## Monitoring and rewarding student achievement

### 2007

**Aiming for excellence**

At Young High School all students are expected and encouraged to achieve personal best and aim for excellence in all aspects of school life.

*We regularly monitor academic progress…*

Student progress will be monitored continuously within faculties through class work, assignments and tests. Students are provided with immediate feedback to enable them to refine and improve their performance.

In addition, formal progress reviews for students in Years 9-12 are held each term to identify any areas where the student is at risk of not meeting course requirements. Parents are notified in writing of these concerns so that the issue can be resolved before the student places their School Certificate or HSC at risk.

*Formal examinations are important…*

Students in Years 9 –12 undertake in-school formal examinations. Students in Year 10 undertake the School Certificate tests and students in Year 12 complete the HSC examinations. Students in Years 7 and 8 complete the state wide English Literacy and Language Assessment (ELLA) test and the Secondary Numeracy Assessment Program (SNAP). These formal examinations provide valuable feedback on both individual student performance and on school teaching and learning programs and practices.

*Parents are informed academic progress…*

Reports are issued to parents four times a year for students in Years 7 and 8 who complete semester courses, and twice a year for all other students. Parents may also request a general progress review through the relevant Year Adviser. These reports provide an overall picture of the student’s progress and behaviour.

*Parents and teachers work together …*

Parent teacher conferences are held following formal reporting programs and at other times as requested by parents or teachers. These meetings foster the partnerships between students, teachers and parents to assist students to achieve to their potential at school.

*Achievement is recognized and rewarded…*

Students are given merit cards for many different reasons:

- **Academic cards** are given for achieving well in tests, assignments, homework.
- **Citizenship cards** are given for voluntarily, doing the tasks that put the student and in the school in a favourable light.
- **Sportsmanship cards** are given for “playing by the rules” or giving that little bit extra and this doesn’t always have to happen on the sports field.
- **Cultural cards** are for participation in activities such as debates, performing arts, creative arts, mock trail, public speaking.
- **Personal Best cards** are self-explanatory. Merit cards are given for exceeding normal expectations.

Students accumulate these merit cards and hand them in to be tallied for admission to a positive level. These levels are: Bronze, Silver, Gold, Double Gold. Senior students receiving may be eligible for Diamond Level, but this level also requires evidence of significant and sustained student leadership and citizenship before it will be awarded.

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### These procedures have been developed through consultation with staff, students and parents over an extended period.

**Parents we need your help to make this policy work for our school community.**