



# VOCATIONAL PATHWAYS PROGRAM INFORMATION HANDBOOK



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# CATHOLIC REGIONAL COLLEGE CAROLINE SPRINGS

## Introduction

This handbook provides information about the Vocational Pathways Program (VPP) and Vocational Education and Training (VET) programs available for Catholic Regional College Caroline Springs students. It is the College's expectation that students have read and understand the contents of this handbook with regard to their enrolment in a senior secondary certificate.

The VPP program offered at Catholic Regional College Caroline Springs reflects the College's commitment to providing multiple pathway opportunities for our students. We strive to achieve results for each student that exemplifies excellence and success for that student.

At Catholic Regional College Caroline Springs our guiding principle is to ensure each student achieves their best through engagement in a learning pathway that allows them to develop their own unique gifts and talents. We strongly encourage students to select learning programs for which they have demonstrated a propensity and clear capability.

Catholic Regional College Caroline Springs provides course selection guidance to all students. However, it is important that, before committing to a particular course, students and parents avail themselves of other information beyond this guide. These additional sources may include past and present students, current teachers, other parents, employer groups, tertiary institutions and career centres.

Catholic Regional College Caroline Springs reserves the right to make changes to the handbook when they are found to be necessary. In such instances, the College undertakes relevant communications to keep students and parents informed about the changes that have been made.

At the start of the academic year, VPP students will be required to sign a general declaration that they will observe and adhere to all rules, regulations policies and procedures for school, VET and work experience and accept any disciplinary provisions as a result of failure to adhere to the standards set out.



## Vocational Pathways Program

The Vocational Pathways Program (VPP) is a program provided by Catholic Regional College Caroline Springs that supports students on alternative pathways to mainstream schooling. The program is designed to support students who are considering a VCE Vocational Major pathway in senior secondary schooling (Year 11 and 12) or aspire to join the workforce by completing a trade apprenticeship from 16 years onwards. In 2023, the VCE Vocational Major replaced the Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL). Our VPP program is an applied learning program for this intended pathway. It provides students with choice and flexibility and allows students to tailor their learning to their strengths and vocational aspirations. The VPP course is made up of the following teaching and learning components which are taught on campus at CRCCS:

### Literacy

The VPP Literacy course supports student development in skills to read and write for a range of everyday texts. Students will develop literacy skills to meet the needs of the workplace, further study and everyday situations. Students will focus on learning for personal use including speaking and listening literacy to help them develop argument and point of view skills. Students throughout the course consider the language and purpose of different text types and consider how language is used to communicate meaning. Students develop inferencing skills and build on their abilities to construct texts. Teachers of VPP ensure to make cross curricular connections between project-based learning in other subjects to make relevant within the literacy teaching and learning content.

### Numeracy

The VPP Numeracy course encourages students to interact with mathematical skills they will likely utilise in workplaces and everyday life scenarios. Students will focus on numeracy for business use considering taxable income and superannuation. Throughout the course, students draw on their practical knowledge and experience to consider scale drawings, perimeter and shape and calculating building costs. The Numeracy course allows for cross curricular connections between project-based learning in other subjects to make relevant within the learning and teaching of the numeracy classroom. The teacher works closely with the cohort's numeracy abilities to adapt and extend learning to meet the needs of students.



## Personal Development Skills

The VPP Personal Development Skills (PDS) course focuses on developing personal identity and individual pathways. The course develops students understanding of personal health and wellbeing and issues that face young people. Students engage with a religious education unit that considers the connections and differences between different Christian faiths. Students participate in a coaching unit that develops their understanding of physical activity skills and their ability to communicate and develop the skills of others.

## Work Related Skills

The Work Related Skills (WRS) course, students investigate future employment opportunities in varying industries. Students use practical experiences to immerse themselves in a chosen industry to complete project based learning. Within the WRS curriculum, students' complete school-based projects which utilises work related skills learned throughout the course such as proposing, planning, completing and budgeting.

## VET

Successful completion of a VET in Schools program at our senior campus CRC Sydenham allows VPP students the opportunity to complete a government recognised qualification that can be used for Year 11 and Year 12.

VPP students can choose one VET subject from the following;

### VET Subjects @ CRC Sydenham

VET Allied Health *	VET Applied Fashion
VET Beauty Services	VET Workplace Skills and Business *
VET Community Services *	VET Creative Digital Media *
VET Dance *	VET Salon Assistant
VET Furniture Making	VET Horticulture
VET Hospitality *	VET Hospitality (Kitchen Operations) *
VET Information, Digital Media and Technology *	VET Laboratory Skills *



VET Music Industry (Performance) \*

VET Music Industry (Sound Production) \*

VET Picture Framing

VET Signage

VET Sport and Recreation \*

## Work Experience

Students within the Vocational Pathways Program are required to complete one day per week with an employer across each semester. Students are required to complete work experience with a different employer across each semester.

The process for obtaining work experience is as follows;

1. The Director of Student Pathways informs the relevant students when the work placement needs to be completed (start and end dates) – correspondence during class time and via direct message to students and their family
2. Student liaises with various employers outlining the expectations and requirements for the placement and agrees to one individual
3. Student informs Director of Student Pathways and Pathways Program Coordinator of potential placement, and the Work Experience Arrangement form is provided to the student
4. Necessary parties complete and sign Work Experience Arrangement form and submitted to Director of Student Pathways or Pathways Program Coordinator
5. Principal signs Work Experience Arrangement form
6. Copies are made of the Work Experience Arrangement form and provided to;
  - a. Student
  - b. Employer (plus all other relevant documentation as mentioned above)
  - c. Principal (keeps original copy)
  - d. DP Staff & Operations provided with a copy for attendance override purposes.