

# **The Higher School Certificate - 2022**



## **INFORMATION FOR PARENTS & STUDENTS AND COURSE DESCRIPTION BOOKLET**

## Table of Contents

---

Information for Parents and Students	3 - 14
Information for students Undertaking School Delivered VET Courses	15 – 16
Board Developed Courses	17 – 64
Vocational Education Courses	65 - 79
Board Endorsed Courses	80 – 85
Summary of Preliminary and HSC Subjects and Consumable Costs	86 - 88

## The HSC: What is it all about?

---

- The HSC recognises 13 years of schooling.
- In the interests of greater career choices and increased opportunities at university and TAFE, the HSC offers you a full range of study areas matching individual abilities, interests and goals.
- HSC courses can be linked to further education and training.
- HSC Extension courses (including undergraduate university courses) will enable students to undertake more in-depth study in areas of special interest.
- Vocational Education and Training (VET) courses will count towards the HSC and will also lead to qualifications recognised across a range of industries.
- The HSC will include life skills courses for students with special education needs.
- The HSC will fairly assess each student's knowledge and skills.
- If you meet the minimum standard expected in a course you will receive a mark of 50. If you have a higher standard of performance, you will receive a higher mark.

## Know your strengths and aspirations for 2021 and beyond

---

This booklet provides an outline of the courses available at Ulladulla High School in 2021/2022. We want to help you make the right decision about your future, either to return to Senior School or to look at other career choices at the end of Year 10. If you decide to return to school, it is important to select the subjects which will help you succeed and enable you to follow a rewarding career path.

Every student in NSW by law must complete Year 10 or equivalent, before they leave school at 17 years of age. Most students remain at school for the HSC. This decision should be based on your interests and aspirations. Job opportunities for 17-year old's are very limited. It is important to consider training components of any employment offer made to you at the end of Year 10 or Year 11. Ideally, training and further qualifications will be a significant component of the work.



The decision for you to continue with schooling should revolve around the need you have for the HSC and your future. Our past results indicate that it is not good enough to return just because your friends are, you don't know what else to do, or the family wants you to return to school. **STAYING ON** at school can exponentially improve your career choices and prepare you for life, work and future studies. Completing your HSC does make a difference in all areas of your life. Having a HSC, or relevant, is becoming a necessary standard.

In the senior school, you will take an increasingly **ACTIVE** role in your own learning. To be successful you will work collaboratively with your peers and teachers, strengthen skills and application in critical thinking and practice endurance and real-world problem solving. You will have clear goals and be **POSITIVE** about yourself, your school, your studies and your future.

## Success in the Higher School Certificate

---

Students who achieve to their potential at the HSC generally have clear realistic career goals (or a range of career options). With distinct purpose and a sense of achievement these students have the best chance of success. Subject selection and the level of study at the HSC requires the utmost care. Students are encouraged to have conversations with their teachers, Head Teachers and the Careers Adviser about course aspirations.

All subjects are "new" courses over the two years and may be attempted e.g. a student can select senior History, Visual Arts or Geography etc. with no previous background in the subject.

### Indicators of probable success:

- Stage 5 grades in English, Mathematics and Science provide an excellent indication of levels of entry into many courses. It is not too late to improve them.
- Good work habits - Students do not generally alter their study or achievement patterns and so a "promise" to work harder in senior years is usually not sustained. It is important to establish good work habits now.
- Subjects which students like and enjoy are those where success comes most easily. It is important to choose for yourself not for your friends.
- Having clear goals and reasons for making the choices is helpful. For many students it is not possible to be too exact, even a general idea helps.

## What am I aiming for?

---

You should work out what type of HSC you are after by trying to answer the following questions.

Do I want/need:

- A Record of School Achievement (ROSA) detailing all Preliminary courses satisfactorily completed and grades awarded?
- A Record of School Achievement (ROSA) detailing all HSC Courses satisfactorily completed?
- A Higher School Certificate (HSC) indicating for each course satisfactorily completed, your scaled HSC exam mark AND your moderated school assessment mark?
- An Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) based on your best ten units of Board Developed courses?

