

Questions & Answers from Year 10 Parent Information Evening Monday 23rd February 2009

Q: What is the difference between Stage 2 and 3 courses?

A: Both can be used for calculating the TEA/for university entrance but Stage 3 is harder. We need to provide courses that will challenge students, hence the Stage 3. While there are not many Stage 3 courses offered in Year 11, it is a natural progression to do Stage 2 in Year 11 and then Stage 3 in Year 12.

All Stage 3 course also attract a bonus 15 points when calculating the final Tertiary Entrance Aggregate (TEA).

Q: Are there any Stage 3 courses offered in Year 11?

A: Most Stage 3 courses are offered in Year 12 but there are a few offered in Year 11. It is a natural progression to do Stage 2 in Year 11 and then Stage 3 in Year 12.

Q: What happens if a prerequisite is met in time in Semester 1 but is not maintained in Semester 2?

A: Students must maintain the prerequisites right through until the end of the year. We will do a check at the end of the year and if a prerequisite has not been maintained, the student will not be allowed to do that subject. He/She will be asked to choose another subject for which they do meet the prerequisite.

Q: Is the Year 10 Semester 1 curriculum broad enough to allow students to try a bit of everything before making a decision on Year 11 subjects?

A: Students in Society & Environment and Science may not get an opportunity to try all subjects in Year 10 before making a decision, it just not possible because of timetable constraints. They would have done a bit of all subjects prior to Year 10 (albeit not at a Year 10 level) so they would have had a taste then. The Heads of Departments give detailed talks on each subject available to them next year so this is one way a student can find out more about a subject. They can also speak to the teacher of the subject this year, to discuss what kinds of things they would be doing/learning in that subject. Students currently enrolled in the course are also a good source of information.

Q: What is List A & List B?

A: They are two lists of subjects defined by the curriculum council to ensure breadth of study, as a requirement of graduation. List A is Arts/Humanities/Social Sciences and List B is Maths/Science/Technology.

Students are required to choose one subject from List A and one from List B. A student who wishes to study 2 Maths, Chemistry and Physics (List B) can still do so as Religion and Life and English fall under List A. Therefore, they still meet the requirements of at least one subject from each list.