

Senior Secondary Certificate Reform

Expanded Access to VCE VM Work Related Skills
and Personal Development Skills in 2025

Webinar 30th April 2024





Welcome

Acknowledgement of Country

The VCAA respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Victoria and pays respect to the ongoing living cultures of First Peoples.



Today

Agenda

Overview of the certificates

Changes in 2025

Implementation in schools



Senior Secondary Certificate Reform



2023	2025
VCE Vocational Major (VCE VM) and the Victorian Pathways Certificate (VPC) implemented in 2023	VCE VM is the first step toward an expanded Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE)
The reform aims to ensure every student has access to studies where they will build their knowledge and experience of the world of work and find pathways to rewarding careers.	

What is changing?

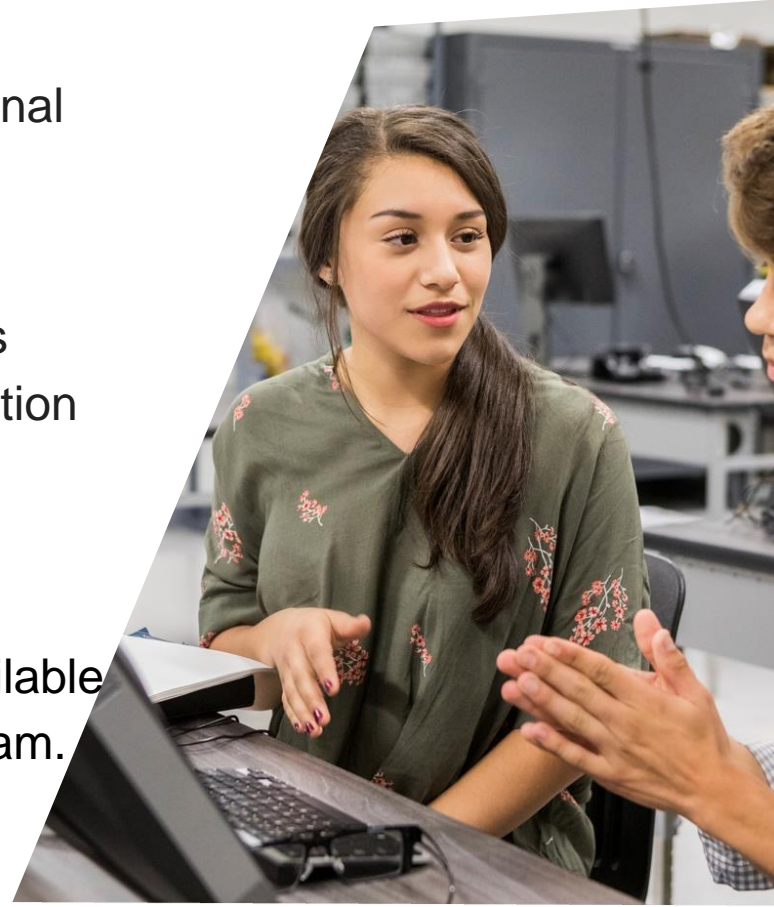
In 2025 the next stage of the reform will begin

- Schools will be able to offer 2 VCE Vocational Major (VM) studies, **VCE VM Work Related Skills (WRS)** and **VCE VM Personal Development Skills (PDS)**, to all VCE students.
- These studies will give students the opportunity to benefit from the applied learning subjects regardless of the specific pathway chosen as part of their VCE.
- These studies are not assessed in the same way as mainstream VCE studies and will not produce a study score.

What is changing?

Within this integrated structure, schools and educational settings will be able to offer:

- the VCE VM as a distinct program where students undertake VCE VM studies and Vocational Education and Training (VET) studies to achieve their senior secondary certificate.
- VCE VM studies as stand-alone VCE studies available to students undertaking a mainstream VCE program.



