ASHFORD CENTRAL SCHOOL

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Web: www.ashford-c.schools.nsw.edu.au   Principal (Rel):   Mr Ben Delanty

HSC COURSES

To get your Higher School Certificate (HSC), you must complete at least 12 units of Preliminary courses and 10 units of HSC courses, including English. Most HSC courses are worth 2 units.

You need to satisfactorily complete the Preliminary course (usually in Year 11) before you can start the corresponding HSC course (usually in Year 12).

There are two main types of HSC courses: Board Developed Courses and Board Endorsed Courses.

- **NESA develops Board Developed Courses.** Your achievement in these can count towards your Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR).

Board Developed Courses cover:
English
Maths
Science
Technology
Creative Arts
Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE)
Human Society and its Environment (HSIE)
Languages
Vocational Education and Training (VET) Curriculum Frameworks.

- **Board Endorsed Courses** are generally developed by schools, TAFEs or universities. They contribute to the HSC, but don't count towards your ATAR.

Choosing your compulsory English course

To satisfy the compulsory English aspect of the HSC, there are four English courses: English Advanced, English Standard,
English Studies and English EAL/D.
English Studies is a Board Developed Course. It is for students who wish to refine their skills and knowledge in English and consolidate their literacy skills. It is a course for students seeking an alternative to the English Standard course, and who intend to proceed from school directly into employment or vocational training. Students of this course who wish to obtain an ATAR are required by the Universities Admission Centre (UAC) to sit the optional HSC examination.

English Standard supports students to become effective, creative and confident communicators. Students study a wide range of literary and everyday texts to develop the

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knowledge and skills required to use language accurately and appropriately for a variety of purposes and situations.

English Advanced is a course designed for students to become critical and sophisticated users of English and to develop their academic achievement through the study of complex texts. This course is a pre- or co-requisite for English Extension courses.
English Extension 1 allows more specialised study, while English Extension 2 requires students to create a Major Work.

English EAL/D is a course designed for students who have been educated in English for five years or less, either in Australia or overseas. The strict eligibility rules for this course are on the ACE website.

Understanding your Mathematics options

The mathematics courses that can contribute to an ATAR are Mathematics Advanced and Mathematics Standard (Standard 1and 2).

Mathematics Standard 1 is a Board Developed Course with an optional HSC examination. It develops and refines students' skills and knowledge in mathematics and consolidates their numeracy skills. It is a course for students who intend to proceed from school with an appropriate mathematical background for entering the workforce and/or undertaking further community and workplace training.

Mathematics Standard 2 caters for a wide range of students. It develops and refines students' mathematical knowledge and skills in a range of areas including statistics, finance, measurement and algebra to enhance their personal, social and job opportunities.

Mathematics Advanced is a pre- or co-requisite for the Mathematics Extension courses (Mathematics Extension 1 and Mathematics Extension 2). Mathematics Extension 2 is the highest level mathematics course for students with a special interest and ability in mathematics. Mathematics Extension 1 can be studied concurrently or consecutively with Mathematics Extension 2.