



VCE Parent Information Session 2020

Format of session

- 7:00 – 8:00 pm
 - Introduction - Tracey Mackin
 - General VCE Information – Katherine Warriner
 - Wellbeing team – Fiona de Zylva
 - Curriculum at Nossal – Angus Clark
 - Questions

Ms Tracey Mackin

Director of VCE & Pathways – Ms Katherine Warriner

Partnership

- The student's journey through VCE is a partnership
- We will support you at every step along the way
- Never hesitate to contact the school

Subjects and Units

- Most subjects at VCE are made up of 4 Units.
 - Units 1 & 2 are a year 11 standard
 - Units 3 & 4 are a year 12 standard

Minimum Requirements

- Students must satisfactorily complete at least 16 units to get their VCE
 - These must include at least three units of English (English, English Language, Literature or English as an Additional Language) – 2 of these must be at Unit 3 & 4 level
 - Three other Unit 3 & 4 sequences
- Most students at Nossal complete 24 Units

VCE at Nossal

- Standard Nossal course for the majority of students.
- Individual pathways are available and can be discussed with Director of VCE & Pathways

Year Level	Number of Subjects
10	One Unit 1 & 2 sequence (1 subject – 2 units)
11	Five Unit 1 & 2 sequences (5 subjects – 10 units) and one Unit 3 & 4 sequence (1 subject – 2 units)
12	Five Unit 3 & 4 sequences (5 subjects – 10 units)

What other options are there?

- VSL (Victorian school of languages)– distance education or Saturday school
 - Contact Mr Rohan Bramley
- Distance education for non language subjects, useful in the case of subject clashes
 - Contact Ms Katherine Warriner
- VET (Vocational Education Training)
 - Contact Ms Clarissa Jacques

How will students achieve their goals in the VCE?

- ✓ Working collaboratively with their peers
- ✓ Organised
- ✓ Reliable & consistent
- ✓ Utilising resources
- ✓ Have balance in their life

Organised

- ✓Space
- ✓Equipment
- ✓Time
- ✓Homework and Study – good students do both



Be reliable and consistent

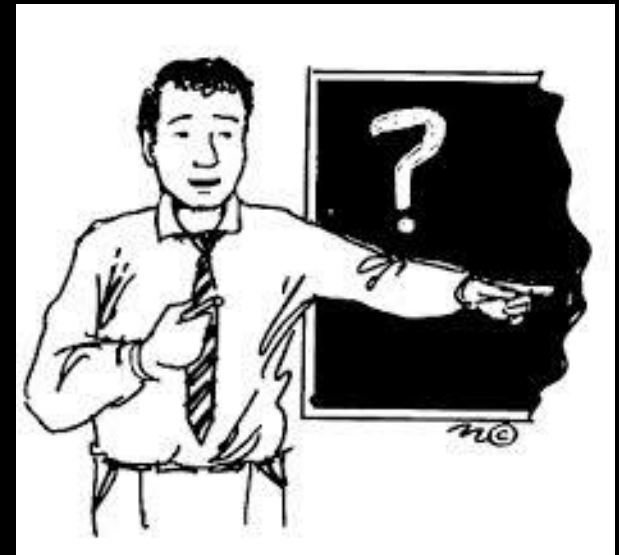
- ❑ Do a little, often
- ❑ Ensure deadlines are met
- ❑ Revise regularly