Expanded Access

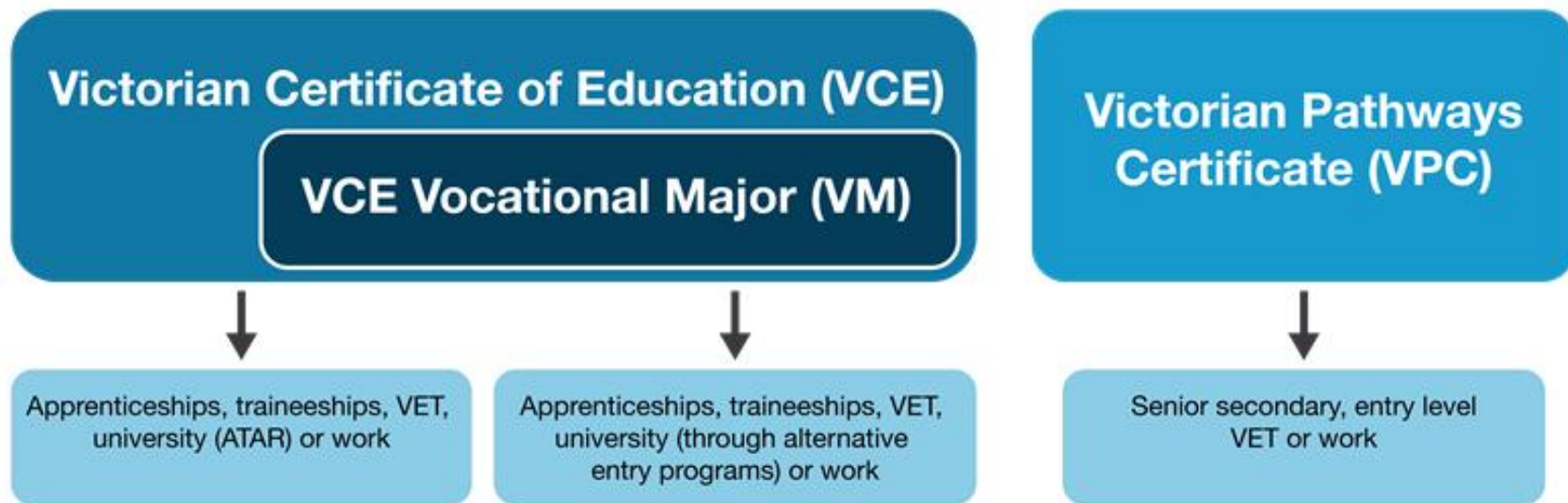
- The remaining 2 studies (VCE VM Literacy and VCE VM Numeracy) will continue to only be available to VCE VM students in 2025.
- The VCAA is conducting further work to understand the implications of expanding access to VCE VM Literacy and VCE VM Numeracy, and the possibility of an ATAR contribution.



Why are we changing?

- Greater choice and flexibility for VCE students.
- Studies can be introduced at year 10
- PDS and WRS will increase student's employability skills, better prepare students for the workforce and their general life
- Including these studies assists students in determining their post school pathways
- Bridge the gap between students who want to do the VCE while preparing to enter the workforce
- Support students to stay engaged in school with an applied learning approach

Certificate Options



Certificate Options

From 2025

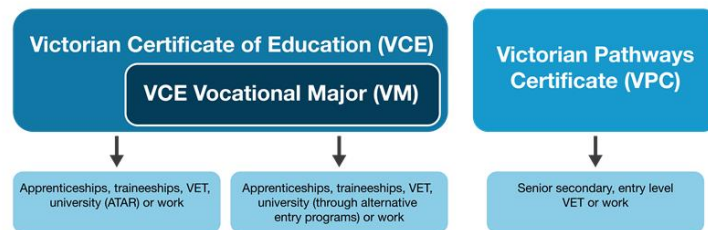
- VCE Certification Requirements can include VCE VM studies
- Schools can offer WRS & PDS to any VCE student
- VCE VM studies will not contribute to the ATAR (in 2025)
- It is not compulsory to offer expanded access

VCE Requirements

- 16 Units
- 3 Units from the VCE English Group, including a 3-4 sequence
- 3 further 3-4 sequences

