

# 2023 Subject Selection



St Joseph's  
College  
TOOWOOMBA



Let's create  
your best  
future, **together.**



# Acknowledgment of Country

As Indigenous and non-Indigenous people together let us have a sense of the importance of the country upon which we are meeting, where learning and ceremony has taken place over many thousands of years.

Let us sense the land beneath our feet, acknowledge to whom it belongs, and pay our respects to the Elders, past, present and emerging. For we too are one in land, one in spirit, one in faith united in God's love.



All-wise God,

Give me discernment today. Sharpen my senses so I can use good judgment in my life. Help me see and properly assess the positives and negatives in every situation, opportunity, and decision that I face. Guide me as I make choices. Help me forgo what is wrong and least helpful, and help me pursue what will bring satisfaction, growth, and fruitfulness in my life.

Help me to be selective and never impulsive. Develop in me a cautious and patient disposition so that I don't make rash decisions and actions. And give me the boldness to seize and pursue all opportunities and goals that are ahead of me.

Amen



# Purpose of Presentation

1. Senior Learning at St Joseph's College
2. Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE)
3. Senior Pathways at St Joseph's College
  - ATAR Pathway
  - Applied Pathway
4. Subject Expo



# Senior Phase of Learning – Post Compulsory Schooling



# Senior Phase of Learning

When a young person stops being of compulsory school age (16 years) or completes Year 10 they enter their senior phase of learning—Years 11 and 12.

In 'Aspiring to Excellence' in the Senior Years, we believe that:

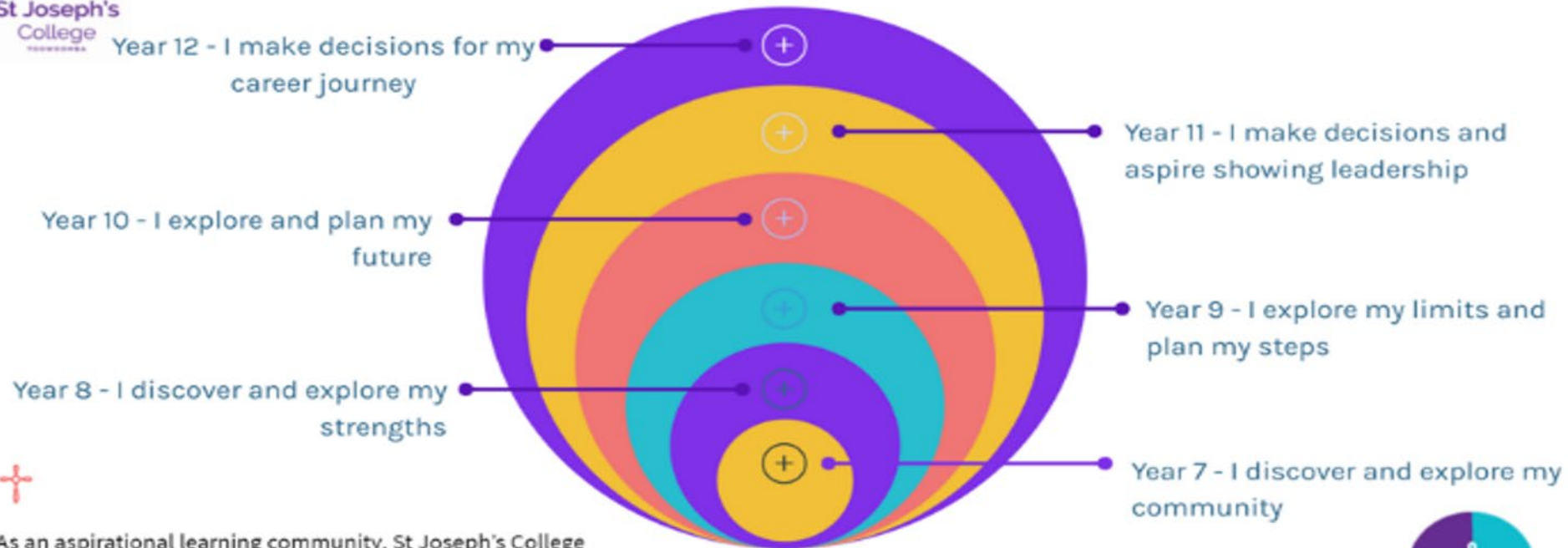
- All students have an entitlement to the chance to complete a successful senior phase of learning to obtain their QCE.
- This is a partnership between the student, parents/caregivers and the school.
- This agreement follows a well-considered SET Plan that recognises future aspirations and career goals.



