

University Entrance and Calculation of the TEA and ATAR

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Churchlands Senior High School

27 February, 2018



You must obtain the WACE first...

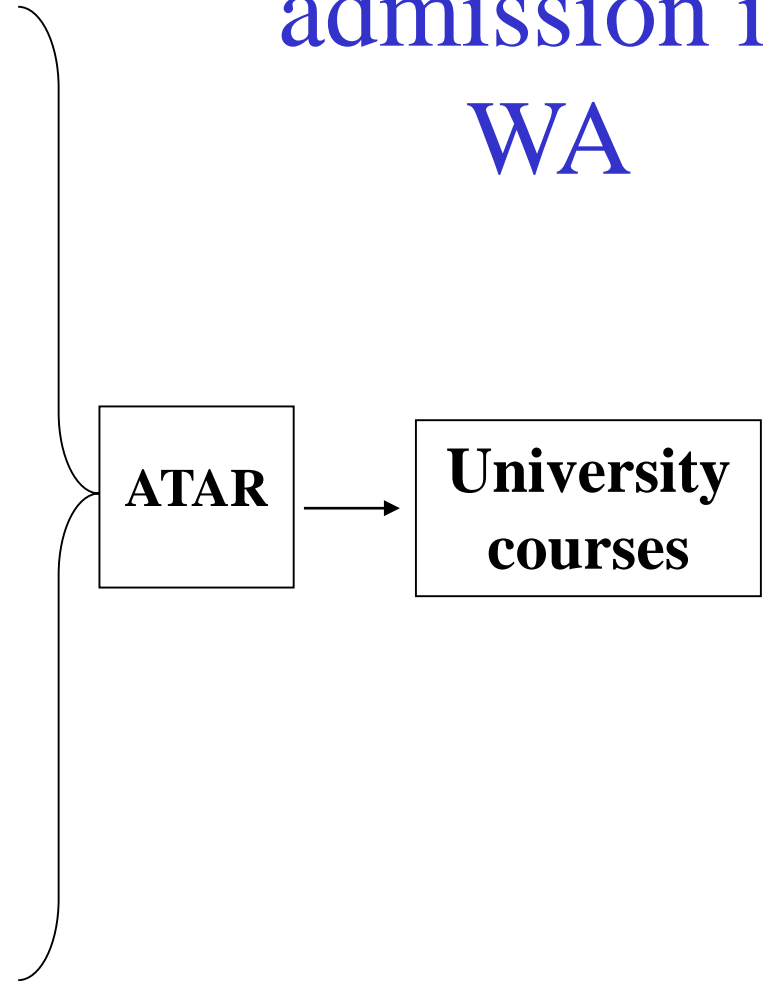
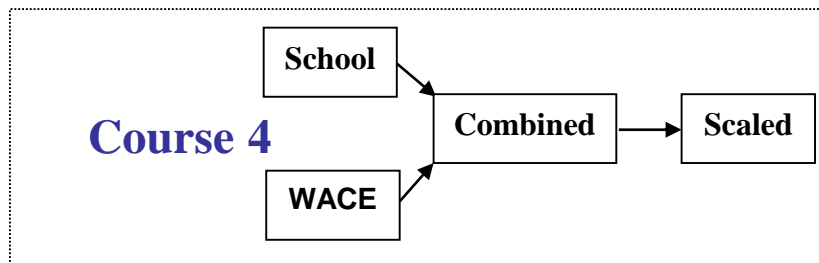
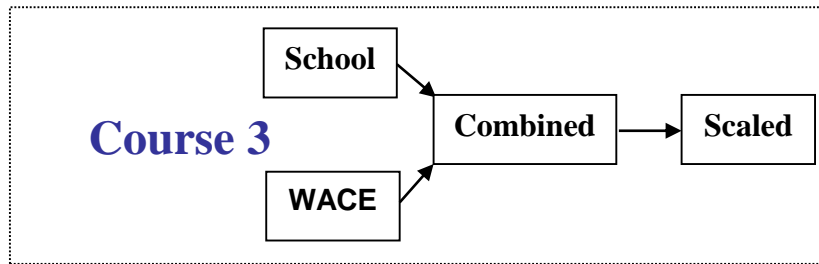
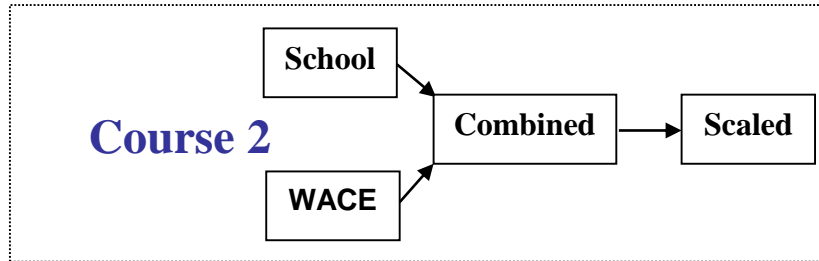
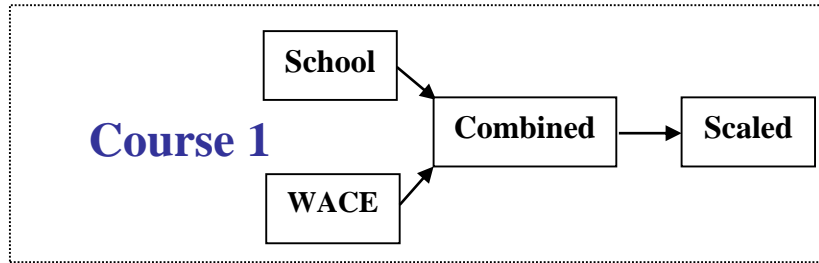
- Pathway direction (4 ATAR or Cert II +)
- Literacy & Numeracy (NAPLAN or OLNA)
- Breadth and depth (20+ units, List A&B)
- Achievement standard (14 x C+)
- WACE Examinations (Compulsory) – **new penalty** –
If not sit then whole subject won't count for anything!
(One didn't graduate in 2017 because of this)



YOUR MARKS

An outline of the processes used to make Year 12 results comparable so that the competition for university places is fair

