Contents

Introduction ........................................................................................................................... I

Year 9 Overview ................................................................................................................... I

Mandatory Subjects Across the KLA's ............................................................................. II

Elective Subject Options .................................................................................................. 1

VPSHS Academy .............................................................................................................. 5
Introduction

Victoria Point State High School is committed to offering students a variety of learning opportunities in a range of different curriculum areas across the Junior and Senior phases of learning. All learning pathways are designed to ensure all students progress with the necessary skills to enter the next phase of their education, or those required to enter the workforce.

This book is designed to inform you of your options for learning pathways as well as provide you with the expectations associated with each learning pathway. Furthermore, your pathway may provide you with some options for individual subjects which will also be explained in this book.

The Victoria Point State High School curriculum consists of subjects which are aligned with QCAA requirements. For more detailed information about the different subjects available at Victoria Point State High School please refer to the school’s website (www.vpshs.eq.edu.au).

To ensure your learning is as engaging and productive as possible please ensure you take the time to understand the focus and content of your learning pathway and any electives you choose. To assist you in this we suggest:

• Exploring all options outlined in this book
• Ask questions of relevant staff (Family Group Teachers, Curriculum Teachers, HODs)
• Attend the Performance Progress Day in Term 3
• Choose subjects which interest you and will be beneficial to future pathways you are interested in
• Apply yourself to all of your current classes to provide yourself with the best chance of obtaining all requirements for preferred pathways

All students are also expected to participate in programs of School, Community and Culture, and Family Group. These classes are opportunities for students to gain skills to be valuable members of both the school community, as well as the wider community.

The choices you make now can and will have a significant impact on the opportunities you will have in the future.

Year 9 Overview

Students entering Year 9 are required to complete studies in the Key Learning Areas (KLAs) of English, Mathematics, Science, and History / Geography. Students are then able to choose two elective subjects to complete their program for Year 9.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mandatory Subjects</th>
<th>Electives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English / Explicit English</td>
<td>Elective One</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Elective Two</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History / Geography</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community and Culture</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please Note:

1. The school reserves the right to withdraw any subject where there are insufficient numbers of students enrolled or where suitably qualified teachers are not available.

2. The number of students enrolled in elective subjects is limited by timetabling constraints and classes may be capped at the determination of the Principal.

3. It is assumed that students would have successfully completed the requirements from the previous years subjects before selecting new subjects.
## Mandatory Subjects Across the KLA’s

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUBJECT</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>English</strong></td>
<td>In Year 9 English, students will continue to develop their language skills through exposure to a wide variety of written, spoken and visual texts. Students will also be encouraged to think critically about language and its use. Some possible focuses for study include migrant perspectives, speculative fiction, novels, plays and media (film, TV, newspapers). Students participate in one Explicit English lesson per week.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mathematics</strong></td>
<td>In Year 9, students will revisit and extend the topics already encountered in Year 8: Number and Algebra – ratio, proportion, percentage, financial Maths, algebra; Measurement and Geometry – time, length, mass, area, volume; shape, location, direction, movement; patterns and functions, equivalence and equations; Probability and Statistics – data collection and analysis, study of chance. Assessment will be in the form of exams, assignments, reports and investigations. The use of technology, both graphic calculators and computers will be a key strategy in our teaching mode. Textbooks will be issued electronically.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Science</strong></td>
<td>The topics in Year 9 include energy transfer, understanding sound, structures of the atom and radiation, science of the Earth, Surviving in an ecosystem and chemical reactions and patterns. Assessment in Year 9 Science involves practical investigations, research reports, multimedia presentations, written tasks and examinations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>History</strong></td>
<td>The study of history is based on evidence derived from remains of the past. It is interpretative by nature, promotes debate and encourages thinking about human values, including present and future challenges. The process of historical inquiry develops transferable skills, such as the ability to ask relevant questions; critically analyse and interpret sources; consider context; respect and explain different perspectives; develop and substantiate interpretations, and communicate effectively. Units of work focus on: the Industrial Revolution (1750-1914); and World War I (1914-1918).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Geography</strong></td>
<td>Geography is a structured way of exploring, analysing and understanding the characteristics of the places that make up our world, using concepts of place, space environment, interconnection, sustainability, scale and change. It addresses scales from the personal to the global and time periods from a few years to thousands of years. Students will be introduced to environmental change and management, and indicators of human wellbeing. Units of work focus on: Biomes and Food Security; and Geographies of interconnections.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Elective Subject Options

Art & Design

FIELD OF LEARNING: CREATIVE INDUSTRIES
DISCIPLINE: The Arts

Students design and create a variety of 2D and 3D artworks including drawing (core component) and other study areas possibly include photography, painting, ceramics, sculpture, printmaking, and cartooning (manga). Art appreciation is an integral area of study and looks at a variety of historical art movements, selected artworks and artists. Digital photography is studied in both semesters each with a different influence.

ASSESSMENT: Practical artworks, self evaluation for each practical artwork, theory tasks (such as exam/ assignment)

Business Studies

FIELD OF LEARNING: HEALTH, HUMANITIES & ENTERPRISE
DISCIPLINE: Business & Economics

Many people dream of having their own business, but don’t know where to start. In Business Studies we look at how you go from that great idea to selling it to customers. We investigate the entrepreneurs who have done this and some of the characteristics that have enabled them to be successful.

Everyone will need to make financial decisions in their life. In Business Studies you will investigate personal finance, budgeting and saving. You will learn about how people accumulate money and manage finances. You will be involved in activities that focus on developing your financial literacy skills.

You will also investigate the different types of businesses and what it means to be a consumer, a worker and a producer.

ASSESSMENT: Multimodal presentation, practical assessment tasks, project work.

Digital Technologies

FIELD OF LEARNING: SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & MATHEMATICS
DISCIPLINE: Technologies

Digital Technologies is the new name for information technology and our school subject WAG. Digital Technologies is about using computational thinking (that’s a way of problem solving) to design and create digital solutions to improve the lives of everyday people.

You will explore operating systems, investigate the hardware components of a digital system, and how digital systems represent text, images and data. You will investigate codes and how computers send and receive secret messages, and will begin to learn how to program.

You will learn some basic digital imaging skills to enable you to create interface designs and incorporate graphics and animation into the programs and publications you create. You will learn some basic digital imaging skills to enable you to create interface designs and incorporate graphics and animation into the programs and publications you create.

You will learn to code and use software to enable you to modify and create your own programs, games, interactive projects, and web pages. You will be involved in planning, testing and evaluating your own solutions, as well as investigating existing digital solutions.

ASSESSMENT: Practical tasks, projects and digital portfolios.
Drama

FIELD OF LEARNING: CREATIVE INDUSTRIES
DISCIPLINE: The Arts

Students will learn to manage, demonstrate and respond to the elements of Drama, skills of Drama and conventions of style and develop interpersonal and intra-personal communication skills. Students study TYP, Realism, Ritual, Indigenous Creation Narratives and Contemporary Clowning.

ASSESSMENT: Two Forming, two Presenting and two Responding tasks across the year program.

Health and Physical Education

FIELD OF LEARNING: HEALTH, HUMANITIES & ENTERPRISE
DISCIPLINE: Health & Physical Education

Physical Education involves students learning in, about and through physical activity. This is the first course in the pathway leading to Senior Physical Education. Students participate in a series of individualised written and physical learning experiences based on the study of selected physical activities.

ASSESSMENT: Exam, research assignment, research report and essays.

Home Economics

FIELD OF LEARNING: HEALTH, HUMANITIES & ENTERPRISE
DISCIPLINE: Health & Physical Education

This course is based on the development of practical skills and knowledge in the areas of nutrition, cooking and textile application. Students study nutritional needs and implement specific cookery and textile skills for specific populations. Students also investigate fibre properties used in the textile industry. This is the first course in the pathway leading to Senior Home Economics.

ASSESSMENT: Exams, reflection journal, practical cookery & textile production.

Hospitality

FIELD OF LEARNING: HEALTH, HUMANITIES & ENTERPRISE
DISCIPLINE: Health & Physical Education

This subject is designed to give students an opportunity to gain a portfolio of cookery skills and a good knowledge of the back of house role within the hospitality industry. These include experience in planning, costing of meals and preparation of food using a variety of different cookery methods. Practical skills are developed in a team setting.

ASSESSMENT:

Exams, Research reports, oral presentations and physical tasks such as practical cooking exams.

