

**Ringwood Secondary College**  
**2017 Course Planning Document**

## **VCE Unit 3 Legal Studies**

### **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**

The student should be able to explain the structure and role of parliament, including its processes and effectiveness as a law-making body, describe why legal change is needed, and the means by which such change can be influenced.

#### **Outcome 2**

The student should be able to explain the role of the Commonwealth Constitution in defining law-making powers within a federal structure, analyse the means by which law-making powers may change, and evaluate the effectiveness of the Commonwealth Constitution in protecting human rights.

#### **Outcome 3**

The student should be able to describe the role and operation of courts in law-making, evaluate their effectiveness as law-making bodies and discuss their relationship with parliament.

To achieve this outcome:

### **Assessment Tasks**

#### **1. Test on Parliament and the Citizen**

The student is required to explain the 3 principles of the Australian Parliamentary System and the structure and role of parliament.

**Weighting:** This task is worth 12.5 % of the overall grade    **Time allocated to task:** 1 period

**Due: Term 1, Week 3**

#### **2. Test on Parliament and the Citizen (no. 2)**

The student is required to explain why change to the law is needed, how that change is influenced and evaluate the effectiveness of parliament as a law making body.

**Weighting:** This task is worth 12.5% of the overall grade    **Time allocated to task:** 50 minutes

**Due: Term 1, Week 7**

#### **3. Test on the Constitution and the Division of Law making Powers**

The student is required to explain how the Commonwealth Constitution divides law-making powers between the Commonwealth and State parliaments, and the 3 means by which this division of power may be altered.

**Weighting:** This task is worth 30% of the overall grade    **Time allocated to task:** 1 period

**Due: Term 2, Week 2**

#### **4. Test on the Constitution and the Protection of Rights (no. 2)**

The student is required to explain the 3 ways in which the Commonwealth Constitution offers protection of rights in Australia, and compare this protection with that offered by one other country.

**Weighting:** This task is worth 20 % of the overall grade      **Time allocated to task:** 50 minutes

**Due: Term 2, Week 5**

#### **5. Test on the Role of the Courts**

The student is required to explain the two ways in which courts make law, evaluate their effectiveness and describe the relationship that exists between parliament and the courts.

**Weighting:** This task is worth 25 % of the overall grade      **Time allocated to task:** 1 period

**Due: Term 2, Week 8**