# Preparing our Year 10 students:



## St Joseph's College Career Development Framework



As an aspirational learning community, St Joseph's College embraces a culture of learning to empower our young people to use their gifts and talents to pursue their passions and meet the demands of their future pathways.

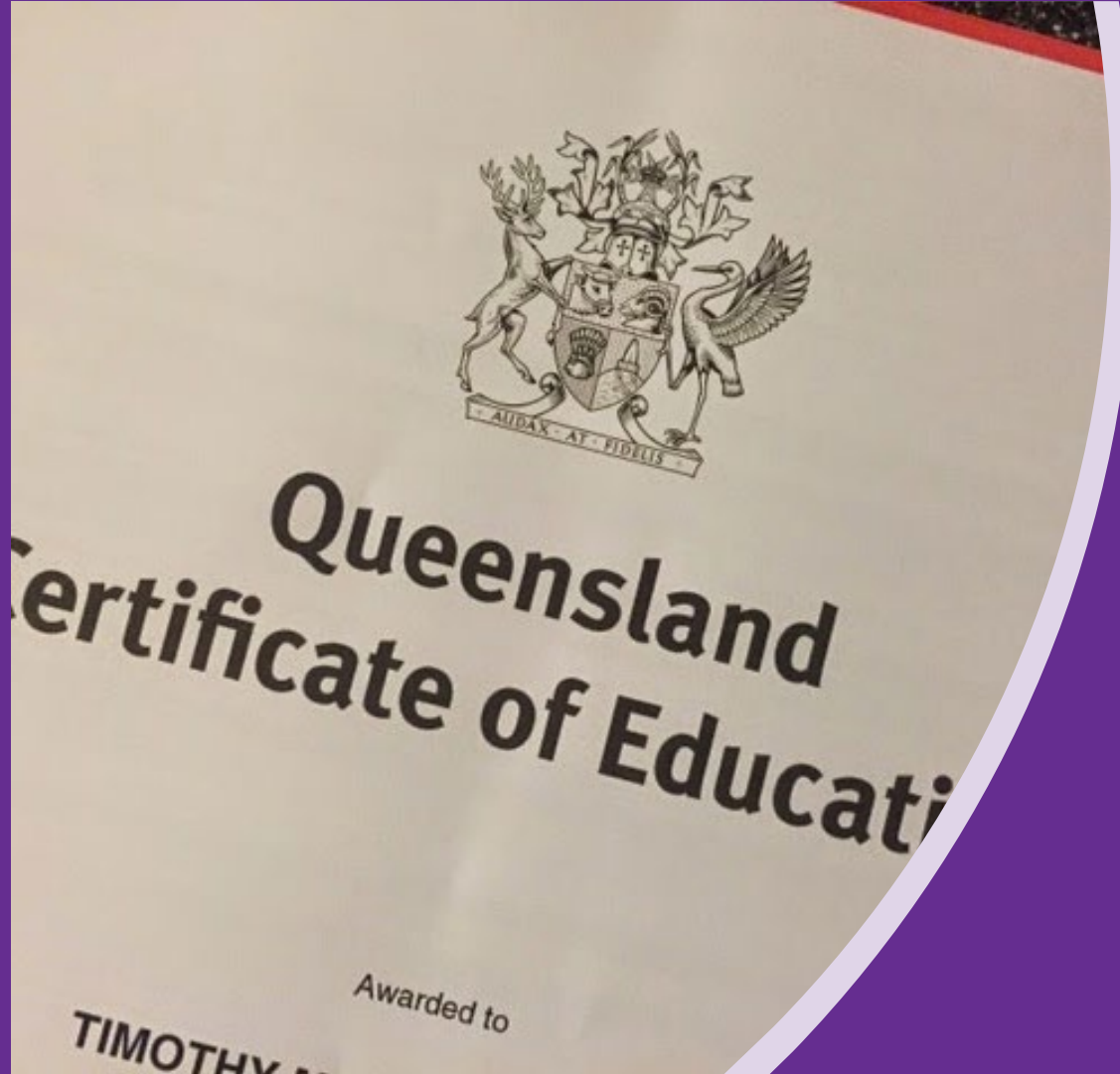


# Year 10 Transition

## What does it look like?







# The QCE



# The QCE

- The Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) is Queensland's senior school qualification. It provides evidence of student's senior achievements.
- It is awarded to eligible students at the end of Year 12 by the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA).
- Based on a significant amount of learning.
  - To a set standard
  - literacy and numeracy component.
- The requirements for a QCE are different to those for tertiary entrance.

***At St Joseph's College we aspire for all students to graduate with a QCE.***



# The QCE



# The QCE

- Set amount of 20 credits
- Set pattern
  - 12 credits must come from the completed core (school-based subjects, and some Vocational Subjects)
  - Units 1 & 2 – 1 credit each (can be obtained independently of each other)
  - Units 3 & 4 – 2 credits (credits cannot be split; Units 3 & 4 are a pair)
  - Units must be completed to a satisfactory standard
  - Literacy & Numeracy requirements





# The QCE

- The QCE is flexible. There is no single pathway and there are multiple course combinations that can lead to a QCE.
- A student's subject pathway will depend on their individual pathway goals and subjects and courses the College offers.
- Typically, students will study 6 subjects/courses across Years 11 & 12.
- Students will study 1 Religion Education subject, 1 English subject and 1 Mathematics subject.



# Subject Types at St Joseph's College



# Subject Types

- General subjects – academic focus
- Applied subjects – practical focus
- Vocational
  - School-Based Apprenticeship and Traineeship
  - Certificate II, III
  - Certificate IV & Diploma (Careers Team)



# General Subjects – Units 1 & 2

- Units 1 and 2 are foundational (Year 11)
- Units not semesters (Units are roughly 15 weeks in length)
- Units 1 & 2 are compressed
- Points contribute to QCE (successfully completed to set standard)
- Results do not contribute to ATAR





# General Subjects – Units 3 & 4

- Summative
- 3 x Internal Assessment (IA1, IA2, IA3)
- Internal assessment is developed by the school and endorsed and confirmed by the QCAA.
- 1 x External Assessment (Term 4 of Year 12)
  - Most subjects the EA contributes 25 % to the final mark.
  - Mathematics and Science subjects the EA contributes 50% to the final mark.



