

VCE and VET

DAMASCUS COLLEGE ACCELERATION GUIDELINES

The opportunity to undertake a VCE Unit 1/2 in Year 10 and Unit 3/4 in Year 11 is open to students who have demonstrated a high level of commitment to their studies, displayed positive learning and work habits, have maintained excellent attendance records and have achieved a high standard in Year 9. The College will not place a student under the pressure of a VCE unit if, after consultation, we believe he or she is not ready to undertake such a unit.

As a result, students wishing to apply must complete the appropriate form and meet the requirements outlined to be considered for acceptance into an accelerated unit:

The following guidelines will apply to all applications:

1. Students will only be able to accelerate at Year 10 into VCE or VET subjects offered at Damascus College.
2. Exceptional circumstances may be considered on application to the appropriate Learning Area leader.
3. Students may accelerate into VET subjects that are offered across the cluster.
4. Not all subjects are appropriate for acceleration. These subjects are determined by the College and in conversation with the Learning Area Leader.
5. Students will need to demonstrate the necessary academic ability and rigour.
6. Students will not have a reduced load of their mainstream subjects in order to undertake an accelerated study.
7. Even if a student has undertaken a 1/2 sequence, entry into 3/4 will **not** be automatic.
8. Relevant Leaders of Learning, in consultation with the nominated teacher and VCE Coordinator or Assistant Principal of teaching and learning will make the decision as to the success of the student's application.
9. Damascus College is invested in ensuring that all students who accelerate in a VCE subject maximise their opportunity for success in all areas of study. Literacy underpins all areas of study and in recognition of this, all students who are successful in their accelerated VCE application are to commit to any academic workshops coordinated by the College.
10. All students provisionally successful for access to a VCE subject will be reviewed at the end of Year 10. If academic results and work habits are not reflective of the standards achieved in Semester 1, students will not be able to continue into their accelerated subject the following year.
11. All students who accelerate in a VCE subject will be reviewed at the conclusion of Unit 1 to ensure they are on track for success. A periodic review will also take place to ensure students' progress in all areas of study is on track for success.

Students who are successful in their Accelerated Access applications are:

- Self-motivated
- Focussed
- Responsible
- Able
- Hard-working
- Well-organised