

## **EDGE Program**

### at St Peter's Girls

Gifted and talented students are entitled to rigorous, relevant and engaging learning opportunities drawn from the Australian Curriculum and aligned with their individual learning needs, strengths, interests and goals (ACARA: acara.edu.au).

The EDGE program seeks to provide a learning environment that is challenging, with appropriate interventions in and out of the classroom. Gifted and talented students will have a differentiated curriculum that provides extension, withdrawal and acceleration experiences as appropriate for each student.

St Peter's Girls welcomes girls with a range of abilities. We want all students to reach their full potential both as a member of our community and as a scholar. We aim to provide an individualised education, allowing our gifted and talented students to learn at their optimum rate, maximising opportunities for self-fulfilment and development. The EDGE program will engage, challenge and extend students to achieve their cognitive and affective goals.

A holistic approach to identification is used, drawing from a range of data sources, such as school-based or standardised assessment, gifted and talented characteristic lists, observations, teacher reports, student interviews, parental contribution and, when appropriate, psychological testing.



#### **Our EDGE Coordinator**

The EDGE program is overseen by the EDGE Coordinator Becca Burton-Howard. An inspiring and experienced educator, Becca holds a Master of Education (Gifted Education) and came directly from the UK to work at St Peter's Girls in this exciting role. She is passionate about ensuring all students have the opportunity to reach their full potential.

### How the Program Works

The EDGE program uses three key approaches to meet the needs of gifted and talented girls: enrichment, extension and acceleration.

**Enrichment** will be provided for gifted and talented students through in-class differentiation in the curriculum as well as selective extraction from mainstream classes.

As part of our enrichment, EDGE provides a semester-based withdrawal program that has a STEM, Philosophy, Critical Literacy and a Creative Problem-Solving focus for students from ELC to Year 10. Students may be withdrawn from regular classes for one lesson per week. Each semester, the group may be different, depending on the nature of each student's talent areas.

**Extension** groups in English and Mathematics in specific year levels allow students to be challenged and stretched. Many competitions and extra-curricular opportunities are also available for girls of all ages.

**Acceleration** is used through an individualised approach and after considering the wishes of the student and parents, whether that be a whole/partial year level, or subject-specific need.

All gifted and talented students are monitored to ensure that their individual program provides positive and effective intervention.

# Fostering a Love of Learning

We recognise that early identification and progressive strategies are crucial to the realisation of potential and that a gifted program is a necessary component of meeting the needs of our students. However, sustained development of each student's talent is also vital in maintaining curiosity, inquiry and a love of learning.

We look forward to welcoming students to the EDGE program, nurturing the many talents of our girls, and inspiring the next generation of leaders.

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St Peter's Collegiate Girls' School CRICOS Provider Code: 00373D

