

# → ACE PROGRAM





**RESPECT**

**EFFORT**

**RESPONSIBILITY**

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# WELCOME MESSAGE

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**Shaun Sleep**  
Principal

Dear Families,

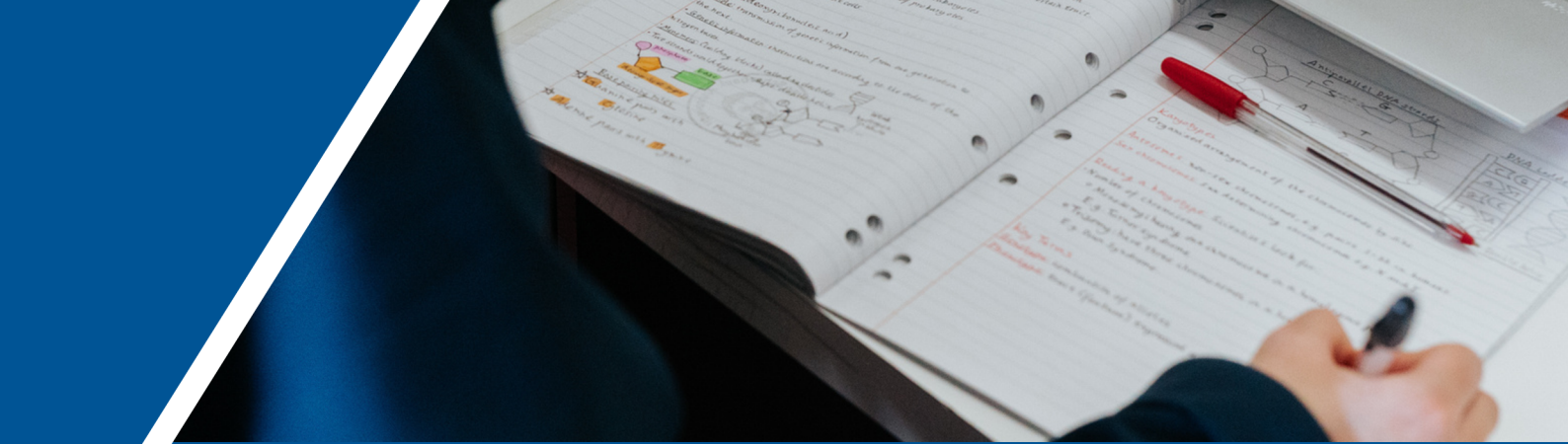
I'd like to welcome you to Point Cook Senior Secondary College, where we are committed to nurturing academic excellence and preparing students for successful futures. I am delighted to introduce you to our Accelerated Program for Extension (ACE) Program, a carefully designed initiative that empowers high-achieving students to reach their full potential.

At Point Cook Senior Secondary College, we recognise that some students thrive on academic challenges and are ready to take on more advanced coursework earlier in their secondary education journey. Our ACE Program responds to this need by offering talented Year 10 students the unique opportunity to study two Year 11 subjects, including traditionally restricted subjects like Biology and Maths Methods. This acceleration not only challenges our brightest minds but also provides them with a strategic advantage in their VCE years.

What sets our ACE Program apart is our holistic approach to student success. We understand that academic achievement goes hand in hand with strong emotional and social support. Our ACE students benefit from comprehensive academic guidance, wellbeing support, and enriching extra-curricular opportunities. This balanced approach ensures that while students are academically challenged, they also develop the resilience, leadership skills, and confidence needed for success in higher education and beyond.

I invite you to explore the opportunities that our ACE Program offers and consider how it might benefit your child's educational journey. Our doors are always open to discuss how we can support your child in achieving their academic aspirations.





