

Philosophy:

The learning needs of all students entering the secondary school are carefully assessed and the College endeavours to meet these needs through a rigorous and diverse academic, social and sporting program. Students identified with high academic potential are offered *extension* and *enrichment* possibilities such as competition entry and placement in extension classes.

Opportunities:

The extension program includes

- A **Math Honours program** for students gifted in Math, and **Math top class** for Math extension
- An **English Literature and Language extension program** for students with high language ability
- **XP (Extra Potential)**, a talent development program for students gifted in both Math and English

In addition, students in these classes enjoy extension in Science and History and Geography through pedagogy applicable to ability-grouped students. There will be no formal change to curriculum in these classes.

Organisational explanation:

The Math Honours Program provides students with the necessary challenge for their abilities and the opportunities for achievement within advanced competitions. The Honours students, do the same formal exams, carried out one chapter at a time. The Honours class follow the same timeline as other students, but pay more attention to problem solving, reasoning and extension activities and prepare for Maths competitions during allocated lessons when time allows and as directed by the teacher. There will be a dedicated Maths Honours tutorial for further mentoring and support.

Math top class is a class with opportunity for further extension which does not include Math Honours.

The English Literature and Language extension program follows a more Liberal Arts approach with a focus on classical literature, poetry, composition and language skill development. This is a new initiative and students selected for this program will follow a different course to the other students. It is anticipated that this program will equip students well for the new Literature and Language course being offered under the new senior Queensland Certificate of Education.

XP replaces a semester of technology and a semester of arts enabling students to participate in both these learning areas. Students in XP begin a study of formal logic and introductory philosophy; they will be given opportunities to further explore their individual areas of academic interest and passion, as well as participate in teacher directed units of study and practical problem solving challenges. Student learning will require participation and collaboration as a group member and individual self-directed study. XP is not formally examined as the philosophy underpinning it is the development of a love of learning for learning sake rather than for assessment. However, students will be given some formative assessment to enable feedback.

Students participating will need to be committed:

The success of any extension program will depend on the quality and engagement offered by the program itself and the commitment of each student to their own academic development. It is expected that students commit to excellence in attitude, behaviour and academic performance. Failure to demonstrate such a commitment may result in removal from one or more of the programs they have been selected for. Progress will be closely monitored and concerns will be discussed with both parents and students.

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