

Tallangatta Secondary College Policy Manual	Policy and guidelines for Course Selection	School Council Meeting: March 2018
Information: Manager: Principal	Related Policies: Teaching and Learning Policy Student Learning Outcomes Policy School Philosophy Policy Curriculum Framework Policy	Reviewed: Every year

Rationale/Aims:

Tallangatta Secondary College curriculum is a vertically integrated structure. Enabling the vertical progress of students is a core principle of our college.

Implementation:

Course balance is to be achieved over the course of a year rather than each individual term, thus keeping choices open and allowing for immersion in areas of high interest. In general:

In Semester 1

- Years 8 and 9 students will select from Level 1 units
- Year 10 students will select from Level 2 or 3 units

In Semester 2

- Year 7 & 8 students will select from Level 1 units
- Year 9 students will select from Level 2 units
- Year 10 students will select from Level 2 or 3 units

Procedures:

1. Provisional course selection will take place in Term 2 for Semester 2 and in Term 3 for Semester 1 of the following year.
2. Individual students may study at a different level by recommendation from the Learning Area or by application for a course amendment (this includes the case where a student wishes to study a Level below the guidelines and will be in consultation with the Middle Years Team, Later Years Teams and parents/guardians).
3. Study in Maths and English is required continuously each semester.
4. Study in LOTE is required until the end of Year 8 through the study of a minimum of 3 term units following the Year 7 transition program.
5. Students must undertake a minimum of the equivalent of five term units in all other Learning Areas: Humanities, Science, Arts, Technology and HPE by the end of year 10. This sequence begins from Semester 2, Year 7.
6. Students must **aim** to cover a balance of units which provide the opportunity for their achievement to be assessed and reported to parents in all areas of the Victorian Curriculum (VC) until at least the end of Semester 1 Year 9. A “balance of units” means student should chose **one** unit from each Learning Area at Course Selection.

NOTE: Balance will be a consideration at final course selection. Due to staffing imbalances and the number of units available in each area, it is not always possible to achieve every semester, hence the goal for balance over the

course of a year. There is sufficient flexibility in required minimums to enable some specialisation for every student before Year 10

7. In general, a pathways approach which reduces breadth of study is only appropriate from Year 10 onwards.
8. Even at Year 10, students should still aim to experience a wide range of Learning Areas to enable a broad background to support making informed subject choice in Years 11 and 12.
9. For Special Needs students a formalised Individualised Learning Plan is appropriate. In this instance course balance requirements need not apply. NOTE: Under our vertical system, individual student courses could be regarded as individual learning plans for every student - the course balance exemptions referred to only applies in extreme cases.
10. Exemptions from the minimums required for course balance are only possible on approval by the principal.
11. The student engagement team, in conjunction with HG teachers and Curriculum Coordinator, will monitor student courses to oversee appropriate student pathways and student combinations.
12. Records of units undertaken will be maintained by the Timetabler so that an accurate record of all completed units is available for course selection.

Review Process:

This policy will be reviewed as part of the four year review cycle.

This policy will also be updated if significant changes are made to school regulations and circumstances.