



# VCAA Bulletin VCE, VCAL and VET

Regulations and information about curriculum and assessment for the VCE, VCAL and VET

Principal  VCE/VCAL/VET Coordinators  VCE/VCAL/VET Teachers

## Plain English Speaking Award

The VCAA invites teachers and students to come and hear some of the state's best public speakers test their speaking skills against each other at the Victorian State Final of the annual Plain English Speaking Award (PESA) on Friday 3 August.

The PESA Victorian State Final will be held at the Treasury Theatre located behind the Old Treasury Building on Spring Street at 10 am on Friday 28 July.

Invitations to this event and to the state semifinals are enclosed in this edition of the VCAA Bulletin. Minister for Education, John Lenders MP, who supports the use of plain English, will open the event.

The PESA regional finals took place during the last two weeks of Term 2 in 22 schools across Victoria. Pictured are students who participated in Bendigo at Girton Grammar School. They represent all educational sectors, coming from government, Catholic and independent schools.

The students' challenge is to present a six-minute prepared speech on a topic of their choice followed by a short impromptu speech. Although the topics vary widely, in the main they demonstrate the concerns of our youth for the state of the world today.

Also pictured is Mr Peter Guest who was the VCAA Curriculum Manager for English for several years. This year Peter is adjudicating several regional finals and semifinals of the Plain English Speaking Award and he will also be one of the three adjudicators at the state final on 3 August.



L-R Adjudicators Peter Guest, Terry Lawrence and James Hillis prepare for the first regional final of 2007 at Camberwell Grammar School.



Students from Girton Grammar School, Bendigo Senior Secondary College, Catholic College Bendigo, Rochester Secondary College, Kyabram Secondary College, Echuca Secondary College who participated in the Bendigo regional final.

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## Important administrative dates

Full details of dates appear in Supplement 1 to the March 2007 VCAA Bulletin VCE, VCAL and VET No. 46.

V = VASS critical date

2007	
<b>Monday 16 July</b>	Start of Term 3.
<b>Friday 20 July</b>	School-assessed Task 1 results from SIAR 1 that are required for review available through VASS. Final day for schools to lodge the following applications for examinations held in October/November: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• requests for new or combined examination centres and for students to sit at centres other than home schools</li> <li>• requests for students to present for examinations outside Victoria</li> <li>• timetable clashes</li> <li>• earlier starting time</li> <li>• approval of hiring fees for sites in the community used by two or more schools.</li> </ul>
<b>Monday 23 July</b> V	<b>SIAR 2 scores for VCE Unit 3 School-assessed Coursework.</b> After this date VASS will not allow schools to enter SIAR 2 results. A list of studies in the cycle can be found in Appendix 1. Review of School-assessed Task by visitation in Studio Arts begins.
<b>Monday 6 August</b>	<b>June examination results and Studio Arts grades available to schools through VASS.</b>
<b>Wednesday 8 August</b>	<b>VCE Unit 3 School-assessed Coursework audit material</b> due at VCAA. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anomalous grade report will be available through VASS for the June examination.</li> </ul>
<b>Monday 13 August</b>	Arts Performance and LOTE oral component examination advice slips available to schools.
<b>Friday 17 August</b> V	<b>ENROLMENT 4</b> After this date VASS will <b>not</b> allow schools to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• modify Assessment Plans or Registered Training Organisation (RTO) details for scored VCE VET programs</li> <li>• enter partnership details for Unit 4 coursework.</li> </ul>
<b>Monday 10 September</b>	October/November examination centres available through VASS. Special Examination Arrangements available through VASS.
<b>Monday 17 September</b> V	<b>SIEG 2</b> <b>Indicative Grades for Arts Performance examinations are required.</b> After this date VASS will <b>not</b> allow schools to enter Indicative Grades for Arts Performance examinations.
<b>Friday 21 September</b>	End of Term 3. Final day for lodging applications for enrolment in 2008 in <b>Chinese Second Language, Chinese Second Language Advanced, Indonesian Second Language, Japanese Second Language or Korean Second Language.</b>
<b>Monday 8 October</b>	Start of Term 4.
<b>Monday 8 October to Sunday 4 November</b>	<b>Arts Performance examinations and LOTE examinations: oral component.</b>
<b>Friday 12 October</b>	Final day for lodging <b>requests to inspect scripts for examinations in the June examination period.</b>

