



DICKSON COLLEGE
excellence opportunity community

Parent Information Session

ACT Senior Secondary System



DICKSON COLLEGE
excellence opportunity community

ACT Qualifications

- ACT Senior Secondary Certificate
- Tertiary Entrance Statement
- VET Certificate or statement of attainment



DICKSON COLLEGE
excellence opportunity community

ACT Senior Secondary System

- ACT Board of Senior Secondary Studies (BSSS)
- No central examinations for any subject
- Continuous assessment - Semester 1 of year 11 is as important as Semester 2 of year 12
- ACT Scaling Test (AST) - moderating test across colleges and courses

Types of Courses and Units



Courses
include

Tertiary

Modified

Accredited

Higher Ed

Vocational
can be T/V or A/V

Registered



DICKSON COLLEGE
excellence opportunity community

How do I know?

- **Attendance**
 - Tuesday SMS for students with >3 unexplained absences
 - Weekly attendance summary email
- **Progress**
 - Assessment feedback
 - Mid-semester progress and end of semester reports
- **Assessment**
 - Assessment Alert App for due dates
(Free App at store or Google play)



DICKSON COLLEGE
excellence opportunity community

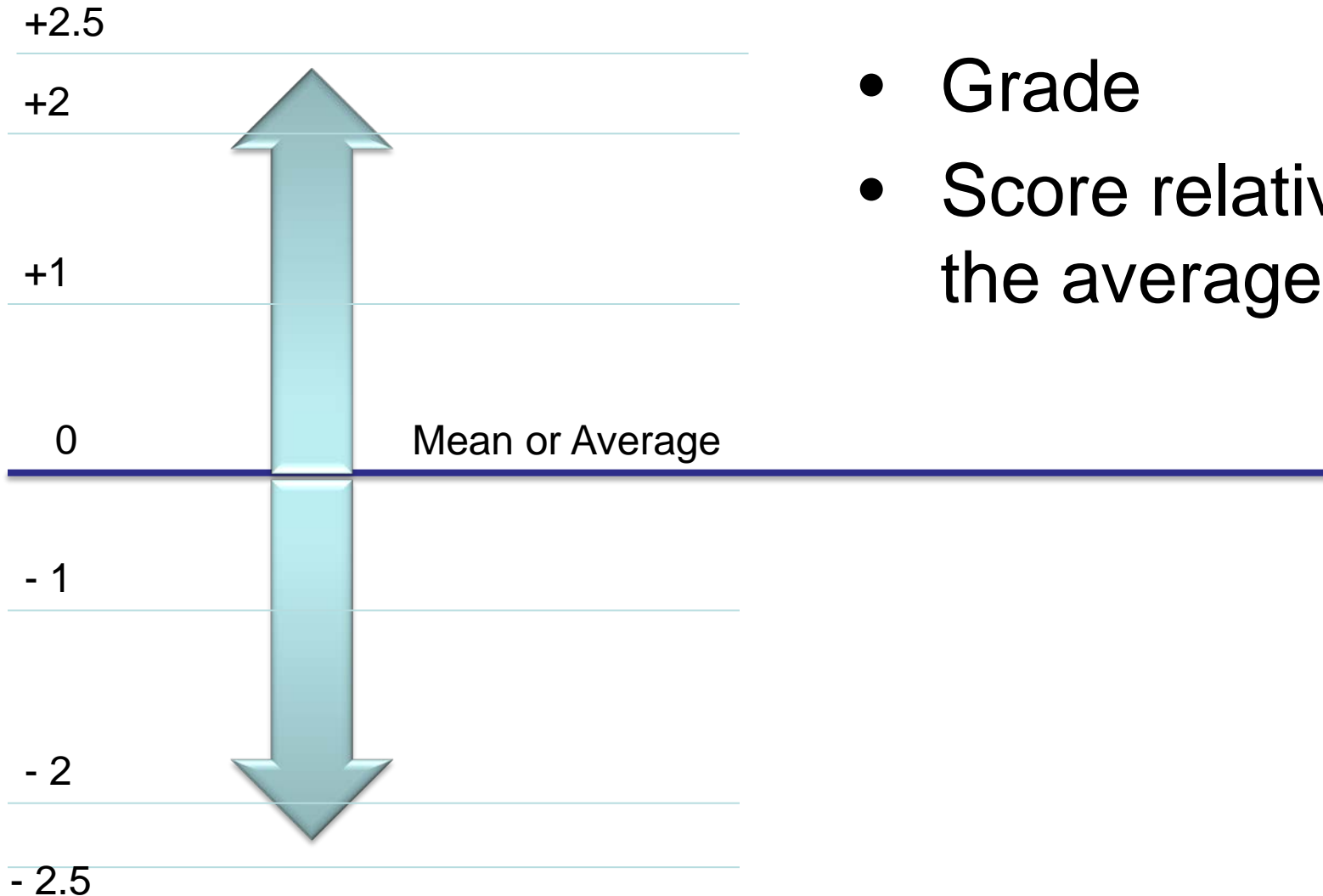
BSSS Policies

- **Attendance** - Must attend at least 90% of all classes
- Must have notes and or medical certificate to explain all absences from class.

- **Assessment**- Must complete 70% of assessment
- Late penalty is 5% per day
- Non genuine attempt = 0
- Plagiarism = 0

- **V grade (Void grade)** – unit does not count toward your Year 12 Certificate and no points are awarded for that unit

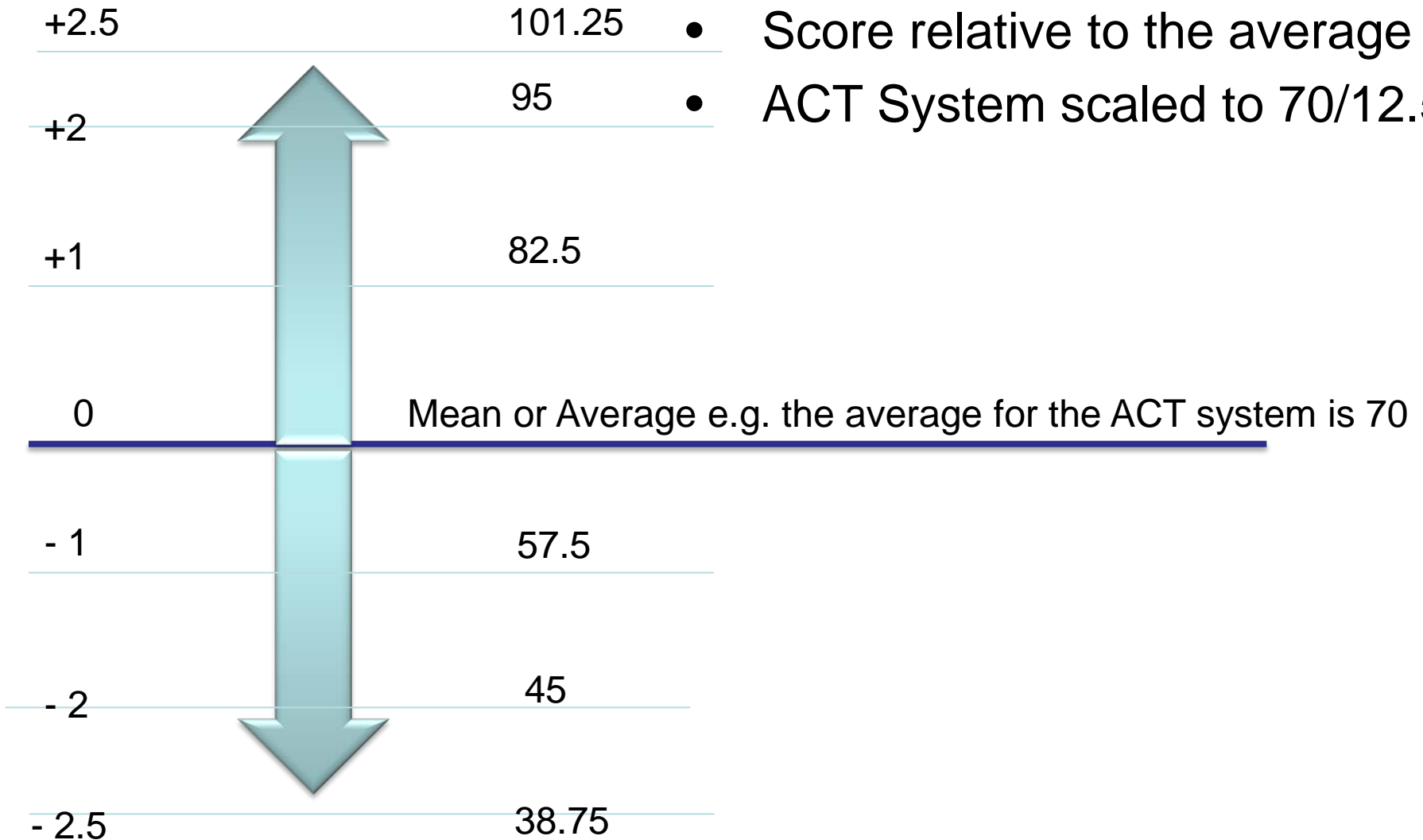
Progress



- Grade
- Score relative to the average

Progress

- Grade
- Score relative to the average
- ACT System scaled to 70/12.5





DICKSON COLLEGE
excellence opportunity community

Progress

Scaled Scores at the end of each semester:

