



Ellenbrook
CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

Year 11 and 12 Course Guide

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Introduction to Senior Secondary School

Year 11 and Year 12 present students with new challenges and exciting experiences that prepare them for the appropriate pathways after they graduate. We want to ensure that our students get the most out of their senior years at Ellenbrook Christian College. Therefore, it is vital that parents and students set some time aside to go through this handbook together, so that they can make careful and informed decisions about subject selection and future pathways opportunities.

Making these choices can sometimes be daunting as students find a balance between choosing courses that interest them, and choosing courses which challenge them to achieve their potential. We are here to help guide students through this process so they make the best decision for their post school futures. This handbook outlines the courses offered in Year 11 at Ellenbrook Christian College as well as explaining how students can successfully receive their WACE (Western Australian Certificate of Education) at the completion of Year 12. Read this handbook thoroughly and refer back to it often to clarify terminology, expectations and requirements.

As students make the crucial transition from Year 10 to Year 11 it is important for them to understand the importance of their Year 11 and 12 education. Year 11 and 12 students at Ellenbrook Christian College are granted many privileges and in return are expected to be responsible and respectable role models to younger students at our college by showing maturity and leadership.

We hope that the next two years will be an enjoyable learning experience for our students as they grow into young adults, and that when they leave Ellenbrook Christian College they will be prepared to take on the challenges of the wider world and carry out God's work in the community and wider society.

Once you have finished reading through this course guide, please follow the link at the bottom page 10 to view the 2022 subject offerings at Ellenbrook Christian College.

Useful Terminology

WACE	The Western Australian Certificate of Education is a certificate that demonstrates significant educational achievement over Year 11 and 12. It is generally required for entry into further study and employment.
Course	Most courses are at either General or ATAR level and comprise 4 units. Units 1 and 2 are studied in Year 11 and Units 3 and 4 are studied in Year 12.
Unit	A semester long section of a course. Four units throughout Year 11 and 12 make up one course.
ATAR Course	A two year Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR) course consisting of 4 Semester units covered in Years 11 and 12 with an external examination at the end of Year 12. Students wanting a direct pathway into university must enrol in at least four ATAR courses, one of which must be English.
General Course	A two-year course consisting of 4 units covered in Year 11 and 12 which counts towards the WACE but not towards generating an ATAR.
English Language Competence	Is attained upon: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • successful completion of at least 4 English course units in Year 11 and 12, and • passing OLNA, or • attaining Band 8 in Year 9 Naplan for Reading and Writing

OLNA	The Online Literacy and Numeracy Assessment enables students to demonstrate that they meet the minimum standard of literacy and numeracy that is required to receive their WACE.
VET	Vocational and Educational Training is designed to deliver workplace skills and knowledge over a wide range of careers. This includes trade work, office work, retail, hospitality and technology.
TISC	The Tertiary Institutions Service Centre processes applications for admission into university undergraduate courses. For more info refer to: http://www.tisc.edu.au .
TEA	The Tertiary Entrance Aggregate is the total of a student's best four ATAR subjects at the end of Year 12 which is used to calculate their final ATAR.
WASSA	The Western Australian Statement of Student Achievement is issued to all Year 12 students who complete any study that contributes towards a WACE. It lists all courses and programs students have completed in Year 11 and 12.
ATAR	The Australian Tertiary Administration Rank is a number between 0.00 and 99.95 which is based on a student's overall academic achievement. It shows their position relative to all other students in their year of study. For example, if a student receives an ATAR of 88.50 they know that they are in the top 11.5% of students in their year of study in WA. ATAR is used for tertiary entrance.
SCSA	The School Curriculum and Standards Authority is responsible for Kindergarten to Year 12 curriculum, assessment, standards and reporting for all Western Australian Schools.
TAFE Colleges	Technical and Further Education colleges or institutions provide a wide range of vocational tertiary education courses.
Tertiary Institutions	In WA these include The University of Western Australia, Murdoch University, Curtin University, Edith Cowan University, and The University of Notre Dame. Students may also enrol in interstate tertiary institutions.

Student Responsibilities

Student Responsibilities

Enrolment in senior schooling carries certain obligations regarding behaviour, attendance, dress, attitude and effort. Your pathway advisor will outline the Ellenbrook Christian College Good Standing Policy.