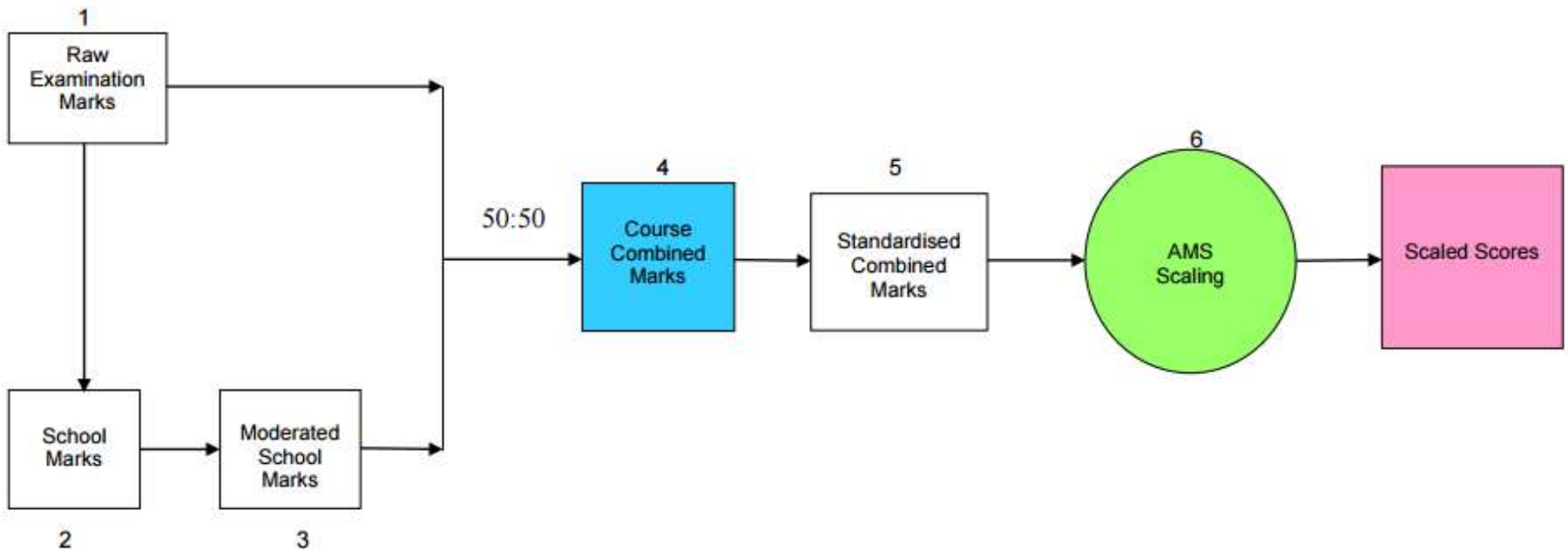
University admission in WA



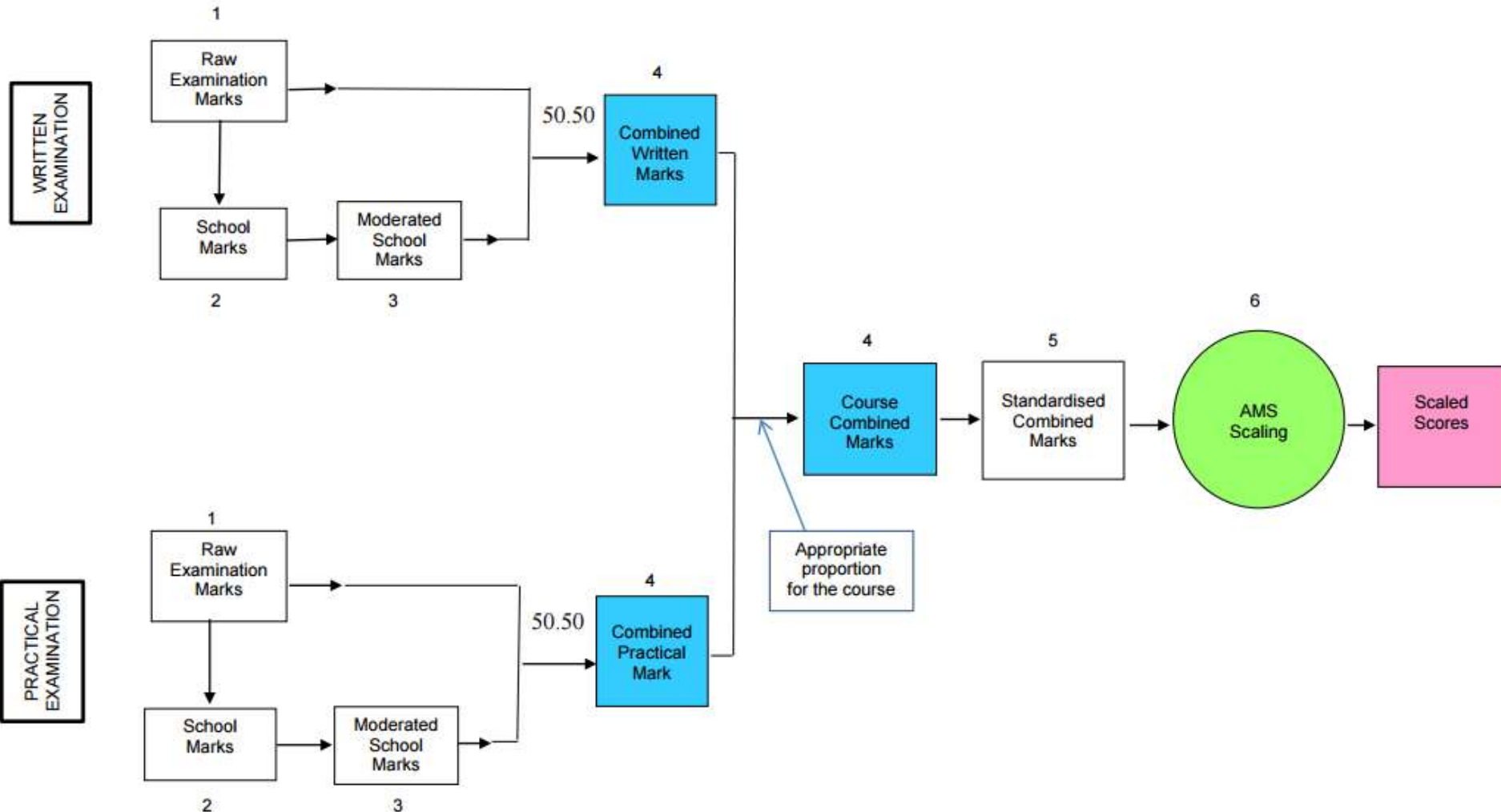
Marks adjustment process

- ❑ Because there are *differences in school marking*, school marks are adjusted to be on the same scale as the exam marks (*moderation*) – this evens out differences in school marking standards.
- ❑ Because there are *differences in exam difficulty* from year to year, combined marks are modified to a predefined distribution (*standardisation*) – marks distribution is fitted so that each subject has the same mean and standard deviation, Typically this has meant that the top mark is 100%, bottom is 0%, mean is 60% and standard deviation is 15%.
- ❑ Because there are *differences between subjects*, course combined marks are scaled (*average marks scaling*) - recognises that different courses have different levels of difficulty and this adjusts final marks accordingly.

Courses with Written Exams Only



Courses with Separate Written and Practical Exams



Why Scale?

- If marks were not scaled, students could be disadvantaged if they chose challenging courses.
- In principle, if other factors are ignored, a student of a given ability is expected to get the same Scaled Score whatever course he/she decides to take.
- A scaled score of 65 in Physics is the same as a 65 in English or a 65 in Dance.

