

Student Assessment Reports – Semester 2 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

The staff at St Michael's Catholic Primary School, Nowra are pleased to be able to provide the Semester 2 2019 Student Reports. These reports have been prepared in line with the school's Reporting policy, Australian Government legislative regulations and in response to recent parent surveys.

The report will include a comparison of your child's achievement against curriculum syllabus standards using a *common grade scale*; teacher's comments about your child's academic performance, and information about your child's social and personal development.

Years 1 to 6 students have grades for all the Key Learning Areas (KLAs) they have studied this semester including Religious Education, English, Mathematics, Creative Arts, Human Society and Its Environment (History/Geography), Science and Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE). The following table sets out the official descriptors pertinent to each A to E grade that is awarded for each KLA and is indicated next to the title of each KLA on the actual Report form. To assist in the interpretation of these grades a "child-friendly" version of the A to E gradings is included.

Explanation of the Common Grade Scale:

Common Grade Scale	Catholic Education Office official "descriptors" of grades	"Child friendly" version of grades
A	The student has extensive knowledge and understanding of the content and can readily apply this knowledge. In addition, the student has achieved a very high level of competence in the processes and skills and can apply these skills to new situations.	All the time Always independent (no teacher direction) Accurate Applies to new situations
B	The student has a thorough knowledge and understanding of the content and a high level of competence in the processes and skills. In addition, the student is able to apply this knowledge and these skills in most situations.	By yourself (Independent But makes a few errors) Being a good learner
C	The student has a sound knowledge and understanding of the main areas of content and has achieved an adequate level of competence in the processes and skills.	Consistently Coping well Continuing to learn
D	The student has a basic knowledge and understanding of the content and has achieved a limited level of competence in the processes and skills.	Developing (but going OK) Direction needed
E	The student has an elementary knowledge and understanding in few areas of the content and has achieved very limited competence in some of the processes and skills.	Encouragement needed (Having a bit of trouble and needs to ask for help more often)

Please remember to get online and book an appointment
The closing date is Sunday 15th December at 5pm

Achievement Gradings for Learning Outcomes

For each of the Learning Outcomes being assessed in each Key Learning Area this Semester the individual student has been awarded a grading that ranges from – “*Elementary knowledge and understanding*”; “*Basic knowledge and understanding*”; “*Sound knowledge and understanding*”; “*Thorough knowledge and understanding*”; “*Extensive knowledge and understanding*”.

This grading is awarded taking into account the knowledge, skills and understandings demonstrated by the child, test results, marks given for assignments/projects completed, observations of individual work completed in class, contributions to group work and/or class discussions, assessments of learning activities completed in workbooks and other factors.

Teacher Assessment Strategies:

The teachers at St Michael’s Primary School have implemented assessment strategies to –

- Develop clear and fair assessment tasks.
- Make consistent and reliable judgements about a student’s work.
- Ensure effective, explicit teaching has occurred and that assessments are placed within those parameters.
- Ensure that the assessment process is transparent and they can give quality feedback to the student and parents/carers.
- Utilise data from “common” assessment tasks to ensure the application of consistent standards across the classes in a Year level.

When writing reports the teacher is awarding a “grade” to the student taking into account knowledge, skills and understandings covered up to the point when the judgement is made. The teachers are making an “ON BALANCE JUDGEMENT” of student academic progress, achievements and attainments for each “strand” (if applicable) and the appropriate Learning Outcomes within the particular Key Learning Area as set out in the curriculum.

Your child’s report is on Compass, and you can access it via the Compass School Manager App on your mobile device, or through the Compass School Portal on a device with an internet browser. The report will be in PDF form, and you can simply view it online, or download it for your own records.

Parent/Teacher Interviews will be from Monday 16th December. Bookings will be available on the portal from Thursday 12th December to Sunday 15th December.

Accessing Compass

Compass is a web-based system that is accessible on any modern web browser or by using the Compass School Manager app available for iOS or Android.

To access our Parent Portal on your computer, go to: <https://smndow-nsw.compass.education>

Student Assessment Gradings Comparison Table:

Again this year there is the availability, at parent/carer request, of a comparison table that will illustrate your child's achievement in the A to E gradings in comparison with the rest of their year group. This comparison table can be obtained from your classroom teacher.

Valuable Information for Parents/Carers

I trust parents/carers find that the student Assessment Reports are informative and valuable in providing insights into your child’s academic, social and personal development. It is hoped that this Semester 2 Assessment Report assists in enhancing and strengthening our educational partnership between home and school for the benefit of your child’s continued successful progress.