



ACHIEVING SUCCESS IN SACE

INTRODUCTION

Every student is expected to complete SACE. There is a variety of ways to complete SACE which include face to face SACE subjects, Distance Education (Open Access and MNSEC delivery) VET (face to face and distance delivery), ASBA's and traineeships.

To complete SACE students need to have covered the requirements of the South Australian Certificate of Education.

This document outlines the main issues which cover SACE students in Years 10, 11, 12 and Year 13 students who are over 17, and no longer under legal compulsion to attend high school.

OUR BELIEFS

Peterborough High School's senior secondary procedures are based on the following five core beliefs:

- We believe that the main purpose of school attendance is to gain a successful education, and that our school practices and student effort must be directed to this purpose.
- We believe that all students have a right and need for schooling beyond the years of compulsion, and that this schooling should offer a variety of career paths that are based on incorporating flexibility and adaptability into effective teaching and learning practices.
- We recognise that education is important for its own sake, but believe that for our senior students the structure and content of their formal studies should lead towards appropriate documentation, which includes the successful completion of the South Australian Certificate of Education (or 'SACE') and the Student Achievement Record (or 'SAR').
- Enrolment at school beyond the age of seventeen years is not compulsory, so we will assume that those who continue their SACE do so because they (and their caregivers) see value in and commit to ongoing education.
- We believe the senior secondary years will be characterised by a sense of purpose and goal orientation, and a corresponding commitment to purposeful study, a respect for others, and a real desire to succeed.

OUR EXPECTATIONS

It will be clear from these five beliefs that the senior years need to be purposeful and well organised.

Students and their caregivers can expect from Peterborough High School:

- A cooperative, harassment free environment which respects the rights of teachers to teach and students to learn with commitment,
- Equal opportunities to reach full potential regardless of circumstances,
- Ongoing counselling in the selection of appropriate subjects for completing the SACE including designing a SACE Plan signed off by the students, parent/caregiver and the principal,
- Explanation of their subject requirements, and where appropriate, the opportunity to negotiate aspects of study,
- Access to personal and career counselling, daily support and information through their home group,
- Accurate and regular assessments and reports of their activities and documentation of their student achievement record when they leave.

The school will expect from students:

- A cooperative, purposeful and goal oriented attitude, and a commitment to study,
- Regular and punctual attendance, and the provision of reasons for those times when this is not possible,
- Submission of assignments by due dates, and negotiations will occur within SACE guidelines where appropriate, when this is not possible,
- Close adherence to the school's Code of Conduct, so that a good working environment for all is maintained.

SPECIFIC ISSUES

Assignments and Tests:

All SACE 1 and 2 subject and course outlines will be carefully explained to students at the start of the semester. These include an assessment plan which must follow the requirements of the relevant subject outlines. We expect that:

- All assignments will be completed and submitted by the date set by the teacher,
- Work not submitted by the set date will not be assessed, and awarded "zero" or "not completed" on student records, except when:
 - Circumstances deemed valid by the Principal and within SACE guidelines have prohibited this required punctuality. These will usually be of a medical nature, and the school will require a doctor's certificate.
 - In such cases an extension will be negotiated between SACE Board, the teacher and the student.
- In order to plan effectively, students are required to keep a diary. It is the responsibility of students to alert subject teachers to their workloads in other subjects. Provided a request is made some days before the deadline, an extension may be negotiated when workloads are temporarily congested. Such extensions will not be automatic, and will not be issued if they clearly advantage some students over others.
- Staff will consider those circumstances which might prevent students from fulfilling their assessment obligations. Nonetheless, we cannot give credit for work which is not done, or for skills and knowledge which have not been acquired.

School Study Periods:

Study lessons are timetabled for all Year 11 and 12 students so they can work on assignments, lesson follow-up and revision. They are expected to arrive on time, with all materials, and study in silence. Normal school Code of Conduct will apply.

Any movement to an alternative area for a study lesson must be negotiated with the staff members involved prior to the study lesson and accompanied by a diary note from the study teacher.

Home Study:

When the Research Project has been successfully completed and with the approval of the principal and/or delegate, and parents/caregivers, Year 12 students may choose to study at home when they have no timetabled lessons and are not required to attend by subject teachers or for school activities.

Unsatisfactory Progress:

When staff perceive that a student's progress or behaviour is becoming unsatisfactory, and in a way that works against their own interests or the rights of others,

- Counselling will be immediately increased, caregivers will be notified, and possibly an interview will be arranged.
- If unsatisfactory behaviour or progress continues, students may be placed on a negotiated written contract, or suspended while their enrolment at school is reviewed. Students whose irresponsible behaviour or lack of purposeful study affects the rights of others may be excluded for the remainder of the semester.

Subject Changes:

Where possible, subject changes may be negotiated early in the semester, following discussion with the parent/caregiver, deputy principal and with the approval of the principal (including accelerating students to higher year level). Such changes will only be permitted when all agree that such a change is in the best interest of the student, and a place is available in the new subject. Students will not be permitted to withdraw from subjects to lighten their load unless the parent/caregiver, senior school coordinator, deputy principal and principal are satisfied that there are good grounds for so doing. SACE Completion Plans will be reviewed as part of this process.

Adult Students:

For students 18 years and over references to caregivers in this document need not apply. Adult students enrolled in our school are required to abide by our school's Code of Conduct, including the observance of our dress code and the rights of others to a cooperative, respectful, purposeful, and harassment-free environment.

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**ACHIEVING SUCCESS IN SACE**

Name of Student: .....

I have read and understood the Peterborough High School Achieving Success in SACE document.

I agree to follow DECD and SACE Policies, school procedures and Code of Conduct.

Signature of Student .....

Signature of Parent/Caregiver .....

Date: .....

Please return signed slip to home group teacher. Thank you