What do students study?

Either

- Certificate courses – count for graduation (WACE) and may help for TAFE entry
 - Certificate II = 2xYear 11 units + 2xYear 12 units
- WACE Courses – made up of 2 units studied over year
 - either ATAR or General
 - need at least 4 ATAR courses for Uni
 - get a grade and a mark out of 100 (which will be the same for both units)

Applying for University

- The standard pathway is to apply through TISC for entry to UWA, Curtin, ECU and Murdoch.
- This pathway involves the calculation of an ATAR.
- There are alternative entry process for some Universities like the Portfolio Pathway at ECU.
- Notre Dame is a private University in Fremantle. Students must apply directly for entrance.

TISC Admission Requirements

1. Obtain the **WACE** (ie Secondary Graduation)
Anyone who did Year 11 overseas/interstate needs to get credit from SCSA – see me ASAP!
2. Competence in **English** (Scaled score of **50%** or more in English, EALD or Literature)
3. Get a high enough **ATAR** for the course wanted
4. Meet any course **prerequisites**
Scaled mark of at least 50% in certain ATAR courses.

Courses which count for University

Accounting & Finance

Biology

Chemistry

Chinese SL

Computer Science

Dance

Drama

Earth & Environmental Science

Economics

English

EALD

French SL

Geography

Health Studies

History Ancient

History Modern

Human Biology

Japanese SL

Literature

Maths Applications

Maths Methods

Maths Specialist

Media Production & Analysis

Music (Jazz)

Music (Western Art)

Philosophy and Ethics

Phys Ed Studies

Physics

Politics & Law

Psychology

Visual Arts

Unacceptable Course Combinations

The following course combinations are not acceptable in relation to the calculation of the ATAR. Both courses may be taken but the result in only one may be used to calculate an ATAR. (There are other unacceptable combinations but these are the main ones affecting Churchlands students)

- English and Literature
- English and EALD
- EALD and Literature
- Maths Applications and Maths Methods
- Maths Applications and Maths Specialist.

- All bonuses apply.

Exams

- School exams are part of the assessment program for all of the ATAR courses. Compulsory to sit!
- Students studying ATAR courses (even only 1 of them!!) must sit the external WACE exams as part of graduation. **If they do not sit and try for the WACE exam then they will get no recognition of the subject for any WACE requirement! 1 student failed to graduate last year because of this!**
- If students are studying 4 or more ATAR courses then the best 4 scaled scores will be used to calculate the ATAR for university entrance (along with 10% of Maths Methods, Maths Specialist or any Language course undertaken).

Be Careful of Scaling!

- The final mark you walk away from school with is affected by all the processes mentioned earlier: WACE exam performance, moderation, standardisation and scaling.
- The final mark can look quite different.
- Subjects can be scaled up or down but at Churchlands we are very often within + or – 5% of the marks we submit to SCSA.
- This is because at Churchlands we **standardize all our marks** based on historical performance. (Regular feedback)
- You can only try your very best at all that you do.

Firstly a TEA is calculated...

1. Identify your four best course scaled marks.
2. Add together these four marks.
3. Add 10% of any Language course done, Maths Methods and/or Maths Specialist.
4. This gives a possible total out of 430.
5. This total is called the Tertiary Entrance Aggregate (TEA).

Example 1 – Four ATAR Courses

Physics	67.6
Maths Applications	66.5
English	55.4
Human Biology	41.5

Four course total, no language or high-level Maths done: $67.6 + 66.5 + 55.4 + 41.5 = 231$

- Therefore TEA = 231
- NOTE: this produced an ATAR of 75.4 last year!

Example 2 – Five ATAR Courses

■ Maths Applications	83
■ Literature	54
■ French SL	80
■ Physics	77
■ Chemistry	75

Best four course total = $83 + 80 + 77 + 75 = 315$

Add 10% of the French mark +8 gives 323.

- Note the “English”, language or maths marks do not need to be in the top four.
- This produced an ATAR of 97.2 last year!

Example 3 – Various Bonuses!

■ Maths Methods	90
■ English	72
■ Maths Specialist	80
■ Japanese SL	70
■ Chemistry	81

Best four course total = $90+81+80+72 = 323$

- Now add 10% of Methods, Specialist and Japanese marks to total so TEA would become:

$$323 + 9 + 8 + 7 = 347$$

- Last year the ATAR would have been 98.85.
- NOTE: You can sit a language as a non-school Candidate!
Spoke to interested students last week – Forms on web...

Non-school Candidate

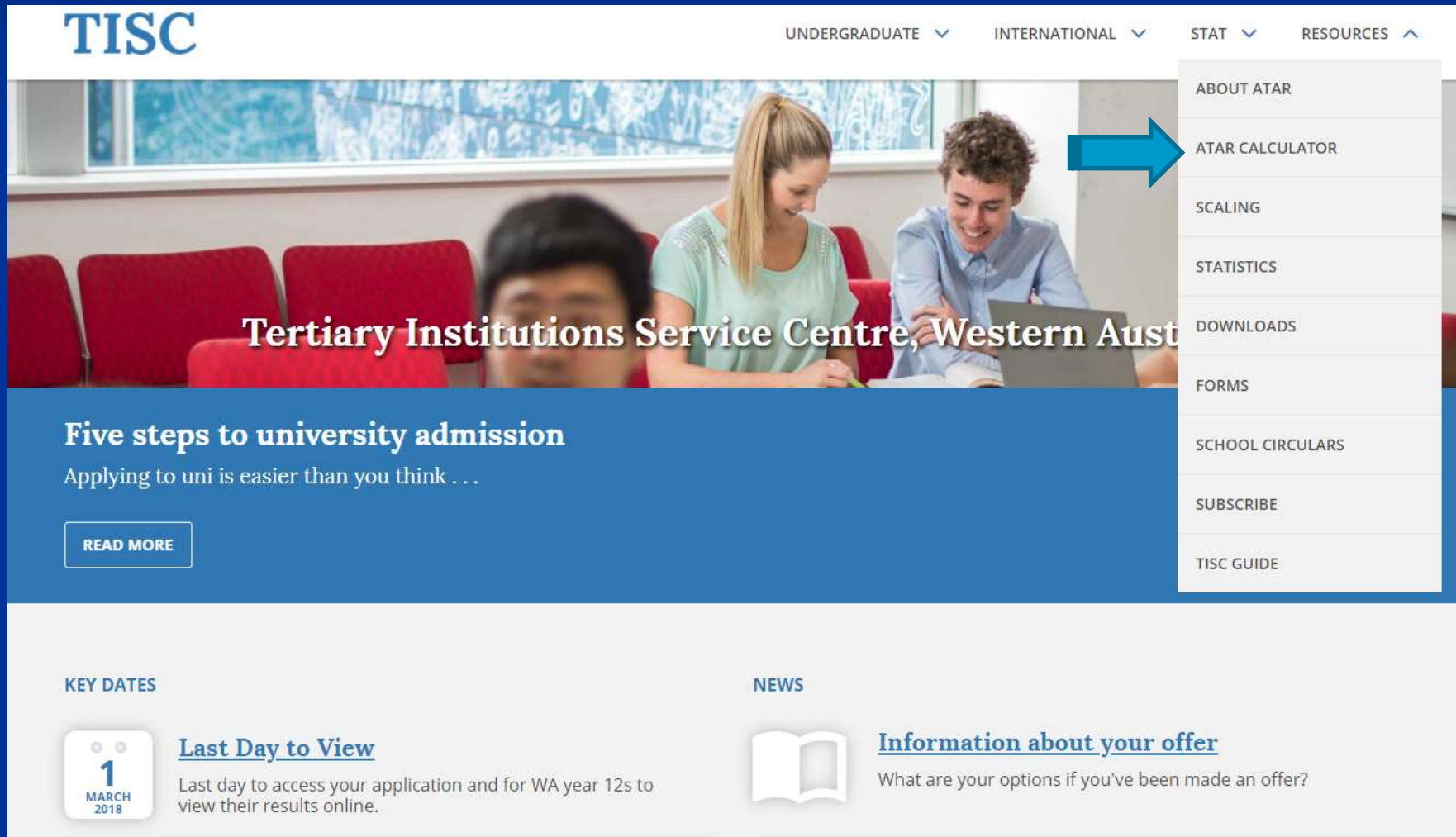
- Can enrol as a non-school candidate in a language, either from WA or “interstate”.
- Languages include: Spanish, Russian, Vietnamese, Hindi, Serbian, Dutch, Portuguese...
- Will only sit the “WACE” exam and get a mark. Won’t do marked work over the year or get a grade.
- Can view past exams on the internet for practice.
- Cost has gone up this year - \$57 if only a written exam, \$114 if also a practical exam.
- Applications due Thursday 5 April.

