

How does my student get a QCE?

Earn at least 20 points

- Each subject, course or training counts for points.
- School subjects: 1 point for each successful unit of work, there are 4 units in each subject
- Certificate courses (like Cert II or Cert III): These give more points (e.g., Cert II = 4 points, Cert III = up to 8 points)
- Traineeships, apprenticeships, or university studies: Also count for QCE points

*Example
If your student passes 5 subjects for 2 years (Year 11 + 12)
that's 20 points already!*

Earn at least 12 CORE points

These points must come from things your child *sticks with*—like finishing subjects or full certificate courses.

- Your student must pass at least 3 school subjects across Year 11 and 12
- Some Certificate courses also count towards these CORE points

Changing too many subjects can make it harder to get CORE points. We help students choose wisely early on in SET Planning.

Meet the Literacy and Numeracy requirement

- Your student must pass English and Maths for at least one semester during Year 11 or 12.
- This shows they have basic reading, writing, and maths skills.

What if my student doesn't want to go to University?

That's okay! The QCE is for everyone, no matter their pathway.

- It includes school subjects, TAFE courses, apprenticeships, traineeships, and more
- It shows your student is ready for the workforce, further training, or life beyond school

Why is the QCE Important?

- It's an official record of what your student has achieved
- Some jobs and training require it
- It helps keep future doors open—whether that's work, TAFE, or university

What if my student is not on track for their QCE?

- Not achieving a satisfactory result ("C" or better or Pass) in core subjects.
- Poor attendance impacting completion of assessment and course participation.
- Incomplete or non-submitted assessments leading to loss of credit.
- Not meeting competency requirements in VET or Applied subjects

What are the support mechanisms if my student is not on track

A range of support strategies which include:

- Targeted learning support to help the student meet assessment and course requirements.
- Subject changes to better align with the student's strengths, interests, and academic goals.
- Access to additional credit-earning opportunities : schoolbased VET courses or recognised short courses.

If the student chooses not to engage with the support provided, the school works with the family to explore a suitable alternative pathway, such as employment, training, or transition to another educational setting. Support will be offered to assist the student in successfully transitioning to this new pathway.

If the student does not engage with either the intervention support or the alternative pathway process, a Warning of Cancellation may be issued, as required under Education Queensland's policy and procedures.

What can parents do?

- Encourage your student to attend school and classes, submit work, and stick with their subjects
- Talk to teachers, Year Coordinators, or the senior schooling team if you have questions
- Support your student in choosing subjects they enjoy and are good at.
- Apply for AARA – Access Arrangements and Reasonable adjustments

Senior Assessment Calendar

Do not plan holidays or days away on these dates as students will not be allowed to make up anything missed.

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What is an AARA and how do I get one?

Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments

Access Arrangements: actions taken by the school to support students with an eligible impairment not covered by the definition of a disability:

- Medical conditions or temporary circumstances

Reasonable Adjustments: actions taken by the school to support students with an eligible impairment as a result of a disability / medical condition / experiencing circumstances which create a barrier to the completion of assessment

- Disability
- Impairment
- Medical Conditions
- Temporary circumstances that can't be avoided (not holidays!)

All applications go to HOD Senior Schooling - evidence provided to QCAA

1. Download the AARA form from the school website or email HoD Senior Schooling for electronic copy, or collect a paper copy.
2. Complete the form. Instructions are on the form. The medical section is Completed by a medical practitioner – no medical certificates.
3. Return to HoD Senior Schooling

QCAA-approved

Summative assessment – internal examination

- extra time
- rest breaks

Summative external assessment

- extra time
- rest breaks
- Use of a computer
- alternative format papers
- assistance
- assistive technology
- a reader and/or scribe
- variation to venue

What is ATAR?

- ATAR stands for Australian Tertiary Admission Rank.
- It's a number between 0.00 and 99.95 (in steps of 0.05).
- It shows a student's position compared to all other Year 12 students in Australia.
- The higher the ATAR, the stronger the university entry options.

How is ATAR calculated?

- It is calculated on year 12 results only
- It is based on a student's best 5 general subjects or
 - 4 general subjects + 1 applied subject or VET qualification (at Certificate III level or higher).
- Internal assessments (school-based) and external exams (set by QCAA) both count.

What subjects count?

- General subjects (e.g., English, Maths Methods, Biology, Ancient History....)
- Each subject scales differently and the scaling is also dependent on the raw score eg if you achieve 85/100 for MAM, your scaled score will be 93.4 ; if you achieve 90/100, your scaled score will be 95.3. The ATAR is then calculated on the scaled scores
- Students must study an English subject, but English doesn't have to be in the top 5 subjects to count toward ATAR (it just must be passed).

