



Pacific Pines State High



**Year 7  
2027  
Centre of  
Excellence  
Prospectus**

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# Welcome

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It is my pleasure to extend a warm welcome to you, and to thank you for taking an interest in the innovative Centre of Excellence programs we have on offer here at Pacific Pines State High School.

We are proud of the high standards that we hold both within, and outside, our school. A student of Pacific Pines State High School is safe, responsible, respectful and always ready to learn.

We cater for all students whether they are interested in our Centre of Excellence programs in Academia, Creative Industries, Sport or Enterprise.

Pacific Pines State High School is a positive and focused school, where strong relationships exist between staff, parents and students, to inspire excellence in all.

We believe that these relationships underpin the teaching and learning journey which, in turn, creates a strong, positive school culture. The only way of discovering this for yourself is to pay us a visit. I would love to personally take you on a tour of our amazing school. To register your interest, please contact our friendly Administration team on 07 5502 5111.

On behalf of myself and my team of over 200 committed and enthusiastic staff, I welcome you.

Yours in learning,



Damien Burke  
Principal



# Centre of Excellence

**Our vision is through the development of skills and attitudes, our students will be creative and critical thinkers, empowered and prepared for the opportunities of the 21st Century.**

Our mission is to deliver enhanced programs, pedagogy and products, ensuring students engage in opportunities that develop exemplary skills, knowledge and capabilities relevant to their chosen pathway.

## Year 7 Centre of Excellence programs

Current Year 6 2026 students are invited to apply for the following programs:

Core A	Core B	Elective C	Elective D
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>HELM - Humanities, English, Literature &amp; Media</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>STEM - Science &amp; Mathematics</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Culinary Skills</li><li>Dance</li><li>Drama</li><li>Japanese</li><li>Music</li><li>STEM - Technology</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>AFL</li><li>Netball</li><li>Soccer</li><li>Touch Football</li></ul>

## Year 6 - 7 Application Process

A Year 7 2027 student can be accepted into:

- a maximum of three programs.
- only one program per column (in the table above).

However, during the application process, a student is welcome to apply for a maximum of two programs per column. In this case, the student will need to indicate their preference order on the application form.

### Case Study

A student may apply for HELM - Humanities, English, Literature & Media, STEM - Science & Mathematics, Dance (first preference), Drama (second preference), Touch Football (first preference) and AFL (second preference). If the student is successful in all programs, an email/s will be sent offering a position in HELM - Humanities, English, Literature & Media, STEM – Science & Mathematics, Dance and Touch Football.

After we have received the signed contract confirming the student is accepting the offers, our office will contact the parent/carer to discuss up to three programs in which the student would like to be enrolled.

# Inspiring Excellence



# Empowering Success

# Year 6 - 7 Application Process

Each enrolment pack comes with two Centre of Excellence application forms:

- Academia, Creative Industries and Enterprise
- Sport

The first page of the application form is to be completed by a parent/carer, and the second page (featuring questions) must be completed by the student.

A parent/carer will need to submit the applications form/s, with the full enrolment package, to our Administration by the due date. Application forms will only be accepted when handed in with a complete enrolment package, including two proofs of residency, a copy of the student's two most recent academic report cards, and their most recent NAPLAN report. Additionally, the student's original birth certificate must be viewed by one of our staff.

Once the application has been submitted, our Centre of Excellence office will email the parent/carer at the relevant time/s with information regarding the next step. This will be the student attending a trial, audition and/or exam, depending on the program/s of interest.

	Academia	Creative Industries	Sport	Enterprise
Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HELM - Humanities, English, Literature &amp; Media</li> <li>• Japanese</li> <li>• STEM - Science &amp; Mathematics</li> <li>• STEM - Technology</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dance</li> <li>• Drama</li> <li>• Music</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AFL</li> <li>• Netball</li> <li>• Soccer</li> <li>• Touch Football</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Culinary Skills</li> </ul>
Applications close	25 June	<b>Round 1:</b> 29 April <b>Round 2:</b> 16 July		
Trial, Audition or Exam	<b>Exam:</b> 18 July	<b>Round 1 Auditions:</b> 11 - 14 May <b>Round 2 Auditions:</b> 27 - 30 July		

## Academia Programs

Students applying for an Academia Program/s are required to attend an exam on Saturday 18 July 2026. An email with the relevant time and location within our school will be sent at the beginning of Term 3. Please check both your inbox and junk folders in your email for this communication.

If the student cannot attend for valid reasons, please email or call the Centre of Excellence office. In this case, the student would be required to sit a supplementary exam soon afterward (the date of which will be communicated via email).

# Creative Industries, Sport and Enterprise Programs

Students applying for one or more of these programs are required to attend a trial/audition during a Round identified on page 6. An email with the relevant time and location within our school will be sent during Term 2 and/or 3. Please check both your inbox and junk folders in your email for this communication. If a student is applying for Music Excellence, the Centre of Excellence office will call the parent/carer to organise an individual audition time for that week.

After a Round is completed, our office will communicate one of the outcomes via email:

- Application has been **SUCCESSFUL** and the student has been added to the program list for 2027.
- Application has been **UNSUCCESSFUL** and the student is welcome to reapply once they commence the 2027 school year.
- For Round 1 only, an application can be considered **PENDING ROUND 2** and the student will be informed of the outcome by the end of Term 3, after the second round of applicants has been processed.

## Successful Applicants

If an application is successful, a letter with our *Centre of Excellence Student Agreement Contract* will be sent. To secure the position, this must be completed and returned to our Administration office by the due date. A \$50 non-refundable deposit will also need to be paid, per program.

## Student applicant requirements

To decide the outcome of a Centre of Excellence application, data is triangulated from various sources including report cards, NAPLAN, OneSchool and/or the trial/audition/exam.

The minimum requirements for a Year 6 2026 student applying are:

- C for English on their most recent report cards.
- Minimum 'Strong' for Reading and Writing on their recent NAPLAN.
- B for English on their most recent report cards if applying for HELM - Humanities, English, Literature & Media.
- B for Mathematics and Science on their most recent report cards if applying for STEM - Science & Mathematics.
- High ratings for Effort and Behaviour in report cards.
- Low number of minor behaviour incident reports.
- High attendance rating.

**\*Exemptions to these requirements will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.**

If the data provided is not sufficient, or we require further detail, please be aware that we may contact the student's Primary school/s and request this.

