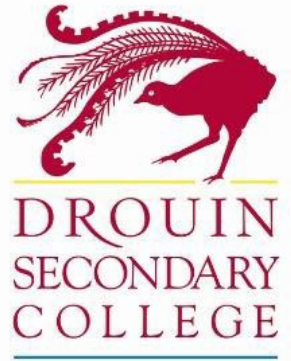


# 2026

## Vocational Education and Training and Work Placement Information Booklet



### Key Vocabulary in this document:

**ATAR:** Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank

**RTO:** Registered Training Organisation also referred to as Training Provider

**Scored VET:** A VET course where the results can be added to a student's

**SWL:** Student Workplace Learning (work placement)

**TAFE:** Technical and Further Education

**VCAA:** Victorian Curriculum Assessment Authority

**VCE:** Victorian Certificate of Education

**VCE VM:** Victorian Certificate of Education Vocational Major

**VET:** Vocational Education and Training

# Vocational Education and Training

- Vocational Education and Training (VET) courses are delivered to secondary students as part of the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE).
- VET courses are vocational qualifications approved by the Victorian Curriculum Assessment Authority (VCAA).
- VET courses allow the students to combine a vocational pathway with their schooling, resulting in a nationally recognised qualification, thereby offering students the opportunity to gain both their VCE and a national VET qualification.
- VCE VET programs are fully recognised within the Units 1 to 4 structure of the VCE and can contribute towards satisfactory completion of VCE. VCE VET units have equal status with other subjects, and some courses offer scored assessment which contribute to an ATAR.

## Who is VET offered to at DSC?

- At Drouin Secondary College, VET is offered to students in Years 11 and 12.

## Why choose VET as part of your Senior School Certificate?

VET offers you the following benefits:

- **An extra qualification:** You can gain a nationally recognised VET Qualification while undertaking your VCE. You receive the VET qualification from a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) such as TAFE Gippsland or Chisholm Institute.
- **Study Scores and ATAR:** Where a scored VCE VET Units 3 and 4 sequence is available, this will contribute directly to the ATAR, either as one of the Primary Four or as a fifth or sixth subject. Students must complete scored assessments and an examination to receive a study score.
- **Connected to the workplace:** VET qualifications give you industry experience and exposure in the workplace that reinforces your skills development. This connection also makes for a smooth transition between training and work.
- **Practical:** VET can strengthen your education by giving you the opportunity to gain practical skills and knowledge that complement your VCE studies. For example, if you want to be an engineer and you are studying VCE Physics and VCE Maths Methods, you can develop practical skills, technical knowledge, and industry insight by doing VCE VET Engineering.
- Combines general and vocational studies
- Realistically explore career options and pathways without leaving school
- Complements and contributes to your VCE

## Where is VET delivered?

- Most programs delivered at local training providers at various locations including TAFE Gippsland, AGA, Community College Gippsland, Lowanna College, and Drouin Secondary College.
- Drouin Secondary College delivers three courses on site: Building and Construction, Sports, Aquatics and Recreation, and Cookery.

## How can VET prepare you for the future?

Technology and globalisation are changing the jobs we do. To make sure VET graduates are ready for these changes, industry and government work together to ensure VET courses give graduates the skills and knowledge that employers need-now and in the future.

- Prepares you to be an adaptable worker by developing important employability skills.
- Can lead to careers in the fastest growing industries.
- VET can lead to employment in the fastest growing careers.
- Starting in secondary school can give you a head start on joining the workforce with a qualification directly linked to employment.
- Gives you the opportunity to get experience in the workplace and show employers that you are developing a skill set and have the right attitude toward work.
- Can lead to apprenticeship /traineeship

## Which VET course suits you, how do you apply and other considerations?

- Investigate what VET programs and courses are available in this document and on the RTO websites. VET course flyers are also on the school website and on Compass. Please note: VET course offerings are subject to change.
- Speak with the DSC Careers and Pathways Team and/or an RTO representative at the College Pathways, Expo and Parent Information Evening.
- Speak with current and previous VET students to hear the student's perspective on the course, and how they managed the workload.
- Read up on the course requirements, units of competency, pathways and potential careers to ensure they align with your interests.
- Speak with current students about their experiences and consider how you will manage the extra workload of studying a VET course.
- Complete an Expression of Interest Form (on the college website/compass) and discuss at your course counselling interview.
- VET is not an easy course to complete. VET modules and units will need to be completed along with normal schoolwork, so this is quite a significant workload for students to manage
- VCE students will miss one lesson of three different subjects a week, it is your responsibility to keep up to date with your work.
- Certificate III courses are the equivalent of a VCE subject and many Certificate II courses are the equivalent of Year 10 academic standard and require work to be completed outside of the hours allocated to students.
- As VET is only offered one day a week, missing a day of classes will result in a considerable amount of work make up.
- VET courses are paid for by the school and are very expensive (upwards of \$3600 per student). This means that we want to ensure that the students who undertake VET will complete the course and complete it well.

