The legacy of Collette Tayler

The research and life work of Australia's leading academic in early childhood education has been acknowledged in the Emeritus Professor Collette Tayler Excellence in Educational Leadership Award, presented for the first time on 23 October 2018 as part of the Victorian Early Years Awards in Melbourne.

The award is made to an early childhood service that has supported its educators and teachers to use intentional teaching practices to achieve improved outcomes for children and their families.

As Chair of Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) at the University of Melbourne, Professor Tayler (1951–2017) led the Effective Early Educational Experiences (E4Kids), a landmark longitudinal study (2010–17) into the impact and effectiveness of early childhood education and care in Australia, and outcomes for children who do not attend programs. The study found that children's trajectories in the birth-to-three-year period are critical. A child's development at three years predicts their ability at school entry and in Year 3 NAPLAN test results.

It also found that intentional teaching (also known as instructional support) made a significant contribution to children's outcomes. Intentional teaching is one of the Practice Principles in the Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework (VEYLDF). Focusing on children's thinking and language and level of challenge will advance more growth, as will increasing access for children and families experiencing vulnerability.

According to the VEYLDF Practice Principles, children are capable of learning on their own, but adults can extend and increase that learning and stimulate new learning through their intentional involvement. So while play can be child-directed, adults' involvement can increase its value. In fact, research indicates that the least successful learning environments are those where children are regularly allowed to spend a lot of

continued on page 3
## Contents

### Excellence & Awards
- Nominate for the 2018 VCAL Achievement Awards ........................................... 4
- VCE Season of Excellence ................................................................. 4

### Early Years
- 2018 Victorian Early Years Awards winners announced ........................................ 6

### Foundation–10
#### Curriculum
- Implementing the Victorian Curriculum F–10 through classroom teaching and learning programs ............................................. 7

### Foundation–10
#### Assessment
- NAPLAN Future test dates ................................................................. 8
- NAPLAN Writing Test Markers required for 2019 ........................................ 8
- NAPLAN 2018 Data Service professional development workshops ......................... 8
- On Demand testing Item Level Response data collection 2018 ............................ 8
- NAPLAN Online .............................................................................. 8

### Victorian Certificate of Education
#### Curriculum
- 2019 VCE Drama and Theatre Studies playlist ........................................... 9
- Review of VCE studies in 2019 .......................................................... 9
- Expressions of interest: VCE study review panels in 2019 ............................... 9
- VCE Literature Study Design FAQs ..................................................... 9
- 2019 VCE school leader briefings/workshops ............................................ 9
- 2019 School-assessed Tasks professional learning sessions ............................. 9
- VCE Continuum of Practice .................................................................. 10

#### Assessment
- Delivery of VCE/VCAL results package to schools ...................................... 11
- 2018 Post Results and ATAR Service (PRAS) ........................................... 11
- 2018 VCE examination feedback survey .................................................. 11
- Last day to amend student personal details, email addresses and consents .......... 11

### Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning
- VCAL Showcases 2018 ........................................................................ 12

### Vocational Education and Training
- VET statewide workshops: last call for registrations ...................................... 13
- VCE VET Scored Assessment Audit ....................................................... 13
- VCE VET State Reviewer vacancies for 2019 ........................................... 13
- VCE VET Building and Construction program ............................................. 13
- VCE VET Laboratory Skills ...................................................................... 13
- Review of Block Credit Recognition .......................................................... 13
- VCE VET Program Summary and updates for 2019 .................................... 13

### Administrative Advice
- Reporting literacy and numeracy attainment in the VCE and VCAL ................. 14
- On Track 2018 revision ........................................................................... 14

### Professional Development
- Analysing your school’s VCE results ....................................................... 14

### Bulletin Board
- Professional learning opportunity for Visual and Media Arts teachers Foundation–VCE ............... 14

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The VCAA Bulletin is authorised and published by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority. Principals are advised to encourage teaching staff to have an individual subscription. Notices to Schools are also available on the VCAA website.

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time in undirected free play. The integration of different approaches – child-directed play and learning, guided play and learning, and adult-directed learning – are much more effective.

Professor Tayler served on the Board of the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) from July 2008 until 2017. One of her most lasting contributions to early childhood education was her influence and leadership in the development of the Early Years Learning Framework and the National Quality Standards. In Victoria, Professor Tayler worked with the then Department of Education and Early Childhood Development and VCAA to guide the development of the VEYLF in 2010 and its revision in 2016. These policy initiatives have made a significant contribution to improving outcomes for children.

