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COLLEGE

A CATHOLIC SCHOOL  
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# Senior Student Pathways

## For 2026 Year 11 and 12 students

Challenge — Collaborate — Create — Celebrate

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## Introduction

In recent years there have been significant changes to the options available to students in Years 10, 11 and 12. The purpose of this booklet is to provide a summary of the different pathways available in the senior years of secondary schooling, and to inform families, students and staff of the various processes undertaken at Newman College to ensure the best outcomes for all our students.

## Available pathways

There are two pathways available for students in Year 11 and 12 at Newman College. Whilst students will make an initial pathway selection in Year 10, often it is possible to change pathways during Year 11 and 12. The two pathways are:

### 1. ATAR Pathway

*For students who aspire to University entry, particularly to courses with an ATAR above 70; have met the prerequisites for entry to ATAR subjects in Year 11; and are prepared to undertake the demanding study load associated with the ATAR Pathway.*

### 2. General Pathway

*For students who aspire to a range of destinations, including University, TAFE, apprenticeships and/or direct entry to the workforce. Please see the 'General Pathway' section below for more detail.*

Both pathways are explained in detail later in this booklet.

## ATAR Pathway

Students undertaking the **ATAR Pathway** are typically aiming to enter University as their next educational destination.

The ATAR Pathway is the right pathway for students who:

- ✓ Aspire to University entry, particularly to courses with an ATAR above 70.
- ✓ Have met the prerequisites for entry to ATAR subjects in Year 11.
- ✓ Are prepared to undertake the demanding study load associated with the ATAR Pathway.

ATAR Pathway summary	
<b>Year 10</b>	<p>Meet the prerequisites for entry to ATAR-level subjects in Year 11.</p> <p>Ensure that any necessary prerequisite ATAR subjects for desired University courses are studied in Year 11 and 12.</p>
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<b>Year 11</b>	<p>Undertake at least 4 ATAR subjects. (Recommended to study 5 or 6 ATAR subjects)</p>
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<b>Year 12</b>	<p>Undertake at least 4 ATAR subjects. (Usually recommended to study 5 or 6 ATAR subjects)</p> <p>Sit the ATAR examinations for each ATAR subject. Attain a sufficient ATAR rank for entry into University / desired course.</p>
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<b>After school</b>	University.

## General Pathway

Students undertaking the **General Pathway** may aspire to several different post-school options.

The General Pathway is the right pathway for students who:

- ✓ May aspire to University entry in the future, particularly to courses with an ATAR of 70.
- ✓ Wish to enter an apprenticeship / traineeship.
- ✓ Wish to undertake further studies at TAFE (Certificate or Diploma)
- ✓ Would like to enter the workforce after school.

Students undertaking the General Pathway can select additional optional programs, depending on their educational needs and post-school aspirations. These additional optional programs are explained in more detail in the following sections.

### *General Pathway + work experience option*

General Pathway students can choose to participate in the College's Workplace Learning program.

Students who are engaged in workplace learning will attend their chosen workplace one day per week for approximately 20 weeks of the school year (that is, 20 days in total).

Workplace Learning has many benefits, including:

- Work skills and knowledge
- Confidence and responsibility
- Establishing connections with employers for future job opportunities
- Credit towards WACE (secondary graduation)

Further information about Workplace Learning can be found at:

<https://www.newman.wa.edu.au/careers-transition/>

### *General Pathway + VET Certificate option*

General Pathway students can choose to study a VET Certificate in addition to their school subjects. A VET Certificate is a nationally-recognised qualification offered by a TAFE or private Registered Training Organisation. General Pathway students can attend their training organisation one day per week to study a Certificate II, III, or IV.

Obtaining a VET qualification can:

- Significantly enhance employment prospects
- Provide a pathway into further studies at TAFE or University
- Equip students with valuable industry knowledge and a life-long qualification
- Provide credit towards WACE (secondary graduation).

Further information about VET Certificates can be found at:

<https://www.newman.wa.edu.au/careers-transition/>

### *General Pathway + UniReady / UniPath option (Year 12 only)*

General Pathway students can choose to participate in the UniReady or UniPath Program (only offered to Year 12 students). Both programs are enabling programs undertaken by Year 12 students. Upon successful completion of UniReady / UniPath, students are awarded a nominal ATAR of 70 which can then be used to enter a wide range of University courses at most WA Universities.