Additionally, if a student is accepted, but data received post decision indicates they are no longer meeting the requirements above, a student may have their enrolment in the program/s cancelled before starting Year 7 in 2027.



# Important information

## Australian Curriculum

A Centre of Excellence student receives an adapted version of the Australian Curriculum due to their enrolment in Centre of Excellence program/s. This is due to the fact that those students in Centre of Excellence programs, other than HELM - Humanities, English, Literature & Media and STEM - Science & Mathematics, do not study every learning area.

## Camps

There are two (2) Centre of Excellence camps held each year. The first is a Sport camp for AFL, Netball, Touch Football and Soccer students. The second is a general Centre of Excellence camp available to Year 7 students (Year 8 students are invited to fulfil attendance numbers if required). The Sport camp is to take priority for Sport Excellence students.

## Closing of program/s

Programs running in 2027 is dependent on numbers, staffing and timetabling. It is possible that a student can receive a successful email, however be notified later in the year that the program has been closed for a valid reason e.g. not enough students applied and were successful.

In these rare cases, the school will work towards starting a class in Year 8 2028. If your student was successful in Year 6, and their data throughout Year 7 meets the Centre of Excellence requirements, they will automatically gain entry into the program in Year 8 2028 if the class proceeds.

## Contract

A signed Centre of Excellence Student Agreement Contract must be returned by the due date to secure the student's position. If a signed contract is not returned, you will be sent an email reminding you of this. If it is not returned immediately, the student's enrolment in the Centre of Excellence program/s may be cancelled and the position offered to a student on the waitlist.

## Enrolments

Students enrolled in Centre of Excellence programs are not required to reapply at the end of each year as classes automatically roll over.

## Exit form

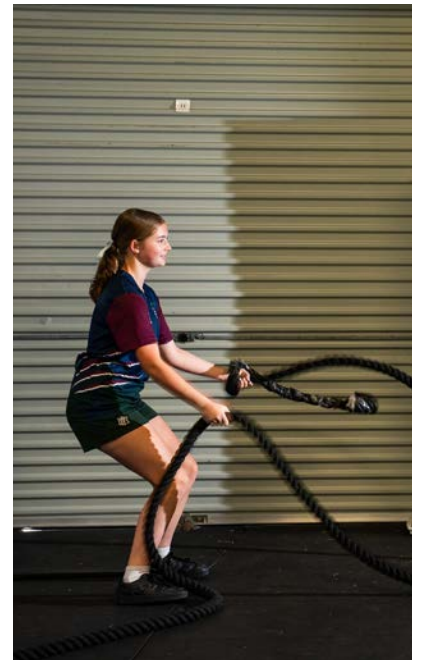
Exit forms are available from Administration. The processing of this form is dependent upon when the form is submitted; a student may need to remain in the program for the remainder of the Term or Semester. In this circumstance, the Centre of Excellence fee is not refunded.

## Finance

The finance conditions included in the Centre of Excellence Student Agreement Contract must be met:

- Participation in, and payment for, the Student Resource Scheme each year.
- Payment of a Centre of Excellence Program fee each year.

Each year's Schedule of Fees can be found on our school website. Payments can be made to the Finance office in full, or via a payment plan if approved by the Business Manager. If you are experiencing financial hardship, we request that you contact our Centre of Excellence office to discuss a payment plan. A student will only be removed from a program/s when no contact or contribution has been made, despite our efforts.



## Probation

If a student does not meet Centre of Excellence expectations, they may be placed on an Academic and/or Behaviour probation. If a student does not demonstrate the improvement required, their enrolment in Centre of Excellence programs may be cancelled. In this circumstance, the Centre of Excellence fee is not refunded.

## Timetable conflicts

On rare occasions, two Centre of Excellence programs may be scheduled at the same time. In this event, our office will contact those affected and ask the student to identify the program they wish to remain in.

## Uniforms

Several Centre of Excellence programs require the purchase of specialised, compulsory uniforms that students must wear when representing the school at competitions, events and/or during lessons. For details please visit the Centre of Excellence uniforms page on our school website.

## QParents

All Centre of Excellence parents/carers will need to be registered to use QParents. This platform will be used as the only means for approvals of excursions and other relevant activities.



# ~ Celebrating our recent graduates ~

## Hamza: Offered early entry into Bachelor of Pharmacy (Honours)

**How has the Academia Excellence Programs at PPSHS helped you grow academically and personally?**

*The biggest thing that helped me in the Academia Excellence Programs to grow was the extra support and motivation that teachers provided in the class, as it helped me to not only give my best efforts, but to get the results that I was aiming for.*

**What unique opportunities or experiences have you gained through the program that you might not have encountered in a traditional classroom setting?**

*The STEM days which were held for Excellence students in the Junior year levels were valuable experiences which I would have never had in traditional classrooms. They helped me learn important problem solving and team coordination skills.*

**In what ways have the programs challenged you to think critically, communicate effectively and solve problems creatively across different subjects?**

*The extra group projects which we were assigned at the end of the term in STEM taught me to work within a team environment, communicate my ideas effectively and engage in work with other group members.*

**How has participating in the programs influenced your future goals, whether in further study, career aspirations or personal growth?**

*I think being in the environment of the Excellence programs with others who placed importance on their studies, along with support from teachers definitely helped me aspire for greater academic and career goals, while also building a persistent personality to keep going after setbacks.*

**What advice would you give to a student who is considering applying for Academia Excellence programs in the future?**

*If you are considering joining, go for it, and do your very best. Not the best of the person next to you or the other students in your class, YOUR best!*



# HELM - Humanities, English, Literature & Media

Our Centre of Excellence for HELM inspires students to become confident communicators, creative thinkers and informed global citizens. Bringing together the richness of the Humanities, the power of English and Literature, and the innovation of creative media communication, HELM offers a dynamic, future-focused learning experience for Year 7 to 9 students.

## English: Language, Literature & Literacy and Creative Media Communication

HELM embeds the three strands of the English curriculum **Language, Literature and Literacy** into every learning experience. Students develop advanced skills in:

- Reading, viewing and interpreting sophisticated texts.
- Speaking, writing and creating for diverse audiences.
- Analysing how language, visual and audio features convey meaning.
- Engaging critically with literature from First Nations authors, Australian writers, and global voices.

