



Your Guide to the Academic Talent Pathway at Tweed River High School

Enhancing the Learning Outcomes for Academically Advanced Students



In 2011, Tweed River High School entered an exciting new chapter of education excellence as the first of our Academic Talent Pathway classes began. This information sheet is designed to provide parents/caregivers with a better understanding of our Academic Talent Pathway and what this means for your child's education.

What is an Academic Talent Pathway?

Academic Talent Pathway (ATP) classes cater for talented and enthusiastic students who have displayed above average ability.

These classes follow a pathway that enables students to interact with their peers at a higher level than can normally be provided within a regular classroom or school.

What does it mean for my child?

These students will have the opportunity to engage in a wide range of learning opportunities both inside and outside the classroom to ensure that students reach their full potential. Students will be able to access workshops, guest speakers, excursions and competitions to maximise their learning experience.

Students who have successfully gained a place in the ATP class can apply for inclusion in a number of other programs offered at Tweed River High School. These include the School Band, Sports Development Program and Dance Ensembles. As with other programs, there is an additional fee involved but consideration will be given to outstanding students experiencing financial hardship.

What's new in our program?

We are introducing an Academic Learning Plan for the students in Year 7.

This plan will help them set academic and personal goals so they can take more responsibility for their own learning and create a specific focus; allowing them to achieve their goals and experience greater success in the classroom.

Who can apply?

All students in government and non-government schools in the Tweed & Coolangatta area are welcome to apply for entry into our Academic Talent Program. If you are accepted into the program as an out of zone placement, you would need to also complete an "Out of Zone" application form.

What is the selection procedure for the Academic Talent Pathway?

Entry to the Academic Talent Pathway is highly competitive. For entry into the Year 7 ATP, students must sit an academic entrance exam that will test:

- Literacy
- Numeracy
- Abstract reasoning ability.

Students and parents/caregivers will also need to attend an interview with members of the ATP coordinating team. Your child's academic record in his/her current school and your child's National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) results will also be taken into account. Consideration will also be given to students who have achieved outstanding results in national tests and competitions.

How many places are available?

Tweed River High School has 25 places available for the Year 7 Academic Talent Program.

However, our school also has an additional top band class for those students who have demonstrated considerable academic ability but who have not met the criteria for the ATP.

How do I apply?

A formal Student Registration Form must be submitted in order for your child to be considered for our Academic Talent Pathway class.

The Student Registration Form must be returned to Tweed River High School front office along with a copy of the students Yr5 NAPLAN results and latest Primary School report. A \$10.00 registration fee must also accompany all submissions.

Where is the Academic Talent Pathway Placement Test held?

The 60 minute test is held in the Tweed River High School hall. Conditions for the test will be as for other formal school examinations such as the NAPLAN.

Test held on Monday 9th September 2019, commencing at 4.00pm.

Who do I contact for more information?

To find out more information, please contact the **ATP Coordinators** at the school:

ATP Coordination Team:

Mr Tony Lambert (HT- HSIE)
Mrs Merran Marriott
Ms Gemma Mainey

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