



THE ACADEMY SCHOOL



The Academy School

40% of students are currently disengaged in their school*.

It's a worrying figure, but not much is being done to fix it. The education system has hardly evolved in the last 50 years and traditional teaching methods remain the norm for every student, with minimal regard to the individual and how they learn.

You wouldn't call a fish a failure, just because it can't climb a tree, right?

Three years ago, The Academy set out to fix the system and bring a modern, effective way of learning to Australia's young adults.

When students are passionately engaged in their education, it shows through their results and fulfilment levels. Students are more excited about their future when they're equipped with the tools to live a life they love.

For young athletes, The Academy is the optimal setting to learn and train from the best, hone their skills and take their footy to the next level.

Welcome to The Academy School.

The Academy is a full-time elite AFL passion school, offering an alternative to standard year 11 & 12 schooling.

Each student at The Academy enrolls because they are passionate about AFL. For two years, they'll be placed in an AFL-simulated environment that focuses on personal growth and high performance to prepare them in the next step of their football journey.

COURSE STRUCTURE

Success comes as a result of all different pathways and anyone can achieve their goals if they're given the right environment in which to nurture them.

The Academy is a different kind of school. Using an approach that steers away from outdated methods, we're preparing Australia's boys for a future that's built on their passion.

The curriculum at The Academy is tailored in a way that allows students to take a proactive approach to their education. Designed for more practical learners (largely athletes), we're removing the stigma associated with VCAL and proving that a real-world education is the key to success.

LEARNING APPROACH

The Academy program is delivered over 3 phases:

PHASE 1 YEAR 11

Discovery

National Curriculum Code
VCALINT001

The first phase in our Year 11s journey lays a solid foundation of self awareness and passion based education, improving engagement through The Academy culture.

PHASE 2 YEAR 12

Growth

National Curriculum Code
VCALSEN001

This middle phase sees students master their individual learning and leadership styles, becoming aware of the opportunities which are now possibilities.

PHASE 3 YEAR 12

Launch Pad

National Curriculum Code
22313VIC

This final phase in our year 12's education acts as a platform to prepare them for the next steps of their journey, designed to lift the stress and anxiety students experience transitioning into the real world. Launch Pad comes with a multitude of advantages, including:

- > Helping students to investigate different pathways, such as tertiary study, work or something else
- > Developing key skills in planning and researching for the future
- > Helping students discover their purpose and passion
- > Students will also be guaranteed entry into the following:



Richmond Institute of Sports Leadership & Swinburne University

Dual Diploma of Sport Development (SIS50612) and Leadership & Management (BSB51915)



GOTAFE

All certificate & diploma level course

- > Other pathway options:



Victoria University

Students will meet the Admission requirements for a number of undergraduate degree courses at Victoria University by successfully completing Launch Pad (22313VIC - Certificate IV in Tertiary Preparation).

For example:

Bachelor of Education Studies
Bachelor of Physical Education And Sport Science
Bachelor of Health Science
Bachelor of Business - All Majors



Curriculum Snapshot

- > Year 11 & 12 certificate
 - > VCAL (Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning)
 - > Contextualised learning to suit students' passions
 - > Designed and updated by the industry
 - > Direct entry into numerous university courses
-

The curriculum is based on
The Academy's 3 P's of Holistic
Education: **Personal, Passion & Professional.**

The ATAR Myth

There's more than one way for students to achieve their goals. Getting into university and achieving the job of their dreams is a real possibility even without a VCE.

As the tertiary education landscape changes, so too are admissions processes. More students are applying directly to institutions, and admissions decisions are increasingly being made on a range of bases other than ATAR.* More than half of all Australian students are starting a bachelor degree admitted on a basis other than their ATAR.

* The Mitchell Paper (2018), Exploring the use and usefulness of the Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR)

Personal

Student Development Programme

- WHY** To help students understand their strengths & celebrate who they are.
HOW A personal development manager helps pupils set goals and ensure they're happy at school and at home.

Each student has different coping mechanisms and we strive to foster an environment that nurtures their mental and physical well-being, to empower students to be proud of who they are and develop their emotional intelligence.

To support this, The Academy Personal Development Journal includes weekly gratitude questions, mindfulness exercises and buddy programmes. Each student will also complete a personality profile

(DISC) at the start of the year, to help them understand their own behaviour and better adapt to that of others.

As part of our commitment to develop students both academically and holistically, a leadership group is selected at the start of each year, to make important decisions on behalf of the student body. This group will receive leadership development training to expose them to various leadership styles and strengthen their capabilities.

Passion

High-Performance Programme

- WHY** So students can do what they love, enhance skills & enjoy their time at school.
HOW Instilling a high-performance mindset to give students the drive to achieve their goals.

