



# Senior Secondary Programs of Excellence

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Can I apply for more than one Senior Secondary Program of Excellence?

Students may wish to apply for more than one Senior Secondary Program of Excellence. Students indicate their preference in the Application Form. Students may also choose to preference up to three ATAR Leap Subjects in their application.

### Can I accept a place in more than one program?

Students are not able to complete an ATAR Leap subject and the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program.

### How do I apply for one of the Senior Secondary Programs of Excellence?

To be considered parents and students are required to submit a completed Application Form. The due date for these programs is displayed on our website in the Senior Secondary Curriculum page. Applications from currently enrolled students received after the closing date are not able to be considered.

### What is the application process for the Programs of Excellence?

Students and parents complete an Application Form. Students are asked to list relevant learning and extra-curricular achievements and to describe briefly why they wish to apply for the program. Students are asked to list current teachers who are supportive of the student's application. Heads of Department review the Application Form together with the student's academic reports, effort and behaviour. Shortlisted applicants are asked to attend an interview with a member of the Senior Executive Team. The interview will be 15 minutes' duration and will focus on the student's personal interests and goals, academic records and previous learning experiences. Successful applicants will be notified by the end of Term Three.

### What happens after I accept a place in a Senior Secondary Program of Excellence?

Students selected for the ATAR Leap Program will be provided with relevant extension learning as part of their classes in Term Four, Year 9.

### I will graduate from a Junior Secondary Program of Excellence. Am I able to join a Senior Secondary Program of Excellence?

Students who successfully complete their Junior Secondary Program will **automatically** be a part of the ATAR Leap Program. Spanish Immersion students will Leap into the QCAA Year 11 General

Subject of Spanish. Mathematics & Engineering Acceleration students will commence the QCAA Year 11 General Subject of Mathematical Methods. Chinese Acceleration students will Leap into the QCAA Year 11 General Subject of Chinese. Music Acceleration students will commence the QCAA Year 11 General Subject of Music. As ATAR Leap students, Junior Secondary Programs of Excellence graduates will join other ATAR Leap students in a differentiated Connect program that will support accelerated learning in the Senior School. Graduates who wish to continue with their accelerated studies in Spanish, Mathematical Methods, Chinese or Music do not need to complete a Senior Secondary Programs of Excellence Application Form **unless** they wish to add another Leap subject or to join the IB Prep Programme.

### Can I Leap more than one subject?

Junior Secondary Program of Excellence Graduates **may apply** to Leap two subjects in total. This is only available to Spanish Immersion, Mathematics & Engineering Acceleration, Chinese Acceleration and Music Acceleration students as the majority of their accelerated learning in their first Leap subject (Spanish, Mathematical Methods, Chinese or Music) has occurred in Years 7, 8 and 9.

### How will Connect classes be formed?

The ATAR Leap Program Connect classes will participate in learning and pastoral programs suitable for students who are undertaking accelerated learning. All ATAR Leap Program students will be grouped with other Leap students for their Connect program. IB Prep Programme students will be together for Connect. The Connect program will be differentiated to assist students to prepare for the unique challenges of the IB Diploma Programme. The IB Prep Programme Connect class will be led by a qualified International Baccalaureate teacher.

### I am enrolling at Indooroopilly for the start of Year 10. Can I apply for a Senior Secondary Programs of Excellence?

Students who are commencing their studies at Indooroopilly at the beginning of Year 10 are able to apply for Senior Secondary Programs of Excellence. Applicants are required to complete and submit the Senior Secondary Programs of Excellence.

Application Form with the Enrolment Application. Places will be offered subject to timetabling constraints.

### If I enter the ATAR Leap Program but find the transition too difficult, can I change out in Year 10?

Students who are accepted into the ATAR Leap Program will be supported by a number of staff. Leaping Year 10 work, however, will pose challenges for mature and academically able students. Where students, parents/carers or the school believe that a transition back to a Year 10 subject is best, we will work with students to change subjects as soon as possible. The structure of the timetable may mean that a student's subject needs to change to accommodate the move out of the ATAR Leap Program. All changes will need to occur by the beginning of Term Two, Year 10.

### If I enter the IB Prep Programme but discover that the IB Diploma Programme is not for me, can I select an ATAR Pathway in Years 11 and 12?

Students who are selected for the IB Prep Programme will be undertaking additional work in Year 10 in preparation for the Diploma Programme in Years 11 and 12. They will also be required to choose from a small group of subjects in Year 10 that lead to IB subjects in Years 11 and 12. Students and parents/carers who decide in Term Three, Year 10 that the IB Diploma Programme is not for them will be well prepared for an ATAR pathway in the subject areas they have been studying.

### Am I guaranteed entry into the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme in Years 11 and 12 if I am selected in the Year 10 IB Prep Programme?

Students will be required to meet the pre-requisite results as described in the IB Diploma Programme Curriculum Handbook for entry into the Years 11 and 12 International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme.

### If I am not selected for the IB Prep Programme, can I apply for the IB Diploma Programme in Years 11 and 12?

The best preparation for the Diploma Programme will be provided in the Year 10 IB Prep Programme. For a variety of reasons, students may not be able to demonstrate their readiness for the Year 10 Prep Programme in Year 9. Students may be selected for the IB Diploma Programme on the basis of their Year 10 academic progress and enter the course at the start of Year 11.