Subject Outline:
Functional Mathematics results do not contribute to the QCE. This is not an elective subject. Students will be identified to participate in this course as part of their Individual Curriculum Plan. This course does not contain nationally recognised units of competency in literacy and numeracy.

The study area specification Functional Mathematics has been designed for young adults in the senior phase of learning who have for many varying reasons not acquired the necessary numeracy skills to cope with the general demands of life at home, in paid work, and for participation in community and civic life. The subject aims to build student confidence and success with mathematics, and to develop students' abilities in thinking, reasoning, and working mathematically.

Contributes to OP: No

Assessment Outline:
The subject will be flexible and responsive in identifying and meeting the individual needs of students. Experiences will be, wherever possible, concrete and hands-on, and be directly related to real life situations and scenarios. The coursework addresses five topics as shown below:

- **Topic 1: Mathematics for interpreting society: number (study area core)**
  - The student can read, write, interpret, compare and do calculations for personal, work or community life purposes involving:
    - whole numbers
    - commonly used fractions, decimal fractions and percentages

- **Topic 2: Mathematics for interpreting society: data**
  - The student can, for personal, work or community life purposes:
    - collect, organise and display data using different methods
    - interpret and use data and graphs

- **Topic 3: Mathematics for personal organisation: location and time**
  - The student can, for personal organisation needs such as time management and planning:
    - read and use maps to locate places using the conventions of distance and location
    - interpret time, clocks and simple timetables

- **Topic 4: Mathematics for practical purposes: measurement**
  - The student can measure accurately using a range of equipment for practical purposes

- **Topic 5: Mathematics for personal organisation: finance**
  - The student:
    - knows how to obtain an income
    - can make informed choices about how they use their income
    - knows that consumers have rights and responsibilities

Topics will ideally not be studied separately, but in combination with real life contexts.

Costs:
Texts and Class sets are provided through the Textbook Hire Scheme.
**Student Requirements:**
Students undertaking Functional Mathematics will be assessed predominantly in class time using a variety of techniques including reports, investigations, presentations, oral reports, journals and group presentations. Tests if used will be kept to a minimum and be open book in nature.

**Vocational Relevance:**

**STATUS:** VOCATIONAL LEARNING STRAND

**LEARNING EXPERIENCES:**

**ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS**

**WORKLOAD EXPECTATIONS**
The majority of the course is assignment based and much class time is devoted to individual or group assignment work.

**SELECTION CRITERIA**
This course has specifically been offered for students who have special numeracy needs and require significant support in completing numeracy tasks. Eligibility for the course will be negotiated between teachers, parents and the students themselves, based on teacher recommendations and units being studied.

**FUTURE DIRECTION**
Functional Mathematics is aimed at students who wish to move directly into the workforce on completion of Year 12 or those who have the desire to continue their education at TAFE rather than continuing their education at university. The course will provide students with the essential numeracy knowledge and skills basic to all fields of employment.