



Department of
Education and Training

Media Statement

Attention: News Editor / Chief of Staff

18/05/09

Developing the talents of gifted children

Parents of gifted Year 6 children have the opportunity to provide their children with a world-class education to meet their special abilities.

Families with students entering Year 8 in 2011 are invited to apply for a place in an exclusive academic, arts or language program being offered at 16 public secondary schools in Western Australia.

Department of Education and Training's Director General Sharyn O'Neill said students could apply for a place in a Gifted and Talented program in the areas of science, maths, humanities, dance, music, drama, visual arts, artsmedia, music theatre and languages.

"The reputation of this program is unparalleled, and the results students achieve are phenomenal," Ms O'Neill said.

"Entry is competitive so interested families need to apply now.

"All applicants must sit the Academic Selective Entrance Test and their performance in this test will determine their eligibility for the Gifted and Talented program."

Shenton College Year 8 Gifted and Talented student Ryan Sumner of Burswood said he was nervous and excited when he sat the test.

"I was sad to not be going to the same secondary school as my primary school friends, but I was really proud when I was accepted to Shenton College," Ryan said.

"Learning in the Gifted and Talented classroom is good because everyone is focused on their work.

"Gifted and Talented classes have helped me deal with all the challenges of secondary school.

"The teachers are really supportive and have made it easier for me to adjust."

Daniel Axtens, graduate of Willetton Senior High School's Gifted and Talented program, said the program had provided a world of possibilities for his future.

"Working in a Gifted and Talented classroom is different to other classrooms - you feed off other students and are challenged by friendly competition," he said.

"The Gifted and Talented program helped me develop my ability to think critically.

"My involvement in the program was part of the reason I did so well in my TEE and am continuing to do so at university."

Daniel achieved a TEE score of 99.85 and a Curriculum Council Certificate of Distinction in Applicable Mathematics which is awarded to students in the top 0.5 per cent of candidates sitting a Tertiary Entrance Examination in a particular subject.

Daniel is now studying a double engineering and law degree at The University of Western Australia.

Applications close Tuesday 2 June 2009. For further information visit det.wa.edu.au/education/gifttal or telephone 9264 5513.

Gifted and Talented program schools

Applecross Senior High School	Arts – Visual Arts
Balcatta Senior High School	Arts – Visual Arts
Churchlands Senior High School	Arts – Music
Comet Bay College	Maths, Science and Humanities
Duncraig Senior High School	Maths, Science and Humanities
Governor Stirling Senior High School	Maths, Science and Humanities
Hampton Senior High School	Arts – Dance
John Curtin College of the Arts	Arts – Dance
	Arts – Drama
	Arts – Music
	Arts – Visual Arts
	Arts – Artsmedia
	Arts – Musical Theatre
Kalamunda Senior High School	Arts – Visual Arts
Kelmscott Senior High School	Maths, Science and Humanities
Melville Senior High School	Maths, Science and Humanities
Mount Lawley Senior High School	Languages
Perth Modern School	Academically Selective School
Rossmoyne Senior High School	Languages
Shenton College	Maths, Science and Humanities
Willetton Senior High School	Maths, Science and Humanities

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Media contact: Amber Gorrie 9264 4667 or email amber.gorrie@det.wa.edu.au