



# Darul Ulum College of Victoria

13 September 2021

Assalamu Alaikum Wr Wb

Respected Parents,

## **General Achievement Test [GAT]**

Please be advised that the GAT (General Achievement Test) has been rescheduled to:

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> October between 10:00am and 1:15pm.** All VCE students who are enrolled in one or more year 12 VCE subjects must sit the GAT, & therefore, no year 11 or year 12 classes will be running on that day.

All VCE students are required to arrive to school no later than **9.00am** and may leave by **1.20pm** **on GAT day.** Regular classes will resume on Wednesday the 6<sup>th</sup> of October.

It is of paramount importance for students and parents to read and acquaint themselves with the section attached to the letter titled: **Guidance for Students Completing the 2021 GAT Test.** This is particularly important to ensure students are well prepared for any possible scenario that may occur on the GAT day during these times of uncertainty.

## **Year 12 Trial Examinations**

To further support our students with their preparation, we would like to provide them with more opportunities to practice trial exams and past years VCAA exams. A copy of the trial exam timetable is also attached to this letter.

Subject to the prevailing circumstances, round-1 trial exams will be conducted on-line. Subject teachers will update any information on Schoolbox about the trial exams. Participation in the trial exams is compulsory and your cooperation as a parent and support are highly appreciated. Please refer to the attached Trial Exam Timetable which outlines the daily timings for all exams.

During the Trial Exam Round 1 and 2, students are only expected to attend the exam assigned for that day. This will enable them to revise for the following day's exam. Therefore, only the regular classes will not be running during this period.

**Official Last Day of Classes for Year 12 Students**

Consistent with the Year 12 Important Administrative Dates, the official last day for Year 12 classes in Term 4 is Friday 15 October. However, teachers may seek to conduct additional online classes thereafter until the end of year exams.

Thank you.

Wassalam,

Mr. Kazi Jamil / Ms. Hajra Ahmad

VCE Coordinators

# Guidance for students completing the 2021 General Achievement Test (GAT)

You should read the following information in conjunction with the information related to the GAT contained in the [2021 VCE Exams Navigator](#). All students enrolled in one or more VCE or scored VCE VET Unit 3 and 4 sequence are expected to sit the GAT.

Every year there are some students who are unable to complete the GAT due to health issues. The GAT plays an important part in determining final results for the VCE. If however, you are unable to complete the GAT because of COVID-19 your final VCE results will be determined on your school-based assessment and examination results, as well as a range of additional data provided by your school to assist the VCAA in ensuring that all students receive fair and reliable results in 2021. If students are unable to participate in the GAT, the VCAA has established processes to ensure these students receive fair results.

## **When will the GAT be held in 2021?**

The GAT will be held on Tuesday, 5 October 2021, from 10:00am to 1:15pm.

## **What measures will be in place to make GAT venues COVIDSafe?**

The GAT will be held onsite at your school or at another venue as advised by your education provider. All Victorian schools and other senior secondary providers are required to have a COVIDSafe Plan in place. In relation to the GAT, this will include the following measures which have been approved by the Department of Health to achieve a COVIDSafe environment for all students, teachers and supervisors:

- You will be registered on arrival and will be maintaining physical distancing of 1.5 metres before, during and after the GAT,
- The venue set-up that supports physical distancing requirements, including all chairs spaced at least 1.5 metres apart,
- You should be spread out across as many separate spaces as practical for the examination centre, maintaining a density requirement of 1 student per 4sqm, and
- Desks, chairs and other equipment will be cleaned and disinfected before and after the test.

## **What do I need to do to be COVIDSafe?**

### **You must:**

- Wear a face mask, in line with current guidance for Victorian schools, unless you have an exemption due to a disability or medical condition. You must keep your face mask on at all times, including as you arrive, throughout the test, and as you exit.
- Perform regular hand hygiene, including on entry to, and exit from, the venue, and
- Maintain physical distancing, keeping at least 1.5m away from others at all times.

## **What should I do if I have a disability, illness or other circumstance that makes me vulnerable to COVID-19?**

If you have a disability, illness or other circumstance that makes you more likely to become very sick with COVID-19, you should discuss any Special Examination Arrangements with your school. This may include special arrangements to allow you to sit the GAT in isolation on school premises with appropriate health and safety controls in place.

## **What should I do if I am unwell in the week of, or on the morning of the GAT?**

You **must not attend** the GAT if you feel unwell or have any COVID-19 symptoms, however mild, including:

- loss or change in sense of smell or taste,
- fever, chills or sweats,
- cough, sore throat or runny nose, or
- shortness of breath,
- And in certain circumstances headache, muscle soreness, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea may also be considered as symptoms.

