

HOMEBUSH BOYS



HIGH SCHOOL

YEAR 8

ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

2015

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome to all Year 8 students and I trust you are enjoying the year thus far.

All Year 8 students have undertaken a study skills program to assist with the challenges of Year 8 and also to prepare you for the next stage of your time at Homebush Boys' High School.

This booklet will help you become even further organised in your study and revision routines and allow careful planning so that the various tasks and timing are known. Study will be completed without a last minute rush. The study planner allows you to set out for each term the assessment tasks and then know well ahead the busy weeks of the term. The day-to-day homework can also be dealt with more effectively if you know when the major assessments are planned.

Talk to your teachers about the various assessment requirements and take note of any special demands a subject may have in terms of the assessment tasks well ahead of the due date. You should clearly understand the expected outcomes required within the given assessment task. If you are in doubt about the anticipated standards to achieve excellence, please ask your teacher to fully outline the requirements.

Good luck with your preparation for the assessment activities!

Tim Jurd
Principal

ENGLISH

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The English Faculty's assessment program is comprised of four across Year formal assessment tasks – one per term. Each task is worth 30%. Semester 1 report mark will be made up from these two tasks (60%) and the rest (40%) will come from class activities and tasks. The Semester 1 report will include class mark and class rank.

The mark in the Semester 2 report will be made up of two semester assessment tasks (60%) and class activities/tasks (40%). The Year rank and grade for Semester 2 will include tasks 1, 2, 5 and 6. Semester Two report will include class mark, class rank, Year rank and grade. As well, please note the first 28 students in the assessment rank make up the targeted a class in the following year.

ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE

TASK		COMPONENT	WEIGHT	DUE
SEMESTER ONE				
1.	Reading Assessment Task	Comprehension passages. Tests students' ability to read for literal and inferential meanings.	30%	Term 1 Week 7
2.	Writing Assessment Task	Writing an effective narrative.	30%	Term 2 Week 2
3.	Class writing tasks (2)	Writing activities during Term 1 and Term 2.	20%	Term 2 Week 2
4.	Book Mark Class quizzes Tests	Class activities.	20%	Term 2 Week 2
TOTAL			100%	
SEMESTER TWO				
5.	Speaking Assessment Task	Giving a short speech which aims to persuade on a designated topic. Tests students' oral skills and research abilities.	30%	Term 3 Week 6
6.	Class writing tasks (2)	Writing activities during Term 1 and Term 2.	20%	Term 4 Week 2
7.	Book Mark Class quizzes Tests	Class activities.	20%	Term 4 Week 2
8.	Listening Assessment Task	Comprehension based on a spoken language source. Tests students' ability to analyse and evaluate what is heard.	30%	Term 4 Week 3
TOTAL			100%	

GEOGRAPHY

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The aim of Geography in Stage 4 is to develop students' knowledge, understanding, skills, values and attitudes essential to an appreciation of geographical phenomena and to prepare students for informed and active citizenship in a changing world.

TASK		COMPONENT	WEIGHT	DUE
SEMESTER ONE				
1.	Course & Skills Test	Global Change	30%	Term 1 Week 10
2.	Research Report	Global Inequalities	30%	Term 2 Week 1
3.	Field Study Booklet	Natural Resources - Water	20%	Term 2 Week 3
4.	In-class ongoing assessments	Bookwork Class or Homework Tasks	10% 10%	Ongoing throughout the course
TOTAL			100%	
SEMESTER TWO				
1.	Course & Skills Test	Global Change	30%	Term 3 Week 10
2.	Research Report	Global Inequalities	30%	Term 4 Week 1
3.	Field Study Booklet	Natural Resources - Water	20%	Term 4 Week 3
4.	In-class ongoing assessments	Bookwork Class or Homework Tasks	10% 10%	Ongoing throughout the course
TOTAL			100%	

Students study Geography for one semester only. Students will undertake fieldwork to Georges River and Warragamba Dam.

Students are reminded that all Geography excursions are linked to assessment tasks. Excursion dates and related assessment tasks are to be confirmed once booking is finalised.

HISTORY

COURSE DESCRIPTION

History is a disciplined process of inquiry into the past that allows students to locate themselves in the broad continuum of human experience. It enables students to appreciate and enjoy the human endeavours and achievements of the past, both for their own intrinsic interest and for their legacy to later generations.

