

VCAA Bulletin

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2021 VCE Leadership finalists. Top row, L to R: Benjamin Okely, Michaela Goggin, Amelia Bailey (2021 VCE Leader of the Year). Bottom row, L to R: Sara Coladonato, Rachel Tan, Adele Roeder

VCE Leadership Awards 2021

Amid the challenges of the year, when the resolve of even the most resilient among us has been tested, an inspirational group of young Victorians has held steadfast to making a difference for good in their schools and local communities.

They were the recipients at the recent 2021 VCE Leadership Awards ceremony, which recognise VCE students' important and innovative community work and highlight examples of exemplary leadership. Finalists are selected for their initiative, motivation, teamwork and commitment to their activities and campaigns.

Top honours went to Amelia Bailey from Bendigo Senior Secondary College, who is the 2021 VCE Leader of the Year.

As a senior member of her school's Student Leadership Team, Amelia has taken an active role in co-hosting and performing at the college's annual awards ceremony. She also helped to organise the Bendigo School Strike for Climate.

'Our Student Leadership Team had to adapt to the lockdown circumstances. We would meet over Zoom. I feel that at times we were more creative than we would've been in person,' says Amelia.

Within her local community, Amelia volunteers for St Vincent De Paul and helped to organise the Hope Initiative, where students write letters to or poetry for local aged-care residents.

'It's about giving back to a group of people who've done so much for me,' she says. 'I'm always seeking to find ways to make positive change for them.'

We also congratulate the 2021 finalists – Sara Coladonato (Williamstown High School), Michaela Goggin (Frankston High School), Benjamin Okely (Greater Shepparton Secondary College), Adele Roeder (St Columba's College) and Rachel Tan (Mount Waverley Secondary College) – for their outstanding leadership achievements. You can read more about their remarkable contributions on the [Finalists](#) page. For more information about the awards, go to the [VCE Leadership Awards](#) page.

Our survey is closing soon.

Please help us to improve the Bulletin by sharing your feedback by Monday 18 October.

[Take the survey now](#)

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Message from the CEO

Welcome to Term 4 and, for many, the return to onsite learning. Thank you again to our educators for guiding our students back to the classroom.



Student information page

We recently launched a new space on our website for final year students. Published in consultation with the Victorian Student Representative Council, the [Student info](#) page contains helpful information to support students through Year 12 exams and understand the Consideration of Educational Disadvantage process. Please encourage your students to view the page, which we will regularly update leading up to and after the final results release.

Consultation summary

We recently released a summary of public consultation and engagement which informed the development and design of the VCE Vocational Major (VCE VM) and the Victorian Pathways Certificate (VPC). I would like to acknowledge the generous and constructive feedback received from stakeholders via the Engage Victoria website and through many consultation meetings and other channels.

Consultation on new curriculum and study designs for the VPC and VCE VM closed on Wednesday 6 October and our curriculum and assessment panels have begun considering the feedback received. Final versions will be released in early 2022, along with detailed advice for teachers and professional learning opportunities.

Bulletin survey

We are currently reviewing how we communicate with you and want to make sure the Bulletin keeps up with your needs as educators. To this end, I invite you to please complete our [Bulletin survey](#) and provide feedback on how we might improve.

The survey takes about 10 minutes to complete and will help to make sure the Bulletin supports you by providing the most relevant information in the most helpful way. It's closing soon – Monday 18 October – so please don't wait.

Wishing our Year 12 students the best of luck as they embark on their oral, performance and written exams. Again, please check our [website](#) and [Notices to Schools](#) for the latest updates as they occur.

Stephen Gniel
Chief Executive Officer

Excellence and awards

Nominations open for the 2021 VCAL Achievement Awards

Refer to [Notice to Schools 143/2021](#).

Panel members required for Top Designs, Top Screen and Top Talks

Refer to [Notice to Schools 141/2021](#).

Applications closing soon for the VCE Season of Excellence 2022

Refer to [Notice to Schools 140/2021](#).

Early Years

Next Twilight Webinar

[Register now](#) for our next Early Years Twilight Webinar 'Connecting your practice to the Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework (VEYLDF): A conversation with Professor Susanne Garvis', to be held at 5.30pm Tuesday 19 October. The webinar will suit early childhood professionals who want to:

- engage more deeply with the VEYLDF
- reflect the framework more visibly in their pedagogy and practice.

After registering for the webinar, make time to revisit and reflect on the [VEYLDF](#) to support deeper engagement with the ideas that will be discussed.

Catch up on the June webinar

Watch edited vignettes from our June Twilight Webinar, [The role of the educational leader in supporting equity and diversity in practice: A conversation with Rhonda Livingstone – National Educational Leader, ACECQA](#). The videos feature Rhonda in discussion with Early Years staff about how to support all children to develop a sense of place and connection and how to explore equity and diversity to promote children's sense of identity. The accompanying [fact sheet](#) supports the video vignettes.