You are encouraged to consider these questions in order to make wise subject choices.

## What do I have to do to qualify for a HSC?

---

NESA requires you to apply yourself to all courses with diligence and sustained effort. To do this you must have:

- Satisfactory pattern of attendance and participation in the learning
- Satisfactory pattern of both Preliminary and HSC courses
- Completed course requirements
- Applied yourself with diligence in each course
- Completed assessment requirements
- Make a serious attempt at Assessment Tasks and School Based Examinations
- Make a serious attempt at the HSC examinations.
- Demonstrate a minimum standard of numeracy and literacy



## What is the difference between Preliminary and HSC courses?

Preliminary courses are studied in the first instance. The Preliminary course is completed in Terms 1, 2, 3 and the beginning of Term 4 in Year 11. This may vary for some pathways and accumulation students (see below). You must satisfactorily complete the course and the assessment requirements in a Preliminary course before being considered for entry into an HSC course. The Preliminary course provides the underpinning knowledge and skills for the HSC course. In many subjects, specific components of the Preliminary course and the HSC course are examined in the HSC examination. You should get this information when you are choosing subjects.

## How long have I got to complete the HSC requirements?

You have up to five years after your first HSC exam to complete all HSC requirements. The HSC is flexible and enables you to follow a number of what are called "pathways" to a HSC.



You may, for example, complete your HSC in:

- Two years, by following the "traditional" pattern of 12 units in Year 11 and 12 units in Year 12. This is the most common pattern at Ulladulla High School.
- Three years, by repeating one or more courses and re-sitting for the HSC examination in those courses in the third year. This is not an automatic entitlement and must be seriously considered before approved.
- Three years, by doing a "traditional" Year 11 and spreading Year 12 over two years. This is called "Accumulation". Talented athletes often consider this option.
- Four years, by accumulating Preliminary courses over the first and second years and HSC courses over the third and fourth years. Students with severe illnesses may be better with this type of pattern. It also allows for a combination of study and work, in some cases.

### **Are there any problems with "accumulation" of the HSC?**

If you decide to accumulate your HSC courses over a number of years, you need to be aware that over that period some courses may be discontinued and some may not run in a particular year due to lack of numbers. This may mean studying a subject by distance education or changing which subjects are done in which year.

Essentially, what you need to do to get a HSC is to satisfy NESA's requirements that you satisfactorily complete at least 12 Preliminary units and 10 HSC units over a maximum period of five consecutive years. At Ulladulla High School most students complete 12 Preliminary Units and 12 HSC Units to maximise post school options.

## What are the units?

All courses offered for the Higher School Certificate have a unit value. Subjects may have a value of 1 unit or 2 units. Most courses are 2 unit. In the HSC, each unit has a value of 50 marks.

- 2 units = 4 hours per week (approximately 120 hours per year) in class
- = 4 hours per week at home on study and completion of homework and assessments
- = 100 marks

## What is the HSC minimum standard?

---

NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) has implemented the HSC minimum standard to help ensure that students have the key literacy and numeracy skills for life after school. Students in New South Wales will need to demonstrate a minimum standard of literacy and numeracy to receive the HSC credential from 2020. To show they meet the HSC minimum standard, students need to achieve Level 3 or 4 in short online reading, writing and numeracy tests of skills for everyday life. Together with the NSW Literacy and Numeracy Strategy, the HSC minimum standard is part of an effort to improve the literacy and numeracy outcomes for students.

Students do not need to sit the reading, writing or numeracy test(s) if they achieved Band 8 or above in the respective 2017 Year 9 NAPLAN test(s).

The standard is assessed through online tests across three areas: reading, writing and numeracy. The minimum standard online tests are 45 minutes long and include a multiple-choice reading test, a multiple-choice numeracy test and a short writing test based on a choice between a visual or written prompt. Examples of the tests are available on the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) website. Students who do not meet the HSC minimum standard can still

- Study HSC courses
- Sit the HSC exams
- Receive HSC Assessment and exam results
- Receive an ATAR
- Receive a Record of School Achievement

There are no pre-requisites for choosing subjects for stage 5 or stage 6. Students do not need to achieve the minimum standard to choose a subject they will study in stage 5 or 6.

