

What's Happening

Years 9 to 10

Preparing today's students for *tomorrow*

It might seem unrealistic now, but in the not-too-distant future positions like this will be a reality. Victorian schools are partnering with parents to ensure every child is prepared for the jobs of the future.

The *What's Happening* series helps you to learn more about how it's being done.

In years 9 to 10, your child will begin to focus more clearly on areas of particular interest to them. They may have thoughts about what they want to do after they finish school. This often involves testing ideas and getting a taste of the world outside the classroom.

Your child may be encouraged to set personal learning goals during this stage of school, recognising the different pathways in Year 11 and 12 and beyond school. Your child will still be challenged to achieve their full potential, applying all their knowledge and understanding to new and different circumstances. These years are also about balancing school, home, part-time work, sport and/or community activities, friendships and future plans.

In the classroom

Your child will be offered a broad range of curriculum areas based on the eight learning areas, these being English, maths, science, health and physical education, languages, humanities including history, geography, civics and citizenship, and economics and business, the Arts, technologies including design technologies and digital technologies. They will also be extended within the general capabilities included in the curriculum, these being critical and creative thinking, ethical and intercultural understandings, and personal and social capabilities.

Depending on how your school is organised your child may have the opportunity to select different elective subjects. This enables young people to begin to specialise in areas of interest, whilst still be offered a well-rounded learning program and keeping options open for the future. In year 10, students may have the option of undertaking Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) units or commencing a Vocational Education and Training (VET) program. Others may decide to wait and start their VCE, VET or Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) studies in Year 11.



Wanted: 3D Holograph Designer

Students at this stage

- explore more complex ideas, themes and issues to extend their knowledge and skills
- gather information from a broad range of sources and make informed decisions about how to apply this information to reach the specified end
- take more responsibility for their learning while completing longer tasks based around an area of interest
- work collaboratively to both develop and extend understanding of content and skills

What you can do

- discuss the future with your child and support them in exploring the options for the future
- ask your child how they think they are coping with the amount of school work and the level of challenge in the tasks being set
- ask your school to show you what they are covering in class this semester or term. This will give you a good overview of what your child will be learning
- talk to your child about the topics, themes and areas they are currently being taught.

It is important to remember that each child is different; some may find parts of their learning program more challenging than others.

Speak with your school if you have any questions about what your child is learning and how they are progressing.

To see how your child is being prepared for their future, visit education.vic.gov.au/futureready