Find out more

Subscribe to the [Early Years Alert](#) to find out about upcoming webinars and professional learning resources.

For further queries, please email the [Early Years Unit](#) or call (03) 9032 1684.

Curriculum

Understanding Historical concepts and skills

Access our latest professional learning [resources](#) to support implementing the Victorian Curriculum F–10 History in primary or secondary school.

Developed in collaboration with the History Teachers' Association of Victoria, the resources focus on the five skills and concepts that give history its unique character and structure. Each PowerPoint module explores the development of a skill across multiple levels of Victorian Curriculum History, illustrates their application in the classroom and includes skills-based learning sequences that can be adapted to your school.

New resources to teach bioethics

We have published [new teaching resources](#) that explore teaching bioethical issues in primary and secondary classrooms. The resources include sequences of sample learning activities based around level-appropriate bioethical contexts, incorporating content from the Ethical Capability and Science curriculums, including the Biological sciences and Science as a human endeavour sub-strands.

Level-appropriate bioethical contexts range from caring for a rescued wombat, treating younger and older children differently and the responsibilities of pet owners, through to ethical issues related to dryland salinity, threats to the bogong moth, organ transplants, the use of palm oil, GMO foods and genetic testing.

Bushfire Education

As we approach summer, teachers are reminded of our bushfire educational resources aligned to the Victorian Curriculum. [Bushfire Education](#) offers a series of sequenced lesson plans under the themes of learning about, preparing for, responding to and recovering from bushfires, with the aim of better preparing all young Australians for the challenges of living in a country that regularly experiences bushfires. Each lesson plan has a specific learning intention and links to the relevant curriculum areas and additional resources.

Stay up to date

For advice about implementing the F–10 curriculum in Victoria, including developments and resources, subscribe to the [F–10 Curriculum Update](#).

Assessment

Digital Assessment Library update

The [Digital Assessment Library](#) (DAL) offers free, high-quality online classroom student assessments, designed to provide teachers with meaningful and timely information about student learning and progress.

DAL assessments are developed from the ground up to align to the Victorian Curriculum F–10.

This term, the following new assessments are available:

- English Language Skills assessments (Levels 2–10)
- Mathematics Sub-strand assessments (Levels 2–10)
- Science Focus assessments (Chemistry, Levels 5–10 and Biology, Levels 5–8)
- Critical and Creative Thinking Achievement Level assessments (Levels F–4)
- Health and Physical Education Focus assessments ('Understanding movement' and 'Being healthy safe and active', Levels 2–10)

To find out more, go to the DAL Catalogue in the help section of the DAL Platform.

For enquiries, including new school registrations, please email the [DAL Helpdesk](#).

Curriculum

Applications for VCE State Reviewer positions

We are seeking applications from teachers to undertake the role of State Reviewer for VCE studies commencing 1 January 2022.

The VCE State Reviewer is a paid position and appointees are required to support a range of activities, including auditing School-assessed Coursework and School-assessed Tasks, providing feedback and advice to schools, preparing published advice and delivering professional learning programs. Ideally, applicants should be teaching or have recently taught the study at Units 3 and 4 levels.

State Reviewers are appointed for two years, commencing 1 January of the first year of appointment and concluding 31 December at the end of the appointment period.

For more information, refer to *VCE State Reviewer roles and responsibilities and conditions of appointment* on the [VCE General advice and policy](#) page.

The following VCE studies will have vacancies in 2022–2023:

- AH03 Agricultural and Horticultural Studies
- BI03 Biology
- DA03 Dance
- DR03 Drama
- DT03 Product Design and Technology
- EC03 Economics
- EL01 English Language
- EV03 Environmental Science
- FY03 Food Studies
- HI08 History: Australian History
- HI16 History: Ancient
- LI01 Literature
- LO04 Languages: Chinese First Language
- LS03 Legal Studies
- OS03 Outdoor and Environmental Studies
- PE03 Physical Education
- PH03 Physics
- PL03 Philosophy
- PY03 Psychology
- RE03 Religion and Society
- SE03 Systems Engineering
- TS03 Theatre Studies
- VC03 Visual Communication and Design

Apply through the [Sessional Staff Management System](#) (SSMS) by Friday 5 November. For SSMS technical and access support, email [Assessment Services](#) or call (03) 9225 2305.

For further queries, please email the [VCE Curriculum Unit](#) or call (03) 9059 5166.

Apply to be a member of the VCE English and English as an Additional Language and VCE Literature text advisory panels

Refer to [Notice to Schools 144/2021](#).

2023 VCE Classical Studies works list

Refer to [Notice to Schools 136/2021](#).

VCE Extended Investigation professional learning and information for new providers

Refer to [Notice to Schools 138/2021](#) and [Notice to Schools 135/2021](#).

