#### **ENROLMENT GUIDE**







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## Welcome to Dr Väsan Specialist Tuition

Dear Parents & Students.

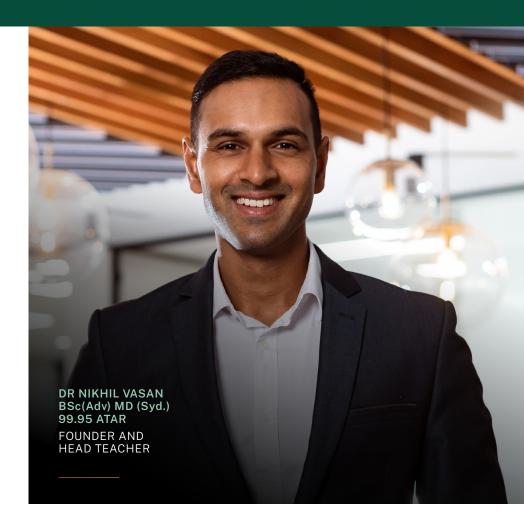
I'm Dr Nikhil Vasan, a currently practising medical doctor with five years of clinical experience and over 10 years guiding almost a thousand students towards their academic goals in the HSC.

I'm now launching Dr Vasan Specialist Tuition, a tuition centre specialising in the Preliminary and HSC sciences. My firm will be founded on a culture of genuine academic rigour, healthy competition, the fostering of curiosity and a real love of learning to last far beyond the high school years.

From working as a neurosurgery registrar at one of the busiest hospitals in New South Wales, I made the difficult decision to leave that pathway and continue working as an emergency doctor to afford the time to engage in my most revitalising passions: teaching, mentoring and inspiring ambitious young minds.

#### My credentials include:

- Currently practising as a medical doctor particularly in busy emergency departments across New South Wales, with over five years of post-graduate clinical work.
- Having been accepted as a neurosurgical registrar at Westmead Hospital.
- 10 years of HSC science and mathematics tutoring experience at a major HSC tutoring centre in Sydney.
- · Achieving a 99.95 ATAR.
- Being the dux of James Ruse Agricultural High School.
- Earning two HSC state ranks in the sciences.
- Scoring a 99th percentile result in the Undergraduate Medical Admissions Test (UMAT).
- Earning a Doctor of Medicine (MD) through the Sydney University Combined Medicine Program on a full scholarship with an undergraduate High Distinction average.



My tuition firm will be defined by energetic and interactive classrooms, difficult concepts broken down effectively to become accessible, underpinned by carefully crafted insights that'll maximise your HSC performance across the board.

There is no concept too difficult to grasp, no subject uninteresting, and no goal impossible to attain. What really matters is who you have teaching you.

I greatly look forward to supporting you in your journey towards excellence.

Dr Nikhil Vasan

FOUNDER AND HEAD TEACHER

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### Dr Vasan's Journey

I graduated as Dux of James Ruse Agricultural High School with an ATAR of 99.95 and a UMAT score of 99, with two state ranks in the sciences.

Following this I gained acceptance to the combined medicine program at the University of Sydney. After completing a bachelor's degree in Advanced Science with a High Distinction average (majoring in Physics and Physiology), I graduated with a Doctor of Medicine in 2017 and commenced my postgraduate medical training at Westmead Hospital, a clinical school attached to the Sydney Medical Program (SMP).

Since my time in university and my early years practising as a doctor, I've been heavily involved in HSC science and mathematics tuition. I gained over ten years of teaching and content creation experience working with a major tutoring firm, where I guided almost a thousand students to academic success and was eventually promoted to Academic Director.

All through that time I kept up my practice as a junior doctor, and in my senior medical years I embarked on the pathway to surgical specialisation. After I'd spent some time gaining invaluable experience in paediatric and cardiothoracic surgery, I was offered — and eagerly accepted — a role as a neurosurgical registrar at Westmead Hospital, a major tertiary referral centre.

It was a dream come true.

