

Dear Parents,

We look forward to welcoming your child to the Senior School in 2017. Today, during their Year 10 orientation activities, they were given a taste of each of the classes that they will attend next year as well as meeting many of their teachers.

To assist your child in their planning for next year, please note the following information:

Key Dates for 2017

Term 1	
30 Jan	<p>First day for all students</p> <p>Senior School Assembly – Theatre @ 8:45 am Students should bring their bags with them which should contain all their stationary and books. These can be put into their lockers after assembly.</p> <p>During Assembly they will find out which devotions group they will be part of, their locker allocation and receive the Senior School Policies and Procedures Handbook which has all the school rules.</p> <p>Dress Code: This will be outlined in the Policies and Procedures Handbook. On the first day, students should continue to follow the dress code that has been used in the Middle School.</p> <p>Bring Your Own Device (BYOD): Students are welcome to bring their own laptop or tablet to school. They will need to see Mr Dempsey (ICT Coordinator) who will help them get connected to the school network.</p>
Term 2	
13 -16 Jun	Transition Week (in school activities/excursions for the purpose of career/further study planning)
6 Jun	Work Experience Arrangement Forms due <u>for Work Experience Week One</u> (Please refer to Work Experience packages sent home earlier this year)
17-21 Jul	Work Experience Week One
Term 3	
16 Sept – 1 Oct	Centre Trip
Term 4	
16 Oct	Work Experience Arrangement Forms due <u>for Work Experience Week Two</u>
8 Nov	Last Day of Year 10 classes for 2017
8 -17 Nov	VCE Unit 2 Exams (important for students fast tracking a VCE subject)
13-17 Nov	Year 10 Exams
20-24 Nov	Work Experience Week Two
27 Nov – 1 Dec	VCE Units 1&2 and VCE Units 3&4 2018 Compulsory Orientation Classes
4 December – 8 December	VCE Units 3&4 2018 Compulsory Orientation Classes (important for students fast tracking a Unit 3&4 VCE subject in 2018)
8 December	Last Day for all Senior School students

Maths/Science Groups

For Year 10 Maths and Science, we will be grouping the students according to their educational ambitions and their ability.

Students have been encouraged to consider which group they would like to go in and were asked to complete a questionnaire (*see below*).

Please note, students will have the opportunity at the beginning of second semester to change groups should they wish. We understand that not all students will be in a position to know whether they want to do extended Science/Maths subjects in VCE at this stage. Thus, there will also be room for flexibility before mid-year if needed.

Maths/Science Groupings survey

For Maths I would like to go in the:

Advanced Group This group is for you if you know that you want to study advanced Maths in VCE (ie Math Methods or Specialist Maths.) You would consider yourself to be quite good at Maths.

General Group This group is for you if you do not fit the description for the Advanced Group. This does not mean that you can't study advanced maths subjects in VCE. Upon consultation with your teacher, you may move classes during the year if you are finding that you are performing better or wish to challenge yourself more.

For Science I would like to go in the:

Advanced Group This group is for you if you know that you want to study either VCE Chemistry or Physics. This class will involve the study of concepts at a greater depth, requires a solid mathematical base and will have a higher workload expectation than the General Group.

General Group This group is for you if you do not wish to be in the Advanced Group. You may still do a Science (Biology and Psychology) in VCE should you wish and you may move to the Advanced class during the year, upon recommendation from your teacher.

IMPORTANT CHANGE TO WORK EXPERIENCE ARRANGEMENTS

Due to a new Ministerial Order, we are now required to use amended Work Experience forms from the 1 January 2017. If you have already submitted forms for next year I will ensure that they are signed by all parties before the 31 December 2016 and you will not need to worry about redoing them. If you have yet to arrange Work Experience, please discard the forms that I sent in the Work Experience package earlier in the year and use the forms included instead.

In closing, I look forward to partnering with you in your child's Senior School education.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to email me at akoole@mecs.vic.edu.au .

Kind regards,

Amelia Koole

Year 10 Co-ordinator, Careers Co-ordinator, VET in Schools Co-ordinator