

2 December 2020

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Re: Enrichment program

At Chevalier our goal is that every student can achieve their academic potential. At the heart of our vision and ethos is inclusivity: our academic and wellbeing teams work closely with students who have diverse learning needs across all academic levels.

We are excited to share some enhancements to our enrichment program. We have identified opportunities to further strengthen our support for those students who are performing at the highest academic levels.

Enrichment classes

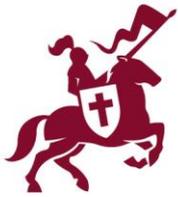
After much consideration and review, the college has decided to introduce an enrichment class in Years 8 to 10, commencing in 2021. There will also be scope to introduce an enrichment class in Year 7 in Semester 2, which will be explained further at the Year 7 Orientation day.

There will be two enrichment classes in Year 10. This decision is underpinned by the transition from Stage 5 into Stage 6 where students need to choose courses in particular levels or courses with different academic requirements. A second enrichment class enables students and teachers to work towards a greater understanding of course suitability and the rigour needed for success in Stage 6.

Our experience is that at times students are not fully prepared for the high demands of Years 11 and 12. Introducing enrichment classes and bringing more rigour to our academic care, including exams, will encourage all students to meet academic expectations and establish good habits while in Stages 4 and 5. This model will increase the focus for all students and teachers as we can further differentiate the curriculum. It will also ensure transparency in the process for staff, students and parents.

Enrichment classes will require a differentiated program that challenges and engages students in the classroom and beyond. This is an opportunity to move away from the idea of 'more work' for these classes or extension activities at the end of unit.

Instead it is about 'compacting the curriculum' – reducing the basic skills, knowledge and understanding these students have probably mastered and moving into the realm of collaboration, problem solving and project-based learning.



How do we form the enrichment classes?

Enrichment classes will be created in Years 8 to 10 on each line of the timetable. For example, in Year 8, line one includes Mathematics, Science, Music, Visual Arts, Geography and History. This enrichment class will be different to the enrichment class created for line two which is composed of English, Religion, PDHPE, Japanese and Technology. This will vary year to year based on the line structure, and as such, the enrichment classes are fluid based on student strengths.

The enrichment classes will be created based on data from a variety of sources including:

- Student Academic Reports
- ACER Pat: Reading, Writing and AGAT (general reasoning) and Maths Pathways
- Feedback from Diverse Learning, Academic Coordinators, Leaders of Learning, and Assistant Principal – Learning and Teaching.

There will be up to 25 students in each class and movement between mixed ability classes and enrichment classes will occur at the end of Semester 1, if needed. Application and academic performance will be used to determine these changes. This will ensure that students who are selected for enrichment are aware of the responsibility to work hard and engage wholly with the opportunity.

Excellent relationships across our learning community unite students, parents and teachers in high expectations. Our key aim is to ensure students are intellectually challenged, as well as emotionally engaged and supported, so that they are enjoying school, being challenged and, most importantly, achieving.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact Rebecca Graham at the college.

Yours sincerely

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