

This policy is provided to all senior secondary students at Fremantle College and is based on the School Curriculum and Standards Authority (the Authority) requirements as outlined in the WACE Manual 2023.  
<https://www.scsa.wa.edu.au/publications/wace-manual>

All Year 11 and Year 12 students are enrolled in a combination of ATAR, General and VET industry specific courses. Some students are also gaining unit equivalence for the Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE) by undertaking one of the Vocational Education and Training (VET) qualifications and/or one or more of the endorsed programs which are available at the College. The VET qualifications are delivered and assessed in partnership with registered training organisations (RTO).

## 1. Student responsibilities

*It is the responsibility of the student to:*

- maintain a good record of attendance, conduct and progress (a student who is absent from a class for five lessons or more in a term is deemed to be 'at risk' of not achieving the best possible result). Attendance at school should be 91% and above in order to maintain a satisfactory grade.
- initiate contact with teachers concerning absence from class, missed in-class assessment tasks, requests for extension of the due date for out-of-class assessment tasks and other issues pertaining to assessment, prior to the assessment task due date.
- attempt all in-class assessment tasks on the scheduled date and submit all out-of-class assessment tasks by the due date.
- maintain an assessment file for each pair of units studied which contains all completed written assessment tasks.
- keep Course and Assessment Outlines in a safe place to understand their responsibilities.
- access Compass pages for missed classwork.
- understand the Assessment Structure of the particular course they are studying, to establish how marks are allocated and therefore how the final grades are awarded. Refer to the Assessment Structure for each course [www.scsa.wa.edu.au](http://www.scsa.wa.edu.au).

## 2. Teacher Responsibility

*It is the responsibility of the teacher to:*

- ensure students are aware of and know how to access the Senior School Assessment Policy
- develop a teaching/learning program that adheres to current guidelines SCSA guidelines.
- ensure that all assessment tasks are fair, valid, and reliable.
- provide students with an Assessment Outline and Course Outline at the commencement of the course within the first week, and uploaded to Compass Week 1.
- teachers will provide students with opportunities to engage with coursework and meet course completion requirements under the procedures described in this policy,
- inform students and parents of academic progress as appropriate. Reporting To Parents must be kept up to date with the most current results as this is the information students are accessing when using Compass.
- If any student in your course is not meeting the expected standard, C grade or above, the teacher *must* inform the relevant supports, i.e. parents, DSG, HOLA, Clontarf, FTD, Student Services, GATE Coordinator, VOC Links Manager, LSC, SLP Coordinator, AIEO.
- ensure internal comparability processes when more than one teacher is teaching a subject; Regular moderation of tasks is required.
- ensure that out of class assessments are authentic with supporting evidence.
- mark and return all assessments to students and input data into RTP within 10 working days.
- provide detailed marking keys or assessment rubrics, providing feedback to students on their performance and clarity on how marks were awarded for assessment tasks.
- support students to use a planner to record notified checkpoints, draft and final due dates of assessment tasks and plan for this within personal study schedule.
- provide students with timely assessment feedback and with guidance about how best to undertake future tasks.

<sup>1</sup> The Semester 1 mark and grade are interim as they are not finalised until the pair of units is completed at the end of the year.

- maintain accurate records of student achievement.
- meet Record Keeping Policy requirements at all times.
- meet College and external timelines for assessment and reporting.

Before teaching starts, the teacher will provide access to the following documents:

- the Authority syllabus for the pair of units which includes the grade descriptions.
- a course outline for the pair of units that shows:
  - all the content from the syllabus in the sequence in which it will be taught
  - the approximate time allocated to teach each section of content from the syllabus
- an assessment outline for the pair of units that includes:
  - the number of tasks to be assessed.
  - a general description of each assessment task.
  - the assessment type, as prescribed in the syllabus.
  - an indication of the syllabus content on which each task is based.
  - the approximate timing of each assessment task (i.e. the week the task will be conducted or the start and submission dates for an extended task).
  - the weighting for each assessment task.
  - the weighting for each assessment type, as prescribed in the assessment table of the syllabus.

Note: students without internet access at home can request a hard copy of these documents from their teacher.

### 3. Assessing student achievement

At Fremantle College, all students are enrolled in a pair of units. In each pair of units, a number of assessment tasks occur during the year, including end of semester examinations in all ATAR courses and an externally set task (EST) for Year 12 General courses. Each task provides evidence of student achievement.