Students experience a wide range of texts: novels, dramatic performances, digital media, poetry, multimodal texts, documentaries, film and online content. Themes explore human experience, cultural significance, global dilemmas and ethical questions. Students learn to craft complex, purposeful texts—from narratives and persuasive pieces to literary essays, reviews, performances and digital creations. Students deepen their learning through enrichment projects such as:

- Digital storytelling and showcasing short stories.
- Creating and publishing HELM Magazine.
- Debating & public speaking.
- Creative writing workshops.
- Literary competitions (Dorothea Mackellar, Write4Fun).
- Write a Book in a Day for the Kids' Cancer Project.
- Theatre immersion with Shake & Stir and Shock Therapy Productions.

## Humanities: Understanding Our World

Through the study of Humanities, students explore the big ideas, movements and changes that have shaped societies across time.

In History, they study Ancient Australia through to the Middle Ages, the conquest of the Americas, the colonisation of Australia and the impacts of World War I. In Geography, students study land, water and global connections to understand how people and environments interact. Students also learn about civic participation and active citizenship, Australia's federal system of government, how laws are interpreted through the court system, and how democratic values support a just and fair society.

Learning extends beyond the textbook — with creative, hands-on inquiry tasks such as museum exhibits, historical journals, documentary timelines and mock trials that help students engage as active thinkers, storytellers and investigators of the world around them.

## Achievements

- Write a Book in a Day Best Illustrated Book Qld/NT Middle School.
- Write a Book in a Day raised over \$12000 for the Kids with Cancer Project.





## Japanese

Our Centre of Excellence for Japanese program is a cultural and linguistic adventure that opens the door to Japan's rich heritage and language. The program offers a comprehensive curriculum, including language instruction, cultural exploration, and a deep dive into the traditions and customs of Japan. With dedicated teachers and a supportive learning environment, we provide a unique and engaging experience for students.

### Unique program elements of Japanese

- **Cultural Immersion:** Students engage with authentic Japanese culture through traditional activities, festivals and cuisine. Year 7 students design and run a mini-matsuri, while Year 8 students create our annual Obake Yashiki (haunted house) experience. Each student takes full responsibility for organising and managing their stall or activity.
- **Study Tours:** Our students are given first preference for our Japan trip, which is planned for 2027. A highlight of the Japan trip is the opportunity to visit a Japanese High School and experience school life. This fosters a deeper understanding of the language and culture.
- **Visiting Study Tours:** Our program proudly welcomes several Japanese school groups each year. Excellence students are given priority to be matched with visiting buddies, allowing them to create genuine friendships, practise real-world language skills and deepen cultural understanding. Many of these buddy partnerships grow into lasting connections, supported by both in-school interaction and optional home-hosting opportunities.
- **Cultural Workshops:** Students can participate in hands-on activities such as calligraphy, tea ceremony and Japanese theatre, gaining practical skills and appreciation for Japanese traditions. *Karate no Sensei No Hōmon* (visit from a karate instructor) is also on offer.
- **Cooking experiences:** Students participate in cooking experiences throughout the year including *Kyara-ben* (character bento) and the traditional art of shaping *Onigiri* (rice balls).
- **Japanese Film and Literature:** Our program includes the exploration of Japanese literature and cinema, allowing students to appreciate Japan's artistic and storytelling contributions.

### Current achievements

- **2025 Griffith University Language Speech Competition:** All of our student participants received recognition, including 1st place, 3rd place and Highly Commended awards.

# STEM - Science & Mathematics

The Centre of Excellence for STEM - Science & Mathematics is a specialised program for high achieving Science and Mathematics students. Students develop the tools to excel in STEM based activities and integrate their passion into their learning environment. This program focuses on developing the skillset required to be highly effective problem solvers and critical thinkers. The program aims to extend student's methods of scientific thinking, and knowledge of and skillset in Engineering, through a collaborative project each term.

## Unique program elements of STEM - Science & Mathematics

This program provides students the opportunity to engage and extend their knowledge in Mathematics and Science, with elements of Engineering to solve real world problems.

They will use a combination of Mathematics, Science and Engineering to propel their understanding of the subject, and to engage in a unique enrichment program each year centering around design, robotics, global sustainability goals and leadership. Furthermore, they will participate in a number of competitions such as the QAMT Maths Competition, Gold Coast Schools Science Competition, and Tournament of the Minds, as well as being exposed to numerous external enrichment activities.

## Current achievements

- Students achieved multiple High Distinctions and Distinctions in the Big Science Competition, including results in the top 5% and top 15% internationally.
- Students achieved in the top 5% for the Australian Mathematics Competition.
- Awarded 2nd place in the QAMT Problem Solving Competition.
- Students received multiple Distinctions in the Junior Science Olympiad.
- Awarded 4th place in the Gold Coast Science & Engineering Challenge.



# STEM - Technology

The Centre of Excellence for STEM - Technology was established to provide students with the skills required to succeed in the 21st Century. It is said that a large percentage of jobs that will exist in 2035 have not yet been invented. This program aims to foster, enhance and progress many of the characteristics required for students to be successful in their future. Throughout the course, students will be investigating aspects of both Digital technology and Design technology.

## Unique program elements of STEM - Technology

The STEM - Technology program delivers a hands-on, future-focused learning experience where students explore advanced tools, digital fabrication, electronics, coding and real-world problem-solving. Students work through authentic and exciting projects that integrate design thinking with emerging technologies used across modern industries.

Core technologies students use:

- Laser cutters for precision manufacturing and rapid prototyping.
- 3D printers to design and fabricate complex 3D models.
- Vinyl cutters for product branding, signage and custom graphics.
- Arduino microcontrollers for electronics, robotics and automation projects.
- Tinkercad and Autodesk Inventor for 3D modelling, CAD and virtual prototyping.
- Adobe Illustrator for professional digital graphics and vector design.
- Python programming for automation, data handling, logic and computing concepts

