

## Brightwater State School Enrichment Program Overview

### Catering for the Needs of High Achieving Students

*At Brightwater State School, our vision for students who have gifts or talents is to feel valued in a learning environment that both challenges and supports them to pursue excellence whilst developing a passion for lifelong learning.*

Brightwater State School's approach to catering for high achieving students is based upon the following Principles:

#### Equity

All students, including students who are gifted, have the right to fair and equitable access to appropriate educational programs that meet their specific learning needs.

#### Recognition of Difference

Students who are gifted are recognised as different from students of their own age in their speed of learning, the insightful quality of their thinking and their advanced ability in one or more areas.

#### Educational Excellence

All students, including students who are gifted, have the right to appropriate educational programs that result with learning outcomes consistent with their abilities.

#### Partnerships

The education of students who are gifted is the shared responsibility of teachers, parents/carers, students and educational administrators.

#### Evidence Based Practises

The schooling of students who are gifted must be informed by contemporary research- based practise and by ongoing evaluation and improvement.

(DETE G&T Policy)

### **'The Apex Program'**

At Brightwater State School, provision of a differentiated curriculum for students consistently achieving above year level expectations is founded on knowledge of the learning needs and preferred learning styles of the student. To ensure that these students are motivated, challenged and achieving to their potential we have implemented the **Apex Program**. With support and leadership from our **Learning and Enrichment Coordinator**, classroom teachers closely examine student data to inform decisions around: student identification, learning focus, program goals, appropriate provision model and assessment needs. This information is collated and documented in an **Individual Learning Plan (ILP)** in consultation with the Learning and Enrichment Co-ordinator, class teacher, student and parent to ensure each student's program is personalised and responsive to student need.

The delivery of the learning program is most often met through flexible a workshop model, bringing together "like groups" of students who engage in stimulating and challenging content, concepts and strategies aligned to their specific learning requirements. This learning is timetabled to complement a student's regular classroom program. Students in the program participate in their learning modules under the guidance and supervision of the Learning and Enrichment Co-ordinator. Students may also participate in 1:1 sessions with either the Learning and Enrichment Co-ordinator or a specialist teacher who will facilitate and support an individual learning project. Dependent upon a student's age and individual needs, students can participate in enrichment sessions 1 - 3 times per week in addition to engaging in a modified classroom program. Reporting student progress is ongoing and provided to both students and parents via oral feedback, formal interviews and written reports aligned to the desired learning goals in each student's ILP.

#### Education Delivery Model

The Apex Program at Brightwater State School is founded upon the June Maker model of modifying content, process, product and the learning environment. This module-based learning is sometimes delivered by external agencies/experts in collaboration with the Learning and Enrichment Co-ordinator. These learning modules allow students to excel in their personal area of intelligence facilitated by tutors who specialise in a subject or talent. At the completion of the module, students then showcase and celebrate their achievements with parents and the wider school community.

Examples include:

Module	Program Content	External Agency
iLead	Developing Leadership Qualities	University For You / Brisbane School of distance Education
Write On	Extending writing skills within a narrative focus	University For You / Brisbane School of distance Education
Speech Craft	Developing Public Speaking skills	S.C. Toastmasters Club
Numeracy Enrichment	Extending numeracy skills within a problem solving focus	Principal Education Officers S.C. District
Media Team	Publish a page in the SC Daily within the roles of reporter, photographer and editor	Sunshine Coast Daily
Dance Excellence	Developing dance technique and knowledge at an advanced level	Brightwater State School – Performing Arts Teacher
Robotics	Science and Technology	QUT – STEM Dept

**Student Identification Criteria:**

Students participating in the Apex Program are identified via the collection of student outcome data. A combination of both subjective and objective measures are utilised in the identification of students. Objectives measures may confirm teacher observations and judgements when using subjective measures.

The following describes the data collected to inform the student identification process.

Subjective Measures	Objective Measures
Definition: Judgements based on observation and student work samples.	Definition: Measurable scores from standardised tests, that indicate potential or performance relative to a large population of other students.
Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• *Teacher or Parent Nomination via referral to Student Support Services</li> <li>• *Student Portfolio</li> <li>• *A-E Reporting data</li> <li>• *Classroom assessment &amp; anecdotal records</li> <li>• *Gifted and Talented checklist – parents</li> <li>• *Gifted and Talented Checklist – teachers</li> </ul> (* Indicates mandatory requirement for identification)	Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• *General Aptitude Test – (G.A.T) ACER</li> <li>• *Standardised Tests NAPLAN,</li> <li>• *PAT-M, PAT-R</li> <li>• IQ Assessment: WISC 3, WISC4</li> <li>• Neale Analysis of reading,</li> <li>• Test of Reading Comprehension (Torch)</li> <li>• Off level testing – at least 2 years ahead eg. Year 6 student tested on a year 8 UNSW mathematic competition</li> <li>• UNSW Competition Papers</li> </ul> (* Indicates mandatory requirement for identification)

**Expanding Interests:**

To expand on a student's interests we are committed to offering extra-curricular activities across a variety of subject domains.

Extra-curricular examples include: Yr 6 & 7 Elective Program, robotics, after school Art tutoring, art competitions / exhibitions, sports coaching, Wakakirri, Student Council, daily chess, i-Team (ICTs), guitar lessons, brass and woodwind lessons, concerts, Interschool Sports, school camps, Art/Drama festivals, Choir, excursions, Dance Troupe (Jnr & Snr), lunchtime activity clubs. Students participating in the Apex Program will also have the opportunity to participate in all school extra curricular activities of their choosing.