The inaugural winner of the award was Community Kinders Plus (CKP), a not-for-profit provider that manages 20 kindergartens in Frankston and across the Mornington Peninsula. CKP studied Professor Tayler’s research and devised an assessment timeline, tools and templates to observe, track and record children’s progress and development. This research ensured that each child who attended a CKP kindergarten had an individual plan that reflected their developmental needs and interests.

CKP has also partnered with Monash University to provide capacity-building opportunities for its teachers and educators. The long-term goal of CKP is to continue these improvements using intentional teaching and instructional support to support vulnerable children and families.

For more on the Victorian Early Years Award see [2018 Victorian Early Years Awards winners announced](#) in this issue.
Nominate for the 2018 VCAL Achievement Awards

Nominations for the 2018 VCAL Achievement Awards are open. The VCAL Achievement Awards recognise the outstanding achievements of young people who participate in the VCAL, as well as the contribution and achievement of VCAL teachers and partner organisations that have facilitated the development and delivery of innovative VCAL programs. Guidelines and links to online nomination forms can be found on the VCAL Achievement Awards webpage.

Nominations must be submitted online by Friday 23 November 2018.

We recommend you use Google Chrome, Firefox, Safari or the latest version of the Internet Explorer (IE11) to complete the nomination as you will need to attach supporting documentation. Older versions of Internet Explorer do not support attachments.

The VCAA is pleased to have appointed representatives from the following organisations to the VCAL Achievement Awards judging panel:

- Australian Education Union
- Catholic Education Office
- Department of Education and Training
- Independent Schools Victoria
- Local Learning and Employment Network
- Victorian Applied Learning Association
- Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority
- Victorian Institute of Teaching.

For further information contact Dr Cornelia DeBrincat, Program Manager, VCAL Unit on (03) 9032 1726 or debrincat.cornelia.c@edumail.vic.gov.au.

VCE Season of Excellence

Join us for another season of outstanding concerts, exhibitions and screenings

The VCE Season of Excellence 2019 will feature 11 concerts for Dance, Music, Drama and Theatre studies as part of Top Class, 18 short film screenings for Top Screen, and the Top Designs and Top Arts exhibitions. In 2019 we will introduce our brand new Season event Top Talks – a showcase of Extended Investigation students presenting their research findings at State Library Victoria.

Highlights from Top Class will culminate in a Top Acts showcase on Friday 10 May 2019. Beginning in Term 1, these events and accompanying education programs will take place in renowned venues across the city including Arts Centre Melbourne, Melbourne Recital Centre, Australian Centre for the Moving Image, State Library Victoria, Melbourne Museum and the National Gallery of Victoria.

For dates and session information, visit the individual event pages on the VCE Season of Excellence webpage, where you will also find links to event bookings from 1 December 2018.
Sign up for VCE Season of Excellence updates

Don’t miss a beat! Sign up to the VCE Season of Excellence Update for information on Season events, education programs, alumni stories and behind-the-scenes insights. The VCE Season of Excellence is a five-month annual festival showcasing outstanding senior secondary student work from Victorian schools. The Season presents works created by VCE students in design, technology, multimedia and the cinematic, visual and performing arts through exhibitions, screenings and performances. Season events are accompanied by education talks, forums and panel discussions, catalogues, programs and online material.

VCE Season of Excellence 2020 to showcase more VCE VET programs

From 2020 four additional VCE VET programs will be represented in the Top Designs exhibition at the Melbourne Museum. The new studies to be featured in addition to Creative Digital Media are Engineering Studies, Furnishing, Integrated Technologies and Music Industry (Sound Production). More information on how to apply will be available in 2019. The VCE Season of Excellence directly supports the VCAA’s goal to support high-quality education and recognise student achievement and best practice teaching.
2018 Victorian Early Years Awards winners announced

The winners of the 2018 Victorian Early Years Awards were announced on Tuesday 23 October at the National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne.

The work of early childhood educators was recognised in four categories for services, which included improving access and participation (Debney Meadows Primary School for the Finding Your Voice oral language program), supporting parents to build their capacity and confidence (Dandenong Primary School for its Dandy Pals Playgroup – Step Into Kinder program), creating collaborative community partnerships (Traralgon East Community Centre for its Community Connect) and promoting children's health and wellbeing (City of Darebin for the Kingsbury Play Map Project).

