Welcome to the Year 12 OP and Alternative Pathways Information session

FAIRHOLME COLLEGE
JANUARY 2018
Topics to be Addressed

- Assessment in Senior School
- Queensland Core Skills Test Preparation
- Tertiary Entrance
- Senior Certificate
- Overall Position (SAIs and FPs)
- Career Pathways
Where are you headed?

1. QCE (Qld) Certificate of Education
   &
   a) OP score - awarded to students with 20+ semesters of Authority subjects & who sit QCS
   or
   b) Non OP (Selection Rank) - awarded to students with less than 20 semesters of Authority subjects“:
**Formative assessment**

- is used for school grades
- does **not** count toward exit grade on Senior statement
- is used for skill development and practice

**Summative assessment**

- is used for school grades
- is used in calculating the exit grade on Senior statement
- used to demonstrate skill level

*most (if not all) of Year 11*
All summative work (and sometimes formative) is collected and put into a folder called a ‘folio’. They prove what standard of work or skill the student can produce.
Teachers from different schools (who have experience in their subjects) verify the standard of student’s work.

Student’s Exit Level of Achievements are provisionally identified and confirmed (or adjusted) at the end of Term 4.
What is the QCS Test?

The only common statewide test undertaken by Year 12 students in Queensland

It is an achievement test that is grounded in the 49 Common Curriculum Elements (CCEs) embedded in QSA subjects

Four test papers over two days
  Written Task Paper
  Multiple Choice Paper I
  Short Response Paper
  Multiple Choice Paper II

In 2018 these will be held on –
Tuesday 4 September
Wednesday 5 September
What is The Purpose of the Q.C.S. Test?

For OP eligible students:

To generate fair OP scores by:

- comparing groups of students in different subjects at the one school AND
- comparing students in different schools across the state.
- Your individual QCS does not count towards your OP but does contribute to the outcome of your cohort.

For Non OP students:

- It, along with your Grades, directly contributes to your Selection Rank score
Students who are eligible for an OP must sit for the QCS Test. These are students who are studying a minimum of five (5) Queensland Studies Authority subjects.

The College cannot stop an eligible student from sitting the QCS Test.

Students otherwise eligible for an OP who are absent from the QCS Test without valid reasons and documented evidence will not be assigned an OP.

Students who are not OP eligible may also sit the QCS test. They do not receive an OP instead they are given an ‘OP Ineligible Rank’. Sitting for this test is most likely to improve their rank and will in no way be detrimental to it. Thus sitting the QCS is a good way to improve their access to Tertiary courses.

The QCS test results for OP eligible and OP ineligible students are calculated as 2 separate groups.
Quality formal, individual, written feedback from –
Bourke, Curnow, and Mighty Minds - accredited QCS Test markers
Fairholme QCS Team
Publications including –
“Pathways to Success” and “Essential Common Curriculum Elements”
♦ QCS Practice samples
OPs
What are they and...
How are they determined?
What is an OP?

OP stands for Overall Position. The highest OP is 1, the lowest is 25. The OP is a sorting mechanism used by the Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC), which is owned and commercially operated by the Universities of Queensland, to allocate students to courses in Universities and in some cases, TAFE Colleges across Queensland and inter-state.
To gain an OP:

- a student must study a certain number of Authority subjects and satisfy other requirements;

- 20 semester units - each completed semester of a subject = one unit;

- Queensland Core Skills Test (QCS Test).
Two Parallel systems for entry to further education

- **OP**
  - 1
  - 5
  - 12
  - 20
  - 25

  **Awarded to students with 20+ semesters of Authority subjects**

- **Non OP**
  - 99
  - 95
  - 75
  - 59
  - 50

  **Maximum rank achievable by non OP students**

  **Awarded to students with <20 semesters of Authority subjects**
An OP is determined by

1. how you achieve relative to others in each of your subjects
2. how the OP eligible students in your subject do in QCS
3. how all the OP eligible students in the cohort do in QCS
Levels of Achievement – leads to ‘expectations

HOWEVER

QCS group results and SAIs gives reality!
The OP indicates how well the student has done in comparison to all other OP-eligible students in Queensland. In order to achieve an OP1, a student's achievement must be in the top 2% of OP-eligible students in Queensland.

**Approximate distribution of students across OP bands**
- Band 1 - about 2% of students
- Bands 2 to 6 - about 19% of students
- Bands 7 to 21 - about 73% of students
- Bands 22 to 24 - about 5% of students
- Band 25 - about 1% of students
Does the College provide an OP range guide?
At the completion of Year 12 students will receive the following:

**QCE (Old Certificate of Education)**

**Senior Statement** showing

- Subject results  VHA - VLA
- QCS Test result  A – E
- VET competencies and whether they have gained Certificates, I, II or III

**Tertiary Entrance Statement** showing

- Overall Position OP
- and Field Position FP
Mrs. Laura Anderson
Learning Pathways

Career options & counselling
Vocational pathways
Tertiary institutions

Book an interview if needed
THANK YOU!

from
Fairholme College