VCAA Review of Special Provision and an Invitation to complete an online survey

During 2014 the VCAA is reviewing its current policy and administrative procedures associated with administering Special Provision within School-based Assessment and VCE examinations (with a particular focus on the Special Examination Arrangements (SEA) and the Derived Examination Score (DES) processes). These policies and procedures were last reviewed in 2005.

The purpose of the review is to:

- Ensure special provision policies are in line with relevant Federal and State legislation.
- Address and/or respond to the concerns of key stakeholder groups.
- Develop a better process for ensuring consistency across provisions provided for school-based assessments and VCE examinations.
- Explore the possibility of approving provisions prior to the commencement of a student’s VCE or VCAL program.

The review will involve four key stages.

**Stage 1 – Online Survey**

The first stage of the review will seek stakeholder feedback on current policies and processes via an online survey. This feedback will form the basis of focus group discussions, which follow later in the year.

The online survey will be open from Tuesday 11 March until Friday 4 April, 2014.

The survey can be accessed using the following link

We encourage schools and stakeholder groups to include the survey link on their website and to include the link in any newsletter or correspondence they may send to their communities.

**Stage 2 – Focus Groups**

The feedback from the online survey will help inform the development of focus questions and raise issues for focus group discussion.

Stakeholder groups will be asked to nominate a representative/s to attend focus groups.

The focus groups will take place during July and/or August. More detailed information will be made available once the program for each focus group has been confirmed.

**Stage 3 – Recommendations**

The VCAA will publish any recommendations for a change in policy or process at the conclusion of the focus group stage. The recommendations will be disseminated to the focus group attendees and other stakeholders seeking their written feedback. Where deemed necessary a particular focus group may be recalled to discuss the recommendations.

**Stage 4 – Policy Document**

The VCAA will publish its revised/updated policy documents and timeline for implementation. This information will then be made publicly available on the VCAA website and related publications e.g. VCE/VCAL Administrative Handbook.

**Contact**

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