

Academic Progression Policy

Inspiring Great Minds



Queensland Academy
for Science Mathematics
and Technology



The Academy (QASMT) offers the International Baccalaureate (IB) Middle Years and Diploma Programmes. They are academically challenging and balanced programs of education that are internationally recognised. The Diploma Programme is widely regarded as a pre-university level qualification that allows students to develop excellent breadth and depth of knowledge.

All Academy students are monitored closely for their academic progress under the *Academic Progression Policy* each term. Students requiring support are identified at the end of each academic term, through the review of academic achievement data. Each student who has not achieved a grade of at least 4 in any of their academic subjects, according to the IB Programme grade scales outlined in Section 1 below, will be provided feedback and guidance by their subject teacher so they can strive for improvement. Students who have not achieved a grade of at least 4, in more than one of their academic subjects, will be placed on *Academic Support* with their House Dean.

In Years 9-10, students who have not achieved a grade of at least 4, in more than one of their academic subjects, will also be placed on *Academic Pathway Support*. In Years 11-12, students who do not meet the standards required in the IB Diploma, as outlined in the IB Diploma requirements in Section 2 below, will be placed on *Academic Pathway Support*. Students on *Academic Pathway Support* will meet with the Deputy Principal around academic pathways as well as receive *Academic Support* from their House Dean.

1. IB Programme grade scales

Grade	Rating	Criteria – Evidence in a student' work typically demonstrates ...
7		An exceptionally high level of performance for the subject.
6		A high level of performance for the subject.
5		Achievement above the minimum requirements for the subject.
4		The minimum requirements for the subject.
S		Satisfactory progress in meeting course requirements.
3		Potential to reach the minimum requirements for the subject.
2		A low level of performance in the subject
1		A very low level of performance in the subject
U		Insufficient progress in completion of course requirements.
N	Not rated	Insufficient evidence to make a judgment.

2. IB Diploma requirements

The International Baccalaureate Organisation (IBO) sets down rigorous standards to achieve the IB Diploma. This protects the integrity of the award and ensures that schools are meeting standards of achievement in consistent ways. The following rules are set down as failing conditions for the IB Diploma.

1. CAS requirements have not been met.
2. Candidate's total points are fewer than 24.
3. An N has been given for theory of knowledge, extended essay or for a contributing subject.
4. A grade E has been awarded for one or both of theory of knowledge and the extended essay.
5. There is a grade 1 awarded in a subject/level.
6. Grade 2 has been awarded three or more times (HL or SL).
7. Grade 3 or below has been awarded four or more times (HL or SL).
8. Candidate has gained fewer than 12 points on HL subjects (for candidates who register for four HL subjects, the three highest grades count).
9. Candidate has gained fewer than 9 points on SL subjects (candidates who register for two SL subjects must gain at least 5 points at SL).

3. Academic Support

Students on *Academic Support* are required to attend an individual meeting with their parents/guardians and their House Dean. At this meeting, a discussion of progress and strategies for improvement will be discussed and a commitment for action will be required. The notes of this meeting are uploaded to One School and the student's progress is monitored by the House Dean across the term. Regular ongoing meetings between the House Dean and student are also noted and uploaded to One School and are available for teachers and leaders engaged in supporting the student.

The Academy reserves the right to place students on *Academic Support* at the recommendation of the House Dean and the discretion of the Principals.

4. Academic Pathway Support

Students on *Academic Pathway Support* are required to attend an individual meeting with their parents/guardians and the Deputy Principal. At the *Academic Pathway Support* meeting, options for subject selection and alternative tertiary pathways will be discussed. Students on *Academic Pathway Support* are required to engage with all *Academic Support* processes outlined in Section 3 above, to ensure that they have the best opportunity for success.

The Academy reserves the right to place students on *Academic Pathway Support*. A student may or may not be placed on *Academic Pathway Support* at the discretion of the Principals. The House Dean, Heads of Department, Guidance Officers and Deputy Principal, as well as the teachers of the subjects of concern, are all integral in this support.

5. Alternative Academic Pathways

The attainment of an IB Diploma is required for a student to be awarded a notional ATAR across all Australian Tertiary Admissions Systems. If a student does not achieve the award of the IB Diploma, as outlined in the requirements in Section 2, an alternative pathway for entrance to university will be needed. *Academic Pathway Support* for Years 9 and 10 students will focus on subject selection to ensure the best opportunity to achieve the IB Diploma. In Years 11 and 12, the focus will be on ensuring the best combination of Standard Level and Higher Level subjects have been selected and also on the following alternative academic pathways. Subject changes between subjects is rarely possible once students have commenced their Year 11 studies.

1.1 Alternative entry pathway to university

There are a number of alternative university pathways for students. The range of alternative pathways has been documented for our students, please contact the Deputy Principal or Guidance Officer for a copy of this information. AQF certificate qualifications, at Certificate III or higher, provide potential pathways for some university entrance, however many universities do not accept this pathway. A suitable certificate program may be offered by the Academy to maximise the student's opportunity for university entrance. Students will need to achieve a passing grade in at least four IB Diploma subjects to achieve the core requirement of the QCE and, if applicable, any pre-requisite subjects required for university courses of their interest. Students considering alternative pathways should meet with the Guidance Officer as soon as possible.

1.2 Variable progression

Students with exceptional circumstances may apply to be considered for a variation to progression. This allows a student to complete their IB Diploma over three years instead of the standard two years. This pathway is contingent on approval from the IB Organisation.

