PURPOSE OF PRESENTATION

This presentation has been developed to assist schools to provide relevant BOSTES information to Year 10 students and their parents.
Eligible students who leave school before receiving their Higher School Certificate (HSC) will receive the NSW Record of School Achievement (RoSA).

The RoSA is a cumulative credential in that it allows students to accumulate their academic results until they leave school.

The RoSA records completed Stage 5 and Preliminary Stage 6 courses and grades, and participation in any uncompleted Preliminary Stage 6 courses.

It is of specific use to students leaving school prior to the HSC.

A student’s RoSA credential is sent by BOSTES once the school has indicated, via Schools Online, that the student has left the NSW school system.

THE HSC

The Higher School Certificate

- is the culmination of a student's school career
- is the highest educational award that can be achieved at secondary school in New South Wales
- reports student achievement in terms of a standard achieved in individual courses
- presents a profile of student achievement across a broad range of subjects

HSC COURSE STRUCTURE

- All courses in the HSC have a unit value
- Most courses are 2 units which equates to 120 hours of study and a HSC result out of 100
- Some courses are 1 unit. This is equivalent to 60 hours of study and a HSC result out of 50
- Many 1 unit courses are extension courses, enabling 3 or 4 units of a course to be studied

http://ace.bos.nsw.edu.au/ace-8064
Students may accumulate the HSC for a period of up to 5 years.

Students may choose to accumulate the HSC for a variety of reasons including:
  - commitments outside school - part time work, elite sportsperson etc.
  - apprenticeship or traineeship
  - acceleration
  - repeating

Board Developed Courses are developed by BOSTES and all students in the state study the same course content and complete the same HSC examination. These courses may contribute to the calculation of a student's ATAR. Life Skills Courses do not have an examination and are not included in the calculation of an ATAR.

Board Endorsed Courses have syllabuses endorsed by BOSTES to cater for a wide candidature in areas of specific need not served by Board Developed Courses. These courses may offer an alternative career path for students.

http://ace.bos.nsw.edu.au/ace-6005
http://ace.bos.nsw.edu.au/ace-6001
It is the responsibility of the Universities Admission Centre (UAC) to determine if a course can be included in the calculation of the ATAR.

Category A Courses have academic rigour and depth of knowledge to provide background for tertiary studies. Examples include Mathematics and Geography.

Category B Courses - no more than two units of Category B courses can be included in the ATAR calculation. Examples include Human Services and Hospitality.

Course category listings available at the UAC Website: http://www.uac.edu.au/atar/courses.shtml
### REQUIREMENTS FOR THE HSC

Both the Preliminary and HSC pattern of study must include:

- 2 units of compulsory **English**
- at least 6 units of Board Developed Courses
- at least 3 courses of 2 units value or greater
- at least 4 subjects (including English)

A maximum of 6 units of science may be included in each of the Preliminary and HSC pattern of study.

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- English is mandatory for the HSC. Students will choose either Standard, Advanced or ESL English if they wish to apply for university entry.
- English Studies is another option for students who are seeking a HSC. It is a Board Endorsed Course with no HSC examination. Students who choose this course are not eligible to receive an ATAR.
- Extension course are not separate subjects. Eg Advanced English (2 units) + Extension 1 (1 unit) + Extension 2 (1 unit) = 4 units but only 1 subject.
- At most, 6 units of courses in Science can count towards HSC eligibility. Preliminary Senior Science cannot be studied with any other Preliminary Science Course

http://ace.bos.nsw.edu.au/ace-8005
SATISFACTORY COMPLETION OF A COURSE

Students must:

- follow the course developed or endorsed by BOSTES
- apply themselves with diligence and sustained effort to the set tasks and experiences provided in the course by the school; and
- achieve some or all of the course outcomes

VET Board Developed Courses require students to complete mandatory work placement

http://ace.bos.nsw.edu.au/ace-8019
Students should be reminded that for a written HSC examination simply attempting multiple-choice questions is not sufficient for an attempt to be considered serious. Students should read the HSC Rules and Procedures Booklet available through Students Online.

http://ace.bos.nsw.edu.au/ace-
• **English Standard** is designed for students to increase their expertise in English in order to enhance their personal, social and vocational lives. The students learn to respond to and compose a wide variety of texts in a range of situations in order to be effective, creative and confident communicators.

• **English Advanced** is designed for students to undertake the challenge of higher-order thinking to enhance their personal, social and vocational lives. These students apply critical and creative skills in their composition of and response to texts in order to develop their academic achievement through understanding the nature and function of complex texts.

• **English as a Second Language (ESL)** is designed for students from diverse non-English-speaking, Aboriginal or Torres Strait Island backgrounds as designated by the course entry requirements. The students engage in a variety of language learning experiences to develop and consolidate their use, understanding and appreciation of English, so as to enhance their personal, social and vocational lives.

