimum, an ATAR is calculated using 4 General + 1 Applied or Certificate III (at this stage, standalone IB subjects do not contribute towards ATAR)

QTAC have published an excellent video detailing the ATAR system, search YouTube for "[ATAR 2020](#)"

INTER-SUBJECT SCALING

Students choosing their subjects will inevitably question the process of scaling ATAR scores across all subjects.

In the ATAR calculation process, scaling is the most difficult part to understand. It is however, a necessary part of the process to ensure fairness. Scaling is a process by which raw subject results are adjusted for a given subject to allow the results for that subject to be fairly compared with the results from any other subject when calculating ATARs.

The scaling process will adjust the raw results in each subject to take account of how strong students are in their subjects and how difficult it is to achieve a result in the subject relative to achievements in other subjects. Scaling outcomes for individual subjects are not predetermined and are expected to be different from one year to the next based on the performance of the student cohort for each year. Although trends will form, school, students and parents are advised not to use historical scaling data to predict future outcomes.

To achieve desired results, it is important that students choose subjects that:

- they enjoy
- think they will achieve well in
- that are subject prerequisites for tertiary courses that they will be seeking entry to.

Source: <https://www.qtac.edu.au/ArticleDocuments/198/Overview%20of%20Inter%20Subject%20Scaling%20-%20a%20white%20paper..pdf.aspx>

UNIVERSITY COURSE PREREQUISITES

For a list of all Queensland University course prerequisites and assumed knowledge, search in Google for: "[QTAC My Path](#)" (scroll down to bottom of page)

CAIRNS STATE HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR SUBJECTS

Refer to the 2019 Cairns State High Senior 11/12 Subject Outline for detailed information of subject offerings. All students in Year 11/12 will choose 6 subjects. Found on the Cairns High website.

<https://cairnsshhs.eq.edu.au/Supportandresources/Formsanddocuments/Documents/Curriculum/2019%20Cairns%20State%20High%20Senior%2011%2012.pdf>

USEFUL LINKS FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

- ATAR: <https://www.qtac.edu.au/atar-my-path/atar>
- ATAR MyPath: <https://www.qtac.edu.au/atar-my-path/my-path>
- New QCE: <https://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/senior/new-snr-assessment-te>
- New QCE FAQs: <https://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/senior/new-snr-assessment-te/faqs>
- CSHS New QCE: <https://gedu.sharepoint.com/sites/2005/curriculum/New%20QCE/Forms/AllItems.aspx>