



# The HSC Journey

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**Pennant Hills High School acknowledges the  
Darug and GuriNgai people, traditional  
custodians of the land on which our school is  
built, where quality teaching and learning  
continues to take place.**



# WELCOME

Ms Fiona Payne

Deputy Principal



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# THE HSC JOURNEY

Mrs Bernadette Jebbink

Head Teacher Secondary Studies



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THERE IS NO ELEVATOR TO SUCCESS...  
YOU HAVE TO TAKE THE STAIRS.

-ZIG ZIGLAR

ZIGLAR.COM



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AWARD OF COMPLETION

# HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE

Awarded to

**Sample Student**


who attended

**Sample High School**

has met the requirements for the  
award of a Higher School Certificate



123456789



Chief Executive Officer  
NSW Education Standards Authority

The Higher School Certificate is accredited by NESA and is recognised as a Senior Secondary  
Certificate of Education within the Australian Qualifications Framework.  
Issued by NESA without alteration or pressure on 19th May 2017 at Sydney, NSW, Australia

789456321



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# Satisfactory completion of a course

Students must:

follow the course developed or endorsed by NESA, apply themselves with diligence and sustained effort to the set tasks and experiences provided in the course by the school, and achieve some or all of the course outcomes

VET Board Developed Courses require students to complete mandatory work placement.

[www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/rosa/credentials.html](http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/rosa/credentials.html)



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# Additional completion requirements for HSC courses

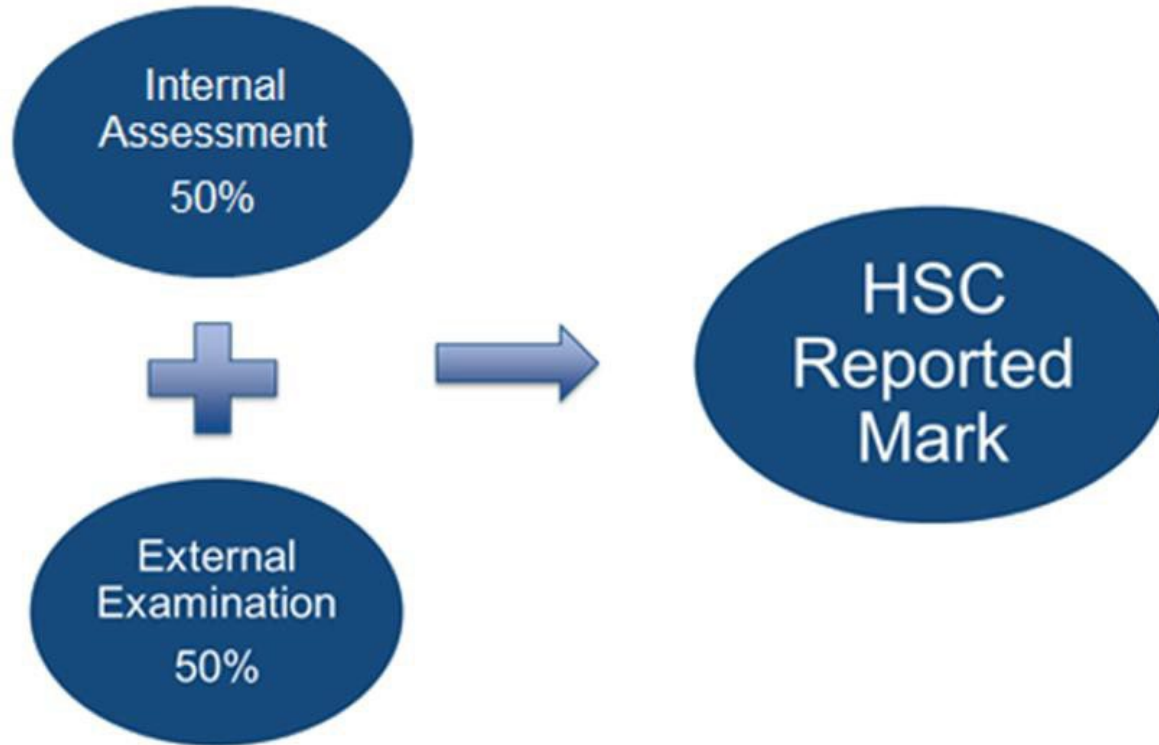
Students must:

- complete HSC assessment tasks that contribute **in excess of 50%** of available marks in courses where internal assessment marks are submitted and
- sit for and make a **serious attempt** at any requisite Higher School Certificate examinations for a course





# How is my HSC mark determined?



Moderation explained by CEO of NESA:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5qXs9id0Rjc>



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# Finalising marks/ranks

- At the end of the Year 12 course, the marks for each task are aggregated using the weightings previously published in the PHHS Assessment Booklet, to arrive at a final assessment mark for each student.
- These marks are submitted to NESA, and provide a **RANK ORDER** of students.
- Results are then moderated by NESA to ensure that marks submitted by different schools can be compared.