The Early Childhood Teacher of the Year Award is presented to an early childhood teacher who demonstrates innovation and exemplary practice in early childhood education, and makes a significant contribution to the development and delivery of high-quality early childhood education programs that improve outcomes for children.

This year the educator award was presented to Nicole Bechaz of Banyan Fields Kindergarten. Her participation in the Let’s Chat oral language program increased parents’ skills and knowledge around the importance of early reading. By developing relationships between Banyan Fields Primary and others, Nicole has helped to strengthen the link between early childhood and primary school services. This has led to smooth and successful transitions for children and families.

In addition, the inaugural Emeritus Professor Collette Tayler Excellence in Educational Leadership Award was presented to an early childhood service that has supported its educators and teachers to use intentional teaching practices. Community Kinders Plus was presented with this award for improving children’s social and emotional development, their cognition and language and early literacy skills.

The Minister’s Award, a special commendation for a program that reflects this year’s theme of ‘supporting positive relationships with children and families from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds’, was awarded to the Victorian Foundation for Survivors of Torture for its Foundation House Hume Refugee Early Years Cluster 2017–18, which aims to improve inclusion for families and children of refugee backgrounds in early years services.

For details about the award recipients and nominees, visit the DET website. See The legacy of Collette Tayler in this issue.
Curriculum

Implementing the Victorian Curriculum F–10 through classroom teaching and learning programs

The VCAA has scheduled a series of free area-based workshops across Victoria in Term 4 to provide teachers with knowledge and practical strategies to implement the Victorian Curriculum F–10 in the classroom. Teachers are encouraged to attend these practical, hands-on workshops and gain insight from Specialist Teachers who have been working with the VCAA to develop a range of implementation support resources.

Each workshop will focus on three specific topics, which will be selected based on demand captured through the registration process. A confirmation email will be sent one week before the workshop outlining the workshop topics.

Potential presentation topics include:

- Critical and Creative Thinking
- Digital Coding (Technologies)
- Ethical Capability
- Health Education and Personal and Social Capability, including Respectful Relationships
- STEM
- Music

Government schools can support teacher attendance at these workshops by accessing the funds allocated in June 2018 through the Student Resource Package.

Follow the links below to register for a free workshop.

**North Eastern Victoria Region**
- Friday 7 December [Outer Eastern Melbourne](#)

**North Western Victoria Region**
- Friday 30 November [Mallee](#)
- Friday 23 November [Hume Moreland](#)
- Friday 30 November [Loddon Campaspe](#)

**South Eastern Victoria Region**
- Friday 7 December [Bayside Peninsula](#)
- Friday 7 December [Outer Gippsland](#)

**South Western Victoria Region**
- Friday 30 November [Brimbank Melton](#)
- Friday 7 December [Central Highlands](#)
- Friday 30 November [Western Melbourne](#)
Assessment

NAPLAN Future test dates

Schools are reminded that NAPLAN test dates are published on the NAP website. Schools should incorporate these dates in their forward planning. For 2019 the test dates are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAPLAN test type</th>
<th>NAPLAN test period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paper-based</td>
<td>14–16 May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online</td>
<td>14–24 May</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NAPLAN Writing Test Markers required for 2019

Current and retired teachers wishing to mark NAPLAN 2019 Writing tests are reminded that applications will close towards the end of February 2019, or earlier if suitable applicants have been selected.

New markers are appointed on the basis of teaching and other relevant experience, such as participation in similar marking projects. Experienced markers are reappointed on the basis of marking accuracy and commitment to the NAPLAN marking project.

NAPLAN Writing test markers have the option of working online at home or from the VCAA Coburg Assessment Centre.

2019 Marker training

Day markers are required to attend two training days on Monday 20 and Tuesday 21 May 2019. Evening markers are required to attend two training days on Saturday 18 and Sunday 19 May. All new markers are required to attend an introductory training session on Saturday 11 May in addition to day or evening marker training.

In 2019 NAPLAN marking is scheduled to begin on Wednesday 22 May and is expected to finish around Wednesday 19 June.

For further information regarding NAPLAN Writing tests see the VCAA website.