## Year 11 and 12 VCE with a VET

Successful VET applicants (with a mainstream VCE) will have shown:

- Consistent attendance of 90% or above
- Consistent punctual submission of work
- Consistent and strong Progress Reports 80% or above alphabetical

## Year 11 VCE VM

- If you are undertaking the VCE VM program at Year 11, you are required to complete **180 hours** (Minimum 1 year) of VET to gain your Year 12 Certificate.
- For all Year 11 VCE VM students it is therefore compulsory for you to complete a VET course (Minimum 1 year in Year 11 or 12).

## Year 12 VCE VM

- Any students who started a 2-year VET course in Year 11, will complete the second year of their course in Year 12. Students who started a 1-year VET course in Year 11 please make an appointment with the Careers and Pathways Team to discuss a suitable VET course for Year 12.

VET Courses Offered 2026	Duration	RTO
Cert II Agriculture	2 Yr	TAFE Gippsland
Cert II Animal Care	2 Yr	TAFE Gippsland
Cert II Automotive Vocational Preparation	2 Yr	TAFE Gippsland
Cert III Beauty Services	2 Yr	CCG
Cert II Building & Construction (Bricklaying)	2 Yr	TAFE Gippsland
Cert II Building & Construction (Carpentry)	2 Yr	Drouin SC
Cert II Building and Construction (Painting and Decorating)	2 Yr	TAFE Gippsland
Cert II Civil Construction	2 Yr	TAFE Gippsland
Cert II Community Services	1 Yr	CCG
Certificate II Conservation & Ecosystem Management	2 Yr	TAFE Gippsland
Cert II Cookery	2 Yr	Drouin SC
Cert II Electrotechnology	2 Yr	AGA
Cert II Engineering Studies	2 Yr	TAFE Gippsland
Cert II Forest Operations	2 Yr	TAFE Gippsland
Cert III Health Services Assistance	2 Yr	TAFE Gippsland
Cert II Horticulture	1 Yr	CCG
Cert III Information Technology	2 Yr	TAFE Gippsland
Cert II Integrated Technologies (3D Printing & Robotics)	2 Yr	TAFE Gippsland
Cert II Music - Sounds Good (to be confirmed if available)	1Yr	CCG
Cert III Music (Performance)	2 Yr	Lowanna College
Cert II Plumbing	2 Yr	AGA
Cert II Salon Assistant	1 Yr	CCG
Cert III Screen & Media	2 Yr	TAFE Gippsland
Cert III Sports, Aquatics and Recreation	2 Yr	Drouin SC
Cert III Technical Production	2 Yr	Lowanna College
Cert II Workplace Skills	1 Yr	CCG

# Work Placement/SWL for VCE VM Students

## What is Work Placement/SWL?

Work placement (Structured Workplace Learning) is an opportunity for students to gain on the job experience **ONE DAY A WEEK** to enhance skill development and apply practical industry knowledge and can also enhance employment opportunities. SWL provides students with the opportunity to experience and reflect on workplace skills acquired through a work placement in an industry aligned with their VET qualification.

## Year 11 and 12 VCE VM Students:

Students in the VCE VM program complete three days at school, one day at VET and one day at work placement/SWL. The College requires students to complete **40 days of work placement for the calendar year**.

Department of Education Structured Workplace Learning paperwork must be signed off by employer, parents, student and College Principal before you can begin the placement. This is a legal document to cover all parties if there is an accident in the workplace. These forms can be collected from the Careers and Pathways Team.

### Please note: SWL placement limitations:

- Students must be 15 years or older to undertake SWL.
- Students are expected to remain with one SWL employer for no more than 20 days.
- Students will be required to find a new employer each semester. (If necessary, please speak with the Careers and Pathways Team to discuss any requests for exemption to this 20-day limit.)
- No more than 20 days per semester
- No more than 40 days per year.

## The benefits of work placement for students include:

- Improving understanding of the work environment and employers' expectations
- Exposure to the world-of-work
- Increasing self-understanding, maturity, independence and self-confidence, especially in the workplace
- Increasing motivation to continue study and/or undertake further training
- Enhancing opportunities for part-time and casual employment
- Developing and gaining work-related competencies
- Acquiring skills relevant to the workplace
- Trying out career choices before leaving school
- Developing contacts with potential employers
- Demonstrating mastery of specific skills and competencies related to the accredited course which they are undertaking
- Undertaking relevant courses which count towards the student's exit credential and articulate into further education and training

## Contact the Careers and Pathways Team – phone 5625 1002

- Rosemary Allen [rosemary.allen@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:rosemary.allen@education.vic.gov.au)
- Wendy Taylor [wendy.taylor4@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:wendy.taylor4@education.vic.gov.au)