



CANBERRA GRAMMAR SCHOOL

HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE

The School prepares its students to sit the NSW Higher School Certificate Examination at the end of Year 12. It is a public examination from which all universities and colleges award matriculation. The Higher School Certificate is a two-fold measurement, recording separately a School Assessment, based on achievement in Year 12 for each course studied, and the result in the public examination for each course.

Consequently, before the end of Year 10 a further choice of subjects is made on the basis of previous performance.

The content of each course is determined by the Board of Studies (NSW) and the overall structure is based on a system of units of study, each unit rating a maximum of 50 marks.

Students are required to study a minimum of 12 units in Year 11 and 10 units in Year 12; matriculation is awarded on the total of the best 10 units undertaken in the final year (maximum 500 marks) including 2 Units of English. The marks are scaled and moderated by the universities and converted into a Universities Admission Index (UAI) for the purposes of entry to faculties at the various tertiary institutions.

The Unit System

- (a) Most subjects, except English, Mathematics, and General Studies have 2 unit courses of study. The details of these subjects are:
- (i) English: The 2-unit courses in English are offered at Advanced and Standard levels. The Extension 1 Course is a third unit in Years 11 and 12. The Extension 2 course is a fourth unit in Year 12 only.
 - (ii) Mathematics contains 4 courses. The Extension 2 course is a preparation for intensive study at tertiary level and has a rating of 4 units in Year 12; the Extension 1 course is also an intensive course for more able mathematics pupils and has a rating of 3 units in both Years 11 and 12; the 2-unit course is suitable as preparation for study of subjects requiring some mathematical understanding (medicine, economics, etc) at tertiary level and has a rating of 2 units in Years 11 and 12. The 2-unit General Mathematics course is not preparation for further tertiary study and has a rating of 2 units in Years 11 and 12.
 - (iii) Science: The School offers Biology, Chemistry or Physics, all 2 Unit courses.
 - (iv) General Studies is a 1-unit course only, a preliminary (Year 11) course only.
- (b) Furthermore, there are 1 Unit Extension courses in History, the Languages and Music. They are offered in Year 12 and selection is based on demonstrated performance.

SUMMARY		UNIT VALUE YEAR 11	UNIT VALUE YEAR 12
ENGLISH	EXTENSION 2	N/A	4
	EXTENSION 1	3	3
	ADVANCED	2	2
	STANDARD	2	2
MATHS	EXTENSION 2	N/A	4
	EXTENSION 1	3	3
	MATHEMATICS	2	2
	GENERAL MATHEMATICS	2	2
ALL OTHER SUBJECTS:	EACH	2	2
GENERAL STUDIES		1	N/A

HSC Requirements

All candidates for the HSC will be required to study:

- At least two units of English
- Plus additional units of study to make up at least 12 units of study in Year 11 and 10 Units in Year 12
- At least four subjects

Briefings for parents about both the HSC and Tertiary entry are held each year as published in the Calendar and advertised on the website. Boys should themselves seek to understand how these things will affect them and in the process might find it appropriate to consult their Tutor and the Careers Advisor who is in charge of Tertiary Entrance procedures.

HSC School Assessment Tasks

At the beginning of their HSC course the Director of Curriculum issues to all boys a Student Information Guide to HSC School Assessments detailing the School's practices in implementing the NSW Board of Studies' policies on HSC Assessment. Parents are urged to acquaint themselves with these provisions.