# ACE PROGRAM OVERVIEW

**Our ACE Program is targeted towards high achieving Year 9 students who are interested in accelerating 2 VCE subjects in Year 10, allowing them to access greater subject selections, leading to a high ATAR in Year 12, opening more opportunities for university pathways.**

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The ACE Program will allow students to study 2 Year 11 subjects as a Year 10 student, rather than the 1 subject that is normally allowed. Our ACE cohort also have a wider breadth of subject choices available to them, including Biology and Maths Methods, which are normally reserved for VCE students only. In having access to a wider range of subject options, students are presented with the opportunity to study a wider breadth of subjects, exploring pathways that they may not have considered previously.

The ACE cohort is provided additional support through their years at Point Cook Senior Secondary College, with a wide range of academic support, as well as wellbeing and social supports put in place to ensure their success throughout their senior secondary years. Students are also provided a range of opportunities in extra-curricular activities, such as in student leadership and work experience.

The program aims to increase the ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admission Rank) of the students, giving them access to a wider range of options when applying for university courses.

# BENEFITS OF THE ACE PROGRAM

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The ACE Program offers significant academic advantages by allowing high-achieving students to accelerate their learning journey. By studying two Year 11 subjects in Year 10, students can develop advanced academic skills earlier and gain valuable experience with VCE-level coursework before their peers. The program's expanded subject choices, including access to Biology and Maths Methods, enables students to explore academic disciplines they might not otherwise have considered. This early exposure to a wider range of subjects helps students discover new interests and potential career pathways, allowing them to make more informed decisions about their academic specialisation.



The comprehensive support system embedded within the ACE Program ensures students thrive while exploring these new academic territories. Through dedicated academic support services, students receive targeted assistance as they venture into unfamiliar subjects and develop sophisticated study techniques. The program's emphasis on wellbeing and social support helps students maintain confidence as they challenge themselves with new academic disciplines. This supportive environment encourages intellectual curiosity and academic risk-taking, enabling students to discover passions and talents they may not have previously recognised in themselves.

The ACE Program ultimately provides students with enhanced pathways to tertiary education through this broader academic exploration. By experiencing a diverse range of subjects earlier, students can better identify their strengths and interests, leading to more strategic subject selections in their final years. This advantage opens doors to more specialised university courses that they might not have previously considered accessible or appealing. Additionally, the exposure to varied academic disciplines helps students develop adaptable thinking skills valued by universities and employers alike, preparing them for success in an increasingly complex and changing world.

# HEAR FROM OUR ALUMNI

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Neda Saeidzadeh, Class of 2024  
Currently studying a *Bachelor of Laws* at  
RMIT University

Completing an accelerated subject was one of the most rewarding challenges of my VCE journey. It not only strengthened my time management and study skills but also gave me a head start in understanding the demands of Year 12.

Taking Legal Studies early allowed me to explore my passion for law while building confidence in my academic abilities.

Completing an accelerated subject provided me an amazing opportunity to gain insight on not only the expectations, workload, and examinations of Year 12, but had also allowed me to explore my interest and gain a better understanding of what I wish to strive for in further tertiary studies.

Having completed accelerated Business Management, it enabled me to better understand my studies coming the following year and the workspace I would become accustomed to. Also providing an extra unit of study accounting towards my final ATAR, which helped lift some weight off of my shoulders and improved my final performance.

Overall the accelerated studies provides an insightful and beneficial experience in completing Year 12 that I'd recommend any studying VCE student to partake in.



Matthew Boardman, Class of 2024  
Currently studying a *Bachelor of Psychology (Honours)* at Deakin University

# COURSE PROGRESSION

## Year 10

<b>Semester 1</b>	Year 10 English	Year 10 Maths	Year 11 Subject #1	Year 11 Subject #2	Year 10 Elective #1
<b>Semester 2</b>	Year 10 English	Year 10 Maths	Year 11 Subject #1	Year 11 Subject #2	Year 10 Elective #2

## Year 11

<b>Semester 1</b>	Year 11 English	Year 11 Maths	Year 12 Subject #1	Year 12 Subject #2	Year 11 Subject #3
<b>Semester 2</b>	Year 11 English	Year 11 Maths	Year 12 Subject #1	Year 12 Subject #2	Year 11 Subject #3

## Year 12

<b>Semester 1</b>	Year 12 English	Year 12 Maths	Year 12 Subject #3	Year 12 Subject #4	Year 12 Subject #5
<b>Semester 2</b>	Year 12 English	Year 12 Maths	Year 12 Subject #3	Year 12 Subject #4	Year 12 Subject #5

Under the ACE Program, our students have the opportunity to study up to 7 Year 12 subjects by the end of their VCE, thus allowing a wider breadth of subjects studied, and the opportunity for a higher ATAR achieved.