# The Cunningham Dax Collection

## A unique resource for teachers of VCE Psychology and Arts

The Cunningham Dax Collection consists of over 12 000 creative works by people who experience mental illness and/or psychological trauma. It is the largest such collection in the southern hemisphere and the third largest in the world. Its mission is to promote widely a greater understanding of people who experience mental illness and/or psychological trauma, and to foster an appreciation for their creativity through the preservation and ethical presentation of their work.



A group participating in a guided tour of the Cunningham Dax Collection with Dr Eugen Koh.

The Collection's educational objectives are to enhance students' knowledge regarding the symptoms of mental illness and to increase their understanding of those suffering from mental illness. Through exposure to these issues, such as social isolation, discrimination and feelings of despair, students are able to gain a greater understanding of the effects of stigma and raise their awareness of mental illness in the community. Students are encouraged to seek help if they are concerned that they or those around them may be experiencing mental illness.

Over the past five years the Collection has developed an innovative education program for VCE Psychology teachers and students. Prior to bringing students to visit, teachers participate in a professional development workshop at the gallery. This is designed to introduce them to the history and works of the Collection and address issues often raised by students. Groups visiting the gallery with their teacher participate in a guided introduction to the works on display. The program is supported by comprehensive Teacher's Notes including student question sheets.

*continued: PAGE 12*

## VCE Implementation

### CAS in Mathematics VELs Level 6

#### Leading to Mathematical Methods (CAS) Units 1 and 2

As noted in the March 2007 VCAA Bulletin VCE, VCAL and VET No. 46 and the June 2007 VCAA Bulletin P-10 Issue 29, the VCAA has prepared advice for schools, with respect to Level 6 of the Mathematics domain of the Victorian Essential Learning Standards (VELS) and possible approaches to incorporating CAS in Years 9 and 10. This advice and related materials have been developed to support teachers in particular with respect to preparation for implementation of Mathematical Methods (CAS) Units 1 and 2, and can be accessed from the VELs section of the VCAA website at: <http://vels.vcaa.vic.edu.au/support/domaininformation/maths/cas.html>

## VCE Review

### Consultation for VCE Physics

The draft *VCE Physics Study Design* has been approved for consultation with teachers and other key stakeholders. All teachers on the VCAA Consultation Register will have received a copy of the draft study design, a summary of the changes and a questionnaire.

Teachers who have not joined the VCAA Consultation Register can access the draft study design and consultation questionnaire online via the VCAA website at [www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/vce/studies/physics/physicsindex.html](http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/vce/studies/physics/physicsindex.html)

Alternatively, hard copies of the draft study design and consultation questionnaire can be obtained by contacting the Senior Secondary Curriculum Unit on (03) 9651 4453.

The questionnaire should be returned to Merry Young by

**Friday 17 August 2007** via:

Fax: (03) 9651 4324

Mail: Senior Secondary Curriculum Unit  
Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority  
41 St Andrews Place  
East Melbourne, Victoria 3002

Email: [young.merry.m@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:young.merry.m@edumail.vic.gov.au)

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## Student Records and Results

### VCE Statement of Marks

**A** Statement of Marks/Inspection of Examination Scripts Application form for the June examination period is available for download from VASS and the VCAA website <[www.vcaa.vic.edu.au](http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au)>. The closing date for Inspection of Examination Scripts applications for the June examinations is Friday 12 October 2007.

### Reporting anomalous examination grade marking

Schools are reminded that they can run the Anomalous Grades report through the Victorian Assessment Software System (VASS) using the following menus:

RESULTS ADMIN VCE Reports Anomalous Grades

These reports may be accessed from 8 August 2007 for the June examinations and 19 December 2007 for the October/November examinations. A detailed explanation of the Anomalous Grades marking process is available from the VASS Help menu.