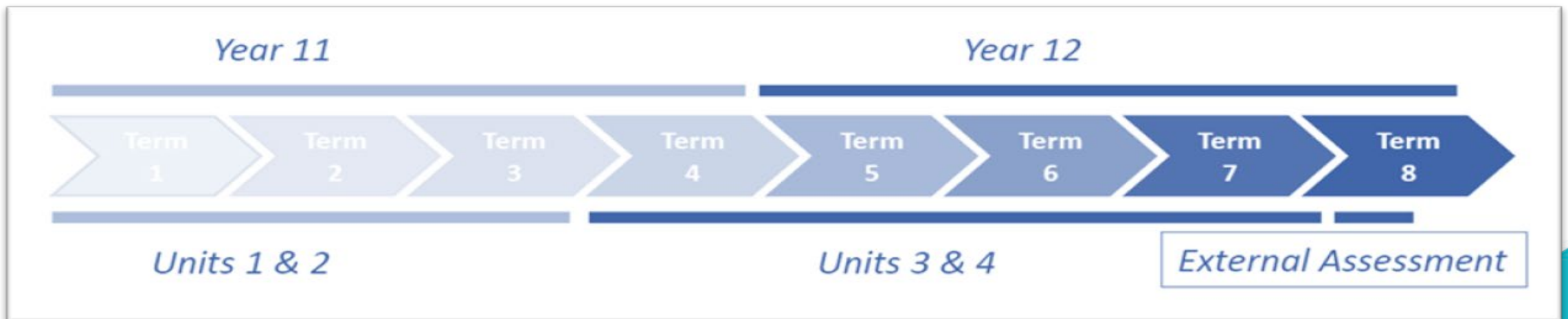
# Applied Subjects

- Applied subjects focus on practical skills and prepare students for further education and training, and work.
- Applied subjects may contribute up to 4 credits per subject towards the QCE.
- Across Units 1, 2, 3 & 4 students complete Internal pieces of assessment.
- In Units 3 & 4, Essential English and Essential Mathematics have 3 Internal pieces of assessment and a Common Internal Assessment developed by the QCAA.



# Years 11 & 12

- Units 1 & 2 will be studied over Year 11 in Terms 1-3.
- Units 3 & 4 will be studied over Year 11 in Term 4, and Year 12 in Terms 1-3.
- External assessment for General subjects will be conducted state-wide in Term 4, Year 12, during weeks 4-7.



