



Principal's Update

21 October 2019

Our mission - building a caring and safe learning environment where great teaching supports and inspires all students to grow, develop and succeed.

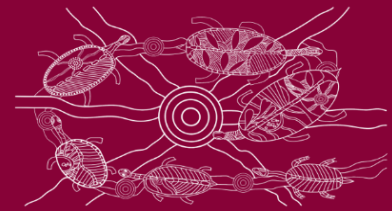


The Hawkesbury Learning Journey
Focus on Writing Skills
HSC Exams 2019

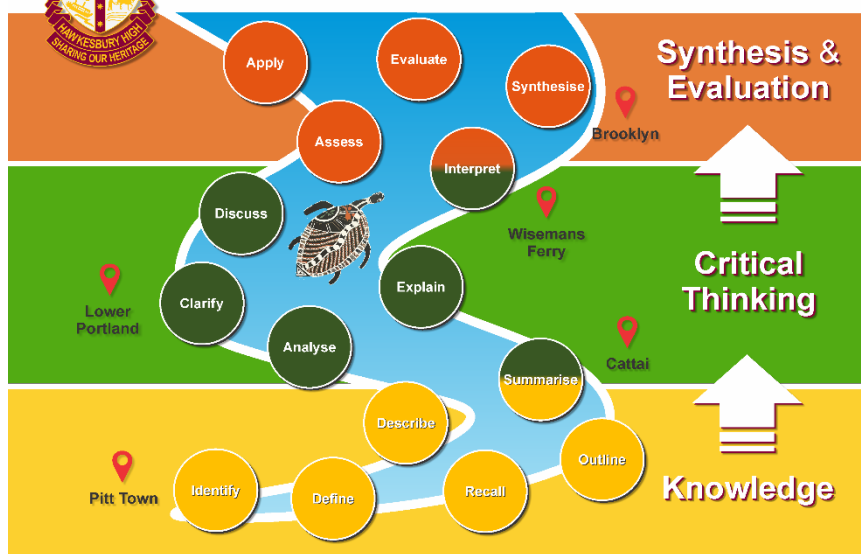


Hawkesbury High School

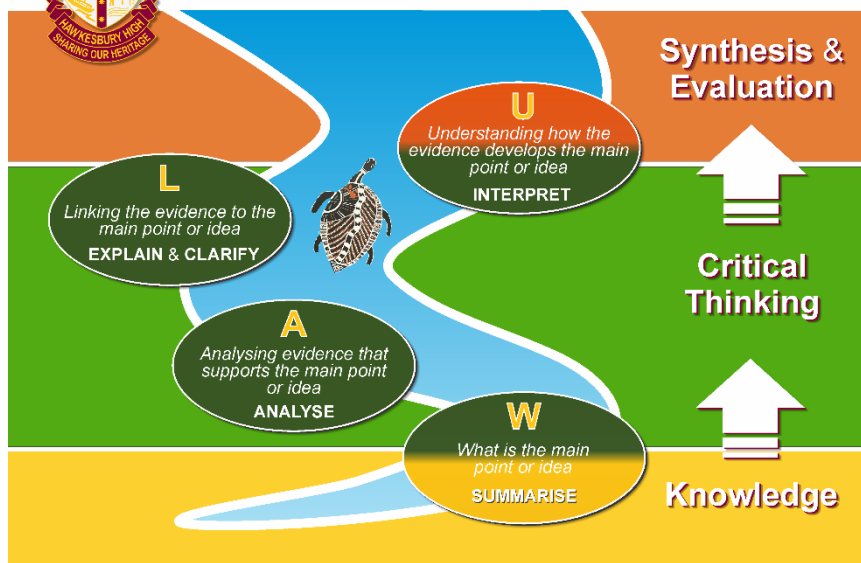
Caring Learning Connecting



The Hawkesbury Learning Journey



W.A.L.U - Critical Thinking Writing Scaffold



Focus on Writing Skills

While the Hawkesbury Learning Journey maps all key skills that help students progress and grow as learners, critical thinking skills that are part of that journey are frequently required in writing tasks, tests and exams such as the HSC and the HSC Minimum Standard literacy tests. WALU, the critical thinking writing scaffold helps students understand how to improve their writing one step at a time. From the first step **W** that asks students to summarise the main point or idea, to **A** that requires analysis, to **L** that asks students to link evidence to the main point or idea, to the all-important **U** that emphasises the importance of showing understanding of how the idea was developed and enhanced through analysis and explanation, the WALU scaffold is certain to both challenge and help our learners become better writers.

The Hawkesbury Learning Journey

I have formally launched the Hawkesbury Learning Journey at a whole school assembly last Wednesday. This gave me an opportunity to send a consistent message to all students about the importance of skills that are crucial for success after they leave school, regardless of their goals.

The Hawkesbury Learning Journey uses the metaphor of the Hawkesbury River to align key learning skills to 5 key destinations that will help students set clear learning goals and help them understand how they can achieve those goals by reaching their desired destinations.



Where are you going?



Are you heading in the right direction?



How do you know if you are on track?

As students progress on their learning journey, they will be taught the relevant skills and provided with feedback to help them understand exactly where they are and what they need to learn to improve. Every classroom in the school has the learning journey posters to constantly remind students that learning, like travelling down a river, is a winding journey that can be successfully negotiated if they follow the map.

HSC Exams 2019

Our Year 12 students have commenced their HSC exams, with English and Music exams being the first exams last week. We wish our Year 12 students all the best and we hope that months of hard work and preparation will pay off when they receive their results in December.

Caring Learning Connecting