



**Sydney  
Secondary  
College**  
**Balmain**



# Gifted and Talented Education Selective and Enrichment classes

Sydney Secondary College  
Balmain Campus

QUALITY  
OPPORTUNITY  
DIVERSITY

# Gifted and Talented Education Opportunities at Balmain Campus

- Selective Stream – 2 classes
- Comprehensive Stream:
  - Academic Enrichment class
  - Creativity Enrichment class
  - Talented Athlete Program
- Individual gifted and talented student pathways within classes
- Co curricular programs
- Accelerated learning programs



# Different ways to Assist GAT Students

- Differentiate the curriculum
- Curriculum compacting
- Higher levels of abstraction and complexity
- Long term projects
- Multidisciplinary units of work
- Mentoring
- Accelerated curriculum





# Support for parents



- Sydney Secondary College **Balmain Campus** Website: [https://balmain-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/enrol\\_with\\_us.html](https://balmain-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/enrol_with_us.html)
- **GERRIC** (Gifted Education Research and Resource Centre) - <https://education.arts.unsw.edu.au/about-us/gerric/>
- **AAEGT** (Australian Association for the Education of the Gifted and Talented) - [http://www.aaegt.net.au/?page\\_id=786](http://www.aaegt.net.au/?page_id=786)
- **GFSG** (Gifted Families Support Group) - <https://www.gfsg.org.au/>

# Extra Curricular Programs at Balmain Campus



## College Instrumental Music Program

<https://balmain-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/college/instrumental-music-program.html>

## Extra curricular opportunities

Art Klub  
Click Club  
Creative Writing Group  
Dance Ensemble  
Linguistics Club  
Talented Athlete Program

Duke of Edinburgh  
Debating  
Girls Coding Club  
Robotics Club  
Student Representative Council  
Theatresports

# What Our Selective Students have to say about their learning



- Ishaan (7G):

“Selective is great. It is great because it has lots of bright people, lots and fun and interactive learning and countless smart and fun teachers. In selective, although you get lots of homework, most of the homework only come from subjects like HSIE, science and maths, and even then, it is fun to do. So, in a nutshell, selective is a great opportunity and very enjoyable.”

- Landon (7R):

“I am in the selective academic stream. Each teacher for each subject pushes us to do better in the subject because we are learning and moving through the curriculum in more depth. We are given many opportunities to work on projects in groups, or by ourselves. Homework and schoolwork is consistent but well explained by the teacher and we can always ask for help and guidance. I love PDHPE the most, because in the practical lessons we learn fundamental movement skills and play for games, as well as look out for our own wellbeing.”

# Learning Opportunities at Balmain Campus





# Entry into the Selective Stream for Year 7 2022



- Placement is administered by the High Performing Students Unit.
- Placement is offered based on academic merit and the order of school choices.
- Students' academic merit is judged against the following criteria: reading, writing, mathematics and general ability as demonstrated in the Selective High School Placement Test, and primary school assessments from May 2020.
- Information about [applying](#) for selective high schools is available on the DoE website.



# Entry into the Selective Stream for Year 7 2022



- Applicants can choose up to three selective schools in their application.
- Balmain Campus has a selection committee which makes decisions about placements.
- To finalise enrolment you must have received an Authority to attend letter from the high performing students unit, and be able to provide proof of Australian permanent residency or citizenship of Australia or New Zealand.
- The High Performing Students Unit advises the school of successful students. We will then make contact with a confirmation letter to the relevant students.

# Key Dates - Year 7 2022

- Key dates for Year 7 Selective placement 2022:
  - Tuesday 13 October 2020 - Application website opens
  - Monday 16 November 2020 - Application website closes. You must apply by the due date.
  - Thursday 25 February 2021 - Test authority advice sent to all applicants
  - Thursday 11 March 2021 - Selective High School Placement Test
  - Friday 2 July 2021 - Placement outcome information is sent
- For general information about selective schools please see the following web site: <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes>
- To apply for a 2022 place in a Year 7 selective class please see the following web site: <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-7>

# The Selective High School Placement Test will change in 2021 for placement in 2022.



For up to date information about placement in selective high school for Year 7 2022 please click on the following link:

<https://schoolsequella.det.nsw.edu.au/file/eafa8804-3a28-4730-9fc0-0ee49dd90f83/1/SHS-application-information.pdf>

The following changes have been made to the selective schools tests for entry in Year 7 2022:

- The new test will have a greater emphasis on thinking skills, mathematical reasoning and problem solving. It will also adjust and balance the weighting given to Mathematics, English and thinking skills test components.
- These changes are in response to the findings of the 2018 Review of Selective Education Access report, commissioned by the NSW Department of Education.
- In 2021 the placement test will remain in a paper-based format before changing to a computer-based format in 2022.
- The primary school assessment scores will be based on achievement on the school curriculum in Year 5 after 25 May 2020.