VCE Texts and Traditions 2022 prescribed texts

Refer to [Notice to Schools 139/2021](#).

Assessment

2021 written examination instructions and other materials

Information and materials to assist students preparing to sit the 2021 end-of-year VCE written examinations are now available on the [2021 examination advice: October/November written examinations](#) page. These materials include sample front covers, instructions, multiple-choice answer sheets, data books, formula sheets and covers of answer books for relevant examinations. A summary of examinations with new examination specifications and changed examination formats for 2021 has also been provided.

Teachers should make sure that students are aware of approved materials, examination formats and instructions, and understand how to complete multiple-choice answer sheets and answer books. Students should practise these procedures before their examinations.

For queries, please email [VCE Examinations](#).

Refer to [Notice to Schools 145/2021](#) for further details.

Approved materials for VCE examinations

For information about materials and equipment approved for use in VCE written examinations, please refer to the [Authorised materials and equipment](#) page.

Use of technology in 2022 VCE Mathematics examinations

Each year we monitor developments in calculator, software and related technology. Every October we publish details of technology approved for use in VCE Mathematics examinations for the forthcoming year.

Approved calculators or software may be used in specified mathematics examinations, as applicable. If there are doubts about whether a particular calculator or software is approved, schools should contact VCE Examinations, preferably at the beginning of the course.

In specified examinations, a scientific calculator may also be used. A scientific calculator does not have graphic, symbolic or programming capability. It does not have extended memory capable of storing text and symbols. For further information, please email [VCE Examinations](#).

Conditions of use

The conditions under which all calculators may be used are as follows:

- The calculator must be silent and of the hand-held type, containing its own power source.
- Students will be entirely responsible for ensuring adequate power supply to their calculators and the proper working order of their calculators.
- Students must supply their own spare batteries or ensure calculator batteries are fully charged; any battery failure or other fault that limits the usefulness of a calculator during an examination will not be taken into consideration by the assessors.
- No student may borrow a calculator from another student after entering the examination room.

Other technology

Other technology, such as computers, laptops, tablets and iPads, can be used only with the prior approval of the VCAA.

Use of calculators and software

In 2022, either one approved CAS calculator or one approved CAS software may be used for Further Mathematics Examination 1, Further Mathematics Examination 2, Mathematical Methods Examination 2 and Specialist Mathematics Examination 2.

One scientific calculator may also be used for Further Mathematics Examination 1, Further Mathematics Examination 2, Mathematical Methods Examination 2 and Specialist Mathematics Examination 2.

No calculators or software of any kind are permitted for Mathematical Methods Examination 1 and Specialist Mathematics Examination 1.

Approved CAS calculators

In 2022, the following CAS calculators are approved for use in Further Mathematics Examination 1, Further Mathematics Examination 2, Mathematical Methods Examination 2 and Specialist Mathematics Examination 2. The full functions of approved CAS calculators may be used; that is, the memory on these calculators does not require clearing before entering the examination.

- Casio – Algebra or ClassPad series
- Hewlett Packard – HP 40/48/49/50 or HP Prime series
- Texas Instruments – TI 89/92/Voyager or TI-Nspire CAS series.

Approval for CAS software

In 2022, schools that wish students to use CAS software for any of Further Mathematics Examination 1, Further Mathematics Examination 2, Mathematical Methods Examination 2 and Specialist Mathematics Examination 2 must apply in writing to the VCAA for approval.

For approved schools and for these examinations only, students are permitted to use one of Casio ClassPad Manager, Prime Emulator, Mathematica, Maple, MATLAB or TI-Nspire, with files of that software type stored on a USB, provided they meet VCAA specifications for the conduct of computer-assisted examinations. For more information, please email [Assessment Operations](#).

Senior Secondary Certificate Reform

Consultation summary

A summary of the public consultation and engagement that informed the development and design of the VCE Vocational Major (VCE VM) and the Victorian Pathways Certificate (VPC) is available on the [Senior Secondary Certificate Reform](#) page.

2022 VCE VET program changes

VCE VET program changes that have been approved for 2022 implementation have been published on the [VCE VET programs](#) page. This document will be updated progressively as further programs are approved, and detailed changes will be published at a later date on the respective program pages.

VCE VET implementation webinars

In December, we will host a series of implementation webinars to provide support for schools, registered training organisations (RTOs) and organisations delivering the following VCE VET programs that have undergone significant review in 2021:

- Business
- Dance
- Information and Communications Technology
- Visual Arts.

The webinars will cover transition advice, new program structures, credit arrangements, scored assessment and examination specifications (where applicable).

