

# STRATEGY IN ACTION



**kalibrat**  
EDUCATION

*"I used to really struggle with school, and resent spending so much time studying for very little result."*

*Kalibrate-ED examined Ciara's situation and unique learning profile to pinpoint exactly where she was in her studies to deliver help where it was needed most.*

*Read how Kalibrate-ED stopped a vicious cycle to save Ciara's HSC and set her up for life beyond high school.*

## IN THE BEGINNING...

Despite attending a leading private institution, Ciara really struggled at school, barely passing assessments. Overwhelmed by the requirements of HSC, she procrastinated and avoided work due to a lack of motivation and direction. Her disorganisation meant she scrambled between deadlines and handed in assignments at the last minute. Ciara had no study plan, notes, or exam preparation. We found she had severe deficits in analytical skills, writing skills and exam technique, limiting her ability to synthesise responses in exam conditions. As such, Ciara got poor grades and resented spending so much time on schoolwork for very little result. She was stressed out, exhausted and feeling trapped in a vicious cycle.

We discovered Ciara to be a kinaesthetic-visual learner preferring experiential discussion, diagrams

and hands-on interaction. Ciara needed a high degree of structure and explanation to grasp the finer details of concepts and properly synthesise connections between the information and its application in exams. However, Ciara's school and tutors were unable to identify her learning needs, instead expecting her to adapt to them, thus creating more obstacles. Ciara reported copying from textbooks or slides with no explanations given. If she asked questions, she was made to feel stupid by the response "It's in the textbook. Just read it." Eventually, she just stopped asking.

Feedback was often vague and untimely. Ciara's confidence was decimated by teachers who criticised her work without encouragement or constructive instruction on how to improve. She deserved much greater commitment.

## A KALIBRAT-ED SOLUTION

Kalibrate-ED had already worked with Ciara's brother, Conor, after recommendation from another family. The Briggs had used several other tutors but stopped because they added more workload, instead of making things easier.

We asked Ciara to share how Kalibrate-ED saved her HSC and set her up for life beyond.

*"Working with Kalibrate-ED is unlike any other learning experience. They make things easier and take on some of the effort, so you don't have to."*



*"My strategy advisor and mentor, Kiki (Ki Yan), was super smart and organised, but also incredibly patient and kind. From our first session, I felt a lot calmer because I finally understood how my assessments and the HSC worked. Kalibrate-ED drew up a Study Strategy for my goals and upcoming commitments which really helped to overcome my weaknesses. All I had to do was follow a task list that Kiki adjusted every week. It made things so much easier that I could just focus on learning.*

*Kiki always seems to know just what you need as a person. We spent a lot of time building up my study skills, motivation, and confidence. Her ability to help me manage stress and walk me out of a bad mindset if I was stuck was invaluable. Her reassuring and non-judgmental attitude made it easier to be honest about my frustrations, weaknesses, and avoidance issues. She broke essay writing into basic elements, explained the importance of arguments and supporting analytical evidence, and how it all fit together. I finally got why analysis and exam prep made such a difference, and so I made it a priority. I've always found it difficult to sit still and*

*memorise things but Kiki gave me alternative ways to learn that worked for me. She filled gaps in my knowledge with really cool ways of making complicated ideas simpler and easy to recall.*

*Kalibrate-ED not only ensured I was organised, but also prepared and in the best mindset. I was given a safe space to question anything. I finally felt like I was taking my own steps toward something worthwhile. We worked through many exam questions together. Kiki taught me how to analyse the question, what information to include and how to structure a response. Kiki had no trouble explaining specific questions I had across each of my subjects and assessments, or what markers were looking for. She is very honest but kind with giving feedback—she will always give you a way forward and work with you on it.*

*The lead up to Trials and Finals was still super intense but it would have been unimaginable without Kalibrate-ED. Kiki's empathy dog, Tobi, was a wonderful but unexpected relief that dissipated my stress so I was ready to face exams."*

## WAS IT WORTH IT?

Today, Ciara is studying her course of choice— Bachelor of Communication and Creative Industry.

**We asked Ciara the ultimate question: was it worth it?**

*"Working with Kalibrate-ED saved my HSC, so yes, it was definitely worth it. Kiki became a mentor and friend, as well as a teacher. I succeeded because she actually cared about me as a person and worked hard to make sure I always had a way forward. Kiki kept encouraging me to push even when I was ready to give up. It wasn't until I looked back that I realised just how much I'd achieved and grown as a person.*

*I far exceeded my ATAR goals and got into my chosen degree without bonus points. Before I started, my marks averaged around 50-60% but with Kalibrate-ED's help my results improved dramatically, and I steadily achieved 85% in drama and mid-70s for other subjects. I actually wanted to get test results back to see my grades increase drastically. Not only did Kiki show her support with my new achievements, but she encouraged me to do even better. I started pushing myself and not settling for just a 'decent' mark.*

*Today, I have the confidence to study away from home and it's because of what I learned with in my time with Kalibrate-ED. I know I can organise myself, and deal with tricky interpersonal situations that used to drain me. It wasn't something I expected to walk away with because it has nothing to do with school. But Kalibrate-ED taught me that with a clear vision and hard work I can achieve whatever I want. Even now, Kiki continues to support my aspirations as I find new opportunities and challenges."*