

VSN Information Article

Introduction of the Victorian Student Number

Mayfield Education is working with the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development to allocate a Victorian Student Number (VSN) to each student at our institute as per the Education and Training Reform Amendment Bill 2008.

The VSN is a student identification number that is being assigned to all students in government and non-government schools, and students up to the age of 24 in the Vocational Education and Training providers. The number, which is unique to each student, will be used as a key identifier on a student's records, and will remain with the student throughout his or her education, until reaching the age of 25. The VSN is nine digits long, randomly assigned, and tied to stable information about the student (name, gender, date of birth).

The introduction of the Victorian Student Number will provide the capability to accurately detect patterns of student movement through, and departure from, the Victorian education and training system. It will greatly improve the collection and analysis of timely and accurate data about education in Victoria.

Schools and institutes currently collect data on such things as student attendance, student achievement, course choices and special needs and report these to the Department. Skills Victoria summarises this information to track improvements made to the education system, to identify areas that require further improvement, and to analyse trends and identify future needs. The VSN will simply improve the accuracy,

reliability and completeness of this information, providing a better basis for assessing needs and developing policies to meet them. The improved quality of information will also result in more accurate reporting to taxpayers on the state's education system.

You will see the VSN appear on the student results report, enrolment forms and student details confirmation reports. You can also request information from [VET provider administration] that has been notified to the Victorian Student Register and the allocated VSN.

If you want to know more about the VSN please see

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/management/governance/vsn/overview.htm>