# Assessment

- Four tasks per 2 unit course - including the Trial HSC
- These assessment marks are submitted to NESA as a mark /100, and will form 50% of your final HSC mark. The HSC Examination is worth 50%.
- English Studies and Mathematics Standard 1 are different - unless you choose to sit the optional HSC Examination.



# Assessment

- The Assessment Booklet is an extremely important document. It gives the details of your tasks: dates, weighting, components etc.
- All work that you present in an HSC task / exam must be your own. Malpractice, including plagiarism, makes you liable to receive zero marks for the task. Remember *All My Own Work?*





**ChatGPT**



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# HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE

## Record of Achievement



Education  
Standards  
Authority

This is to certify that  
**Sample Student**  
of

**Other Sample High School**

has met the requirements of the Higher School Certificate and has  
received the results shown below.

### STAGE 6 HSC COURSES

Year	Course	Examination Mark	Assessment Mark/Grade	HSC Mark	Performance Band
<b>Board Developed Courses</b>					
2019	Biology (2 unit)	80/100	82/100	81	5
	Classical Hebrew Continuers (2 unit)	93/100	94/100	94	6
	Classical Hebrew Extension (1 unit)	46/50	46/50	46	E4
	English Advanced (2 unit)	86/100	85/100	86	5
	Legal Studies (2 unit)	85/100	86/100	86	5
	Studies of Religion II (2 unit)	87/100	84/100	87	5



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# Something to consider:

If there is misadventure in the HSC exam - for example, if you are sick and can't do the exam - you will receive your **moderated school assessment mark.**

This is one very important reason to achieve your best in every assessment task.





# Understanding the difference between HSC marks and ATAR

## HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE

The HSC presents a profile showing the **STANDARDS** a student achieves in the courses they studied

## AUSTRALIAN TERTIARY ADMISSION RANK

A student's ATAR is a **RANK** indicating their achievement not against a standard, but against other students



# HSC and ATAR differences

## HSC

Raw HSC marks are not scaled – they are **aligned** to standards ie moderated to meet the standards within bands

## ATAR

Each course is scaled **not** against a standard but against the **quality of the entire HSC candidature**

A new mark value is assigned for each course

An aggregate is given to form a **RANK ORDER**



# ATAR Scaling Philosophy



The scaling model looks for the  
“strength of the competition”

or the

“company you’re in”

or the

“quality of the candidature”