Students may be able to study 4 subjects in Year 12 instead of 5, allowing them to have a private study block to focus on their subjects. This is subject to the Principal's discretion and will be decided on once students are in Year 12.



# VCE SUBJECTS

## Maths

- General Maths
- Maths Methods\*

## Science

- Biology
- Psychology

## Arts/Technology

- Applied Computing
- Art Making & Exhibiting
- Food Technology
- Media
- Product Design & Technology (Textiles or Wood)
- Visual Communication & Design

## Health/PE

- Health & Human Development
- Outdoor & Environmental Studies
- Physical Education

## Humanities

- Accounting
- Business Management
- Geography
- Legal Studies
- Modern History
- Politics

**Please note that this list is not inclusive of every VCE subject the school offers, and students will have more options available once they enter Years 11 & 12.**

**\*Students wishing to accelerate Maths Methods will be required to sit an additional test to determine suitability.**



# ACE & ADVISORY

At Point Cook Senior Secondary College, we understand that academic excellence must be supported by strong personal development and wellbeing practices. Our ACE & Advisory program is specifically designed to provide our high-achieving students with the tools, support, and guidance they need to thrive both academically and personally.

Meeting weekly with their dedicated Advisory teacher, ACE students participate in targeted sessions that focus on developing crucial life skills and fostering a strong sense of community. Through our carefully structured program, students engage in activities and discussions that strengthen their identity as learners and future leaders.

## **Program Focus Areas**

Our Advisory sessions are built around key developmental areas that support student success. Students explore and develop their personal identity, understanding their strengths, values, and learning styles. Through focused habit-forming activities, they learn to establish and maintain productive routines that support their accelerated academic program.

The buddy system pairs students with peers, creating a supportive network that enhances learning and social connections. This system, combined with our school connectedness initiatives, helps students build strong relationships within their cohort and the broader school community.

Career development is a significant focus, with students receiving specialised guidance in career planning and valuable work experience opportunities. Our career tools sessions help students explore potential pathways and understand the connection between their current studies and future aspirations.

Understanding the importance of emotional wellbeing, our program includes sessions on emotional regulation and stress management. Students learn practical strategies to maintain balance while pursuing academic excellence. The "Unlock your Memory" component introduces effective study techniques and memory strategies, helping students optimise their learning approach.

Through this comprehensive Advisory program, ACE students develop not only their academic capabilities but also the personal skills and resilience needed for long-term success. The program creates a supportive environment where students can challenge themselves academically while growing as individuals within a caring community.

Our Advisory teachers work closely with each student, monitoring their progress and providing guidance as they navigate their accelerated academic journey. This personalised approach ensures that every ACE student receives the support they need to achieve their full potential.



# APPLICATION PROCESS

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## **Applications Open - Monday 28th April 2025**

Families will be able to pick up an application pack from our front office.

## **Applications Close - Monday 2nd June 2025**

Applications should be submitted back to our front office by 4pm. We will not be able to accept any applications after the closing date.

## **Interviews begin - Monday June 16 2025**

Families will be contacted via email with the day and time for their child to be interviewed.

## **ACE Entry Test - Saturday 21st June 2025**

The school will be utilising the ACER Higher Ability Selection Test (HAST) to determine suitability for the program.

## **Offers made - from Monday August 4 2025**

Applicants will be contacted via email. Successful applicants wishing to undertake Maths Methods will be asked to sit an additional test administered by the school's Maths team to determine suitability.



# ACE PROGRAM

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