## Signature STEM Projects

### Edge-Lit Acrylic Sign Project

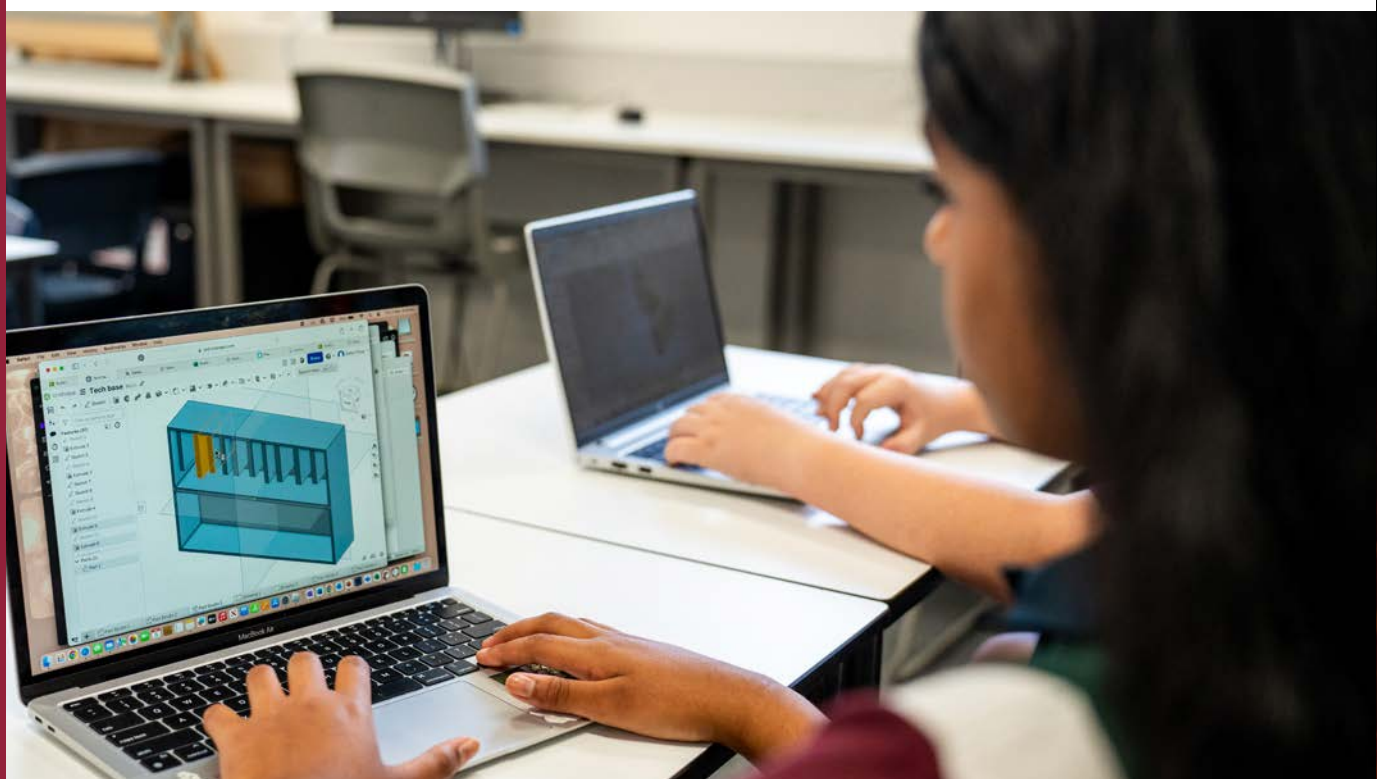
Students create a professional illuminated display sign by integrating:

- Adobe Illustrator vector design.
- Laser-cut acrylic fabrication.
- Custom LED electronics and circuitry.
- Branded graphic elements using vinyl and laser etching.

### Mechatronics/Autonomous Robotics

Students design, build and code robots using:

- Arduino sensor systems.
- Motors, servos and control logic.
- Tinker CAD circuit simulation.
- Autonomous behaviour programming (line following, obstacle detection, etc.).



# ~ Celebrating our recent graduates ~

## Mackenzie: National champion winner

How has the Creative Industries Excellence Programs at Pacific Pines SHS helped you grow both as an artist and a person?

*The Creative Industries Excellence program has helped me grow so much, both creatively and personally. Being given the chance to perform and compete regularly has pushed me outside my comfort zone and built my confidence. Working with choreographers both in and outside of school has expanded my skills and helped me grow as an artist. The program has also strengthened my leadership, teamwork and resilience - skills I know I'll carry with me long after school.*

What unique opportunities or experiences have you gained through the program that you might not have encountered in a traditional classroom setting?

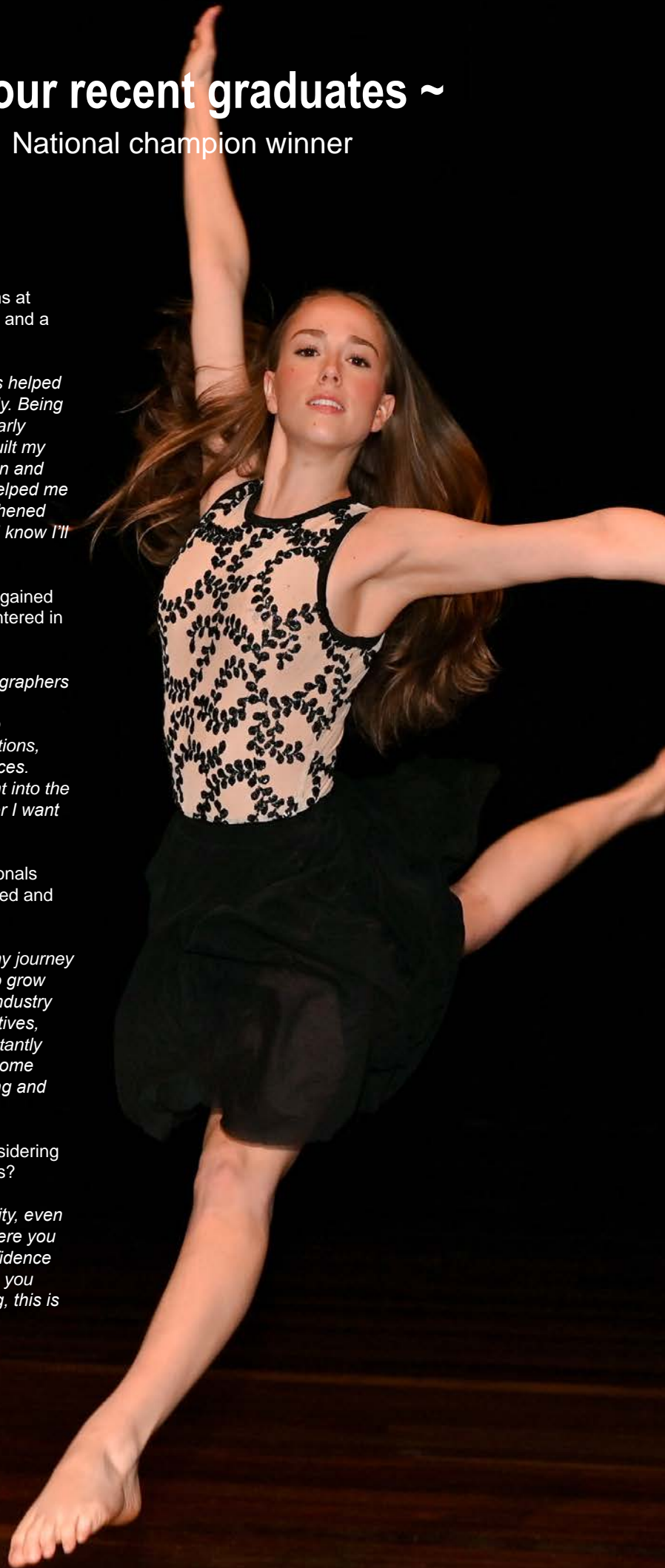
*I've been able to work with professional choreographers and collaborate with well-known national and international companies. I've had the chance to compete in school-based and external competitions, and even create and choreograph my own dances. These experiences have given me a real insight into the industry and helped shape the kind of performer I want to be.*

