Focus on learning document
PREAMBLE:

- Staff, Governing Council and students have worked on policies and the school mission statement, values statement, learning policies and graduate qualities over the last 18 months.
- As an outcome of this collaborative work the school is committed to processes to further support student learning and improve student accountability and performance.
- Aspects of these policies are available on our website and intranet pages for reference.

UNDERLYING PRINCIPLES:

- Quality teaching and learning is the core business of the school.
- Staff and students are committed to working together to achieve the best possible outcomes for student learning and the well-being of both staff and students in partnership with parents/caregivers.
- Our core values of respect, care, cooperation and commitment underline our endeavours to achieve success together.

KEY PROCEDURES TO FOCUS ON STUDENT LEARNING:

- A sequence of procedures has been developed to underpin this commitment to a focus on student learning.
- All students will participate in a round table discussion with at least 1 parent/caregiver as part of the Course Counselling day.
- The students will nominate a minimum of two pieces of work or two activities to present to their care group teacher and parent/caregiver(s) and they will articulate the key aspects of the learning associated with these activities at the round table discussion. Students will be required to make comments on their tasks against an agreed set of discussion points developed by the staff in consultation with student representatives. **AN OPPORTUNITY HERE TO DEVELOP SYSTEMS TO USE THE NEW INTERIM REPORT STRUCTURE??**
- Learning Areas will develop at least one common assessment task across each of Years 8-10 that students may select from to present at their round table discussion with their parent/s. In addition students will be able to choose from other completed tasks to present at the round table discussion.

STUDENT UNDERPERFORMING IN CLASS:

- If the student is not attending regularly: the Care Group teacher will contact the family, if this does not improve the situation, referral to attendance officers and liaise with the care group teacher to attempt to re-engage the student.
- Possible referral to the Coordinator of Flexible Programs to negotiate a more appropriate learning program for the student.
Focus on Learning letter generated by year level coordinators at the conclusion of semester 1 informing parents that their student is in danger of non-promotion based on the 24 points or less than out of 49 in the IBMYP. This letter highlights their current achievement level, strategies for improvement and a guideline indicating the level required for promotion.

WHAT IS THE STANDARD THAT WE ASSESS THIS AGAINST?

IF THE IDENTIFIED ISSUES CONTINUE:

- Students, who repeatedly do not bring equipment to class, repeatedly do not bring diaries to class or repeatedly do not attempt tasks in class or homework will be issued with a lunch time detention and will be expected to work on the task/s during this session. (Subject teachers may support students in real need with the supply of equipment).
- The contract will be reviewed, student referred to Homework class on Thursday after school.
- The Homework class will be staffed by the Assistant Principal and other volunteer staff.
- Possibility of repeating the year or being promoted on probation

PROMOTIONAL GUIDELINES: (might be a good idea here to identify who does what??

Data/information collection – how does this occur? Forms? Electronic?

Years 8 - 10

- Full Promotion to the next year for Years 8-10 students will be dependent on 24 points or less than out of 49 in the IBMYP unless a Negotiated Education Plan (NEP) or an Individual Education Plan (IEP) outlines other conditions, or extenuating circumstances such as prolonged illness have been approved by the school administration. WHAT ABOUT TRACKING AT THE END OF SEM 1??
- The student and parent(s)/Caregiver(s) will be informed early in Term 4 of each year if the student is at risk of not proceeding to the next year of study by the appropriate Year Level Manager.
- For students in Year 9, the completion of the Personal Project Plan in Term 4 is required.
- For students in Year 10, the completion of the Personal Project and the Personal Learning Plan are essential requirements for promotion to the next year level.

South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE) Stage 1

- For students studying SACE Stage 1 subjects, an achievement grade of C or above is considered a pass. A student is considered as not having passed a subject when the have achieved a grade of D or below. Where a student has not passed a subject, then students will be precluded from enrolment in that subject at the subsequent year level.
- For students in Year 11, the successful completion of the compulsory units of Literacy, Numeracy, Research Project and PLP are essential requirements before undertaking a full Stage 2 course of study.
- Year 11 students who have not met the Literacy or Numeracy requirements in Semester 1 can be referred to the Homework Centre in Term 3.
- Year 11 students who have not completed the compulsory requirements are to return to school during the last weeks of Term 4 to complete these requirements.

Years 8 - 11

- In the event that a student has been identified as being at risk of not being recommended for promotion, the parents/caregivers will be notified of the recommendation. A meeting will be held to highlight the student’s current achievement level, strategies for improvement
and to develop a student promotion plan. The student promotion plan and the Semester 2 report will then inform the final recommendation for student promotion or non-promotion.

END OF YEAR ACTIVITIES IN OF TERM 4 FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS

- Students will be nominated for activity groups such as those listed below based on negotiation between the student and the Care Group teacher with the final recommendation coming from their Care Group teacher
- A Focus on Learning week for students to complete work so they have a majority of passes in subjects allowing them to proceed to the next year of study. Faculties to develop quality tasks which take ½ day to complete for each year level. This will run Monday-Friday of week 8 for year 10 and Monday-Wednesday, of week 9 for year 8/9. Promotion decisions will be made by year level coordinators along with Executive Team and Counsellor on the final Thursday of school.
- A letter informing parents of promotion will be distributed in the week following the school’s closure.