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# Students Online

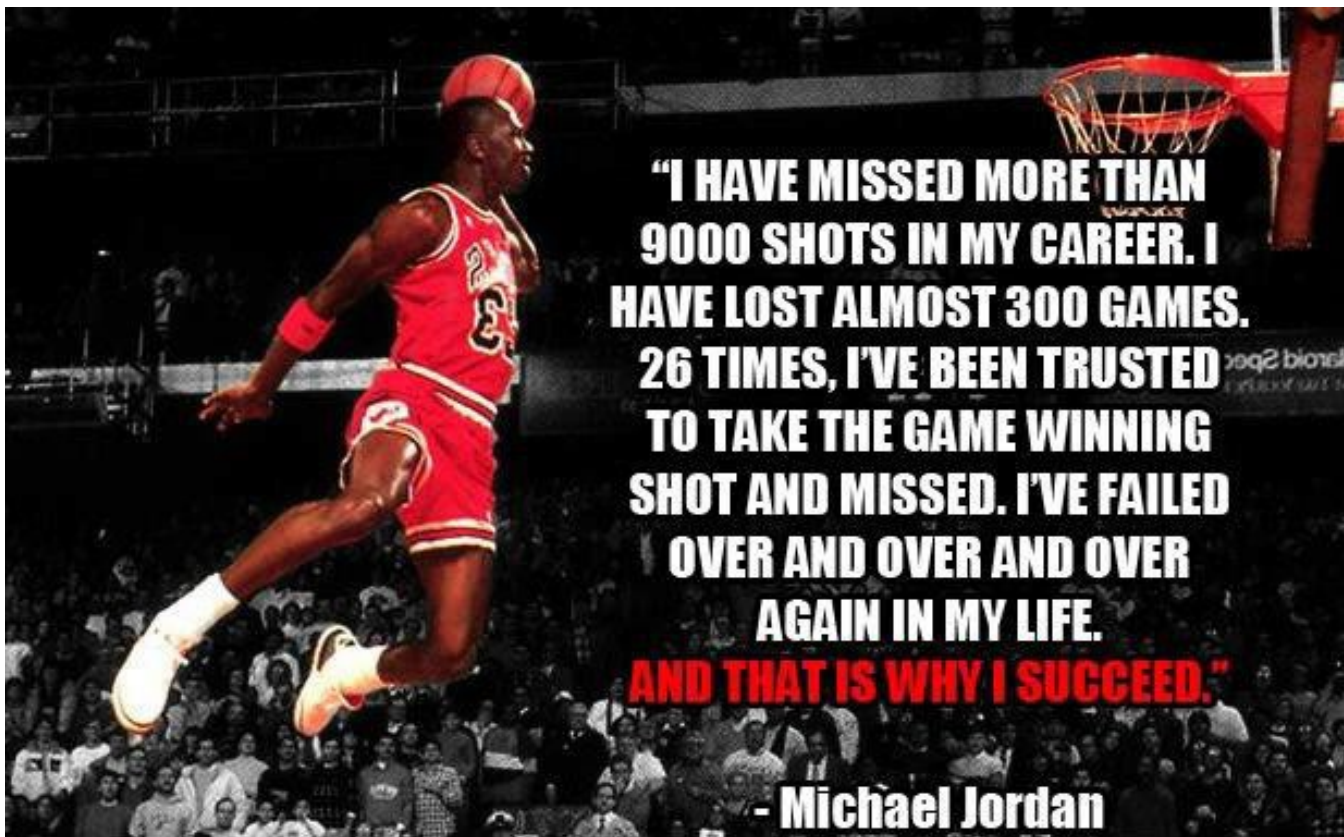
- This website is important - it is how NESAs will communicate with you. It includes information and advice to help you.
- You have your own personal account. To access it, search Students Online, login with your NESAs number and create a PIN.
- Your personal details such as your exam timetable, assessment ranks, Year 10 and 11 grades and eventually your HSC results appear here.



# Remember:

- Keep on top of tasks - know the schedule and the due dates to balance the demands of different subjects
- Check your work against the marking criteria
- Get organised, and maintain your system
- Develop a regular study schedule - Mrs Dennett will work with you on this
- Your teachers are your best resource





**"I HAVE MISSED MORE THAN  
9000 SHOTS IN MY CAREER. I  
HAVE LOST ALMOST 300 GAMES.  
26 TIMES, I'VE BEEN TRUSTED  
TO TAKE THE GAME WINNING  
SHOT AND MISSED. I'VE FAILED  
OVER AND OVER AND OVER  
AGAIN IN MY LIFE.  
AND THAT IS WHY I SUCCEED."**

**- Michael Jordan**



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# MAXIMISE SUCCESS

Mrs Jane Dennett  
Academic Adviser



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# Academic care at PHHS

## The philosophy:

To bring out the best in every student by providing both support and accountability

Recognising that academics and wellbeing are interconnected



# Academic care at PHHS

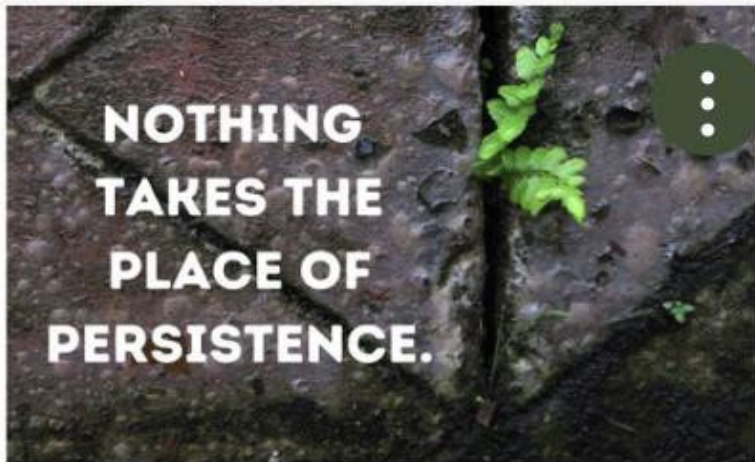
Senior study periods during the day are supervised in the Library, and assistance is available.

A wide range of resources are available in the Library. The Library opens at 8.00am Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and is open until 4.30pm on Wednesday afternoons.

There is a program of seminars and masterclasses offered. All students are welcome to attend.



# Academic care at PHHS



[2024 Year 12 Study Support](#)  
[2024\\_Y12StudySupport](#)



A wide range of resources are available on the Year 12 Study Support Canvas page, which is regularly updated.