VET statewide webinars

In November, we will host a series of webinars to provide support for schools, RTOs and organisations delivering VET to secondary students in 2022. The webinars will cover essential information, including:

- VCE VET program updates, enrolments and trends, transition advice and upcoming package reviews
- A reflection on the impact of COVID-19 and the positive outcomes from remote learning and flexible delivery
- new directions and resources to support VET delivered to secondary students.

Eligibility reports

Schools are encouraged to run eligibility reports to make sure students receive the expected VET contribution into their VCE or VCAL.

Unspecified VET credit

VCE and VCAL students in their final year of schooling may receive 'unspecified credit' for non-scored VET if they were unable to complete units of competency due to interruptions to onsite learning, inability to access training or workplace facilities for VET assessment or the postponement of VET courses. The unspecified credit may meet the requirements of the Industry Specific Skills Strand for VCAL or provide an additional unit for VCE.

Applications for unspecified credit open on Monday 18 October and close on Monday 8 November. Guidelines and application forms are available by VASS download. If you are unable to access VASS, please email the [VET Unit](#).

Please note that applications for unspecified credit apply only to non-scored VET. For scored VET, please see the next entry on adjusting scored assessment for VCE VET Unit 3–4 sequences.

Unspecified credit will be allocated for the purpose of achieving the credit required to satisfy either a VCAL or VCE enrolment. It will not provide an ATAR contribution. For information about ATAR contributions, please go to the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre's [About the Special Entry Access Scheme \(SEAS\)](#) page.

Adjusting scored assessment for VCE VET Unit 3–4 sequences

Adjustments to VCE VET Scored assessment are available where the third and final task requiring practical assessment is unable to be completed.

For more information, go to the [VCE VET programs](#) page.

Late amendments to VET on VASS

Students may have the opportunity to undertake additional classes around or after Monday 8 November to complete practical assessments deferred from earlier this year. This may be VET delivered at a school, at an RTO, or as part of an apprenticeship or traineeship. Where a student achieves competency after the 8 November VASS results cut-off date, schools can apply to the VCAA for an amendment to the student's VET results. This may subsequently lead to the satisfactory completion of their VCE or VCAL certificate.

Please apply through VASS: Results Admin > VET Reports > Amendment.

VCE VET coursework audits

We will send School Coursework Audit Notification emails to home schools and/or assessing groups for the 2021 audit of scored VCE VET programs at the end of October. It is important to follow the instructions included with the email. The home school or RTO identified as the assessing group is responsible for providing the audit material to the VCAA.

For queries, please email the [VET Unit](#) or call (03) 9059 5195.

Top Designs

Applications for [Top Designs](#) as a part of the VCE Season of Excellence close Wednesday 3 November.

Structured workplace learning recognition

Structured workplace learning (SWL) and work experience placements can take place onsite in certain settings.

Please go to the Department of Education and Training's [SWL and work experience during COVID-19](#) page for the latest updates.

Students undertaking SWL recognition aligned to their VET can continue their reflections where the total workplace time is less than the 80 hours and/or their training enrolment will be less than the 180 hours normally required. This can also enable part-time employment related to the student's VET to be used to meet the workplace requirement for 2021.

VCE VET State Reviewer vacancies for 2022

Applications for the State Reviewer positions for VCE VET Dance and VCE VET Kitchen Operations will open in November.

State Reviewers can be teachers of the program at Units 3 and 4 levels. The role is a paid position and appointees are required to undertake a range of support activities, including participating in professional development, providing feedback and advice to schools and RTOs, preparing published advice regarding scored assessment and conducting coursework audits.

For more information, please email the [VET Unit](#).

Business Services and Information and Communications Technology training packages units of competency transition requirements

As per the advice of the Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA), if a qualification or accredited course specifies a core or named elective unit that has been superseded, removed or deleted, you must continue to include the unit as named in the qualification or course being delivered (see [Clauses 1.26 to 1.27: Manage transition from superseded training products](#)).

If you are choosing to import a unit into a qualification or course where it is not listed or named, you must deliver the current version of the unit of competency (look for the [TGA](#) green 'Current Status', rather than the red 'Superseded Status').

Transition to new units when:

- delivering a full qualification, course, or skillset as published on TGA
- delivering a stand-alone unit
- importing a unit as an elective that is not listed or named in the qualification, course, or skillset, as published on TGA.

Do not transition to new units when:

- the superseded, removed or deleted unit is listed or named in the qualification, course, or skillset, as published on TGA
- following published ASQA transition advice.

For more information on the Business Services Training Package, go to ASQA's [BSB training package v7.0 explained](#) page. For the Information and Communications Technology Training Package, please follow ASQA advice as listed above.

Deliver the Early Childhood Language Program in 2022

The Department of Education and Training is now accepting expressions of interest from early childhood services to deliver the [Early Childhood Language Program](#) in 2022.

Expressions of interest must be made by Friday 22 October.

For enquiries, please email the [Early Childhood Language Team](#).