

STATEMENT OF INTENT

Assessment is an integral part of the teaching and learning cycle and teachers at Dripstone Middle School believe that using everyday classroom assessment will provide authentic and valid feedback for ongoing improvement in teaching and student learning. Ongoing assessment enables our school's teachers to provide regular information about student progress to parents and report using plain English.

Teachers assess student learning against achievement standards. Assessment tasks are designed in keeping with the principles of assessment to be explicit, valid and reliable, accessible, instructionally useful, student-centred and practically convenient. Assessments are important evidence of learning and all assessment tasks must be completed. Students will need to use the Library Study Centre, portions of lunch times or after school as necessary to complete assessments.

Teachers at Dripstone value student input to assessment practices including engaging students in self and peer assessment and providing effective feedback.



Our school motto 'A Community of Achievers' highlights our commitment to have high expectations and deliver programs that are challenging and actively engage all our students. Our school promotes excellence and high expectations in all aspects of curricular and extracurricular activities. Dripstone Middle School is a community of achievers and we recognise the importance of participation and achieving our personal best.

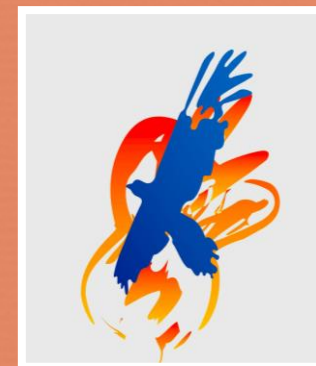
D RIPSTONE MIDDLE SCHOOL

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ASSESSMENT POLICY

The school policy is in alignment with the NTBOS Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Policy Transition to Year 9 which outlines what all Northern Territory teachers are expected to do in relation to assessment.

The purpose of this policy is to maintain a consistent approach to assessment across the school and for teachers, students and parents to have a common understanding and reference point for assessment practices.

Scope of Policy

The Dripstone Middle School Assessment Policy applies to all learning areas and all students in Years 7, 8 and 9, including those students with special learning or language needs. Assessment strategies are differentiated or adapted to cater for student diversity such as English proficiency.

Quality Assurance Assessment Cycle

Every semester Dripstone Middle School uses the Quality Assurance Assessment Cycle to plan, review and improve assessment practices. This cycle ensures all teachers plan assessment using achievement standards, design quality tasks, make consistent judgements about student achievement, improve student learning and collaborate professionally with other teachers. It aligns planning with standards and supports differentiated teaching.

RESPONSIBILITIES

STUDENTS:

- ❖ contribute to discussions about assessment criteria
- ❖ actively seek teacher assistance if required
- ❖ submit drafts and work in progress when appropriate
- ❖ participate in self and peer assessment activities and:
 - respond to feedback made by peers and teachers
 - make constructive and honest assessments of their own and other's learning

- ❖ act ethically in assessments by:
 - submitting tasks that are student's own work, not paraphrasing or plagiarising
 - completing tasks to a standard that shows a genuine attempt to address the criteria
 - handing in or emailing assessment tasks to the teacher by the due date unless an extension has been negotiated in advance
- ❖ understand that all assessments must be submitted

TEACHERS PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH:

- ❖ an overview of the term's assessments at the beginning of each term
- ❖ fair notice of assessment task outlines
- ❖ opportunities to develop task criteria
- ❖ opportunities to develop the necessary skills to participate in self and peer assessment
- ❖ guidance with the task (ongoing monitoring)

- ❖ effective and timely feedback to students and parents that highlights what students have demonstrated and what they need to improve
- Where an assessment is not submitted by due date:
- ❖ inform parents when tasks are incomplete
 - ❖ implement measures to ensure students complete the task

PARENTS/CAREGIVERS:

- ❖ contact the school if student is unable to attend school on the day an assessment is due
- ❖ communicate relevant information and feedback that might affect their student's learning or completion of assessment tasks

- ❖ take advantage of opportunities to be informed or to give feedback about assessment procedures
- ❖ support the school's policies to ensure assessment tasks are complete

Absences due to illness, bereavement, or other special circumstances leading up to and including the 'due date' must be communicated by parents to the Home Liaison Officer or Year Coordinator. Medical Certificates are required for extended absences due to illness.