

# Policy on Academic Progress

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## Policy 4

## Academic Progress

### 1. Policy

- 1.1. Students normally progress annually from one grade to the next. This progress reflects the decision of the student's teachers that he or she has sufficiently mastered the knowledge, acquired the skills, and developed the attitudes and work habits that will allow the student to be successful in a subsequent grade level.

### 2. Purpose

- 2.1. Decisions about academic progress can be among the most fraught taken in a school. While these decisions should be fair, carefully considered and transparent in all schools, a private school like Tempo has the additional responsibilities to consider maintaining the special academic character of the school and its sense of direction. In the case of the Upper School, where only academic stream courses are offered, this latter consideration is particularly important.

### 3. Regulations

- 3.1. Decisions about promotion are always communicated to parents before they are communicated to students.
- 3.2. Decisions about academic progress are a confidential matter between the school, the student in question and his or her parents.
- 3.3. Annual promotion from one grade to the next is determined by the appropriate School Head in concert with the homeroom teacher and individual subject teachers.
- 3.4. Where attitude and behavior are not problems, decisions about a student's progress from one year to the next are informed by a student's grades.
  - 3.4.1. Students who receive three or more "unsatisfactory" grades in the lower and middle school will not normally progress to the next grade.
  - 3.4.2. Students in grade 9 must have an average of 65% and no grade less than 50% in order to progress to grade 10.
- 3.5. Notwithstanding a student's grades, students who are persistently disruptive in class, who persistently undermine the authority of teachers, or who persistently interfere with others students' opportunity to learn will not be retained as Tempo students.
- 3.6. The decision not to promote a student from one year to the next will always be discussed with the student's parents before such a decision is discussed with or revealed to a student.

3.7. A student in grades 10 – 12 whose average in math, English and three other subjects falls below 65% will be advised of university admission requirements.

4. Responsibilities

4.1. The Principal is responsible for decisions with respect to academic progress.

4.2. Teachers will contribute to decisions about academic progress.

4.3. Teachers will participate in meetings with parents to discuss the progress of students.

4.4. Homeroom teachers will ensure that parents are kept informed of any circumstance that might affect their child's academic progress.

4.5. School Heads will communicate academic progress decisions to parents

4.6. The Head Master may consult with parents when non-academic factors contribute to decisions about student retention in the school.

5. Effective Date: 1 September 2009

6. Approved by the Board: 21 May 2009