



2027

Signature

Programs

Contents

Comets Academic Excellence Program	3
Initial Year 7 Comets Program enrolment requirements.....	3
Ongoing Comets Program participation requirements.....	3
Our Comets students can expect to:	4
STEM.....	5
What is STEM?.....	5
Why Study STEM at Nerang High?	5
Quality Arts	6
Dance/Drama	6
Music	7
Entry Requirements:	7
How it looks:	7
Quality Arts Program participant requirements:	8
What does the fee cover?	8
Athlete Development Program	9
What is ADP?.....	9
ADP Application Process:.....	10
ADP Program participant requirements:	10
Year 7 Scholarship Criteria	11

❖ Please note:

- Students can only be accepted into a maximum of 2 Signature Programs.
- Students will be unable to participate in both Quality Arts Programs.
- Due to the extended resources and opportunities provided to Signature Program students, a \$50 fee will be added to your Student Resource Scheme for each Quality Arts and Comets Signature Program. A \$75 fee will be added to your Student Resource Scheme for the Athlete Development Program.
- Year 7 scholarships will be awarded for each program and will cover the costs of the Student Resource Scheme and Signature Program fee.



Comets Academic Excellence Program

The Comets Program provides opportunities for academically motivated and talented students to maximise their intellectual potential in an environment that promotes a strong culture of academic excellence.

Comets students are highly motivated and academically capable students who will maintain a level of commitment, dedication and interest required to successfully achieve quality learning outcomes in their program of study.

Initial Year 7 Comets Program enrolment requirements

- Maintain a high standard of effort and behaviour at all times.
- Maintain a high standard of academic achievement in all subjects.
- Participate in NAPLAN Tests.
- Participate in co-curricular and extra-curricular competitions and activities.
- Participate in the school's Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Program.



Ongoing Comets Program participation requirements

- Comply with the Class Ways of Working – Be Prepared, Be Respectful, Be Responsible
- Maintain a high standard of academic achievement (A or B) in English, Humanities and Social Sciences, Mathematics and Science subjects.
- Ensure Effort and Behaviour report comments are A or B.
- Have high attendance (≥95%) with all absences explained.
- Have a laptop and take it to all subjects.
- Use EQ email to communicate with subject teachers and Comets Coordinator.
- Commit to the 21st century skills by participating in co-curricular and extra-curricular activities.

The school organises and covers the cost of the students in the COMETS Program participating in:

Co-curricular	Extra-curricular
NAPLAN tests	Debating Team
Australian Mathematics Competition	Public Speaking Competition
National Science Competitions	Great Spelling Bee Competition
STEM Challenge	Interschool Sporting Team
Write Stuff Competition	Representative Sport
Night of the Notables (Year 9)	Music Program
Speaking Out Competition	Junior Student Council
MLTAQ Languages Speaking Competition	Dance Troupe
Japanese Writing Competition	Nerang High Harmonies

Our Comets students can expect to:

1. Be explicitly taught the 21st Century Skills and have these skills embed in the curriculum.



2. Have opportunities for the development of higher-order thinking skills and problem solving strategies.
3. To be supported in participation in local and national competitions.
4. Work with a team of teachers who meet regularly to discuss student achievement, effort, behaviour, cross-curricular links, teaching strategies and environment issues.

5. Access extension activities, with a focus on programs for the academically motivated and talented students.

6. Maximise their intellectual potential in an environment that promotes a strong culture of academic excellence.

7. Have teachers that intimately know and care about our COMETS – they know their students and their strengths and weaknesses as individuals, engage the students through regular individual conferencing and ensure students are aware of how they can improve.



8. Engage with a variety of differentiated enrichment and extension activities in each subject, through either acceleration of the regular curriculum (providing an opportunity for an extended, creative, open-ended investigation) or by extending the regular curriculum to a greater depth or a higher level (e.g. teaching some Year 8 curriculum content to Year 7 students).

9. Be held to the same standards and expectations for determining a level of achievement as for a mainstream class i.e. it is not more difficult to achieve an A in the Comets class than it is in a mainstream class.

10. Have opportunities to develop deep learning (by thinking flexibly and exploring knowledge) and be in classes where we foster a growth mindset which allows students to make mistakes and learn from them.

11. Have regular homework to consolidate and extend learning.

12. Teachers to make regular contact with their parents through text messages or email to acknowledge achievements, praise individual improvement and promote positive class initiatives.



STEM

Year 7 and 8 Comets students have a STEM subject as part of their academic excellence program. Industrial Technology & Design, Home Economics and Digital Technologies are embedded into the STEM subject. STEM becomes an elective to students with high academic results in Science and Maths from Semester 2 in Year 8.

What is STEM?

STEM is a curriculum based on integrating the four disciplines of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics into cohesive learning experiences based on real world issues. The need for STEM-qualified Australians and STEM skills are now widely recognised as being crucial for our long-term future. This is why at Nerang High we have developed a standalone STEM program to meet the needs of our students.



Why Study STEM at Nerang High?

