

BELMONT HIGH SCHOOL

local kids
**LOCAL
SCHOOLS**
BELMONT LEARNING COMMUNITY

Enrichment Class Program 2019



Enrichment Coordinators:

Mr Michael Allenby

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Building Harmony & Success

Dear Parents/Caregivers

ENRICHMENT CLASS PROGRAM 2019

Congratulations on choosing to take the Enrichment Placement Test for 2019. Belmont High School has implemented an innovative and exciting initiative in response to the Department of Education and Communities' priority policies on Gifted and Talented Children and Accelerated Progression.

This program will serve a readily identified community need - that of challenging talented students in a local co-educational comprehensive high school setting. In addition, it provides an extra dimension to our general aim of providing each student with an excellent academic, cultural, social and physical education.

We realise that this is a period of decision making in relation to high school placement. This can be complex due to the various selection processes involved, such as those associated with selective school offers.

With this in mind, Belmont High School will be accepting applications for its 2019 Enrichment Class up until the **11th May 2018**. **No application can be accepted after this date.**

Assessment tests will take place at Belmont High School on Tuesday, 22nd May 2018 at a cost of \$56.00 per student (non-refundable). Please make cheques payable to *Belmont High School* and include them with your application.

Should you have any queries the Deputy Principal, Year 7 2019, Mr Michael Allenby would be pleased to discuss them with you.

TEST INFORMATION

The test to be used in 2018 is a Robert Allwell and Associates test that is administered by the company and marked externally. Students will receive a copy of all their results. The test is managed by an external provider Robert Allwell, and not the school.

A number of other enrichment opportunities will exist over the year for your child; these will be detailed as they arise.

Please be aware that placement in the class is guaranteed for the first semester of year 7. Students who are displaying gifts and talents throughout the year are monitored, with changes to classes made on the attitude, work ethic and standards of work produced throughout the year.

Yours faithfully

Geoff Robinson
Principal



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ENRICHMENT CLASS PROGRAM MOST FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How do you find the rest of the school accepts the gifted and talented class?

The class has been accepted in a very positive way. They are integrated with all of Year 7 for assembly, lunch, recess, sport, PE, some practical subjects, camps and excursions wherever possible. They happily make friends outside of, as well as within, the one class which usually makes up the enrichment stream. The whole school population seems to take pride in having yet another special feature reflecting credit on our school.

Will my child feel isolated?

The great advantage of this concept is that each gifted child has the class as a peer group to which they can feel they belong and with which they can identify. We are well aware that, if extracted or singly promoted outside of their age group these students often lose important opportunities to develop socialisation. We feel it is important that they stay together and forge a group identity. This has certainly happened with all of our groups so far.

How fast is the pace set by this class?

The main aim of the program is to cater to the needs of those students who would feel bored or held back by the average pace of class work. We cover the content at a pace set by the class itself, and this naturally means there is ample time for enrichment and the stimulation of bright students interacting with each other. If by Year 10, the students have covered the syllabus only a little ahead of the cohort, but have had a rich and stimulating education, our main goal in quality education will have been fulfilled. If appropriate, some students may choose to accelerate in one or more subjects.

If selected, what are the student's obligations?

To show a positive attitude to work across the curriculum. Lack of effort, failure to bring required books and materials, failure to complete assigned work, are all signs that a student is not coping with the privilege that the school has offered. The school reserves the right to relocate underperforming students to another class group after appropriate assessment by teaching staff and the Program Coordinator. Each Semester an analysis of attitude and results is undertaken by the Learning Support team to indicate if placement of students needs to be altered. Students then have the chance to work their way back into the enrichment class.

What if my child can't take the pace?

Firstly, we would not want any student to feel "under pressure"! The Counsellor, teachers and Head Teacher Wellbeing all monitor the students closely, and are in regular contact with the student and parents. Students and parents must realise there is no genuine stigma in being relocated to another class. It is simply that the student has not found the program suitable for his/her needs.

What advantages does Belmont High School offer over private and selective schools to gifted students?

