Application procedures for academically selective high schools
Year 7 2019
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
- Capacity to deliver pedagogy to meet the needs of all 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
- Additional training and development in current educational practices and issues for all staff
Academic Achievements

Recent HSC Results:

- First in the state in Legal Studies, Food Technology and Community and Family Studies, Studies of Religion, Earth and Environmental Science, Hospitality in the last 2 years
- Seven students in 2016 with an ATAR above 99
- Seventeen students on the state High Achievers List (All results in Band 6)
- Perfect Scores in Mathematics Extension 1 one unit and Mathematics Extension 1 2 Unit, Food Technology, Extension Music
- 2 students achieved 50/50 in Extension English
- 2016 – 308 Band 6s and 525 Band 5s
- 70% of students achieved an ATAR above 90
- 100% of students received offers to University.
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
- Rock Climbing
- Circus Skills
- Ice Skating

A rich history of sporting excellence
Extra Curricular

- Duke of Edinburgh Awards
- International Sports Tour
- NZ PASS Tour
- International Study Tours
- Star Struck
- Green Day
- Gala Days
- Chess Competitions
- Robotics
- F1 Cars
- IT Club
- Debating
- 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
- Aboriginal Parent Consultative Group
- Parent representation on various committees
- Year 9 Inquiry Learning Presentations
- Parent Learning Groups
- Presentations and Celebrations
- 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 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
- ROSA
- School Notice Boards
- MHS Web Site
- 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, 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 10th October 2017


- Monday 13th November 2017 – Applications on the website close. Late applications will not be accepted.
Information about applying for Year 7 entry to selective high schools in **2019**

Thinking of applying for a government selective high school for Year 7 entry in 2019?


Key dates

- **Tuesday 10 October 2017**
  Application website opens
- **Monday 13 November 2017**
  Application website closes. You must apply by the due date.
- **Thursday 1 March 2018**
  Test authority advice sent to all applicants
- **Thursday 15 March 2018**
  Selective High School Placement Test
- **Friday 6 July 2018**
  Placement outcome information is sent

Please read this booklet carefully before applying.

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

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 880 367   Fax: 02 9266 8435
Postal address: Locked Bag 53, DARLINGHURST NSW 1300
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/Selectivehighschoolplacement

*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’.

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**Stages of the placement process**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Parents read the application information online</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Parents register, receive a password, complete and submit the application online</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Any special test provisions are requested</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Principals provide school assessment scores</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Parents sent Test authority advice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Students sit the Selective High School Placement Test for entry to Year 7 in 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Any illness/misadventure requests are submitted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Last day to change selective high school choices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>School selection committees meet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Placement outcome sent to parents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Any appeals are submitted to principals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Parents accept or decline offers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Students who have accepted offers are withdrawn from reserve lists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Parents of successful students receive Authority to attend letters to take to the school on the first day of term in 2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Applying

- From 20 Nov to 5 Dec – primary schools receive notification of application and complete school assessment scores and any exceptional circumstances – 5th December
  Principal to have completed and submitted
- Thursday 1st March 2018 – Test Authority
  letter sent by mail and email to parents
- This advice will indicate the specific test centre
- Thursday 15th March 2018 – tests held across the state
- Early July 2018 – Placement information sent to parents
# The Test

## TESTS at TEST CENTRE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Score</th>
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</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>
</table>

## 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>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- [Explanation of score processing](#)
What Happens Next ......

Transition Program

- Students come from many different Primary Schools (64 schools in 2017)
- 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