



# HEATHCOTE HIGH SCHOOL

Excellence, Opportunity & Success

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## Year 8 2023 Assessment Booklet

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# Contents

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Information for Students and Parents/Caregivers .....	3
Assessment .....	3
Major Projects and Assignments .....	3
School Diary .....	4
Penalties for Lateness .....	4
Extensions .....	4
Student Absence for Vacation Purposes .....	4
Examinations.....	4
Technology Failure.....	4
Exclusion from extra-curricular activities .....	4
English.....	5
Mathematics .....	6
Science .....	7
Geography .....	8
History.....	9
Personal Development Health Physical Education.....	10
Technology – Home Economics.....	11
Technology – Industrial Arts .....	12
Music.....	13
Language.....	14
Visual Arts .....	15
Assessment Planner.....	16

# Information for Students and Parents/Caregivers

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Year 7 will need to adjust themselves to some changes in the learning demands between primary and high school – a wider range of subjects and teachers; and regular changes of periods and learning environments, over the space of the day. These differences can initially be very challenging for them. Each subject has its own set of requirements for the students – in the ways they work in the classroom, and on what they have to do at home.

## Assessment

Assessment is an integral part of the learning process and in fact its main purpose is the improvement of learning. It is used to report the student's progress in a course of study and provides a fair and structured method of measuring student achievement.

Each subject has its own set of specific assessment requirements for the students that individual subject teachers will communicate with their classes. Topics and outcomes to be examined will be advised prior to the assessment period and class teachers will make the due dates clear at the time that the assignments are set. Most assessment tasks will have a **Literacy component**, recognising the importance of literacy skills such as vocabulary, spelling, punctuation, paragraphing and sentence structure.

Assessment for Years 7 and 8 will generally take the form of:

**Formal Examinations** in some subjects will occur during the year. The dates are determined by the school with Semester One Assessments in Term 2 and Semester Two Assessments in Term 4.

and/or

**Major Assignments** such as research assignments, major design projects etc.

and/or

**Class marks** as determined by the class teacher - can be comprised of formal and informal assessment.

For example:

- **Formal** – short class tests, topic tests, assignments, field work, research projects, talks, presentations, performance tasks, homework.
- **Informal** – bookwork, group work, class participation.

## Major Projects and Assignments

In an effort to make some of the homework requirements clearer for the students (and their parents), we have put together a calendar of the major projects and assignments, which all Year 8 will complete this year.

In preparing this for you, some points need to be made:

- It is very difficult to predict with accuracy the exact due dates for assignments. Students need to allow for some variation in the timing. Class teachers will make the due dates clear at the time that the assignments are set.
- The schedule of assignments and projects is not exhaustive. Some classes may be required to complete other additional tasks and assignments. Grades will be based on both formal and informal assessments.
- The calendar does not include incidental and regular nightly homework, which may be set during the year. This type of homework is a feature of some subjects, including **Mathematics** and **English**.
- **ICT** refers to Information and Communication Technologies – several subjects require use of internet and other technologies to complete assignment tasks.
- **Technology – Mandatory** – Students will rotate between Home Economics (Food Technology and Textiles) and Industrial Arts (Timber/Graphics/Metalwork) and will complete tasks in the term in which they are studied. Assessment tasks will be due at the end of each term. Teacher will advise due dates to students.

## School Diary

Students should use their school diary to help organise their assessment requirements for each subject. They should record homework, assignments and projects on the day given, and the day due. The Assessment Planner, included in this booklet, should be used to organise their approach to assignments, projects and tests.

## Penalties for Lateness

Every effort must be made to attempt all assessment activities for all subjects studied. Assignments must be handed in or completed on the due date. Assignments that are one school day late will incur a penalty of 20%, two school days late a penalty of 50% and three school days late will score zero but must be submitted to satisfy course requirements. Weekends count as one day.

## Extensions

A student who fails to submit an assessment task or sit for a task at the designated time, must produce an acceptable excuse in writing ( a doctor's certificate, in general, for sickness) from the parent or guardian on the next day of school attendance. This should be given to the class teacher or the appropriate Head Teacher. In negotiation with the Head Teacher, an extension may be granted, an alternative task completed, or an estimate given, guided by the result achieved when the student attempts an equivalent task.

