



Application Process

VCE Subjects at CHES in 2023

The Centre for Higher Education Studies (CHES) provides two VCE subjects for high-achieving and high-ability students in Victorian government schools. These two VCE subjects are highly regarded and typically have great appeal for high-ability students:

- VCE Algorithmics Units 3 & 4
- VCE Extended Investigation Units 3 & 4

Students accepted into a VCE subject at CHES will also have access to our Student Enrichment Series providing masterclasses, seminars and mentoring opportunities.

How do I apply to enrol in a VCE subject through CHES?

Students will not be required to take an entrance exam to enrol in a VCE subject at CHES. There is a simple online application available from 16 June via the CHES website: www.ches.vic.edu.au.

The student application includes two parts: one section to be completed by you and your parent/carer and another by your school. Your school Principal will be asked to share some of your academic data, a statement that confirms your suitability for a CHES program and any special or extenuating circumstances. Your application must be approved by your **Principal**.

CHES will consider a range of information when selecting students for its VCE programs including attainment data such as NAPLAN results, semester results and VCE achievement data (if relevant). As part of your **application** you'll be asked to provide a statement that outlines your desire to study at CHES and reflects your interest and suitability for the program.

Are there subject prerequisites?

There are no subject prerequisites for VCE Extended Investigation Units 3 & 4. It is expected that you will possess the capacity or potential to develop critical thinking and independent research skills.

The only prerequisite for VCE Algorithmics Units 3 & 4 is that you must have successfully completed VCE Mathematical Methods Units 1 and 2 or be studying it concurrently with Algorithmics. It is also expected that you will have the capacity or potential for developing strong problem-solving skills.

For both VCE subjects, you can apply to study them in Year 11 or Year 12.

To be considered for a VCE subject through CHES you must be undertaking the majority of your studies at a Victorian government school. You must also maintain your enrolment in a Victorian government school, as your main school, for the duration of your studies at CHES.

Can I apply for both VCE subjects at CHES?

You will not be restricted from participating in more than one CHES subject per year however it is not advised. You may apply to enrol in both of the VCE subjects available. On the application form you will be able to select your first and second preference subjects. If you are not accepted into your first preference you may be eligible for your second preference if you meet the selection criteria and there are spaces available.



If I enrol in a VCE subject through CHES, can I also apply to study a HES?

It is not recommended that you study a VCE subject through CHES as well as a Higher Education Study (HES) through CHES **in the same year**. We anticipate that many students will choose to study a VCE subject at CHES in **Year 11** and then apply for a Higher Education Study (HES) in **Year 12**. VCE Algorithmics is a Higher Education Scored Study (HESS) so studying that subject in Year 11 will not impact on your capacity to study a Higher Education Study (HES) in Year 12. You can study VCE Algorithmics (HESS) and a Higher Education Study (HES) and have **both subjects** contribute towards the calculation of your final ATAR.

How will my application be assessed?

The allocation of student places to our VCE studies will be based on merit with consideration to the principles of excellence and equity. An enrolment committee convened by the CHES Principal will assess each application. There is no limit on the number of applications that can be received, nor the number of students that can be enrolled at CHES, from any one school. Every application will be given equal consideration.

When are CHES classes held?

VCE Algorithmics and VCE Extended Investigation will be taught by CHES teachers. The timetable will be confirmed later this year. It is anticipated that classes will be available both during and outside normal school hours to minimise clashes with your other VCE classes. We are implementing a hybrid and flexible (hy-flex) approach to scheduling and delivery of sessions to accommodate as many high-achieving students as possible from across the State.

What is the time commitment? What are the attendance requirements?

The time requirements for CHES VCE subjects are equivalent to the time allocation for other VCE subjects. You will be able to attend online or on-site for your VCE classes with CHES. It is important to note that for our VCE subjects, you will be required to maintain a minimum of 90% attendance of scheduled classes to gain satisfactory completion of a VCE Unit of Study. You may choose to attend onsite, virtually, or a combination of both. Only approved absences and approved school activities (sports, excursions etc.) will be considered as legitimate absences for meeting the minimum of 90% attendance rule. For students participating in virtual classes the 90% attendance requirement also applies.

When you are undertaking CHES programs remotely you'll need to ensure that you have suitable camera and microphone technology so that your teacher can verify your attendance and so that you can engage fully in our classes.

Can I enrol in a CHES subject in Year 9 or 10 or earlier?

CHES VCE courses are designed for senior secondary students (i.e. Year 11 or Year 12 students). Applications to undertake a CHES course from students in Year 10 or below will only be considered for exceptional circumstances on a case-by-case basis.

How can I find out more?

We will hold an online information session for prospective students and families on **Wednesday 13 July** and then again (as a repeat session) on **Monday 18 July 2022**.

Please visit our website for more information and to register for updates www.ches.vic.edu.au