



## CONTINUOUS ASSESSMENT POLICY

### PURPOSE

Mount Waverley Secondary College believes that continuous assessment and feedback to both students and their parent/carers provides an opportunity for students to act on advice and improve student learning growth and achievement.

Much of what we know about effective assessment practices comes from the works of leading educational practitioners, Robert Marzano and Dylan Wiliam. Both contend that the primary importance of assessment is to guide teachers in their efforts to facilitate student progress. This has become known as 'Formative Assessment', (Inside the Black Box, 1998).

Both educationalists would argue that effective formative assessment would be a combination of summative, peer- and self-assessment and these are only effective when students are given the tools to improve. If the assessment remains just a snapshot of learning without the scaffolding for students to make progress then it has very little value.

Continuous Assessment or real time assessment is based on the premise that for students to make progress in their learning, and for teachers to monitor their own effectiveness, feedback to students needs to be immediate. The concept of providing the students with feedback at the end of a semester is not timely for semester-based subjects or for the teacher to initiate strategies that will make a difference. The process of feedback about student learning is not finite, but a continuum that begins when a student arrives in Year 7.

Mount Waverley Secondary College use the Compass Reporting Package to facilitate feedback for all students in Years 7 to 12 on set assessment tasks, prescribed by the curriculum areas for all subjects.

Learning Tasks will be set in all subjects using the Mount Waverley Secondary College Assessment and Reporting Guide. To ensure feedback to parents and students is timely, teachers are expected to have comments and grades entered on Compass within two weeks of the assessment task being completed. At the end of the semester there will be a summary of the Learning Tasks, feedback, grades, learning behaviours, VicCurriculum levels of achievement at Years 7 to 10 and overall result for each subject.

All subjects from 7 to 10 are assessed using Victorian Curriculum F-10 achievement standards.

The Victorian Curriculum F-10 (which includes the Curriculum Learning Areas and the General Capabilities) provides a common set of knowledge and skills required by students for life-long learning, social development and active and informed citizenship. The Victorian Curriculum F-10 incorporates the Australian Curriculum and reflects Victorian priorities and standards. It outlines a single, coherent and comprehensive set of prescribed content and achievement standards, which Mount Waverley Secondary College uses to plan student learning programs, assess student progress and report to parents.

### ASSESSMENT GRADES YEARS 7 – 10

The college uses an assessment scale for Years 7 to 10 (see the table below).

## VCE SUBJECTS

The award of a satisfactory completion for a VCE Unit is based on a decision that the student has demonstrated achievement of the set outcomes specified for the Unit. The decision is based on assessment of the student's overall performance in School Assessed Coursework (Units 3&4) and Assessment Tasks (Units 1&2).

An **Outcome** is what the student must know or be able to do by the time they have finished a VCE unit. **Course work** comprises of the tasks mainly completed in class and assessed to determine the student's individual level of performance. Each student is required to complete coursework prescribed by the subject teacher to achieve a satisfactory for an Outcome.

A student may be awarded a 'Satisfactory' (S) or a 'Not Satisfactory' (N) for an outcome and a unit of work.

**S** The student has demonstrated achievement of the set of outcomes specified for the Unit. The student has produced work that meets the required standard.

**N** The student has not demonstrated achievement of all or some of the set of outcomes specified for the Unit. The student has produced work that does not meet the required standard.

\*\* For Units Performance (Year 11) students' reports will indicate an **S for achievement or N for nonachievement of each Outcome, plus the results for each Assessment Task** using the Assessment Scale VCE.

\*\* For Units 3&4 (Year 12) students' reports will indicate an **S for achievement or N for nonachievement of each Outcome**.

## ASSESSMENT GRADES YEARS 7-10 AND VCE

GRADING SCALE YEARS 7 – 12		
90% - 100%	A+	
80 – 89%	A	
75 – 79%	B+	
70 – 74%	B	
65 – 69%	C+	
60 – 64%	C	
55 – 59%	D+	
50 – 54%	D	
45 – 49%	E+	As part of the feedback to students, teachers are to indicate that these grades are effectively a compensatory pass
40 – 44%	E	

< 39%	Not Satisfactory
UG	Student has met the requirements but not sufficiently to achieve a grade.
N	Y7-10 Not Satisfactory VCE Did not meet satisfactory standard as outlined by VCAA
NA	Use for Y7-10 only. Not assessed due to exceptional circumstances approved by the relevant subschool
NS	Use for Y7-10 only. Not Submitted

## REVIEW CYCLE

This policy was last reviewed in June 2021 and is scheduled for review in 2024.