



DE LA SALLE  
COLLEGE

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16 December 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

### Outstanding VCE results - Congratulations to the De La Salle Class of 2021!

- The Median Study Score for 2021 is 31, up from the Victorian state average of 30 last year and places us very favourably in comparison to “like” schools.
- The percentage of Study Scores 40 and above is 10.30%, the first time we have broken through the 10% barrier, easily our best result. This achievement continues a steady pattern of growth since 2016, almost doubling the number of Study Scores over 40 in that six-year period. Last year was 8.55% – previously our best in the past ten years – and up from 7.85% in 2019, 7.22% in 2018, 6.43% in 2017 and 5.3% in 2016. This demonstrates terrific progression and growth in six consecutive cohorts – a very pleasing reward for the targeted work of leadership and teachers in lifting results and pushing their students.
- We have continued our impressive pattern of recent years in relation to high numbers of students attaining ATARs in the 90s, with 2021 results in this area particularly notable given the interruptions to onsite learning. With 19.10% of the cohort attaining an ATAR of 90 or above despite the remote learning, this is outstanding. This represents essentially an extraordinary 41% increase from 2020’s 13.53%. For almost 20% of our students to achieve an ATAR above 90 is exceptional, given our non-selective, open entry, mixed ability enrolment policy.
- We had a remarkable 39.70% of ATARs in the 80 - 99.95 range, an increase of 8.12% from 2020.
- The percentage of students with ATARs in the 70 – 99.95 range is 56.70%, up by 6.32%. This continues our record of keeping 50% of ATARs above 70.
- The Median ATAR is 73.55, up from 70.60 in 2020, which continues the excellent record in recent years of keeping the Median ATAR above 70.

The impressive range of superb individual results, with many students doing exceptionally well, is testament to their commitment and organisation, coping very well with the rigours of months of remote learning. The high standard our students have largely been able to maintain as a cohort, in comparison to recent years, is also noteworthy and a credit to the students’ resilience, ambition and their teachers’ professional and flexible approach this year.

I am so proud of all our young men; without the comfort and routine of everyday onsite contact with peers and teachers they strove for personal success and maximised their results through sheer devotion to the task.

This year we have two students with the honour of being College Dux. Congratulations to Tom Seddon (College Captain as well!) and Richard Bland, who both attained the extraordinary ATAR of 98.60.

Congratulations again to all our Year 12 students and teachers on this tremendous achievement for 2021.

While there is an impressive range of superb individual results, high standard they have been able to maintain as a cohort is most noteworthy.

Congratulations and thank you to all the Unit 3 and 4 teachers who invested so much time, effort and expertise in teaching, mentoring and advising each and every student in their care. De La Salle’s effective management and delivery of remote learning has been a highlight in the challenges and demands of the past two years. With the state median for all subjects being 30, we have so many with median Study Scores in the 32 – 36 range, figures which sit at the very top of the scale when compared with any of Victoria’s highest performing schools. Several Learning Areas and individual subjects have achieved their very best results for several years.

The overall improvements we saw in 2021 are testament to the targeted approach and diligent attention to detail evident among the students and the positive relationships our teachers enjoy with our young men. This support and rapport were more important than ever in the frustrating months of four separate rounds of remote learning, managing the transition back to onsite learning and dealing with such a unique range of academic and wellbeing issues.

I am so proud of all our young men and how they embraced and coped with the trials delivered to VCE students once again in 2021. The most capable and diligent were best able to deal with the challenges and changes but perhaps even more worthy of merit was the resilience and performance of those with lesser gifts who strove for personal success and maximised their results through sheer devotion to the task. While we of course celebrate the upper end of the results, I must acknowledge the staff who worked so hard to support, challenge and extend students of all abilities and motivation levels. I am very proud of all our young men who persevered under such trying circumstances and came out as successful, proud Lasallians.

VCAA's second year of the Consideration of Educational Disadvantage (CED) process, diligently applied by our staff, also assisted a range of students.

Thank you once again for your support during the year; it was greatly appreciated by all in our wonderful community. I wish you a happy, holy and safe Christmas and holiday period.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Houlihan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Peter Houlihan  
Principal