

EXCITE Academy

Excellence in Mathematics, Science, English & Humanities

The EXCITE Academy is a program designed to provide highly motivated and achieving students with an academic pathway throughout years 7 to 10. The program promotes academically rigorous and supportive learning within the curriculum areas of Science, Mathematics, English and Humanities with the vision of preparing students for senior schooling and future university studies.

Students in the EXCITE Academy are engaged in innovative learning experiences that are problem based, provide connectedness to the real world and integrate knowledge across core subject boundaries. In order for students to attain high levels of academic excellence a holistic approach is adopted in the design of the EXCITE curriculum. The three main focus areas are used to guide the development of the program are engagement, relationships and achievement.



The philosophy of the EXCITE Academy is based on the work of Carol Dweck a psychology professor from Stanford University. The basis of her Growth Mind-set Theory involves students cultivating their intelligence through effort and education with students who embrace Growth Mind-set being motivated to learn and having the tendency to embrace



challenges, persist in the face of setbacks, view effort as the path to mastery, learn from constructive feedback and find lessons and inspiration in the success of others. As a result, students reach ever-higher levels of achievement.

Students within the EXCITE Academy have the opportunity to become involved in a number of activities and competitions beyond the classroom such as Year 7 & 8 annual leadership camps, STEM Cup Challenge, ICAS Science & Mathematics competitions, Big Science Competition and the Chemistry Competition.

EXCITE Academy Exam

Exam Information

As part of your students' application for the Helensvale State High EXCITE Academy we require students to participate in an exam process to showcase their range of knowledge and skills within reading comprehension, written expression and mathematical reasoning.

ACADEMY APPLICATION PROCESS **IMPORTANT DATES**

YEAR 6 applying for Year 7 Academy Classes

Date	Event
Tuesday 21 February 2017	Academy applications open. Application must be submitted electronically or in hard copy to the Helensvale State High administration office.
Thursday 2 March 2017	Academy applications close
Saturday 4 March 2017 8:30 Registration 9am-12pm Testing	Excite Exam held at Helensvale High Discovery Place off Rugby Lane

ACADEMY APPLICATION

ALL Applications must include only the following:

- Application form
- A statement that lists achievements
- Year 5 Semester 1 and 2 school reports
- Year 5 NAPLAN results

(No Yr. 6 Teacher reference necessary)

Plus Practical Component – as per academy requirement (e.g. exam, workshop, trial, audition etc.)

APPLICATION FOR 2 ACADEMY PROGRAMS

Students are able to apply for 2 Academy Programs as per below table and are asked to rank their preferences as the timetable structure may not allow them to participate in all programs they are accepted for.

If applying for multiple academies students may apply for 2 only in the following combinations:

EXCITE + Arts OR Japanese OR e4e OR Sport
SPORT + Arts OR Japanese OR e4e

ALUMNI QUOTES

Cyntia Bond- Graduate

My time in the EXCITE program at Helensvale State High School was extremely beneficial to the rest of my high school career and future endeavours, both academic and otherwise. From grade 8 - 10 the specialised classes pushed me to create a stronger work ethic, and excellent communication and problem solving skills. I cultivated strong personal leadership qualities through the many camps EXCITE had on offer, and felt super prepared going into my senior years knowing that the hard work I had put into my classes was going to pay off.

Following on from high school, I graduated feeling assured that I could face any situation whether it be in the work place, university, etc. and have the confidence to find always a solution and work towards a positive outcome.

Amy Griffiths- Graduate

At Helensvale State High School, I was in music excellence and EXCITE. Both programs gave me many great opportunities that have allowed me to succeed in my career today. I am currently a mathematics teacher at Helensvale State High School and I love my job. My involvement in the EXCITE program helped achieve my goal to become a teacher as it enabled me to gain the knowledge that I needed for my degree especially in mathematics and science.

EXCITE provided me with many opportunities to improve my academic skills in and out of the classroom through camps, fun and engaging assignments and fantastic teaching staff. The teachers challenged me to achieve the best that I could, created engaging lessons and inspired me to become a mathematics and biology teacher.



NB. An application fee is attached to this program and must be paid on submission.