

PARF Explainer: Senior Years (11-12) Transcript

Hello, My name is Laura Wong and I am the Acting Leading Teacher in Senior School. As we approach the new academic year, the Senior School Leadership team would like to provide practitioners and agencies with clear guidance on how to complete the Practitioner and Agency Referral Form to ensure accurate enrolment into VCE subjects for our senior school students.

VCE Info

Next year, VSV will be delivering two senior school certificates, the Victorian Certificate of Education or VCE and the Victorian Certificate of Education: Vocational Major – VCE VM.

The VCE requires students to complete a minimum of 16 units across a period of 2 years. This must include 3 units from the English group, 2 of which must be a unit 3 & 4 sequence and at least three additional Unit 3 and 4 sequences.

Students usually study between 4 to 5 subjects across the 2 years, but the minimum requirement to achieve the VCE that is considered a full-time enrolment at VSV is 4 subjects, which equals to 16 units.

A subject is made up of Semester long units where each unit runs for a total of 16 weeks. Each week is made up of asynchronous module work and synchronous online lessons. Students are expected to complete a minimum of 5 hours of work each week per subject. This includes a one hour live online lesson through WebEx.

The VCE VM is delivered similarly to the VCE, however students must complete a TAFE VET course with a minimum of 180 nominal hours, 2 Units of mathematics, 2 Units of VM work related skills and 2 Units of VM personal development skills to achieve the VCE Vocational Major.

PARF

As these senior school certificates require a significant amount of time and effort, the practitioner referral form is a crucial tool that helps us align our students' academic needs with their abilities, ensuring they have the best chance for success.

The first question on the form will ask for your recommendation on the student's ability to attend and participate in live online lessons.

In the second section under 'workload', practitioners are asked to make a recommendation on the student's workload capacity expressed as Equivalent Full Time (EFT) or number of hours. Legally, students under the age of 17 must attend school on a full-time basis, however based on the student's capabilities, the EFT recommendation that is selected in this section will constitute as a full-time enrolment.

If you believe the student is capable of handling a full workload, which is 4 or more VCE subjects, it appropriate to tick the 100% option. Ticking the 75% option will indicate a recommendation of enrolment into 3 VCE subjects. The 50% option will equate to 2 VCE subjects and ticking 25% will equate to 1 VCE subject.

It is important to keep in mind that if a student's enrolment is anything less than 100% EFT, it will most likely extend the student's VCE program past the minimum 2-year period.

The zero percent option will mean that the student is 'not ready to learn'. This option should only be selected if the student has significant and severe physical, mental or emotional health and wellbeing concerns that completely prevent the student from learning. In this case, the student's Learning Advisor who acts as their home room teacher at our school will be able to support them by developing a learning program that is suitable, while exploring potential alternate pathways.

The remainder of the form will ask you to provide important information about your client and how this will affect their ability to engage with their learning at our school. Please be as detailed as possible so that we can help to create a suitable learning program.

Thank you for your time and support. Please contact our enrolments team if you have any further questions.