Students to supply some ingredients on a weekly basis for practical cookery lessons.
**Japanese**

**FIELD OF LEARNING: LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH**

**DISCIPLINE: LOTE**

Studies focus on skills in: comprehending (listening, reading) and composing (speaking, writing) Japanese language and developing an awareness of the close relationship between language and culture through studying a range of topics focusing on life in Japan. Katakana script is introduced, Hiragana script and Kanji (simple topics) are also studied.

**ASSESSMENT:** Listening, reading, speaking and writing assignments and or exams relating to topics studied.

**Manufacturing**

**FIELD OF LEARNING: SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & MATHEMATICS**

**DISCIPLINE: Technologies**

This subject is a “hands-on” approach to the safe and correct use of tools, equipment and materials in the workshop. Timber, metal and plastic projects are manufactured from working drawings supplied by your teacher. Note: No project designing is done in this subject.

**ASSESSMENT:** Construction projects (workshop), technology tasks & exams.

Due to Workplace Health and Safety regulations, the wearing of approved personal protective equipment is required to gain workshop access (e.g approved enclosed footwear, safety glasses, etc).

**Media**

**FIELD OF LEARNING: CREATIVE INDUSTRIES**

**DISCIPLINE: The Arts**

Students are introduced to and get hands on experience in the areas such as: animation, graphic design, photography, photo manipulation, special effects, video production, editing, lighting, audio, film appreciation & pre-production planning. Industry standard software is used to complete the final product ready for broadcast.

**ASSESSMENT:** Pre-production tasks - storyboard, scripts, production tasks - capturing images (lighting/angles/greenscreen) and post-production editing these images into a sequence.

**Music**

**FIELD OF LEARNING: CREATIVE INDUSTRIES**

**DISCIPLINE: The Arts**

Students study the three dimensions of performing, comparing and analysing through exploration of repertoire selected from a variety of styles and genres. Students will sing and/or play an instrument of their choice.

**ASSESSMENT:** Students will be assessed in the areas of performing (playing and/or singing), composing (writing music) and analysing (describing the music that they hear and see).
Technology Studies  

FIELD OF LEARNING: SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & MATHEMATICS  

DISCIPLINE: Technologies

This is a “hands-on” workshop subject where you are taught how to design and manufacture your own projects within a given context. Students will be shown how to use the design process to research and investigate a given problem, sketch solutions, produce a set of plans and build a solution to that problem.

ASSESSMENT: Design projects (workshop), Classwork technology tasks & exams.

Due to Workplace Health and Safety regulations, the wearing of approved personal protective equipment is required to gain workshop access (e.g., approved enclosed footwear, safety glasses, etc).
VPSHS Academy

The Victoria Point State High School Academy is specifically targeted at supporting students who have expressed interest in and can demonstrate targeted skills in a specialised field of study.

The Victoria Point State High School Academy aims to create intensive and focused pathways for potential futures, create an environment of motivation, engagement and success, and develop skills and opportunities for students to work with industry professionals and collaborate with local and wider community in order to build deeper knowledge, skills, training and experience.

The Programs of Excellence available under the VPSHS Academy run across Years 7-10. Each of the Programs of Excellence aligns to senior subjects in a QCE + OP or QCE + Rank Pathway.

Students enrolled in the VPSHS Academy are expected to abide by a Code of Behaviour.

**Academic Program of Excellence**

The Academic Program of Excellence is by invitation only and is studied as part of the core discipline of English, Mathematics and History/Geography.

The goal of the program is to equip students with the specific skills aimed at enhancing their Senior Studies and providing them with the opportunity to achieve their highest Overall Position (OP) in order to maximise their university options.

**Science, Engineering and Technology Program of Excellence**

The Science, Engineering and Technology Program of Excellence is by invitation only and is studied as part of the core discipline of Science.

The program aims to extend the capacity of students showing an aptitude for Science thinking and processing, to prepare them more effectively and specifically for further scientific study, research and endeavour. Students will partner with the local businesses and tertiary academic institutions to develop their appreciation and suitability for a range of Science/Mathematics/Engineering careers and opportunities. They will participate in research tasks and develop many of the skills that will set them up well for success in their future academic pursuits as well as supporting a high level of success in their current courses.

**ELECTIVE Programs of Excellence**

All Elective Programs of Excellence incur a membership levy of $200.00, payable upon successful application (scholarships available).

**AFL (Vikings) Program of Excellence**

The AFL (Vikings) Program of Excellence is by application and trial only.

Pre requisites (newly enrolling students): Minimum C standard in Year 8 English, Mathematics.