Changing Courses

Course changes are discouraged. Changing courses after the year has begun will reduce your chances of success, as there is usually a prescribed body of content and assessment tasks that you will need to catch up on.

Course changes need to be discussed with parents and will only be considered after appropriate documentation has been submitted to the Dean of Senior Studies. Changes will only be permitted for sound educational or wellbeing reasons and only if space is available in the destination course. Course changes may result in an increase in course fees.

Throughout Year 11, your achievement data will be reviewed to determine whether WACE requirements will be met and in some cases students will be interviewed by the Dean of Senior Studies or a delegate.

Attendance Commitment

Your attendance and participation in class is the key to achieving success. Studies show that students who attend school regularly are more likely to succeed at school. Aim for 100% attendance. If you know you are going to be absent, see your teachers and your Pastoral Care teacher before your absence to collect work to ensure that you keep up with your studies. You may need to provide the college with a medical certificate if you are away for an assessment.

Homework/Study Commitment

All senior school pathways and courses require the completion of homework and out of school studies. It is recommended that students in WACE and ATAR courses are prepared to dedicate outside of their classes to further study. Homework does not only consist of work given to you by the teacher, but includes a self-directed component. This may be organising your notes, revision, research and exam study.

Assessment Policy

Ellenbrook Christian College is bound by the requirements of the formal courses relating to curriculum and assessment.

In some cases, external course requirements will not provide for late submissions. In this case a student may not be able to complete the unit if work is not submitted on time.

Please refer to the Senior Secondary Assessment Policy for further information.

How we Help

Transitioning into senior studies at school can be a confusing and challenging time for students and often students feel pressure to make important decisions that will impact the direction that their life will take.

At Ellenbrook Christian College we have designed our Pastoral Care program to explore the many different career pathways that are available after high school; our past students are invited back to the College to present to our year 10's about the choices they have made and the experiences they have had to give our students a real life example of what opportunities await at the end of year 12. Year 10 students learn about resume writing, presentation skills and interview techniques. Our parent liaisons are invited to the school to interview our students in a mock job interview scenario.

We also explore opportunities to invite guest presenters from a variety of different careers to showcase the range of real-life jobs that are available to our students when they enter the workforce.

The Careers expo is always a highlight for year 10 students, held at the Perth Convention Centre, students get to explore the exhibits that are set up and ask real industry workers questions about their particular field. We encourage our parents to also attend this event to help facilitate the conversations that they may have with their child and the choices they make about their pathway moving forward.

Learning Support

Appropriate opportunities will be provided for students who require learning support to allow them to demonstrate their achievement of course objectives; however, all students will be assessed according to their ability to meet course criteria. It is vital that the College is made aware of any special needs that students have so that we can ensure that each student is able to reach their academic potential.

Special consideration will be given to students who have a long-term illness or prolonged absences due to illness or disability. According to each circumstance, special arrangements in regards to assessments can be made with subject teachers through the Learning Support Coordinator, Mrs Danielle Grisham.

Where it is appropriate, extra time or the use of computers during internal assessments may be granted to students who have medical or psychometric needs. Testing must indicate that they fit the criteria of the SCSA for special consideration in external exams and tasks.

Choosing Your Courses

1. **LOOK AT THE REQUIREMENTS** to achieve a WACE and ensure your subject selection meets them. An outline of these requirements can be found on page 11 of this handbook.
2. **CONSIDER YOUR INTERESTS:** Choose courses which you are passionate about and will be motivated to study for the next two years.
3. **CONSIDER YOUR FUTURE GOALS:** Spend some time looking at which pathway you would like to take after graduating from Ellenbrook Christian College, whether this will be tertiary education, training or employment. As you do this, think about your career aspirations, which will guide your subject selection process.
4. **CONSIDER YOUR ABILITIES:** When choosing the type or level of course, ensure you challenge yourself while setting realistic goals. Consider your current achievements in particular subject areas as this will indicate your potential to achieve in Year 11 and 12 courses.
5. **ENSURE THAT YOU MEET THE REQUIREMENTS:** Ensure you meet the requirements for entry into a university or TAFE, as entry into their courses is often very competitive. They each have very specific and differing requirements. Also, find out about any course-specific prerequisites.
6. **ASK:** If you need advice, don't be afraid to ask teachers or contact the university or TAFE to find out more detail on course entry requirements. Contact Mrs Michelle Schouten, Dean of Senior Studies, or Mr Andrew Johnston, Head of Secondary.
7. **CHOOSE YOUR SUBJECTS:** visit the Ellenbrook Christian College website via the link below and choose the subjects that you would like to study in Year 11 and Year 12.