How to apply

Applications can be made online through the Sessional Staff Management System (SSMS).

NAPLAN 2018 Data Service professional development workshops

NAPLAN Data Service professional development workshops for principals, NAPLAN coordinators and teachers are being conducted throughout Term 4.

The free two-hour workshops are presented on behalf of the VCAA by Kmetrics at venues across Victoria. Feedback on the workshops so far has been very positive, and schools are encouraged to register for one of the remaining workshops if they have not already done so.

Information about times, dates and venues for these workshops is on the VCAA website.

On Demand testing Item Level Response data collection 2018

Schools that do not wish to participate in analysis of Item Level Response data from On Demand testing should return an exemption form to the VCAA by close of business on Friday 23 November 2018. Refer to Notice to Schools 105/2018.

NAPLAN Online

The VCAA thanks all schools that participated in the Schools Readiness Test (SRT) as part of their transition to NAPLAN online. The SRT is an important step in providing schools with exposure to the platform and preparing for the May 2019 tests. The VCAA will provide an update to online schools later this year, including details of readiness activities and refresher training in early 2019.
Curriculum

2019 VCE Drama and Theatre Studies playlist

The 2019 VCE Drama and Theatre Studies playlist is now available on the VCE Drama and Theatre Studies study pages. Refer to Notice to Schools 118/2018.

Review of VCE studies in 2019

The following VCE studies will commence review in 2019: Biology, English/English as an Additional Language, Environmental Science, Australian History (Units 3 and 4), Global Empires (Units 1 and 2), Mathematics, Chinese First Language, Indonesian First Language, Japanese First Language, Korean First Language and Vietnamese First Language.

Review panels will not be convened for the following studies, which will undergo only minor review: VCE Bridging English as an Additional Language, Geography, Twentieth Century History (Units 1 and 2), Ancient History, Revolutions (Units 3 and 4), Classical Greek, Classical Hebrew and Latin.

Consultation drafts of the study designs in review will be available for consideration throughout the year on the relevant VCE study page on the VCAA website. Each study will have a four-week consultation period.

Expressions of interest: VCE study review panels in 2019

Expressions of interest are sought from suitably qualified people to participate in the curriculum review process for the following VCE studies:

- Biology
- Chinese First Language
- English/English as an Additional Language
- Environmental Science
- History (Global Empires Units 1 and 2 and Australian History Units 3 and 4)
- Indonesian First Language
- Japanese First Language
- Korean First Language
- Vietnamese First Language.

Refer to Notice to Schools 112/2018.

VCE Literature Study Design FAQs

The frequently asked questions for the VCE Literature Study Design have been updated. Refer to Notice to Schools 106/2018.

2019 VCE school leader briefings/workshops

The VCAA will conduct briefings/workshops for VCE school leaders in a variety of metropolitan and regional locations in Term 1. Refer to Notice to Schools 109/2018.

2019 School-assessed Tasks professional learning sessions

Professional learning sessions for studies with School-assessed Tasks will be held during February and March 2019. These full-day sessions are designed to provide teachers with a clear understanding of how to apply the assessment criteria and descriptors for the School-assessed Task in the relevant study.

All teachers will be required to bring a copy of the relevant study design/s.

The sessions will include applying assessment criteria using sample student work. Teachers of Product Design and Technology and Systems Engineering are encouraged to bring a student folio they think would be suitable for marking, although there is no guarantee that the folio will be used in any assessment exercise. Teachers should ensure that folios are labelled with teacher details and students cannot be identified. For
teachers of Art, Studio Arts, Media and Visual Communication Design, folios of student work for assessment will be available digitally before the sessions for viewing and assessing.

This year, full-day sessions will also run in Bendigo in early March. Register your interest for these sessions. Information on dates and venues will be provided once they are confirmed.

Further details about the professional learning sessions will be emailed to registered teachers closer to the session dates.

For teachers who are unable to attend the scheduled sessions, web conferencing will run for all studies except Algorithmics (HESS). Please indicate on the registration form if you are unable to attend a scheduled session and an invitation containing details of the web conferencing will be sent to your email. Register to attend.

**Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VCAA Assessment Centre, Coburg, 9.00am–4.00pm</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Computing: Software Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Media</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Studio Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Product Design and Technology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Computing: Informatics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Visual Communication Design</td>
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<tr>
<td>Studio Arts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Visual Communication Design</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VCAA, 2 Lonsdale Street, 9.00am–4.00pm</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Systems Engineering</td>
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<tr>
<td>Algorithmics (HESS)</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Web conferencing sessions, 4.00pm–5.30pm</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Systems Engineering</td>
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<td>Computing: Software Development</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Studio Arts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Visual Communication Design</td>
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Email vcaa.vce.pd@edumail.vic.gov.au for further information.

**VCE Continuum of Practice**

The VCAA has developed a set of advisory resources to assist schools and their leadership teams to:

- conduct an internal self-review and audit of practice for VCE delivery
- identify best practice in the delivery of senior secondary programs
- facilitate a school development plan and identify practices which may lead to improved student outcomes.

The VCE Continuum of Practice is available for download from the VCAA website:

- Documented curriculum plans, assessment and shared pedagogical approaches (docx – 68.72kb)
- Moderation of common student assessment tasks (docx – 132.03kb)
- Data analysis and evaluation of student learning growth over time (docx – 138.88kb)
- Explicit use of evidence-based school improvement strategies and teacher professional practice activities (docx – 151.46kb)

Professional learning in relation to this resource will feature in the 2019 VCE school leaders briefings. Dates and locations of these briefings are in Notice to Schools 109/2018; registrations are processed online by a third party.
Assessment

Delivery of VCE/VCAL results package to schools

In order to plan the delivery of the final results package to schools in December, the VCAA requires prior notification of alternative delivery arrangements or school closures.

The final VCE/VCAL Certificates and Statement of Results for students who did not undertake a VCE Unit 3–4 sequence will be delivered by courier to the school’s site address on Monday 17 December 2018.

Schools are required to:

- Check that the school’s site address is correctly recorded in VASS.
- Check the school has no re-directions or any other impediment that would stop delivery of the package.
- Notify the VCAA if a graduation ceremony is taking place on the day of delivery.
- Notify the VCAA if the school will be closed on Monday 17 December or if there will be no one in attendance.
- Notify the VCAA if the courier might need additional instructions to deliver the results package to the correct place.

It is important that schools have a staff member on site between 7am and 5pm, as Australia Post will deliver packages between these times. As all packages must be signed for it is imperative that a staff member be present for the entire window or that alternative delivery arrangements are made promptly.

The VCAA cannot guarantee delivery if the above requirements are not met.

Contact Thi Duong in the Student Records and Results Unit on (03) 9032 1741 or email student.records@edumail.vic.gov.au to advise of delivery details.

2018 Post Results and ATAR Service (PRAS)

PRAS is a joint VCAA and VTAC information service available to students, parents and teachers who have queries after the release of VCE results and ATARs on 14 December 2018.

Students can visit the PRAS website or contact PRAS by phone or email on:

- Friday 14 December, 7am–5pm
- Saturday 15 December and Sunday 16 December, 11am–4pm
- Monday 17 December and Tuesday 18 December, 9am–5pm.

Note that results cannot be obtained through this service.

Phone (03) 9032 1717 (metropolitan callers) or 1800 653 080 (freecall) or email pras@edumail.vic.gov.au.

2018 VCE examination feedback survey

Teachers of Units 3 and 4 VCE studies and scored VCE VET programs are invited to provide the VCAA with feedback about this year’s VCE examinations through a 10- to 15-minute online survey that is open until Monday 26 November 2018. Refer to Notice to Schools 111/2018.

Last day to amend student personal details, email addresses and consents

All amendments to student addresses, email addresses, consents and personal details and Year 10 students without programs must be made on VASS by Friday 30 November 2018. Refer to Notice to Schools 117/2018.
VCAL Showcases 2018

The VCAA, in collaboration with the Catholic Education Commission of Victoria, will conduct VCAL Showcases in Wangaratta on Tuesday 4 December and Broadmeadows on Wednesday 5 December 2018. Refer to Notice to Schools 110/2018.
VET statewide workshops: last call for registrations

The VCAA’s VET statewide workshops will continue during November. It is important that schools delivering VET have at least one staff member attend as there will be significant information about VET reforms including changes to Block Credit, new VCE VET programs, Scored Tasks Type changes, SWL Recognition updates, quality assessment samples and the launch of additional Get VET promotional material.

