



Newcastle High School

RESPECT . RESPONSIBILITY . PARTICIPATION

YAC

YOUNG ACHIEVERS CLASS

Inspiring students to be leaders of their own learning,
with a focus on collaboration and creative thinking
to solve problems and become mindful global citizens.

INFORMATION & APPLICATION FOR
YEAR 7 YOUNG ACHIEVERS CLASS 2021



Newcastle High School is a large, comprehensive high school catering for students from Year 7 through to Year 12. The school has well established, strong links with its local community and active past student associations. Past and present students have contributed to a tradition of high academic achievement and innovative educational practices. The school has a strong reputation for providing quality education.

where tradition meets innovation

CITIZENSHIP DIVERSITY CULTURE

Newcastle High School takes great pride in the promotion of tolerance and good citizenship among students, creating a caring and inclusive school environment.

The school has a strong heritage and also reflects the diversity and strength of the city and region in its multicultural make up.

The school caters for a wide variety of students and provides a breadth of curriculum to cater for student needs.

Students and parents have identified the school's staff as a major strength, as they are committed to improving learning outcomes for every student.

Academic and extra-curricular opportunities reflect the interests and success of staff and students in sports, creative and performing arts and public speaking events. These opportunities also reflect the cultural institutions of inner city Newcastle.

Y7 ENRICHMENT PROGRAM: YOUNG ACHIEVERS CLASS (YAC)

Newcastle High School provides opportunities for all students to achieve their personal best. Our highly skilled, professional and personable teachers make these opportunities through the creation of safe and challenging learning environments.

As well as operating comprehensive mainstream classes, Newcastle High School offers an Enrichment program in Year 7.

The term enrichment is a broad concept that encompasses a range of abilities, not only intellectual, but also in the creative, cultural, sporting and leadership areas.



This program acknowledges all learners are different, and reflects and values the various experiences, skills and prior knowledge each student brings to the class.

Newcastle High School is committed to promoting excellence in student outcomes in the Enrichment program through the implementation of a future focused curriculum, cross faculty project based learning initiatives, innovative teaching spaces and establishing strong links with our community to ensure learning is linked to real life experiences.

The Young Achievers Class at Newcastle High provides a learning environment which nurtures curiosity and a love of learning. It is a place where risks can be taken in the pursuit of knowledge and understanding.

YAC students will study the core curriculum, however, learning will be differentiated to provide an enriched program. This differentiation extends the regular teaching program through challenging, open ended learning activities, long term assessments and additional activities centred on future focused skills, collaboration, communication, creativity and critical thinking.

By providing an educationally enriched environment, teachers provide intellectual stimulation through grouping students and using specialised teaching methods where students develop into self directed learners.



Students will be encouraged to reflect on their own learning processes and outcomes, participate in peer assessment and provide and accept effective feedback.

Teaching staff understand that meaningful learning needs to be connected across disciplines and reach out into the real world. The YAC helps students explore new places and new ideas, to provide meaning and context to their own world.

The YAC at Newcastle High School is a unique opportunity to make learning more relevant for the future.

YAC APPLICATION PROCESS

The selection process has 3 key stages:

Expression of Interest

Students are invited to apply for the Young Achievers Class. This involves completing and submitting the attached Expression of Interest form by Friday 8 May 2020.

Placement Test

Students will also be required to complete a placement test set by the University of NSW: The International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) test.

The cost of the ICAS test is \$20. This amount must be paid at the time of application at the Newcastle High School Office. Expression of Interest forms and ICAS payment must be submitted by Friday 8 May 2020.

The ICAS test will be held at Newcastle High 9:30am to 11:30am Wednesday 20 May 2020.

The placement test is externally written and marked, and will examine students' abilities in English, Maths and Science literacy.

Students should arrive at the Newcastle High School front foyer by 9am. They will require a pencil, ruler and eraser. Parents may collect their child from the school's front foyer at the end of the test at 11:40am.

Student Portfolio

The student portfolios give each applicant the opportunity to demonstrate their suitability for the Young Achievers Class.

The personal portfolio is to include: the student's last two reports, year 5 NAPLAN results, and any achievements, awards, certificates that may support the student's application. The portfolio also needs to include a piece of recent exemplary work that the student has completed at school and that they are proud of.

