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# Young Academics Program

Student Application  
Years 5 & 6 2025

## 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).

## 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.

## Whole College Approach to Highly Able and Gifted & Talented Education.

*At Kawana Waters State College we believe that highly able and gifted students should have the chance to engage with exciting learning opportunities designed to suit their interests and abilities. Our Young Academics Program offers this opportunity.*  
Brett Burgess – Executive Principal

## What is the Kawana Waters Young Academics Program?

The Program is designed to provide enrichment opportunities for bright and motivated students. 'Young Academics' will participate in a number of challenging activities along with other like-minded students during their final two years of primary school.

Successful applicants will participate in a variety of extension workshops throughout the year at Kawana Waters State College Secondary Campus. It is envisaged that there will be eight activities that occur throughout the year, of an afternoon from 3:30pm – 5:00pm. Activities will cover a range of subject areas including science, mathematics, english, humanities, information technology, and engineering concepts. As such, Young Academics will have access to state of the art facilities not normally available in primary schools.

The aim of the Young Academics Program is to reward outstanding young students who have succeeded academically and are good role models for their peers. Such 'all-roundedness' in students will provide them with an education for life in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. This philosophy is continued in our Academic Curriculum Extension (ACE) Program – where students are further encouraged to be critical thinkers with a sense of international-mindedness in an interconnected, globalised world. ACE operates from Year 7 to Year 9.

Young Academics may also be invited to participate in a range of opportunities that occur at Kawana Waters State College Secondary Campus throughout the year.

*"My child attended the Young Academics Program and thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to mix with like ability students and be extended beyond the current curriculum. The staff from Kawana Waters State College and the University of the Sunshine Coast were fantastic".*

Parent of a Year 5 student – Currimundi.

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## Identification of Students

The process for identifying students who are eligible for the Young Academics Program is illustrated below. A range of evidence will be used to identify these students.

It is important that each step be completed, so all evidence can be considered. This will ensure a clear and concise understanding of student strengths, and enable our Kawana educators to design the most appropriate and challenging program.

### Step One – Identification

An application form is completed and submitted with supporting documentation. This documentation should include the student's report card, NAPLAN report and any other documents that may support the application (a reference from your teacher is not required).

### Step Two – Selection

Analysis from application documentation will determine selection of students eligible for the Young Academics Program in the upcoming school year. Applicants will be notified in writing and successful applicants of the Young Academic Program will be announced in Term 4. A cost of **\$50.00** will be charged for participation in the Young Academics Program. **This fee is required prior to students commencing the program.**

### Step Three – Monitoring

Kawana Waters State College will monitor students in the Young Academics Program to gauge suitability for possible entry into our Academic Curriculum Extension (ACE) Program in Year 7. It is envisaged that Young Academics will join our ACE Program in Year 7 if they are successful in our selection process.

## Application

Please complete this application form (including any supporting material) by **Friday 8 November 2024** 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: \_\_\_\_\_ Current school year: \_\_\_\_\_  
Current YAP student: YES/ NO

**I give permission for my student's photo to be used in Kawana Waters State College promotional material such as but not limited to; Facebook, school presentations, flyers, and newsletters. YES / NO**

Parent/Caregiver name (s): \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mobile 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 Young Academics Program. I will accept that the decision of the College is final.

**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 signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

