

Health

General senior subject

General

The Health syllabus provides students with a contextualised strengths-based inquiry of the various determinants that create and promote lifelong health, learning and active citizenship. Drawing from the health, behavioural, social and physical sciences, the Health syllabus offers students an action, advocacy and evaluation-oriented curriculum. Embedded in Health is the Health inquiry model that provides the conceptual framework for this syllabus.

The Health syllabus is developmental and becomes increasingly more complex across the four units through the use of the Health inquiry model. This syllabus is underpinned by a salutogenic (strengths-based) approach, which focuses on how health resources are accessed and enhanced. Resilience as a personal health resource in Unit 1, establishes key teaching and learning concepts, which build capacity for the depth of understanding over the course of study. Unit 2 focuses on the role and influence of peers and family as resources through one topic selected from two choices: Elective topic 1: Alcohol, or Elective topic 2: Body image. Unit 3 explores the role of the community in shaping resources through one topic selected from three choices: Elective topic 1: Homelessness, Elective topic 2: Transport safety, or Elective topic 3: Anxiety. The culminating unit challenges students to investigate and evaluate innovations that influence respectful relationships to help them navigate the post-schooling life course transition.

Health uses an inquiry approach informed by the critical analysis of health information to investigate sustainable health change at personal, peer, family and community levels. Students define and understand broad health topics, which they reframe into specific contextualised health issues for

further investigation. Students plan, implement, evaluate and reflect on action strategies that mediate, enable and advocate change through health promotion.

Studying Health will highlight the value and dynamic nature of the discipline, alongside the purposeful processes and empathetic approach needed to enact change. The investigative skills required to understand complex issues and problems will enable interdisciplinary learning, and prepare students for further study and a diverse range of career pathways. The development of problem-solving and decision-making skills will serve to enable learning now and in the future.

The health industry is currently experiencing strong growth and is recognised as the largest industry for new employment in Australia, with continued expansion predicted due to ageing population trends. A demand for individualised health care services increases the need for health-educated people who can solve problems and contribute to improved health outcomes across the lifespan at individual, family, local, national and global levels. The preventive health agenda is future-focused to develop 21st century skills, empowering students to be critical and creative thinkers, with strong communication and collaboration skills equipped with a range of personal, social and ICT skills.

Pathways

A course of study in Health can establish a basis for further education and employment in the fields of health science, public health, health education, allied health, nursing and medical professions.

Objectives

By the conclusion of the course of study, students will:

- recognise and describe information about health-related topics and issues
- comprehend and use the Health inquiry model
- analyse and interpret information to draw conclusions about health-related topics and issues
- critique information to distinguish determinants that influence health status
- investigate and synthesise information to develop action strategies
- evaluate and reflect on implemented action strategies to justify recommendations that mediate, advocate and enable health promotion
- organise information for particular purposes
- make decisions about and use mode-appropriate features, language and conventions for particular purposes and contexts.

Structure

Unit 1	Unit 2	Unit 3	Unit 4
Resilience as a personal health resource	Peers and family as resources for healthy living • Body image (elective)	Community as a resource for healthy living • Homelessness (elective)	Respectful relationships in the post-schooling transition

Assessment

Schools devise assessments in Units 1 and 2 to suit their local context.

In Units 3 and 4 students complete *four* summative assessments. The results from each of the assessments are added together to provide a subject score out of 100. Students will also receive an overall subject result (A–E).

Summative assessments

Unit 3		Unit 4	
Summative internal assessment 1 (IA1): • Action research	25%	Summative internal assessment 3 (IA3): • Investigation	25%
Summative internal assessment 2 (IA2): • Examination — extended response	25%	Summative external assessment (EA): • Examination — extended response	25%

