



ASSUMPTION COLLEGE

18 March, 2020.

Dear students, families and teachers participating in the VCE,

Advice on School Assessed Coursework (SACs) and School Assessed Tasks (SATs) for the Assumption College Community

Below are some guidelines pertaining to the current situation for assessment that has partially disrupted the studies of some students and may potentially cause further disruptions.

The guidelines below are driven by the following statement issued by the VCAA on March 13:

Schools have the flexibility to delay or reschedule SACs and SATs. While it is possible to deliver some coursework online, SACs should be completed mainly in class and within a limited timeframe. If other arrangements are made locally due to current circumstances, it is most important that teachers are still able to authenticate student work.

1.1 Absence

If students are absent from school due to the family decision to keep them at home, it is unlikely that families will obtain a medical certificate. This will be acceptable provided that:

- The school is notified of the absence
- The student is not returning to school until after the school holidays

Students will not be able to absent for a short home stay and have SACs rescheduled without a medical certificate as this would constitute unfair advantage. Students who are at home for an extended period are not considered as being advantaged because the absence from the classroom, the lack of continuity and the increased pressure to complete work upon their return.

1.2 SAC Reschedules

Students can reschedule SACs with their teachers upon their return. If multiple students have been absent from one class, the teacher is likely to organise a communal resit to assist with consistency in both the task and its marking.

1.3

Students who have missed a SAC that has been completed by the rest of the class. Provided there has been communication with the school about the absence and is in line with the expectation above (1.1), students may have their SAC rescheduled without penalty.

2. Online Learning in relation to assessment

VCAA has instructed schools to consider all options for flexible delivery of courses to maintain learning opportunities for students. However; this does not extend to formal assessment. In some rare cases, teachers may explore online assessment if there is a platform that ensures student work authenticity. If this is the case, SAC conditions must be consistent for all students to ensure equity. It is imperative that students stay connected to the school to ensure that they do not miss tasks or deadlines.

If there are issues with connectivity, families must ensure that they have communicated these issues with relevant teachers to negotiate alternatives.

2.1 Course work expectations in an online environment

The current correspondence from VCAA is that learning continues and course work continues to be covered. As a result, the expectation is for teachers to deliver work in class as per normal, and to extend this out to the virtual environment should physical access to school be suspended. Therefore, VCAA will not, at this stage, entertain that students are not engaging with their school work because they are learning from home. The natural outcome of this is that a return to the school grounds will result in 'picking up where we left off' online and that the assessment expectations will be maintained. How this looks will be determined by the length of absence and VCAA will advise schools should shutdowns be enforced.

3.0 SATS

SATs are better known as folios. Teachers delivering folio subjects will have given students information as to how these are to be managed. In the online environment, this is likely to be through a live folder (e.g. google drive) that needs to be constantly updated. It is imperative that the folder is shared with the classroom teacher so that the work can be monitored in real time (assisting with authentication), and allowing teachers to give feedback on the work as it evolves. Submission can also occur in this environment.

Any folio work that is done manually should have photos taken and then uploaded to the digital folio.

All matters around assessment relating to a possible shutdown will be managed once this eventuates in accordance with correspondence from the VCAA. Until this time, we continue on with our learning programs to deliver the best learning opportunities possible for our students.

Kind regards,



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Senior School Leader



Kate Fogarty
Principal