VCE VM Requirements

- 16 Units
- 3 Units from the VCE English Group, including a 3-4 sequence
- 3 further 3-4 sequences
- 2 Units of PDS, WRS and Numeracy or Maths
- 180 hours of VET



Implementation in schools

- Schools can decide how to schedule their VCE VM and VCE classes, including whether VCE and VCE VM students are scheduled into the same class or separate classes
 - Students can accelerate into VCE VM studies
 - Traditional acceleration
 - Engagement – getting a start in the VCE VM
 - Course counselling and careers support
- *consider VCE VM delivery requirements*
- Teachers do not need a specific qualification other than VIT registration to teach VCE VM studies

Implementation in schools

- Assessment in the VCE VM is Standards Based – S/N is assessed against the Outcomes in the study designs
- VCE VM studies do not produce a study score
- VCE VM studies are designed to be delivered flexibly
 - VASS Date – November
 - Unit & outcome delivery
- Schools need VCAA permission to deliver VCE VM studies – application process required

Student Programs

- Units can be delivered:
 - Concurrently
 - Over a year
 - Out of order
- Sequences can be delivered:
 - Over a year
 - Over more than 1 calendar year
 - Out of order

- Flexible options include:

Delivery of a unit over longer than one semester

Commence Unit 1 and/or 3 in semester 2 (enabling mid-year entry)

Deliver Units 1 and 2, or Units 3 and 4, concurrently over no less than 2 semesters.

Student Programs



Scored VCE including PDS

Year 11	Year 12
VCE VM PDS Units 1 -2	VCE VM PDS Units 3-4
VCE General Maths 1-2	VCE General Maths 3-4
VCE English Units 1-2	VCE English Units 3-4
VCE Food Studies Units 1-2	VCE Food Studies Units 3-4
VET Cert II Cookery Units 1-2	VET Cert II Cookery Units 3-4
VCE Product Design Units 1-2	

Scored VCE including PDS

Year 11	Year 12
VCE VM PDS Units 1 -2	VCE Health & Human Development 3-4
VCE General Maths 1-2	VCE General Maths 3-4
VCE English Units 1-2	VCE English Units 3-4
VCE Food Studies Units 1-2	VCE Food Studies Units 3-4
VET Cert II Cookery Units 1-2	VET Cert II Cookery Units 3-4
VCE Product Design Units 1-2	

Student Programs



Scored VCE with WRS accelerated		
Year 10	Year 11	Year 12
Year 10 Program	VCE English Units 1 -2	VCE English Units 3-4
	VCE Maths Methods 1-2	VCE Maths Methods 3-4
VCE VM WRS Unit 1 & 2	VCE Product Design & Technology Units 1-2	VCE Product Design & Technology Units 3-4
	VCE Visual Communication Units 1-2	VCE Visual Communication Units 3-4
	VCE Cert II Engineering Units 1-2	VCE Cert II Engineering Units 3-4

Student Programs



VCE VM – “Student Interest”	
Year 11	Year 12
VCE English Units 1-2	VCE English Units 3-4
VCE General Maths Units 1-2	VCE General Maths Units 3-4
VCE Psychology Units 1-2	VCE Psychology Units 3-4
WRS Units 1-2	PDS Units 3-4
VCE Business Studies Units 1-2	VCE VET Cert II Units 1-2 (180 hours)

Timetable considerations

General Considerations

- More options for VCE VM students = more days at school
- More options for VCE students to select VM studies = more restrictions on other electives
- Decide which studies will be available to VCE students and to VCE VM students as electives
- Use a block approach to timetable development
- All schools are different

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
1	Block A	Block F	Block B	Block D	Block F
2	Block B	Block F	Block B	Block D	Block C
3	Block C	Block A	Block C	Block E	Block E
4	Block D	Block A	Block C	Block E	Block D
5	Block E	Free	Block B	Block F	Block A