**Practice tests** are available for students to sit at school to help them become familiar with the online test structure and for schools to help determine student readiness to meet the minimum standard.

Students will have four opportunities per year to sit the minimum standard online tests in each area of Reading, Numeracy and Writing, in Year 10, 11 and 12. Students will also have up to 5 years from the time they start the HSC courses to sit the minimum standard online tests. The tests must be administered by schools via a lockdown browser.

**Disability provisions and exemptions:** Students with additional learning needs may be eligible for extra provisions for the minimum standard online tests or be exempt from meeting the HSC minimum standard in order to receive their HSC. Students taking four or more Life Skills courses can be exempt from meeting the HSC minimum standard. Students studying Life Skills English will be exempt from the Reading and Writing minimum standard tests. Students studying Life Skills maths will be exempt from the Numeracy minimum standard test.

Further Information NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA)

<https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/11-12/hsc/hsc-minimum-standard>

## The HSC at Ulladulla High School

---

If you wish to be awarded the HSC at Ulladulla High:

You must satisfactorily complete a **Preliminary pattern of study comprising at least 12 units** and a **HSC pattern of study comprising at least 10 units**. Both patterns must include:

- at least 6 units of Board Developed Courses
- at least 2 units of a Board Developed Course in English
- at least three courses of 2-unit value or greater (either Board Developed or Board Endorsed Courses)
- at least four subjects.
- no more than 7 units of Science in the Year 12 pattern of study.

You must also meet requirements of “All my Own Work”, “Life Ready” and Sports participation.

You must complete the practical, oral, work placement or project works required for specific courses.

You must complete the assessment requirements for each course.

You must apply yourself with sustained effort and diligence to each course.

You must have sat for and made a serious attempt at the required Higher School Certificate examinations.

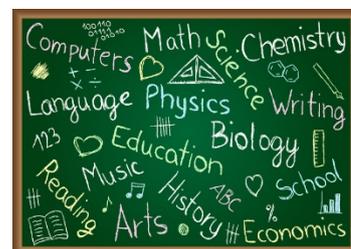
## Specific HSC Course Notes you must consider when making subject choice

---

- A number of subjects include a requirement for the development of project work for either internal or external assessment – for example, Visual Arts, Drama, Industrial Technology, Music and others. Projects developed for assessment in one subject are not to be used either in full or in part for assessment in any other subject.
- At most 6 units of courses in Science can contribute to the Preliminary Certificate and 7 units of Science in the Higher School Certificate.
- Students may elect to study either or both the 2 unit Ancient History and the 2 unit Modern History courses. There is one History Extension Course. This course allows students the flexibility to pursue areas of interest in Ancient and/or Modern History.
- Students studying Industrial Technology (Metal and Engineering Industries) are not permitted to study courses relating to the Metal and Engineering Industry Framework.
- You must study Music Course 2 if you wish to study HSC Music Extension.
- If you study a Vocational Education subject such as Certificate II in Business, Certificate II in Construction Pathways, Certificate III in Live Production and Services, Certificate II Hospitality – Food and Beverage, Certificate II in Sport Coaching, Certificate III in Retail you **MUST** complete the mandatory work placement component of 70 hours to be eligible for the HSC in that subject.

Additional information about courses and the HSC is available on the NESA Website:  
<http://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/home>

**Remember – the more research you do the better choice you will make.**



## All my own work

---

NESA requires all students entering the Preliminary course to have completed a ten hour course called “All My Own Work”. In this course students will learn about plagiarism and the need to provide original work in all Assessment Tasks.

It is anticipated that students will complete this course on-line at school at the end of Year 10. Students who enroll at the start of the Year 11 year will need to complete this course on-line before they attend any classes.

## Life Ready

---

The Department of Education and Training requires that all students in public schools complete 25 hours of study in a course called “Life Ready” prior to completing their HSC studies. In this course students consider personal issues around relationships, drug and alcohol abuse and general wellbeing.

