

Approaches to Learning - The S6C Benchmarks

Being a good student does not always mean we are good learners. Yes we want you to try hard but effort alone does not develop your skills or deeper understanding of subject material. **This comes down to how you approach your studies.**

At S6C we evaluate your approach to learning in class and outside of the classroom. Both are significant to your development as a learner. Being a great learner in class needs to be maintained through your self driven independent time.

So how do we measure this - and what are our expectations?

There are two 'Attitude to Learning grades' which reflect students' attitude and effort in class and independently. Each subject teacher grades the student's effort during the period covered by the report (generally around a 6 week period).

Students are graded as working at one of the following levels:

- 1 Outstanding** - meeting these benchmarks continually and have a desire to succeed.
- 2 Good** - you work hard and with ambition and mostly work with a clear work ethic and focus to improve. You follow the advice shared most of the time and show a level of independence required to develop.
- 3 Satisfactory** - You are trying to improve your learning but are not always successful. There are dips in effort, focus or attention to feedback that are slowing down your progress to learn.
- 4 Below expectation** - your approach may be scattergun and inconsistent. You may lack focus or commitment to your own development.

What are our expectations at S6C of all our learners?

1. As a resilient learner you will overcome challenges and difficulties and see them as opportunities to learn. Even when things aren't going your way, you seem to find a way to succeed and you will look back proudly and think about what you have achieved against the odds. Resilient learners and resilient people never give up.
2. As a productive learner, you often amaze yourself with the amount of work you get done during a lesson. Time seems to fly by because you are engrossed in your work and you wish there were more hours in the day. (the same can apply to private study). As a result of being productive, you learn new skills and knowledge quickly and this helps you achieve your potential. Productive learners understand the link between being successful and the need to work hard.
3. As a focused learner, you avoid being distracted and you actively encourage others to follow your example. You absorb yourself in your work in the knowledge that you will be more productive if you remain focused. Focused learners make the most of their time and are seen by others as being effective learners.
4. As a receptive learner, you are always open to feedback from your teachers and from your peers. You welcome advice about how you can improve your work and then take the necessary action to make those improvements. Receptive learners accept that they may not know everything and always take opportunities to learn from others.
5. As an inquisitive learner, you are always asking questions. You see your teachers, your friends, your classmates, visitors and your family as people who can help you better understand the world and you can often be heard asking them for clarification or advice. Inquisitive learners have a thirst for knowledge and an enquiring mind which means they see learning as a fun part of their everyday life.