Further information about UniReady and UniPath can be found at:

<https://www.newman.wa.edu.au/careers-transition/>

### General Pathway summary

A summary of the various options for General Pathway students appears below.

General Pathway summary	
<b>Year 10</b>	<p>Select mostly / all General subjects for Year 11.</p> <p>Students might select 1-2 ATAR subjects if they meet the prerequisites and if they require those subjects for University courses.</p> <p>Apply for work experience for Year 11 (if desired).</p> <p>Apply for a VET Certificate for Year 11 (if desired)</p>
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<b>Year 11</b>	<p>Undertake mostly General level subjects, perhaps with 1-2 ATAR subjects if required for University courses.</p> <p>Option to participate in work experience one day per week.</p> <p>Option to study a VET Certificate one day per week.</p> <p>Apply for UniReady / UniPath in Year 12 (if desired)</p> <p>Apply for work experience in Year 12 (if desired)</p> <p>Apply for a / another VET Certificate in Year 12 (if desired)</p>
	↓
<b>Year 12</b>	<p>Undertake mostly General level subjects, perhaps with 1-2 ATAR subjects if required for University courses.</p> <p>Option to participate in work experience one day per week.</p> <p>Option to study a VET Certificate one day per week.</p> <p>Option to participate in the UniReady / UniPath Program.</p>
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<b>After school</b>	<p>Apply to University for selected courses.</p> <p>Apprenticeship / Traineeship.</p> <p>Further study at TAFE or other Registered Training Organisation.</p> <p>Entry to workforce.</p>



## Options for entry to University

Many students at Newman College aspire to University entry after school. Traditionally, University was only open to those students who undertook the ATAR Pathway and passed the necessary examinations. This is no longer the case.

School students can now enter University in three ways, which are outlined below.

### *University entry via ATAR Pathway*

Students can study at least 4 ATAR subjects in Year 11, and at least 4 ATAR subjects in Year 12. They must also ensure that they pass any prerequisite subjects for desired University courses. School students can then use the ATAR generated from their ATAR subjects to enter University.

ATARs required for entry to University courses can be found here:

<https://www.tisc.edu.au/static/statistics/cutoff-rank/cutoff-index.tisc>

Prerequisite ATAR subjects for University courses can be found here:

<https://www.tisc.edu.au/static/guide/prerequisites-index.tisc>

### *University entry via Certificate IV + ATAR English*

Students can study mostly General subjects in Year 11 and 12, possibly combined with 1-2 ATAR subjects if they require those ATAR subjects to meet a prerequisite for a University course. One of these ATAR subjects must be English ATAR.

In addition, students can complete a Certificate IV qualification whilst at school. The combination of Certificate IV qualification and English ATAR will meet the minimum entry requirement for University.

### *University entry via UniReady / UniPath*

Students can participate in the UniReady / UniPath Program in Year 12, combined with mostly General-level subjects (or 1-2 ATAR subjects if those ATAR subjects are required to meet a University prerequisite). Upon successful completion of one of these programs at the end of Year 12, students are awarded a nominal ATAR of 70 and can use this to apply to University.



## Changing Pathways

Students can change their pathway in Year 11 and 12. Permitted and non-permitted changes to pathways are detailed below.

Year 11		Year 12	Status
ATAR Pathway	to	General Pathway	Permitted
ATAR Pathway	to	General Pathway + work experience	Permitted
ATAR Pathway	to	General Pathway + VET Certificate	Permitted, however, the student can only select VET Certificates with a duration of 1 year.
ATAR Pathway	to	General Pathway + UniReady / UniPath	Permitted
General Pathway	to	ATAR Pathway	Not permitted
General Pathway + work experience	to	ATAR Pathway	Not permitted
General Pathway + VET Certificate	to	ATAR Pathway	Not permitted

## Contacts and further information

For further information, please view the Pathways section of the Newman College site, at: <https://www.newman.wa.edu.au/careers-transition/>

Alternatively, please feel free to contact:

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