Assisting Your Child to Succeed in HSC Assessment

Year 12 Parent Information Evening

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8.2.12
Parents and the HSC

- Who has the greatest stress levels- parents or students?

- It’s not your HSC – you can’t do it for them.

- During the HSC year, like any other year many things can happen. Your son or daughter might have a number of things to complicate life as well as HSC Assessment.
They might be:

- Worrying about the future and not being able to choose a career
- Getting a licence
- Suffering personal stresses and strains from relationships
- Trying to please you
- Doing a part time job
- Suffering from depression
- Dealing with family issues—illness, divorce
- Have an illness themselves
- Competing in elite sport
In school assessment - why?

- Accumulate at least half of the HSC mark before the exam
- Provide a mark in the case of misadventure during the HSC – used by 10 -15 students each year for 1 or all exams.
- Can test some outcomes that the exam cannot test – e.g. research, process etc
- No 2 Unit subject has more than 5 tasks including the Half Yearly and Trial HSC
Practical Advice 1

- Provide a good study environment
- Encourage plenty of sleep – 8-10 hours
- Provide good food – remember breakfast
- Encourage sport or exercise
- Encourage planned leisure activities
- At busy times try to reduce home tasks or provide transport if you can (eg assessment and exam times)
Practical Advice 2

- Be positive – highlight strengths and successes and process.
- Try not to nag - Aim for 5:1 positive to negative interactions
- *If your child wants it* take the time to be a sounding board for concepts, ideas, essays and study quizzes.
- Expect the occasional outburst when your child gets stressed and try to ignore it. Avoid confrontation over minor matters.
- Reduce the pressure and expectations you are putting on your child
Encourage your child to seek help from their Year Adviser, teachers, mentor, the Deputy Principal, Mr Howie, Head Teacher Welfare or the School Counsellor if he or she is having any difficulty with subjects, study organisation, stress or anxiety about assessment or examinations.

Let them know you love them whatever their marks or grades are.

Be confident that in 5 years time they will be living a useful and fulfilling life.

Remember that there is life after the HSC.
Some useful information to be aware of
Enrolment

- The school enrols all students in their HSC subjects by about mid March each year via the BOS Schools Online portal.
- Any changes to subjects must be recorded via the school process.
- A Confirmation of Entry form is signed by students to confirm all details. A new one must be signed for any changes.
- Any subjects studied outside the school MUST be included (eg Community Languages, TAFE).
Disability provisions

- The Board of Studies has specifically developed the disability provisions program to assist students who have special needs.
- If your child has a special examination need (it might be related to a physical condition, visual impairment, hearing loss, medical condition, mental illness etc) contact the counsellor, Head Teacher Welfare or Mr Howie.
- The closing date for applications is usually in Term 1 of Year 12 however, late applications can and should be made at any time up to the HSC exams.
Major Projects

- Visual Arts, Music, English Extension, History Extension, Society and Culture, Industrial Technology, Drama, Dance, Textiles & Design, IST – all have major projects which need managing. Aspects of these contribute to in-school assessment.
- Having a time plan for these and sticking to it is vital.
Extra Help

- HSC Online provided by the Department of Education and Charles Sturt University has tutorials in most subjects and a wealth of links and information to help with study [http://hsc.csu.edu.au/](http://hsc.csu.edu.au/)