At Ulladulla High School students complete this course in a number of ways. Students are expected to participate when the motivational speakers come to the school and to be actively involved in the “Greenpatch” camp at the end of Year 11. **This means “Greenpatch” is compulsory.** Students who miss any of these events must complete alternate tasks. The end of Preliminary report will not be issued until Year 11 Life Ready requirements are met.



## Sport Participation

---

The Department of Education and Training requires that all students in public schools to participate in school sport in Year 11. At Ulladulla High School this sport time is accumulated in a number of ways.

Students are expected to participate fully in school sporting events including the swimming, cross country and athletics carnivals over both Year 11 and Year 12. Students are expected to participate in curriculum based physical activities in subjects such as PD/H/PE and Sport and Recreation. Students are expected to participate fully in the physical components of the “Greenpatch” camp. Students may also be required to complete an undertaking to complete physical activity at home.

## USI – Unique Student Identifier (AGHE98N3JY)

---

Unique Student Identifier (USI) to link together the national records of training that a person has completed at different training providers, in different states and in different years back to 2015. All students in year 10 will be required to generate a USI at the end of year 10. A source of identification will be required eg Medicare card or Drivers license etc.

## Student Uniform

Senior students take on a leadership role in the school. They are expected to be in full school uniform all the time. A senior jersey can be ordered to acknowledge this honour.

Shoes are particularly important and must meet work cover requirements – solid, all-black with leather uppers



## Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR)

For HSC students to be able to enter University they must choose subjects that generate an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (**ATAR**). At Ulladulla High School about 35-40% of Year 12 students get a University offer. Students may also use the ATAR for other purposes.

The ATAR is a number between 0 and 100 (with 0.05 increments) that ranks student academic performance by assessing most of their HSC subjects. Admission to most university courses is based on ATAR ranking, but other criteria such as portfolio, interview, audition and questionnaires are used for some course selection. The ATAR can also be used to determine academic scholarships.

The ATAR is based on an aggregate of scaled marks in the best ten units of NESA Courses comprising:

- The best **two units** of English.
- The best **eight units** from the remaining units, providing no more than two units of Category B courses are included.

**Category B** courses at Ulladulla High School for next year include:

- Certificate II in Business 2 Unit
- Certificate II in Construction Pathways 2 Unit
- Certificate III in Live Production and Services 2 Unit
- Certificate II in Hospitality – Food and Beverage 2 Unit
- Certificate II in Sport Coaching 2 Unit
- Certificate III in Retail 2 Unit

Remember, only **one of these can contribute to the ATAR** but study of all five can contribute to the HSC. If you do not want an ATAR this should be considered. On occasion TAFE will offer a category B subject. You need to check the separate TAFE information for the status of these subjects. NB: Category B courses have an optional HSC component.

If students repeat courses for the HSC, the most recent attempt will be the one to be included in the ATAR

## What is the purpose of an ATAR?

You will need an ATAR if you intend applying for and gaining university entrance. In addition, some employers insist on, or prefer, an ATAR even if the job does not require a university education. If you do not qualify for an ATAR, you need to check carefully that this does jeopardize your chances in a particular field. It is worth remembering that VET courses may give you automatic entrance into future TAFE courses and the majority of the present students in NSW TAFE will not have a need for an ATAR.

## Choosing your courses

---

When considering the completing of Senior School, a major decision you need to make is your choice of courses. The selection of courses for the senior years is an important one, and should only be made after considering the following points:

### 1. Your APPLICATION AND GROWTH MINDSET

Your performance over recent years is some indication of what you can do. Be optimistic about yourself and build on your strengths. Select subjects which develop your strengths and enable you to go on achieving well.

### 2. Your INTERESTS and STRENGTHS

You should choose courses you are interested in and/or those which may relate to your career choice.

### 3. Your CAREER ASPIRATIONS

You don't need to know exactly what you wish to do, but having a general idea of career aspirations will be helpful.

