

Term 1 2024 Senior Exam Expectations

WILL REGULAR CLASSES RUN DURING THE ASSESSMENT BLOCK?

- The Term 1 Senior Exam Period commences on Friday 15th March and concludes on Monday 25th March.
- All senior students are expected to attend regular classes, **unless they have an exam scheduled**.
- Students that do have exams scheduled can study at home with parent permission and Deputy Principal approval.

NB: Due to the extended nature of this exam period, students will be expected to attend regular classes unless they are attending an exam or have permission from their parent authorised by the Principal/ Deputy Principal to study at home. Students are not authorised to study at school rather than attend classes on their Exam day.

HOME STUDY

Students preparing for an exam are only allowed to stay at home and study on the day before the exam with permission from the Deputy Principal. Parents must email **Deputy Principal Ms Macfarlane (email kmacf6@eq.edu.au)** to request for a study day at home to be authorised.

WHAT IF I MISS AN EXAM? *(See page 14-17 in your Student Diary or the website for the full Assessment Policy)*

If you are **sick** during block exams, you are required to get a **medical certificate**. You also need to **contact the school on the day of your exam**. When you are better, you need to get in contact with your teacher to make alternative arrangements for your exam.

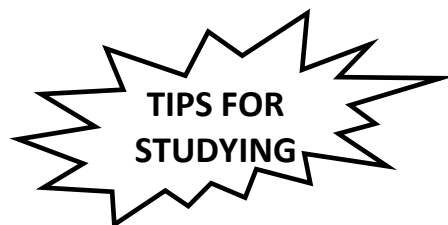
If you are absent for an **unavoidable reason** (e.g. funeral on that day) your parent / carer must contact the school prior to the exam day. You will need to negotiate a time to sit an alternative exam with your teacher / Head of Department.

If your absence is for an **unacceptable reason**, this will be considered a refusal to participate in the program of instruction. You will be asked to "Make a Case" as to why you should remain in the course of study. It could also result in you commencing / progressing to the next stage of the cancellation process. Reasons that are considered unacceptable for missing an exam include sitting a Drivers Licence test, family holiday, or that you "forgot" or misread the Assessment Block Schedule.

EXPECTATIONS FOR EXAMS:

- Wear **full school uniform** including appropriate footwear and jewellery. Uniform slips will be expected for any variation in uniform (including non-school jumpers). You may not be allowed to start your exam until you have fulfilled this requirement.
- Arrive at school **at least 15 minutes before the start of your scheduled exam or tutorial**. Be responsible for being in the right place, on time.
- Have all the necessary **equipment** (e.g. pen, spare pens, calculator). Check with your teacher to see if you need to provide writing paper for your exam.
- **Mobile phones must be switched off during exams** (not put into silent mode, really turned off). Mobile phones should be in your bag, and **MUST NOT** be used during exams. Note: This means you cannot use the calculator function on your phone for your exam.
- **Bags** must be placed under your chair or in an area designated by the Chief Supervisor during exams, so that they are out of the way of supervisors.
- Stay in the exam room for the length of the exam.
- The tuckshop will be open for seniors during breaks between exams (i.e. outside normal tuckshop hours).

Students must submit an Application Form for Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustment if they believe they are entitled to extra time or other specific arrangements. Applications to be submitted to Deputy Principal Ms Macfarlane (email kmacf6@eq.edu.au).



1. GET ORGANISED!

- Use your diary to keep “To Do” lists and prioritise what is most important rather than what you would prefer to do, or what is easiest.
- Studying regularly for short periods of time is more effective than cramming the night before an exam, so start several weeks before the Assessment Block. Create a study timetable in your diary (pg. 183) and stick to it!
- Glue your handouts in your book or keep them in a folder so that they don’t get lost, torn etc.

2. GET YOUR HEAD IN THE RIGHT SPACE!!

- Make sure that you are comfortable and in a well-lit area. Studying in bed is a bad idea – your brain will eventually associate bed with study rather than sleep and it may affect your sleep patterns.
- Before you settle down to study, eat if you are hungry (but not so much that you get a food coma!)
- Keep a bottle of water with you so that you stay hydrated.
- Take away things that will distract you easily – particularly your phone! Put them in another room.
- If you don’t have a quiet study space at home, consider getting to school earlier or staying back late, or go to the Cairns City Libraries.
- Listening to music is not beneficial to some learners while they are studying. If anything, listen to music without lyrics, as you are more likely to subconsciously focus your attention on the words of the song rather than what you are studying.
- Take regular breaks and don’t stay up too late.

3. GET STUDYING!!!

- Use flash cards – particularly for key terms you need to know from your glossary or formulae for Maths. You can also write a question on one side of the card and the answer on the other. Use your flashcards every day to help you retain the information permanently. Shuffle them so that you look at them in a different order each time.
- Use bullet points to summarise information where possible. You might use abbreviations too.
- Use highlighters to focus your attention on the key information in texts you are reviewing. Even consider colour coding different types of information (e.g. one colour for causes of a problem, another colour for the effects of the problem).
- Try to summarise the information you need to know visually with a diagram or flowchart.
- Try to visualise things in your head, like it is its own “mini movie”.
- Use mnemonic devices to remember facts (like “Every Good Boy Deserves Fruit” to remember the notes on the lines in treble clef in music – E G B D F).
- Discuss what you are learning with friends or family.
- Talk to yourself! Recite the information you want to learn and gradually become less reliant on your notes until you can remember it without looking at all.
- Compile your notes that you need to study and record this on your phone. Actually reading your notes aloud will help you remember them. Then you can listen to it again at convenient times e.g. while you’re on the bus.