

Tuggerah Public School Repetition Policy



Last Amended: June, 2020



Repetition of Students Policy

Introduction

In previous years the practice of repetition of students was used when it was felt the child was under-achieving or unable to cope. Throughout the school year, it is our duty as teachers to closely monitor our students' progress in order to provide them with the best possible available resources and programs of work most suited to their needs.

Repetition can have a demoralizing effect on the student and the effect on the student's self confidence and self esteem could influence their attitudes for the rest of their lives. Repetition therefore is one of the most difficult educational decisions facing the school and the student's parents.

As part of the ongoing process of meeting the needs of the students in our care, consideration has to be given to the appropriateness of the student's grade placement. If it is considered that a student may benefit from repetition the following policy will come into play.

Policy

It is the policy of this school to consider the repetition if

- The parents suggest it.
- The class teacher suggests it.
- The child is experiencing difficulties because they are-
 - Very young
 - Immature
 - Under-achieving
 - Has suffered a long term illness
 - Has had a long term absence (e.g. overseas holidays, etc...)

Several of these conditions should be present before repetition can be considered, and the procedures following should be implemented as soon as it is practicable before the end of any school year (ideally processes should begin before the end of term 2).



Guidelines

1. **Preliminary discussion is needed between the class teacher and the principal (or nominee).**
2. The school counsellor must be consulted and appropriate tests and diagnosis conducted.
3. The parents must be informed as early as possible, by end of Term 2 at the latest (exceptional circumstances excluded) if it is decided by the Principal and the class teacher that repetition may be considered. The child can then be made aware of what is involved and given the necessary re-assurance both at home and at school.
4. The ultimate decision on repetition will be made following agreement of the student's parents and the Principal following –
 - a. Perusal of documentation
 - b. Consideration of the results of interviews between the school, parents, class teacher, school counsellor and the student.
5. **It is expected that no student should turn thirteen (13) years of age before proceeding to year 7.**

Conclusions and some over-riding considerations that must be addressed.

1. Repetition of students should occur in the **earliest grade level** possible, once the appropriate assessments have been conducted and analyzed.
2. Research literature shows that FEW students benefit from repetition, particularly when subjected to the same course of work.
3. Assessment of students' maturity and academic achievement must be carefully made through the use of objective evaluation and appropriate personnel.
4. **No decisions concerning the repetition of students are to be made before the details are discussed with all stakeholders, including the student's teacher, school executive, school counsellor, principal and parents.**
5. The deciding factor must, as always, be whether such a step is going to benefit the child.
6. Before a final decision is made the impact of the repetition on the student's eligibility for support programs both in and out of the school, should be identified and discussed with the parents.
7. **NO student will be repeated without the full agreement of the parents and the principal.**