The advantages are many and have a lot to do with self-esteem, maturity, and developing the child as a whole. As a broadly based, co-educational comprehensive school, we offer our students contact with a wide range of socio-economic and cultural backgrounds, and we feel this is essential for a mature, tolerant, well balanced outlook without narrowness and elitism. To add to this, our excellent facilities and huge range of extra-curricular activities speak for themselves. Finally, Belmont High School has the feel of a really happy, supportive, stimulating, growing environment. The school is enthusiastically supported by, and firmly based, in a local community where education is highly valued.



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BELMONT HIGH SCHOOL

ENRICHMENT PROGRAM INFORMATION

Belmont High School has embarked on an innovative program, the main aim of which is to provide a high quality learning environment for students with talent and high academic ability. Our program also offers to potential selective high school students, the high academic standard they are seeking, but in a setting which is co-educational, socially cohesive and community focused, allowing them to strengthen readymade friendships and develop new friendships with local students.

School facilities which particularly enhance academic and general student progress are:

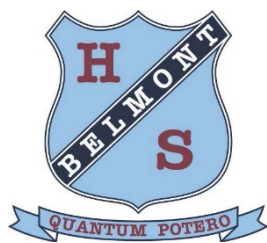
- ❖ A multi-level computerised library with updated catalogue of 12000 books and wireless internet.
- ❖ Digital video distribution linked to all computers – through CLICK VIEW
- ❖ Six computer spaces plus other classrooms containing more than 130 computers
- ❖ School wireless network able to support over 700 laptops
- ❖ Fully networked school with school intranet and internet connection
- ❖ Multimedia computer room with specialist video editing equipment
- ❖ Seven Science laboratories
- ❖ A purpose built gymnasium for trampolining and gymnastics.
- ❖ A very well-resourced Visual Arts department with media lab and full access to computers
- ❖ Spacious grounds
- ❖ A music complex of two specialist rooms catering for choir, ensemble, band, string and full symphony orchestra activities. A full Peripatetic Music program exists for students in the ensemble. Instrumental hire is readily available.
- ❖ Building upgrade currently in planning stage

Belmont High School is a welcoming, supportive environment where gifted and talented students receive ready social acceptance from their peers. The school provides a leadership structure for many such students in the Student Representative Council.

Belmont High School staff are experienced, highly qualified teachers with a long term commitment to the school.

SUMMARY OF OBJECTIVES

1. To create a core class of motivated learners at Belmont High School. The group would be globally gifted but having specific strengths and talents in numeracy, literacy and problem-solving techniques.
2. To provide for the natural progression of gifted and talented students through a high school setting. These students have already been recognised and catered for in local primary schools and our program would complement developments in a number of primary schools.
3. To implement accelerated progression where appropriate, allowing future opportunity for students to complete ROSA subjects and/or the Higher School Certificate ahead of their peers.
4. To provide a model for other secondary schools and educators in the extension, enrichment and acceleration of gifted and talented students, utilising links with mentors in universities, other tertiary institutions and other professions.



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YEAR 7 ENRICHMENT CLASS 2019

APPLICATION FORM

Student Name _____ Male or Female _____

Given Name Family Name

Date of Birth ____/____/____ Number of Years in Australia (if not born here) _____

Address: _____ Postcode _____

Email: _____

Parents'/Guardians' names

Father _____ Mother _____

Home Phone _____ Home Phone _____

Work/Mobile Phone _____ Work/Mobile Phone _____

Student's present school _____ Class _____

Class teacher's name _____ School Phone No _____

Do you have another child attending Belmont High? Yes / No If 'yes' what year? _____

Please comment briefly about your child's main areas of interest or talent and how you see him/her benefiting from our Enrichment Program.

Please attach a copy of your most recent school report and a copy of your Year 5 NAPLAN test results (your school has a copy on file if you cannot locate it).

TEST DATE: 22nd May 2018 at Belmont High School from 8.30 until 12.30pm.

Applications and payment can be made by cheque (made payable to Belmont High School), cash, eftpos and online payment(www.belmonthigh.com.au) for \$56.00 to be returned no later than 11th May 2018.

Note: \$56.00 is non-refundable

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