The TEA is used to form the ATAR

- The TEA for every student in the state is ranked from highest to lowest.
- The ATAR is assigned to show how each student ranks compared to all Year 12's in the state.
- An ATAR ranges between 99.95 and zero, and reports your rank position relative to all other students. It takes into account the number of students who sit the WACE exams in any year and also the number of people of Year 12 school leaving age in the total population.

- An ATAR of 95 means that you are ranked in the top 5% of the state. You are equal to or better than 95% of the state.
- It doesn't mean you have to average 95%!
- An ATAR of 86.6 (the median ATAR at Churchlands SHS last year) means you are ranked in the top 13.4% of the state and equal to or better than 86.6% of the state.
- It doesn't mean you have to average 86.6%!!

- TISC have published an approximate TEA to ATAR calculator on their website as a guide.
- www.tisc.edu.au



The screenshot shows the TISC website interface. At the top left is the TISC logo. To the right are navigation links: UNDERGRADUATE, INTERNATIONAL, STAT, and RESOURCES. A dropdown menu is open under RESOURCES, listing: ABOUT ATAR, ATAR CALCULATOR (highlighted with a blue arrow), SCALING, STATISTICS, DOWNLOADS, FORMS, SCHOOL CIRCULARS, SUBSCRIBE, and TISC GUIDE. Below the navigation is a banner image of students in a classroom with the text "Tertiary Institutions Service Centre, Western Aust". Below the banner is a blue box with the text "Five steps to university admission" and "Applying to uni is easier than you think . . ." with a "READ MORE" button. At the bottom, there are two sections: "KEY DATES" with a "1 MARCH 2018" icon and a link "Last Day to View" with the text "Last day to access your application and for WA year 12s to view their results online."; and "NEWS" with an open book icon and a link "Information about your offer" with the text "What are your options if you've been made an offer?"

How does course average affect ATAR??

- This can vary slightly from year to year. All these figures assume no “bonus” so ATAR could be higher if studying a language, methods or specialist.

Scaled Score Average	ATAR 2011	ATAR 2012	ATAR 2013	ATAR 2014	ATAR 2015	ATAR 2016	ATAR 2017
50	59.45	60.95	60.95	60.15	60.35	61.2	61.2
55	67.75	69.35	69	68.6	69.1	70.7	70.95
60	76.1	76.9	77	76.9	77.2	79.1	79
65	83.9	84.15	84.05	84.05	84.45	85.75	85.55
70	90.3	90	89.9	89.9	90.1	91.05	90.55
75	94.8	94.3	94.25	94.15	94.25	95.05	94.3
80	97.55	97.15	97.15	97.15	97	97.5	96.85

Effect of a 5% improvement

Course Average (Scaled Marks)	ATAR in 2016	Effect on ATAR		ATAR in 2017	Effect on ATAR
50	61.2	ATAR increases by 9.5		61.2	ATAR increases by 9.75
55	70.7			70.95	
75	95.05	ATAR increases by 2.45		94.3	ATAR increases by 2.55
80	97.5			96.85	

Cut-offs for University Courses

- All Universities set an eligibility benchmark ATAR
- This is the minimum ATAR to enter a course at that University. It does not necessarily allow entry to competitive courses.

For 2017 entry, the eligibility ATAR's were:

- Curtin 70 (higher for some courses)
- ECU 70 (higher for some courses)
- Murdoch 70 (higher for some courses)
- UWA 80 (higher for some courses like 98 for B. Philosophy)

Final Cut-offs

- The final cut-off ATAR depends on factors such as the number of places offered in the course and how many students apply for the course.
- In general, the cut-off is the ATAR achieved by the lowest ranked person accepted into the course.
- Previous year cut-offs should be used as a guide only, they are often similar but sometimes can be quite different as may be affected by external factors such as fee increases and the “half cohort”!

Cut offs can change! 2017 2018

- | | | |
|------------------------------|------|-------|
| ■ Exercise Sci Rehab ECU (J) | 80 | 78.45 |
| ■ Occupational Therapy CUR | 82.5 | 77.45 |
| ■ Physiotherapy CUR | 93.5 | 88.4 |
- UWA now has 80 for all courses but some very high e.g. “B. Philosophy Honours” listed 98 as cut off but was actually 98.2 (99.65 the previous year)! Variety of Direct Entry pathways too. Keep checking their website for early offers etc.

Alternative Entry

Each University makes some allowances.

For example Curtin have the **Uniready Enabling Program** and ECU have **Portfolio Entry**....

Curtin Uniready Enabling Program may help you qualify for some courses in Health Sciences, Humanities or the Curtin Business School.

It is an excellent option if you:

- Narrowly missed getting ATAR of 70
- Completed Year 12 but didn't take WACE exams
- Have completed vocational studies

Alternative Entry

ECU Portfolio Entry – **check website for updates!**

If you had a near-miss ATAR for chosen course

OR

If you don't have an ATAR and you:

- Completed WACE
- Met “English competency” C or better in ATAR English.
- Satisfied any pre-requisites

Will require a “portfolio” consisting of an intro letter, resume, academic records 2 written references and possible interview.