Can you share how your teachers, industry professionals from workshops and fellow performers have supported and inspired you throughout your journey?

*My teachers have played such a huge role in my journey - they've always encouraged me, pushed me to grow and supported me every step of the way. The industry professionals we work with bring fresh perspectives, new styles and real-world experience that constantly inspire me. And my fellow performers have become like a second family - always uplifting, motivating and helping me build strong, lasting friendships.*

What advice would you give to a student who is considering applying for Creative Industries Excellence programs?

*Go for it - absolutely. Say yes to every opportunity, even the ones that feel a bit scary, because that's where you grow the most. This program helps you build confidence and surrounds you with people who want to see you succeed. If you are passionate about performing, this is the best place to start your journey.*





## Dance

Students develop their core skills in the Centre of Excellence for Dance program through the Australian Curriculum, while extending their understanding to meet current industry expectations.

Our program provides students with multiple opportunities to perform at school events, showcases, and eisteddfods. Additionally, companies and creatives at the forefront of this field are invited to hold incursions/excursions for students, providing them with industry insight and the opportunity to further their skillset.

This program fosters the development of ensemble and team work by building spaces that are safe for students to explore self-expression and creative autonomy over their artistic visions. Throughout the course of the program, students will enhance their skills while building their own portfolio of work, essential to supporting their pathway into the industry.

## Unique program elements of Dance

- Eisteddfod and performance teams.
- Industry workshops with leading professionals including the internationally renowned *Royal Family Dance Crew* and the *Australian Dance Collective*.
- Extensive exposure to contemporary, jazz, hip hop, lyrical and more.
- Excursions to QPAC and other venues to see live performances / musicals.
- Builds 21st Century skills that reflect current performing arts industry trends.

## Current achievements

- 2025 twenty 1st place awards across the season.
- 2025 DanceX Highest scoring routine for Senior Jazz.
- 2025 DanceX highest scoring routing for Junior Lyrical.
- 2025 DanceX 1st place for All Abilities solo.
- 2025 Quota Eisteddfod's Most Outstanding Routine for Junior Jazz.
- 2024 DanceX State Champion for Junior Secondary Jazz and All Abilities Solo, as well as second place for Senior Lyrical and Junior Hip Hop.
- 2024 Gold Coast Eisteddfod's Most Memorable Routine for Junior Hip Hop, and Most Outstanding Routine for Senior Jazz.
- Students have been accepted to teach and coach for Unified Pom in America.
- Students have been accepted into the highly regarded dance programs at Brent Street Studios, Dargie Fulltime and Dynamite Performance Stream.
- Students have gone on to teach in studios, choreograph award winning dances and compete at the World Hip Hop Championships in the USA.

# Drama

The Centre of Excellence for Drama program explores creative and expressive communication by delving into the depths of the human experience. Through exploration, communication, and embodiment, drama conveys stories, experiences, emotions, and ideas that resonate with humanity. Engaging students in imaginative processes, Drama encourages them to employ various artistic skills, enabling them to create and respond to dramatic works.

Our program covers cultural perspectives, acting techniques, script analysis, character development, and stagecraft. Your child will not only refine their acting abilities, but also develop creativity, confidence, critical thinking skills, and a deep appreciation for the world of theatre.

## Unique program elements of Drama

- **Live Performances and Professional Theatre experiences:** Students have the opportunity to watch live performances from professional theatre companies. These high-quality productions expose them to a diverse range of theatrical styles, acting techniques and real-world issues explored through contemporary theatre. It inspires creativity and deepens their understanding of how Drama reflects and critiques society.
- **Partnerships:** We proudly work with some of Queensland's most respected theatre companies including Shock Therapy, Mashed Theatre and Goat Track Theatre. Students participate in exceptional workshops and performance experiences that model industry-level practice and push them to extend their own artistic capabilities. These sessions focus on acting technique, character development, improvisation, physical theatre and ensemble work. Students walk away with increased confidence, refined performance skills and a deeper awareness of the craft of acting.
- **Major School Productions and Musical Theatre:** Every two years we proudly stage a full-scale school musical, which consistently sells out and showcases the incredible talent and dedication of our Drama, Dance and Music students. This is a highlight of our co-curricular arts calendar and an invaluable performance learning experience.
- **Annual Term 3 Drama Showcase:** Each year in Term 3 we host our Drama Showcase Night, where students present the work they have devised and developed throughout the year. This event celebrates their creativity, collaboration and growth, demonstrating the high standard of performance emerging from our classrooms.
- **Practical, Industry-aligned Learning:** All of these opportunities enrich students' Drama education by providing authentic insights into the professional theatre world. Through real-world experiences, students develop as well-rounded, performance-ready individuals equipped with collaboration, communication and creative problem-solving skills.

Our Drama Excellence program aims to nurture creative, confident and resilient performers. We strive to instil a lifelong passion for the dramatic arts while preparing students for future success, whether in the performing arts industry or any career that values communication and creativity.



# Music

The Centre of Excellence for Music program is designed for students who exhibit exceptional skills in their chosen musical instrument/s, and aims to further develop their talent by offering a comprehensive curriculum aligning with the Australian National Curriculum.