# Entry into the Selective Stream Years 8-10 2022



- Application forms will be available on the High Performance Unit web site during June 2021.
- Applications close towards the end of July 2021.
- Forms and additional information to be provided to the Principal by the due date.
- For information about the current process please go to the following link:  
<https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/years-8-to-12>

# What Our Enrichment Students have to say about their learning



- Ava (7O):

“In enrichment, I feel pushed and challenged to work my hardest and do my absolute best. My peers and I are around the same level, and our teacher know how to push us to do our best. I like science the most because we have a lot of fun, joking around with the teacher, and learn fascinating things about how our world works.”
- Amelie (7CRE):

“Being in creative (enrichment) is all about working together and being the best you can be. Creativity unlocks a whole world of inspiration and new opportunities; you can try lots of things that you may not have done before. You can let your creativity run free. It is nice to work with and be around others who are similar and learn from them. I love creativity stream for all the abstract ideas, interesting projects and teacher who allow you to be yourself.”

# Purpose of Enrichment classes at Balmain Campus

- **Enrichment** is a unique opportunity for our students to extend their giftedness and talents.
- The experiences of these opportunities will enable each student to be extended across academic, creative and athletic areas but also to pursue their individual talent or area of excellence with guidance and mentoring.





# Academic Enrichment Class



- Students are placed in the Academic Enrichment class based on academic merit in areas such as English, Science, History, Geography, LOTE, Mathematics and Technology.
- In year 7 students are placed according to an academic assessment and portfolio. The focus of the class is on embedding the use of emerging technologies while providing real world, project based learning opportunities that enrich and extend the students.

# Creativity Enrichment Class



- Students are placed in the Creativity Enrichment Class based on the demonstration of a talent and interest in Visual Arts, Drama, Music and Design.
- The school will provide an enriched creative and performing arts program - leading to enhanced learning outcomes including developing and enhancing student's current skills and exhibiting their work both in school and in the wider community.

# Talented Athlete Program



- The Talented Athlete Program is aimed at talented sports people.
- The program delivers opportunities for students to develop skills related to their sport, fitness training, monitoring of development, nutritional and motivational sessions with opportunities for students to participate in representative sport at all levels.
- Students are required to attend before school training sessions as part of this program.
- Selective students can apply.



# Entry into Enrichment



Sydney  
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Sydney Secondary College Balmain Campus  
Enrichment Program / Non Local Student  
Year 7 2022  
Application Form



Sydney  
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I would like to submit an application for the:

- ☐ Academic Enrichment Class
- ☐ Creativity Enrichment Class
- ☐ Talented Athlete Program
- ☐ Comprehensive Classes (non-local applications only)

*Please note: It is possible to apply for more than one of these programs*

This is a:

- ☐ Local Balmain Campus Student Application
- ☐ Non Local Student Application

- The following questions are asked as part of the application:
  - Please provide details of your child's achievements in the nominated area/s: Academic, Sport, Creative and Performing Arts
  - Please list any school based awards / achievements
  - Please list any external awards / achievements
  - Has your child been involved in formal or informal leadership roles?
  - Describe your child's attitude toward learning
  - Is there anything else you would like us to know about your child? Eg. Personal characteristics that may support this application.
- Please submit this completed form and portfolio to Sydney Secondary College Balmain Campus by 26 March 2021

## Enrichment Key dates proposed for Year 7 2022



- 26 March 2021 - Enrichment Application Form for all three programs due
- 22 April 2021 - Academic Enrichment Class Testing
- 3 May 2021 – Selection interviews/trials commence for Creativity and TAP programs during this week
- 11 May 2021 – Selection interviews commence for the Academic Enrichment Class this week
- A selection panel will meet to assess all applications and the successful applications will be contacted by the school