Workshops are still to be held in Ballarat, Bendigo, Geelong, Horsham, Melbourne CBD, Morwell, Shepparton, Wangaratta and Warrnambool. Details of locations and registration are available on the VET Professional Development webpage.

VCE VET Scored Assessment Audit

School Coursework Audit Notification (SCAN) emails have been sent to selected schools and RTOs for the 2018 audit of scored VCE VET programs. It is important to follow the instructions included with the email. The school/RTO identified as the Assessing Group is responsible for providing audit material to the VCAA. Questions about the audit can be directed to the VET Unit on (03) 9032 1737.

VCE VET State Reviewer vacancies for 2019

All VCE VET programs containing scored assessment have a state reviewer position assigned to them by the VCAA. This is a paid position with an allowance based on the number of enrolments in the scored Units 3 and 4 sequence. Duties include supporting the VCAA VET Unit at scored assessment workshops for teachers of Units 3 and 4 throughout the year and assisting in audits of VCE VET scored assessment tasks. It is important that scored assessment is supported by a program specialist who is currently delivering or supporting the delivery and assessment of the VCE VET program in a school or training provider.

All appointments are from 1 January 2019. Interested teachers or trainers should email the VCAA VET Unit at vet.vcaa@edumail.vic.gov.au for a statement of the roles and responsibilities of state reviewers and details of the appointment process conducted through SSMS.

VCE VET Building and Construction program

The revised VCE VET Building and Construction program has been approved to include CPC20211 Certificate II in Construction Pathways for 2019. More information will be available on the VCE VET Building and Construction webpage.

VCE VET Laboratory Skills

The VCE VET Laboratory Skills program has undergone minor review. In 2019 VCE VET Laboratory Skills will be drawn from the new version of the qualification MSL30118 Certificate III in Laboratory Skills. There is no change to the program structure or credit arrangements. A new VCE VET program booklet will be available on the website in 2019.

Review of Block Credit Recognition

Changes to Block Credit Recognition effective 2019 are available on the VCAA website. Special arrangements will be provided for a student who under the new rules would receive credit at a lower level than expected – for example, at Units 1 and 2 level rather than a previously calculated Units 3 and 4 level. Schools should email the VCAA at vet.vcaa@edumail.vic.gov.au with details of these cases.

VCE VET Program Summary and updates for 2019

The 2019 Program Summary and program updates will be available on the VCE VET Program webpage in January 2019.
Administrative Advice

Reporting literacy and numeracy attainment in the VCE and VCAL

From 2021, students undertaking one or more Unit 3 or 4 studies in VCE will, as part of their General Achievement Test (GAT) results, receive information about whether they have demonstrated new literacy and numeracy standards. VCAL students will also be expected to sit the GAT. Refer to Notice to Schools 104/2018.

On Track 2018 revision

An anomaly that affects five questions in the On Track 2018 report relating to career advice activities for Year 12 completers has been identified and corrected. A revised version of the report is available on VASS. Refer to Notice to Schools 119/2018.

Professional Development

Analysing your school’s VCE results

The VCAA invites you to participate in a valuable professional development session on analysing your school’s VCE results. These sessions are for school staff responsible for the delivery of the VCE will be held from mid-February 2019 to the end of March. They will increase your knowledge and skills in using the VCE assessment results to:

- identify strengths and weaknesses in your school’s VCE performance against particular curricula
- inform professional learning discussions with fellow teachers around improving student outcomes.

Details are available on the VCAA website.

Bulletin Board

Professional learning opportunity for Visual and Media Arts teachers Foundation–VCE

Gertrude Contemporary Art on the Road + Home is a professional development program founded to bring artists, art educators and teachers together to exchange ideas, share creative experiences and explore contemporary art and culture. The program has been designed to introduce teachers to a range of hands-on, expertly designed strategies and resources for teaching contemporary art in their classroom.

A free all-day workshop will involve presentations by the VCAA Curriculum Manager for Visual Arts, education officers from Gertrude Contemporary and Monash University Museum of Art and feature an artist from Gertrude Contemporary. The day will provide useful resources for teaching Visual and Media Arts for the Victorian Curriculum and VCE Art, Studio Arts, Visual Communication Design and Media.

The program will run in sessions in Melbourne and at the Latrobe Gallery Morwell, Shepparton Art Museum and Horsham Art Gallery. Details are available at Gertrude Contemporary.