VCE VM student + VCE elective

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Session 1	General Maths	Literacy	PDS	HHD	SWL BLOCK
Session 2	WRS	Literacy	Literacy	HHD	
Session 3	HHD	General Maths	VET BLOCK	WRS	
Session 4	Literacy	General Maths		WRS	
Session 5	PDS	HHD		General Maths	
Session 6	PDS	HHD		General Maths	

- VCE electives run across two lines, students can select Numeracy OR General Mathematics on one line and a VCE elective on the other
- VCE electives are limited to certain subjects
- VCE VM students MUST select a VCE elective

VCE VM student + VCE elective

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Session 1	Psychology	Numeracy	SWL Block	VET Block	PDS
Session 2	Literacy	Numeracy			Literacy
Session 3	Literacy	Psychology			Psychology
Session 4	Numeracy	PDS			Psychology
Session 5	PDS	Literacy			Numeracy

- VCE electives run across two lines, students select Numeracy OR General Mathematics on one line and a VCE elective OR WRS on the other
- VCE electives are limited to certain subjects
- VCE VM students do not need to select a VCE elective
- VCE VM students who select a VCE elective take WRS in one year and PDS in the other

VCE student + VCE VM elective

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Session 1	Shared Line (WRS)	English	General Maths	Business	Product Design & Technology
Session 2	Business	English	General Maths	General Maths	Accounting
Session 3	Accounting	Product Design & Technology	Business	Accounting	Shared Line (WRS)
Session 4	English	Product Design & Technology	Business	Accounting	Shared Line (WRS)
Session 5	General Maths	Shared Line (Study Session)	Study Session	Product Design & Technology	English

- 1 shared line where VCE VM & VCE students can access the same electives
- WRS & selected VCE electives run on this line
- VCE Students select WRS or the VCE elective
- VCE students have an additional free period

VCE VM student + VCE elective

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Session 1	Shared Line (Art Creative Practice)	Literacy	WRS	SWL BLOCK	PDS
Session 2	Numeracy	Literacy	WRS		Numeracy
Session 3	Numeracy	PDS	VET BLOCK		Shared Line (Art Creative Practice)
Session 4	Literacy	PDS			Shared Line (Art Creative Practice)
Session 5	WRS	Shared Line (Art Creative Practice)			Literacy

- 1 shared line where VCE VM & VCE students can access the same electives
- WRS & selected VCE electives run on this line
- VCE VM Students select WRS or the VCE elective

VCE VM student + VCE elective

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Session 1	Shared Line (Art Creative Practice)	Literacy	Literacy	SWL BLOCK	PDS
Session 2	Numeracy	Literacy	Numeracy		Numeracy
Session 3	Numeracy	PDS	VET BLOCK		Shared Line (Art Creative Practice)
Session 4	Literacy	PDS			Shared Line (Art Creative Practice)
Session 5	PDS	Shared Line (Art Creative Practice)			Literacy

- 1 shared line where VCE VM & VCE students can access the same electives
- WRS & selected VCE electives run on this line
- VCE VM Students select WRS or the VCE elective

The VCAA is responsible for establishing and overseeing implementation of standards and requirements for the delivery of the VCE Vocational Major (VM) and Victorian Pathways Certificate (VPC). Senior secondary education providers (including schools and non-school providers) delivering VCE VM and VPC studies must deliver these courses to the standards established by the VCAA and ensure the integrity of student assessments.

The VCAA select 10% of providers with enrolments in each VCE VM and VPC study for audit. Selected providers will be audited for Units 1 and 2 or Units 3 and 4 in one VCE VM or VPC study.

