Study Skills Program

2007

Why we develop study skills

For students to achieve to their potential in formal schooling, effective study skills are essential. These skills need to be developed and refined across the junior school if students are to maximize their achievements in the state-wide examinations in Year 10 and in the senior school.

The study skills program has 3 components…
Students will develop skills in research, information retrieval in both paper and technology environments, organizational skills and management skills across a variety of areas including time management and stress management.

The emphasis varies from Year 7 to Year 11…
It is important that students are provided with the opportunity to build study skills at a time that is relevant to the academic requirements of the courses. Introducing exam management techniques is more effective in Year 10 when students will sit for state-wide examinations than in Year 7 when there is no examination program in place. However ensuring that Year 7 students are confident library users is relevant to the academic requirements of their courses and these skills can then be refined across Years 8-12.

Study skills are developed in varied ways…
Some study skills for example time management and organizing a personal study space can be taught in workshops with small groups of students. Other skills such as information technology and communication skills are best taught within the classroom as students go about their daily lessons. Still other skills such as stress management can be developed as part of welfare days where people from other agencies such as community health work with students. So the study skills program consists of many and varied learning strategies for students.

Parents need to be involved …
Most students study at home and so it is important that parents are aware of the study skills program and are able to assist students practice and refine the skills developed in the program. Parents, students and teachers need to work together to ensure the program works for all students so that students become effective independent learners.