Further Information.....

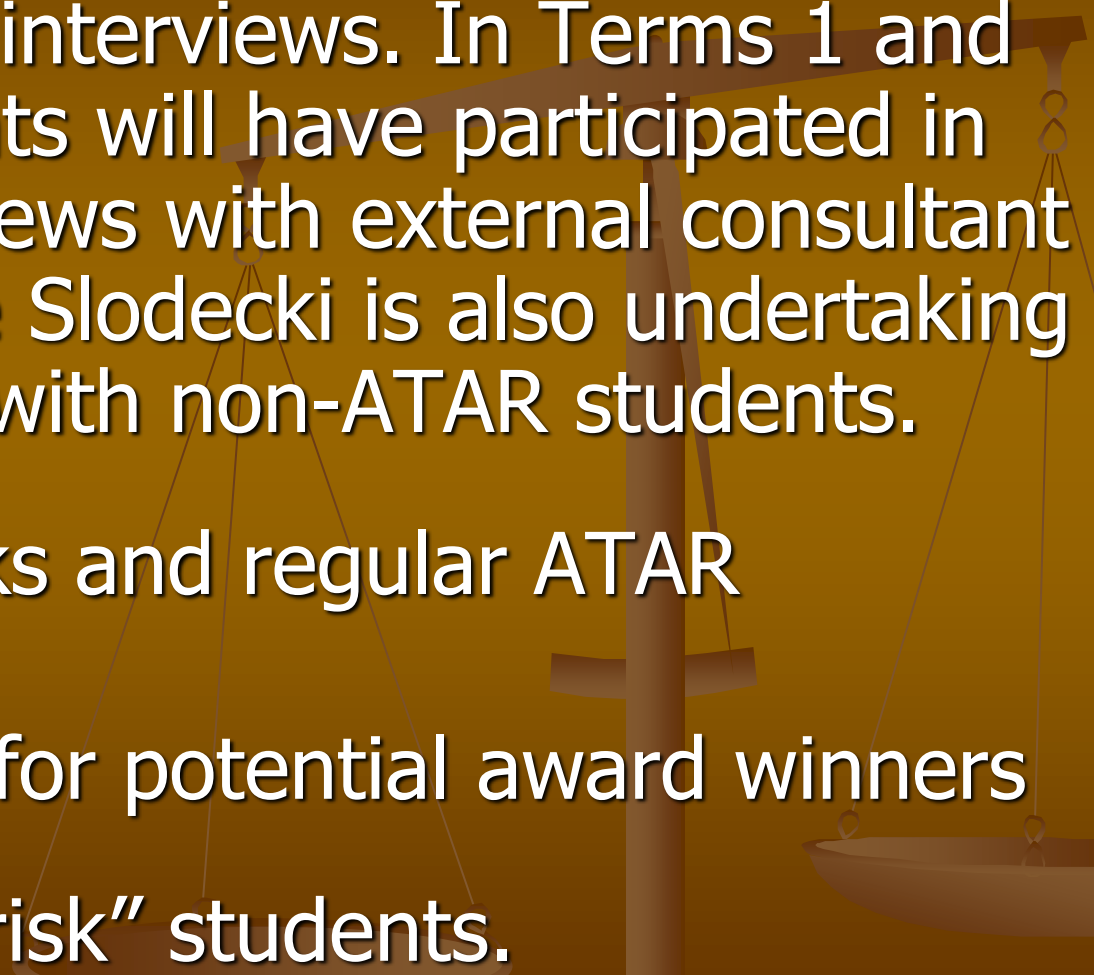
- Make yourself very familiar with the Tertiary Institutions Service Centre (TISC) website.
- www.tisc.edu.au
- (Remember this or just Google TISC!!!)
- Notre Dame University has different entry processes and have an early offer scheme. Check their website for further information.
- www.nd.edu.au/fremantle (or Google it !!!)

Interstate Universities

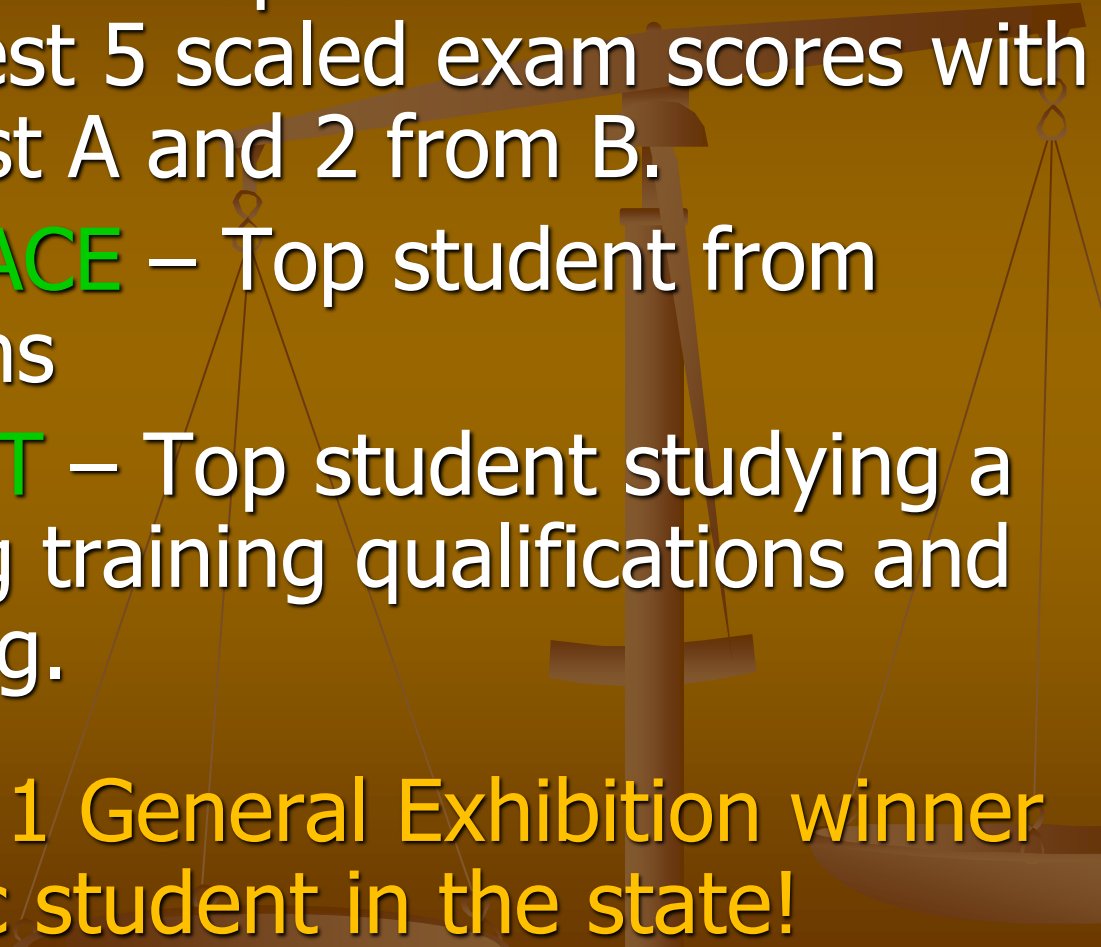
- Australia has nearly 40 universities, both public and private.
- WA students are welcome to apply to interstate universities too.
- The various university websites can be accessed via: www.universitiesaustralia.edu.au
- Each state has the equivalent of TISC which handle applications. NSW & ACT = UAC, SA and NT = SATAC, Qld = QTAC, Vic = VTAC

Some Points to consider...