Pre requisites (continuing students): As above and a minimum standard in Year 8 Vikings Academy.

The Vikings AFL Program of Excellence provides students with the opportunity to excel in the field of AFL. The specifically targeted curriculum engages all students in developing a knowledge and understanding of the essential skills and attitudes important for participation in team sports at an elite level. The Program of Excellence encourages and values fair play, good sportsmanship and friendly rivalry to promote leadership and team spirit.

Students will study units of work related to human anatomy, performance principles and biomechanics to improve personal performance in AFL.

**ASSESSMENT:** Theory & practical.
**DANCE Program of Excellence**

The Dance Program of Excellence is by application and audition only.

Pre requisites (newly enrolling students): Minimum C standard in Year 8 English, Mathematics.

Pre requisites (continuing students): As above and a minimum standard in Year 8 Dance Program of Excellence.

Year 9 Dance Program of Excellence is an accelerated version of the Year 9 Dance elective. The students will study: The Functions of Dance, Popular Dance styles such as Hip Hop, Social Dance, Musical Theatre Dance and Dance from Around the World. The students will compete in competitions and eisteddfods as a class troupe and attend performances. Comfortable dance attire appropriate to practical lessons is to be worn.

**ASSESSMENT:** Students complete a range of task types including: group performances of both teacher and student choreographed danceworks, small group choreographic works and written appreciation analysis and exams.

---

**MEDIA (VPtv) Program of Excellence**

The Media (VPtv) Program of Excellence is by application only.

Pre requisites (newly enrolling students): Minimum C standard in Year 8 English, Mathematics.

Pre requisites (continuing students): As above and a minimum standard in Year 8 Media Program of Excellence.

This program provides students with hands on experience in the areas such as: new media, animation, graphic design, photography, photo manipulation, special effects, video production, editing, lighting, audio, film appreciation and preproduction planning. Two intensive Industry workshops are provided and enable students to practice their skills in a real life setting, using lighting vision switcher, auto cue and cameras with an industry expert in the media field.

**ASSESSMENT:** Pre-production tasks - storyboard, scripts, production tasks - capturing images (lighting/angles/greenscreen) and post-production editing these images into a sequence.

---

**ROBOTICS Program of Excellence**

The Robotics Program of Excellence is by application only.

Pre requisites (newly enrolling students): Minimum C standard in Year 8 English, Mathematics.

Pre requisites (continuing students): As above and a minimum standard in Year 8 Robotics Program of Excellence.

Robotics Program of Excellence is a hands-on subject in which you create programmable robots. You will learn about digital systems and programming. You will build robots using the Lego Mindstorm kits and learn to program your robots to carry out specific tasks. More and more robots are being used to improve the lives of everyday people. They are being used to control real-life systems in our lives and are also being used in care situations. You will investigate the way in which artificial intelligence is used in robots.

You will be able to design, develop and evaluate a model to solve problems, learn basic programming and program sensors to respond to various conditions. The basis of this programming is with the NXT-G environment.

**ASSESSMENT:** Written task and in class assignments.
Scholarships

Victoria Point State High School offers Scholarships for entry into the elective courses of VPSHS Academy. Each of the elective Programs of Excellence award one student scholarship per year level based on:

- demonstrated performance, and
- aptitude and potential to excel in their chosen field.

Scholarship Value

VPSHS Academy - Scholarship Value: $200 - $400 for one successful student per Program of Excellence, per year level.

The Scholarship value will be held by the school. Parents can access the Scholarship value for the following:

- School Resource Scheme – Participation at no cost to cover fees.
- Subject Levies – that apply to specialist areas of common program, considering the scope of areas of the Program of Excellence.
- Subject Competition/s costs – including Mathematics and Science competitions, Eisteddfods.
- Excursions – curriculum based as requested.
- Additional Information and Communication Technology costs associated with their specialised studies – including procurement of an approved ICT device such as a Tablet, Laptop or other device as determined by the school.

Once the Scholarship award is made, the school Business Services Manager will be the contact person for payments and support.

Application and Procedure

1. Submission via invitation and/or application of the completed Scholarship Application Form, academic transcript, resume and endorsement by the current school Principal provided on the application form.

