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It is my pleasure to extend a warm welcome to you and thank you for taking interest in the incredible Centre of Excellence curriculum we have to offer at Pacific Pines SHS.

At Pacific Pines SHS we are proud to cater for all of our students whether they are interested in our Centre of Excellence Programs in academics, creative arts or physical education.

We offer Centre of Excellence programs in mathematics, engineering, applied science, creative writing, creative arts, young innovators and sports as well as offering traineeships, design and construction which we believe expertly caters for our diverse range of student learning styles to strengthen our dynamic school.

Pacific Pines SHS is a happy, friendly school where strong relationships exist between staff, parents and students. 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.

On behalf of myself and my team of 150 committed and enthusiastic staff, I welcome you to our School.

Yours in Learning,

Mark Pegrem Principal

2017 SENIOR SCHOOL CAPTAINS:
Courtney Scull, Aimee Coleman, Shulammithe Sales, Andrew Aukino, Lina Strand, Stephanie Bridge
Pacific Pines SHS is a great school. We have the product and evidence of success to show that we are a leading school in our region in academic results and outcomes across all year levels.

Why Excellence Programs?

Pacific Pines SHS is committed to an educational program that encourages, challenges, extends and supports each student’s special interests, skills and talents to become the very best student they can be. Students with these qualities may choose to participate in one of our Centre of Excellence Programs to challenge and support them in secondary education and beyond.

Each Centre of Excellence Program has been developed by an expert teaching team for students who are ready to learn and achieve their dreams and ambitions at a higher level.

At Pacific Pines SHS, we believe in providing opportunities in Academia, Sporting and Creative Industries to maximise each student's potential in their chosen area of excellence.

How will a Centre of Excellence Program benefit my student?

• Increase confidence and self-esteem
• Engagement in learning in a safe and supportive learning environment
• Specialised skills and improved outcomes at the highest level
• Increase likelihood of post study after completing Year 12

With the extensive range of choice available, students can select one of our programs where they have a high level of ability, motivation or interest to learn.

Programs Offered

- Business Leadership & Enterprise Excellence
- Centre of Excellence for Creative Industries
- Centre of Excellence for Creative Writing & Literary Studies
- Centre of Excellence for Sports and Physical Education
- Japanese Excellence
- Young Innovators Excellence
- Centre of Excellence for Mathematics, Engineering and Applied Sciences
Centre of Excellence for Mathematics, Engineering and Applied Sciences

Program Description

In the Centre of Excellence for Mathematics, Engineering and Applied Sciences, high achieving STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics) students are given the tools to excel in all areas of Mathematics and Sciences. We have developed the Launchpad Program to facilitate this learning. Launchpad is a dedicated program aimed at preparing students for success in university studies in Science and Engineering. Launchpad comprises of three components; Launchpad Extension Mathematics & Science, Launchpad Projects and Launchpad Links, through universities and industry partnership.

Entry Requirements

To be considered for this program, applicants must:
- Demonstrate exemplary behaviour, effort and attendance.
- Supply two most recent Academic Report Cards.
- Be high performing Mathematics and Science students achieving A's in their year 6 report card.

NOTE: Applicants are welcome to supply any additional relevant information if they wish.

Pathways

Through the Centre of Excellence for Mathematics, Engineering and Applied Sciences, students will be involved in a unique and exciting pathway forged between Pacific Pines SHS and Griffith University. From year 7 our students will be enrolled as Griffith University students, giving them access to resources and embedded links that no other program offers. Graduates of the Centre of Excellence for Mathematics, Engineering and Applied Sciences who maintain a designated GPA will have a Guaranteed Pathway into Science or Engineering degrees at Griffith University.

Pathways that these students can look forward to include:
- Mechatronics
- Robotics
- Civil engineering
- Electrical engineering
- Applied physics
- Medicine
- Pharmacology
- Stock market analyst
- Lasers & optics
- Architect
- Space scientist
- Financial risk analyst

Contact

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The Creative Writing and Literary Studies program develops aspiring writers and English enthusiasts into creative and critical thinkers in a collaborative learning environment. This program encourages students to look beyond the text and into the multi-dimentional world of literary theory, while also providing a perspective on reading and writing as both a creative practice and essential academic skill that transforms students from passive text users into visionary leaders.

As stated by Harry Truman “…all leaders are readers.” Students will be encouraged to experiment with a variety of forms and genres, including novels, short stories, creative, non-fiction, youth writing, media writing and poetry. The writing course will have a particular focus on the art of writing, and students will be encouraged to submit work to journals and writing competitions to maximise their potential in this program.

The Centre of Excellence in Creative Writing and Literary Studies course is multifacited, and recognises the importance of developing the skills of leadership and community awareness as an integral part of the program. Students will be encouraged to participate in a range of extra-curricula activities that fosters the development of these skills.

To be considered for this program, applicants must:
- Demonstrate exemplary behaviour, effort and attendance.
- Supply two most recent Academic Report Cards.
- Submit a completed writing sample from any genre of no more than 500 words.

NOTE: Applicants are welcome to supply any additional relevant information if they wish.

