

INFORMATION SHEET

COURSE ADVISING SUPPORT FOR PROVIDER SCHOOLS

A guide to the suite of TASC resources for senior secondary education course planning, course options and types of assessment. For use by schools/TASC Liaison Officers (TLOs) during the course advising process for Year 10 and Year 11 students, and to tailor for students and parents.

The two years of senior secondary education are exciting for young people as they are a time of academic and personal growth. In Years 11 and 12, students can choose and study TASC-accredited [senior secondary courses](#) and work towards [qualifications](#) and certificates that contribute to their future education, work and life plans.

Schools and TLOs have an important role in *supporting their teachers* with relevant TASC information when assisting students with course selection for Years 11 and 12.

Parents/guardians also have a key role in supporting a young person to learn and develop skills, capabilities and knowledge as a young adult. TASC have a specifically designed [Parent information webpage](#) with information about senior secondary education, including courses, assessments and results.

Starting point

- Talk with students about their plans and dreams. How do they like learning? What might be their 'dream job'? Do they want to enter the workforce directly after Year 12 completion? Do they want to do further study at TAFE and/or university?
- Students should be strongly encouraged to select courses where they will enjoy the content, rather than choose courses that historically scored well in the [scaling process](#).
- Talk with students (particularly those in Year 10) about creating a two-year course plan that provides opportunities to develop skills that will help them to achieve their goals. For example, a student who enjoys mathematics may plan to do a Level 3 mathematics course in Year 11 to prepare for studying a Level 4 mathematics course in Year 12.

Course options

The [TASC Courses](#) webpage provides information about the wide range of TASC-accredited courses. This includes [University Connections Program](#) (UCP) and [High Achiever Program](#) (HAP) courses that are offered by the University of Tasmania.

Not every provider will offer all these courses, so it is important that students are given a list of courses that a school is planning to offer in the upcoming year.

- The DECYP [Years 11 and 12 Student Course Guide](#) identifies the TASC-accredited courses being offered at government schools around Tasmania.
- Students wanting to study at a non-government school (Catholic and Independent schools) should contact the individual school to find out about the courses being offered.

Considerations when selecting a course

Students who enjoy applied learning and developing practical, hands-on skills with the opportunity to undertake work placements might benefit from studying a [VET course](#).

Students who are considering Level 3 and 4 courses should know there will be a significant out of class study expectation, including homework, and this will require deliberate time management, especially around juggling part-time jobs and sporting/club/family commitments.

If a student is thinking about a direct university pathway, they should be made aware of the [ATAR eligibility and calculation rules](#) as not all school leavers will necessarily receive an ATAR.

Students should look carefully at their mix of courses and the assessment expectations being studied each year to understand the requirements of any externally assessed [folio](#) and/or [written exam](#). Studying one/multiple courses that include a folio will require strong time management and organisational skills.

Assessment in Years 11 and 12

The way students are assessed in TASC-accredited courses is different to the way students are assessed in courses in the Australian Curriculum.

TASC's [Understanding Assessment](#) resource provides important information for students and their parents/guardians about senior secondary TASC course assessments.

Students can check the type of assessment that is used in any course by looking at the [Courses](#) webpage. For help with choosing a course with an external assessment that suits a student's strengths, use the [Previous exam papers](#) and [Externally assessed folios](#) webpages.

Course planning and career resources

The following are very useful TASC resources to help students with **course planning**:

- The [TCE Achievement Checklist](#) has been developed to assist students and their parents/guardians to plan for their senior secondary studies to achieve the TCE.
- The [TCE Course Planner](#) is an excellent tool to check if students are on track for the TCE standards and credit points needed for their future pathway.
- For ATAR information see [Understanding the ATAR: Student Factsheet](#), [Focus On: TE Score and ATAR Calculation](#) and [Focus On: Course Scaling](#).

There are useful resources available to help students with **career information**, including:

- [Careerify](#) – a career information website to help Years 9-12 learners with career decision making.
- [My Future](#) – a national online career planning platform to identify interests and work values, and explore education, training and career pathways.
- [Anything Can Happen](#) – explore Tasmanian education options and pathways.