Each audit submission must address and include evidence of the following elements:

- The Curriculum and Assessment Plan for the applicable units
- Two assessment tasks
- School policy regarding:
 - Satisfactory completion of a VM or VPC unit
 - Authentication of student work
 - Management of eligibility for satisfactory completion of the VCE VM or VPC
 - Special provision for VCE VM or VPC studies
 - Flexible delivery (VCE VM studies only)



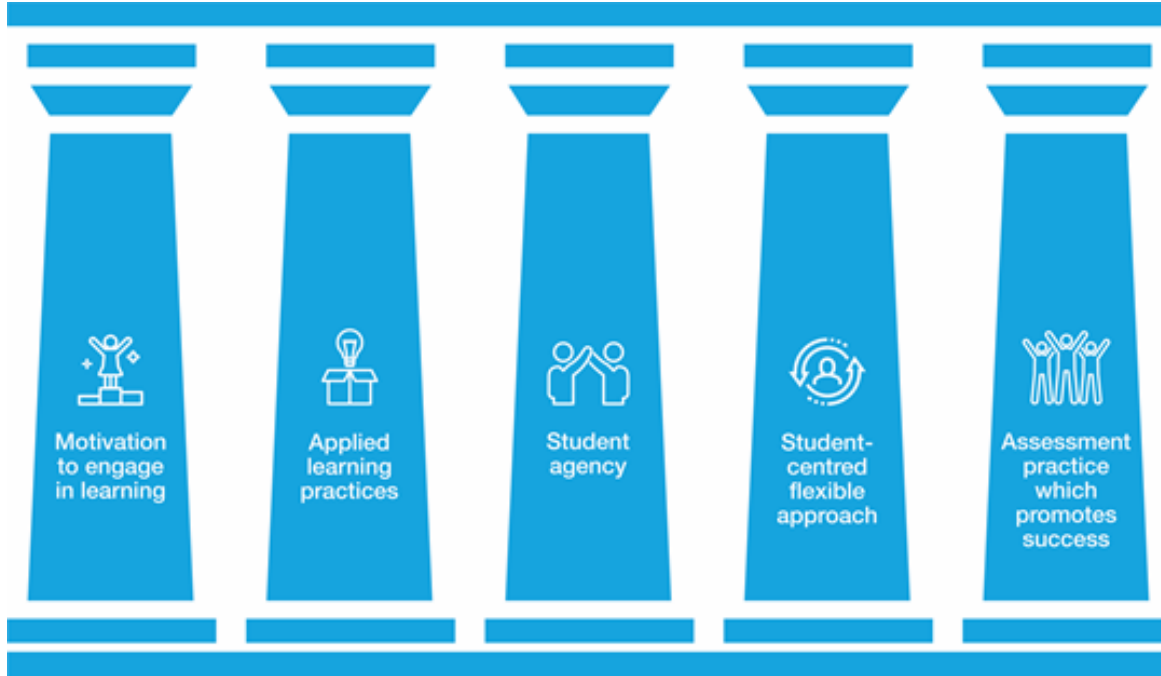
The VCE VM and VPC Curriculum and Assessment Audit requires teachers, on behalf of their school, to complete an online study-specific audit questionnaire. A link to the relevant questionnaire is included in the audit notification email issued on the audit commencement date.

Audit submissions are assessed by State Reviewers appointed by the VCAA. The information and materials submitted by providers through the audit questionnaire enable the VCAA to determine if the delivery and assessment of VCE VM and VPC studies meets VCAA standards and requirements.

Teachers who are completing the audit questionnaire are encouraged to refer to the reference materials provided in their audit notification email.

Technical Difficulties: Teachers who experience technical difficulties with the online audit questionnaire may contact the VCAA's Applied Learning Unit for assistance at: vcca.applied.learning@education.vic.gov.au.

Teaching VCE VM studies



VCE VM Personal Development Skills

VCE VM Personal Development Skills include:

Interpersonal skills and emotional intelligence

Leadership skills

Communication skills

Resilience and wellbeing knowledge and skills

VCE VM Personal Development Skills allows students to connect their learning in the classroom with their community through group-based work to enhance student voice and agency, leadership, and personal wellbeing.

- Students engage in project-based learning, bringing their own interests and content to their learning while equipping them with relevant skills for their future.
- VCE VM studies have no external examinations and are assessed by their teachers.
- VCE VM studies do not produce a study score and currently do not contribute to the ATAR.