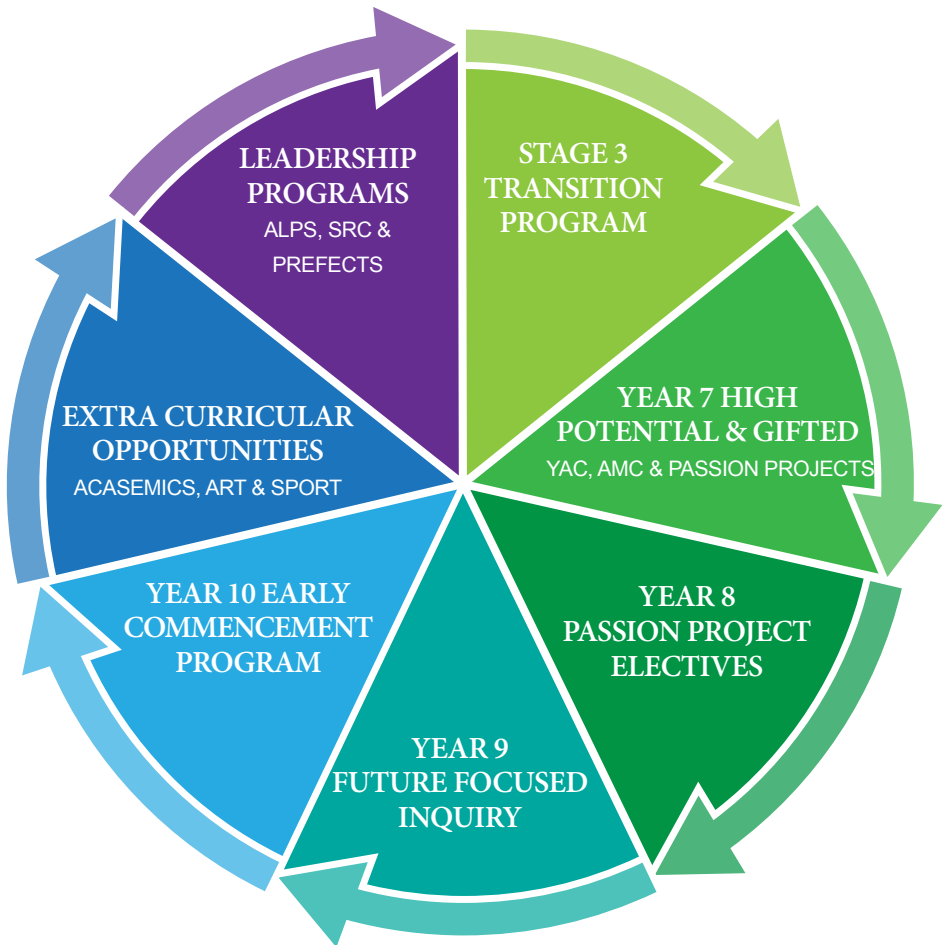
Presentation of the portfolio should reflect the student's interests and personality. The students are asked to bring their student portfolio with them to the placement test and submit it to the supervising staff.

Notification of Placement

Students will be notified of successful placement during Term 2, Week 10. Second round offers of successful placement will occur in Term 3, Week 3.

Students applying for Newcastle High's Young Achievers Class should notify their Primary School of the details provided as part of the selection process, as the YAC panel may choose to contact the applicant's primary school to seek a recommendation.

OUR HIGH POTENTIAL AND GIFTED EDUCATION PROGRAM



HIGH POTENTIAL AND GIFTED OPPORTUNITIES AT NEWCASTLE HIGH SCHOOL

The Young Achievers Class is one of many opportunities available for students at Newcastle High School.

The High Potential and Gifted program also offers involvement in the Children's University, Youth Frontiers project, Passion Projects, Passion Project electives and Future Focused Inquiry a large selection of representative sports and participation in the school's Leadership Programs.

Newcastle High School has also expanded its Early Commencement program, which allows students to commence their HSC studies in Year 10.

There is a large range of extra curricular activities which cater for students who are highly motivated and keen to extend themselves in their learning.