The requirements for each assessment task will be clearly described in writing (i.e. what the student needs to do, often indicating the steps involved for extended tasks). The criteria against which the task will be marked will be provided with the task, except in cases where the marking key is an answer or solutions key which will be shared with students after the assessment task has been marked.

Most tasks are completed in class. Some courses may include tasks that are completed out of class (in which case, student achievement will be validated to ensure authenticity).

Some courses may include assessment tasks to be completed by a group of students. In such cases, teachers will use strategies to enable them to assess the performance of each individual in the group. Typically, this will be identified in the task (or task brief) provided to the students at the commencement of the task.

Where a student's disability, specific education needs or cultural beliefs will significantly affect their access to an assessment task, the teacher may adjust the task in consultation with the relevant head of learning area/teacher-in-charge responsible for the course.

The teacher generates a ranked list of students in the class (or classes) using the weighted mark out of 100 from all assessment tasks and assigns grades with reference to the grade descriptions.

Assessment should not generate workload and/or stress that, under fair and reasonable circumstances, would unduly diminish the performance of students. The school will take all reasonable steps to support students to demonstrate their learning.

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#### 4. Year 11 and 12 ATAR Course School Examinations

School examinations are included in the assessment outline for the pair of units. The weighting, i.e. proportion of the final mark, for these school-based examinations varies between courses and is included in the assessment outline.

A written examination will be held in all ATAR courses at the end of Semester 1 and the end of Semester 2. Written examinations are typically 3 hours duration.

The examination timetable is issued to students prior to the start of the examination period. The examination rules listed below are based on those that are used by the Authority for ATAR course examinations.

- Students will not be admitted to an examination after 30 minutes have passed from the start of the working time of the examination.
- Collusion between candidates will lead to cancellation of the practical and/or written examination marks for each of the students involved.
- Possession or knowledge of examination questions before an examination will lead to cancellation of the student's practical and/or written examination mark(s).
- Possession of unauthorised materials or technologies during an examination will lead to cancellation of part or all of the student's practical and/or written examination mark(s).
- Markings on authorised materials in the examination room will lead to cancellation of part or all of the practical and/or written examination mark(s).
- Unauthorised removal of examination materials from the examination room will lead to cancellation of part or all of the student's practical and/or written mark(s).
- Blatant disregard of examination room regulations and/or instructions will result in the removal of the student from the examination room.

If an examination contains an error, or questions are based on content that is outside the syllabus or there is a breach of security, the College will:

- remove the question containing the error or based on content outside the syllabus, or
- set a new examination if there is a breach of security that affects all students, or
- penalise the students involved if there is a breach of security limited to only them (i.e. a mark of zero).

Where health issues or personal circumstances prevent a student from completing one or more school examinations, the student must submit a Fremantle College sickness/misadventure form to the associate principal. The College will determine whether the reason is acceptable.

If the reason is acceptable to the College, an alternate date will be set or, where this is not possible, the student will not sit the examination. In this case, a predicted examination score will be allocated based on the student's performance in other assessments relative to that of the cohort and the performance of the cohort in the examination.

If the reason is not acceptable to the College, the student will be given a mark of zero.

#### 5. Year 12 General Course Externally Set Task (EST)

All students enrolled in a Year 12 General or Foundation course are required to complete an externally set task (EST) for that course.

The EST is included in the assessment outline for the pair of units. This assessment task has a weighting of 15% of the final mark for the pair of units.

The EST is a 50-minute written assessment task developed by the Authority based on content from Unit 3. It is completed in class under standard test conditions.

Where a student does not complete the EST on the scheduled day, they will be required to complete the

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task at the first available opportunity (generally within two days of the student's return to school). If this is not until after the date that the Authority requires the College to submit the EST marks, then the College will determine if the reason for non-completion is acceptable.

If the reason is acceptable to the College, the teacher will:

- decide on an alternate assessment task (if, in the opinion of the teacher, the task is no longer confidential), **or**

If the reason is not acceptable to the College, the student will be allocated a mark of zero.

## **6. Cheating, collusion and plagiarism**

Students must not cheat (i.e. engage in a dishonest act to gain an unfair advantage).