VCE VM Work Related Skills

VCE VM Work Related Skills also provides students with opportunities to:

Investigate the labour market to make informed decisions about their vocational pathway;

Investigate workers' rights and responsibilities;

Identify and then develop the individual skills they will need in their future career or vocation;

Develop skills relevant to their future career, including CV writing and interview skills.

VCE VM Work Related Skills better prepares students for the world of work and empowers young people to understand their rights and responsibilities in the workforce and to make better informed decisions about their vocational pathway.

- Students develop self-advocacy skills, self-promotion skills and practice the interpersonal skills they need to succeed.
- VCE VM studies have no external examinations and are assessed by their teachers.
- VCE VM studies do not produce a study score and currently do not contribute to the ATAR

Applied Learning approaches

Motivation to engage in learning	Applied learning practices	Student agency in learning	Student-centred and flexible approach	Assessment practices which promote success
Set clear expectations and achievable goals. Students can produce their own classroom norms for example.	Discussion/ interviews with people from outside the school or in specific industries	What prior knowledge do students bring to the classroom? How can you use this to support your teaching?	Consider students pathways – what might they be doing in the future? How can you bring this into the classroom?	Instead of putting a heavy focus on writing their assignments, can you create a mix of assessment types to appeal to all learners?
Start lessons with a fun activity: Do Now task for example	Reflection activities, such as journals	Options for differentiated assessments based on intended workforce/ industry	A unit of work may contain sequential steps, or it might contain activities that the students can choose from	Allow for more than one attempt if necessary and provide multiple options for students to demonstrate learning
Meet students at their point of need academically	Guest speakers on different topics	Can students develop their own assessment?	Facilitating discussions/discussions led by students	Oral assessments can be filmed or done via zoom

What does applied learning feel like?

What does applied learning sound like, look like and feel like?

Engaging

Interactive

Buzzy

Fun

Positive

Interactivity

Energetic

Buzz

Chatter



SOUNDS LIKE...



LOOKS LIKE...



FEELS LIKE...

flexible
interactive
self-directed
individualised
excited energy
excited
active
positive
lively
happy
student agency
relevant
energetic
involvement
real world
buzzy
movement
interest
excitement
levels
loud
student driven
personal interests
constructing
connected
colourful
student voices
sensations
hands on
collaboration
collaborative
engaging
lightbulb moments
communication
satisfying
buzzing
questions
chatty
stimulating making
discussion
beehive
relatable busy and chaotic
challenging
fun
noisy
real life experiences

Planning



What do we want students to learn?

What is the context for student learning?

How will we know when they have learned it?

What will we do to learn, and apply our learning?

Assessment & Flexibility

Extend

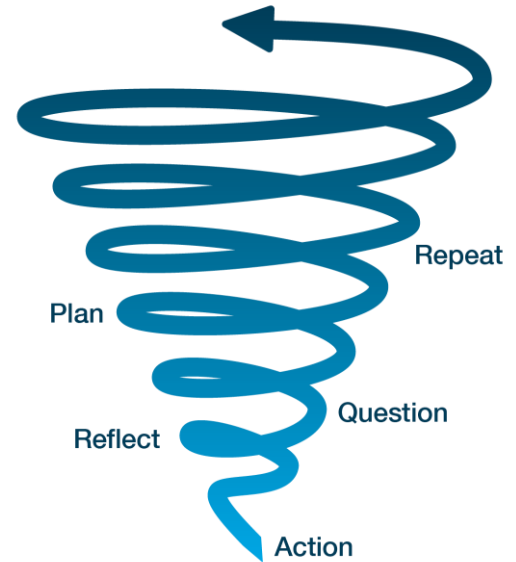
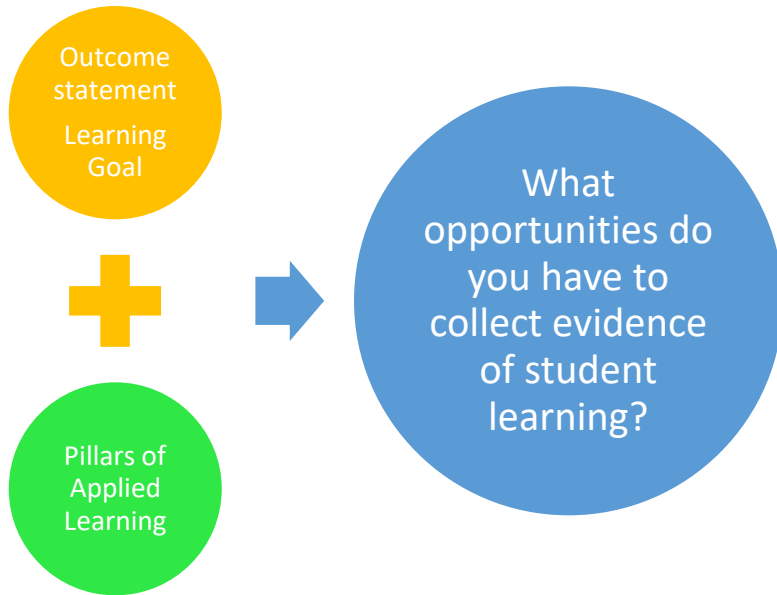
students who are ready
for a challenge