Reading and writing are essential life skills that will help foster success in any pathway. Students with a particular interest in the pursuit of writing and literary studies will be held in good stead to be part of the largest and most comprehensive writing course through QUT – Creative Industries: Creative Writing and Literary Studies.

- Fiction writers
- Travel writers
- Journalists
- Feature writers
- Reviewers
- Editors
- Teachers
- Marketing executive

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The Centre of Excellence - Sports and Physical Education is a specialised training and coaching program for talented sports students designed to develop their knowledge, skills and abilities so they achieve their athletic goals. Students with demonstrated ability in one of the targeted sports will pursue a training and education program under the guidance of accredited and experienced teachers and coaches.

Targeted sports are Touch Football, AFL, Volleyball and Soccer and are all open to females and males. Students undertake structured developmental coaching and training programs to develop their sports-specific skills and physical preparation requirements, as designed and delivered by highly qualified and experienced school staff with input from local and state sporting associations.

Training and specialised coaching programs are conducted in school time and may include sports related topics as sports nutrition, physiology, competition preparation and psychology as well as tuition in time management, study skills and goal setting.

NOTE: Some sessions may occur outside school hours as required by individual coaches.

Entry Requirements

To be considered for this program, applicants must:

- Demonstrate exemplary behaviour, effort and attendance.
- Supply two most recent Academic Report Cards.
- Trials and physical testing will be conducted, details are published on our website.

NOTE: Applicants are welcome to supply any additional relevant information if they wish.

Pathways

- Sport science
- Exercise science
- Sports management
- Sport coaching
- Strength coach
- Elite level competitor

Contact

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The Young inventors (Yi) Program sharpens the minds and ‘out of the box’ thinking of students. This program assists students in developing their innovative and Design Technology skills to seek and find possible solutions to problems. The Yi program gives students the opportunity to explore the relationships between technology and society in order to design and manufacture a practicable and innovative solution to a real-world problem.

Essentially, the Yi Program teaches students to transform an idea they have in their head, through all the stages of innovation up to marketing a product.

Across all year levels of Yi students are granted opportunities to augment their understanding and develop their knowledge through:

- Enhanced training in the use of CAD (Computer Aided Design).
- Exposure to and utilisation of specialised industry resources such as laser cutter and 3D printers.
- Integration of electronics into innovative solutions (such as Arduino).

**Year 7**
The focus will be on learning elements and principles design. Students will learn how to transform ideas into products and use media software such as Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop.

**Year 8**
The focus will be on learning the innovation and design process. Students will be introduced to CAD drawing software, laser cutting and 3D printing.

**Year 9**
The focus will be on learning to work both independently and as part of a design team to identify and create possible innovative solutions through the use of industry technology.

**Entry Requirements**
To be considered for this program, applicants must:

- Demonstrate exemplary behaviour, effort and attendance.
- Supply two most recent Academic Report Cards.

NOTE: Applicants are welcome to supply any additional relevant information if they wish.

**Pathways**
- Mechatronics
- Inventor
- Robotics
- Direct entry into Science & Engineering Degrees at Griffith University
- Research and development careers

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Laying the foundations for Excellence in Learning
Centre of Excellence Program Prospectus - 2018

Centre of Excellence for Creative Industries - Dance

Program Description

This program fosters the creative talents of artistic students through a specialised Dance program. The program provides a platform for students to thrive through an extended Dance curriculum in which they work collaboratively with other students, expert teachers and guest professionals to fine tune their skills and prepare for a future in the Arts industry.

Unique Program Elements

Unique program elements include:
- Master classes and workshops with industry professionals
- Excursions to live performances
- Representing the school in Dance Eisteddfods
- Contribute own choreography for a major school work (Showcase Evening, Musical, Awards Evening)
- Academic rigour and support: working on outcomes beyond the student’s age level with greater depth and complexity.
- Dance industry partnerships

Entry Requirements

To be considered for this program, applicants must:
- Demonstrate exemplary behaviour, effort and attendance.
- Supply two most recent Academic Report Cards.
- Supply a Dance transcript (one A4 page) outlining exam results, achievements, studio information etc.
- Practical examination will be conducted, details are published on our website.

NOTE: Applicants are welcome to supply any additional relevant information if they wish.

Pathways

- Choreographer
- Director
- Lighting/set designer
- Stage manager
- Dance writer/journalist
- Costume designer

Contact

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Centre of Excellence for Creative Industries - Drama

Program Description

This program fosters the creative talents of artistic students through a specialised Drama program. The program provides a platform for students to thrive through an extended Drama curriculum in which they work collaboratively with other students, expert teachers and guest professionals to fine tune their skills and prepare for a future in the Arts industry.

Unique Program Elements

Unique program elements include:
• Master classes and workshops with industry professionals
• Excursions to live performances
• Representing the school in Drama Eisteddfods
• Contribute to a major school work (Showcase Evening, Drama Festival, Awards Evening)
• Academic rigour and support: working on outcomes beyond the student’s age level with greater depth and complexity.
• Drama industry partnerships

Entry Requirements

To be considered for this program, applicants must:
• Demonstrate exemplary behaviour, effort and attendance.
• Supply two most recent Academic Report Cards.
• Supply a Drama transcript (one A4 page) outlining exam results, achievements, studio information etc.
• Practical examinations will be conducted, details are published on our website.
  - Please prepare a one minute monologue for this audition.

