

# The new Senior Education System (QCE): An overview



To be the best she can be

STUARTHOLME SCHOOL

# 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 administrates 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