(This presentation will be posted on the page under ‘Useful Resources’)



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# Senior study lessons

- All study periods that fall in Period 2 and 3 are supervised and the roll is marked, just as any other lesson would be. All students report to the Library and swipe in.
- These periods are a combination of structured lessons and individual study.
- Study periods that fall in Periods 1 or 4 may be spent at home. The Library is also open ...



...HOWEVER...

...all students are to be at school  
**every lesson** until all Learning  
Contracts are returned.



# Discontinuing a course

Some students choose to discontinue one of their courses.

The process for this is as follows:

- Meet with Ms Payne
- Complete paperwork
- When your application has been processed, you are placed on the Senior Study rolls.

*This is when you are able to cease attending the discontinued class.*



# Senior study lessons



Are you doing a major project in IT or Visual Arts or Textiles?

Yes, you are able to work on them during some private study periods, with a condition:



We need the consent of a supervising teacher in the workshop.





# 10% on Top program

Every Year 12 student is allotted a 10% on Top mentor.

This program operates along traditional mentoring lines, allowing students to benefit from the advice and expertise of Year 12 teachers.



# HSC Disability Provisions

Disability provisions provide students with practical support to access, i.e. read and respond to, the Higher School Certificate (HSC) exams.

## [NESA Disability Provisions](#)

Students who believe they qualify for disability provisions should see Mrs Amy Austin, Head Teacher Student Wellbeing.



# Tips for managing stress

1. **Take time out:** give yourself permission to recharge. Try and get outside for a walk to get away from the computer.
2. **Make a study plan:** set yourself a list and act on it; take bite-sized chunks out of the study so that you can feel a sense of achievement.
3. **Challenge your thinking.** Often we give better advice to others than we give to ourselves . . . hearing your own feelings from someone else can help you take action
4. **Talk about it.** All Year 12 are going through this as well. Share the experience with each other.
5. **Reach out:** seek help from one of the many services available such as headspace, Kids Helpline, Reachout, Lifeline and Beyond Blue.



# Wellbeing Contacts

## School Counsellors

Ms Sarah Pryde:  
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

Ms Andrea Smith:  
Wednesday and Thursday

Mr Mark Henderson: Friday

## Head Teacher Student Wellbeing

Mrs Amy Austin

## Student Support Officer

Ms Ester De Haan



# Career support

<https://www.phhscareers.com/>

This is the go to: all information about university entry and careers in general is posted here



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# Career support

The Hills Tertiary Careers Expo is organised by the school, and advertised in Sentral Notices.

Western Sydney Expo is also advertised, and you are encouraged to attend.

Universities hold Open Days, which are advertised in Sentral.



# Career support

The Careers Adviser, Ms Baker, is available to all students to provide guidance, and is frequently in the Library during students' study periods.

The Careers Office is Room 409 A.



# Specifics: tertiary study

During Terms 2 and 3 ambassadors from all the major universities visit the school to give information and to answer your questions about entry requirements.

The visits are advertised in Sentral Notices in advance, and are held at lunchtime.





# Specifics: tertiary study

## Alternative entry schemes:

- Post-school: Schools Recommendations Scheme / Early Entry, elite athletes and performers, leadership, adjustment factors, Educational Access Scheme, Fast Track
- At university / TAFE: Internal Program Transfer, recognition of prior learning, TAFE to Uni pathways

# For more information:

[Universities Admission Centre](#)  
[Schools Recommendation Scheme](#)  
[Educational Access Scheme](#)

[Macquarie Academic Advantage](#)  
[UNSW HSC Plus](#)  
[UTS Adjustment Factors](#)  
[UWS True Reward](#)

[TAFE NSW](#)



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# The five lessons

1. All the little things add up.
2. The HSC is more than a mark; it's a measure of intent.
3. If it isn't difficult, challenging or intense, then don't expect any rewards at the end of it.
4. Your network will support you, but it's a two-way street.
5. Mistakes will be made. Own them, learn from them, grow because of them.



# QUESTIONS



# THANK YOU

for attending tonight's session, and for your support of the school.  
Please do not hesitate to contact us at any time:

Phone: 9473 5000

Principal: [ross.warren@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:ross.warren@det.nsw.edu.au)

Deputy Principal: [fiona.m.payne@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:fiona.m.payne@det.nsw.edu.au)

Year Adviser: [kuneetpal.gill@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:kuneetpal.gill@det.nsw.edu.au)

Head Teacher Secondary Studies: [bernadette.jebbink@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:bernadette.jebbink@det.nsw.edu.au)

Careers Adviser: [annette.b.baker@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:annette.b.baker@det.nsw.edu.au)



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