Each student at The Academy enrolls because they are passionate about AFL. For two years, they'll be placed in an AFL-simulated environment that focuses on personal growth and high performance to prepare them in the next step of their football journey.

An Athletic Profiling Database is maintained to monitor individual development, with data collected during 4 replicated AFL combine sessions. It is then used to identify strengths and weaknesses for a tailored programme. The results are fed through to families and clubs (TAC & local).

The Academy enhances performance by focusing on the following major components:

Skills: AFL standard drills to improve structural and system awareness, as well as decision-making and execution.

Running Tech: Improve movement efficiency to enhance football capacity.

Recovery: Regenerate & adapt from stress, working with a physical therapist during the in-season phase of the football competition.

Injury Rehab: Enhance regeneration capacity & return student to full performance as soon as possible.

Strength: Students are fitter, faster, more powerful & agile, to better adapt to the physical demands of football.

Cross Train: To assist with load management on legs, and improve fitness & body composition. Includes pilates, swimming, biking, yoga, etc.

Professional

Curriculum & Pathway Options

- WHY** To ensure students are educated to a level that allows them to create any pathway they want.
HOW Educating students in literacy and numeracy they'll actually use in the real world, in a way that relates to their passion for football.

Students undertake a learning structure environment that's more closely linked to university or TAFE to prepare them for further study. They'll be involved in face-to-face and online workshops and lectures throughout the two years, as well as three work placements.

The work placements will help them get a real life grasp of a potential career, so they can eliminate the career paths they

don't want and hone in on what they really want to do. Upon the completion of each placement, students are required to critically evaluate why or why not this could be a potential pathway for them.

We have created Articulated Pathways, so once students complete two years at The Academy, they can achieve entry into Trades & Apprenticeships at tertiary education establishments.


UNIQUE CULTURE

100% of students at The Academy report feeling happy and engaged in both their education and the environment.

We maintain this positive response with a culture that is aligned with the way young people learn:

- > Inclusive of everyone, whatever their strengths and weaknesses are
- > Focused on connecting people and forming relationships
- > Importance placed more on personal development, rather than outcome

- > Daily schedules are flexible to maximise connection to programmes
- > Regular wellness check-ins
- > No more than 100 students in the school, so each pupil gets the attention they need
- > Lead teachers are allocated a maximum of 25 students each, and become the figure of a supporter, mentor and friend

 **See what the students & parents say at theacademy.com.au/culture**

THE ACADEMY TEACHERS

All staff at The Academy are carefully selected because they fit the school's purpose and values. They each have impressive credentials in both their professional and academic career, and have been heavily involved in football for a large portion of their lives. All teaching staff have played football or coached at a VFL or higher level.

Teachers choose to work at The Academy because it enables them to align their

passions of football and education. They're also able to form stronger connections to students because they share the same interests and have led a similar life path.

Disengagement at other schools is largely because teachers struggle to relate to the students, and we've been able to eliminate this problem at The Academy. All staff are passionate about personal growth and they relay this to the students.

COMMUNITY

Families of The Academy students are encouraged to take a proactive approach in their son's education and future. We facilitate this by making sure that families get to be a part of the journey, making community a major part of our approach.

How do we do this?

- > Hosting regular family events throughout the year to connect the community
- > A dedicated Student Journey Manager is available at each campus to answer any questions you might have

- > We created The Academy School Stream App. This exciting addition is our handy communications portal between the school and families. It enables families to stay up-to-date with what their son is doing and can act as a good conversation starter between families and students. It includes forms, events, daily learning updates and general communication.





Make the Squad

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Attend an Information Session

Students and families are invited to attend an Information Session which enables us to understand your learning requirements and makes sure you and The Academy are the right fit.

2. Application for Enrolment

Parents submit an online Application form which places you on the list of Applicants and will be considered by The Admissions team. You may be required to attend an interview with one of the directors if you haven't met with them at an Information Session.

3. Letter of Offer

Upon receiving an offer for a place at The Academy, parents have 14 days to accept by completing and returning necessary documentation with the non-refundable acceptance fee. The tuition deposit amount is credited upon commencement at The Academy.

THINGS TO KNOW FIRST

The Academy School application process is required for all students applying. We welcome applications for all future enrolment years. Our intake years are Year 11 and Year 12.

- > Applicants are required to complete Year 10 or 11 before commencing the following year
- > Applicants are able to select the relevant campus and year level at enrolment
- > Students need to be playing football at a minimum local level standard to enrol
- > Applications are considered based on the date of submission. Therefore, we encourage you to submit an application as early as possible.



**Book in for one of our
information sessions
to meet the team behind
The Academy at
[theacademy.com.au/
information](https://theacademy.com.au/information)**



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