# **Pathways at St Joseph's College:**

## **Academic (ATAR) or Applied Pathway**





# Pathways at St Joseph's College:

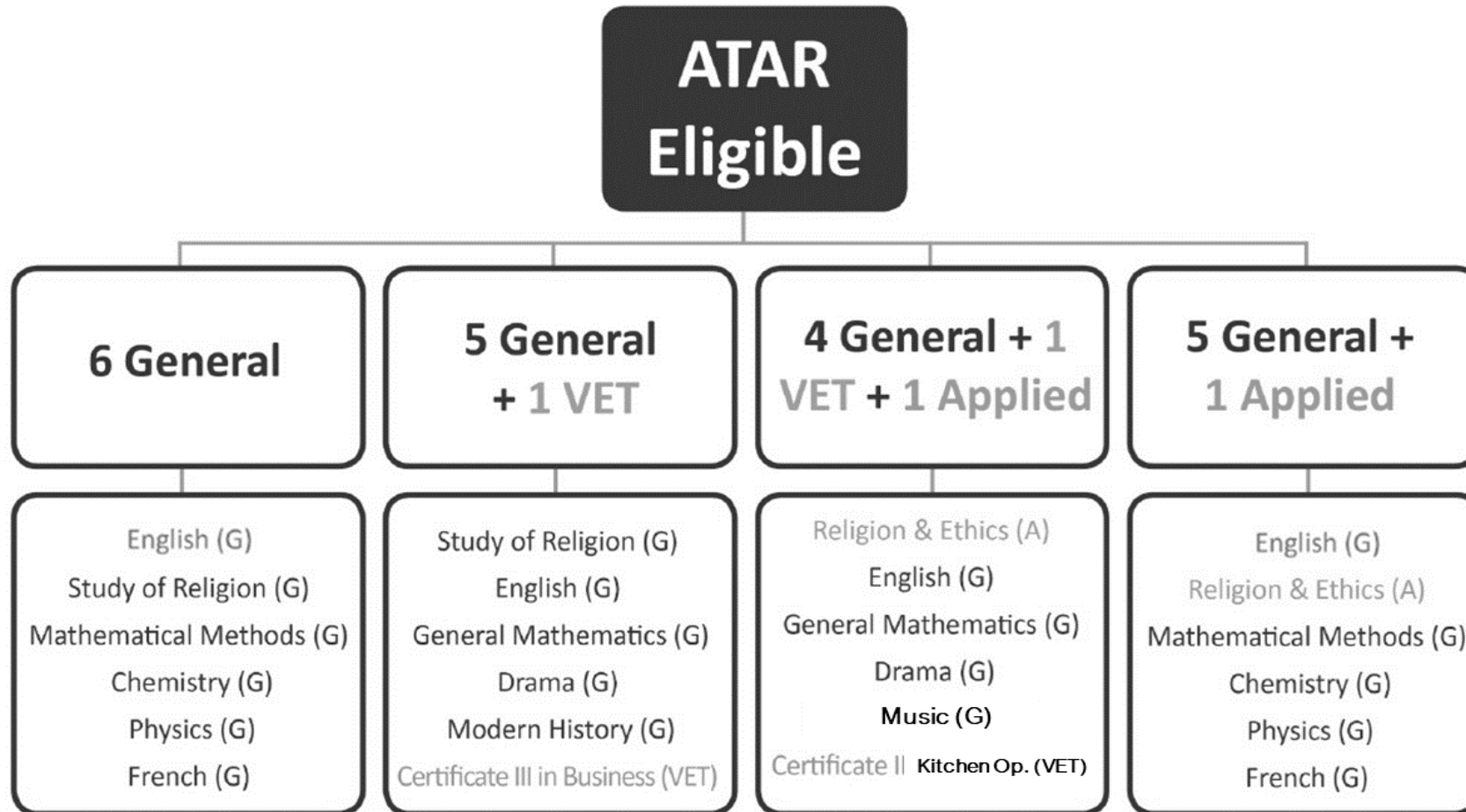
## ATAR Pathway

- Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank.
- An ATAR pathway is seen as a **direct entry** into University study. An ATAR is the primary mechanism used nationally for tertiary admission.
- An ATAR is not considered a 'back-up' or 'just in case' plan. This pathway requires commitment and dedication.
- An ATAR will provide students an overall academic achievement in relation to that of other students in their year group.
- An ATAR is calculated on a 2000 point scale from 99.95 – 30.
- An ATAR is generated using the Top 5 results from subjects studied
  - 5 General Subjects
  - 4 General + 1 Applied or Vocational Subjects (Certificate III).
  - Must pass an English subject



# Pathways at St Joseph's College:

## ATAR Pathway



# ATAR Terminology

- **Units of study** replace Semester of Terms of study.
- Units 3&4 are **summative** units.
- Students undertake **three internal** pieces and **one external assessment** piece of assessment for Units 3&4 (General Subjects).
- The results from Units 3&4 will lead to the overall **raw score** for the subject. The **raw scores** will be provided to QTAC for **scaling** and from which the ATAR result will be calculated.



# Pathways at St Joseph's College:

## Applied/Vocational Pathway

- An Applied pathway is best suited to those students who do not wish to study an ATAR pathway.
- Applied or Vocational Pathway
  - Trade Apprenticeships & Traineeships TAFE, Certificate Courses.
  - In-direct entry into many universities (Careers Team).
- Applied/Vocational pathway may be a combination of General, Applied or Certificate courses.





# Pathway Planning



# Top 5 Lessons so far

1. **Pathway Planning is important:** ATAR or Applied/Vocational pathway.
2. **Successful subject selection:** get the subject selection process right from the beginning.
