**Derived Exam Scores**

The Derived Exam Score (DES) is intended for students who are ill or affected by other personal circumstances **at the time of or immediately before an examination** and whose examination result is unlikely to be a fair or accurate indication of their learning or achievement in the study. ‘Immediately before’ is the two-week period prior to the VCE examination period being applied for.

The DES does not compensate for learning or achievement that has not been possible because of long-term illness or other ongoing conditions that have been present over the year.

To be able to apply the student must demonstrate that at the time of the examination, or in the two weeks prior, he/she experienced circumstances that:

- would prevent the students performing on the examination at a level that accurately reflects his/her real achievement

or

- prevented the student from sitting the examination at all.

Acceptable reasons to apply could be:

- illness (both physical and psychiatric), physical injury or a disability which affects the student’s performance on the examination (e.g. influenza, asthma attack, broken arm)

- factors relating to their personal circumstances or any event which affects the student’s performance on the examination (e.g. death/serious illness of a family member or close friend, family break up)

Students who want to apply must speak to the VCE administrator, Dean of VCE programs, or the school counsellor to discuss their circumstances and collect an application form. It is the responsibility of the student to complete the application. Applications must have evidence from an independent professional who knows the students’ circumstances, the Chief Supervisor of the examination and the Principal.

**Applications must be made to the VCAA within 7 days of your last examination.**

Students who become ill or suffer other circumstances towards the end of Term 3 or early in Term 4 may be eligible for Special Examination Arrangements such as access to medication, rest breaks or additional time. These students should speak to the Head of Student Support, the Manager of Academic Programs or the school counsellor. Such arrangements would ordinarily neutralise the impact of the circumstances and therefore the student would not be eligible for a DES.