

GATE

The Gifted and Talented Education program (GATE) at St Joseph's College aims to provide students from Years 7 – 12 with an opportunity to develop skills to a level of excellence, to continue to improve and to achieve to a higher standard throughout their education. By participating in an enrichment or acceleration program or activity, students also have the opportunity to interact with others of similar ability, to develop a sense of belonging, to share ideas and interests, work collaboratively and to develop an appreciation of their own abilities and those of others.

Students are able to achieve these aims both within and outside of the classroom through:

- + In-class differentiation of learning tasks and structured opportunities to achieve above Year level academic expectations
- + Enrichment classes in Years 7 – 8
- + Accelerated studies
- + College Productions and music tuition
- + Competitions: academic, sporting and arts based

GATE Program -Years 7 - 12

+ Years 7 & 8

A withdrawal based enrichment program that aims to provide students with an opportunity to develop skills and understandings that are above and/or broader than the Year level expectations. Students attend 3 lessons per fortnight in Years 7 & 8 (1 period in week A and 2 periods in week B). Selection is based upon achieved grades and teacher nominations. The initial Year 7 intake is based upon St Joseph's entry testing results. Enrolment is for one Semester at a time.

+ Mathematics/Science (Years 7 & 8)

This program is designed to extend the skills and knowledge of gifted students in the areas of Maths and Science. An important component of the program is to enhance thinking skills, particularly as they involve solving logical and mathematical puzzles. A major part of the Science component involves learning about experimental design and putting this knowledge to use. Class discussion also allows students to explore some of their own interests in Science.

+ English/SOSE (Years 7 & 8)

The program aims to enrich and broaden language skills, written expression, general knowledge, research, analysis, planning and thinking skills through a range of verbal and text based activities.

+ Accelerated Curriculum (Years 9 to 12)

Students in Year 9 have the opportunity (pending successful outcome of selection process) to complete advanced mathematics studies in Year 9, thus facilitating commencement of Units 1 and 2 Mathematics in Year 10. Students in Years 10 to 12 may participate in accelerated studies by completing a VCE unit ahead of their cohort. Participation in university VCE studies is also available to students with demonstrated ability and achieved grades within the prescribed range.

+ Competitions

Students have the opportunity to participate in a range of English, Mathematics and Science competitions and thereby gauge their development in comparison to students across Australia. Arts and Sporting competitions provide the students with an opportunity to demonstrate their talents to a broader audience and to compete against students from various Secondary schools.