### 4. Tertiary PRE-REQUISITES

If you have decided you want to pursue further study after the HSC, you must look carefully at possible courses to see what the requirements are. As the pre-requisites for tertiary courses vary, you must be sure you have accurate updated information.

To help you choose courses, answer the following questions:

- **Why** am I choosing this course?
- Do I **know** all about the course?
- Am I **interested** in the course?
- Am I currently **succeeding** in the Subject?
- If it is a new subject, do I have the **application** to succeed in the subject?
- Does the course provide me with a **balanced program** offering interest and variety?
- Does the course satisfy the **requirements of the careers** I am interested in?
- Am I **willing to apply myself** consistently to achieve the best results I can in this subject for two years?
- What **advice** do my current teachers have?

Developing a  
Growth Mindset



## What type of courses can I choose?

---

### Board Developed Courses

These courses are developed by NESA. For each course the following information is available in the booklet and from the website <http://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/home>:

- the course objectives, structure, content and outcomes
- specific course requirements
- assessment requirements
- sample examination papers and marking guidelines
- the performance scale (except for Vocational Education and Training Courses)

All students entered for the HSC who are studying Board Developed Courses follow these syllabuses. These courses are examined externally at the end of the HSC course. Board Developed Courses count towards the calculation of the Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR).

At Ulladulla High 2 unit Board Developed Courses include:

Aboriginal Studies	English Advanced	Legal Studies
Agriculture	English Standard	Mathematics Advanced
Ancient History	English Studies	Mathematics Standard 1
Biology	English EALD	Mathematics Standard 2
Business Studies	Food Technology	Modern History
Chemistry	French Beginners	Music 1 or Music 2
Community & Family Studies	French Continuers	PD/H/PE
Dance	Geography	Physics
Design & Technology	History Extension (HSC Only)	Science Extension (HSC Only)
Drama	Industrial Technology Timber	Society & Culture
Earth & Environmental Science	Industrial Technology – Metal and	Software Design & Development
Economics	Engineering Technologies	Studies of Religion II
Engineering Studies	Information Processes & Technology	Textiles & Design
	Investigating Science	Visual Arts
	Japanese Beginners	
	Japanese Continuers	

### ATAR Classification of English Studies and Mathematics Standard 1 (Year 12)

Those students who take English Studies in the 2021 HSC and want to receive an ATAR will need to remember that only 2 units of category B courses can be included, and at least 2 units of English must be included, in the ATAR calculation. Therefore, English Studies students who want an ATAR will not be able to include any other Category B units and will need at least 8 units of Category A courses

## Board Developed Extension Courses

Extension study is available, on application, in a number of subjects.

- Extension courses are 1 unit courses which build on the content of the 2 unit course. Extension courses require students to work beyond the standard of the 2 unit course, and are available in English Extension 1 and 2, Mathematics Extension 1 and 2, History Extension, Music Extension, Science Extension, Languages and VET. Undergraduate university courses will be available in some subjects.
- English and Mathematics Extension Courses are available at Preliminary and HSC levels. Students must study the Preliminary extension course in these subjects before proceeding to the two HSC extension courses (Extension 1 and Extension 2). The Extension 2 course requires students to work beyond the standard of the Extension 1 course.
- HSC extension courses in subjects other than English and Mathematics are offered and examined in Year 12 only.
- Board Developed Extension Courses contribute to the ATAR and the HSC.

## Board Endorsed Courses

There are two main types of Board Endorsed Courses – Content Endorsed Courses and School Developed Courses.

- a) Content Endorsed Courses (CECs) have syllabuses endorsed by NESA to cater for areas of special interest not covered in the Board Developed Courses.
- b) Schools may also design courses to meet student needs. These courses must be approved by NESA. Once approval is granted, schools offer selected courses to senior students as part of the Higher School Certificate.

There is no external examination for any Content Endorsed Course or School Developed Course, but all Board Endorsed Courses count towards the Higher School Certificate and appear on your Record of Achievement. Assessment is school based. Board Endorsed Courses do not count in the calculation of the ATAR.