# Entry into Enrichment

- Access the application from the schools web site.
- Preference will be given to those who reside within the SSC Balmain Campus catchment area
- First choice on the “Expression of Interest for placement in Year 7 at a NSW government secondary school”

NSW Department of Education

**Moving into Year 7  
in a NSW Government  
school in 2021**



**Section C – Placement at other government schools**

Other government school choices include:

- a **specialist** government school. Please note that specialist schools will have additional application requirements.
- a **specific program** in a government school. Please note that individual schools will have additional application requirements for specific programs.
- a **support class** through a placement panel to cater for students with additional learning and support needs.
- a **non-local** government school. Please outline your reasons for seeking non-local placement(s) at the bottom of this page (and on page 11 if required).

I wish to seek placement for my child at the following government schools:

Choice 1 school:

Choice 2 school:

Choice 3 school:

Please note that specialist schools, schools with specific programs and support class placement will have additional application requirements. You may wish to seek assistance from your primary school principal.

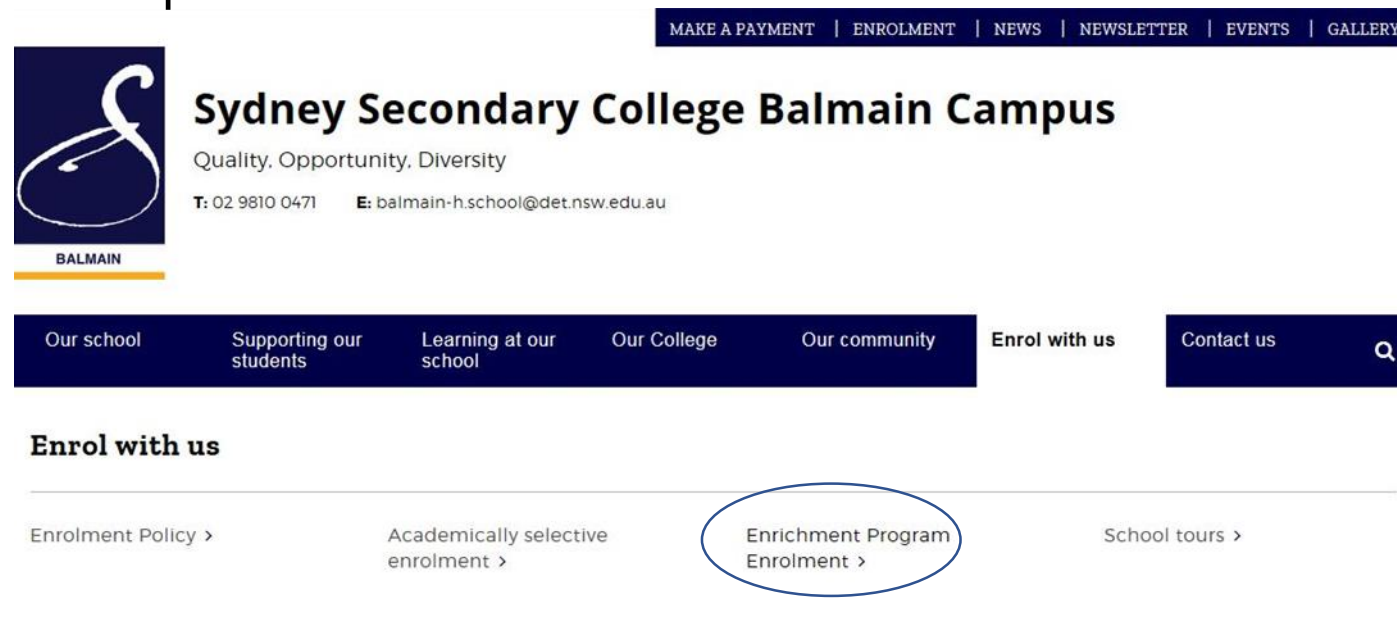
I understand that if my child is not successful in gaining placement in one of the above schools, she/he will be placed in the designated local school listed in Section B.

Signature of parent/carer:  Date:



# Frequently asked questions

Please go to our web site to find the answers to some frequently asked questions



If you have additional questions please email them to the following email address: [Balmain-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:Balmain-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au) In the subject line please indicate Selective or Enrichment program 2022.

## More Information

[Senior Executive]

Phone: 02 9810 0471

[[Balmain-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:Balmain-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)]



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