## VCE VET

### Food Processing (Wine)

**T**he table 'VCE VET program summary for 2007' published on page 5 of the December 2006 VCAA Bulletin VCE, VCAL and VET No. 44 identified FDF20403 Certificate II Food Processing (Wine) as having a study score available. This was an error; there is no study score available for this program.

### VCE VET Furnishing program booklet

#### Erratum

The *VCE VET Furnishing* program booklet contains an error in Program 2 on page 6 of the program booklet. The elective unit *Operate a personal computer* has the following code: BSBCMNI07A and has a nominal hour value of 20. This correction reduces the overall qualification hours to 724. This correction has been made on VASS.

## Engineering Week

Engineers Australia has planned a variety of activities for National Engineering Week from Monday 20 August to Friday 24 August 2007. The schedule includes school activities, site visits, seminars, competitions and other related activities.

More information can be obtained from Engineers Australia website: [www.vicengweek.org.au](http://www.vicengweek.org.au)

## Sessional Staff Management System

### Call for applications

Applications are currently being taken on SSMS for:

#### 2007 VCE Examinations (End of year, LOTE Orals, Arts performance)

Practising teachers are strongly encouraged to consider the excellent professional development opportunity afforded by examination assessing. End-of-year examinations are still open for applications and you can check the SSMS website for updates.

#### 2007 School Assessment

Positions remain open in School Assessment for the visitation studies. Reviewing involves active participation at a training session conducted by the State Reviewer and visiting schools to re-mark student work.

#### Please note that the following 2007 positions are closed and complete:

VCE Midyear examinations and GAT

VCAL Quality Assurance Panels

AIM markers (Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 English; Year 7 and 9 Mathematics)

VET State Reviewers

School Assessment Coursework audit.

### Coming events

Opportunities are advertised as they arise and publicised in the VCAA Bulletin.

The SSMS website address is [www.ssms.vic.edu.au](http://www.ssms.vic.edu.au)

For enquiries concerning SSMS contact the Helpdesk on (03) 9225 2305 or email: [administration.vcaa@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:administration.vcaa@edumail.vic.gov.au)

# VCE English/English as a Second Language

## VCE English/ESL Study Design

### Errata

#### Unit 4 Outcome 2

Teachers are advised that Outcome 2 on pages 30 and 32 should read:

**‘... ideas and/or arguments ...’**

not

‘... ideas and arguments ...’

#### Advice for teachers

Teachers are advised that the footnotes on pages 54 and 71 of the *VCE English/ESL Study Design* should read:

Page 54, English:

\*A sustained response should be approximately 900–1200 words.

\*\*The length of shorter texts should reflect the form and purpose of the text and be approximately 1000–1500 in total.

Page 74: ESL:

\*The length of shorter texts should reflect the form and purpose of the text and be approximately 1000–1500 in total.

\*\*A sustained response should be approximately 900–1200 words.

# VCE Philosophy

VCE  
STUDY  
ADVICE

## Prescribed texts 2008

### Further advice on availability

Publishers have advised that some of the prescribed texts for 2008 VCE Philosophy Units 3 and 4, as provided in the May 2007 VCE Bulletin VCE, VCAL and VET No. 48 page 7, are in print in 2007 as new editions or reissues.

Please note that the wording of the prescribed extracts and their translations, where applicable, is identical to the wording of the editions currently in print.

