

December 18, 2021

**2021 Victorian Certificate of Education results  
2021 Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning results**

The month of December is a significant one for all Year 12 students across the State. Not only does it mark the official end of secondary school for these students, it is also the time when they receive details of their academic performance in the Victorian Certificate of Education and/or the Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning. All members of the Penola Catholic College community share an interest in the academic performance of the Year 12 class. It is a time to celebrate the academic excellence and endeavour of individual students and of the year level as a whole. Following is a summary of the academic achievements of the Year 12 class of 2021.

**2021 at a glance.....**

- 187 students completed Year 12 studies at Penola Catholic College in 2021. 42 students were enrolled in the VCAL program with 145 students enrolled in the VCE.
- 99% percent of these students attained their VCE. 97% percent of these students attained their VCAL.
- Students participated in 53 different VCE Unit 3/4 studies in 2021.
- There were 14 study scores of 40 or above before scaling and an additional 11 study scores of 40 or above after scaling. These scores were attained in 13 different VCE and VET studies. (see following page for a complete list of those students who achieved a study score of 40 and above)
- 5 students attained an ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admission Rank) of 90 or above. A further 11 students attained an ATAR of 80 or above. This equates to 13.46% of the Year 12 students who received an ATAR attaining an ATAR 80 and above.
- The highest ATAR of 96.95 was achieved by Athraa Dawoud. She was followed by Wesley Ng on 95.45.
- Jackson Garrett achieved the top unscaled score of 44 in VET Engineering.
- Wesley Ng achieved the top scaled score of 51.45 in Specialist Mathematics.
- The average ATAR was 59.26 slightly down from 59.33 last year.
- The median study score was 26 down from 27 last year.
- 117 Year 12 students applied for a tertiary place
- 38 Year 11 students completed at least one VCE Unit 3/4 study in 2021
- 319 students were enrolled in one of the 27 VCE VET certificates studied in 2021.
- 7 VCAL students completed SBAT programs, 66% obtained employment as a direct result of this.
- 30 VCAL students participated in SWL programs, 33% obtained employment post SWL program.
- 4 VCAL students participated in both SWL and SBAT programs.
- 4 Students studied dual VET Certificates throughout the program.
- In total 24 VCAL students transitioned to immediate employment post completion.
- 16 VCAL students or 39% were provided opportunities to work with at least 2 employers. This is significant given the Pandemic.
- Penola Catholic College has been able to successfully transition 53% of VCAL students to apprenticeships or employment.



Students studied in the following areas in 2021

Area of Vocational Study

39% Business Administration studied in 2021  
4% Plumbing  
4% Automotive  
21% Building and Construction  
7% Electrical  
4% Warehousing and Logistics

The final 21% made up of other including Hospitality, Laboratory, Engineering, Beauty and Information Technology.

Traditionally, an ATAR of 90 or above has been used as a measure of academic excellence. In 2021, five students attained this outstanding result:

Athraa Dawoud  
Jayan Duwal Shrestha

Wesley Ng  
Jack Jory

Ninous Khammoo

When the academic performance of the eleven students who attained an ATAR score of 80 and above is combined with these students, then it becomes clear that many students in the Year 12 class of 2021 have attained a high level of academic excellence.

One of the other measures commonly reported on to assess academic success in VCE studies is the number of study scores of 40 and above. Following is a list of all students who attained this result both before scaling(\*) and after scaling(^):

Arabic	Jouly	Aljawabra*
Chemistry	Jayan	Duwal Shrestha^
English	Athraa	Dawoud*
French	Athraa	Dawoud*
Health and Human Development	Eric	De Fazio*
Italian	Anna Giorgia Remonda Simone Anna Rita	Becce^ Franzoni^ Kakoz^ Muccini* Varrasso^
Japanese	Jayan	Duwal Shrestha*
Mathematical Methods	Jayan Jack Ninous	Duwal Shrestha^ Jory^ Khammoo^

	Wesley	Ng*
Outdoor and Environmental Studies	Mia	Aquilina*
Physics	Wesley	Ng*
Psychology	Mitchell Natasha	Hayes* Ruth*
Specialist Mathematics	Jayan Jack Ninous Wesley	Duwal Shrestha^ Jory^ Khammoo^ Ng*
VET Engineering	Jackson Corban	Garrett* Giddings*

The College challenges all students to strive for personal excellence. High ATARs and VCE study scores are two measures of excellence but there are others. Examples of 2021 Year 12 students who have strived for and achieved personal excellence include:

- A number of students from the class of 2021 who have successfully gained an apprenticeship or traineeship.
- Having satisfactorily completed the necessary requirements to attain their VCE/VCAL, a number of students have been in full-time employment since early Term Four.

I would like to conclude by acknowledging the fine work of all Penola Catholic College teachers. The College's level of academic success in 2021 did not happen by chance. It reflects a commitment to establishing a learning and teaching culture that values and supports academic excellence and endeavour. This has happened because Penola's teachers remain committed to continually reviewing and developing classroom programs that provide every opportunity for the students to experience academic success.

Mr Chris Caldwell  
Principal