



Program for Gifted and Talented Students

GRC Oatley provides a multifaceted program based on the perceived needs of the cohort, catering for both individual students and the group as a whole.

Students are invited to participate in the Gifted and Talented program through an identification process based on:

- Standardised tests
- School assessment
- Teacher Nomination
- Parent/student Nomination

School Based Program

In Year 11 students attend a series of tutorial workshops, designed to address the challenges facing gifted students in a new senior school environment:

- Develop better interpersonal interactions
- Affirm students' abilities and encourage their talents
- Introduce motivation strategies
- Emphasise stress and coping strategies
- Overview of assessment preparation
- Explore the importance of resilience and self esteem
- Foster leadership, collaboration and diversity
- Encourage connectedness

There is a focus on academic learning strategies based on Bloom's *Taxonomy of Cognitive Processes* and Gardner's *Multiple Intelligences*. The aim is to facilitate opportunities for students to achieve their potential/talent through:

- Introduction to critical thinking (Bloom's Taxonomy)
- Activities based on critical thinking
- Introduction to creative thinking (William's Model)
- Activities based on the creative thinking framework and problem solving
- Project based learning

In small groups students apply their conceptual/abstract awareness in response to a real world issue.

- Students ask the big philosophical questions and apply their problem solving skills to create a working model for change based on detailed and feasible solutions.
- Students experience a sense of deep learning and connectedness.
- Encourages learning across the curriculum.

- Implementing ICT in a real world situation.
- Deep learning through reflection.
- Students develop information fluency, solution fluency, creative fluency, collaboration fluency, digital media fluency.

In Year 12 the focus is on attaining skills in successfully navigating the HSC year and learning through engagement, revisiting the cognitive skills of critical thinking and creative thinking.

Finally a study day is held in preparation for the Trials and HSC exams with emphasis on

- Peer led groups to resolve and consolidate knowledge across all KLA's
- Enrichment activities as stimulus activities
- Reflective statements

Curriculum

At GRC Oatley, we offer our students the **broadest curriculum** in the State with 78 courses onsite. Students can access more TVET courses offsite, more languages through open High School and Saturday School of Community Languages. Each student has the best chance to study the subjects which suit their interest, ability and future plans

We offer the full range of **extension courses** in Languages, Music, Ancient and Modern History, English and Mathematics, including Double Extension courses in both Mathematics and English.

The study opportunities, the facilities and the more adult ethos help students' better bridge the gap between school, tertiary study and training.

As well, we have introduced a course in **Philosophy** for Year 11. Students learn the skills of how to think well and how to gain knowledge enabling them to strengthen academic achievement, achieve better marks at school and hence improve HSC results, and equip them with the necessary skills to do better in university studies.

Co Curricular Program

There is a full co curricular program, including college and school bands, recreational and competition sports, State Titration Competition with success at regional and State levels, Duke of Edinburgh Award, drama and creative and other performing arts, university, state and national competitions.

Conferences and Seminars

Students are given the opportunity to participate in the many seminars that are held across the state, some of these are:

- National Leadership Camp
- Gifted and Talented student conference
- Elevate Education – making study skills work

Public speaking and Debating

GRC Oatley promotes communication and leadership for gifted students by

- Participation in debating workshops
- Premier's Debating Challenge for Year 11 and 12 - Hume Barbour Trophy
- Premier's Debating Challenge for Year 11 - Karl Cramp Trophy
- The Sydney Morning Herald - Plain English Speaking Award
- Lion's Youth of the Year Quest
- Success at zone and regional levels



UNSW Network Schools Program

Georges River College Oatley was invited to be an inaugural member of the UNSW Network Schools program.

This program provides an opportunity for our gifted and talented students to participate in a wide range of exclusive activities, events, master classes, special information sessions and workshops. In addition, we have access to a dedicated information and enquiry service allowing staff and students to engage with UNSW on a personal level.

Network Schools are a selected group of schools in the Sydney metropolitan area. Membership is by invitation only and generally extended to selective, partially selective or high achieving schools within UNSW's targeted enrolment range.

www.network.unsw.edu.au

Graduate Destinations

80% of students who were eligible for an ATAR were successful in gaining a place in the course of their choice at university. The average ATAR of our gifted students is the same as the local selective high schools. Our gifted students regularly achieve the highest ATAR possible (99.50) and the NSW Premier's Honours List and the HSC Distinguished Achievers List.

