Merewether High School

Application procedures for academically selective high schools
Year 7 2020
Academic Selective High School

- One of 17 comprehensive selective high schools
- Approximately 1080 students
- Challenging Environment
- Personal Best
- Positive Attitude to Learning
- We are not just about academic work
Gifted and Talented Education

- Capacity to learn faster
- Capacity to manipulate abstract ideas and make connections to other learning
- Curriculum is adapted to accommodate the learning needs of our GAT students
Teaching Profile

- 72 teaching staff (appointed per student population)
- 14 Executive Positions
- Mixture of new thinking and experience
- All teaching staff have tertiary qualifications
- Focus on Thinking Skill Development
- Additional training and development in current educational practices and issues for all staff
- Explicit training in Gifted and Talented education
Academic Achievements

HSC Results 2017:

- 25 students on the state all rounders list (band 6 in at least 10 units)
- 16 students with an ATAR above 99
- 338 Band 6s and 499 Band 5 results
- 20 students earned a state ranking including
  - 1st Place in Geography, 2nd in German Continuers
  - 3rd in Engineering Studies and Hospitality
  - 2nd, 4th, 6th and 7th in Food Technology
  - 5th in Chemistry, 8th in Geography and 10th in Ext 2 English
- 2 students achieved 50/50 in Extension English
- 75% of students achieved an ATAR above 90
- Student works selected to be showcased in Visual Arts – Art Express,
- Music 1 and Music Extension students selected to perform in Encore
- Design & Technology student acknowledged in Design Excellence Forum

Accelerated program for Year 11 students delivered outstanding Band 6 results.
Academic Competitions

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Geography
- History
- Technology
- Poetry
- Creative Writing
- Public Speaking
- Debating
- Business Studies
- Mock Trial
- MUNA
Creative and Performing Arts

- **Wide Range of Courses:**
  - Visual Arts
  - Drama
  - Music
  - Visual Design
  - Photographic and Digital Media

- **Performances & Exhibitions:**
  - Star Struck
  - Drama & dance festivals
  - Young Artists Exhibitions
  - Art Express
  - Onstage
  - Choir & vocal groups
  - Band & music groups
  - Drama & Dance ensembles
Sporting Achievements

- School, Zone, Regional and National representation and competition:
  - Athletics
  - Swimming
  - Cross Country
  - Water Polo
  - Triathlon
  - Rugby Union
  - Rowing
  - Aerobics
  - Basketball and Netball
  - Tennis
  - Baseball and Softball
  - Cricket
  - Hockey
  - Rugby League, Soccer, Touch Football and Oztag

A rich history of sporting excellence
Extra Curricular

- Duke of Edinburgh Awards
- International Sports Tour
- Star Struck
- Green Day
- Gala Days
- Chess Competitions
- Robotics
- F1 Cars
- Short Film Festival
Parent and Community Involvement

- Parents and Citizens Association
- Generous support of local clubs, businesses and community service groups
- Community hire of school facilities
- School Canteen
- Parent volunteers
- Parent representation on various committees
- Year 9 Inquiry Based Learning Presentations
- Parent Learning Groups
- Attendance at school events
Curriculum Structures

- Stage 4
- Stage 5
- Stage 6
- Electives
- Acceleration – Year 10
- Academic Enrichment – Inquiry Based Learning
- High Performing Students Program – Newcastle University Extension Courses
Student Wellbeing

- Academic and Pastoral Wellbeing
- Growth mindset
- Year Adviser
- Head Teacher Teaching and Learning
- School Counsellor
- Deputy Principals
- School Learning and Support Teacher
- Numerous programs: group activities and camps, peer support, year meetings, visiting performances, student interest groups, special focus presentations, ........
Award System

- Exceptional Students in a comprehensive range of endeavours.
- 2 Award Schemes operate within the school.
- MHS Academic Awards
- MHS Merit Awards
Celebration and Recognition

- Letters Home
- Presentation Assemblies
- School Notice Board
- School Bulletin
- Assemblies
- School Notices
Citizenship

- It is our belief that Students of Merewether High School are not only the leaders of the future, but also the leaders of today.