2. VPSHS Academy - Academic Excellence Program: Sitting the Screening Assessment for Gifted Elementary Students in August of the preceding year or by special request no later than October of the preceding year of entry. (Applicants to be notified of the date, time, location of the SAGES testing)

3. VPSHS Academy - Interview by the appropriate Program of Excellence Head of Department. (Applicants to be notified of the date, time, location of the interview)

As well as academic performance a high or very high achievement, high standards of personal conduct are required.
Code of Behaviour

Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students

All students enrolled at Victoria Point State High School are expected to uphold the School Values of Respect, Integrity and Responsibility. All students are subject to the consequences outlined in the school’s ‘Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students’. In addition, VPSHS Academy students must also abide by the expectations of high levels of school representation. Students must act in accordance with the responsibilities outlined in the Victoria Point State High School Program of Excellence Code of Responsibilities.

Academy Code of Responsibilities

Please note: Program of Excellence Codes of Responsibility may vary according to the specialist field. These responsibilities will be outlined in the consent forms which will require student and parent signature.

Individual Academic Review

VPSHS Academy students’ progress will be monitored and reviewed with regard to specific Program of Excellence disciplines and all-round academic progress as well as behaviour and attitude. An overall student assessment will be conducted towards the end of each semester.

In addition to the general Program of Excellence intake conducted at the end of each year, staff can recommend and approve a student’s commencement in a Program of Excellence throughout the year for new students enrolling mid-year at Victoria Point State High School.

A high level of achievement and consistently high attitudinal and behavioural engagement along with levy payment will enable a student to continue the Program of Excellence pathway.

Student Responsibilities

• Strive for personal excellence by working hard
• Demonstrate respect and courtesy at all times
• Cooperate with peers, staff, and community members
• Display appropriate behaviour in all situations
• Learn to value honest effort, skilled ability and improvement including a sense of trial and error and experimentation where all outcomes are valued
• Represent the School and the Program of Excellence appropriately and with pride, including wearing uniform correctly.
• Attend all extra-curricular activities
• Notify staff of the inability to attend extra-curricular activities promptly
• Complete all set work including assessment within the allocated time frame
• Treat all resources and equipment with care and respect.

A breach of the Program of Excellence Code of Responsibilities and/or the school’s ‘Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students’ will result in consideration of suspension of Program of Excellence activities and/or cancellation of enrolment in the Program of Excellence. Please note financial refunds will not be possible.

Parents will be notified of any breaches of the Program of Excellence Code of Responsibilities and the immediate actions. Whereby a student’s enrolment is recommended for cancellation the Principal will determine the outcome.
**Parent Responsibilities**

- Encourage their child to always uphold the School Values and follow Codes of Conduct and support the decisions of staff and management
- Develop in their child a commitment to an honest effort and positive attitude in order to maintain or improve their skills and level of achievement
- Instil in their child an appreciation and respect for their studies and encourage them to participate in the spirit of the Program of Excellence
- Applaud good student outcomes and celebrate success
- Acknowledge and support specialist staff

**Staff Responsibilities**

- Encourage students to display positive attitudes and to participate within the spirit of the Program of Excellence
- Teach students the required knowledge and skills and extend their abilities to meet high expectations
- Ensure mutual respect in all contexts and situations
- Provide positive feedback when students improve their skills and outcomes and celebrate success and self-efficacy
- Reinforce the School Values and VPSHS Academy Values through modelling positive attitudes and perceptions
- Keep students informed regarding current industry practice for engagement in future pathways
- Support students to manage time and work load
- Be consistent when making decisions
- Provide a safe and supportive environment for students to learn
- Ensure Workplace Health & Safety regulations are enforced.
Victoria Point State High School Contact Details:

School Administration			3820 5888
School Fax			3820 5800
School Website			www.vpshs.eq.edu.au
School Administration e-mail		admin@vpshs.eq.edu.au

VPSHS Academy Staff Contact:

Academic Program of Excellence	Head of Department – Junior Secondary
Mr Peter Shepherdson

AFL (Vikings) Program of Excellence	Head of Department - Health
Mr Craig Bowden

Dance Program of Excellence	Head of Department - Performing Arts
Mr Sean Lubbers

Media (VPtv) Program of Excellence	Head of Department – Visual Arts
Mrs Vikki Caruana

Robotics Program of Excellence	Head of Department – Business and e-Learning
Mrs Deborah Harris

Science, Engineering & Technology Program of Excellence	Head of Department - Science
Mr Dennis Brennan