All work in each individual assessment task must be the work of the student. Students are not permitted to submit for marking, i.e. as original, any work which:

- is prepared or substantively contributed to by another person (e.g. student, teacher, tutor or expert)
- is copied or downloaded from the internet without acknowledging the source
- paraphrases or summarises the work of others.

### Plagiarism includes forms such as

- submitting the work that another person has completed as one's own work
- downloading artwork, graphics or other material, including AI-generated responses, from the internet and presenting it as one's own without acknowledgement
- submitting work to which another person, such as a parent, teacher or expert, has contributed substantially

If a student is believed to have engaged in cheating, collusion or plagiarism, the teacher will refer the matter to the relevant head of learning area responsible for the subject. As part of this process, the student and the parent/guardian will be informed of the suspected inappropriate behaviour. The student will be provided with the right of reply.

If it is demonstrated that a student has cheated, colluded or plagiarised, one of the following penalties will apply:

- a mark of zero for the whole assessment task, or
- a mark of zero for the part of the assessment task where the teacher can identify that the work is not the student's own.

The student and parent/guardian will be informed in writing of the decision made, the penalty and any further disciplinary action.

## **7. Security of assessment tasks**

Where there is more than one class studying the same pair of units at the College, all the assessment tasks will be the same to ensure student marks are on the same scale. In cases where there is more than one class, to ensure that no students are unfairly advantaged, the question papers used for in-class assessment tasks will be collected at the end of the lesson and retained by the teacher until the task has been completed by all classes.

In their own interests, students must not discuss the nature of the questions with students from the other classes until after all classes have completed the task. Discussion of the questions will be treated as collusion and the students will be penalised.

Where the College works with other schools and uses the same assessment task or examination, the task/examination and the student responses will be retained by the teacher until the task/examination has been completed by all schools.

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## **8. Retention and disposal of student work**

Students are responsible for retaining all of their marked written assessment tasks. Students will establish an assessment file for each subject/program. The file holds all the student's marked written assessment tasks. The College will retain all non-written assessment tasks (typically as audio or video recordings or digital products).

Students will have access to the assessment file for revision purposes during class time and for home study in the week prior to the Semester 1 and Semester 2 examination periods. The files will be available to students for collection at the end of the school year. All materials not collected by the end of the year are securely disposed of by the College. The Authority may request access to these assessment files for moderation purposes so students must retain their files until the end of March in the following year.

The College will not use the materials for any other purposes without the written permission of the student.

## **9. Modification of the assessment outline**

If circumstances change during the teaching of a pair of units, requiring the teacher to make adjustments to scheduled assessment tasks, then students will be informed and provided with a copy of the amended assessment outline.

Where a disability, special education needs or cultural beliefs have resulted in the inability of a student to complete one or more assessment tasks, the assessment outline will be modified and provided to the student and parent/guardian.

## **10. Students with a disability**

Students with a diagnosed disability will, where their disability, impairment or medical condition will significantly affect their access to a particular assessment task, have written and/or practical assessment tasks (including school examinations) adjusted by the teacher in consultation with the relevant head of learning area responsible for the subject. These adjustments will be consistent with those described in the Authority's *Guidelines for disability adjustments for timed assessments*, which can be accessed from the Authority website ([www.scsa.wa.edu.au](http://www.scsa.wa.edu.au)). Adjustments, depending on the individual student's education needs, can include special equipment, modified papers, provision of a scribe, or additional time to complete the task.

Note: for Year 12 students with a diagnosed disability which has functional impact on their performance, the College will apply to the Authority for consideration of special examination arrangements. The granting of special examination arrangements by the Authority is not automatic. Where the Authority approves arrangements for the ATAR course examinations, these arrangements may differ from those the College has used for school-based assessment. Students who have been granted special examination arrangements should be aware that their ATAR course examinations will be held at alternative venues.

## **11. Completion of a pair of units**

A grade (A, B, C, D or E) is assigned for each pair of units completed.

Students are required to:

- attempt all in-class assessment tasks on the scheduled date.
- submit all out-of-class assessment tasks on or before the due date.

If an assessment task cannot be submitted directly to the teacher, it is to be submitted to the relevant head of learning area/teacher-in-charge.

Where health issues or other personal circumstances may prevent a student completing an in-class assessment task, the student or the parent/guardian must discuss the matter with the teacher at the earliest opportunity before the scheduled date. The College will determine whether the reason is acceptable.

