

Appendix 8

Student Progress, Attendance and Course Duration Policy



ST SAVIOUR'S COLLEGE CRICOS: 00517D TOOWOOMBA

1) Course Progress

- a) The College will monitor, record and assess the course progress of each student for the course in which the student is currently enrolled.
- b) The course progress of all students will be assessed at the end of each study period (semester) of enrolment according to St Saviour's College course assessment requirements.
- c) Students who have begun part way through a study period/semester will be assessed according to St Saviour's College's course assessment requirements after completing one full study period/semester.
- d) To demonstrate satisfactory course progress, students will need to
 - i) Achieve a satisfactory result in at least 5 of the 7 subjects
 - ii) Compile drafts and assessment on time
 - iii) Show effort and continuing progress (Application, Homework and Behaviour)
- e) If a student does not achieve a satisfactory result in a study period the Deputy Principal will formally contact the parent(s)/legal guardian(s) who will formally contact the parent(s) to advise that the student is at risk of breaching the course progress requirement and that there will be a meeting with the student to develop an intervention strategy for academic improvement. This may include:
 - i) After hours tutorial support
 - ii) Subject tutorial support in class time
 - iii) Mentoring
 - iv) Additional ESL support
 - v) Change of subject selection, or reducing course load (without affecting course duration)
 - vi) Counselling – personal
 - vii) Counselling – time management
 - viii) Counselling – academic skills
 - ix) Other intervention strategies as deemed necessary
- f) A copy of the student's individual strategy for academic improvement and any relevant progress reports will be forwarded to parents and kept on file.
- g) The student's individual strategy for academic improvement will be monitored over the following study period by the Deputy Principal and records of student response to the strategy will be kept. Parents will be kept informed of the student's academic progress while the student is receiving formal intervention.

- h) If the student does not improve sufficiently academically and achieve satisfactory course progress by the end of the next study period, St Saviour's College will advise the student in writing of its intention to report the student for breach of visa condition 8202, and that she has 20 working days in which to access the school's internal complaints and appeals process. Following the outcome of the internal process, if the student wishes to complain or lodge an external appeal about a decision made or action taken by St Saviour's College, she may contact the Overseas Student Ombudsman at no cost. This must be done within 5 working days. Please see St Saviour's College Complaints and Appeals Policy for further details.
- i) The College will notify the National ESOS agency via PRISMS of the student not achieving satisfactory course progress as soon as practicable where:
- The student does not access the complaints and appeals process within 20 working days, or withdraws from the complaints and appeals process by notifying the Principal at St Saviour's College in writing or
 - the complaints and appeals process results in favour of the school

2) Completion within expected duration of study

- a) As noted in 1.a., the College will monitor, record and assess the course progress of each student for the course in which the student is currently enrolled.
- b) Part of the assessment of course progress at the end of each semester will include an assessment of whether the student's progress is such that they are expected to complete their studies within the expected duration of the course.
- c) The College will only extend the duration of the student's study where it is clear the student will not be able to complete their course by the expected date because of:
- d)
- I. The student can provide compassionate or compelling circumstances (see Definitions below)
 - II. The student has, or is, participating in an intervention strategy as outlined in 1.e.
 - III. an approved deferment or suspension of study has been granted in accordance with St Saviour's College Deferment, Suspension and Cancellation Policy.
- e) Where the College decides to extend the duration of the student's study, the College will report this change via PRISMS within 14 days and/or issue a new COE if required. In this case, the student will need to contact the Department of Immigration to seek advice on any potential impacts on their visa, including the need to obtain a new visa.

