

Preparatory School Honours Program



The Scots College
Sydney Australia



Personalising Education for Boys

The Scots College is a distinctive, innovative Australian school, which draws on honourable teaching traditions while nurturing active 21st-century learning adventures for boys. We strive for excellence by inspiring boys to learn, lead, serve and thrive.

Through the Honours Program, Preparatory School boys develop the ability to work in teams, across disciplinary boundaries, solve complex problems and ethically innovate. We believe that these skills will prepare boys for a future not yet fully imagined.

The Honours Program provides quality challenges for highly able students in ways that enhance all aspects of their development. Students are introduced to complex concepts, delivered at a pace commensurate with their ability. They are encouraged to draw advanced connections and apply these to new learning with increasing independence, self-awareness, and a sense of wide social responsibility.

Philosophical Intent

The Scots College focuses exclusively on the education of boys. The Honours Program is an integral component of the College's provision of personalised learning opportunities, supporting the discovery, nurturing and engagement of each boy's unique talents, interests and abilities.

Learning experiences match the developmental needs of boys with demonstrated capacity beyond the scope of the core curriculum.

Teaching programs focus on conceptual understanding, engagement in deeper learning and analyses, developing creativity, offering new solutions and expanding existing paradigms. Cross-curricular links are forged and encouraged, assisting students to perceive the world through a variety of disciplinary lenses.

Our mission is to help identify and support students with exceptional academic potential in our community.



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How Is the Program Organised?

In the Early Years, the focus is placed on young boys' interests and innate aptitudes to nurture their curiosity and passion for learning. Teachers are supported to provide differentiated experiences for boys who operate in advanced ways and resources which stimulate and expand their thinking. Sometimes, a pull-out group may be conducted in either reading and/or Mathematics and/or thinking skills.

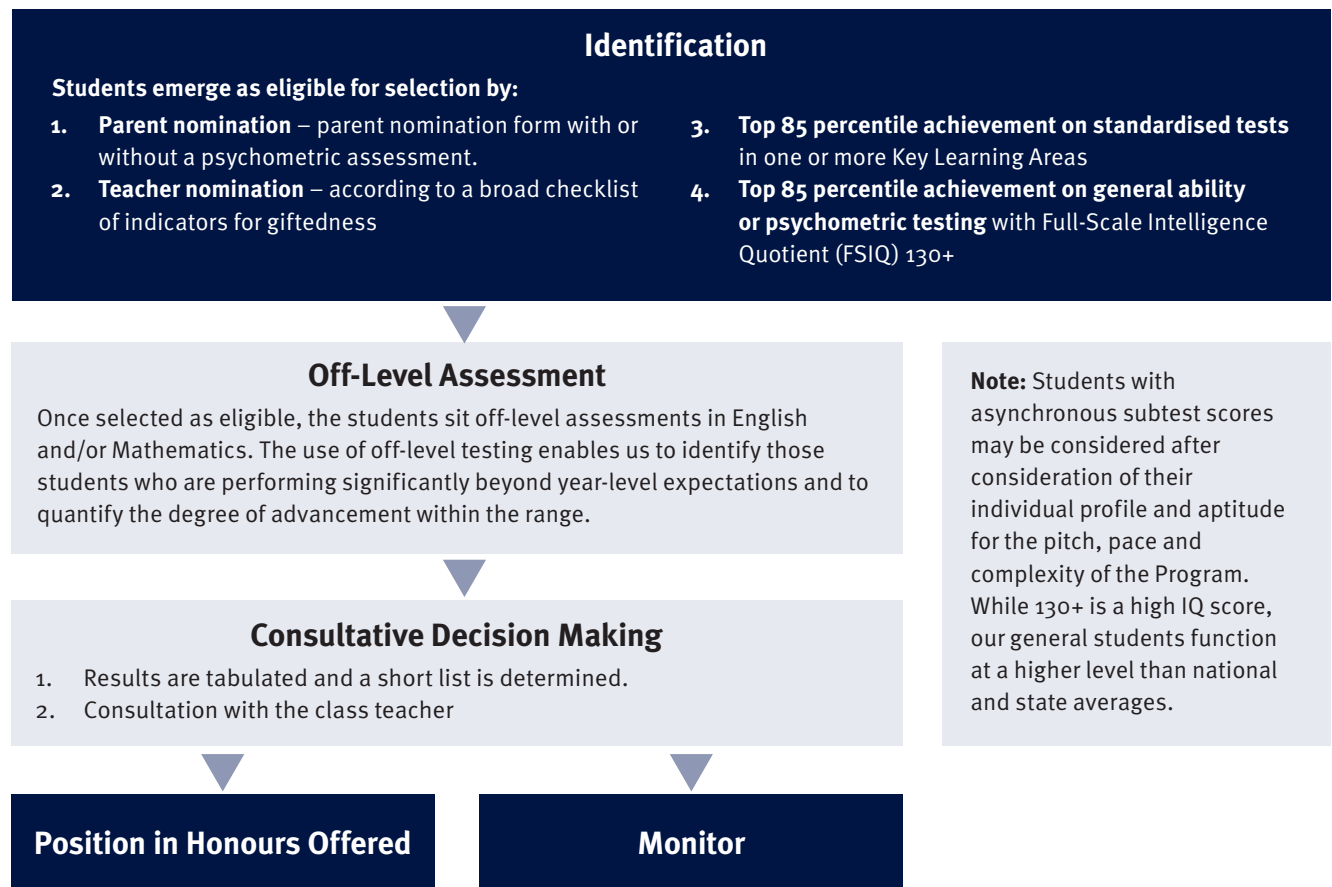
In Year 1, small groups of students are selected for specific instruction in Mathematics and English on a part-time basis. The work relates to the topics covered in their regular classroom but is explored more complexly.

