



Principal: Mrs Jenny Weal
Deputy Principal: Mr James Laird
Deputy Principal: Mr Phil Scandizzo
Deputy Principal: Mr Brad Cook
Rel. Deputy Principal: Mr Andrew Fitzgerald

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: HIGH POTENTIAL & GIFTED EDUCATION CLASS PLACEMENT AT THE PONDS HIGH SCHOOL

The DoE states “School communities have a responsibility to develop effective and equitable identification procedures and developmentally appropriate programs for high potential & gifted students. Professional development will occur at state and regional levels and within school communities to enable provision for HPGE students”. The policy states:

- School communities have a responsibility to identify their HPG students.
- School communities have a responsibility to foster collaborative home-school partnerships to support HPG students.
- Teachers have a responsibility to select and implement a variety of teaching strategies for inclusion in programs for the range of HPG students in their class.

It is therefore important that our school has a HPG Class to deliver targeted teaching and learning activities that will ensure HPG students are attracted to The Ponds High School as a viable educational alternative instead of travelling to other schools.

Like all Year 7 core classes, students will be together for English, Mathematics, Science, HSIE, PDHPE and Japanese.

For the Year 7, 2022 HPGE class:

- All in-area students will be eligible to apply for the class
- The class will be primarily determined through achievement in the domains of literacy and numeracy
- Students will submit this application form and payment for The Ponds High School HPGE test
- The panel will consider a range of data including:
 - The Ponds High School HPGE test results
 - Student’s latest school report
 - Participation in external competitions
 - List of achievements: school enrichment programs, external competitions
 - Previous leadership experience

Where possible, teachers with expertise or training will be attached to the core subject areas and all teachers will receive ongoing training and development in this area.

Timeline

- **Monday 15 March** – Applications close. Applications received after 3pm on this day will not be considered. Payment for HPGE testing must be submitted with the application.
- **Saturday 27 March** – HPGE testing at The Ponds High School. Testing commences at 9.30am.
- **Monday 31 May** – Successful applicants for HPGE class informed.

Scholarship Prize

Two scholarships will be offered to the two Year 7 students achieving the highest marks in the literacy and numeracy test. This scholarship includes the school purchasing your BYOD device, entry into all ICAS competitions, HOTMATHS pack and school calculator.

(Students must remain at The Ponds High School in order to receive this scholarship prize)



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High Potential & Gifted Education Class test information for parents

Year 7, 2022

Saturday, 27 March 2021

Location: The Ponds High School
Address: 180 Riverbank Drive, The Ponds NSW 2769
Date: Saturday, 27 March 2021
Time: Arrive at 9:15am for a 9:30am start

Parking and location: Park along Riverbank Drive and walk through the front gates. Walk through into the main quadrangle past the Administration area. Signs will direct you to the upper level of D block. Once you walk through the front gates and past Administration, D Block is the block you will see in front of you.

Test schedule:

9:30 English – one hour - comprehension plus an extended writing task
10:30 10 minute break
10:40 Mathematics - 50 minutes. No calculators permitted for this test.
11:30 Finish
11:35 Students to be collected from the grass area outside lower level of D Block.

What your child needs to bring on the day:

A pencil case including a pen and HB pencil
A drink to have during the break

No calculators allowed

No child will be permitted to leave without an escort. If you wish your child to leave with a friend please provide a note on the day that explains this.

Many thanks,

Jennifer Weal
Principal

THE PONDS HIGH SCHOOL HIGH POTENTIAL & GIFTED CLASS PLACEMENT APPLICATION FORM

STUDENT NAME _____ Date of birth _____

PRIMARY SCHOOL _____ Teacher's Name _____

PARENT / GUARDIAN (s) names

Mother _____ Contact phone _____

Father _____ Contact phone _____

Best email contact _____

Address _____

The Ponds High School HPGE Test

Cost - \$50.00 (non refundable)

Venue – The Ponds High School

Date – Saturday, 27 March

Time – 9.30am – 11:30am

Circle method of payment: Cash Cheque Mastercard Visa

I have attached the following documentation with this application. Tick when attached. Please do not send original documentation as these will not be returned.

- Copy of Year 5 Semester 2, 2020 student school report (required for enrolment)
- Copy of any awards you feel are relevant eg Maths Competition, ICAS Competition
- Copy of questionnaire included with this form (note: write the student's name on the top each page in case the application is separated). **Student is required to complete page 4 in their own handwriting.**
- List of other information you might consider relevant. eg school captain/debating team/public speaking team/speaks 4 languages etc

Please note: if you require us to copy your documents there will be a \$5 photocopying fee.

After the initial applications are received we will also get input from the student's primary school.

Please address all applications to:

HIGH POTENTIAL & GIFTED CLASS APPLICATION

The Ponds High School

180 Riverbank Drive

The Ponds NSW 2769

HIGH POTENTIAL & GIFTED CLASS AT THE PONDS HIGH SCHOOL

Student's name _____

Supporting questionnaire for parents - please answer in the space provided

Outline why this is the best class placement for your child.

Parent questions continue on the next page

Student's name _____

Some of the characteristics of gifted students are listed below. Please select 3 that best describe your child and how this is seen in their behaviour. An example has been provided.

Note: This is not about how well the parent writes. Do not worry if your writing is in point form or not of university standard - it is not you trying out for the class.

- Characteristics of Gifted students
1. Heightened levels of curiosity
 2. Long attention span
 3. Ability to handle abstract ideas
 4. Flexible thinker
 5. Sense of humour - alert and subtle
 6. Superior vocabulary/advanced reading age
 7. Fast learner
 8. Independent worker
 9. Strong feelings or opinions well expressed
 10. Creativity
 11. Other

Example

1. Curiosity.

When Ryan was young he would select subjects and thoroughly immerse himself in them. He could recite all the names of dinosaurs when he was 3 and then later could tell you all the different aspects of ancient Roman armies and formations. He often becomes immersed in a project he is interested in and uses books, the internet and talks to people to come to his own conclusions about a topic. He remembers vast amounts of data in relation to these topics.

Characteristic 1 _____

Characteristic 2 _____

Characteristic 3 _____

Student's name _____

Supporting questionnaire for STUDENTS to answer in their own handwriting - please answer in the space provided.

A word to describe school is _____ because...

My favourite subject in or out of school is _____. I like it because

In my spare time I like to ...

An achievement I am proud of is..