You should contact your school and remain at home pending further advice.

If you display any COVID-19 symptoms on arrival or during the GAT, you will be asked to wait in a separate area and your parent or carer will be called to pick you up.

If you become unwell during the GAT, you will be isolated in a separate room while you wait for collection by a parent or carer.

If you are unwell with COVID-19 symptoms on the day of the GAT, you will be eligible to apply for an exemption from the GAT.

### **Under what other circumstances should I not attend the GAT?**

In addition to the above advice if you are unwell in the week of, or on the morning of the GAT you **must not attend** the GAT if you:

- have completed a COVID-19 test and are awaiting your results in isolation,
- are isolating prior to completing a COVID-19 test (e.g. because you have recently returned from overseas),
- have tested positive to COVID-19, or
- have been identified as a close contact of a confirmed case of COVID-19.

In these circumstances, you will be eligible to apply for an exemption from the GAT.

### **What evidence do I need to apply for an exemption from the GAT due to COVID-19?**

Evidence requirements include:

- Supporting letter/incident report from the school.
- Evidence of testing for COVID-19 - includes a Medical certificate from an independent health professional recommending testing or direction to isolate having been identified as a close contact of a confirmed case of COVID-19.

### **Where can I find further information?**

- For information specific to your school or other secondary education provider's GAT arrangements – get in touch with your school or education provider.
- For further health advice you can contact the 24-hour COVID-19 hotline 1800 675 398, your GP, or visit the DHHS website: <https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/victorian-public-coronavirus-disease-covid-19#what-are-the-symptoms-of-coronavirus-covid-19>

## VCE Trial Exams Round 1, 2021

(On-line using Exam.net/ Schoolbox - as deemed appropriate by the subject teacher)

Date	Day	Boys Exam	Girls exam
20 Sep	Monday	Psychology (8:45 am-11:15 am) Business Management 8.45 am – 11:00am	Psychology 8.45 am – 11:30am Further Maths 1 8:45 am – 10:30am
21 Sep	Tuesday	Biology (8:45am – 11:30am)  Arabic (8:45am – 11:05am)  Further Maths- 1 (8:45 am – 10:30am)	Biology 8:45am – 11:30am
22 Sep	Wednesday	Further Maths 2 (8:45am – 10:30am) Maths Methods 1 (8:45am – 10:00am)	Maths Methods 1 8:45 am – 10.00 am Health & Human Development 8.45 am – 11:00am Business Management 8.45 am – 11:00am Further Maths 2 8:45am – 10:30am
23 Sep	Thursday	Chemistry 8.45 am – 11:30am VCD 8.45 am – 11:30am	Chemistry 8.45 am – 11:30am
24 Sep	Friday	Public Holiday	Public Holiday
25 Sep	Saturday	English  09:00 am-12:15 pm	English 8:45 am-12:00 pm
27 Sep	Monday	Texts and Traditions (8:45am – 11:00am) Maths Methods 2 (8:45 am – 11.00 am)	Maths Methods 2 8:45am – 11:00am Legal Studies 8:45am – 11:00am Arabic 8:45am – 11:05am

### VCE Trial Exams Round 2 Term 4, 2021

Date	Day	Exam for Boys only	Trial exams round-2 for girls will be scheduled by subject teachers on Schoolbox
5 Oct	Tuesday	<b>GAT</b> All VCE students are required to arrive to school no later than <b>9.00am</b>	
6 Oct	Wednesday	<b>Psychology</b> (8:45 am-11:15 am) <b>Business Management</b> 8.45 am – 11:00am	
7 Oct	Thursday	<b>Biology</b> (8:45am – 11:30am)  <b>Arabic</b> (8:45am – 11:05am)  <b>Further Maths- 1</b> (8:45 am – 10:30am)	
8 Oct	Friday	<b>Further Maths 2</b> (8:45am – 10:30am) <b>Maths Methods 1</b> (8:45 am – 10.00 am)	
9 Oct	Saturday	<b>English</b>  9:00 am-12:15 pm	
11 Oct	Monday	<b>VCD</b> 8.45 am – 11:30am	
12 Oct	Tuesday	<b>Texts and Traditions</b> (8:45am – 11:00am) <b>Maths Methods 2</b> (8:45am – 11:00am)	
13 Oct – 15 Oct	Wed - Fri	Regular Year 12 classes as per the daily timetable	