VCAL Information Sheet

VCAL Work Related Skills strand

Purpose
The purpose of the Work Related Skills (WRS) strand is to develop employability skills, knowledge and attributes valued within the community and work environments as a preparation for employment.

Aims
The Work Related Skills units are designed to:
• integrate learning about work skills with prior knowledge and experiences
• enhance the development of employability skills through work related contexts
• develop critical thinking skills that apply to problem solving in work contexts
• develop planning and work related organisational skills
• develop OHS awareness
• develop and apply transferable skills for work related contexts.

Employability skills
Employability skills contain key personal attributes and skills that are important for young people (entry-level employees) entering the workforce and for existing employees in a global and knowledge economy. The key employability skills include:
• communication
• team work
• problem solving
• initiative and enterprise
• planning and organising
• learning
• self-management
• technology.

Credit towards WRS strand
The following curriculum options can be used to meet the requirements for the WRS strand:
• VCAL WRS units
• VCE units aligned to the Work Related Skills strand, e.g. VCE Outdoor and Environmental Studies, VCE Industry and Enterprise (Unit 1 only) and any VCE Technology studies, e.g. Food and Technology
• VCE VET units
• selected accredited Further Education modules or certificates
• nationally accredited VET modules/units of competency.

Entry
There are no prerequisites for entry to the VCAL WRS units.

Nominal duration
Each WRS unit has a nominal duration of 100 hours – one credit.

Learning outcomes
There are 6 to 8 learning outcomes in each WRS unit. Students must achieve all learning outcomes to be credited with the unit.

VCAL and structured workplace learning
There are no formal on-the-job training or structured workplace learning requirements within the accredited units of the VCAL. However, if a VET module/unit of competency is used to meet some of the requirements of the VCAL, this VET module/unit of competency may require a structured workplace learning placement.

Structured workplace learning can be used to meet some or all of the learning outcomes of the WRS units.

Schools will need to refer to information on structured workplace learning requirements on the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development website.

If students undertake structured workplace learning as part of their VCAL learning program, they must complete relevant accredited OHS training prior to commencement of the structured workplace learning placement.

For further information refer to the:
Curriculum Planning Guide: Industry Specific Skills Strand and Work Related Skills Strand
VCAL Unit Assessment Planning Guide

Further information is provided in the current VCE and VCAL Administrative Handbook.
Useful websites
The following resources may support the delivery of VCAL WRS Unit 1 or 2.

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<th>Resource</th>
<th>Website</th>
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<tr>
<td>Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au">www.vcaa.vic.edu.au</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Victorian Applied Learning Association (VALA) Safe-T1 resources</td>
<td><a href="http://www.vala.asn.au">www.vala.asn.au</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Safe @work</td>
<td><a href="http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/students/beyond/Pages/swguide.aspx">www.education.vic.gov.au/school/students/beyond/Pages/swguide.aspx</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>WorkSafe Victoria</td>
<td><a href="http://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au">www.worksafe.vic.gov.au</a></td>
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