In Years 2 to 6, Honours Program courses in English and Mathematics for all lessons provide significant access to core and extension concepts delivered with advanced pitch, pace, and complexity. Rigorous experiences of each discipline ensure a depth of theoretical knowledge and practical application to real-world contexts. The additional expectations of effective collaboration and a personal commitment to learning encapsulate the essence of The Scots College graduate.

Year Level	English	Mathematics	Thinking Skills
ELC Cubs, Lions and Kindergarten	Should a need for significant differentiation be identified, support to the class teacher or pullout will occur.	Should a need for significant differentiation be identified, support to the class teacher or pullout will occur.	In different years, a pullout group focused on thinking skills (e.g. philosophy) may occur to match boys' needs.
ELC (Year 1)	An Honours class for advanced literacy tailored to boys' needs.	An Honours class for advanced numeracy tailored to boys' needs.	Embedded in Honours programming.
Junior Prep and Senior Prep (Years 2-6)	An Honours class per year level for entire subject content.	An Honours class per year level for entire subject content.	Embedded in Honours programming.

How Are Boys Selected to Participate?

The Honours Program is designed to be developmental in nature. Evidence of high achievement, individual creativity, leadership, collaboration and self-management skills are considered to ensure each boy's readiness for one or more subjects within the Honours Program.



How Is the Learning in Honours Different from the Core Curriculum?

The Honours Program curriculum design complements each boy's interests and capacities to develop future-focused cross-disciplinary skills within the context of strong discipline-based understandings.

The Honours team consists of a coordinator and a team of campus-based teachers who specialise in gifted education. They have a passion for working with highly capable boys, designing rigorous, differentiated programs and delivering complex units of work that promote deep

conceptual understanding. Collaborative planning within year-group teams ensures alignment with the New South Wales Education Standards Authority's learning outcomes and allows for fluidity in groupings.

Honours students are encouraged to develop broad intellectual interests and expertise. Students can participate in a range of extracurricular options such as the da Vinci Decathlon, Debating, Chess, Public Speaking, Maths competitions and more.



Learning About Learning

At The Scots College, we believe that empowered, engaged learners are more likely to develop self-confidence and realise their full academic potential.

The Honours Program provides opportunities for boys to develop effective learning behaviours. Today's learners require the capacity to collaborate, analyse, evaluate, hypothesise, reflect, create and innovate.

The Honours Program has curiosity, choice, challenge, collaboration and creativity embedded as part of each unit,

allowing boys to develop the valuable skills of cooperation, resilience in the face of challenge and ability to delay gratification.

Executive skills such as motor planning, time and resource management, and stress management are also developed within a range of program activities and through external competitions and challenges.

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Further Information

Can Boys Move in and out of the Honours Program Courses?

The close alignment of the Honours Program courses to the scope and sequence of the core curriculum facilitates a flexible structure that can enable additional candidates to join the Program. It also allows boys to rejoin core groups at any point if the core curriculum is more appropriate for them.

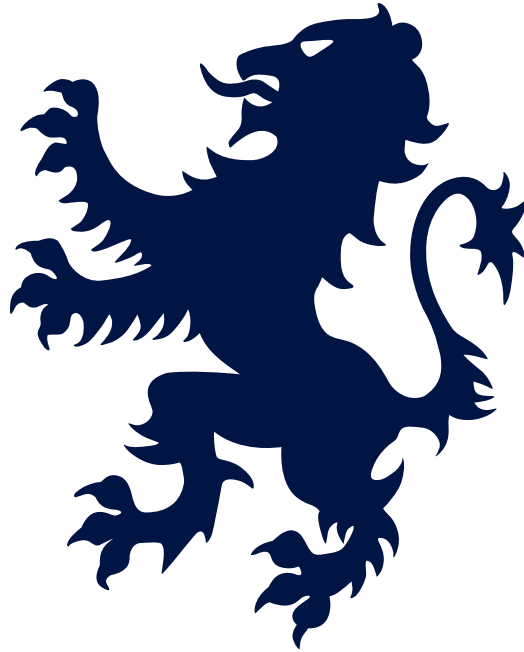
How Is Student Achievement in the Honours Program Communicated to Parents and Carers?

As courses commence, boys and their parents and carers are introduced to the teachers of each subject in the Honours Program. These teachers will be available for Parent-Teacher interviews and Academic reports will be completed for each subject in the Program.

Queries and Additional Information

Parents and carers are encouraged to contact the Honours teacher, the Coordinator of Honours or the Director of Student Care (Transition to Year 12) if they have any queries or questions.





Scots: The finest preparation for life.



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www.scots.college