Application/Effort: Classwork and Homework

Application refers to a student’s approach to learning and the level of application demonstrated in a course. There are two main areas that are described: Application to and effort in class work and homework. There are no pre-set quotas for application.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application/Effort</th>
<th>Generic Description – The typical student</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. Excellent</strong></td>
<td>The student demonstrates both exemplary behaviour and an exemplary approach to his learning. Tasks are completed on time and to the best of his ability with a genuine concern for their quality and presentation. He always works conscientiously, listens attentively in class and may also participate actively in class discussions. His performance on exams and assessment tasks indicates a thorough level of preparation.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2. Good</strong></td>
<td>The student demonstrates both positive behaviour and a positive approach to his learning. There is a commitment to completing tasks on time and with care for their quality and presentation. He usually works conscientiously, listens attentively in class and may also participate actively in class discussions. His performance on exams and assessment tasks indicates that he has made some effort to prepare for these tasks.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>3. Satisfactory</strong></td>
<td>The student demonstrates a satisfactory level of behaviour and approach to his learning. Work is usually submitted on time and the standard of work demonstrates that the student is aiming to achieve course outcomes and follow teacher directions. He seeks to work on task, to listen attentively in class and may also participate in class discussions. His performance on exams and assessment tasks indicates that he has made an acceptable effort to prepare for these tasks.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>4. Cause for Concern</strong></td>
<td>The student demonstrates some inconsistent behaviour and/or approach to his learning. Work may be late, incomplete or of a poor standard. He may at times not work on task or listen attentively. He may at times interfere with the learning of others. His performance on exams and assessment tasks indicates that he needs to put more effort into preparation for these tasks.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>5. Intervention required</strong></td>
<td>The student demonstrates poor behaviour and/or approach to his learning. Work is often late, incomplete or of a poor standard. He regularly does not work on task and/or listen attentively. The student may interfere with the learning of others. His performance on exams and assessment tasks indicates that he has not really attempted to prepare for these tasks. Parents will have been given advance verbal or written warning that a 5 may/will be awarded for Class or Homework and he may also be at risk of an ‘N’ Award in this course. Intervention is required in this course to remedy the situation during the next half year.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Application Point Average (APA) and Satisfactory Progress

- The Application Point Average (APA) on the front of the School Report is an overall measure of the student’s academic endeavour, and is used to track their application in class and at home and the effort being made.

- The student’s application/effort scores for Classwork and Homework are recorded in each course on a 5 point numerical scale where 1 = Excellent, 2 = Good, 3 = Satisfactory and 4 = Cause for Concern 5 = Intervention required (see “Reporting to Parents Policy” for an explanation of these)

- All of these 1 - 5 application/effort scores are averaged to produce a single number, the Application Point Average (APA).

- The student’s APA is then analysed. A student with an APA of 1.5 or less may be eligible for an Academic Merit Certificate in Years 7 – 10 or Blue Academic Colours in Year 11 & 12. See full details of these Awards in Docushare/Senior School/Academic
Follow up will occur with any student whose APA indicates that their application to study and/or effort in one or more courses is poor. This may take the form of informal or formal monitoring or even weekly or daily reporting or in extreme cases, discussions concerning the student’s future at Knox.

**How we use the APA**

As explained above, the Knox APA measures “Application to Study”. There is a close correlation between application and academic outcomes.

The school has refined the use of APA‘s over the past few years and it is well understood by boys, staff and parents.

The APA is used to:

1. Advise boys and parents of a boy’s positive approach to study and reinforce this.
2. Advise boys and parents of a boy’s lack of application and commitment and assist in developing intervention programs.
3. APA’s are used to determine Academic Colours.
4. Determine places in the elite sporting teams at all age levels or co-curricular programs (including optional excursions) or student exchange or GAP programs.
5. APA’s have a significant influence in determining leadership positions for boys at all levels in the Senior School including Cadets and SRC.
6. APA’s may also contribute to discussions concerning a boy’s continuation of enrolment at Knox.

Further information about the APA can be found in Section 3 of the Senior School Handbook at Docushare/Senior School.