• **English Studies** is a Board Endorsed Course and is now well established and meeting the needs of a specific group of students, providing them with opportunities to develop language and literacy skills relevant to broader life contexts. It has no HSC examination and students selecting this course will not
be eligible for an ATAR. English Studies counts as Board Developed English towards the student’s 6 units of Board Developed subjects.

• **English (Extension)** is designed for students undertaking English (Advanced) who choose to study at a more intensive level in diverse but specific areas. They enjoy engaging with complex levels of conceptualisation and seek the opportunity to work in increasingly independent ways.

• **Fundamentals of English** is a 2 unit course which can contribute up to two Preliminary units only, although it can be delivered across Preliminary only or Preliminary and HSC years.

• Students should seek advice from the English Faculty regarding their suitability for a particular course.


• **English Standard** is designed for students to increase their expertise in English in order to enhance their personal, social and vocational lives. The students learn to respond to and compose a wide variety of texts in a range of situations in order to be effective, creative and confident communicators.

• **English Advanced** is designed for students to undertake the challenge of higher-order thinking to enhance their personal, social and vocational lives. These students apply critical and creative skills in their composition of and response to texts in order to develop their academic achievement through understanding the nature and function of complex texts.

• **English as a Second Language (ESL)** is designed for students from diverse non-English-speaking, Aboriginal or Torres Strait Island backgrounds as designated by the course entry requirements. The students engage in a variety of language learning experiences to develop and consolidate their use, understanding and appreciation of English, so as to enhance their personal, social and vocational lives.

• **English Studies** is a Board Endorsed Course and is now well established and meeting the needs of a specific group of students, providing them with opportunities to develop language and literacy skills relevant to broader life contexts. It has no HSC examination and students selecting this course will not
be eligible for an ATAR. English Studies counts as Board Developed English towards the student's 6 units of Board Developed subjects.

- **English Extension 1** is designed for students undertaking English (Advanced) who choose to study at a more intensive level in diverse but specific areas. They enjoy engaging with complex levels of conceptualisation and seek the opportunity to work in increasingly independent ways.

- **English Extension 2** consists of a Major Work undertaken over 60 indicative hours of study. This course may only be undertaken in addition to the HSC Extension1 Course.

- Students should seek advice from the English Faculty regarding their suitability for a particular course.


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<th><strong>MATHEMATICS - PRELIMINARY</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>• Mathematics</td>
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<tr>
<td>➢ Mathematics Extension</td>
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<td>(must be studied with</td>
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<td>Mathematics)</td>
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<td>• Mathematics General</td>
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- The study of mathematics is not compulsory for the HSC or ATAR.
- The Mathematics course must be chosen if students wish to study Mathematics Extension courses.
- Mathematics is a 2 unit course which involves the study of some calculus.
- The Mathematics General course is a common course in the Preliminary year.

The study of mathematics is not compulsory for the HSC or ATAR.

The Mathematics course must be chosen if students wish to study Mathematics Extension courses.

Mathematics is a 2 unit course which involves the study of some calculus.

Students may choose either HSC Mathematics General 1 (CEC) or HSC Mathematics General 2 (BDC). The opportunities for creative thinking, communication and contextualised problem-solving within the Preliminary Mathematics General course, the HSC Mathematics General 2 course and the HSC Mathematics General 1 course assist students in finding solutions for the broad range of problems encountered in life beyond secondary schooling. The purpose of the courses is to provide an appropriate mathematical background for students who wish to enter occupations that require the use of a variety of mathematical and statistical techniques.

Eligibility criteria apply to all Beginners and Heritage courses, and Continuers courses in Chinese, Indonesian, Japanese, and Korean. Eligibility criteria are available at:


Heritage speakers usually have at least one parent who speaks the language at home, or may themselves have been born overseas and emigrated to Australia at a young age.

In languages where Extension courses are offered, the Extension courses are available to HSC Continuers course candidates only.

• Extension courses provide additional units to the 2 unit course.
• They are for students who are accomplished in a subject and wish to pursue specialisation in that subject.
• Preliminary English and Mathematics Extension courses are prerequisites for entry to HSC English and Mathematics Extension courses.