Teachers can therefore substitute the edition currently in print for the one on the prescribed list, as outlined in the table below, if they have difficulty obtaining the currently prescribed edition:

Currently prescribed edition for 2008	Edition currently in print
Aristotle, <i>Nicomachean Ethics</i> , Book I, chapters 1–5 and 7–9 and Book II, trans. Ross, D et al., Oxford World’s Classics, Oxford University Press, 1980.	Aristotle, <i>Nicomachean Ethics</i> , Book I, chapters 1–5 and 7–9 and Book II, trans. Ross, D et al., Oxford World’s Classics, Oxford University Press, 1998. <b>Note that this translation is identical to the 1980 edition.</b>
Murdoch, I, ‘The Sovereignty of Good Over Other Concepts’ in <i>The Sovereignty of Good</i> , Routledge and Kegan Paul, London, 1970, p. 78 line 4 to p. 93 line 27.	Murdoch, I, ‘The Sovereignty of Good Over Other Concepts’ in <i>The Sovereignty of Good</i> , Routledge Classics, Routledge and Kegan Paul, London, 2007, p. 76 line 8 to p. 91 line 14. <b>Note that page and line numbers have been adjusted to match the extract from the 1970 edition.</b>
Kuhn, T, <i>The Structure of Scientific Revolutions</i> , 2nd Edition, University of Chicago Press, 1970, chapter 7, pp. 66–69, 74 (last paragraph), 75–76, and chapter 13.	Kuhn, T, <i>The Structure of Scientific Revolutions</i> , 3rd Edition, University of Chicago Press, 1996, chapter 7, pp. 66–69, 74 (last paragraph), 75–76, and chapter 13.

For further information contact Monica Bini on (03) 9651 4575.

## Notices

### Mathematics seminar

#### *The International Centre of Excellence for Education in Mathematics (ICE-EM) What's Happening in Mathematics?*

The International Centre of Excellence for Education in Mathematics (ICE-EM) is holding a free professional learning seminar **What's Happening in Mathematics?** on Wednesday 8 August 2007 at the University of Melbourne. Light refreshments will be available from 4.00 pm, with presentations and discussion from 4.30 pm to 6.30 pm.

The seminar will be presented by three leading mathematicians and will provide mathematics teachers with the opportunity for professional learning about new developments in mathematics and related applications – covering interesting and important areas as diverse as finance, climate change, security, medical research, mining and wildlife management. In the presentations, links will be made with school mathematics and careers opportunities for students of mathematics and statistics. The presenters are:

- *Professor Terry Speed*, Head of Bioinformatics Division, The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research and Professor of Statistics, UC Berkeley, whose area of interest is the application of statistics to problems in genetics and molecular biology, in particular mapping of genes in mice and humans, including disease genes and genes contributing to the variation of quantitative traits.
- *Professor J Hyam Rubinstein*, Head of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, at the University of Melbourne, whose area of interest is contemporary geometry (low dimensional topology, minimal surfaces and shortest network design) applications in optimising the design of mines and the logistics of equipment use in mining.
- *Professor Greg Hjorth*, Department of Mathematics and Statistics at the University of Melbourne, whose area of interest is symbolic logic and its application to investigating fundamental structures of mathematics.

For further details, and to register interest, please contact Ms Jan Thomas, Executive Officer, Australian Mathematical Sciences Institute, email <jan.thomas@amsi.org.au>, or telephone (03) 8344 1774.

#### ***Where to Now? Guide to the VCE, VCAL and Apprenticeships and Traineeships***

Copies of this booklet have been delivered to all schools and TAFE institutions in Victoria.

The book provides information on options available to students in the post-compulsory years and is a particularly useful resource for careers counselling with Year 10 students and their parents.

The VCAA would appreciate feedback on the book, particularly as it has been published with a new design concept this year.

Please direct any feedback to Information Services at the VCAA as follows:

Email: [information.services@vcaa.vic.edu.au](mailto:information.services@vcaa.vic.edu.au)

Fax: (03) 9651 4550

### VCAA Plain English Speaking Award

#### *Invitation*

The VCAA invites teachers and students to key events in the 2007 VCAA Plain English Speaking Award. Please contact the VCAA on (03) 9651 4544, 1800 137 194 or <[vcaa@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:vcaa@edumail.vic.gov.au)> to accept this invitation or to make further enquiries.

Education Minister John Lenders will open the **state final** of the Plain English Speaking Award. This will take place on **Friday 3 August** and will be a very exciting event for young audiences.

