

Good Standing Policy

Introduction

It is the role of the **Fremantle College Good Standing Policy** to clearly set a standard of student performance across the college from Years 7-12. College performance standards relate to the level of student performance needed to ultimately achieve the Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE) and to have a high chance of successfully entering a post-school destination of choice.

This policy outlines the school standards and process for **Attendance and Conduct** that are considered necessary to meet the requirements of our school. It provides clear and explicit criteria against which all student performance will be assessed and allows parents and students to understand the process of determination of whether a student has maintained the status of Good Standing each term.

We believe that by setting clear standards, students and their parents understand what is expected of them and we are able to work towards these expectations together to provide better support for our students. When all students maintain their Good Standing when judged each term, the learning environment of the college is considerably enhanced, educational outcomes improve and students experience a greater level of academic and social/emotional wellbeing.

There are two college standards outlined in this policy that determine a student's Good Standing. They are:

- **Attendance**
- **Conduct as demonstrated by applied suspension**
- **Attendance**

There is a strong correlation between the academic performance of students and their attendance and participation in the curriculum program. Absences from school will impact on a student's ability to understand the material covered and to successfully complete the assessment program of that course. It also affects peer relationships and the ability of the college to plan adequately for provision of support for that child.

- It is crucial that attendance is regular, non-attendance is explained with a valid reason by the parent, and when attending, the student is in class every period of the day.
- Extended absences due to illness are required to be verified by a doctor's certificate and will be taken into consideration when applying this policy.
- It is important for parents to note that holidays that are not approved on special grounds by the relevant Associate Principal will affect a student's attendance level and therefore a student's Good Standing.

Conduct

All students at Fremantle College are expected to commit to high standards of conduct and exemplify the values of Curiosity, Enthusiasm for Learning, Leadership, Perseverance and especially Kindness. Good conduct ensures that students give themselves the best opportunity to focus on achieving their academic potential and ensures that all students and staff develop strong positive working relationships. Conduct includes use of technology, wearing the uniform with pride, and interpersonal relationships with staff and students.

Loss of Good Standing

Students are deemed to have lost their Good Standing for a **period of ten school weeks**, when they have exhibited one or more of the following in a semester:

- **Suspension**
 - Immediate loss of Good Standing. Suspension will always be the case in any incident of violence against another student or staff member, fighting or filming/posting of violence (as these behaviours attract a serious and lengthy suspension term)
- **Attendance Standard**
 - If the terms attendance is less than 60% (Severe attendance category) and/or there are a high number of unauthorised absences.

Students who lose their Good Standing may not participate in extra-curricular activities such as camps, excursions, school trips intra- and inter-state or overseas, social functions or performances that are not an essential part of the educational program.

What will happen if a student loses Good Standing?

Students and their parents will be notified of whether they have maintained or lost their Good Standing. If a student loses Good Standing, the school will undertake a number of intervention strategies designed to support an immediate improvement to an acceptable level of performance. These interventions will include, but not be limited to, the following:

- A case conference including the student, their parents, the Manager of Student Services, the Year Coordinator and other professionals as deemed appropriate. This will include planning for support, rewards, targets and support for the student where required. This will always be [part of the suspension process to ensure that an educative, restorative approach to behaviour is planned for.
- Continuation of the use of an intensive attendance tracking system and ongoing communication with parents (as appropriate).

Appeals

Students will always have the opportunity to earn their Good Standing back through planning and negotiation with the Principal. Students and their parent have the opportunity to present a case where they believe that special circumstances should be considered in the application of this policy. Students should email the relevant Associate Principal within seven (7) days of being notified of their standing, asking for an appeal, with evidence to substantiate their claim. The appeal will be heard at a meeting together with parent and student, considered, and a decision made of the outcome in a timely fashion.