Important Notes

- ATAR is used for university entry only — it's not a school graduation certificate.
- To graduate from Year 12, students work towards the QCE (Queensland Certificate of Education).
- VET and applied pathways can lead to careers, apprenticeships, or further study – not all students need an ATAR.

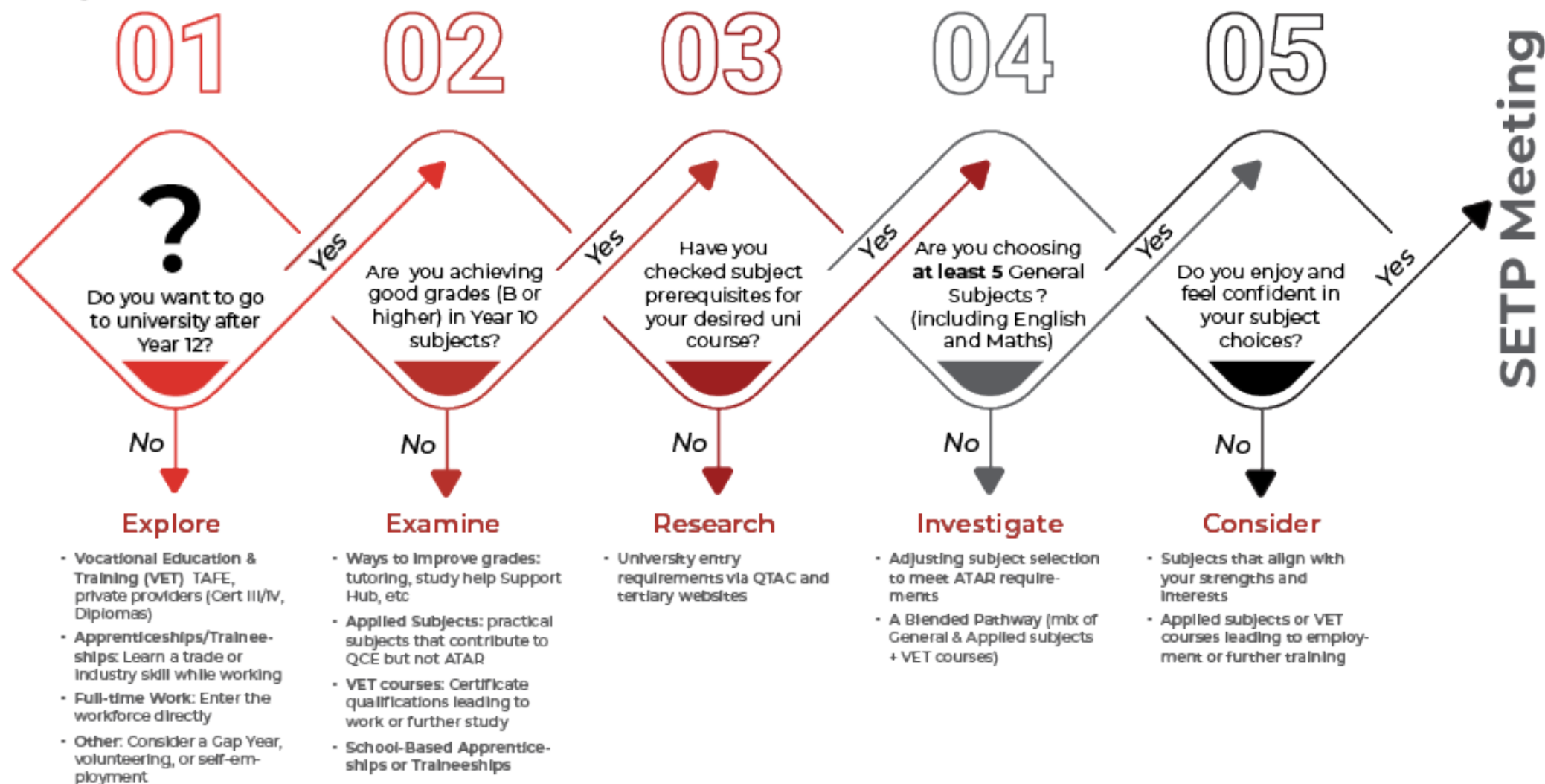
Why does ATAR matter?

- It helps universities rank students fairly when offering places.
- Some university courses have minimum ATAR scores for entry.
- Not all careers need an ATAR – there are many pathways to success



Year 10 SETP Decision Guide

A clear roadmap for students and parents to explore post-school options



If you said YES to all the above, confirm your subject choices with school advisors.
Ensure you meet ATAR, VET, or employment requirements