Support

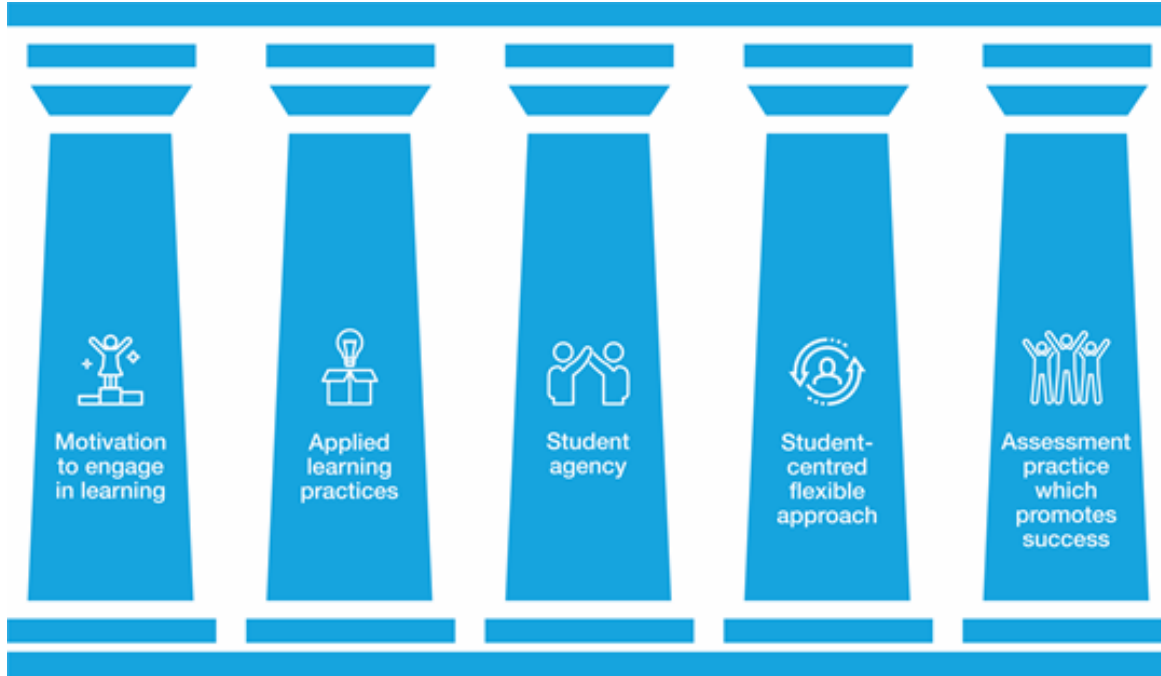
students who need more
time, support, access



Assessment



Teaching VCE VM studies



Get in touch:

vcaa.seniorsecondaryreform@education.vic.gov.au

Thank you