The new Senior Education System (QCE): An overview
The current system in QLD

• Syllabus documents are broad and general
• Individual schools build work programs specific to context
• Assessment item content is largely decided by schools, appropriate to context.
• Subjects may assess students 4 – 7 times a year.
• Year 11 results may contribute to OP calculations.
• Monitoring (of instrument quality and quality of teacher judgement) largely occurs after assessment is completed
The current system in QLD

- QCS Test is the scaling mechanism between subjects
- Internal results + QCS score = OP
- Rank students are still eligible for tertiary entry
- QCAA administers syllabus, monitoring and verification, and OP calculations
- QTAC acts as conduit between applicants and tertiary providers
Why the need for change?

• Queensland’s current senior assessment system began in the early 1980s. The OP system was introduced in 1992.
• In 2014, a report from ACER said these arrangements were not sustainable in the long term.
• In 2016, the Qld Government released “Advancing Futures”
  1. “To keep pace with a transforming society and economy...”;
  2. “To strengthen our current system and enhance its fairness and reliability...”;
  3. “...to develop a new world class curriculum and assessment system for all Queensland schools...”

(QCAA, 2017)
ATAR

• Students will receive an ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admission Rank)

• ATAR is the standard measure of overall school achievement used in all other Australian states and territories

• It is a rank relative to other students

• 2000 point scale from 99.95 – 0.05

• ATARs of 30 or below will be reported as ‘30.00 or less’
QCAA: Final position

• Students will study subjects across 4 units. Students may select from General subjects or Applied subjects.

• A combination of school-based and external assessment will be used to calculate final subject results.

• Units 1 and 2 are entirely formative.

• Units 3 and 4 are summative and will have four assessments: 3 school-based + 1 external per subject.
QCAA: Final position

• Internal Assessment (IA)
  – School-based assessment will generally contribute 75% to a student’s final subject result; 50% in Maths and Science.

• External Assessment (EA)
  – Every subject will have an External Assessment item, generally worth 25% of the final subject result.

• QCAA will endorse and confirm school-based assessments and ratify subject results.

• Students will receive a numerical and A–E final subject result (A–E only for applied subjects).

• Subjects will be scaled against each other for fairness.
School based assessment

**Endorsement:** Check quality of three internal assessment before use for attributes of quality assessment.

**Confirmation:** Checking consistent and accurate application of instrument specific marking guides; Sample unique to each cohort and distribution of achievement per instrument; Students will have all IA results confirmed before their EA.
Tertiary Entrance

• QTAC will be responsible for tertiary entrance score calculation from 2020
• ATAR will replace the OP
• Students must satisfactorily complete an English subject (Sound Achievement) to be ATAR-eligible
• English will only count if it is one of a student’s best five subject results
• ATARs to be calculated from a student’s best 5 subject results, one of which may be a VET Cert III or above, or an Applied subject result.
• There will be no Rank-equivalent tertiary entrance score.
• Stuartholme students must study one English subject and one Religious Education subject. They can choose four other electives.
External Assessment

• 11,500 unique subject combinations.
  • Other jurisdictions - Vic (8am - 5:15pm, 3 sessions over 3 weeks). Too much.
  • QLD: Assessment schedule 16 days (3 weeks, 1 day). 2 sessions.
    – School calendar considerations.

• Other considerations:
  – certification and ATAR released prior to Christmas (19th Dec 2020),
  – collection, scanning, training, marking (finalise 22 Nov).
  – Anomaly management (week beg 30 Nov).
  – Year to year comparability (27 Nov).
  – Finalisations of subject scores for QTAC (4 December 2020)

2020: Last day for Year 12 = 20 November.
EA Scheduling

- Proposal: Week 4 – 6, Term 4, 2020
- Considerations:
  - Different to other jurisdictions.
    - 75% of most students results in most subjects will come from internal assessment.
    - Not scaling internal with external.
  - Schedules will be issues very quickly after current enrolment data has been finalised once Unit 2 is complete.
  - QCAA will build 46 mock assessments in the General subjects to assist in preparation.
Where to from here?

- Workshop training for teachers and support staff
- Opportunity for reimagining our Junior School Programming
- Further QCAA and QTAC updates
Also...

- HPE/Extension HPE is now being offered for Year 10
- Home Economics will change to Food and Nutrition