- At the Presentation Ceremony there will be awards and prizes for the top student in each subject as well as awards acknowledging overall achievement.
- We offer subsidized revision programs in a number of WACE courses with Academic Task Force in the Term 3 vacation - 5 x 2 hour sessions. Unfortunately, due to budget cuts, can only subsidise 1 course per student.
- Students can access other programs with ATF or other companies such as WACE +, TEE Consultants or Mastermind. We often can provide discount.

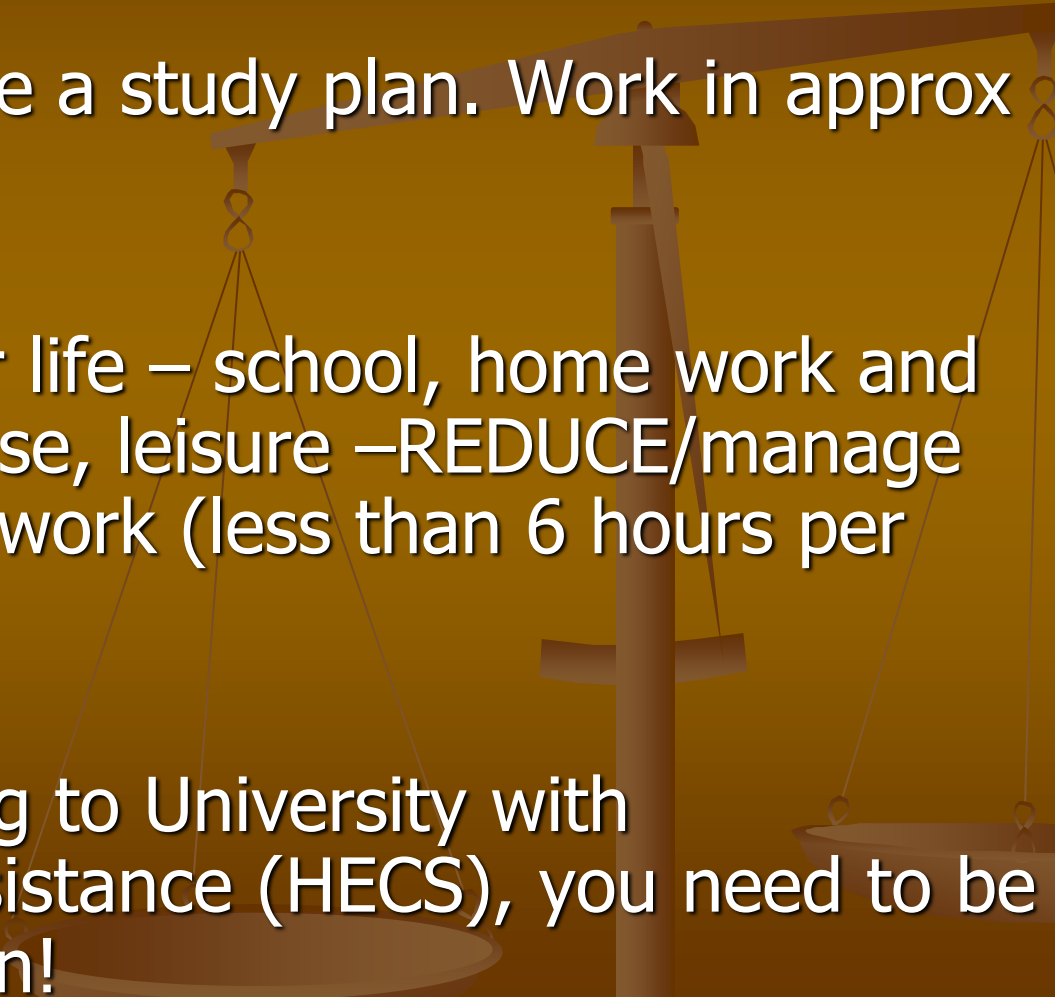
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- Breakfast Club for top students with predicted ATAR of 95 or above. (New students after S1)
 - Personal planning interviews. In Terms 1 and 3, all ATAR students will have participated in one on one interviews with external consultant Sally Topley. Clare Slodecki is also undertaking similar interviews with non-ATAR students.
 - Standardized marks and regular ATAR predictions.
 - Incentive lunches for potential award winners
 - Mentoring for “at risk” students.

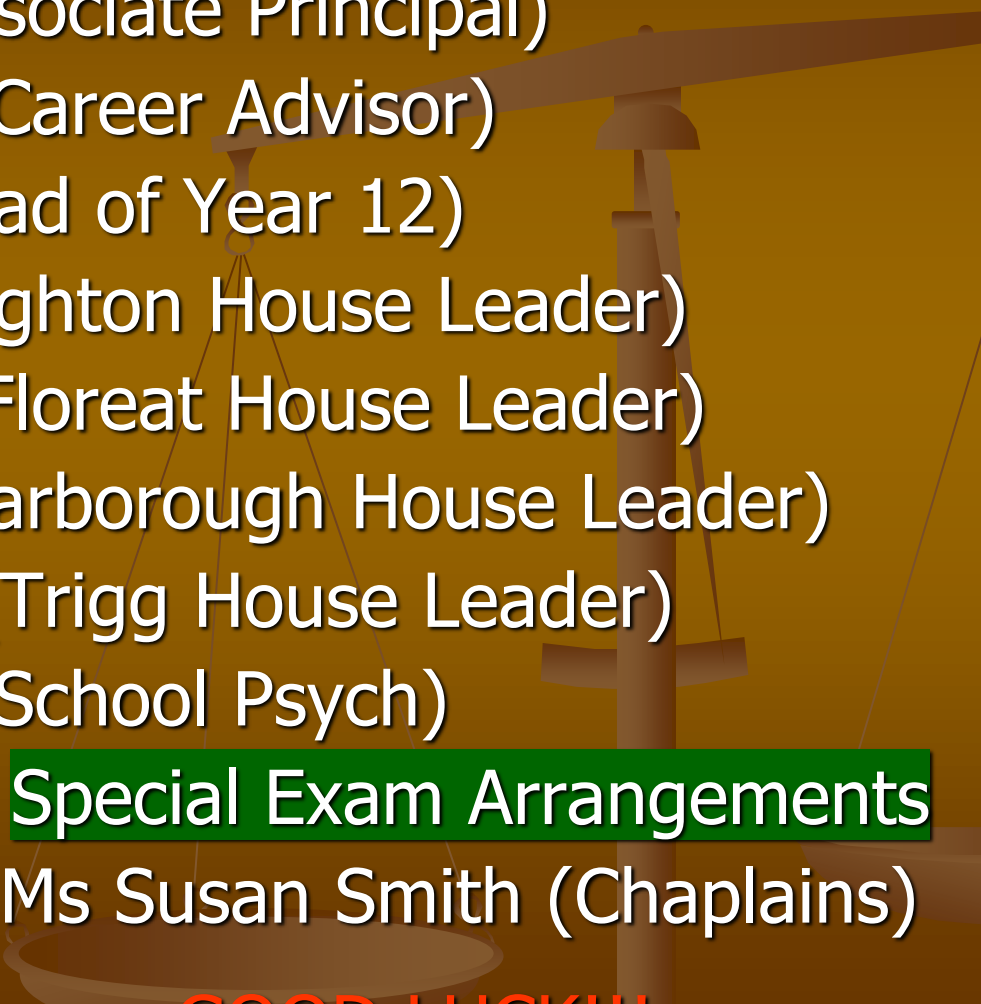
School Curriculum and Standards Authority Awards