ellenbrook.wa.edu.au/learning/secondary-school/year-11-subject-guide-2022/

WACE Requirements

To achieve a WACE you will be required to meet:

A) Literacy and Numeracy Requirements

- Demonstrate a minimum standard of literacy and a minimum standard of numeracy (demonstrated through Band 8 NAPLAN achievement in Year 9 or successful completion of OLNA).

B) Breadth and Depth Requirements

- Complete a minimum of 20 units (ATAR and/or General Courses) or equivalent during Year 11 and Year 12, as described below (each unit is a semester's work).
- A minimum of 10, Year 12 units or the equivalent (five year-long courses in Year 12).
- Two completed Year 11 English units (one year-long course) and one pair of completed Year 12 English units (one year-long course).
- One pair of Year 12 course units from each of List A (arts / languages / social sciences) and List B (mathematics / science / technology).

C) Achievement Standard Requirements

- Students will be required to achieve 14 'C' grades or better (or equivalent, see below) in Year 11 and Year 12 units, including at least six 'C' grades or better in Year 12 units (or equivalent).

D) Complete Required Courses

- Complete four or more Year 12 ATAR courses or complete a single Certificate II or higher in VET.

Types of Courses

There are four types of courses offered at Ellenbrook Christian College:

1. ATAR course units for students who are aiming to enrol in a university course directly from school. These courses will be examined by the Authority and contribute to the achievement of an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR). Most ATAR courses will require a minimum of three hours of home study each week.
2. General course units for students who are aiming to enter further training or the workforce directly from school. These courses will not be examined by the Authority. However, they do require completion of an Externally Set Task (EST), set by the authority and completed by all students studying that course in the state.
3. Foundation course units for those who need additional help in demonstrating the minimum standard of literacy and numeracy.
4. Vocational Education and Training (VET) courses for students participating in nationally recognised training, to meet standards as set by the Australian Authority, through a Registered Training Organisation. These are programs for students aiming to enter the workforce directly from school. We offer some courses through a partnership with the Swan Trade Training Centre (STTC). All VET programs require students to complete a work experience component.

ATAR Requirements

A student's ATAR is derived from the TEA, which is the sum of the best 4 final scores in ATAR courses. The final score in an ATAR course is a 50:50 combination of the Year 12 school mark and the ATAR exam. To arrive at the final combined mark for a course several statistical processes (moderation, standardisation, scaling) are applied.

To read more about how your ATAR and TEA will be calculated visit: <http://www.tisc.edu.au/static-fixed/statistics/ter-frequency/atar-technical-specification.pdf> .

More information about the ATAR is available at <http://www.tisc.edu.au/static/guide/atar-about.tisc?cid=12862>.

Students must be enrolled in at least four ATAR courses to be eligible to receive an ATAR. The rank is used by universities as a selection mechanism and directly reports a student's position relative to other students. It allows students to be accurately compared year by year and also allows WA students to be directly compared with results of students in other states.

What Is **Your Pathway?**

University

Students who choose the direct entry into university pathway typically study ATAR units over their senior secondary years with five ATAR level unit pairs in Year 12.

Requirements for Tertiary Entrance are:

- An Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) that is sufficiently high to gain a place in the particular institution, faculty or course. The rank required varies from year to year and depends on places available in the selected course at a university and the standard of the applicants.
- Competence in English as designated by the university concerned – a scaled mark of at least 50 in ATAR English, English Literature, or English as an Additional Language.
- The Western Australian Certificate of Education.
- The prerequisites designated for a particular university course (which will be outlined on the TISC website) – expected to be a scaled mark of at least 50 in the specified ATAR course.

The Tertiary Institutions Service Centre (TISC) provides a website with all these details, and this should be available at the end of Term 2. Their definitive statement on university admission can also be downloaded from their website <http://www.tisc.edu.au>.