3) Monitoring Course attendance

- a) Satisfactory course attendance is attendance of 80% of scheduled course contact hours. (NB the National Code St 8. Specifies a minimum attendance requirement of 80% or under certain conditions of 70% as outlined in St 8.15. School policy can require a higher minimum attendance rate.)
- b) Student attendance is:
- I. checked and recorded twice daily

- II. assessed regularly
 - III. recorded and calculated over each study period.
- c) Late arrival at school will be recorded and will be included in attendance calculations.
- d) All absences from the College will be included in absentee calculations and should be accompanied by a medical certificate, an explanatory communication from the Head of Boarding or evidence that leave has been approved by the Principal.
- e) Any absences longer than [3] consecutive days without approval will be investigated.
- f) Student attendance will be monitored by the Homeclass Teacher/Middle Leader – Student Well Being /Assistant Principal - Mission every day over a study period to assess student attendance using the following method:
- I. Calculating the number of hours the student would have to be absent to fall below the attendance threshold for a semester e.g. number of study days x contact hours x 20%. [For example, an 20 week study period with 5 contact hours a day would equal 500 contact hours. 20% of this is 100 hours.]
 - II. Any period of exclusion from class will *be* assessed under St Saviour’s College’s Deferment, Suspension and Cancellation Policy.
- g) Parents of students at risk of breaching St Saviour’s College attendance requirements will be contacted by email/*phone* and students will be counselled and offered any necessary support when they have 80% attendance in any study period. (The College will need to judge at what point they think intervention and counselling is necessary)
- h) If the calculation at 3.f. indicates that the student has passed the attendance threshold for the study period, St Saviour’s College will assess the student against the provisions of Item 3.i (below). Where the student has failed to meet the minimum attendance requirement, and item 3.i does not apply, the school will promptly advise the student of its intention to report the student for breach of visa condition 8208, and the she has 20 working days in which to access the College’s internal complaints and appeals process.
- i) The College will notify the ESOS agency via PRISMS of the student not achieving satisfactory course attendance as soon as practicable where:
- I. the student does not access the complaints and appeals process within 20 days
 - II. the student withdraws from the complaints and appeals process by notifying the Principal of St Saviour’s College in writing,
 - III. the complaints and appeals process results in a decision for the school.
- j) Students will not be reported for failing to meet the 80% attendance threshold for a study period where:
- I. the student produces documentary evidence clearly demonstrating compassionate or compelling circumstances e.g., medical illness supported by a medical certificate or as per Definition, below , and
 - II. the student’s attendance has not fallen below 70% attendance.
- k) The method for calculating 70% attendance is the same as that outlined in 3.f. with the following change; number of study days x contact hours x 30%.

- l) If a student is assessed as having nearly reached the threshold for 70% attendance, the Principal will assess whether a suspension of studies is in the interests of the student as per St Saviour's College's Deferment, Suspension and Cancellation Policy.
- m) If the student does not obtain a suspension of studies under the St Saviour's College's Deferment, Suspension and Cancellation Policy, and falls below the 70% threshold for attendance for the study period, the process for reporting the student for unsatisfactory attendance (breach of visa condition 8202) will occur as outlined in 3.h – 3.i.

4) Definitions

- a) Compassionate or compelling circumstances - circumstances beyond the control of the student that are having an impact on the student's progress through a course. These could include:
 - i. serious illness, where a medical certificate states that the student was unable to attend classes
 - ii. bereavement of close family members such as parents or grandparents (with evidence of death certificate if possible)
 - iii. major political upheaval or natural disaster in the home country requiring their emergency travel that has impacted on their studies
 - iv. a traumatic experience which has impacted on the student (these cases should be where possible supported by police or psychologists' reports)
 - v. where the school was unable to offer a pre-requisite unit
 - vi. inability to begin studying on the course commencement date due to delay in receiving a student visa.

For other circumstances to be considered as compassionate or compelling, evidence would need to be provided to show that these were having an impact on the student's progress through a course.
- b) Expected duration – the length of time it takes to complete the course studying full-time. This is the same as the registered course duration on CRICOS.
- c) School day – any day for which the College has scheduled course contact hours.
- d) Study period – St Saviour's College defines a "study period" for the purposes of monitoring course attendance and progress as a semester.