- **General Exhibitions** – Top 50 students in the state based on best 5 scaled exam scores with at least 2 from List A and 2 from B.
 - **Beazley Medal WACE** – Top student from General Exhibitions
 - **Beazley Medal VET** – Top student studying a program including training qualifications and workplace learning.
 - Last year we had 1 General Exhibition winner and the top Music student in the state!
- 

School Curriculum and Standards Authority Awards

- **Subject Exhibition** – the student with the highest exam mark for each ATAR course.
- **Certificate of Excellence** – awarded to eligible students who are in the top 0.5% of candidates based on exam scores.
- **Certificates of Merit and Certificates of Distinction** – awarded to eligible students Based on grades. ATAR students need to obtain 19 or 20 “A” grade units for the Cert Distinction. See SCSA for “points table”

- 
- Homework Club runs on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays after school in the Library. An excellent place to catch up and get free help!
 - Plan your time!! Use a study plan. Work in approx 1 hour blocks.
 - Get balance in your life – school, home work and study, sleep, exercise, leisure –REDUCE/manage social life and paid work (less than 6 hours per week).
 - If you plan on going to University with Commonwealth assistance (HECS), you need to be an Australian Citizen!

- 
- **Special Exam Arrangement** forms and **Sickness or Misadventure** forms – apply appropriately
 - People you can see for advice and support:
 - Mr Paul Housley (Associate Principal)
 - Mrs Clare Slodecki (Career Advisor)
 - Mr Steve Galvin (Head of Year 12)
 - Mr Tom Werner (Brighton House Leader)
 - Ms Sandra Boujos (Floreat House Leader)
 - Mrs Sandy Hunt (Scarborough House Leader)
 - Ms Justine Watson (Trigg House Leader)
 - Ms Claire Morrison (School Psych)
 - **Mrs Jane Price** – for **Special Exam Arrangements**
 - Mr Andrew Winton/ Ms Susan Smith (Chaplains)
 - Try as hard as you can – **GOOD LUCK!!!**



Clare Slodecki
SCHOLARSHIPS
2018/2019



SCHOLARSHIPS TO UNIVERSITY

WHY APPLY FOR A SCHOLARSHIP?

- Prestige....looks great on a resume
- Financial Support.....\$\$\$\$\$
- Scholarships are an investment in the student
- Opportunities for overseas exchange etc.
- They might get one.....if they don't try, they won't know 😊

What can students apply for?

There are a wide range of scholarships available to prospective first-year university students. There are also many scholarships administered by other organisations to support students with their financial expenses.

Types of scholarships available:

- Academic Excellence / Merit – some are automatic
- Community Service / Leadership
- Social inclusion and equity and awarded on the basis of financial need and/or other hardship
- Accommodation Support



International Scholarships and Applications

- *Please make careful note of application due dates.*
- *Please endeavour to give the school plenty of time to attest copies of academic results...this can't always be done immediately.*
- *If the school is required to act as a 'referee' make sure that you have asked the person that you have nominated....these applications can be a problem if the University is in the Northern Hemisphere and the 'referee' is on Summer holidays.*



IMPORTANCE OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

Many of the scholarships require demonstration of leadership and community service.....even when Academic excellence is clearly evident.



COMPLETING AN APPLICATION

- No Scholarship application is alike....efficiency is the key to a good application.
- Make multiple copies of documents that might be needed scan and save as PDF's.
- Create a working draft.
- Answer every question
- Proof read.....check, check and check again.
- Always keep a copy



The scholarship application is a paper/online model of the applicant. It is essential that the application is professional and compelling.

SCHOLARSHIP SUCCESS

Two John Curtin Undergraduate Scholarships in 2011
two in 2012 ☺
none in 2013 ☹
one in 2014 ☺
no applicants in 2015 ☹
one in 2016 ☺
None in 2017 ☹

....would be great to have another in 2018 !
....even better two with one being a boy!



2017 SCHOLARSHIP SUCCESS

- Curtin University Principal's nomination (2) and Excellence scholarships (5).
- Murdoch Excellence Scholarships
- Edith Cowan University Principal's Nomination, Engineering Excellence and General Excellence scholarships.
- UWA Principal's Nomination and excellence scholarships
- Many other scholarships based on ATARs

Scholarships offer financial and academic support....they look fantastic on a resume!!



WHAT SKILLS WILL BE REQUIRED IN THE 21ST CENTURY

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8nYSgC_Za8E&list=PLKpKLQEEdhkhrUDE9ZCMAOu0jaJPQimmE&index=1&t=0s



SETTING YOUR TEEN UP FOR SUCCESS IN YEAR 12

Claire Morrison

Clinical & School Psychologist

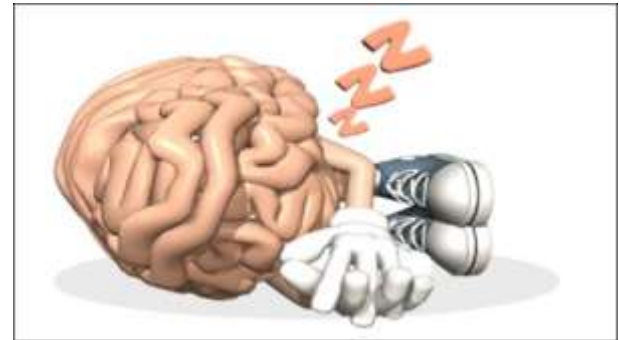
REST AND BALANCE



- **Rest breaks** need to be included in study time
- Successful individuals pay as much attention to how they are using their **down time** as to what they are doing during their work time
- Too much time working/studying can build resentment of the work/study
- Time away having fun, exercising, spending time with friends can mean teens are **refreshed for study**
- Young people can feel guilty when they are not studying. They need **not to feel judged** when on a break
- Avoid giving them too many chores
- Consider how much in the schedule is too much i.e. part-time work hours

