Glenwood High School

gifted & talented
Glenwood High School has an exemplary Gifted and Talented Program and is justifiably proud of its outstanding academic reputation and achievements.

Our Gifted and Talented Program exists to target and further extend the interests and talents of the most academically able students. This is achieved through the provision of programming and classes designed to enrich, excite and challenge students. Learning is structured so students benefit from a curriculum which establishes a strong grounding in learning and thinking skills and explores the discursive, evaluative and philosophical nature of subjects.

Initial placement in Year 7 is once again based on student achievement and potential. Year 8 placement is based on measured academic performance by means of our comprehensive school assessment program. Years 9 and 10 placement is also based on measured academic performance determined by our school assessment program. In Years 11 and 12, opportunities exist for subject acceleration, university study and extension course study in English, Mathematics, History, Languages and Music.

The curriculum sees students engaging in rich tasks that will not only broaden their knowledge but develop their ability to think critically and engage with a range of technologies within our global community. Feedback from both students and parents has shown that the majority of our students thrive on these challenges, while having the commitment and support of our expert teaching staff.

At Glenwood High School, we believe all students are entitled to an education that enables them to develop their intellectual, physical, creative, emotional and social abilities. We believe students have the right to grow and develop as well-adjusted, autonomous and valued members of society. We recognise that all students have particular individual needs, which must be met if these goals are to be achieved.

Therefore, it is important the education of every student be individually planned. Glenwood High School is committed to providing a challenging curriculum for all students. In addition, we provide opportunities to identify and nurture those who are gifted and talented. Our Gifted and Talented Program delivers educational experiences of an appropriate depth and breadth for students identified as having exceptional academic ability.
**Gifted and Talented Program**

**Goal**
- To provide an educational environment enabling highly able students to develop their full potential in a range of subject areas.
- To develop high-level written and oral skills.
- To develop research skills and independent study techniques.
- To provide an environment that encourages divergent thinking. Students will be encouraged in the development of originality, fluency, flexibility and elaboration in their communication.
- To promote critical thinking and reasoning abilities e.g. inference, deductive and inductive reasoning, analogies and evaluation.

**Program Overview**

Our program is specifically designed to provide an engaging and challenging curriculum for gifted and talented students.

The Gifted and Talented Program provides: a learning environment which enables students to work co-operatively with students of similar abilities and interests; access to a range of opportunities to work with more abstract, advanced and complex problems and content beyond the mainstream curriculum; lessons which stimulate, interest, challenge, inform, excite and encourage high achievement; development of originality, problem-solving, higher-order thinking skills and creativity; increased opportunities for research and student self-directed learning; careful monitoring of individual progress.

**Selection Process**

Year 6 students are invited to apply for placement in the Glenwood High School Gifted and Talented Program by means of a submitted portfolio which includes:
- A hand-written letter to the Principal of Glenwood High School
- A portfolio that includes:
  - The two (2) most recent student school reports
  - A copy of Year 5 NAPLAN results
  - Copies of certificates of achievement from any relevant competitions or events
  - Work samples
  - Exam results, certificates and/or reports from any outside school activities

Our Selection panel will review and consider each portfolio on an individual basis. Submissions will NOT be accepted after the due date and time. Students will receive a confirmation of receipt of their portfolio via email. A letter will be posted informing students of the outcome.
APPLICATION PROCESS OVERVIEW

**Tuesday, 26th March 2013**  
Gifted and Talented (GAT) Consultation Evening

**Friday, 31st May 2013**  
Portfolios due to the Front Office by 2pm  
(no late submissions accepted)

**Friday, 7th June 2013**  
Email acknowledging receipt of your portfolio submission will be sent by this date to all applicants.

**Monday, 10th – Friday 21st June 2013**  
The Principal, Deputy Principal and the 2014 Year 7 Advisor begin consultation on selection

**Monday, 24th – Friday 28th June 2013**  
Relevant primary school principals are included in the decision-making process, nominating a choice for first-round offers, and a selection of offers to be placed on a waiting list

**Monday, 1st July 2013**  
Successful applicants are notified by mail

**Friday, 12th July 2013**  
Successful applicants must confirm their acceptance of a Glenwood High School Gifted and Talented placement for 2014 by returning the Confirmation of Acceptance. If confirmation is not received by this date, it is assumed that the offer has been declined. No late confirmations will be accepted, so please ensure all are returned by the due date