- We are very active in providing opportunities for citizenship and leadership through programs that support students to develop a sense of service and social justice.
Integrity, Diversity and Excellence
Applying

- The selective high school placement process for Year 7 entry is administered by the High Performing Students Unit

- Apply Online – application website opens Tuesday 9th October 2018


- Monday 12th November 2018 – Application website closes Late applications will not be accepted
Information about applying for Year 7 entry to selective high schools in 2020

Thinking of applying for a government selective high school for Year 7 entry in 2020?


Key dates

1. Tuesday 9 October 2018
   Application website opens

2. Monday 12 November 2018
   Application website closes. You must apply by the due date.

3. Thursday 28 February 2019
   Test authority advice sent to all applicants

4. Thursday 14 March 2019
   Selective High School Placement Test

5. Friday 5 July 2019
   Placement outcome information is sent

Please read this booklet carefully before applying.

There is more information at https://education.nsw.gov.au/shs-

Parents should check this website for updates all the way through the application and placement process. Please check the website for information before you contact the Unit.

The selective high school placement process for Year 7 entry is administered by the High Performing Students Unit.

Contact details

High Performing Students Unit
NSW Department of Education
Email: ssu@det.nsw.edu.au  Telephone: 1300 980 367  Fax: 02 9266 8435
Postal address: Locked Bag 53, DARLINGHURST NSW 1300
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/groups/772251106301006/

*In this document, the High Performing Students Unit will be referred to as the Unit.

"Parent" is defined under the Education Act 1990 as a "guardian or other person having custody or care of a child".

Stages of the placement process

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Date Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Parents read the application information online</td>
<td>From mid September 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Parents register, receive a password, log in, complete and submit</td>
<td>From 9 October 2018 to 12 November 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the application online</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Any special test provisions are requested</td>
<td>From 9 October to 12 November 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Principals provide school assessment scores</td>
<td>From 19 November to 7 December 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Parents sent Test authority letter</td>
<td>By 28 February 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Students sit the Selective High School Placement Test for entry</td>
<td>On 14 March 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>to Year 7 in 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Any illness/misadventure requests are submitted</td>
<td>By 28 March 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Last day to change selective high school choices</td>
<td>26 April 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>9. School selection committees meet</td>
<td>In May and June 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Placement outcome sent to parents</td>
<td>Overnight on 5 July 2019</td>
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<td>11. Parents submit any appeals to principals</td>
<td>By 23 July 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>12. Parents accept or decline offers</td>
<td>From July 2019 to at least Term 1 2020</td>
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<td>13. Students who have accepted offers are withdrawn from reserve</td>
<td>At 3 pm on 18 December 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>lists</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>14. Parents of successful students receive Authority to attend</td>
<td>Mid-January 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>letters to take to the school on the first day of term in 2020</td>
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Applying

- From 19th Nov to 7th Dec – primary schools receive notification of application and complete school assessment scores and any exceptional circumstances – 6th December Principal to have completed and submitted
- By 23rd February 2019 – Test Authority letter sent by mail and email to parents
- This advice will indicate the specific test centre
- Thursday 14th March – tests held across the state
- Early July 2019 – Placement information
## The Test

### TESTS at TEST CENTRE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>/45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>/40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Ability</td>
<td>/60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### SCHOOL ASSESSMENT SCORES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>/100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>/100</td>
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</tbody>
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- **Explanation of score processing**
Transition Program

- Students come from many different Primary Schools (67 schools in 2018)
- School Visits
- Information Session and Tours
- Challenge Day
- Orientation Day
- Year Advisors
- Travel Training
Further Information

- Presentation available via our school website
  www.merewether-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

- Questions – please discuss with your Current Primary School Principal

- NSW Public Schools – Selective High School placement
  www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement