

To our Parents and Carers,

Catholic Education-Diocese of Wagga Wagga has introduced a new style of report across the diocese for all Catholic Primary Schools.

The reports are generated by *Compass*, our innovative educational management system, now used by all 31 Diocesan schools. Compass is an educational software ecosystem that provides a system, school and students with a range of services, including attendance records, assessment and reporting, timetabling, home-school communications options and many more.

Given the opportunity to create a new-look report through Compass, we chose to work together with Principals, teachers and school consultants to improve our reports. Together we created a report that communicates what your child *knows*, *understands* and can *do* against the New South Wales Syllabus.

In line with government legislation, we will continue to report using a standardized 5 point scale in each subject area (using a bubble and line graphic).

However, we have taken the A to E out of the equation. Instead, we are using language that reflects your child's current achievement level. This focuses on what your child can do rather than using deficit language to indicate their achievement levels.

We've also changed how teachers comment.

- In English and Mathematics, teachers evaluate your child against all strands of each subject domain.
- This allows for a far more balanced report for your child in these key learning areas. Teachers comment briefly on what your child has achieved under the heading "Strengths".
- Teachers can also make a comment about any areas for development or growth under the heading "Future Focus Area" in Maths and English.
- In other areas of the curriculum, including Religious Education, in addition to using the 5 point scale to assess your child's achievement, teachers will make a comment under "Strengths" for each key learning area.
- The comments are standardized and are directly related to the syllabus outcome taught in the teacher's program. They are linked to your child's record of achievement in that area using a 5 point scale:

Well Above Standard
Above Standard
At Standard
Approaching Standard
Below Standard

Reports that focus on the student as an individual and build learner confidence.

For students with diverse needs who receive individual reports based on personalised plans:

- teachers have the option to include outcomes from a syllabus from an early and/or later stage in the key learning areas.
- Teachers also have the option to include learning goals or negotiated outcomes.

When these options are used, the heading “This is a modified report” may appear at the top of the subjects affected. Alternatively, the school may indicate in the accompanying comment that students have been assessed against an outcome from a previous stage. *Schools and teachers will use these options only after consultation with school leaders, parents and carers.*

All children will continue to receive a personalised comment from their teacher. They will also receive an assessment of social, emotional and behavioural competencies in the Learning Skills/Personal Habits box. These two features are located at the rear of the report.

We trust you will find the new report easy to access. We value your feedback and will implement a process to collect feedback from parents and school leaders in order to improve reporting processes for 2020.

Yours in Catholic Education



Mark MacLean
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