Through our STEM program, our students are explicitly taught and have a magnitude of opportunities to learn transferable skills that are vital to succeed in the 21st century. Our STEM course focuses on:

7	STEM Skills Collaborating & Communicating Online	Health and Technology: Design Thinking	Relationships within Ecosystems: Systems Analysis	Frozen Desserts: Entrepreneurial skills
8	STEM Skills: Valid Experiments	Microbes on the Menu: Utilizing biological processes in society.	Physics of Fun Design a Rollercoaster	Plastics in the Ocean: Design a sustainable bioplastic
9	STEM Skills: Working Scientifically	Forensics: Apply scientific skills to solve the crime	Ways of Water: Design thinking in hydraulics	STEM of the Future: Future technologies in STEM



Using scientific inquiry, design thinking, technological innovation and mathematical computation as well as field work, our students will undertake projects that enhance their critical thinking and creative problem-solving skills while working collaboratively to create solutions in global challenges such as sustainability, environmental, engineering and new technologies.

Our program is innovative and engaging, delivering a curriculum that is future focused and meets the individual needs of your student. Your child's future is valued at Nerang High School and through STEM we will assist in their journey towards their desired career.

QA



QUALITY ARTS PROGRAM

Quality Arts

The **Quality Arts Signature Programs** sharpen the creative talents of artistic students through mentoring, practice and specialised training. These programs provide a platform for students to thrive through an extended curriculum where they collaborate with other students, expert teachers and industry professionals.

Dance/Drama

The Quality Arts (Dance/Drama) Signature Program aims to develop technical, expressive and creative skills for dance and drama performance.



In **Dance**, students will be exposed to:

Hip Hop	Musical Theatre	Jazz
World Dance	Contemporary	Fusion Dance styles

This will allow students to develop a deeper understanding of dance in social, political and cultural contexts.

In **Drama** students will be introduced to different styles of drama including:

Improvisation	Script	Collage Drama
Indigenous	Physical Theatre	Student Devised

These styles allow students will draw on the human experience as a source of ideas to lead their Drama works.

Through quality feedback and instruction from qualified teachers, students will receive tuition in creative skills in the areas of **performing**, **responding**, and **making**, preparing them for a career in the creative industries.



Music

This program is offered to students who have a passion for **Music** who wish to extend their knowledge and skills and gain more confidence and experience in performance.

This opportunity is offered to students who currently play instruments, including vocals, or who are wanting to begin their musical journey.



The **Quality Arts Signature Program** in both Music and Dance/Drama provides opportunities for performance at competitions, Eisteddfods, performance nights, the school musical, and community events.

Entry Requirements:

To be eligible to participate in a Quality Arts Signature Program, students must:

- Participate in the audition process (***see website for audition process***).
- Demonstrate a commitment to outside of school hours rehearsals and performances across the full school year.

Students may also be invited to join an extra or co-curricular group/ensemble, in alignment with the relevant Signature Program.

How it looks:

All successful applicants are placed in one Quality Arts Dance/Drama or Music class.

Dance/Drama:

- Year 7: 1 Semester of each discipline
- Year 8-9: Full year focusing on one discipline
- Students will not be involved in any other Arts elective for the year
- Year 9: Can choose one full year on one discipline, or one semester each of two
- Students will not be involved in any other Arts elective for the year

Music:

- Year 7 – 9: Full year
- Year 7 – 8: students will not be involved in any other Arts elective for the year
- Year 9: students will be able to choose a second Arts elective

All students who **successfully** complete the year 7 program will automatically roll over into the Quality Arts class for the following year. The Signature Program will continue from year 7 through to year 9. Students will be assisted with subject selections into Senior School.

Quality Arts Program participant requirements:

- Comply with the Class Expectations for Learning process including homework, classwork, equipment and punctuality.
- Adhere to the PRIDE values of persistence, resilience, integrity, diversity and empathy.
- Maintain a high standard of achievement (A or B) in Performing Arts subjects.
- Maintain a high standard of effort and behaviour at all times and ensure effort and behaviour report comments in all subjects are **A or B**.
- Have high attendance ($\geq 95\%$) with all absences explained.
- Participate in all relevant Masterclasses and performance opportunities offered.
- Commit to extra-curricular troupes, bands, workshops, rehearsals and performances.
- Use EQ email to communicate with subject teachers and Quality Arts Coordinator.

What does the fee cover?

Each student is charged a \$50 fee per year enrolled in the program. This will cover:

1. Quality Arts t-shirt, to be worn in class workshops and rehearsal only (not as part of school uniform)
2. Expert teachers
3. Workshop subsidy with industry professionals.
4. Performance opportunities.
5. Subsidised excursions to see live theatre, dance and music.



ADP



NSHS • ATHLETE • DEVELOPMENT • PROGRAM

Athlete Development Program

What is ADP?

The Athlete Development Program (ADP) is a uniquely developed stand-alone curriculum program, designed for our identified student athletes. This Signature program is targeted directly to develop the student-athlete in Year 7 through to Year 9, preparing students for our Senior Physical Education programs as well as enhancing their sporting skill set and fitness levels.



Students involved in this program will undertake the core elements of health and sport with a key focus on developing the whole athlete. The student athlete will be engaged in a broad set of sporting skills developed along with the capability for students to transition these lifelong learnings into their individual sporting careers. The need for qualities of leadership and resilience are common within driven, passionate athletes.

ADP Structure:	Athlete Development Program \$75 levy inclusions:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The ADP class structure will combine the uniquely designed curriculum theory, strength and conditioning and practical lessons. Ensuring each student-athlete has multiple opportunities to practice learnt skills. ✓ Year 7 – 2 x lessons per week ✓ Year 8 – 4 x lessons per week ✓ Year 9 – 4 x lesson per week <div data-bbox="252 1749 564 2033" style="text-align: center;"> <pre> graph TD Theory((Theory)) --> Practical((Practical/Class Labs)) Practical --> Strength((Strength & Conditioning)) Strength --> Theory </pre> </div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ ADP training hat ✓ Subsidised excursions ✓ Pool entry for Term 4 aquatics sessions ✓ Timetabled strength and conditioning lessons ✓ Technical training sessions ✓ Access to the health and personal development curriculum ✓ Lifelong skills to operate in higher performance sporting arenas ✓ Teamwork, communication and leadership skills ✓ Development of the fundamental movement patterns and key sporting components ✓ Developing a holistic approach to the student-athlete by addressing injury prevention, rehabilitation, nutrition and sport psychology

ADP Application Process:

The ADP program requires students to provide a written application including a coach's reference, highlighted sporting achievements as well as current academic reports. In addition, students will be required to attend a trial afternoon, which will involve physical and skills testing. Selection in this Signature Program is based on both the students Written Application and the Physical Trial.

Physical Trial – As part of the application process for ADP students will be required to attend 1 Physical trial afternoon held in the School Hall / Oval. There are 2 dates set for the trials to allow students to choose the one that fits best with possible afterschool events. An information letter will be sent to all students applying with specific details regarding the trial after the written application has been submitted.



ADP Program participant requirements:

- Consistently *Strive for Excellence* in sports and studies.
- Comply with NSHS's way of Working and High Expectation processes regarding punctuality, classwork, equipment, homework and submission of assessment items.
- Achieve an A or B for Behaviour and Effort on all ADP class academic reports.
- Follow Nerang SHS's Student Code of Conduct Policy, School Sport Code of Conduct and School Uniform expectations.
- Maintain a school attendance rate of 95% or more with all Absences explained.
- Participate in co-curricular and extra-curricular competitions, excursions, school sports carnivals and activities.
- Use EQ email to communicate with ADP teachers and ADP Coordinator.



Year 7 Scholarship Criteria

How many scholarships do we award our incoming Year 7's?

- 4 Principal Choice for:
 - Nerang SS
 - Worongary SS
 - William Duncan SS
 - Gilston SS
- 2 ADP
- 3 Comets
- 3 QA (split amongst Performance and Music)

Criteria for programs

Athlete Development Program (ADP):

The Head of Department and ADP Co-ordinator consider all applications for the ADP Scholarship.

It is based on the overall ADP application package including their written application and physical trial results.

To be considered for an ADP Scholarship, applicants will have demonstrated excellence both on and off the field.

Selection will be based on the following key areas:

- **Behaviour and Effort:**
Consistently achieves an 'A' grade or equivalent for behaviour and effort across all subjects.
- **Representation:**
Actively represents the school in sport, with additional recognition for those who have achieved regional, state, or higher-level representation.
- **Leadership:**
Displays strong leadership qualities through school or sporting leadership roles (e.g., team captain, house leader, peer mentor).
- **Coach Reference:**
The coach's reference highlights exceptional sportsmanship, attitude, and commitment both on and off the field.
- **Physical Trial Results**
- Applicants will be required to participate in a physical trial to demonstrate their athletic ability, fitness, and potential for development.
- Attitude, coachability, and commitment displayed throughout the trials.

Comets:

The Comets Coordinator and Deputy Principal review all applications for the Comets Scholarship. Selection is based on the applicant's complete Comets application package, which includes the written application, previous years' academic results, and extracurricular achievements.

To be considered for a Comets Scholarship, applicants should demonstrate:

- A strong record of extracurricular involvement and/or leadership activities throughout primary school.
- High effort and positive behaviour in all subjects, with top academic achievement (A grades) in the four core subjects.
- A personal statement outlining the student's future goals and highlighting their leadership and teamwork experiences, including past achievements, current involvement, and future plans.

Quality Arts (QA):

Selection for the Quality Arts Program Scholarship is conducted under the guidance of the Head of Department for The Arts and the QA Coordinator and is based on both the student's written application and their audition.

Written application considers:

- Level of attainment in exams (if applicable)
- Current dance or music studio (if applicable)
- Participation in any current programs
- Achievements, including competitions or medals (if applicable)
- A statement of support from a current teacher, tutor, or coach

Audition assessment focuses on:

- Technique
- Expression
- Presentation
- Specific performance skills relevant to the discipline
- For music applicants, auditions include performing scales and discussing their chosen piece, allowing students to demonstrate both performance ability and basic theoretical knowledge. This combined process ensures a fair and comprehensive evaluation, recognising each student's achievements, talent, and potential in the arts.