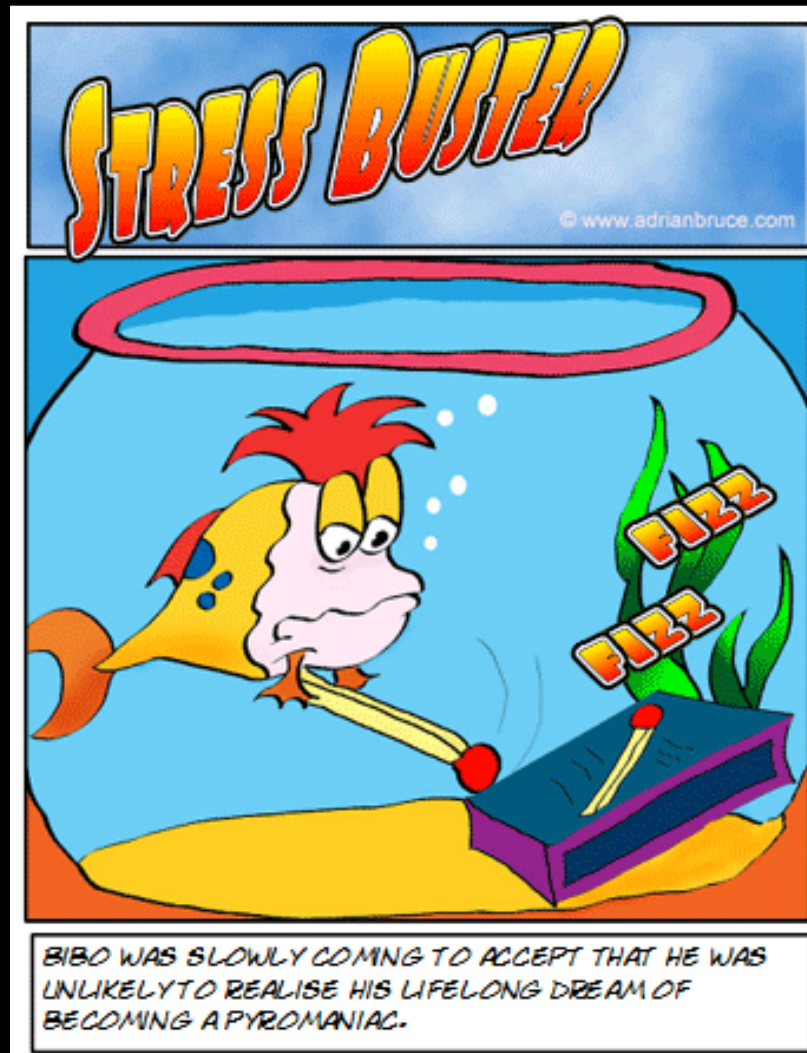
Use resources



Life is better
with friends :)



Set Aspirational But Realistic Goals



Don't Procrastinate

stages of procrastination

chibird.tumblr.com

1. false security



This isn't due for a while!



I'll relax for now.

2. laziness



Maybe I should get a headstart...



Nah!

3. excuses



I'm busy right now.



Just taking a short break...

4. denial



I still have time...



I don't need sleep...

5. crisis

I'll never procrastinate again!



chibird @ tumblr

6. repeat

How much homework?

- Year 11 – 2.5 hours per night - 12.5 hours per week
- Year 12 – 3 hours per night - 15 hours per week

What about during the holidays?

■ Time per subject:

- Units 1 & 2 2 hours
- Units 3 & 4 3 hours

Special Provision

- Students may be eligible for special provision if they are affected by:
 - An acute or chronic illness
 - Any factors relating to personal environment
 - Impairment or disability
- If, at any time, you feel your child requires additional support to achieve their best in the VCE please speak to the Director of VCE & Pathways

Special Exam Arrangements

■ Students who experience any of the following:

- Severe health impairment
- Significant physical disability
- Hearing impairment
- Vision impairment
- Learning disability
- Severe language disorder

may be eligible for special exam arrangements.

Please speak to the Director of VCE & Pathways if you feel any of these may apply to your child.

■ Applications close Friday 27th March.

In some circumstances, emergency exam arrangements can be made.