Centre of Excellence in Music is divided into the three components of Composing, Musicology, and Performing. This program offers a wide variety of learning experiences within the fields of contemporary, traditional and technology, maintaining a strong focus on developing life-long skills through creativity and technical proficiency. Students are treated to industry standard, state-of-the-art facilities and resources including a recording studio, workshops and an incursion from industry professionals.

## Unique program elements of Music

- **Classroom Centre of Excellence alignment to Instrumental Music Program:** Our affiliation with the Instrumental Music Program distinguishes us by providing additional specialised tuition, facilitated by our team of specialised staff members, who bring a wealth of expertise and experience, tailoring their guidance to suit each student's individual needs. This collaboration ensures that our students receive exceptional mentorship and support, enabling them to excel further in their musical pursuits.
- **Variety of ensembles:** Concert Band, Strings Ensemble, Jazz Band, PPSH Orchestra, Voice FX, Guitar Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble, Drumline, Rock Bands, Symphonic Band.
- **Experienced Staff:** Specialising in all instruments.
- **Strong connection to community:** Through music we connect with our local community.
- **Performance opportunities:** Serving our community through music (ANZAC Parades, Music Showcase events, music competitions, connection to partner schools, 'Under the Stars' event).

## Current achievements

- **Queensland Conservatorium:** Students have been accepted into Queensland Conservatorium State Honours Ensemble Program (SHEP), Gold Coast Youth Orchestra (GCYC) and Creative Generation Excellence Awards in Instrumental Music (MOST) program.
- **2025 Instrumental Fanfare Gold Award:** Concert Band, Jazz Band and Strings Ensemble.
- **2025 Gold Coast Eisteddfod Gold Award:** Drumline, Concert Band, Jazz Band and Symphonic Band.
- **2025 Gold Coast Eisteddfod Silver Award:** Strings Ensembles.
- **2024 Gold Coast Eisteddfod Gold Award:** Concert Band and Jazz Band.
- **2024 Gold Coast Eisteddfod Silver Award:** Strings Ensembles.





## AFL

Endorsed as an AFL School of Excellence by AFL Queensland, we provide an elite sporting program that delivers specialised training for young, developing athletes. Our resources are second to none, which help our highly qualified and experienced teaching and coaching team get the best out of every athlete. Our team, who are all Level 2 qualified and accredited, deliver and tailor drills within training sessions to test, motivate and develop all athletes of varying skill levels. These drills and skills are AFL standard; key competencies we have gained through sport specific networking, and have acquired from AFL professional development opportunities.

Our AFL program has built strong, positive relationships with neighbouring community AFL clubs and primary schools that attract talented and hard-working athletes year after year.

## Unique program elements of AFL

AFL training and specialised coaching programs are conducted across four lessons a week and comprise of:

- 2 x sport specific AFL training sessions and match play.
- 1 x Strength and Conditioning session.
- 1 x HPE health lesson - over the course of the AFL Excellence program, students will study theory topics such as sports nutrition, exercise physiology, competition preparation and psychology.

Students are granted automatic entry into the AFLQ Schools of Excellence competition from Junior to Senior, where Pacific Pines competes against other AFL Excellence schools for direct entry into the AFLQ School Cup finals each year. Additional to this, the AFL Alliance Cup is also entered.

Students are also exposed to sport related feedback sessions from 'game film' in order to improve team cohesion and structure for competition.

## Current achievements

- Senior female students drafted in to the AFLW.
- Students from this program were been selected in the U18 Girls All Australian Team.
- Students from this program were accepted into the Gold Coast Suns Academy.
- Students from this program represented Queensland, South Coast and Broadwater.
- 2025 QSchoools Cup: Junior Male Quarter finalists, Junior Female Regional finalists.
- 2024 QSchoools Cup: Senior Female Semi finalists, Senior Male Quarter finalists.
- 2022-2023 Alliance Cup Champions, Female 9/10.
- 2022 Alliance cup Champions, Male 9/10.

~ Celebrating our recent graduates ~  
Mikayla and Rhianna  
Drafted into the AFLW





How has the Sport Excellence Programs at Pacific Pines SHS helped you as a player and as a person?

*The Sport Excellence Program helped us massively both on and off the field. As players it gave us strong coaching, structure and the discipline to train at a high level. As people, it taught us resilience, leadership, confidence and helped us learn how to balance sport, school, work and life.*

What unique opportunities or experiences have you gained through the program that you might not have encountered elsewhere?

*We have had opportunities we might not have found elsewhere like high-level coaching, competitive games against strong schools, development camps and access to real performance pathways. Those experiences helped us grow as athletes and opened doors we didn't expect.*

What does it mean to be part of a program that has helped you reach the point of potentially being drafted to the AFLW?

*Being part of this program means a lot to us. It's pretty special knowing that the environment we trained and learned in is a big reason we're even in the position to be looked at for the AFLW. It feels like all the extra sessions and support from coaches and teachers has led us to reach our full potential.*

Can you describe the support you have received from the coaches, teachers and your team mates throughout your journey here?

*The support we've received has been huge! Our coaches have pushed us, guided us and believed in us even on days we didn't believe in ourselves. Our teachers have helped us balance schoolwork with training, always checking in and making sure we were keeping on track. Our teammates have encouraged us, challenged us and always celebrated every little win along the way.*

What advice would you give to a student who is considering applying for Sport Excellence program in the future?

*We'd tell them to go for it! If you are willing to work hard, the Sport Excellence program can open so many doors for you both in sport and in life. You'll get great coaching, make close friends and learn skills that will help you on and off the field. It's a supportive environment that pushes you to be your best, and you never know where it might take you. If you're passionate, this is the perfect place to start your journey.*

*\* After this interview both Mikayla and Rhianna were drafted by the Gold Coast Suns.*



## Netball

The Centre of Excellence for Netball offers aspiring netballers a specialised program developed by a nationally accredited professionals to grow their netball ability.

The Netball Excellence program has been built around development; starting with basics of netball, health and fitness, strength and balance, injury prevention and most importantly emotional, physical, mental and social skills. The program also assists athletes to create specific and attainable goals and refine skills they will use when playing locally, at representative level and beyond.

## Unique program elements of Netball

The Netball Excellence program focuses on:

- The basics of netball, fitness, balance, and injury prevention.
- Passing, ball skills and footwork skills.
- Court awareness.
- Tactical game play.
- Position specific training.
- Match performance review.