3. **Greatly increased academic rigour in Years 11 and 12.**
4. **Increased responsibility placed on students.**
5. **Use Year 10 wisely.**



# Pathway Planning

- 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 I need to consider?
- Are there special entry requirements?



# Pathway Planning

You should select subjects that:

- You enjoy and reflect your interests.
- Reflect your ability and or aptitude.
- Provide appropriate challenge, engagement, and 'aspire you to excellence'.
- Develop skills, knowledge, and attitudes useful throughout life.
- Allow you to ensure a balance between school and outside commitments.
- Ask questions.
- Carefully complete your SET plan



# Next Steps

- Web preferences and subject handbooks have been emailed to students.
- Web preferences are due on or before the **12<sup>th</sup> August**. Students are to print this out and hand it in to the student entrance.
- SET plan interviews take place on **Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> August**. Information has been emailed to parents and students. For the interview, students need to bring a hard copy of the SET plan and web preferences. Parents are strongly encouraged to attend this interview.







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# Pathway Expo



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# Pathway Expo

- Parents and students are invited to attend 5 rotations of their choice.
- The library will be set up with external providers (information on SBAs/TAFE and Traineeships, University of Southern Queensland).
- Rotations are 12 minutes in length. The Curriculum Leader or specialist teachers will be available to speak to. There will be a 5-minute presentation and time for questions (please ask plenty of questions!).
- Please move to the next rotation as indicated by the bell.
  - 7.30pm – Rotation 1
  - 7.42pm – Rotation 2
  - 7.54pm – Rotation 3
  - 8.06pm – Rotation 4
  - 8.18pm – Rotation 5





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