Attendance

- 100%
- No holidays during the term



Assessment

- What are SACs?
 - SACs are the assessment tasks completed in Unit 3 & 4 subjects.
 - The results of these are reported to VCAA for study score calculations
 - Many students highly stressed
- SAC Calendar available on Compass to students and parents.
- VASS? Victorian Assessment Software System
- VCAA? Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority

Study Scores

- Study Score – rank of performance compared to everyone else who took that subject
 - Out of 50 (in increments of 1)
 - Used to calculate the ATAR

Study Score	20	25	30	35	40	45
Percentage of students on or above	93%	78%	53%	26%	9%	2%

Australian Tertiary Admission RANK (ATAR)

- The ATAR:
 - Is not a score out of 100 it is a rank between 0.00 and 99.95
 - It is not the be all and end all of a person. It is a tool that:
 - Allows tertiary institutions to rank students
 - Provide a level playing field for applicants who have all done different types of programs
- To calculate the ATAR VTAC uses:
 - English plus three other permissible scoreable studies (primary four)
 - Plus up to two other studies (5th and 6th increments - 10%)

Scaling and the ATAR

- ❓ Just because studies are scaled up – doesn't mean a student will get a 'good' ATAR
- ❓ Students need to perform well in all studies to get a 'good' ATAR
- ❓ Students should select subjects they are good at and enjoy to maximise their opportunities

Resources

- VCAA

<http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/>

- VTAC

<http://www.vtac.edu.au/>

- My Future

<http://www.myfuture.edu.au/>

- Specific university websites

Open Days

- When are Open Days?
 - Late July & August
- What happens on an Open Day?
 - Opportunity to speak with academics, lecturers and current students about courses & facilities
- Who should attend Open Days?
 - Anyone considering tertiary study

Careers & Pathways Expo

- Date: Thursday 23rd July 2020
 - Time: 4 – 8pm
 - Venue: Nossal High School
-
- Info stalls, alumni talks & panel discussions
 - Explore course & career options
 - Students, family & friends welcome!

Health and Wellbeing

Ms Fiona de Zylva



Wellbeing Team

- Fiona de Zylva
- Sandy Ayton-Delaney
- Renee Tuck
- House Leaders:
 - Pegasus – Leigh Jose
 - Garuda – Mat Delaney
 - Griffin – Jess Ball
 - Phoenix – Rian Labrooy
- Tutorial Teachers
- Attendance – Julie Northey

Balance – fitting it all in



Overload



OVERWHELMED

SURE, I CAN HANDLE THE LOAD. NO PROBLEM.

