



Academic
Curriculum
Extension
Program
Student Application
Years 7, 8 and 9 2027



www.kawanawaterssc.eq.edu.au

Our vision

Kawana Waters State College is committed to ensuring each child reaches their full potential. Our philosophy is closely aligned to Education Queensland's vision, in that we optimise '...every student's opportunity to achieve their potential. Our vision for students who are gifted [and highly able] is that they feel valued in a learning environment which both challenges and supports them to pursue excellence and develop a passion for lifelong learning'(EQ Framework for Gifted and Talented Students; Revised edition 2010).

Details of the program

Depending on results from testing, students selected to be part of Kawana Waters State College's Academic Curriculum Extension (ACE) Program will be placed with other Highly Able and Gifted students in all of the following subjects:

- English
- Mathematics
- Humanities
- Science

Teachers allocated to these classes will cater for these students through an array of strategies that meet their specific needs.

Fee covers (depending on the grade):

- ACE testing
- Competition fees
- Guest speakers
- Incursions
- Bus transport
- Excursions (partial/whole)
- Celebration activity

Definition of terms:

Highly Able: Kawana Waters State College defines these students as having mastered the art of learning. They know how to independently manage tasks and assignments through to completion at a high level. Students who are Highly Able have a competitive nature and strive to complete tasks and achieve the highest results. They are methodical in their study habits, planning tasks well in advance of the due date.

Gifted: Kawana Waters State College uses the definition of Gifted as illustrated by Francoys Gagné (2003) as "correspond[ing] to competence which is distinctly above average in one or more domains of ability" (Gagné, 2003). Gagné further refers to being Gifted as having 'outstanding potential' in one or many ability areas.

Identification of students

Please note no single piece of evidence will be used independently to identify students.

Step one — Identification

Student ability parent checklist and any other supporting documentation (e.g. report card, NAPLAN, ICAS).

Step two — Testing

The process for identifying students who are eligible for the ACE Program is illustrated below. Conduct learning area testing in the areas of English or mathematics. Conduct a general aptitude test that gauges a student's way of thinking using complex thinking and reasoning skills.

These tests will be administered at the Kawana Waters State College Secondary Campus on Saturday, 29 August 2026.

Step three — Selection

Analysis from the previous two steps will determine selection of students eligible for the ACE Program in the upcoming school year.

Please note: Testing instruments implemented by outside professional agencies will be considered as part of the evidence to determine a student's level and not as a sole indicator.

Step four — Acceptance

A condition of being accepted into the program is that students and parents sign a contract relating to achievement, effort and behaviour.

Step five — Monitoring

ACE students and their parents are required to sign a contract stipulating the following expectations:

- Achieve a B average across all four (4) core subjects
- Behaviour and effort, no lower than 'Very Good'
- Participation in a range of extra-curricular programs
- Fully equipped for class, including ICT equipment, stationery and other subject specific material.

If a student's results fail to meet this criteria, guidance will be offered to ensure these results are 'on track' for the next reporting period. If a student fails to meet these requirements in the subsequent reporting period, the student may be deemed unsuitable for the ACE Program.

Choose Your Own Device (CYOD) Program and ACE Fees

Successful ACE Program applicants will be expected to join the College's Choose Your Own Device (CYOD) program and have a laptop that meets the minimum specifications.

Fees of \$150.00 will be charged for participation in the ACE program.

A deposit of \$100.00 is required on enrolment with the remainder due by the end of Term 1 2027.

Application Form

Please complete this application form (including the parent declaration and student ability parent checklist below and any supporting material) by **Monday 3 August 2026** and return to: Head of Secondary Campus, Ms Elly Gerbo, Kawana Waters State College, PO Box 1049 Buddina Qld 4575.

Parent declaration

Student (applicant) name: _____

Date of birth: _____ Gender: _____

Current school: _____ 2026 school year: _____

Parent/Caregiver Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Mobile number: _____ Home number: _____

Email address (Parent/Caregiver): _____

In submitting this application, I declare that:

- the information supplied on this form and the accompanying documents and statements is complete and correct to the best of my knowledge. If any of the information is found to be false or misleading, I accept that Kawana Waters State College may cancel my child's position in the ACE program. I will accept that the decision of the College is final.
- After acceptance into the program, the full payment for the ACE fee is due by the end of Term 1 2027.**

Privacy: Kawana Waters State College is bound by the provisions of relevant state and federal privacy laws in relation to the collection, use and disclosure of personal information about students.

Parent/Caregiver signature: _____ Date: _____

Student ability parent checklist

Areas in which you believe your child shows strong ability (e.g. Mathematics, English):

Students with hidden or demonstrated gifts or talents come from varying social and cultural backgrounds, have their own characteristics, and cannot be distinguished from other students by their appearance. Educators have described children's behaviour which can indicate outstanding ability, perseverance and creativity.

Please rate the degree to which your child demonstrates each behaviour in the table below with 1 being mild and 5 being strong.

Behaviour which may indicate giftedness

- Learning quickly and easily
- Thinking of several solutions to a given problem
- Pursuing an interest or hobby intensively for a time. For example, your child might 'live', 'eat' and 'think' dinosaurs for six months
- Absorbing large amounts of information quickly and having the ability to recall this information
- Asking a great number of relevant questions and expecting answers
- Showing a fertile imagination
- Working out complicated mathematics in his/her head
- Showing outstanding curiosity, initiative or insight
- Having a large vocabulary and using words effectively
- Reading from an early age
- Showing a keen sense of humour through the use of language, in art work or in everyday activities

Behaviour which is less socially acceptable but can also indicate giftedness

- Getting bored easily both at home and at school
- Being naughty or irrepressible in class
- Being the 'class clown'
- Being inattentive and absorbed in a private world
- Being unwilling to undertake tasks seen as irrelevant. For example, your child might not see any reason to keep his/her bedroom clean and tidy
- Having 'smart' answers to questions
- Showing unconventional behaviour

We would like to stress that the above descriptions of behaviour are indicators only and no one behaviour or characteristic can be used to detect giftedness. For example, not all children who are 'naughty' are displaying gifted behaviour, and in fact, many of the examples above can be common to many children.



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