Some of the best student public speakers will present their six-minute prepared speeches on a variety of topics. These are followed by three-minute impromptu speeches which are a real test of their skills.

Date: Friday 3 August

Time: 10.00 am – 12.30 pm (approx. finish time)

Venue: Treasury Theatre, Lower Plaza, 1 Macarthur Street, East Melbourne (in the government precinct)

#### *Semifinals*

Teachers are most welcome to bring students to the semifinals of the VCAA Plain English Speaking Award in July (details follow). We look forward to hearing from you and meeting you at one or more of the finals.

Date	Region	Venue	Time
Tuesday 24 July	Southern metropolitan	Kingston Arts Centre 979 Nepean Highway, Moorabbin	10.00 am – 12 noon
Wednesday 25 July	Northern metropolitan	Darebin Arts and Entertainment Centre Cnr Bell St and St Georges Road, Preston	10.00 am – 12 noon
Thursday 26 July	Geelong	Deakin University, Waterfront Campus, Gheringhap St, Geelong	2.00–4.00 pm
Tuesday 31 July	Eastern metropolitan	Box Hill Town Hall, Whitehorse Road, Box Hill	10.00 am – 12 noon
Thursday 2 August	Melbourne city	Treasury Theatre, Lower Plaza, 1 Macarthur Street, East Melbourne	Two sessions 10.00 am – 12 noon and 1.00–3.00 pm



## Catalogue and DVD Sale – VCE Season of Excellence

**Top Designs 2007 catalogue and bonus CD-ROM including additional information** – checklists, selected pages from folios and design plans.

**Top Class Drama 2006** – Features 11 VCE Drama performances filmed at the National Theatre as part of the VCE Season of Excellence 2006.

**Top Acts 2007** – Features outstanding VCE performances from Music Performance, Dance, Drama and Theatre Studies in the 2007 VCE Season of Excellence (NB. Available late July 2007).

**Top Screen 2006** – Features 14 short video productions and animations made by VCE Media students. The compile also includes interviews with the film makers and commentary by the selection panel.

**Top Screen 2005** – Features 14 short video productions and animations made by VCE Media students. The compile also includes interviews with the film makers and commentary by the selection panel.

**Top Class and Top Acts are \$33.00 each or buy two for \$60.00. Top Screen 2005 and Top Screen 2006 are \$45.00 each or buy both for \$80.00. These prices include GST, postage and handling.**

Please note: **(Payments must accompany orders – orders cannot be despatched until payment is processed.)**

- Make cheques payable to the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (ABN: 82 628 957 617).
- On receipt of payment, a Tax Invoice/Receipt will be mailed with the DVD to the purchaser.
- For further details contact Information Services (03) 9651 4544.

**Please note that the VCAA will not send out another tax invoice prior to payment and school purchase orders are not accepted.**

Mail the order form and payment to:

**Information Services, Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority, 41 St Andrews Place, East Melbourne 3002**



### Order form/Tax invoice – Top Acts/Top Class/Top Screen/Top Designs catalogue

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

School/Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I request	<input type="checkbox"/> Top Class Drama 2006 (\$33.00)	<input type="checkbox"/> Top Acts 2007 (\$33.00)	<input type="checkbox"/> Top Class Drama and Top Acts (\$60.00)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Top Screen 2005 (\$45.00)	<input type="checkbox"/> Top Screen 2006 (\$45.00)	<input type="checkbox"/> Top Screen 2005 and 2006 (\$80.00)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Top Designs catalogue and CD-ROM (\$18.00)	<input type="text"/> <b>Total number of resources</b>	

B3K? 7@F 67F3;>E **(Payments must accompany orders – orders cannot be despatched until payment is processed.)**

**Buy Top Class and Top Acts for \$33.00 each or both for \$60.00/Top Screen 2005 and 2006 for \$45.00 each or both for \$80.00. These prices include GST, postage and handling. Please allow three weeks for delivery.**

Here is my payment for \_\_\_\_\_ DVD/s in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Cheque or Money order (payable to the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority)

Bank Card  Visa Card  Master Card Card No.