**Monday, 15th July 2013 onwards**  
Any vacancies that become available in the GAT class will be offered by mail, to the next eligible applicant on the waiting list from this date onwards. Confirmation slips must be returned to the school by the date indicated

**Tuesday, 8th October 2013**  
Enrolments for the Year 7 2014 GAT class will be finalised

Please note that whilst we endeavour to adhere to the above timeline, unforeseen circumstances may impact the process. We will keep applicants informed in this event.
“GR8 GATsby”

Glenwood High School provides numerous opportunities for students to extend themselves academically. Included in such activities is our “GR8 GATsby”. In this annual event, we see students from feeder primary schools as well as our own students, competing in mixed teams through a series of challenges involving a range of Key Learning Areas.

Students are generally nominated by their teachers to participate.

“GR8 GATsby”

12th December 2013

Glenwood High School

9.00am – 3.00pm

Students will need to bring with them:

- Recess and lunch
- Water
- Pens and pencils
- School hat
- Full school uniform must be worn

For further information please contact your child’s teacher closer to the date.
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Do I still have to enrol for Glenwood High School if I have applied for the Gifted and Talented Program?

Your child’s primary school will be sending home an “Expression of Interest Form for General Enrolment”. You will be required to complete this form and return it to the primary school. Offers of placement in our Gifted and Talented Program will be withdrawn if the student does not express interest to enrol at Glenwood High School.

Who do I contact if I have any questions in regard to the progress of my child’s Gifted and Talented Program submission?

Please refer to the “Application Process Overview” indicating our procedures and approximate dates. You may contact Glenwood High School on +61 2 9629 9577 if you require further information.

If I am on the waiting list, what do I need to do and how long will I have to wait to hear if my child is accepted?

First round offers for Glenwood High School’s Gifted and Talented Program will be made from 1st July 2013. If a vacancy arises, second round offers will commence after 15th July. Please refer to Glenwood High School’s “Application Process Overview” document for relevant dates in the processing of Gifted and Talented Applications.

What if I missed the closing date?

Unfortunately, your child’s application will not be accepted. The closing date and time for submissions is Friday, 31st May, 2.00pm.

Can I write the letter for my child?

No. To assist in the selection process we request that your child compose and handwrite a letter addressed to our Principal, Ms. McMaster.

Why have I not heard about my application?

Please contact Glenwood High School +61 2 9629 9577

Can I apply online?

No. Gifted and Talented submissions and portfolios must be delivered to Glenwood High School as a hard copy.

My older child is in a Gifted and Talented program. Am I able to have his/her younger sibling in the same program?

Each student will be assessed on his/her individual abilities and skills.
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What happens if we are going away on holidays?

Families away on holidays when offers are being made should make arrangements to have mail forwarded to an appropriate address. However, Portfolios are required to be submitted to Glenwood High School by Friday, 31st May, 2013 - 2.00pm. Late submissions will not be accepted. Placement confirmations must be returned by 12th July, 2013 - 2.00pm. Late confirmation will not be accepted.

I have twins, triplets or stepbrother/sister with only one being offered placement. Can the unsuccessful sibling be offered a place?

Each student will be assessed on his/her individual abilities and skills. Unfortunately, it is possible that siblings could be separated.

Will my child be able to mix with other students?

Yes, students will be in mixed classes for Sport and all Technology classes. They will also have the opportunity to socialise with their peers before and after school, and during recess and lunch.

Are Gifted and Talented students placed in separate classrooms?

Students will be in mixed classes for Sport and all Technology classes. Students will remain in the one Gifted and Talented Class for the subjects of English, Maths, Science, History, Geography, PD/H/PE, L.O.T.E, Music and Library. They will be required to move around the school, between lessons, to each relevant faculty area.

What happens if my child is accepted into a Selective High School?

If you have received an offer for Glenwood High School’s Gifted and Talented Program, but a subsequent offer for placement in a selective high school has been accepted, we ask that you inform us as soon as possible.

How do I accept my child’s Offer of Placement?

Successful applicants will have until Friday, 12th July, 2.00pm to confirm their place in the GAT class for 2014 by returning the confirmation of acceptance. If it is not received by this date, it is assumed that you have declined your offer for our Gifted and Talented Program for 2014. No late confirmations will be accepted, so please ensure all are returned by this date.