Historical skills in critical thinking and independent inquiry-based learning enable and encourage students to become engaged in lifelong learning. In year 8 we study the following topics:

- Overview of the Middle Ages
- Medieval Europe
- The Black Death
- Japan under the Shoguns

ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE

TASK		TOPIC	WEIGHT	DUE
SEMESTER ONE				
1.	Examination (Historical Content and Literacy)	Topic 1: Overview of the Middle Ages Topic 2: Medieval Europe	40%	Term 1 Week 9
2.	Research/News paper Article	Topic 3: The Black Death	40%	Term 2 Week 4
3.	Classmark	Bookmark and in-class assessment	20%	Ongoing
		TOTAL	100%	
SEMESTER TWO				
1.	Examination (Historical content and Literacy)	Topic 1: Overview of the Middle Ages Topic 2: Medieval Europe	40%	Term 3 Week 9
2.	End of Semester Examination	Topic 3: The Black Death	40%	Term 4 Week 4
3.	Classmark	Bookmark and in-class assessment	20%	Ongoing
		TOTAL	100%	

LANGUAGES

CHINESE/FRENCH/ITALIAN & KOREAN

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The study of languages provides opportunities for students to become more accepting of diversity, more respectful of others and more aware of their place in the international community. The outcomes described for Stage 4 should be regarded as the basis for the further development of knowledge, understanding and skills in the target language.

Languages assessment covers the four language skills that are weighted as follows:

LISTENING 30% READING 30% SPEAKING 30% WRITING 10%

ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE

TASK	COMPONENT	WEIGHT	DUE
SEMESTER ONE			
Term 1	1. Assignment Project	Language Skills 30%	Weeks 9-10
Term 2	2. Continuous Assessment	Language Skills 30%	Week 3
	3. Semester 1 Exam	40%	Week 4
		TOTAL	100%
SEMESTER TWO			
Term 3	4. Assignment Project	Language Skills 30%	Weeks 8-10
Term 4	5. Continuous Assessment	Language Skills 20%	Week 2
	6. Semester 2 Exam	50%	Week 3
		TOTAL	100%
Student rankings will be class based only.			

Semester 1 report includes results for tasks 1, 2 and 3, while Semester 2 report includes results from tasks 4, 5 and 6. Student ranking is class based.

MATHEMATICS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The study of mathematics provides opportunities for students to learn to describe and apply patterns and relationships; reason, predict and solve problems, calculate accurately both mentally and in written form and interpret and communicate information presented in numerical, geometrical, graphical, statistical and algebraic form.

The Semester 1 report mark will be made up of Task 1, Task 2 and the semester 1 Class mark.

The Semester 2 report mark will be made up of all the tasks for the year.

Common task should only include work covered by all classes involved.

Class-mark is a measure of class-work within a particular class. It includes: class tasks, exercise book, class research task and a measure of class involvement.

Report cards will indicate a mark and position within the year.

The content strands are Number, Patterns and Algebra, Data, Measurement, Space and Geometry.

ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE

SEMESTER 1

	TASK	COMPONENT	WEIGHT	DUE
1	Task 1	Written Test	40%	Term 1 Week 8
2	Task 2	Written Test	40%	Term 2 Week 4
3	Class Mark	Effort Exercise book	10% 10%	End Term 2 Week 3
		TOTAL	100%	

SEMESTER 2

	TASK	COMPONENT	WEIGHT	DUE
1	Task 3	Written Test	35%	Term 3 Week 4
2	Task 4	Written Test	45%	Term 4 Week 4
3	Class Mark	Effort Exercise book Working Mathematically	5% 5% 10%	End Term 4 Week 4
		TOTAL	100%	

* Students will receive written notification of the details of each task.

MUSIC

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Year 8 course in Music aims to further develop the technical skills in the listening, composing and playing of different styles of music

It provides students with the opportunity to build an understanding of the role of music in a variety of cultures, and also covers the history of music from traditional, modern and contemporary periods.

ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE

TASK		COMPONENT	WEIGHT	DUE
SEMESTER ONE				
1.	Aural (Listening)	Analysis of Music Concepts	30%	Term 1 Week 6
2.	Composition	Details on Keys and Chords	30%	Term 2 Week 2
3.	Performance	Practical instrument based	30%	Term 2 Week 4
4.	In-class ongoing assessment	Music Journal includes: Bookmark Homework Tasks	10%	Throughout Semester
		TOTAL	100%	
SEMESTER TWO				
1.	Aural (Listening)	Instruments and Structure of Jazz.	30%	Term 3 Week 4
2.	Composition	Acid Computer based	30%	Term 3 Week 5
3.	Performance	Practical Instrument based	30%	Term 4 Week 4
4.	In-class ongoing assessment	Music Journal includes: Bookmark Homework Tasks	10%	Throughout Semester
		TOTAL	100%	

Written feedback including marking criteria for each assessment task will be provided. The Semester 1 report includes tasks 1, 2, 3 & 4. Marks are cumulative for the Yearly Report.

PD/H/PE

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Stage 4 PDHPE is designed to engage and challenge all students to maximize their learning capabilities. There is a strong focus on the skills and values needed to develop as a young, healthy adult in the community. An emphasis on literacy skills, resilience and teamwork allows for development of the students in a broader context outside of PDHPE.

Physical activity and the valuable outcomes from this are highlighted throughout the course, with students rewarded for their participation and improvement. The assessment weighting is divided 50:50 between the practical and theory components of the course.

REPORT CYCLE

The reporting will be based on each semester, with a rank being achieved out of the year group. The class mark will be out of 100 for each semester based on the outline below.

ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE

SEMESTER 1

TASK		COMPONENT	WEIGHT	DUE
1	Fitness tests	Movement and skill performance	10%	Week 1-3 Term 1
2	Topic Tests	Individual & community health, Self and Relationships and personal safety	10%	Term 1 Wk 6 Term 2 Wk 3
3	In class task	Topic specific task	10%	By Term 1 Wk 8
4	Theory application	Meeting outcomes in class	5%	Term 1 Wk 10 Term 2 Wk 4
5	Games Skills	Movement skill & performance - Objective assessment	40%	Term 1- Term 2 Ongoing
6	Assessment task 1	Bullying and relationships -Persuasive text	25%	Term 2-Wk 3
Total			100%	

SEMESTER 2

TASK		COMPONENT	WEIGHT	DUE
1	Topic Tests	Individual & community health: Drug use and Mental health	10%	Term 3 Wk 7 Term 4 Wk 4
2	In class task	Topic specific task	10%	Term 3 Wk 8
3	Theory application	Application to class work and reliability of bringing equipment.	5%	Term 3 Wk 10 Term 4 Wk 4
4	Games Skills	Movement skill & performance -Objective assessment	40%	Term 3- Term 4 Ongoing
5	Assessment task 2	Individual & community health- Narrative	25%	Term 4- Wk 2
6	Fitness tests	Movement and skill performance	10%	Term 4- Wks 3-4
Total			100%	

SCIENCE

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The study of science develops student's scientific knowledge and understanding, skills and values and attitudes within broad areas of science that encompass the traditional disciplines of Physics, Chemistry, Biology and the Earth Sciences.

REPORTING CYCLE

Semester 1 report - a semester class mark, class rank.

Semester 2 rank is based on 50% Semester One and 50% Semester Two. Semester 2 report will include mark, year rank, and Grade (A-E).

ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE

TASK		COMPONENT	WEIGHT	DUE
SEMESTER ONE				
1.	Independent Research Task	Topic to be given out by teachers.	40%	Term 1 Week 10
2.	Written test	World of Energy Using Energy	40%	Term 2 Week 2
3.	Bookmark Spelling	Class Activities	10% 10%	Ongoing
TOTAL			100%	
SEMESTER TWO				
4.	Excursion Report	Excursion planned for Term 2, Week 8. Reported in Semester 2.	10%	Term 2 Week 8
5.	Open notebook Test	Cells and the Human Body	40%	Term 3 Week 8
6.	Practical Test	Use of microscope	10%	Term 3 Weeks 5-7
7.	Chemistry Brochure	Literacy Task	20%	Term 4 Week 2
8.	Bookmark Spelling	Class Activities	10% 10%	Ongoing
TOTAL			100%	

TECHNOLOGY

COURSE DESCRIPTION

An introductory to Technology revision Unit will be studied by each student for the first four weeks of the course. The Unit aims to provide essential background knowledge in design process and Folio documentation to successfully complete the course and includes general safety instructions in practical classrooms. The students then study three design specialisation areas, rotating every cycle to undertake a different area of specialisation.