There are four Netball lessons a week which comprise of the following:

- 2 x sport specific Netball training sessions and match play.
- 1 x Strength and Conditioning session.
- 1 x HPE health lesson.

Students will participate in the Titans Cup, Alliance Cup and Netball Queensland's Vicki Wilson Shield, providing students with opportunities to play against high quality competition.

## Current achievements

- Students have been selected to represent Queensland, South Coast and Broadwater.

# Soccer

The Centre of Excellence Soccer program is designed to provide students with a high quality, high performance sporting pathway that also prioritises academic achievement, personal development and community connection. In 2026 we will continue to nurture a love for the game while delivering a structured and challenging environment where all students, regardless of skill level, can grow as athletes and individuals.

## Unique program elements of Soccer

The program consists of:

- 2 x sport specific Soccer training sessions and match play - includes a practical focus (skill acquisition and tactical development) and a theory focus (video analysis, formation exploration, game intelligence).
- 1 x Strength and Conditioning session - delivered in the gym, hall or field settings; emphasis on injury prevention, functional strength and fitness training.
- 1 x HPE health lesson - over the course of the Soccer Excellence program, students will study theory topics such as sport nutrition, exercise physiology, competition preparation and psychology.
- **Pathway Opportunities:** Exposure to elite sporting pathways through national, state, regional and district events.
- **Futsal and Outdoor Football Focus:** Students train and compete in both disciplines.
- **Cross-year Training Model:** Junior students benefit from mentoring by seniors.
- **Expert Coaching:** Included guest sessions from Pro Player Goalkeeping Academy.
- **Competitive Opportunities:** The program provides opportunities for students to showcase their skills in inter-school competitions including the Bill Turner Cup & Trophy, the QFSL (Queensland Football School League), and Futsal tournaments.
- **Community Interaction:** Actively engages the local community through hosting a yearly 9-a-side tournament at Pacific Pines Football Club, with the club running a canteen to raise funds for the club.

## Current achievements

Some of our program achievements include:

- 2025 student selected for Australian Schoolboys Selection.
- 2025, 2024, 2023, 2022 Students selected to represent Queensland (Outdoor and Futsal), South Coast and Broadwater.
- Futsal 2025 Australian Schools Association 5 teams qualified for state titles.
- Futsal 2025 Senior Boys Runner-up for Queensland Champion of Champions, and Gold Coast Futsal.
- Futsal 2025 U16 Boys Brisbane Metro Futsal Champions.
- Football 2024 QFSL Intermediate Boys Premiers.



# Touch Football

The Centre of Excellence for Touch Football program takes pride in providing an enriching experience for athletes who are passionate about our sport. Our program is led by a team of qualified coaches who are not only experts in the game, but are deeply committed to the holistic development of each athlete.

We believe in fostering a passion for Touch Football while instilling values of sportsmanship, teamwork, and continuous improvement. Our dedicated coaching staff is devoted to creating an environment where athletes can thrive, both on and off the field.

## Unique program elements of Touch Football

Our program uniquely offers four Touch Football focused lessons each week. These include:

- 2 x sport specific Touch Football training sessions and match play.
- 1 x Strength and Conditioning session.
- 1 x HPE health lesson - over the course of the Touch Football Excellence program, students will study theory topics such as sport nutrition, exercise physiology, competition preparation and psychology.

With a curriculum designed for progressive skill development, our program also integrates practical sessions and state-of-the-art video analysis. This innovative approach enables athletes to visualise their performance, receive personalised feedback, and make targeted improvements. Tailored to the demands of the sport, our strength and conditioning sessions aim to improve agility, endurance, and overall athletic performance, ensuring that athletes are well-prepared to excel on the Touch Football field.

Athletes in our program have the exciting opportunity to represent the school in all major Touch Football tournaments, both as players and/or referees. This exposure not only enhances their skills, but also contributes to their personal and leadership development. Students enrolled in our program can extend their Touch Football journey by participating in year-round club competitions. We maintain a close relationship with our affiliate Gold Coast Touch, providing athletes with a direct pathway to representative honours.

## Current achievements

- 2025 18 Boys Northern Gold Coast School's Cup winner.
- 2025 13 Girls Northern Gold Coast School's Cup finalists.
- 2024 13 Boys team Schools Cup finalists.
- 2024 Open mixed team Schools Cup winners.
- 2024 Open mixed team finalists at South East Qld All Schools.



# ~ Celebrating our recent graduates ~

**Lilly-Bella:** Offered early entry into  
Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) (Chemical and Sustainable Process)

What have you learned from being a part of the Enterprise program - academically, personally or socially?

*From being a part of the Enterprise Program, I learned that working in a group as a team is a very important skill to have in the future. It allows you to develop social skills to communicate with your fellow group members enabling everyone to share their ideas and thoughts comfortably.*

Share one memorable moment or highlight from your time in the program

*One memorable moment was being part of all the Market Day events. Being able to turn an idea into a product to sell is such a fun experience during the day, as well as developing the product through business processes.*

How did the program encourage creativity, leadership and teamwork?

*The program encourages creativity through the Market Day experiences as it allows students to create any product they want to sell, leadership because it gives each student the chance to take control and communicate ideas and thoughts with the group in preparation for Market Days, and teamwork because every student would be given a role to contribute to the group allowing them all to come and work together.*

How has the program influenced the way you think about your future goals and career path?

*The program influenced the way I think about my future goals and career path because it gave me an understanding of what I want to do in life. It helped me decide what I wanted to achieve and didn't want to continue doing. This really helped when I had no idea what I wanted to do for a long time.*

If you could describe the program in three words, what would they be?

*The words would be: beneficial, interesting and exciting.*





## Culinary Skills

The Centre of Excellence for Culinary Skills was designed to inspire students in the kitchen and to provide pathways into the dynamic hospitality industry. Students will have access to up-to-date techniques, quality ingredients and hospitality trained teachers, with current industry knowledge, to enable the development and enhancement of their own culinary skills and knowledge.

Students will engage in exciting food experiences by skilfully designing, prepping, cooking, and presenting meals that are of industry standard. Students who are passionate, committed and enthusiastic will be immersed in a variety of learning experiences throughout the program. Cooking for a purpose is a key element of the program, and students will be immersed in school and community events and catering.

## Unique program elements of Culinary Skills

Satisfying both a fast-paced and growing industry, as well as personal needs, this program will provide students with opportunities to:

- Work in teams to create culinary delights.
- Cook for school projects, Market Days and school events.
- Participate in school and wider community activities.
- Engage with guest cooks and industry professionals.
- Attend culinary incursions and excursions.