Cardholder's name: (Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss) \_\_\_\_\_  
 First name Initial Family name

Cardholder's signature \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry date

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Business Private Mobile

#### VCAA Privacy Statement

The Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) is a statutory authority established under the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*. The VCAA is committed to protecting all personal information collected and handling this data in accordance with the *Information Privacy Act 2000*. All of the information we collect from you will be kept secure and confidential.

# Distribution

## 24 May 2007 to 27 June 2007

### Memoranda to schools

- 49/2007 re Post Year 12 Destination Data Publication – On Track
- 51/2007 re Emergency Special Examination Arrangements, Derived Examination Score application forms
- 52/2007 re Submission of SIAR 1 for Studio Arts School-assessed Task 1
- 53/2007 re 2007 June Examination Centre Messages
- 54/2007 re 2007 June Physics Examination error
- 55/2007 re Visitation Dates Entry – SIAR 1 and SIAR 3
- 59/2007 re Submission of Enrolment 3 Data
- 60/2007 re Publication of VCAL results at the end of the school year
- 61/2007 re Submission of SIAR 2 – VCE Unit 3 School-assessed Coursework scores
- 62/2007 re VASS Release Version 8.10 – Internet Explorer 7.0

### Publishing

- June 2007 VCAA Bulletin VCE, VCAL and VET No. 49
- June 2007 VCAA Bulletin P–10 Issue 29
- Where to Now? Guide to the VCE, VCAL and Apprenticeships and Traineeships for 2008

### Internet

#### Additions

- June 2007 VCAA Bulletin VCE, VCAL and VET No. 49
- June 2007 VCAA Bulletin P–10 Issue 29
- Memoranda to schools  
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#### VCE

- VCE Assessment Reports 2006: Chemistry, Environmental Science, Further Mathematics 1, Hospitality (Commercial Cookery), Hospitality (Food and Beverage), Music Group Performance, Music Solo Performance, Specialist Mathematics 1, Theatre Studies Performance, Visual Communication and Design
- Reaccredited study designs: Accounting, Chemistry Units 1 and 2, Dance, Design and Technology, Drama, English/ESL Units 1 and 2, Foundation English, Information Technology, Systems Engineering and Theatre Studies.
- VCE Software development: Approved programming languages
- VCE Art Study Design amendment
- VCE Information Technology Assessment Handbook 2007–2010 updated (Software Development)

# June 2006 to June 2007

The detailed contents for this VCAA Bulletin are on the front cover. This index records items in all issues from June 2006 to June 2007. Index items are followed by issue number and page number. Index to supplements appears on the next page.

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## COPY DEADLINES FOR 2007

Issue No. and Month	Date of publication	Copy deadline
<b>No. 51 August</b>	<b>Monday 13 August</b>	<b>Wednesday 25 July</b>
<b>No. 52 September</b>	<b>Monday 10 September</b>	<b>Wednesday 22 August</b>
<b>No. 53 October</b>	<b>Monday 8 October</b>	<b>Wednesday 19 September</b>
<b>No. 54 November</b>	<b>Monday 12 November</b>	<b>Wednesday 24 October</b>
<b>No. 55 December</b>	<b>Monday 10 December</b>	<b>Wednesday 21 November</b>

*The VCE Achiever Award is coordinated by the VCAA to recognise the efforts of VCE students in promoting community involvement in their local school and wider community. VCE Achievers actively participate in such activities as the arts, environmental protection, aged care, hospitality, local council initiatives, fundraising and public speaking. Monthly finalists receive a three-month subscription to the Herald Sun, and in December one overall winner will receive a notepad computer donated by Lenovo Australia and New Zealand Ltd. Students in government, Catholic and independent schools may apply for the award in 2007 by using the application form on the VCAA website (Excellence and Awards > VCE Achiever Award).*

For most VCE students, it's their friends, the television or their mobile phones that can take them away from their studies. For June VCE Achiever Alison Meikle, it's fire.