SLEEP- A KEY STUDY TOOL

- Underrated but **key study tool**
- **Food** for the brain
- Time when the body **repairs** itself
- Information from the day is transferred from **short to long term memory** and when information not needed is discarded.
- Like a computer **uploading updates** when shutdown
- Poor sleep compromises readiness to learn, ability to perform at best when studying and sitting exams
- Teenagers need about 9 hours
- Avoid caffeine after 4pm
- Get into **sleep routine** and go to bed and get up at the same time every day
- **Relaxation time** before bed –listen to music or watch some TV



MANAGING DISTRACTIONS



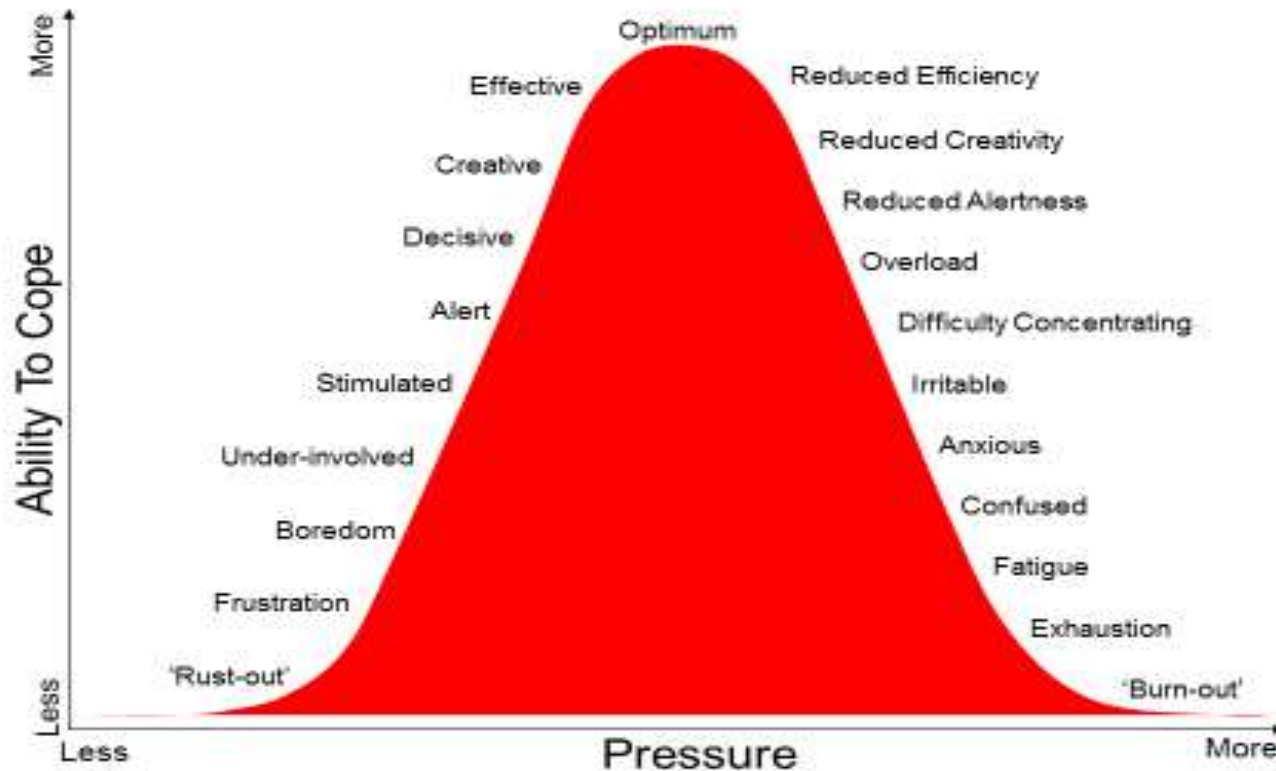
- Encourage your teen, when preparing to study, to put away **electronic distractions**. When studying and before bed.
- Some parents and young people have agreements that they hand over their electronics before bed and have them returned in the morning.
- Try not to study in kitchen/dining. **Desk in own room is better**.
- Have conversations/make plans and agreements about this when things are calm. Avoid total bans and telling young people in the 'heat of the moment' that you will take their electronics off them. **Calm negotiations are more effective**.

ALIGNING THINKING WITH GOALS!



- Overwhelming evidence that thoughts determine feelings
- **Self compassion** instead of **self-criticism**. Self-compassion is motivating
- Realistic and balanced thoughts rather than unachievable or perfectionistic expectations
- Criticism can be damaging to a young person's wellbeing
- Communicate message young people are worthy of love, time and attention because of who they are not how or when they perform
- The **myth of motivation** –motivation generally comes once you get started!
- **Being clear on the reasons why the study time is important**
- **Answering the what if question?**
- Year 12 is not make or break!

The Nature of Stress



<http://carolbarwick.com/stress-help-newcastle/>

SUPPORTING EMOTIONS AND CULTIVATING POSITIVE EMOTIONS

- There will be time when emotions are running high!
- Teenagers need help **regulating their emotions**
- Every emotion is ok. Not every behaviour is ok
- **When emotions run high, the thinking brain is 'offline.'** It is not the time to be having problem-solving conversations. It's time to connect to your teen's emotions!
- Connecting with a young person's emotion can soothe the emotion and bring the thinking brain back 'online'
- **It is better to acknowledge and let go of emotions** rather than keep them in and let them build up. We can push them down but they don't tend to go away
- **Recognise effort**
- Praise effort and personal progress and **celebrate successes**

EXERCISE



- Encourage your young person to build exercise into their week
- Exercise is important for good mood, and for physical and mental alertness
- Exercise helps to get rid of muscle tension and adrenaline that has built up in the body because of high stress levels
- Studies have shown exercise is as effective for depression as anti-depressants

GOOD NUTRITION



- **Need glucose and other nutrients** to have energy through the day and for brain function.
- Encourage your teen to **avoid junk food** while studying. They won't perform at their best on junk food
- Healthy food can increase performance, strengthen the immune system and ability to cope with stress
- **3 proper meals** and two snacks per day (don't forget breakfast)
- A mega study effort can burn up a lot of brain fuel so teens need to have some healthy snacks. Lean protein, raw nuts, hard boiled eggs
- **Drink lots of water**
- **Not too much caffeine** as can create anxious feelings
- Too much sugar can lead to an energy crash afterwards