



Welcome back to a new school year!
As we kick off term 1, here's a useful refresher with important updates and points to keep in mind for the upcoming school year.

School's liaison database updates - stay connected

As the new year begins, we understand that can mean staff changes and new appointments.

To ensure important SATAC updates reach the right people, please take a moment to complete our [school's liaison contact form for new and returning staff](#).

If you know the details of the relevant staff, you can complete the form on their behalf. Simply choose the role that best matches each person from the drop-down list so the relevant communications reach the right people.

At a minimum, please include:

- **Principal**
- **Career Counsellor and/or SACE/NTCET/Curriculum Coordinator** – main contact for SATAC and admission updates
- **General admin email** – to share SATAC news and initiatives with the wider school community

Keeping this information up to date ensures your school won't miss important updates, resources, and opportunities for students. Please take a moment to complete it today.

[Contact form](#)

To share the contact form with a colleague, please use the following link:
bit.ly/satac2026contactform

Contact SATAC

Level 6, 431 King William
Street, Adelaide, SA 5000

Telephone (08) 8224 4000
or 1300 138 440

satac.edu.au

SATAC Schools Web

SATAC has updated our Schools Web page to help answer frequently asked questions, assist with troubleshooting, and provide a visual guide for accessing the portal.

[Schools Web](#)

A reminder that access to Schools Web will require each user to be validated at the individual level through Multifactor Authentication (MFA). This is linked to the user details associated with your school and requires an invitation to be sent from SATAC.

If you or your staff require access or need multi-factor authentication (MFA) set up, please email us to submit a request.

After your user is established, simply enter your school login details. Your school's username and password will remain the same in 2026.

For an overview of the process, refer to the new Schools Web page.

Ensuring students' study plans qualify for an ATAR

Toward the end of last year, unfortunately SATAC observed numerous students unable to gain an ATAR due to incorrect study plans. The start of the new year is a timely reminder to review your students' study patterns and ensure there are no **SACE precluded combinations that could affect their ATAR eligibility**.

Recent examples of ATAR's unable to be calculated include students who:

- Moved schools
- Had precluded combinations or counting restrictions in their study areas
- Did **not complete** their recognised studies
- Changed study plans throughout the year
- Were unaware of the differences between SACE credits and Tertiary Admission Subjects (TAS) and how they count towards ATAR calculations

The Tertiary Entrance Booklet is available to help provide information on appropriate study plans to make sure students meet the prerequisites for gaining an ATAR.



[Tertiary Entrance Booklet 2026 | 2027 | 2028](#)

If you have any questions or require clarification, we encourage you to seek advice from the SACE Board sooner rather than later.

Alternative pathways to tertiary education beyond the ATAR

January's main offer rounds provides a timely opportunity to remind students that there is often more than one way to reach their desired tertiary course.

While the ATAR is commonly a major focus and source of pressure for many students, it's not the only pathway. In 2026, **22% of offers to school leavers** were made through alternative or non-ATAR pathways*.

This highlights that pathways – such as recognised studies, vocational pathways, and other alternative entry schemes – are not merely backups, but genuine, viable routes into tertiary study.

We encourage students to aim high in their studies, but also to explore the full range of entry options available, especially with additional offer rounds still to come.

* As of main offer round January 15, 2026.

Counsellor and Student Information Sessions

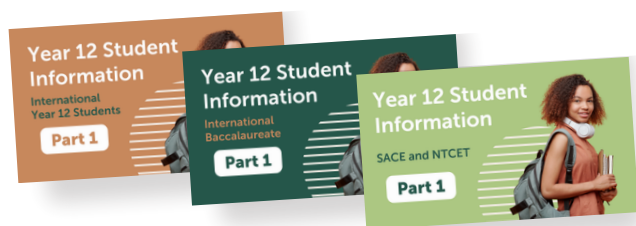
Save-the-date and registration details for our 2026 Counsellor Information Sessions in June and July will be sent soon. The details will be sent to the Career Counsellor and/or SACE/NTCET/Curriculum Coordinator listed in the contact form above (another good reason to complete it).

Sessions will be available both in person and online, for both new and experienced counsellors. Attending in person is a great opportunity to ask questions and collaborate with your peers.

Year 12 Information Videos

In 2026, SATAC will once again support students exploring tertiary education through our series of Year 12 Information Videos.

These videos draw on content from our previous in-person presentations and are divided into three segments covering key topics. They answer common student questions and can be revisited as needed, especially closer to application time. The videos also provide an opportunity for students to watch alongside parents, teachers, or other trusted adults.



[Information Videos](#)

Contacting SATAC

As always, we're here to help and support you. For any questions, school staff can email or call (08) 8224 4018.

For everyday student, family and caregiver enquiries, please encourage them to call (08) 8224 4000 or submit an [online enquiry form](#).

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