

Ringwood Secondary College
2017 Course Planning Document

VCE Unit 3 Environmental Science

Time Allocation

This unit of work will consist of approximately 100 hours of which at least 50 hours will be class time. **To complete this unit of work satisfactorily, students must complete each of the following learning outcomes.**

Learning Outcomes

Outcome 1

On completion of this unit the student should be able to explain the importance of Earth's biodiversity, analyse the threats to biodiversity, and evaluate management strategies to maintain biodiversity in the context of one selected threatened endemic species.

Outcome 2

On completion of this unit the student should be able to explain the principles of sustainability and environmental management and analyse and evaluate a selected environmental science case study.

Assessment Tasks

1. A written response to a set of Questions

The student is required to answer a set of questions that shows their understanding of the Earth's biodiversity. Students will investigate a threatened endemic species and respond to questions evaluating management strategies to maintain biodiversity of that species. Students will attend Cranbourne Gardens to investigate Eastern Barred Bandicoot as the species.

Weighting: This task is worth 25% of the overall grade **Time allocated to task:** 60 minutes

Due: Term 1, Week 10

2. A written report drawing on material from fieldwork

The student is required to investigate the biodiversity of a local environmental area by using quadrats and transects. The students will complete a report on their findings.

Weighting: This task is worth 25% of the overall grade **Time allocated to task:** 2 periods

Due: Term 2, Week 2

3. Case Study

The student is required to undertake a 1000 word written report on a selected case study. The students will be given some guiding questions

Weighting: This task is worth 50% of the overall grade **Time allocated to task:** 2 periods

Due: Term 2, Week 7

School-assessed Coursework for Unit 3 will contribute 20% to the study score.

The level of achievement for Units 3 and 4 is also assessed by an end-of-year examination, which will contribute 50% to the study score.