

Aberfoyle Park High School



SENIOR SCHOOL CHARTER

The operation and ethos of the Senior School at Aberfoyle Park High School is based on agreement that:

- ***Senior students are in transition to becoming independent learners and responsible adults.***
 - As part of this transition to independent learning, students increasingly direct and organise their own learning. Senior student timetables incorporate personal study time. Some of this is supervised. Some of this can be negotiated to study at home (Home Study).
- ***The primary focus of all staff, students and parents is a commitment to learning and teaching.***
 - The school's policies and procedures for Senior Students will promote and support behaviours, attitudes and efforts that prioritise learning outcomes. Behaviour, attitude or lack of effort that interfere with learning will attract unfavourable consequences.
- ***Relationships are characterised by mutual respect and courtesy.***
 - School Values will be upheld.

SCHOOL RESPONSIBILITIES

The school has the responsibility for providing:

- A comprehensive curriculum with vocational and academic options and broad, rich extra curricular activities.
- Personal, vocational and pathway counselling.
- A program of life skills and supports.
- A safe and productive Learning Environment with sustained high quality classroom teaching

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

The students have the responsibility for:

1. Genuine participation and effort in course-work.
2. Punctuality and maximum attendance.
3. Effective use of study areas and management of study time.
4. Displaying respect and courtesy at all times.
5. Strict adherence to school rules, regulations and reasonable expectations.

The Details for Student Responsibilities

1. Genuine participation and effort in course-work

Senior Students are at school to achieve the highest possible level of education and maximise their chances of achieving their goals. It is expected that all Senior Students will:

- Strive to achieve their personal best in all areas of the curriculum.
- Develop creativity, problem-solving skills and the ability to think analytically and critically.
- Be able to work both independently and cooperatively with others.
- Acquire the skills and abilities that will promote their successful transition into the next stage of their lives.
- Negotiate any “catch-up” work caused by absence.

SACE Board regulations stress the critical importance that Summative Assessment Tasks are submitted by a given or negotiated deadline. When a student does not meet this deadline:

- The Subject Teacher will apply the Deadlines policy and award a “**zero score**” to the work. See the separate Deadlines Policy (APHS website - Policies)
- The subject Teacher completes a Notification of Concern indicating the Zero mark which is sent to the parent/caregiver (a copy is given to the Senior School Leadership Team)
- The Senior School Leadership Team will intervene with the student to discuss possible consequences where there are repeated Notifications. This might result in a suspension due to “persistent and willful inattention or indifference to school work”. This decision will rest with the Director of Senior School and Senior School Leadership Team.

2. Punctuality and maximum attendance

Senior Students are expected to attend all lessons and other commitments punctually.

Senior Student timetables are flexible to allow for students to leave the school to attend Vocational or University courses. Students have the privilege of converting uncommitted time at the beginning or the end of the regular school day into “Home Study”. This needs the consent of both the parents and the school but the privilege can be withdrawn if conditions are not met (see “Home Study” Consent document and Student Information document for details).

Truancy from lessons and Home Group

- Any non-attendance without written confirmation from a parent/caregiver will be considered as truancy.
- The student will attend a Community Service session and parents will be notified.

- Continued truancy or indifference to the school policy will be referred to the Senior School Leadership Team for appropriate action. This will likely be a suspension due to “persistent and willful inattention or indifference to school work”.
- These consequences may also be applied for persistent lateness.

3. Effective use of study areas and management of study time

Senior Students have the Senior Floor Year 12 Study Room upstairs from the library as designated study areas. They are expected to use this and other study areas safely and effectively.

- Students must respect the rights of other students to use this area for study by maintaining a clean and orderly environment and behave in a way that does not interrupt the study of others. Any food/snacks etc and drinks other than water are banned from the Common and Study Room.
- Students cannot claim to be in “Home Study” once at school.
- Students can be barred from these areas for inappropriate/unsafe behaviour.
- Students should maintain a diary as part of their organisation and study program.

4. Respect and courtesy at all times

The school’s three core values are Respect, Care & Compassion, and Honesty. Students should:

- Be inclusive and understanding of others; students, staff and community. Bullying or harassment including Cyber-bullying is not acceptable and will be dealt with according to the school’s anti-bullying policy and procedures.
- Become more responsible for their own behaviour and the consequences of their actions.
- Show similar respect and care for property and the environment.

5. Strict adherence to school rules and regulations

Just like any other work place, schools have rules and regulations designed to provide students with a safe, comfortable environment in which to work. Students will:

- Abide by the school rules and regulations as per the APHS policy and Student Information document.
- Follow the School Uniform code.
- Register as a driver if they use a car or motorbike to get to and from school, and register as a passenger if they are driven to and/or from school by a student driver
- Inform the school of any changes to their personal information.
- Complete a Leaver’s Clearance before leaving school permanently.

Good luck during your Senior years and please remember to ask, discuss and request help, rather than let things slide if you are unsure or unhappy. We are here to help you to achieve your goals.