

# **BSC Lower School Good Standing Policy (Years 7 – 9)**

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## 1. Good Standing Overview

It is essential for teachers to clearly state the standard of performance necessary for students to continue to their pathway of choice in upper school. These standards must be clearly and regularly communicated to students so that they know and understand what is expected from them in terms of their school performance.

It is the role of the Lower School Good Standing policy, within the context of Byford Secondary College, to clearly set and coordinate a standard of student performance across the school programme for **Academic Performance, Attendance, Commitment and Conduct**.

The degree to which each student achieves the standards will help determine their '*standing*' for a semester. Students will be identified as falling into one of three groups relating to achievement against each of the standards set. The three performance groups are:

- Advanced Standing
- Good Standing
- Conditional Standing

## 2. Commitment

All students will be provided with the opportunity to engage in relevant and meaningful curriculum. Students are responsible for giving themselves every opportunity to achieve their full potential. Student commitment can be demonstrated through the eight attributes on their semester report.

## 3. Attendance

There is a very strong connection between the academic performance of students and their attendance and participation in the learning program. Absence is likely to impact on a student's ability to understand the material covered and to successfully complete the assessment program to the best of their ability.

## 4. Conduct

All students in Lower School at Byford Secondary College are expected to maintain a high level of conduct at all times. Good conduct ensures that students give themselves the best opportunity of focusing on achieving their academic potential. Further, good conduct ensures that students develop strong positive working relationships with their peers and teachers.

The following are considered aspects of appropriate conduct:

- Valuing education
- Respecting school rules – including the Uniform Policy
- Respecting the rights of others (including all school staff)
- Appropriate organisation and preparation
- Appropriate use of class time.

## 5. Student Standing

The degree to which each student achieves the standards will help determine their 'Standing' for a semester. Students will be identified as falling into one of three groups relating to achievement against each of the standards set for Senior School. There are three standings:

- Good Standing
- Advanced Standing
- Conditional Standing

All students will commence on **Good Standing** when they enrol at Byford Secondary College. Student standings will be re-determined at the end of each semester and feedback will be provided to students regarding their current standing.

## 6. Good Standing

Students who are deemed to have maintained Good Standing in a semester will have achieved the following levels of performance in relation to the Senior School standards (Section 2):

- **Commitment Standard** – Obtain at least 60% combined Consistently and Often attributes on Semester report.
- **Academic Standard** – (Yr 7/8/9) Minimum Course average 2.00 in a Semester (average calculated using A = 5, B = 4, C = 3, D = 2, E = 1).
- **Attendance Standard** – 90% attendance or better in all courses studied.
- **Conduct Standard** – Maintain appropriate conduct across the school.
- **Uniform** – Wear approved college uniform with no more than 3 violations in a term.

Students who maintain Good Standing in a semester will have access to all of the privileges of Lower School including:

- Represent the school in student affairs and other extra-curricular activities such as carnivals, sporting events and performances.
- Access to school and year group functions.

## 7. Advanced Standing (Academic)

Students are deemed to have excelled in relation to all of the academic standards (Section 2) when they have achieved the following levels of performance in a semester:

- **Commitment Standard** – Obtain at least 60% combined Consistently and Often attributes on Semester report
- **Academic Standard** – Minimum Course average 4.50 in a Semester (average calculated using A = 5, B = 4, C = 3, D = 2, E = 1)
- **Attendance Standard** – 95% attendance or better in all six courses studied
- **Conduct Standard** – Maintain appropriate conduct across the school
- **Uniform** - Wear approved college uniform.

## 8. Advanced Standing (Commitment)

Students are deemed to have excelled in relation to the commitment standard (Section 2) when they have achieved the following levels of performance in a semester:

- **Commitment Standard** – Obtain at least 95% Consistently attributes, with no sometimes or seldom attributes on Semester report
- **Academic Standard** – (Yr 7/8/9) Minimum Course average 3.00 in a Semester (average calculated using A = 5, B = 4, C = 3, D = 2, E = 1)
- **Attendance Standard** – 95% attendance or better in all six courses studied, or the equivalent in the Voc. Program
- **Conduct Standard** – Maintain appropriate conduct across the school
- **Uniform** - Wear approved college uniform.

Students who achieve Advanced Standing (Commitment or Academic) in a semester will have access to all of the privileges of Lower School as described in the Good Standing section and will receive:

- Advanced Standing membership, including Academic Breakfast/Lunch Club
- An Advanced Standing Certificate which will show the semester and year in which advanced standing was achieved
- Recognition at a full school or year group assembly
- Discounted prices to college extra curriculum events.

## 9. Conditional Standing

Students are deemed to have performed below an acceptable level in relation to the standards when they have exhibited one or more of the following levels of performance in a semester:

- Commitment Standard – Obtain less than 60% combined Consistently and Often attributes on Semester report
- Academic Standard – (Yr 7/8/9) Minimum Course average below 2.00 in a Semester (average calculated using A = 5, B = 4, C = 3, D = 2, E = 1)
- Attendance Standard – below 90% attendance in any course studied within a semester
- Conduct Standard – Not maintaining appropriate conduct across the school
- Uniform – more than 3 uniform violations in a term.

In this circumstance, Byford Secondary College will undertake a number of intervention strategies in collaboration with the student, their parents, the Student Services Manager and other professionals as deemed appropriate to support an improvement to an acceptable level of performance against any of the Lower School standards.

Students on Conditional Standing may also lose the automatic privilege to become involved in extra-curricular activities, such as Reward Excursions and school sporting teams and the automatic privilege to attend school social events as deemed appropriate by the Year 7/8/9 Student Services Manager.

## **10. Sustained Poor Performance**

In circumstances where students are deemed to be on Conditional Standing for more than one semester in a row, a Case Conference may be called with the student, their parents, the Associate Principal, Student Services Manager and other professionals as appropriate to discuss the continuation of the current and the most appropriate action for the future.

## **11. Appeals**

Students will have the opportunity to present a case where they believe that special circumstances should be considered in the application of this policy. Where this is the case, students should complete the Application for Appeal Relating to Good Standing form, along with documented evidence to substantiate their claim, and submit this to the Associate Principal within seven (7) days of being notified of their standing under this policy. The appeal will be heard in a timely fashion and so as not to disadvantage the student in any way.