



February 2024

## YEAR 7 2025 HIGH POTENTIAL CLASS - EXPRESSION OF INTEREST TO PARTICIPATE IN PLACEMENT TEST

Heathcote High caters for the needs of high potential and gifted students in a class which follows a differentiated curriculum. The class extends and develops students beyond the requirements of the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) syllabuses. Evidence has shown that high potential/gifted students benefit from being in a class with similar students resulting in improved learning outcomes. Students in the class have the opportunity to undertake challenging work involving problem-solving and project-based learning. They are also able to participate in special programs and activities both within and beyond the school.

Entry to the class is competitive with inclusion determined largely by performance in a special on-line placement test devised by ACER (Australian Council for Educational Research). The test has been designed by the University of New South Wales and is a comprehensive measure of student performance in three subsets, covering the areas of numeracy, literacy and non-verbal ability focusing on problem solving. Please also refer to further details over page.

**When:** Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2024 - to be confirmed with our Partner Primary Schools - Alternative date will be arranged if required.

The exact details of the time the online test will be held will be determined by the return of the expression of interest slips as separate sessions may be required.

**Where:** Heathcote High School

**Cost:** \$NIL - Please return the expression of interest slip directly to our Front Office or via email [heathcote-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:heathcote-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au) by Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

**Please note:** Late entries cannot be accepted as the online test is ordered for individual students.

Parents who believe their child would be suitably placed in our High Potential Class are encouraged to submit the expression of interest form.

If you have any queries regarding the High Potential Class or placement test please contact Mrs Hunter, Deputy Principal.

Yours sincerely

Mr S Waser  
**PRINCIPAL**

Mrs J Hunter  
**DEPUTY PRINCIPAL**

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### Attention Mrs Jo Hunter – Expression of Interest High Potential Class Placement Test Year 7 2025

Please return to Heathcote High School by Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

Student's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary School: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Carer name: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Family email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**What does this class offer?**

This class offers the advantages of a Selective School but with many of the advantages of attending the local high school being retained, such as continued local friendships, less travel for both students and parents, and local community involvement.

This class will enable students:

- to become aware of their individual learning styles and to use this knowledge to enhance their own learning
- to enrich their core learning through differentiated programs
- to be involved with like-minded students of similar ability, creating a positive and challenging environment for gifted students
- to undertake specific research tasks in order to enrich their learning experiences
- to take part in special seminars, programs and activities arranged both within and outside the school
- to participate in external competitions.

The progress of the class and individual students within it will be evaluated on an on-going basis by a special committee chaired by the Deputy Principal and the Gifted & Talented Coordinator.

**What happens after the test?**

Students and their parents will receive individual detailed feedback on their performance in each subject.

**Please note:**

- If a student has been offered a place in a Selective High School and chooses to reject that offer in favour of the selective class at Heathcote High, this will eliminate the necessity to attempt the ACER test.
- In the event of a vacancy a special nomination by the student's primary school may be considered by the committee.
- Non-local students will have to qualify for admission under the non-local placement procedure before their results will be considered.