



7–12 SEMESTER 1 STUDENT REPORTS

Advice for Parents/Carers

20 May 2020

The 2020 school year has been like no other.

We acknowledge the hard work and commitment of our teachers and principals during the COVID-19 pandemic and the change in learning from school-based to home-based learning. We also acknowledge and sincerely thank the parents and carers who have supported home learning and the challenges it has created, particularly when it has been coupled with working from home, additional health care stress and in some cases, responsibilities for caring for others.

Communication between schools and parents/carers has been a key practice during the changes in schooling. Our teachers and principals have been providing parents and carers with informal and formal opportunities to receive information about their child's learning.

The opportunity to provide a formal report this semester is important; however, the report will look different because of the changes to learning so far this year and will focus on the learning that has happened both at home and school. It will focus on the outcomes taught and assessed. The purpose of this report is to help parents and carers understand how their child is going at this time and what can be done to support future learning.

All Education Authorities recognise the need for flexibility in usual reporting practices at this time so, based on advice from the Education Minister, schools will report on student progress and achievement without the usual A–E or equivalent grading. This is for Semester 1 only.

ADJUSTMENTS TO THE SEMESTER 1 2020 STUDENT REPORTS TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION:

- ▶ Periods of full and part time school and home learning
- ▶ An understanding that not all students have equitable access to or support with their learning at home for a variety of reasons
- ▶ The need to modify the planned curriculum to accommodate home learning
- ▶ That students have not had the usual opportunities to demonstrate evidence of their learning
- ▶ An understanding that teachers have not had the usual opportunities to observe and assess students
- ▶ An understanding that teacher workload has increased considerably in transitioning quickly to home learning, the simultaneous provision of school and home learning and in the re-engagement of students with school learning
- ▶ The importance of three-way conversations between parent/carer, teacher and student when restrictions ease. These meetings will enable sharing of insights and feedback about learning in Semester 1 to inform future goal setting.

THEREFORE:

- ▶ The Semester 1 report will **not be as comprehensive** as in previous years
- ▶ The A–E Grade scale will not be used to report student achievement
- ▶ Teacher professional judgement of student achievement relative to their peer group at this point in time will inform these reports
- ▶ Only NSW Syllabus outcomes taught and assessed this semester will be used to measure achievement
- ▶ Reports will be **delayed** until the beginning of Term 3
- ▶ Teacher written comments will be minimal. Opportunities for three-way parent/carer, teacher and student conversations will be provided when possible
- ▶ Attendance will **not** be recorded for Semester 1

NOTE: Current student reporting practices, timing and templates will generally continue to be used for students in Years 11 and 12. The use of the Common Grade Scale (A–E) is optional for Year 11. Report templates may be amended according to the circumstances of individual schools.