## Student Absence for Vacation Purposes

From time to time parents request exemption from school for vacation purposes. Some of these occur during Exam and Assessment periods. For students in Year 7 and Year 8, approved leave will allow for tasks to be completed on alternate dates. Non-approved leave will incur a result of zero.

## Examinations

If a student misses an exam during the half-yearly or yearly exam period they are to see the relevant Head Teacher, **the day** they return to school, in order to reschedule the examination (if possible).

## Technology Failure

If a student is presenting work produced via a computer, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure adequate backups have been made of the information. Technology failure, including printers, is not an acceptable excuse for failing to submit tasks on the due date and a result of zero will be recorded.

## Exclusion from extra-curricular activities

A student will be excluded from attending all extra-curricular activities including knockout sporting teams if they have an assessment task that has not been submitted.

Once the task has been submitted or resolved it will no longer prevent the student's attendance at extra-curricular activities.

A register will be maintained by the school and updated by the faculty Head Teacher when a warning letter has been sent or resolved.

The student will be ineligible to attend if their name is on the register on the last day nominated for payment of an excursion, activity or sporting event.

If the excursion/activity/sporting event does not have a specified payment date, the student will be excluded if the matter has not been resolved at least 2 days prior to the event.

## English

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<b>Task</b>	<b>To be held</b>	<b>Task Type/Details</b>	<b>Weighting</b>
1	Term 1 Week 10	Persuasive Task: Letter Novel Study	20
2	Term 2 Week 5	Multimodal Presentation Persuasive	20
3	Term 3 Week 6	Critical Response: How is gender represented?	20
4	Term 4 Week 3	Comprehension Questions	20
Wide Reading	Ongoing	Responses to and progress in wide reading tasks (10% each semester)	20
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>100</b>

## Mathematics

Task	To be held	Task Type/Details	Weighting
1	Term 2 Week 4	Half Yearly Examination	20
2	Terms 1-4	Class mark – includes at least 6 topic tests in class	40
3	Term 4 Week 4	Yearly Examination	40
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>100</b>
<p>The Half Yearly Assessment will use tasks 1 and 2 with a 3:2 weighting The final grade will be determined using all tasks.</p>			
<p>There are four areas for assessing students' knowledge, skills and understanding. These are <i>Working Mathematically</i>, <i>Number and Algebra</i>, <i>Measurement and Geometry</i> and <i>Statistics and Probability</i>. The Class Mark listed as Task 2 will be assessed throughout the year. It involves both formal and informal assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formal: class based assessment of knowledge, skills and understanding - eg class tests, homework and assignments.</li> <li>• Informal: teacher's judgement and observation - eg bookwork, participation</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;">All set tasks must be completed to the standard required by the class teacher.</p>			

## Science

<b>Task</b>	<b>To be held</b>	<b>Task Type/Details</b>	<b>Weighting</b>
1	Term 1 Week 5	Poster Research Task	10%
2	Terms 1-4	Topic Knowledge/Skills Tests: Five short tests held at the end of each topic	25%
3	Term 2 Week 3	Student research project - individual practical project	25%
4	Term 4 Week 4	Yearly Examination: Knowledge/Skills Test	40
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>100</b>

## Geography

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<b>Task</b>	<b>To be held</b>	<b>Task Type/Details</b>	<b>Weighting</b>
1	Term 1 Week 9	In-class Research & Literacy Task – Natural Disasters	45
2	Term 2 Week 7	Topic Examination: Water in the World, Interconnections and Skills	45
3	Continual	Coursework	10
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>100</b>



## History

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<b>Task</b>	<b>To be held</b>	<b>Task Type/Details</b>	<b>Weighting</b>
1	Term 3 Week 8	Source Analysis: Medieval Europe	45
2	Term 4 Week 5	Yearly Exam	45
3	Continual	Coursework	10
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>100</b>

## Personal Development Health Physical Education

<b>Task</b>	<b>To be held</b>	<b>Task Type/Details</b>	<b>Weighting</b>
1	Term 1 Week 8	Wealth in Health – Nutrition Task	25
2	Term 1 Week 9	Practical Task - Strike Out	25
3	Term 3 Week 9	Practical Task - Dance	25
4	Term 4 Week 4	Yearly Examination	25
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>100</b>
<p><b>Please note special circumstances</b> – Students who have special circumstances which affect their ability to complete a task should see the Head Teacher PDHPE. For example, students who are unable to complete practical tasks due to injury etc, will be given alternative written tasks relating to the unit of work.</p>			