• Student’s curriculum options are determined through a collaborative curriculum planning process.

http://ace.bos.nsw.edu.au/ace-7001

VET IN THE HSC

- Package/endorse VET qualifications for HSC unit credit
- Board Developed VET courses
  - Stage 6 Industry Curriculum Frameworks
- Board Endorsed VET courses
  - Stage 6 (Years 11–12)
- Courses may be available to:
  - all students
  - school-based trainees only
  - school-based apprentices only
• VET Framework courses:
  o have Board Developed status.
  o provide nationally recognised qualifications - Qualifications are recognised Australia-wide (AQF – Australian Qualifications Framework)
  o can provide direct access to employment and further training
  o are based on competency-based assessment
  o contribute units towards the attainment of the HSC

• Students must meet both the vocational requirements as specified by the relevant Training Package as well as the BOSTES syllabus requirements in order to be awarded the appropriate AQF Certificate and for the units to be recognised for the HSC.

• UAC will include a maximum of 2 units towards the calculation of ATAR if the optional examination is completed

• Courses can be delivered by a range of providers including schools, TAFEs and other registered
training organisations

• Part of BOSTES requirement is that students complete 70 hours mandatory work placement for a 240 hour course.

http://ace.bostes.nsw.edu.au/ace-6002
http://ace.bos.nsw.edu.au/ace-8093
Vocational Education and Training (VET) courses have an important role in the HSC. One third of students studying for their HSC undertake a VET course, which is reported on their Record of Achievement.

VET Courses are either Board Developed Courses, which may contribute to the calculation of an ATAR, or Board Endorsed Courses.

There are 13 Industry Curriculum Frameworks (2015), encompassing a range of Board Developed Courses, which allow students to gain Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) Certificates, usually at Certificate II or III level.

• An **AQF Certificate** is awarded to students in Vocational Education and Training (VET) courses who successfully complete all requirements of an Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) Certificate.

• A **Statement of Attainment** is issued to students in VET courses who partially complete the requirements of an AQF Certificate.

Students must complete HSC: All My Own Work or its equivalent before they can be enrolled for any Preliminary or HSC course with BOSTES via Schools Online.

Only students entered for Stage 6 Life Skills courses are exempt from this requirement.

The HSC: All My Own Work program is integrated with other NSW syllabuses and programs. The program is designed to be delivered flexibly as self-paced learning modules.

The program is available on the BOSTES Website: http://amow.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/
• The HSC testamur is awarded to students who have fulfilled all eligibility requirements for the HSC.
• All students who meet the eligibility, pattern of study and assessment requirements for the HSC are entitled to the award of a Record of Achievement in addition to the HSC testamur.

• The Higher School Certificate Record of Achievement is a cumulative record of all Preliminary and HSC courses satisfactorily completed. This provides formal recognition of students’ senior secondary school achievements.

• Stage 6 HSC results, Stage 6 Preliminary results and, if applicable, Stage 5 results will appear on separate pages.

• All students have access to a record of results on a Student eRecord.
• The Student eRecord is available through Students Online. Students should ensure they activate their Students Online account.
• The Student eRecord is not a formal BOSTES credential, but has the same information as a RoSA and also contains information regarding Life Skills outcomes achieved and VET course competencies completed, where applicable.
• A school can print a Student eRecord through Schools Online if a student requires evidence of course completion for enrolling in TAFE, applying to the Defence Force etc.

• Internal Assessment. Why is it important?
  o Contributes 50% of HSC mark
  o Is a course completion requirement
    o May be used to calculate an HSC mark in the case of a successful Illness/Misadventure appeal

• School assessment marks in each course are moderated to place them on a state-wide scale.

• Examination marks aligned to the standards-based reporting scale contribute 50% of HSC mark.

• Some courses have practical examinations and/or submitted works or projects in addition to the written HSC examination.
• Written examinations are held in October and November each year.

• For each course with a compulsory examination, reported information includes:
  o Examination mark aligned to the standards-based reporting scale
  o Moderated assessment mark
  o HSC mark
  o Corresponding Performance Band

• UAC will only consider Board Developed Courses in the calculation of the ATAR.
• The ATAR provides the discrimination required by universities for the selection process.
• Whilst most Board Developed courses are Category A, VET Framework courses are Category B.

http://www.uac.edu.au/undergraduate/atar/
• UAC will only consider Board Developed Courses in the calculation of the ATAR.
• See FAQs about the ATAR
http://www.uac.edu.au/undergraduate/atar/
Abilities - choose subjects where you are capable of doing well.

Interests/Motivation - choose subjects that interest you.

Career aspirations and needs - keep in mind future career paths but be realistic about choices.

Syllabus Requirements – be mindful of how many practical works and major works are required for your pattern of study and the timing of submission.

Subject combinations - do the subjects complement each other?

Other commitments - when choosing subjects, it is important to balance study with outside commitments and influences such as work, sport and family.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

• What do I want for my future?
• What 'pathway' best suits me?
• Ask for advice from:
  - teachers
  - parents
  - year adviser
  - careers adviser
  - students in Years 11 and 12

MORE INFORMATION

Find out more information at:

- www.bostes.nsw.edu.au
- www.uac.edu.au