

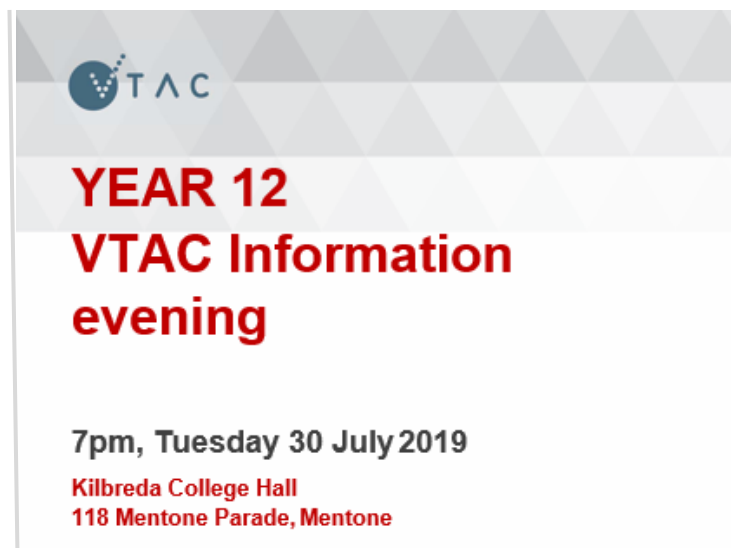


St Bede's College

25 June 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians of Years 12 students

In order to support students with their post Year 12 options, St Bede's College, in collaboration with Kilbreda College, is offering the following very important and informative evening to parents and students in Year 12.



The Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC) will be holding a special VTAC session for Kilbreda College and St Bede's College Year 12 students and their parents/carers. The session will cover information about applying to universities, TAFE institutes and independent tertiary colleges within Victoria; as well as information about the ATAR, how to list preferences, extra requirements, how to understand the ATAR profiles, special consideration (SEAS), scholarships, offers and more. The whole VTAC application process will be explained.

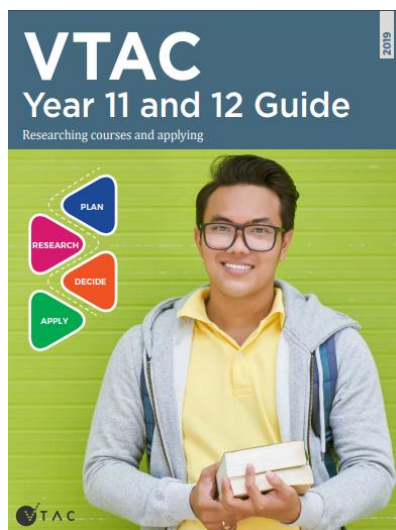
There are **MAJOR CHANGES** in the offer and change of preference system this year. It is vitally important that at ALL Year 12 students and their parents attend this information session on Tuesday, 30 July at Kilbreda College Hall.

VTAC (Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre) is the organisation responsible for the administration of the selection process for all university and TAFE courses on behalf of Victorian universities, TAFE institutes and private providers. There is only a handful of schools in Victoria who have VTAC staff presenting at their VTAC information night. We are very fortunate.

Very practical advice and assistance will be offered to students and parents to help guide them through the maze of the VTAC application process.

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Some students find the whole process of applying to VTAC and listing preferences particularly challenging, especially if they are also completing a SEAS application (see later in letter) and/or scholarship. Empowering parents with this knowledge will increase confidence in your son knowing you are there to assist him.



VTAC have produced an excellent resource for students and parents titled, [VTAC Year 11 and 12 Guide](#). It contains the following:

- Open Days
- Creating VTAC course applications
- Course research tool kit
- How to list your preferences
- How to use CourseSearch
- Eligibility and Prerequisites
- Tertiary costs
- How to list your preferences
- Applying for special consideration (SEAS)
- Scholarships
- Change of preference
- Offers and enrolment & Application dates

SEAS

If there have been circumstances that have made it hard for your son to do his best at study, it's worth him putting in an application for special consideration, via VTAC's Special Entry Access Scheme (SEAS). SEAS also allows institutions to identify applicants from under-represented groups when making selection decisions.

What is SEAS? The Special Entry Access Scheme (SEAS) is designed to make sure institutions get a sense of your son's full potential if they have experienced difficulty during their education. It enables institutions to consider these circumstances and their impact when ranking eligible applicants for a course before making offers. However, SEAS is not just about life's difficulties—there's a whole category that looks at under-represented demographics in courses. To apply for this category, you simply tick a box. SEAS does not change educational results or qualifications and, if you are granted special consideration, it does not guarantee an offer. If your son applies for SEAS, he will still need to meet the 'essential requirements' and 'admission criteria' for a course, including prerequisite studies.

How to apply for SEAS

SEAS is only available after a course application has been lodged. It is part of the VTAC application process. Applicants will be advised if they are required to submit any further evidence to support their application such as a supporting statement from a 'responsible person', for example, doctor, specialist, psychologist, physiotherapist, teacher etc.

Providing evidence

Most SEAS categories require applicants to provide evidence, for example:

- a written statement
- a statement of support from a 'responsible person' who has specific knowledge of your son's circumstances
- financial documentation

See page 42 of the VTAC Year 11 & 12 Guide for detailed information on providing evidence.

What is considered under SEAS?

There are four categories in SEAS. If applicable, students could apply for all the categories.

Category 1: Personal information and location. This category covers a range of under-represented groups, so institutions can ensure that their students come from a wide range of backgrounds. All of these details can be drawn from your son's course application so all he needs to do is to tick a box.

Category 2: Disadvantaged financial background. For applicants who have been prevented from reaching their educational potential because of financial disadvantage.

Category 3: Disability or medical condition. For applicants who have experienced educational disadvantage as a result of any learning, physical, sensory or psychiatric medical condition, illness or disability.

Category 4: Difficult circumstances. For applicants who have been prevented from reaching their educational potential due to difficult circumstances other than those described above, for example, problems at home, a death in the family or other life circumstances.

For more information go to: <http://www.vtac.edu.au/seas.html> SEAS applications open on Monday, 5 August.

Information about SEAS will also be included in the VTAC presentation on Tuesday, 30 July.

The [College Careers Webpage](#) is another excellent resource for Year 12 students and parents.

Please feel free to contact me to clarify anything in this letter. I look forward to seeing you on Tuesday, 30 July at Kilbreda College.

Kind regards



Angie Greaves

Careers & Pathways Coordinator