



## Mathematics Pathways Policy



### HELP FOR NON-ENGLISH SPEAKERS

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Nossal High School on 03 8762 4600 or [nossal.hs@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:nossal.hs@education.vic.gov.au)

### PURPOSE

To ensure that students select the most appropriate Mathematics subjects to suit their individual needs and pathways.

To prevent undue stress on students who may not be adequately prepared for acceleration in Mathematics.

To ensure that students can study the necessary Mathematics subjects for their individual needs and pathways while maintaining a breadth of other studies.

### SCOPE

This policy applies to all staff and students at Nossal High School.

### POLICY

Whilst Mathematics is not currently a compulsory subject at VCE level, some form of VCE Mathematics is often required as a prerequisite for tertiary courses. Nossal High School aims to provide students with the opportunity to study or accelerate in Mathematics, where appropriate, whilst maintaining breadth across other studies.

#### Acceleration:

Maths Methods Units 1 and 2 is the only subject available for acceleration in Year 10; all other students must study Year 10 Mathematics.

Students electing to accelerate from Intermediate (Year 9) Maths to Maths Methods Units 1 and 2 in Year 10, must be working at an outstanding level for 9 Advanced materials and receive a teacher recommendation.

Students electing to accelerate from Year 10 Mathematics to General Maths Units 3 and 4 in Year 11 are recommended to have received a Very Good rating in reports for Knowledge, Skills and Study habits within the Year 10 Mathematics course and must receive a teacher recommendation. All other acceleration guidelines still apply.

In accordance with VCAA rules, students studying Specialist Mathematics Units 3 and 4 must also complete Maths Methods Units 3 and 4; this can either be done concurrently or in the previous year.

In accordance with VCAA rules, students studying Algorithmics (HES) must also complete Maths Methods Units 1 and 2; this can either be done concurrently or in the previous year.

If a student does not want to study any VCE Mathematics, then it is highly recommended that they discuss their pathway choices with the Careers Advisor to ensure they are not limiting their tertiary options.

## Implementation:

In the Course Selection process, the following guidelines apply:

All Year 9 students must study a full year of Intermediate Mathematics.

All Year 10 students must study a full year of either Year 10 Mathematics or Maths Methods Units 1 and 2.

Year 11 students may study one, but no more than two, full year Mathematics subjects.

Year 12 students may study one, but no more than two, full year Mathematics subjects.

While VCE Algorithmics does contain mathematical content, it does not officially fit within the Mathematics Domain and will not count towards the number of Mathematics subjects studied in any given year. Therefore, students may choose to undertake Algorithmics as well as two Mathematics studies within the one year.

## RESPONSIBILITIES

### Compliance and monitoring

The Director of VCE and Pathways and Course Confirmation Coordinator will communicate the Mathematics Pathways Policy with all staff at the beginning of the course confirmation process which occurs in the middle of the year.

It is the responsibility of VCE staff to maintain accurate records of assessment to guide and assist in the course counselling process for students.

## COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Available publicly on the Nossal High School website
- Included in Course Confirmation processes and/or sections will be included in the Senior Subject Handbook
- Policies Channel of Staff of Nossal HS on MS Teams

## FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- This policy should be read in conjunction with the following resources:
- VCAA
- Curriculum Framework Policy
- Acceleration Guidelines

## POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	May 2024
Consultation	Maths Domain Curriculum Committee Course Confirmation
Endorsed by	Acting Principal - Tracey Mackin
Next review date	May 2027