Alison, a Year 12 student at Terang P-12 College, is a volunteer firefighter with the Country Fire Authority — and this means she is permanently on-call should a fire break out in her local area.

'We have pagers with us and when we get a message we have to make an instant decision about whether to go to the fire — there is no warning at all. I got called out to a fire the other night when I was doing Biology homework, but I decided to go.

'In the end, someone losing their house is more vital than my school work.'

Alison first joined the CFA as a junior volunteer in Year 10. At the age of just 16 she was elected to the officer ranks of her local brigade, where she performs the position of Communications Officer.

She is now a senior operational firefighter, trained in the use of breathing apparatus and chemical splash suits, and able to enter properties to search for, and rescue, people. Despite her young age, on a few occasions she has performed the role of Officer in Charge of a firefighting operation, which involves deciding where to send the fire trucks, allocating tasks and equipment to crew members and contacting other emergency services if needed.

'Out here firefighters are volunteers, so when house fires or bushfires happen we have to drop everything, leave work or school — and we don't get paid for it. But if we didn't do that there would be no-one to fight the fires.'

Alison is keen to support the CFA through activities at her school. She helped the school set up a CFA Youth Crew, so that VCAL students could do CFA activities as part of their Personal Development Skills program.

She also made a bushfire safety presentation to 120 younger students at the college, telling them about bushfire plans, how to evacuate safely and how to prepare for, and defend against, bushfires.

'The kids know that I am a firefighter now, so they come up and say "Can I be a firefighter too?" and ask me lots of questions. I really enjoy that.'

Alison is also School Captain of Terang College. She runs assemblies, heads the student council and helps students deal with problems they might be having at school. She is a keen member and co-organiser of the school's fundraising activities, which this year have included a Terang Idol competition to raise money for World Vision.

Alison is also a member of the Terang Community Building Initiative, which aims to make the town a better place for both locals and visitors. The committee has already started planning for a gym to be built in the town.

A keen public speaker, this year Alison reached the regional final of the Lions Youth of the Year competition. She has also competed at regional level in school athletics and swimming events.

While some students might be tempted to cut down their non-school activities during their VCE, Alison says she has taken more things on.

'School work does come first as it's a ticket to your future. But as long as you're organised and don't let your homework get on top of you, there is always time for other things.'

Alison is still keeping her options open about her life after VCE, but is considering studying agriculture at TAFE. Whatever happens, she knows she will continue to be involved with the CFA.

'I might even become a career firefighter one day — it's always going to be part of my life.'



The Cunningham Dax Collection has been actively working on developing new educational resources to support teacher and student engagement with the Collection. These include the VCE Psychology teacher resource, *Collected Thoughts*, which is a DVD featuring interviews with two Melbourne based artists, Renee Sutton and Graeme Doyle, whose work is displayed in the gallery. The DVD provides an excellent introduction for students visiting the gallery and brings the voices of these unique artists into the classroom.

Demand by teachers who want to bring their students to the Collection has grown, and as a result the number of workshops offered has increased. Over 30 per cent of all VCE Psychology teachers in Victoria has now undertaken professional development at the Collection since 2002. In 2006, over 3000 students visited the Collection and participated in the program. The Collection is currently developing a program for teachers of VCE Visual Arts.

For further information regarding the Cunningham Dax Collection, resources and school bookings, please contact:

Tracy Spinks, Education Officer (Mental Health):  
tracy.spinks@daxcollection.org.au

Penelope Lee, Education Officer (Arts and Mental Health):  
penelope.lee@daxcollection.org.au

Tel: (03) 9342 2394

Open to Public: Wed, Thurs, Fri (10 am – 4 pm), Sat (1–4pm);

Location: 35 Poplar Road, Parkville, 3052

[www.daxcollection.org.au](http://www.daxcollection.org.au)



This image is a work by a young girl, 16 years of age.

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