Working as a neurosurgical doctor at one of the busiest hospitals in Sydney was deeply gruelling but also exhilarating. I was involved in a wide range of exciting surgeries, from dealing with complex and aggressive brain tumours, to decompressive craniectomies for traumatic head



injuries, to 8-hour spinal fusions, to placing an external ventricular drain through a patient's brain when they were literally on the brink of death — and watching them walk out of hospital only a few weeks later. Then there were the more sobering times, such as dealing with children with terminal illnesses and counselling grieving parents. I will never forget a night

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where I sat with a father who'd lost his son to a devastating disease after we operated twice on his brain overnight, but couldn't save him. I struggle for words to really describe the breadth of what I experienced during my tenure.

But as I put in the long hours in the theatre and on the wards, I came to realise that something was missing.

I realised that although I was making an incredible impact on people's lives through my work, the most rewarding and deeply satisfying experiences of my career hadn't taken place in the operating theatre, but in the classroom.

I missed the glow on students' faces when a concept they had been struggling with finally clicked. I missed the intellectual discussions with enthusiastic students that continued after class, and how they consistently made me a better teacher. And I missed the feeling of students telling me how much I had played a part in improving their performance and inspiring them towards pursuing their goals.

As I progressed through my senior years, it became clear to me that the basic time commitment moving forwards for the next 10–15 years as a busy neurosurgical trainee, and eventually as a consultant, would make it impossible for me to balance my hospital career with what I was really passionate about and brought me joy.

After much thought, I made the decision to exit neurosurgical training and work as an emergency department doctor, affording me the opportunity to pursue what I love the most — teaching the sciences, helping as many young minds as possible to move from curiosity to understanding, and then from understanding to complete mastery and a genuine love of the subject.

To make this goal feasible, I realised I would need to start a tuition centre. As the head teacher at Dr Vasan Specialist Tuition, I offer purposeful, interactive, and energetic teaching, in an environment of friendly competition and unparalleled academic rigour.

I hope to hear from you soon.

## My Tuition Centre

My vision for Dr Vasan Specialist Tuition is based on my years of experience educating hundreds of students, including as Academic Director at a major Sydney tutoring firm. I know what works and what doesn't — and how important it is to put those principles into practice.

At Dr Vasan Specialist Tuition, I:

- Foster a culture of friendly competition and real academic rigour.
- Develop a love of learning and unquenchable scientific curiosity in each and every student.
- Offer counsel and appropriate support to students during a difficult and stressful period of their lives.
- Prepare students for life after high school, in particular offering tailored support for those seeking entry to medicine.
- Encourage healthy attitudes towards study and self-care, without compromising depth and rigour of learning.

PUT SIMPLY, WHAT I'VE CREATED IS A TUTORING CENTRE I WISH I COULD HAVE ATTENDED MYSELF.

### SPACED REVISION FOR LONG-TERM RETENTION

Our approach to teaching is based on the principle of spaced revision, which studies have shown time and again to be the single most effective method for long-term retention of knowledge and understanding.

### TEACHING LIKE IT'S MEANT TO BE

No mindlessly copying notes from a screen. We are taking teaching back to its Socratic roots, the way it's been done for thousands of years. Our classes are face-to-face, relying on a teacher, a pen, and a whiteboard. Teaching needs to be interactive and purposeful, principles that are incompatible with just copying down bullet points from a presentation.

#### SENSIBLE USE OF CLASS TIME

Your time is important, and we don't waste it. Our classes are two hours and 20 minutes in length — no more, no less. We pack a lot into that time so your in-class learning is as effective and efficient as possible. Each lesson starts with a short revision quiz that tests and builds on material we've previously covered.

Our lesson booklets cover all syllabus dot points thoroughly. including practical tasks, and are intended to also be used as revision material for exams. They contain worked examples reflective of common exam questions, which the teacher will systematically explore in class time and explain how to construct an answer worthy of full marks. The homework booklets are again constructed with exam-style questions in mind. and students are given access to full marking criteria and quality sample answers after submission.

### INDUSTRY-FIRST NO-CLASH GUARANTEE

We have partnered with Delta Specialist English Tuition, widely recognised as the premier HSC English tuition centre in New South Wales, to offer an industry-first no clash guarantee. This means if you are enrolled in any class at Dr Vasan's Specialist Tuition and Delta Specialist English Tuition, we will guarantee to offer you class times without any clashing, so you can be sure to maximise the marks of all your subjects without compromise. Both centres are also at the same location.



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