

MATHS AND THE ATAR

TOP 4 TIPS FOR STUDENTS



1. MATHS IS IMPORTANT

Maths is a competency required in most, if not all, university courses. Although many university courses no longer specify maths as a pre-requisite to entry, it is absolutely prerequisite to success in life beyond school.

Selecting the most challenging maths subject you feel comfortable with will keep your course options open.

Maths has never been more important for success in life and the wider world. There is a maths for every student to keep your options open for the future.

2. ATAR AND SCALING

Some maths subjects (typically Methods and Specialist) scale up, other maths subjects may be scaled down. But scaling and ATAR is not the reason to select your subjects. Studying VCE subjects that you work hard in, and get positive outcomes from, can give you a better ATAR result, as you are more likely be engaged and successful. Selecting subjects that set you up for success in your career or uni pathways is important – think maths!

3. ATAR IS NOT THE ONLY PATHWAY

Balance your ATAR goals and enjoyment of VCE against the inclusion of a maths subject to set you up for success.

It is not all about all about ATAR as there are many pathways to university. Only about 26% of students enter university through ATAR.

Some maths is always better than none!

4. GETTING STARTED AT UNIVERSITY

Maths is required as part of most courses. Studying maths in Year 12 can assist you to thrive and succeed in your first year of university and help you to avoid taking catch up courses, paying extra fees and wasting time. Many university courses require students to complete a maths unit in the first year of study. Some students find that this offers a valuable opportunity to revisit and consolidate what's been learnt in VCE.

However, those who haven't studied maths in VCE tend to find these units a source of stress and struggle. Completing the most challenging VCE maths subject you can will ensure you are better prepared for the maths required at university, and in your career.