Examples of this include:

- Catering for high profile school events:
  - ◇ Alliance Breakfast (70+ people).
  - ◇ Careers Festival lunch and gifts (65+ people).
  - ◇ Academic Awards (1200+ attendees).
- Created 600 skewers for afternoon tea at the Enterprising Girls Day.
- Celebrated culture through food at our Multicultural Night.
- Hosted a range of food stalls at Market Day and Mother's Day events.

## Current achievements

- Awarded a \$40,000 AI Greenhouse in partnership with Food Ladder.

# Business, Leadership & Enterprise (Year 9 and 10 only)

The Centre of Excellence for Business, Leadership & Enterprise was established to extend, engage and excite students in all areas of business. This program extends students in all areas of business, leadership and enterprise, while providing the tools required to excel in these areas.

With the workforce continually reshaping, these skills enable students to actively engage in all levels of business and meet the everchanging demands of the 21st Century. Our students will acquire the skills highly sought after by organisations which will ensure lasting employability once they are ready for the 'real world'. Our curriculum areas prepare students for further study and employment, as well as lifelong learning and civic participation.

## Unique program elements of Business, Leadership & Enterprise

Students in this program are provided with hands on, real world activities such as:

- Leading and organising school events including the 'Enterprising Girls Day' for 150+ primary school girls each year.
- Setting up and running small businesses.
- Participating in excursions e.g. EKKA.
- Be Your Own Boss Challenge.
- Simulated business activities.

Topics covered throughout the program include event management, finance management, marketing, corporate responsibility and community, and entrepreneurship, as well as student driven topics. Throughout the two year program students work with multiple local charities including Adopt-a-Grandparent, K-Mark Wishtree, Dignity Project and Rosie's.

## Current achievements

- Raised more than \$2,000 in profit, through Market Day and other business ventures, for the Schoolbag Project (providing schoolbags and uniforms to those in need).
- Awarded 2nd place in the Young Change Agents Gold Coast Climate Action Design Challenge.
- Helped shape entrepreneurship education for girls through representatives on the 'Empowering Girls' Forum.



# Centre of Excellence student expectations

Once a student starts at Pacific Pines State High School, the following requirements included in the *Centre of Excellence Student Agreement Contract* must be met to maintain their position in the Centre of Excellence program/s:

- Minimum C Level of Achievement (LOA) for all subjects.
- Minimum B LOA for HELM - Humanities, English, Literature & Media.
- Minimum B LOA for STEM - Science & Mathematics.
- Minimum B for Effort for Centre of Excellence programs, on their report cards.
- Minimum C for Effort, for all subjects that are not part of the Centre of Excellence, on their report cards.
- No more than two (2) behaviour incident reports on OneSchool.
- No suspension.
- Attendance remains 92% or above.

If a student does not meet these expectations, they may be placed on Academic and/or Behaviour probation. If a student does not pass this probation, their enrolment in Centre of Excellence program/s may be cancelled. A student whose enrolment in Centre of Excellence is cancelled cannot reapply for six (6) months, during which an improvement in their data must be evident.

In most cases, the student's position is backfilled by another student on the waitlist. If a reapplication is successful after the six (6) months, the student may be placed in the program if space is available, or added to a waitlist.





## Centre of Excellence – 10 Years of Excellence

In 2026, Pacific Pines State School proudly celebrates 10 years of our Centre of Excellence. Established to nurture talent, inspire passion, and extend high-achieving students, the Centre provides enriched learning opportunities that foster creativity, discipline, leadership, and academic excellence.

Over the past decade, our Centre of Excellence has supported students to pursue their strengths, challenge themselves, and achieve outstanding personal and academic outcomes. Our most recent graduates exemplify the success of the Centre, with achievements including early university entry into highly competitive degrees, national sporting and performing arts success, and professional sporting opportunities. These include Hamza, offered early entry into a Bachelor of Pharmacy (Honours); Mackenzie, a national champion in dance; Mikayla and Rhianna, drafted into the AFLW to play for the Gold Coast Suns; and Lilly-Bella, offered early entry into a Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) specialising in Chemical and Sustainable Process.

As we celebrate this significant milestone, Pacific Pines State School remains committed to providing aspirational pathways that empower students with the skills, confidence, and opportunities to excel—both during their schooling and beyond.

# Academia Years 7- 9

HELM - Humanities, English,  
Literature & Media

STEM - Science & Mathematics

STEM - Technology

Japanese

# Sport Years 7-10

# Creative Industries Years 7-10

# Enterprise Years 7-10

# Curricu

## Year 10

## Year 11 and 12

English Extension or English (all year)  
History (1 Semester)  
Civics & Citizenship (1 Semester)  
Geography (1 Semester)

Science (all year)  
Mathematics Extension or Mathematics (all year)  
Psychology (1 Semester)  
Specialist Mathematics (1 Semester)

Design and Technology (1 Semester)  
Digital Technologies (1 Semester)  
Materials & Technologies Specialisation 1 Furnishings (1 Semester)  
Materials & Technologies Specialisation 2 Construction (1 Semester)

Japanese elective (1 Semester)

Literature and/or English  
Ancient History  
Modern History  
Geography  
Legal Studies  
Certificate IV Crime & Justice

Biology  
Chemistry  
Physics  
Psychology  
Mathematics Methods  
Specialist Mathematics

Digital Solutions  
Trade Futures Program

Japanese

**AFL**  
**Netball**  
**Soccer**  
**Touch Football**

Health  
Physical Education  
Sport & Recreation  
Certificate III in Fitness  
Diploma of Sport  
(Coaching & Sport Development)  
*(delivered externally)*

**Dance**

**Drama**

**Music**

Certificate IV Dance  
Dance in Practice

Drama  
Film, TV & New Media  
Drama in Practice

Music  
Music in Practice

**Business, Leadership & Enterprise (9-10 only)**

**Culinary Skills (7-10)**

Accounting  
Business  
Certificate III in Business  
Diploma of Business  
Diploma of Leadership & Management  
*(delivered externally)*

Hospitality Practices

# Curriculum Structure

Pacific Pines State High School  
15 Archipelago Street, Pacific Pines QLD 4211  
PO Box 380, Helensvale QLD 4212

07 5502 5111  
coe@pacificpinesshs.eq.edu.au



pacificpinesshs.eq.edu.au



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