How do I find out more about gifted education at Sunshine Coast Grammar School?

We encourage interested families to contact our Registrar to organise a tour of our beautiful campus and meet our Learning Enrichment Coordinators.

Following your tour, our Registrar will provide contact details for the relevant Learning Enrichment Coordinator and you can find out in more detail about the exciting opportunities offered to our students at Grammar.
Have the teachers been trained in gifted education at Grammar?

Sunshine Coast Grammar School takes pride in our gifted and talented programs. Staff in our Learning Enrichment area hold specialised qualifications including Masters Degree in Gifted Education and the highly regarded Certificate in Gifted Education (COGE) Sunshine Coast Grammar School recognizes that gifted and talented children have unique educational needs. Tracking our gifted students from Prep through to Year 12 enables us to cater effectively with a seamless approach. We ensure that we cater effectively for our gifted students by:

• Providing multifaceted identification procedures
• Offering a range of diverse provisions including extension literacy and numeracy groups, extension classes, competitions, incursions and excursions, extension club for Year 5-8, compacting and differentiating the curriculum.
• Supporting staff in the classroom to address the needs of Gifted students and Gifted students experiencing difficulties
• Developing high quality programs and services

Our Learning Enrichment team is supported by a full-time Educational Psychologist.

How does Grammar identify gifted students?

We believe in an holistic approach to identification. This means that we use a range of different measures to develop a student’s learning profile. These measures might include parent nominations, teacher nominations, anecdotal evidence, formalised testing, external competition results, state-wide testing and school based assessment. Specialist testing, using a range of instruments may also be conducted.

Will my child be in a competitive or supportive environment?

We believe in developing the whole child. All students at Grammar are encouraged to participate in a wide range of activities such as sport, music and chess as well as their academic program.

Students are encouraged to become aware of their own strengths and weaknesses and to take risks in a supportive rather than competitive environment. Students who are challenged in a supportive learning environment gain confidence in their abilities and reach their potential in a variety of activities.

What model does Grammar use to understand giftedness and talent?

Grammar has adopted Francois Gagne’s Differentiated Model of Giftedness and Talent 2 (DMGT2), which is widely recognised both in Australia and overseas. DMGT2 states that students can be born with Natural Abilities (gifts).

Whether these Natural Abilities progress into skills that are applied into day-to-day life depends on the developmental process, environmental and intrapersonal catalysts and chance.

Grammar Gifted and Talented programs are designed to provide a rich learning environment to develop these Natural Abilities in our gifted students.

How does Grammar develop our child’s giftedness?

Students are encouraged to work to their personal best. Using identification tools which highlight each individual child’s strengths, we then focus on developing the strength areas through a range of in-class and/or pull-out programs.

For example, a student who is identified as strong in Mathematics may be given opportunities to participate in Maths Olympiads and the Sunshine Coast Maths Tournaments, as well as being placed in an extension Maths class.

A student who exhibits giftedness in writing may be given extension opportunities for writing and be invited to spend time working with an author. Similar opportunities exist in the area of Science.

Our aim is to ensure that the in-class curriculum is paced and pitched to a level which is challenging for your child and focuses on developing their strength areas.