Preparation for university

**01** Choosing their Year 11 and 12 subjects

At this point, university might seem a long way off, but the decisions your child makes in Year 10 about VCE/HSC subjects may affect what they can study after Year 12. If you’re reading this as a parent of a Year 10 student, now is the perfect opportunity to gather the information they need to be fully prepared. For more information, please call us on 1300 135 045 from 9 am–5 pm, Monday to Friday.

**02** What interests your child?

It’s hard to choose what to study at university. How can you help? Identify your child’s strengths and passions and introduce them to options they may not have considered. Flick through these pages for our courses, pathways and scholarships. Another option is to jump onto seek.com.au, read the required qualifications and work backwards from any career ideas your child may have.

**03** Get course information and advice

Looking for course information and advice? This undergraduate guide is a good place to start. Check out our courses on the La Trobe website. Ask around – use your friends, family and colleagues. Attend Open Day and Experience Clever. Book a one-on-one consultation at latrobe.edu.au/study/one-on-one-consultations.

**04** See the University for yourself

Your child could spend three to six years at university, so visiting the campus before applying is a smart idea. Open Day is the perfect opportunity to experience La Trobe at one of our campuses in Melbourne and Warrnambool, South Wales. With lecturers and students, you’ll tour the facilities, watch live demonstrations or even check out the accommodation options. Earlier in the year we also run Experience Clever, where your child can take part in dynamic and interactive workshops led by La Trobe academics.

**05** Your child chooses their preferences

They’ve done the research and narrowed it down. Now they’ll need to apply for up to eight courses, in order of preference. Your child will need to apply through VTAC or UAC, but we offer plenty of support to help you through this process. From online resources to one-on-one consultations, it’s vital they know the key dates and apply by the deadline.

**06** ATARs are released

For your child, it may feel like the entire future is riding on achieving the right ATAR score. But it’s not. If they meet their goals or score even higher, that’s fantastic. If not, there are many pathways into university degrees, and many programs are available to accommodate successful students. If you or your child need immediate support, please call us on 1300 135 045. We’re here to help.

**07** Change of mind?

Maybe they underestimated the hard work, or the competition for places. Whatever the reason, your child can change their university preferences. Check the VTAC website for details: vtac.edu.au/applying/courses/compare/courses/ facultys.

**08** Accept and enrol – or defer

Your child received an offer? Congratulations! Now’s the time to accept (and start enrol). Your child might want help with this part. You can find instructions on our website. If they want to take a gap year, there’s the option to accept and defer. If they decide to defer next year, they’ll lose their academic year.

**Tips for supporting your child**

- **Choosing their Year 11 and 12 subjects**
  - Help them understand the importance of choosing the right subjects for their future career goals.
  - Encourage them to explore a variety of options.

- **What interests your child?**
  - Ask open-ended questions to help them identify their passions.
  - Encourage them to research different career paths.

- **Get course information and advice**
  - Help them understand the course syllabus and learning outcomes.
  - Guide them in understanding the course fees and financial aids.

- **See the University for yourself**
  - Take them on a campus tour to give them a feel for the physical environment.
  - Help them understand the social and cultural life.

- **Your child chooses their preferences**
  - Help them understand the importance of ordering their preferred courses.
  - Assist them in understanding the application and enrolment process.

- **ATARs are released**
  - Help them understand the ATAR system and its implications.
  - Support them in understanding the different pathways into university.

- **Change of mind?**
  - Help them understand the process for changing courses or preferences.
  - Encourage them to discuss their options with their lecturers.

- **Accept and enrol – or defer**
  - Guide them through the enrolment process.
  - Support them in understanding the implications of deferring.
‘Year 12 is a challenging year. As a parent, I think you just need to be there in the background to support and offer your guidance. Do a little research on the degrees and universities your child is thinking of doing, so you’re armed with information if they do come to you wanting help.’

Simon Bolles
Parent of La Trobe student, Felicity Bolles

Key dates and contacts

VTAC
Applications open
3 August
Timely course applications close
30 September
Late course applications close
6 November
Very late course applications close
4 December

Open Day 2020
Melbourne
Sunday 2 August
Shepparton
Friday 7 August
Mildura
Wednesday 12 August
Albury-Wodonga
Sunday 16 August
Bendigo
Sunday 23 August
Sydney
Wednesday 26 August

Experience Clever 2020
Albury-Wodonga
Friday 28 February
Melbourne
Friday 3 April
Bendigo
Wednesday 8 July

Midyear Expo 2020
Find out what your future looks like at our midyear expo, where you can meet teaching staff and explore your perfect course. Register your interest at latrobe.edu.au/expo

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Very late course applications close
4 December

Keep an eye out for other key dates for your child, like change of preference or accepting and deferring periods where they can change their mind about what course they want to study.

latrobe.edu.au

Want to know more? Get in touch

Stay connected

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La Trobe University

Instagram
Instagram.com/latrobe

Future Students Centre
One Robin Building
Melbourne Campus

Ask a question
Campus Map

VTAC
Melbourne
Sunday 2 August
Shepparton
Friday 7 August
Mildura
Wednesday 12 August
Albury-Wodonga
Sunday 16 August
Bendigo
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