At Ulladulla High School Board Endorsed 2 Unit subjects include:

- Computer Applications
- Exploring Early Childhood
- Photography
- Sport & Recreational Studies
- Work Studies (Head Start HSC Plus Only)

## **Life Skills Courses as part of a Special Program of Study**

---

Stage 6 (Years 11 and 12) Life Skills courses will be available for students with identified special education needs following a Special Program of Study for the Higher School Certificate.

Students accessing a Special Program of Study in Stage 6 will, in general, need to have completed at least four Generic Life Skills courses within a Special Program of Study in Stage 5 (Years 9 and 10). Further, participation in a Special Program of Study will be based upon an individual transition-planning process which will occur for both the Preliminary and HSC years.

Life Skills courses will have Board Developed status and can be used in place of other Board Developed Courses to meet requirements for the award of the Higher School Certificate. Each Life Skills course comprises a 2 unit Preliminary course and a 2 unit HSC course.

## **Assessment and Reporting for Preliminary**

---

The Record of School Achievement (RoSA) is the credential for students who leave school after Year 10. Students who receive their HSC will also be able to receive a RoSA at the same time as their HSC detailing their achievement in their earlier years of study.

The RoSA provides an ongoing, cumulative record for students. It will record grades for courses students complete in Year 10 and in Year 11. The A to E grades will be based on performance descriptors to provide a moderated, school-based assessment.

Students who leave school before the completion of Year 12 and who satisfy eligibility requirements for the RoSA can apply to receive the formal credential.

## **Assessment and Reporting of the HSC**

---

The HSC reports will provide you with more detailed descriptions of the knowledge, skills and understanding you have attained in each subject. The syllabuses, along with assessment and examination information and a performance scale are used to describe your student's level of achievement, give a clear idea of the standards that are expected.

The HSC reports will provide a description of your achievements.

**School-based assessment tasks will contribute to 50% of your HSC mark.** Your school assessment mark will be based on your performance in assessment tasks you have undertaken during the course. **The other 50% will come from the HSC examination.**

Your HSC mark for 2 unit courses will be reported on a scale of 0 to 100. A mark of 50 will represent the minimum standard expected in the course. There will be five performance bands above 50 that correspond to different levels of achievement in knowledge, skills and understanding. The band from 90 – 100 will correspond to the highest level of achievement which is a band 6. Lowest level of achievement is band 1, less than 50 marks.

## Celebration of the HSC

---

**On satisfactory completion of your HSC at graduation you will receive a portfolio from Ulladulla High containing:**

### *Graduation Certificate*

This certificate celebrates the accomplishment of the HSC

### *HSC School Report*

The official school record confirming your achievements in the final year of study

### *Invitation to Presentation Night*

Where relevant, students with outstanding academic, cultural and sporting successes will be individually invited to Presentation Night

### *Formal Ticket*

Celebration of completion of the formal years of schooling culminates at the School Formal held at the end of formal school classes, end of Term 3.

**On completion of your examinations, return of all loaned materials and finalisation of accounts, you will receive from Ulladulla High:**

### *School Reference*

Each student receives only one reference at the completion of their scholastic career. This reference highlights achievements and personal qualities evidenced in your school years



**On satisfactory completion of your HSC and meeting the required minimum standards in literacy and numeracy, you will receive a portfolio from NESA containing:**

### *The HSC Testamur*

The official certificate confirming your achievement of all requirements for the award.

### *HSC Record of School Achievement*

Board Developed HSC courses listed with Assessment Mark, Examination Mark, HSC Mark and Performance Band. All Preliminary and Stage 5 courses will be on separate certificates

### *Course Reports*

For every HSC Board Developed Course (except VET courses) you will receive a Course Report showing your marks, the Performance Scale and the band descriptions for that course

### **Student eRecord**

All students have access to a record of results on a Student eRecord. The Student eRecord is available through Students Online. Students should ensure they activate their Students Online account. The Student eRecord is not a formal NESA credential but has the same information as a RoSA and also contains information regarding Life Skills outcomes achieved and VET course competencies completed, where applicable.