Assessment Policy

For implementation and review 2007

Statement of Purpose: Alstonville High School aims to develop future citizens and leaders of our community who are active, life long learners. We aim to develop individuals who are;

Values
Happy, healthy, safe and confident.
Responsible, disciplined and resilient.
Valuers of excellence and achievement.
Providing a fair go for all.
Caring and compassionate.

Learning
Literate and numerate.
Independent and organised.
Creative and critical thinkers.
Effective communicators.
Capable and innovative with technology.
Environmentally, socially and culturally aware.

General Policy

Assessment is the process of identifying, gathering and interpreting information about a students’ learning. The purpose of assessment is to provide information on student achievement and progress and set the direction for ongoing teaching and learning. Reporting is the process of communicating information about student achievement and progress.

Responsibility

The role of teachers is to use assessment to:

- Support student learning and achievement
- Monitor student learning
- Diagnose student needs
- Evaluate the effectiveness of our teaching programs
- Inform student/parents about progress, and
- Assist accountability

What is effective assessment practice?

- It is clear and directly linked to the syllabus outcomes
- It is integral to teaching and learning
- Ensures Life Skills students and those needing special provisions are appropriately supported ie; Life Skills students are offered alternative assessment tasks
- It is balanced, comprehensive, varied and relevant to recent learning experiences
- It is valid, fair and reliable
- It engages the learner
- It values teacher judgement
• It is time efficient and manageable
• It recognises individual achievement and progress
• It involves a whole school approach
• No more than 50% of assessment tasks should be in the form of across the year formal exams
• Class placement will be based on a cumulative year assessment
• Students are given a week’s notice of impending tasks.
• It is consistent with regard to penalty for lateness

Stage 4 – Penalty 10% per day for five days then zero. Expectation that task must be submitted.

Stage 5 & 6 – 20% per day for five days then zero (see details appendix 1)

Each teaching faculty at Alstonville High School has a faculty assessment policy that builds more specifically on this whole school policy. The faculty policies also describe the processes used to determine class placement for different year groups.

Alstonville High School publishes Assessment Information Booklets for students in Year 7, 10, 11 and 12. These support the above beliefs. The booklets inform students and parents in general terms how each individual will be assessed in each subject.

Alstonville High School has pro-forma for advising students and parents about upcoming assignments. Pro-forma will include information such as dates, faculty, teacher, topic and assignment information, marking guidelines.

Alstonville High School has developed outcome based reporting that is completed by staff at the end of each semester. It has been developed as a whole-school approach. The outcomes are linked to assessment and are then reported on each semester. The reports are expressed in plain English and through consultation with the community are constantly being reviewed in order to enable parents to know how their children are progressing. Reports will be semester based.

The task of students is to:

• Attempt all tasks to the best of their ability
• Be aware of the assessment schedule and seek assistance if needed
• Understand assessment requirements and rules

Parents and carers can help by:

• Understanding assessment processes
• Being aware of assessment booklets and requirements
• Attending parent /teacher information evenings
• Encouraging students to do their best
• Contacting the school when they need assistance

The school has additional, more detailed policies covering assessments in particular years. These can be provided following a request to the school.