## Technology – Home Economics

### Food and Agriculture – Fantastic Food

Task	To be held	Task Type/Details	Weighting
1	Ongoing	Practical skills – Weekly practical lessons	20
2	Week 9/10	Knowledge – Workbook activities	20
3	Week 9/10	Investigation – Research and writing activity	20
4	Week 9/10	Design project – Muffin	20
5	Week 9/10	Design Process – Folio	20
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>100</b>

### Textiles – New Earth Entrepreneurs

Task	To be held	Task Type/Details	Weighting
1	Ongoing	Practical skills – Observation and construction samples	20
2	Week 9/10	Knowledge – Workbook activities	20
3	Week 9/10	Investigation – Research report	20
4	Week 9/10	Design project – Quillow	20
5	Week 9/10	Design Process – Creative ideas and evaluation	20
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>100</b>

## Technology – Industrial Arts

### Project 1 – Digital Technologies – Fast and the Curious

Task	To be held	Task Type/Details	Weighting
1	Ongoing	Practical skills – weekly practical lessons	20
2	Week 9/10	Knowledge - workbook activities	20
3	Week 9/10	Creative design folio	20
4	Week 9/10	Design project	40
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>100</b>

### Project 2 – Materials/Engineered Systems Project

Task	To be held	Task Type/Details	Weighting
1	Ongoing	Practical skills – Construction and decorative samples	20
2	Week 9/10	Knowledge - workbook activities	20
3	Week 9/10	Creative design activity	20
4	Week 9/10	Design project – Materials Project	20
5	Week 9/10	Investigation – Research and writing task	20
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>100</b>

## Music

<b>Task</b>	<b>To be held</b>	<b>Task Type/Details</b>	<b>Weighting</b>
1	Terms 1 – 4	Performing	25
2	Term 4	Composing	25
3	Term 1 - 4	Listening	25
4	Terms 1-3	Notation	25
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>100</b>
<p>There are four areas for assessing students' knowledge, skills and understanding. These are Instrumental Performance Practice, Listening Analysis and Ear Training, Creating Musical Compositions and Reading/Writing Musical Notation.</p> <p>The Class Mark listed as Tasks 2 and 4 will be assessed throughout the year. This involves formal and informal class based assessment of knowledge, skills and understanding - eg class tests, homework and short assignments.</p>			

## Language

Student assessment in Year 8 will reflect the extent to which each student has achieved syllabus outcomes in:

- Communicating strand of interacting, accessing and responding, composing
- Understanding strand of systems of language and the role of language and culture

Task	To be held	Task Type/Details	Weighting
1	Terms 1-4	Class mark – includes at least 4 vocabulary quizzes	20
2	Term 1 Week 8	Semester 1 Assignment	20
3	Term 2 Week 4-5	Half Yearly Examination	20
4	Term 3 Week 8	Semester 2 Assignment	20
5	Term 4 Week 4-5	Yearly Examination	20
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>100</b>
<p>The class mark will be assessed throughout the year, involving formal and informal assessments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Formal – class topic tests, vocabulary quizzes</li> <li>● Informal – Teacher’s judgements and observations for example – bookwork, participation</li> </ul> <p>All set tasks must be completed to the standard required by the class teacher.</p>			

## Visual Arts

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<b>Task</b>	<b>To be held</b>	<b>Task Type/Details</b>	<b>Weighting</b>
1	Term 1 Week 10	Artist Case Study	15
2	Term 2 Week 2	Practical task	35
3	Term 3 Week 3-4	Artist Case Study	15
4	Term 4 Week 4	Practical task	35
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>100</b>

# Assessment Planner

2023							
Week	Term 1	Week	Term 2	Week	Term 3	Week	Term 4
1	(Friday 27/1 Staff Development Day)	1		1		1	
2		2		2		2	
3		3		3		3	
4		4		4		4	
5		5		5		5	
6		6		6		6	
7		7		7		7	
8		8		8		8	
9		9		9		9	
10		10		10		10	
11							