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Where the reason for not submitting an assessment task or attending a scheduled in-class assessment task **is acceptable** to the College, the student's assessment outline will, where possible, be adjusted and or an exclusion of the task will be made.

If a student does not submit an out-of-class assessment task or attend a scheduled in-class assessment task without providing an acceptable reason, the teacher will advise the student and the parent/guardian/carer of the possible impact of the penalty on the student's grade.

Where an in-class assessment task is missed and the student **does not** provide a reason which is acceptable to the College, the student will receive a mark of zero.

## 12. Acceptable reasons for non-completion or non-submission of an assessment task

The penalty for non-completion or non-submission of an assessment task will be waived if the student provides a reason which is acceptable to the College. For example:

- where sickness, injury or significant personal circumstances prevents a student attending on the day that an in-class assessment task (including school examinations and the externally set task) is scheduled.
- where sickness, injury or significant personal circumstances for part or all of the period of an out-of-class assessment task prevents completion or submission by the due date.

In such cases, the parent/guardian must:

- contact the College before 9.30 am, or as soon as practical, on the day of the in-class assessment task or due date for submission of an out-of-class assessment **and**
- provide either a medical certificate or a letter of explanation immediately following the student's return to school.

Where the student provides a reason, which **is acceptable** to the College for the non-completion or non-submission of an assessment task, the teacher will:

- negotiate an adjusted due date for an out-of-class assessment task or an adjusted date for an in-class assessment task (generally, within two days of the student's return), **or**
- decide on an alternate assessment task (if, in the opinion of the teacher, the assessment is no longer confidential), **or**

Events that can be rescheduled are not a valid reason for non-completion or non-submission of an assessment task (e.g. family holidays, preparation for the College ball).

In exceptional circumstances, the parent/guardian may negotiate the development of an individual education plan with the year co-ordinator. This plan will show how the missed lesson time will be compensated for and any adjustments to the assessment outline.

Where a catastrophic event (e.g. a pandemic) affects delivery of the teaching program, the completion or submission of one or more assessment tasks and/or completion of the College examination timetable, students will be advised by the College of adjustments to the task requirements and/or the assessment outline.

## 13. Transfer between courses and/or units

If a student commences a pair of units late, they may be at risk of being disadvantaged compared to others in the class. An application to transfer between types of courses or between courses is made through the Senior School Manager Student Services /Associate Principal. A meeting will be held with the student and the parent/guardian to discuss the student's progress and the requirements necessary for the student to be assigned a grade in the pair of units into which they wish to transfer.

At Fremantle College, the deadline for student transfers in Years 11 and 12 is Friday of Week 3 in Term 1. A student transferring by the due date will be withdrawn from the original pair of units and no grade will be assigned. The student will then be enrolled in the pair of units into which they are transferring and the College will develop an assessment program to ensure the student meets the

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syllabus requirements for the course. Where a transferring student has an assessment program that differs from other students, the student will be provided with an individual assessment outline showing how a school mark for the pair of units will be determined.

In Year 11, students can also transfer at the end of Semester 1, where class numbers enable this to occur. In such cases, the student will receive a mark and a grade for the unit completed in Semester 1.

#### **14. Reporting student achievement**

The College reports student achievement at the end of Semester 1 and at the end of Semester 2 to the Authority. The report provides for each subject:

- a comment about the content and skills covered.
- a grade.
- the percentage mark in the school-based examination (for ATAR courses)
- the percentage mark<sup>1</sup> (calculated from the weighted total mark).

At the end of the year, students will be provided with a Fremantle College report, which lists the school mark and grade for each subject. These are the results which will be submitted to the Authority. Successful completion of VET qualifications and endorsed programs are also listed on the statement of achievement.

All final grades are subject to approval by the Authority at the end of the year. Students will be notified of any changes from the Authority's review of the students' results submitted by the College.

#### **15. Reviewing marks and grades**

If a student considers that there is an issue about the delivery of a course, the marking of one or more assessment tasks or the grade assigned for a pair of units, then they should, in the first instance, discuss the issue with the teacher.

If an assessment issue cannot be resolved through discussion with the teacher, then the student or the parent/guardian should approach the relevant head of learning area responsible for the course.

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