The cycle change dates for 2014 are as follows:

- Cycle 1 – Week 1, Term 1 to Week 5, Term 2 (15 weeks)
- Cycle 2 – Week 6, Term 2 to Week 9, Term 3 (14 weeks)
- Cycle 3 – Week 10, Term 3 to Week 11, Term 4 (12 weeks)

ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE

ROTATION 1

TASK	COMPONENT	WEIGHT	DUE
1.	Mandatory Introductory Unit (Revision) - Complete activity handbook on design process and general safety.	20%	Term 1 Week 6
ROTATION 1 SPECIALISATION AREA			
2.	Research assignment and oral task	10%	Term 1 Week 10
3.	Design Folio	20%	Term 2 Week 3
4.	Practical Project	50%	Term 2 Week 3

ROTATION 2

TASK	COMPONENT	WEIGHT	DUE
5.	Mandatory Writing Task Unit – Complete activity handbook and writing tasks.	20%	Term 2 Week 9
ROTATION 2 SPECIALISATION AREA			
6.	Research assignment and oral task	10%	Term 3 Week 3
7.	Design Folio	20%	Term 3 Week 8
8.	Practical Project	50%	Term 3 Week 8

ROTATION 3

TASK	COMPONENT	WEIGHT	DUE
ROTATION 3 SPECIALISATION AREA			
9.	Research assignment and oral task	10%	Term 4 Week 3
10.	Design Folio	20%	Term 4 Week 8
11.	Practical Project	50%	Term 4 Week 8

Students will be assessed during their initial cycle on the design specialisation area they are undertaking. This will be reported in Semester 1 report. A mark out of 100 will be awarded and calculated as per the assessment schedule for Rotation 1. Ranks will be based on whole cohort group. Semester 2 report will be based on the assessment carried out in second rotation cycle and include 80 % from total of Rotation 2 marks as well as 20% marks from rotation 3. The teacher assessing rotation 2 will be responsible for the completion of semester 2 reports. Ranks will be based on whole cohort group and include an overall achievement grade (A – E) for both the Semester reports. G and H groups will have only two rotations and class teachers will give alternate reports as scheduled. All reports will have an overall Effort rank as well.

VISUAL ARTS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The stage 4 course in Year 8 Visual Arts aims to further develop the technical skills in the making of art and the studying of art. It provides students with the opportunity to experience a broader range of practical skills in a variety of forms and media and also build a greater understanding of historical and critical study.

ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE

TASK		COMPONENT	WEIGHT	DUE
SEMESTER ONE				
1.	Art Study	Critical and Historical Art study.	15%	Term 1 Week 5
	Artmaking	Practical work e.g. Painting	20%	Term 1 Week 8
2.	Art Study	Research of selected artists.	15%	Term 2 Week 2
	Artmaking	Practical work e.g. Printmaking	20%	Term 2 Week 6
3.	In-class ongoing assessment	Visual Arts Diary includes:		Weekly Throughout Semester
		Homework Tasks	10%	
		Lead up work in VAD ICT mark	10%	
TOTAL			100%	
SEMESTER TWO				
4.	Art Study	Critical and Historical Art study.	15%	Term 3 Week 2
	Artmaking	Practical work e.g. Ceramics	20%	Term 3 Week 8
5.	Art Study	Research of selected artists.	15%	Term 4 Week 3
	Artmaking	Practical work e.g. Mixed Media	20%	Term 4 Week 5
6.	In-class ongoing assessment	Visual Arts Diary includes:		Weekly Throughout Semester
		Homework Tasks	10%	
		Lead up work in VAD ICT mark	10%	
TOTAL			100%	

Written feedback including marking criteria for each assessment task will be provided. The Semester 1 report includes tasks 1, 2, 3 & 4. Marks are cumulative for the Yearly Report.

ASSESSMENT CALENDAR

ASSESSMENT TERM 1

SUBJECT	TASK	WEIGHT	WEEK DUE
PDHPE	Fitness Tests	10%	1-3
Visual Arts	Critical & Historical Art Art Study	15%	5
Music	Aural - Listening	30%	6
PDHPE	Topic Tests	5%	6
Technology	Mandatory Introductory Unit	20%	6
English	Reading Task	30%	7
Mathematics	Written Test	40%	8
PDHPE	In Class Task	10%	8
Visual Arts	Practical Work – Painting Artmaking	20%	8
History	Examination	40%	9
Languages	Project Assignment	30%	9-10
Geography	Course and Skills Test	30%	10
PDHPE	Theory Application	2.5%	10
Science	Independent Research Task	40%	10
Technology	Research Assignment & Oral Task	10%	10
Geography	In-Class Assessment	10%	Ongoing
History	Class Mark	10%	Ongoing
Music	In-Class Task	5%	Ongoing
PDHPE	Games Skills	20%	Ongoing
Science	Bookmark/Spelling	10%	Ongoing
Visual Arts	In-Class Ongoing Assessment	15%	Ongoing

ASSESSMENT TERM 2

SUBJECT	TASK	WEIGHT	WEEK DUE
Geography	Research Report	30%	1
English	Writing Assessment Task	30%	2
English	Class Writing Tasks	20%	2
English	Book Mark/Quizzes/Tests	20%	2
Music	Composition	30%	2
Science	Written Test	40%	2
Visual Arts	Research of Selected Artists Art Study	15%	2
Geography	Field Study Booklet	20%	3
Languages	Continuous Assessment	30%	3
Mathematics	Class Mark	10%	3
PDHPE	Assessment Task 1	25%	3
PDHPE	Topic Tests	5%	3
Technology	Design Folio	20%	3
Technology	Practical Project	50%	3
History	Research/Newspaper Article	40%	4
Languages	Semester 1 Examination	40%	4
Mathematics	Written Test	40%	4
Music	Performance	30%	4
PDHPE	Theory Application	2.5%	4
Visual Arts	Practical Work - Printmaking	20%	6
Science	Excursion Report	10%	8
Technology	Mandatory Writing Task	20%	9
Mathematics	Class Mark	10	10

Geography	In-Class Assessment	10%	Ongoing
History	Class Mark	10%	Ongoing
Music	In-Class Task	5%	Ongoing
PDHPE	Games Skills	20%	Ongoing
Science	Bookmark/Spelling	10%	Ongoing
Visual Arts	In-Class Ongoing Assessment	15%	Ongoing

ASSESSMENT TERM 3

SUBJECT	TASK	WEIGHT	WEEK DUE
Science	Use of Microscope Practical Test	10%	5-7
Visual Arts	Critical and Historical Art Art Study	15%	2
Technology	Research Assignment & Oral Task	10%	3
Mathematics	Written Test	35%	4
Music	Aural (Listening)	30%	4
Music	Composition	30%	5
English	Speaking Task	30%	6
PDHPE	Topic Tests	5%	7
PDHPE	In Class Task	10%	8
Science	Open Notebook Test	40%	8
Technology	Design Folio	20%	8
Technology	Practical Project	50%	8
Visual Arts	Practical Work – Ceramics Artmaking	20%	8
Languages	Assignment Project	30%	8-10
History	Examination	40%	9
Geography	Course and Skills Test	30%	10
PDHPE	Theory Application	2.5%	10
Geography	In-Class Assessment	10%	Ongoing
History	Class Mark	10%	Ongoing
Music	In-Class Assessment	5%	Ongoing
PDHPE	Games Skills	20%	Ongoing
Science	Bookmark/Spelling	10%	Ongoing
Visual Arts	In-Class Ongoing Assessment	15%	Ongoing

ASSESSMENT TERM 4

SUBJECT	TASK	WEIGHT	WEEK DUE
Geography	Research Report	30%	1
PDHPE	Fitness Tests	10%	3-4
English	Class Writing Tasks	20%	2
English	Book Mark/Quizzes/Tests	20%	2
Languages	Continuous Assessment	20%	2
PDHPE	Assessment Task 2	25%	2
Science	Chemistry Brochure	20%	2
English	Listening Task	30%	3
Geography	Field Study Booklet	20%	3
Languages	Semester 2 Examination	50%	3
Technology	Research Assignment & Oral Task	10%	3
Visual Arts	Research of Selected Artists Art Study	15%	3
History	End of Semester Examination	40%	4
Mathematics	Written Test	45%	4
Mathematics	Class Mark	10%	4

Music	Performance	30%	4
PDHPE	Topic Tests	5%	4
PDHPE	Theory Application	2.5%	4
Visual Arts	Practical Work – Mixed Media Artmaking	20%	5
Technology	Design Folio	20%	8
Technology	Practical Project	50%	8
Mathematics	Class Mark	10%	11
Geography	In-Class Assessment	10%	Ongoing
History	Class Mark	10%	Ongoing
Music	In-Class Assessment	5%	Ongoing
PDHPE	Games Skills	20%	Ongoing
Science	Bookmark/Spelling	10%	Ongoing
Visual Arts	In-Class Ongoing Assessment	15%	Ongoing

YEAR 8 ASSESSMENT PLANNER 2015

	TERM 1	TERM 2	TERM 3	TERM 4
WK 1				
WK 2				
WK 3				
WK 4				
WK 5				
WK 6				
WK 7				
WK 8				
WK 9				
WK 10				
WK 11				