The applicant and their family will be interviewed by the IB Diploma Programme Coordinator and recommendations made based on the request details and interview. The Principal will make any final determinations on the application. The decision will be based on the merit of the evidence provided as well as the implications of the decision for both the Academy and the student.

In the application, students are advised to provide the following, evidence of exceptional circumstances, a proposed study program that demonstrates capacity to complete this academic format successfully and a referral from the Guidance Officer. It should be noted that a variation to enrolment does not preclude the student from the Academic Progression Policy.

1.3 Repeat Year 10 or 11

Whilst internationally the IB Diploma Programme is designed for students aged between 16 and 19 years, QASMT students range in age from 15 to 18 years. Accordingly, some QASMT students may benefit by consolidating their learning and building on their maturity by repeating their current year.

1.4 QCE course

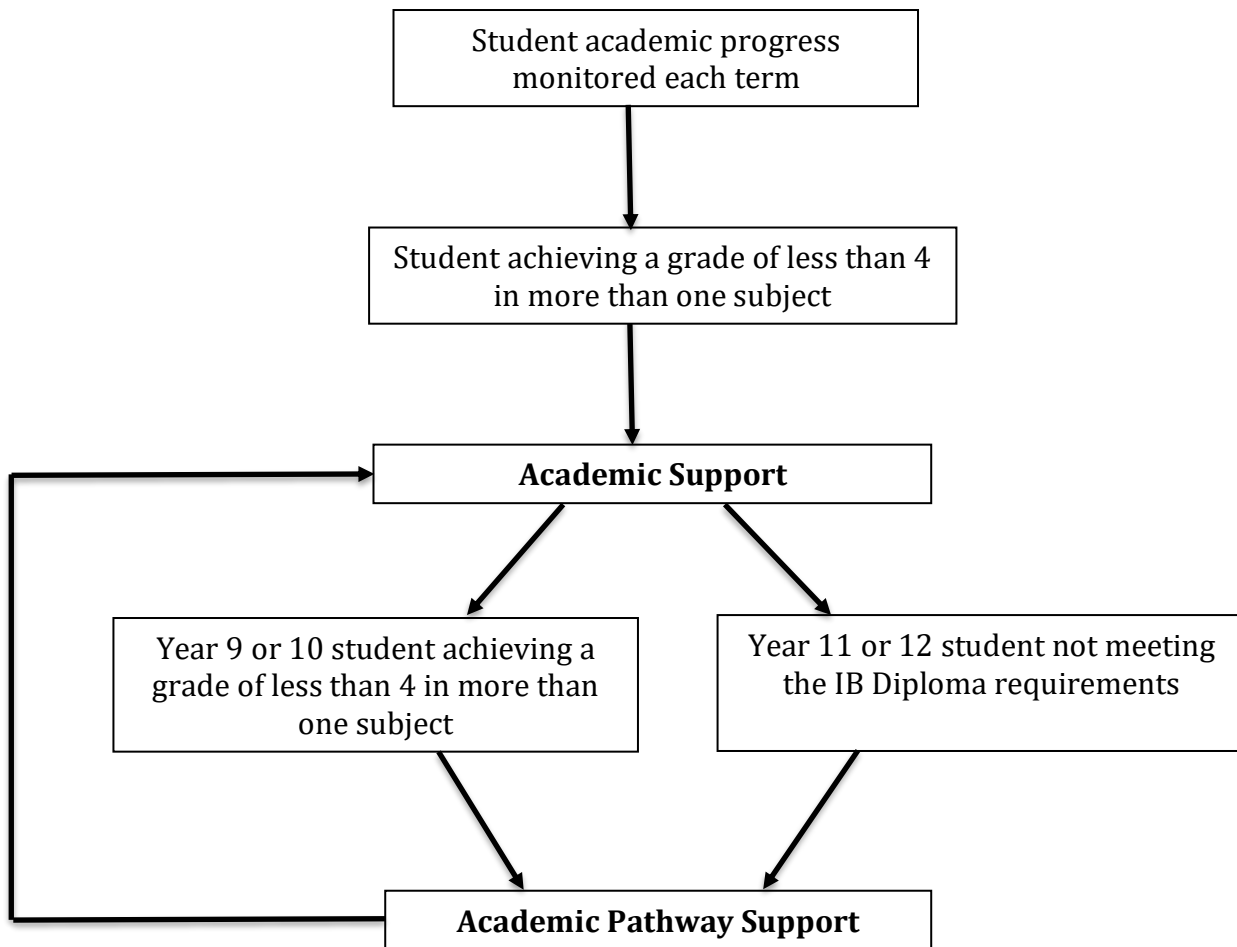
A wide range of suitable QCE courses is offered to suit all student aptitudes and abilities. A number of local schools are recommended by the Academy to pursue these courses.

6. Breaching the Academy Progression Policy

Refusal to engage in processes outlined in this policy will be referred to the House Dean and/or Deputy Principal as per the Student Code of Conduct.

Non-compliance for students aged over 16 on *Academic Pathway Support*, or failure to commit to agreed *Academic Support*, may result in the student's cancellation of enrolment by the Principal.

Policy overview



Academic Support notes sample summary to be uploaded to One School

Academic Support Term x, 20xx_

Name:

House:

Instep:

House Dean Name:

Academic Support Plan	
1. Academic Results	See One School summary
2. Subjects of concern	[Insert Details]
3. Issues	[Insert Details]
4. Goals	[Insert Details]
5. Strategies	[Insert Details]
6. Additional Information	[Insert Details]

Student on Academic Pathway Support (highlight one) Yes/No.

If yes, term and year pathway support started _____

Student Signature:

Parent Signature:

House Dean Signature:

Date: [Insert Details]