CATASTROPHIC SIGNS OF ANXIETY

LACK OF
CONCENTRATION

SLEEPLESSNESS

IRRITABLE

OVERREACTING

STOMACH PROBLEMS

ANTS

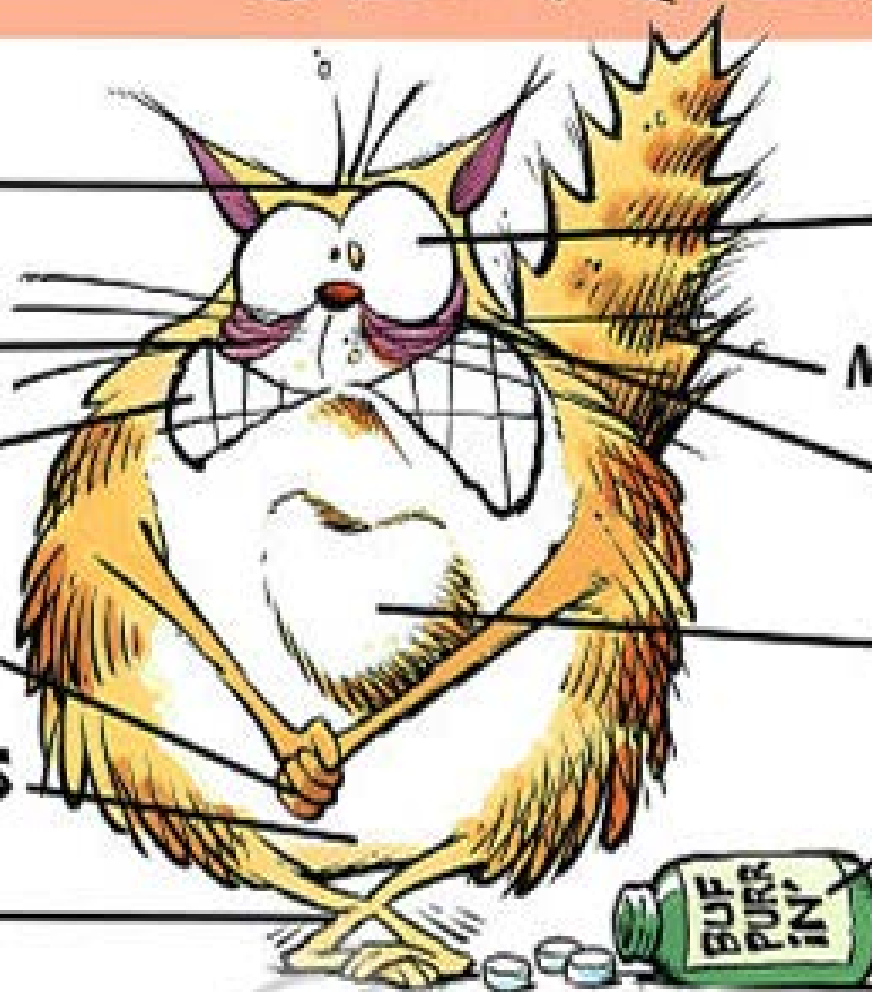
FEAR

MUSCLE TENSION

FATIGUE

RACING HEART

HEADACHE



Relax



SLEEP



Keep in touch with friends



A problem shared is a problem halved

Mr Angus Clark- Curriculum

As adult as high school can get!

■ Post-compulsory studies

- Course aims and design
- Content heavy, time poor
- 'Just cram' won't work
- 'Team Nossal' versus VCAA

■ Secrets to Success

- Not very secret!
- Activity not Passivity
- Engagement (not just *time*) with the subject = deep learning = best results

The Importance of English

Lower English score

Subject	Study Score
English	28
Physics	34
Methods	36
Chemistry	31
Specialist Maths	30
Business Management	35
ATAR	86

Higher English score

Subject	Study Score
English	37
Physics	33
Methods	35
Chemistry	32
Specialist Maths	31
Accounting	31
ATAR	91.45

Feedback is Fab

- What are SACs for?
 - Differentiation & Ranking
 - Moderation against examination
 - Part of the *learning process*
- Who counts as a “high scorer” at Nossal?
 - Achieving perspective
 - Resilience is key
 - Growth Mindset

Tutoring: pros & cons

- Potential advantages:
 - One-on-one interaction
 - “Nowhere to hide”
- Potential disadvantages
 - Inaccurate advice
 - Overload & exhaustion

Sir Gustav Nossal Medallion

- Recognises students for extra-curricular activities and demonstrating an ethical, disciplined, synthesising, creative and respectful mind
- A good way to keep balance in your life

Communication at Nossal

- **Teams** - student portal with class materials, messages from staff, chat with teachers
 - *remind students to keep accessing*
- **Compass** – roll marking, attendance, excursion approvals, increasingly used for communication with parents
- **Newsletter**
- **School website**

Staying in the Loop

- Email is the first method most staff will use to contact you about concerns
 - Clarity
 - Doesn't interrupt your work day
 - Record of interaction is automatically maintained for your future reference
- Please ensure that your email details are up to date

What is your child's email address?

- Student code@students.nossalhs.vic.edu.au
- Example: Harry Potter's student code is POT0001
- His email would be POT0001@students.nossalhs.vic.edu.au
- Encourage students to use the regularly

Contacting Staff Ph: 8762 4600

Staff email: formal first name.surname@nossalhs.vic.edu.au

Katherine Warriner – VCE/pathways, special provisions
katherine.warriner@nossalhs.vic.edu.au

Angus Clark – Curriculum issues
angus.clark@nossalhs.vic.edu.au

Clarissa Jacques – Careers and University advice
clarissa.jacques@nossalhs.vic.edu.au

Heads of House – Wellbeing concerns
firstname.lastname@nossalhs.vic.edu.au

Conclusion

- Thank you
- We are here to help
- Never hesitate to contact us

Questions?
