

High Ability Pathways and Transitions

Virtual Extension Pathway – Information for students

Summary:

Instead of one of your on-campus electives (Year 9 or 10), you can choose to replace it with an online extension subject.

Who?

The Virtual Extension Pathway is for students who have:

- excellent effort and behaviour in all classes
- high academic potential
- the ability to work independently and self-motivate
- a low interest in the elective subjects currently on offer at Seymour College

You will need to apply to be part of the Virtual Extension Pathway and only a small number of students will be accepted.

When?

You will have 'spare' periods when your elective is scheduled on the Seymour College timetable. The classes for your online extension subject are externally timetabled, so will probably not line up to be at the same time as your spares. Therefore, you will probably need to leave other lessons to attend your online extension classes, and catch up on missed work during your spares.

Course providers:

Emerging Sciences Victoria (ESV)

- commitment involves two 50min Webex classes each week + 1hr homework
- subjects run for one semester each

Virtual Schools Victoria (VSV)

- commitment varies based on the subject, but is usually one Webex class each week + homework
- subjects run for one semester each

Victorian School of Languages (VSL)

- commitment varies, but usually involves written work and weekly phone conversations with a teacher
- subjects run for one semester or one year

Teacher coordinator: Ms Young

Subject options

Emerging Sciences Victoria (ESV)

Bioinformatics: This course explores how we use technology to understand DNA and genetic codes. Students will examine the structure and function of the cell, DNA and proteins, the development and uses of genetic technology.

Climate Change – a ‘Wicked Problem’: Climate Change is arguably the most important Wicked Problem that we face in the 21st Century, and effects virtually every aspect of the Earth’s physical, chemical and biological systems.

Frontiers of Physics: Students journey through the Universe where they explore the phenomenon of black holes, quasars, dark matter and dark energy.

Nanotechnology: Nanotechnology is the study of the world at a scale that is larger than the atom but smaller than a bacteria.

Nature and Beauty of Mathematics: Students will explore the world of fractals, multiple dimensions, irrational numbers and their relationship with the natural world, the mathematics of paper folding and topology, the nature of mathematics itself, as well as the complexities of infinity.

Neuroscience: Neuroscience will tackle what we already know about the brain and how cutting edge technologies are changing this.

Medical Physics: This course is designed to link physics concepts used in the medical field along with human anatomy and physiology.

Indigenous science: Have you ever wondered how Australia’s first people incorporated science and technology into their culture? In this course we will explore how the traditions, culture and stories of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people embedded within them a deep understanding of how the world around them worked.

Virtual Schools Victoria (VSV)

Economics and Business: This course looks at how individuals, families, communities, workers, businesses and governments allocate resources.

Research: Research can include practical or technical investigations, formal research, or exploratory inquiries. Because you will work on extended investigations or projects over a full semester, you need to be self-motivated

Victorian School of Languages (VSL)

Victorian School of Languages offers a variety of languages at levels from beginner to advanced. These include Arabic, Chinese, German, Greek, Indonesian, Italian, and Japanese.

Virtual Extension Pathway – Student Application Form (Semester 1 2022)

Please email this form to Ms Young (bernadette.young@education.vic.gov.au) by the end of Term 3, 2021.

Name:	Form class:
Contact email address:	
Online extension subject preferences:	
1)	
2)	
3)	

Why do you want to take part in the Virtual Extension Pathway?

The Virtual Extension Pathway is only for students who have excellent effort and behaviour in all classes, high academic potential, the ability to work independently and self-motivate, and a low interest in the elective subjects currently on offer at Seymour College. Explain how you fit these criteria.

Your application will also be based on your most recent school report card and a reference from a teacher who knows your academic potential, effort, and behaviour. You need to ask a teacher to be a referee for you. They will be contacted by Ms Young and asked about your suitability for the Virtual Extension Program.

Please list the name of the teacher you have asked:

Parent/guardian acknowledgement

I acknowledge that I have read the attached information and support my child's application to take part in the Virtual Extension Pathway.

Name:

Signature:

Date: