



Senior School Good Standing

Overview

It is essential to clearly state the standard of performance necessary for students to succeed and enter the post-school destination of their choice. These standards must be clearly and regularly communicated to students so that they know and understand what is expected from them in terms of their school performance.

Post-school destinations, such as universities and TAFE, clearly articulate the standards of performance required to enter their respective institutions. Similarly, the School Curriculum and Standard Authority (SCASA) clearly describes the standard of performance necessary to be awarded a Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE) – commonly referred to as graduation.

Further, teachers at Thornlie Senior High School clearly communicate the standards required to successfully achieve the requirements of each course of study. They do this by providing students with syllabus documents, which clearly describe what students must know and understand. Teachers also provide students with assessment programs that describe how and when teachers will make judgments about student performance.

When teachers assess student performance, they provide a clear outline of what is required on a particular assessment, what will be assessed and when this will occur.

Teachers also provide information about other matters that may affect student performance, such as the level of attendance required to succeed and the types of conduct which will support student success within a course of study.

It is the role of the Senior School Good Standing policy, within the context of Thornlie Senior High School, to clearly set and coordinate a standard of student performance across the school program. The school performance standards relate to the level of student performance needed to achieve a WACE and to have a high chance of successfully entering a post-school destination of choice.

This policy outlines the school standards for Academic Performance, Attendance, Commitment and Behaviour that are considered necessary to meet the requirements of Thornlie Senior High School, the Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE) and the various post-school destinations. This policy provides an overall standard against which all student performance will be assessed.

The degree to which each student achieves the standards will help determine their 'standing' for a semester. Students will be identified as falling into one of three groups relating to achievement against each of the standards set. The three performance groups are:

- Advanced Standing.
- Good Standing.
- Conditional Standing

1.0 Rationale

It is essential to clearly state the standard of performance necessary for students to succeed and enter the post-school destination of their choice. These standards will be clearly and regularly communicated to students so that they know and understand what is expected from them in terms of their school performance.

Teachers at Thornlie Senior High School clearly communicate the standards required to successfully achieve the requirements of each Course that students undertake. They do this by providing students with:

- A syllabus document, which clearly describe what students must know and understand.
- An assessment outline that describes how and when teachers will make judgments about student performance. When teachers assess student performance, they provide a clear outline of what is required on a particular assessment, what will be assessed and when this will occur.
- Information about other factors that may affect student performance, such as the level of attendance required to succeed and the types of conduct which will support student success.

2.0 Standards

The Thornlie Senior High School Senior School Good Standing Policy relates to the level of student performance that will best support achievement of the Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE) and to have a high chance of successfully entering a post-school destination of choice. It outlines standards in relation to Commitment, Academic Performance, Attendance and Conduct.

2.1 Commitment

All students will be provided with the opportunity to engage in relevant and meaningful curriculum. Students are responsible for giving themselves every opportunity to achieve their full potential. Student commitment can be demonstrated through the five attributes on their semester report.

2.2 Academic Performance

All students will be provided with the opportunity to develop knowledge and skills to achieve success at school and be best placed to make a meaningful transition to a post school destination of their choice. Students will achieve this by making appropriate selections for Year 11 enrolling in either:

- an ATAR pathway (four or five School Curriculum and Standards Authority ATAR Courses plus a Vocational Education and Training (VET) Certificate), or
- a General pathway (five School Curriculum and Standards Authority General Courses plus a Vocational Education and Training (VET) Certificate), or
- the Big Picture Academy.

Students entering Year 12 will continue their chosen pathway in a strategic manner to maximise their options for their Exit plan.

2.3 Attendance

There is a very strong connection between the academic performance of Senior School students and their attendance and participation in the learning program. Absence is likely to impact on a student's ability to understand the material covered and to successfully complete the assessment program to the best of their ability.

2.4 Conduct

All students in Senior School at Thornlie Senior High School are expected to maintain a high level of conduct at all times. Good conduct ensures that students give themselves the best opportunity of focusing on achieving their academic potential. Further, good conduct ensures that students develop strong positive working relationships with their peers and teachers.

The following are considered aspects of appropriate conduct:

- Valuing education
- Respecting school rules – including the Uniform Policy;
- Respecting the rights of others (including all school staff);
- Appropriate organisation and preparation; and
- Appropriate use of class time.

3.0 Parameters used for assessing students standing per semester

Each student will have the standards assessed to help determine their 'Standing' for a semester. Students will be identified as falling into one of three groups relating to achievement against each of the standards set for Senior School. There are three standings:

- Good Standing (3.1);
- Advanced Standing (3.2); and
- Conditional Standing (3.3).

All students will commence on 'Good Standing' when they enroll at Thornlie Senior High School. Student standings will be re-determined at the end of each semester and feedback will be provided to students regarding their current standing. It will also be used to determine whether students are acquiring maximum support for achieving a WACE and the various standards for entering post-school destinations.

3.1 Good Standing

Students who are deemed to have maintained Good Standing in a semester will have achieved the following levels of performance in relation to the Senior School standards (Section 2):

- **Commitment Standard**
Obtain at least 50% combined 'Consistently' and 'Often' attributes on Semester report.
- **Academic Standard**
Obtain a minimum "C" grade in 60% or more Courses i.e. 3 or more "C" Course grades for ATAR and General pathway students.
- **VET Standard (where a student has enrolled in a VET Certificate Year 11/12)**
Year 11: Achieved Year One Units as set in Year Program.
Year 12: Completion of full VET Certificate.
- **Attendance Standard**
90% attendance or better in all six courses studied.
- **Conduct Standard**
Maintain appropriate conduct across the school.

Students who maintain Good Standing in a semester will have access to all of the privileges of Senior School including:

- Represent the school in student affairs and other extra-curricular activities such as carnivals, sporting events and performances.
- Access to school and year group functions, such as the school ball.
- Other privileges for students maintaining good standing as arranged by the school, including such things as Workplace Learning and Academic Reward Excursion.

Students who lose their Good Standing may not participate in extra-curricular activities such as camps, excursions, school trips intra- and inter-state or overseas, social functions or performances that are not an essential part of the educational program.

3.2 Advanced Standing

Students are deemed to have excelled in relation to the commitment standard (Section 2) when they have achieved the following levels of performance in a semester:

- **Commitment Standard**
Obtain at least 80% combined 'Consistently' and 'Often' attributes on Semester report.
- **Academic Standard**
Obtain a minimum "C" grade in all Courses.
- **VET Standard**
Year 11: Year 11: Achieved Year One Units as set in Year Program.
Year 12: Completion of full VET Certificate.
- **Attendance Standard**
92% attendance or better in all six courses studied.
- **Conduct Standard**
Maintain appropriate conduct across the school.

Students who achieve Advanced Standing in a semester will have access to all of the privileges of Senior School as described in the Good Standing section (3.1) and will receive:

- Advanced Standing membership, including Academic Breakfast Club;
- An Advanced Standing Certificate which will show the semester and year in which Advanced Standing was achieved and a Badge; and
- Recognition at a full school or year group assembly.

3.3 Conditional Standing

Students are deemed to have performed below an acceptable level in relation to the standards (Section 2) when they have exhibited one or more of the following levels of performance in a semester:

- **Commitment Standard**
Obtain less than 50% combined 'Consistently' and 'Often' attributes on Semester report.
- **Academic Standard**
Obtain less than minimum "C" grade in 60% or more Courses.
- **VET Standard**
Year 11: Achieved less than Year One Units as set in Year Program.
Year 12: Not completed the full VET Certificate by conclusion of studies.
- **Attendance Standard**
Below 90% attendance in all six courses studied.
- **Conduct Standard**
Not maintaining appropriate conduct across the school.

In this circumstance, Thornlie Senior High School will undertake a number of intervention strategies in collaboration with the student, their parents, the Year 11 or 12 Coordinator, the Student Services Manager and other professionals as deemed appropriate to support an improvement to an acceptable level of performance against any of the Senior School standards.

Students on Conditional Standing may also lose the automatic privilege to become involved in extra-curricular activities, such as school sporting teams and the automatic privilege to attend school social events as deemed appropriate by the Year 11 or 12 Coordinator and Student Services Manager.

4.0 Sustained Poor Performance

In circumstances where students are deemed to be on Conditional Standing for more than one semester in a row, a Case Conference may be called with the student, their parents, the Senior School Deputy, Year 11 or 12 Coordinator, Student Services Manager and other professionals as appropriate to discuss the continuation of the current course and the most appropriate action for the future. Students on Conditional Standing for both semesters of Year 11 should note that continuation into Year 12 may be unlikely.

5.0 Appeals

Students will have the opportunity to present a case where they believe that special circumstances should be considered in the application of this policy. Where this is the case, students should complete the Application for Appeal Relating to Good Standing form, along with documented evidence to substantiate their claim, and submit this to the Year 11 or 12 Coordinator within seven (7) days of being notified of their standing under this policy. The appeal will be heard in a timely fashion so as not to disadvantage the student in any way.