Visit the University Websites to See Tertiary Course Prerequisites

[Curtin University of Technology](#)

[Edith Cowan University](#)

[Murdoch University](#)

[Sheridan College](#)

[University of Notre Dame Australia](#)

[University of Western Australia](#)

[Other States & Institutions](#)

State Training Provider

Students who wish to undertake further education and training through a state training provider or entrance into the workforce after graduating, typically study General units or a combination of General and ATAR courses in Years 11 and 12.

Achieving a WACE through VET

The maximum unit equivalence available is eight units; four Year 11 units and four Year 12 units. The amount of unit equivalence allocated to VET is as follows:

Certificate I - equivalent to two Year 11 units (2 'C's),

Certificate II - equivalent to two Year 11 and two Year 12 units (4 'C's),

Certificate III - equivalent to two Year 11 and four Year 12 units (6 'C's).

Progress towards completion of a VET certificate is reported as 'limited' or 'satisfactory'; there is no unit equivalence for these courses towards WACE for semester work unless the VET course is successfully completed at the end of Year 12. If you do not complete the course requirements to achieve an ATAR you will need to achieve a minimum of a Cert II qualification (as well as meeting the equivalent unit requirements through your other courses) to receive your WACE. For more visit www.scsa.wa.edu.au.

External VET and Work Place Learning

External VET

Students may opt to study an alternative VET course from a private VET training provider or TAFE WA, where applicable these can be studied during our Friday program or online throughout the week. Past examples include Animal Studies, Automotive and Nursing Preparation courses. These courses could have the fee fully paid for by the College or parents might be liable for the shortfall for the more costly courses. Further information can be found from Mrs Michelle Schouten or Mr Andrew Johnston.

Work Place Learning (Endorsed Program)

Students wishing to gain formal work experience can arrange to take Work Place Learning through our partnership organisation Work Link. Students can complete work experience during the Friday program, or during holidays. This may enable students to have private study in their timetable in Year 11. Further information can be found from Mrs Michelle Schouten.

Endorsed Programs

Students may be entitled to WACE unit equivalence for programs endorsed by the SCSA board. Examples include Duke of Edinburgh, Australian Business Week, Surf Life Saving, etc.

Endorsed programs can be found here: <https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/syllabus-and-support-materials/endorsed-programs/authority-developed-endorsed-programs>

Alternative Entry Pathways

There are a number of ways to gain entry into a university without an ATAR score. If you would like to consider these options be sure to access the information on the university websites. This information was correct at time of publication but is subject to change.

Edith Cowan University

- Portfolio entry to gain direct entry to a university course
- Completion of a Cert IV or above at a TAFE, or equivalent at a business college
- A University Preparation Course (UPC) is a very common way for non ATAR students to bridge the gap between school and university. On completion of the UPC students are eligible to be considered for entry to most undergraduate courses.

Murdoch University

- Students can apply for advanced standing if they have recently completed a TAFE Cert IV, Advanced Certificate, Diploma or Advanced Diploma with good grades
- Entry Awards- guaranteed entry for selected students
- Portfolio Entry
- On Track Sprint - a free 4 week course for students with an ATAR between 60.00 and 69.95
- On Track- a free 12 week program for students who have had major disruptions to their studies

The University of Notre Dame Australia

- Foundation Year Program- students whose academic ability is not shown by their current results or have experienced an educational disadvantage are selected for a one year preparation program
- Tertiary Enabling Program- students who did not meet current administration criteria are selected to do a one semester preparation program

Curtin University

- Portfolio entry is available for selected courses
- TAFE qualifications that satisfy Curtin's general matriculation requirements
- UniReady Enabling Programs- one semester program that is taken online
- The Faculties of Engineering and Science offer a one year enabling course for applicants who have limited educational opportunities
- For qualifying schools StepUp to Curtin Entry Pathway - for students who have an ATAR between 60.00 and 69.95

The University of Western Australia

- Broadway - eligible students from identified schools receive an automatic ATAR 'boost'. For example, students with an ATAR between 75 and 79.95 receive an adjusted selection rank of 80 to meet minimum entry requirements.



Ellenbrook
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tel : (08) 9297 9297 • fax : (08) 9297 9298

email : ellenbrook@scea.wa.edu.au

5 Santona Blvd, Ellenbrook

www.ellenbrook.wa.edu.au

facebook.com/ellenbrookcc

instagram.com/ellenbrookchristiancollege

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