- are not out of 100
- range is not 0 – 100 rather 40 – 95 is normal
- 50 is not a pass mark (in the ACT system this would be **Z = -1.6**)
- Students should be aware of their performance relative to the average

Senior Secondary Certificate Requirements

- Minimum of 17 Standard Units over Years 11 and 12
- Minimum of 4 Minors in 3 different course areas
- The 4 Minors can be a mix of different course types
- 5 “R” unit points can count towards the 17 S.U. requirement.

From 2015, all students must complete at least a minor course in English.



DICKSON COLLEGE
excellence opportunity community

Requirements T.E.S. (ATAR)

- Minimum of 20 Standard Units
- 3 Majors and 3 Minors, OR
4 Majors and 1 Minor, OR
5 or more Majors
- Of these, 18 units must be BSSS units
- Minimum of 3 Majors and 1 Minor in “T” Courses
- Students must sit the AST (ACT Scaling Test) in the year they graduate to receive an ATAR.

From 2015, all students must complete at least a minor course in English.



DICKSON COLLEGE
excellence opportunity community

The ATAR

The Australian Tertiary Admission Rank

The ATAR is a ranking of a student relative to their full age cohort. It is a number within a range from 99.95 for the highest ranked students down to 30.00.

The secrets...

Well there really isn't any but here's some advice:



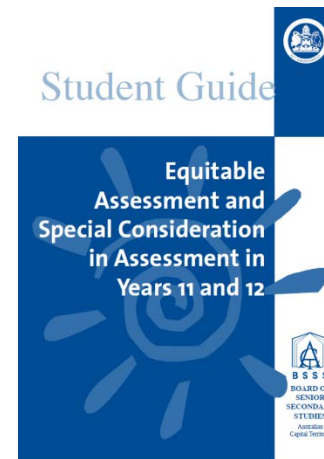
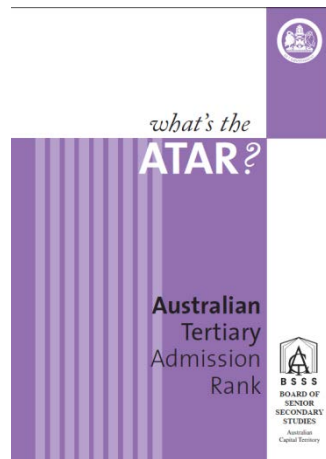
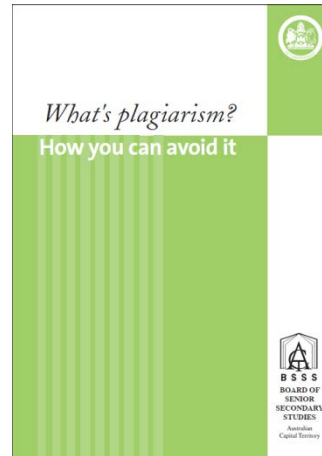
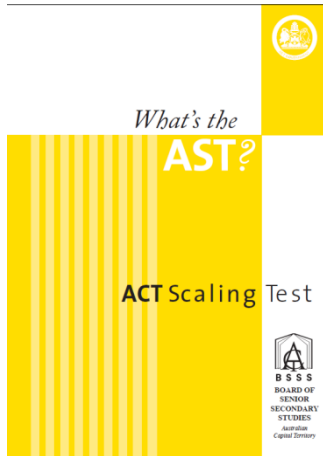
- Choose subjects that you like
- Choose subjects that you are good at
- Choose subjects that you need

- Work hard, it is achievable
- Learn how to learn (i.e. work smarter)
- Monitor your progress & change the plan if necessary

- **Don't pick a** subject because your friend is doing it

- **Don't pick** subjects you think will scale well. Students are ranked against their own group. It is how you compare to your peers in each course that defines your rank and score in that course.

BSSS Publications



The BSSS Website (www.bsss.act.edu.au) has a Publications Section where a range of brochures are available.