

COMETS ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE PROGRAM

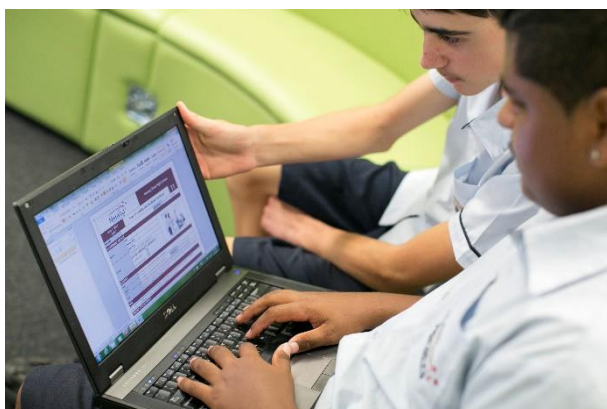
The Comets Program provides opportunities for academically motivated and talented students to maximise their intellectual potential in an environment that promotes a strong culture of academic excellence.

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.

Comets students meet the following requirements:

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 of my subjects.
- Participate in Acer Testing and 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 High Expectations for Learning process regarding homework, classwork, equipment and punctuality.
- Adhere to the PRIDE values of persistence, resilience, integrity, diversity and empathy.
- 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 Excellent or Very Good.
- Have high attendance ($\geq 95\%$) with all absences explained.
- Participate in all relevant Masterclasses.
- Have a BYOD 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 ACER testing At least 2 of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Australian Mathematics Competition ▪ National Science Competitions ▪ STEM Challenge ▪ "Write Stuff" Competition ▪ Night of the Notables (Year 9) ▪ "Speaking Out" Competition ▪ MLTAQ Languages Speaking Competition ▪ APSMO Mathematics Olympiad 	At least 2 of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Debating ▪ Public Speaking Competition ▪ "Great Spelling Bee" Competition ▪ Interschool Sporting Team ▪ Representative Sport ▪ Music Program ▪ Junior Student Council ▪ Dance Troupe ▪ Japanese Writing Competition ▪ Primary Schools Visit ▪ Nerang Showcase/Expo

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 teacher who meet regularly to discuss student achievement, effort, behavior, 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.