Assessment of what students know, understand and can do is key to ensuring high quality learning and teaching at St Mary’s College. The assessment policy is concerned with providing a common framework for assessment practices across the College while also addressing the important issues of openness and accountability in educational practice.

RATIONALE
As stated in our Mission statement, St Mary’s College is committed to providing a quality education which is holistic, dynamic and responsive to the needs of our students. This includes the manner in which we conduct any assessment.

Assessment is the purposeful and systematic collection of information about students’ achievements. It is also intended to promote, assist and improve the success of the learning and teaching process.

Assessment is that part of the educational process that identifies what learning has occurred, making judgements about how well students have achieved the outcomes/objectives within the scope of the syllabuses. This information provides the foundation for deliberate planning of further learning.

Assessment provides information for those people - students, parents, or teachers - who need to know about the progress and achievements of individual students with the purpose of helping them achieve to the best of their abilities.

The Queensland Studies Authority (QSA) syllabuses for the middle and senior phases of learning prescribe the standard of learning and assessment in Queensland schools.

The St Mary’s College Assessment Policy and the associated practices and procedures for assessment are consistent with the QSA P-12 Assessment Policy, Policy on Special Provisions for School Based Assessment in Authority and Authority-registered Subjects, Sufficiency of Coverage and Adequacy of Assessment of Students to Receive Results on a Senior Statement, and Late Submission and Non-submission of Student Responses to Assessment Instruments in Authority and Authority-registered Subjects.

St Mary’s College promotes equitable outcomes for students, excellence in curriculum and assessment, and high quality assessment programs.

Practices and procedures for assessment at St Mary’s College provide staff and students with guidelines for the conduct of assessment to ensure assessment practices are responsive to the diverse needs of students and are underpinned by equity principles.

PRACTICES
The following guidelines have been established at St Mary’s College to inform procedures.

- Submission of Assessment
- Special Provisions
- Authentication of Student Work
- Drafting
- Block Assessment