

Commencement of study of Preliminary Courses

ACE 8001

Last Updated: 29 March 2019

NESA has determined that the study of Preliminary courses must not commence before Day 1, Term 1 of Year 11.

Compressed curriculum HSC delivery model

ACE 8050

Last Updated: 13 July 2017

What is a compressed curriculum delivery model?

A compressed curriculum delivery model allows completion of Stage 6 Preliminary and HSC courses including the HSC examination(s) in approximately one calendar year instead of two years.

Early commencement

Compressed curriculum delivery may start before Day 1 Term 1 of Year 11 provided that approval from the NESA has been granted and the following criteria are met:

- The delivery model does not give students any time advantage for the study of the courses
- Teaching of Preliminary courses does not commence before Week 6, Term 4 of Year 10.

Notifying NESA

Schools currently implementing a compressed curriculum delivery model are required to annually notify NESA through *Schools Online* by the end of Week 5, Term 3 that they intend to continue to do so the following year.

Schools intending to implement a compressed curriculum delivery model for the first time are required to apply to NESA through *Schools Online* by the end of Week 5, Term 3 of the year of early commencement.

Visit *Schools Online* > Administration Functions > School Settings to find the relevant section.

Meeting NESA requirements

Schools must follow NESA curriculum and assessment requirements, policies and procedures detailed in ACE when delivering a compressed curriculum model including, but not limited to, the following requirements.

Eligibility requirements for entry into Preliminary courses

Students must comply with eligibility requirements for entry into Preliminary courses including completion of Record of School Achievement requirements.

Indicative time

A unit of study comprises 60 hours indicative time in each of the Preliminary and HSC courses.

Submission of student data

Entries for Preliminary and HSC courses delivered via a compressed curriculum delivery model in the same calendar year must be undertaken in *Schools Online* concurrently. To confirm *Schools Online* deadlines for entry and course enrolment, please refer to the NESA Timetable of Actions for Secondary Schools available on the NESA website.

Preliminary grades and related non-completion 'N' determinations

Preliminary grades for students undertaking compressed curriculum delivery model must be submitted in the period detailed in the NESA Timetable of Actions for Secondary Schools.

Where it is considered necessary to issue an 'N' determination warning letter in relation to a Preliminary course, sufficient time should be given to the student to satisfactorily fulfil course requirements. A decision to issue an 'N' determination should also allow sufficient time for an in-school appeal process to take place.

If an 'N' determination is issued mid-year for a Preliminary course and the student wishes to appeal the decision, they should first

appeal to the school. If the student then wishes to appeal the school's decision, the principal should contact NESA as soon as possible. NESA will convene a panel to process the appeal. If an 'N' determination is issued mid-year and the student does not wish to appeal the school's decision, the corresponding HSC entry should be withdrawn through *Schools Online* and the Preliminary 'N' determination should be entered during online grade collection.

Principals may allow a student who has received an 'N' determination in a Preliminary course to proceed to the HSC course provisionally, while concurrently satisfying any outstanding Preliminary requirements.

HSC assessments and related non-completion 'N' determinations

HSC assessment marks and other HSC results data for students undertaking compressed curriculum delivery model must be submitted in the period detailed in the NESA Timetable of Actions for Secondary Schools.

For HSC assessment purposes, all students undertaking the same HSC course in the same year must be assessed and their assessment marks reported as a single group.

Where it is considered necessary to issue an 'N' determination warning letter and/or an 'N' determination in relation to a HSC course, the process as outlined in the NESA Timetable of Actions for Secondary Schools is to be followed.

Study of Preliminary and HSC courses

ACE 8063

Last Updated: 1 April 2019

Satisfactory completion of the Preliminary course or its equivalent is a prerequisite for entry into an HSC course. (Exception: HSC Mathematics Extension 1)

For HSC examining purposes, **the Preliminary course** is regarded as assumed knowledge that has been covered by all candidates. Examination specifications ensure that the major focus of the examination will be on HSC course content.

The HSC course is defined in terms of course content (ie knowledge, skills and understanding outcomes) achievable following completion of the Preliminary course or its equivalent.

Commencement of study of prescribed texts

The study of prescribed texts (in any medium) for the Higher School Certificate must not commence until the relevant Preliminary course has been completed. 'Study' of texts or other set works does not apply to attending performances during the Preliminary course study of plays prescribed as HSC texts, nor to taking part in the production of them.

Commencement of HSC projects

Some HSC courses have a project as part of the HSC examination. Work on the following HSC projects must not commence until the relevant Preliminary course has been completed:

- Dance Core Performance, Composition, Appreciation or Major Studies – Performance, Composition, Appreciation, Dance and Technology;
- Design and Technology Major Design Project
- Drama Group Performance or Individual Projects
- English Extension 2 Major Work
- Industrial Technology Major Project
- Music Performances, Core and Elective Compositions, Elective Musicology essays or viva voces
- Society and Culture Personal Interest Project
- Textiles and Design Major Textiles Project
- Visual Arts Body of Work.

School-based assessment of courses for the HSC

For school-based assessment requirements, refer to the course *Assessment and Reporting* document located on the syllabus webpage.