



AVELEY SECONDARY COLLEGE

ACADEMIC EXTENSION PROGRAM

Academic Extension Program

About the Program

The Academic Extension Program provides a challenging and enriched learning environment designed to extend each individual to achieve his or her full academic potential. The purpose of the program is to further develop the skills and abilities of our academically talented students by providing enriched learning opportunities through extension and acceleration. Its objective is to maximise the students' educational opportunities and best prepare them for the Senior School and Tertiary Education courses that are likely to be encountered in the future.

While the core curriculum is covered, students will engage in a variety of stimulating activities through the broadening of the curriculum to develop;

- application and high order/critical thinking skills,
- deepening of students' knowledge, understanding and skills,
- self-directed thinking that cultivates innovative ideas and solves problems,
- reflective practices related to learning experiences and processes.

Students within the program are able to work with peers who share similar interests, aspirations and abilities. Extension and acceleration classes are provided for Year 8 students in Maths, Science, Humanities and Social Sciences and English. Students can be accepted into one or more and study each of their core subjects together for four hours each week.

Features of the Academic Extension Program may include:

- Scaffold learning through explicit direct instruction frameworks
- Homework and study skills program supported by Homework Club that will become crucial to success in future senior school classes
- Targeted pastoral care, monitoring and regular feedback to parents regarding student progress.
- Participation in local, state and national competitions
- Supported pathways to university studies.
- Development of one's self through:
 - being exposed to personal reflection times
 - encouraging the acknowledgement and development of personal strengths
 - working effectively in groups to better understand how we contribute to the learning of others
 - developing a better sense of self efficacy
 - valuing and promoting intellectual pursuit

The Selection Process

Students earn a placement of entry into the Academic Extension Program by demonstrating superior ability in their current courses of study. Selection of participants is conducted during Year 7 and is based on the individual's aptitude and ability as indicated by standardised testing and information provided by teachers. Continuation in the program is conditional upon the student maintaining high academic performance, exemplary behaviour and regular attendance at all times.

The Selection Process consists of three phases:

Phase 1: Selection Phase

Review of Year 7 NAPLAN, PAT, Semester reports and teacher feedback on individual students' aptitude, behaviour and work ethic. High achieving students identified by the Selection Phase are placed on a short list and proceed to Phase 2.

Phase 2: Selection Panel

A panel of staff will review the short list of students and select students for the program.

Phase 3: Offer of Placement

Parents of successful students will receive an Acceptance of Placement email which is confirmation of their child's position in the program.

Communication and Contacts

All specific learning area enquiries may be directed to the classroom teacher. All other general enquiries can be directed to Mrs Rachael Ball through the Aveley Secondary College reception on 9296 1000 or emailed to Rachael.Ball@education.wa.edu.au