NOTE: Applicants are welcome to supply any additional relevant information if they wish.

Pathways

• Actor
• Stage manager
• Playwrite
• Critic
• Lighting/set designer
• Theatre stage manager

Contact

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Laying the foundations for Excellence in Learning
The Centre of Excellence for Music caters for talented musicians, who wish to extend their knowledge of musicianship and experience in performance. This opportunity is offered to students who are proficient in woodwind, brass, percussion, strings (violin, viola, cello, double bass), rock instruments (electric bass, electric guitar, acoustic guitar), keyboard or piano and voice.

High achieving students from year 6 will be placed in a speciality Music class and provided with opportunities to develop practical expertise on their own instrument or voice, in addition to rudimentary skills on keyboard and guitar. In years 9 and 10, students will have the opportunity to extend their practical and reading skills, in addition to developing composition skills and an appreciation of music from a variety of genres and eras.

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Program Description

This program is for gifted and talented Visual Arts students. High Achieving students from year 6 who are also successful entrants into the program via portfolio will be placed in the Centre of Excellence for Visual Arts class.

Unique Program Elements

Unique program elements include:
- Workshops delivered by practicing artists
- Partnerships with Art galleries, identities and training organisations
- Exposure to and utilisation of specialised Arts resources and facilities
- Fostering and exhibiting of original works
- Portfolio development

Entry Requirements

To be considered for this program, applicants must:
- Demonstrate exemplary behaviour, effort and attendance.
- Supply two most recent Academic Report Cards.
- Supply a collection of 7 - 10 photographs of images or their art works with their application.
  - We can not guarantee the safe return of these items so please provide copies where possible.

NOTE: Applicants are welcome to supply any additional relevant information if they wish.

Pathways

- Story board illustrator
- Art therapist
- Comic book author
- Art educator
- Graphic designer
- Concept artist
- Illustrator
- Art critic
- Set/prop designer
- Animator
- Sculptor
- Creative journalist

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Japanese Excellence

Program Description

Learning a second language is not just about being able to communicate in another language. It increases our native language ability which can result in an improvement in students' performance across other subjects through enhanced listening schools and memory, improved literacy, reading, and higher order thinking. Second language learners also have an advantage when applying for entry into university courses. Speaking a second language in today’s global economy can give you the advantage when applying for university courses. It can also have an advantage over monolingual applicants applying for the same job!

Japanese Excellence allows students with passion for language to extend learning through an enhanced Japanese curriculum. Students will be motivated and committed to their studies as they embrace the challenges this program has to offer. The lessons will be delivered immersion style to promote confidence in speaking and to accelerate the speed in which they process the information heard.

Additional Information

Unique program elements include:
- Entry into speech competitions.
- Special Obento days to enjoy Japanese lunches
- Travel to Japan to experience the culture and language first hand. Be a part of a Japanese family.
- Communicate with pen friends in Japanese schools.
- Challenge yourself in a range of national competitions such as short film making and short story writing. Practise traditional art forms such as calligraphy
- Be a ‘buddy’ for visiting Japanese students

Entry Requirements

To be considered for this program, applicants must:
- Demonstrate exemplary behaviour, effort and attendance.
- Supply two most recent Academic Report Cards.
  - Students ideally have achieved an A or B in Japanese previously
  - Students who have studied a language other than Japanese are also encouraged to apply.

NOTE: Applicants are welcome to supply any additional relevant information if they wish.

Contact

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Centre of Excellence Program Prospectus - 2018
Students in this program will participate in a range of excursions including multiple University and industry visits and experiences off and on campus. Students will have the opportunity to interact with guest speakers and presenters, from local and national organisations. High achieving business and leaderships students will be given the tools to excel in all areas of business, enterprise, leadership and civics. This will be done through the StartUp Model which is a dedicated program aimed at preparing students for success in university studies in business and law, as well as being successful leaders in all areas of business, management, enterprise and innovation.

Program Description

Years 7, 8 & 9  
Classes are aimed at extending students in leadership and enterprise skills. Focusing on engaging with industry leaders to develop skills. Students participate in the $20 NAB Be Your Own Boss Challenge.

Year 10  
Students study an extension program in business that continues to build on enterprising and leadership skills. Students are immersed in school and wider community leadership activities.

Year 11 & 12  
University partnerships and opportunities to demonstrate leadership and business expertise. Students have access to subjects that cater for leadership and enterprise, including Diploma of Business and Certificate IV Justice Studies.

Additional Information

Pathways

• Business management  
• Entrepreneur  

• Chief Executive Officer  
• Business coaching  

• Business owner  
• Politician

Entry Requirements

To be considered for this program, applicants must:
• Demonstrate exemplary behaviour, effort and attendance.
• Show a keen interest in building leadership, innovation and enterprise skills.
• Supply two most recent Academic Report Cards.

NOTE: Applicants are welcome to supply any additional relevant information if they wish.

Contact

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