



LYNEHAM HIGH SCHOOL

Care Quality Creativity

Lyneham Enriched

Academic Program

LEAP

Parents and Carers Handbook

2024

Version 2.0

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The Lyneham Enriched Academic Program

Lyneham High School has multiple opportunities for gifted students to excel in both their studies and friendships. One such way is LEAP – a program for students who are identified as being gifted in a range of disciplines and who benefit socially from being with like-minded children.

All learning programs aim to encourage students to achieve their potential. LEAP offers places not only to the gifted, but also to those with particular talents. LEAP is not an acceleration program, and students will cover the same curriculum and assessment as all students as per the Australian Curriculum. However, in LEAP classes, students are able to experience additional enrichment activities, are able to go into more depth and are supported by a group of their peers. LEAP teachers are offered ongoing professional learning to best facilitate this type of learning environment.

From 2023, Lyneham High school is targeting students' particular gifts and talents in an even more deliberate way by offering two LEAP streams: a humanities stream, where students will be in the English/HaSS LEAP classes or STEM stream, where students will be in the Maths/Science classes. Depending on the breadth of their gifts and/or talents, students can also be placed in both of these streams. Students who are suitable for the Year 9 and 10 LEAP classes in 2024 can, space dependent, be offered a place in one of the two streams.

LEAP is a special program for the gifted and talented rather than a top streamed class. If it becomes clear that the LEAP classes are not the best place for a student's learning, then they may move to other classes (see "Moving out of LEAP classes").

The LEAP aims are:

- To provide a stimulating high school education in a supportive environment;
- To create opportunities which promote knowledge, concept and skill acquisition;
- To encourage independent student enquiry and learning;
- To encourage students to develop or realise their potential;
- To encourage students to respect the successes of others; and
- To have pride in their own achievements

Gifted and Talented Education

There are different models and definitions of giftedness. When LEAP was founded in 1983, Renzulli's (1978) model focusing on ability, creativity and task commitment was appropriate. However, over two decades later, working practice at Lyneham High School reflects the ideas of Professor Francoys Gagné. Gagné, in his Differentiated Model of Giftedness and Talent, refers to natural abilities, (aptitudes or gifts) which, depending on environmental factors, may develop into talents. This approach emphasises that social and educational factors are important to gifted children fulfilling their potential (Gagné 2003). The LEAP program also follows the Education Directorate policy on Gifted and Talented Education.

Transition Testing

In 2023, Lyneham High School will be conducting testing of all incoming Year 7 students to gather data on students' literacy, numeracy and reasoning skills. This transition data will be a factor in identifying areas of student strength and need and will be used to compose our specialist programs and classes including STRIVE (targeted literacy), Learning Support, and LEAP.

There will be **no** separate testing or application process for entry into LEAP: sitting the transition tests is all that is required in order for a student to be considered for the LEAP program. There is no fee for sitting the transition testing.

Transition testing in 2023 will take place at Majura Primary, Lyneham Primary, North Ainslie Primary and Turner Primary for students who are currently enrolled at these schools. Dates for testing will be communicated later in Term 3. Students who attend a different primary school, or who miss the testing date at one of the four schools named above, will have the opportunity to complete the testing at Lyneham High School in Term 4.

Testing will be conducted on Chromebooks using the ACER platform. Along with a range of other school-based permissions, parental permission is required for students to use this platform.

Students who are offered a place in one or both of the LEAP streams will be notified in late Term 4. No testing information other than whether a student is being offered/not offered a place in LEAP is given to parents/carers.

Students who were unable to sit the transition tests in Year 6, and students new to the school will sit transition tests in Term 1, 2024. This Term 1 testing date will be advertised via the school newsletter and in the daily notices read each day in Home Group in the days leading up to the test.

Throughout the year, approximately once a term, transition testing will also be conducted for students who have enrolled at Lyneham High School since transition testing was last conducted. The results of this testing will be used to determine a student's suitability for LEAP and other specialist programmes, should places be available.

Transition tests take approximately 4-5 hours to complete (including breaks and administration time) and include testing on mathematical skills, writing skills, general reasoning, spatial reasoning, and reading comprehension and analysis. The details of these tests are not revealed in order to protect the integrity of the process. It should also be noted that:

- Papers used in previous years are not available for distribution and there is no practice test paper.
- Individual test results or feedback are not issued to students or parents/carers at any time

Out-of-testing-round placement into LEAP

In 2024 LHS will be trialling the identification of GAT students who may be suitable for LEAP from the whole school cohort through rigorous analysis of student data, in combination with subjective measures. This data will be collated and examined at two points in the school year: after semester one and at the end of semester two. Data points to be examined will include PAT testing results, NAPLAN results, academic reports (a minimum of at least a semester worth of results) and any other testing data collected. Teachers of those students whose data indicates academic gifts and/or talents will be asked to complete a short survey, indicating whether the student would suit the pedagogical model of LEAP and benefit from being in two or more LEAP classes. Any students identified after this process will then be offered an out-of-testing-round placement into LEAP, should space be available in the class(es).

Moving out of LEAP

A student's suitability to remain in the LEAP classes is dependent on the classes remaining the best place for

their learning. If LEAP classes are not meeting a student's learning needs, then they may be moved out of the class and into mainstream classes. Shifts out of LEAP classes will occur after discussion/s with the student, their parents/carers, and the LEAP committee.

The LEAP Committee

The LEAP Committee consists of the Principal, the Deputy Principal and the LEAP Coordinator/s. When considering whether or not a student should be placed in LEAP, the Committee will be guided by

- the professional judgement of the teachers consulted
- the most recent results on the transition tests (if applicable)
- the student's most recent NAPLAN results
- other relevant factors

Enrolment Policy – Year 6 Students

LEAP eligibility only applies to students who are expected to have a confirmed enrolment. Refer to the Education Directorate's enrolments website for more information:

<https://www.education.act.gov.au/public-school-life/enrolling-in-a-public-school/enrolling-in-kindergarten-to-year-12>

ED Gifted and Talented Policy

Lyneham High encourages all parents and carers to become familiar with the ED's G&T Policy (2021). It can be found at:

https://www.education.act.gov.au/publications_and_policies/School-and-Corporate-Policies/access-and-equity/gifted-and-talented/gifted-and-talented-students-policy

Important LEAP Dates 2023

Date	Event	Location
Tuesday 2 May 2023	LHS Year 6 Information Night	LHS Hall

Wednesday 3 May, 2023	LEAP Information Session	LPAC
Term 3, 2023	Invitations to apply for Special Programs (students with enrolment offers only)	Online form
Term 3, 2023	Special Program applications close, date TBA. No further applications will be accepted in 2023 for 2024.	
Term 3, 2023	Transition testing held at in-area primary schools	North Ainslie Primary, Majura Primary, Lyneham Primary, Turner Primary
Term 4 Fri 13 Oct 2023	Transition testing at LHS for Year 6 students who missed primary school testing	LHS
Late Term 4 - Advising LEAP Outcomes	Advising families of students being offered a place in LEAP	Email

Note: all dates are subject to change. Please check the school website and school emails for more up to date details

Contact Information

Lyneham Enriched Academic Program

A Gifted and Talented Education Program

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