

Class Placement



In Years 7 and 8, Classes will be formed in broad ability groupings to allow teachers to tailor lesson content, activities, and materials to best meet the learning needs of students. In Years 9 and above, this may not be possible due to different course structures in English, Maths and elective subjects, however teachers will address the individual learning needs of students within these classes.

These 'broad ability groupings' can be categorised as:

- HM – Highly motivated and confident learners (including High Performance and Gifted)
- CL – Competent learners
- SL – Learners requiring structured supports.

The Highly Motivated and confident learner grouping has been aligned with the High Potential and Gifted Education (HPGE) framework. However, please note, there will be no 'ceiling' on the results students may achieve within any one of these groups. It will be possible (for example) that a student placed in the Structured Supports group to meet or exceed the outcomes of those achieved by students in the Highly Motivated group. The school will also be identifying High Potential students outside of the Highly Motivated classes and catering to their individual needs.

The **High Potential and Gifted Education Policy** applies to all NSW public schools, teachers, and students. It describes a framework to develop the talent of high potential and gifted students. High potential students are generally considered to be motivated learners whose potential exceeds that of students of the same age in one or more domains. ***The four domains of potential include; intellectual, creative, physical and social-emotional.*** Potential exists along a continuum, with high potential students are found among students of all backgrounds. High Potential and Gifted students will be explicitly identified to address their learning needs to promote, engagement, challenge and talent development.

For incoming Year 7 students we will work closely with our local schools to develop a learning profile for each student in the year group to ensure, as best as possible, that students are placed in a class that caters for the needs of each student. Should students choose to apply for and accept placement into the Highly Motivated class, there will be additional expectations such as their mandatory involvement in external competitions, for example the Australian Maths competition and other similar competitions.

Attached is an opportunity for you to provide us with additional information about your child's learning to enable the school to assess their suitability for the Highly Motivated class.

If you choose to complete the attached application for the Highly Motivated class placement, please:

- Complete all areas of the attached application
- Include both Year 5 NAPLAN results and your most recent Year 6 Academic Report
- You may also choose to submit up to 3 additional pieces of evidence of your high potential within the HPGE domain(s). Examples may include, but are not limited to;
 - o Intellectual Domain: awards recognising high achievement in school, external competitions, work samples of outstanding work
 - o Creative Domain – samples of artwork, recognition of performances.
 - o Social-emotional domain – participation in leadership programs, peer programs, social justice programs

- Physical Domain – achievements in sporting competitions (individual, school or club based), representative selection

A review of class placements will occur toward the end of Term 2, following the publication of Student Academic Reports. As a part of this process, additional feedback may be sought from classroom teachers. The Senior executive team will review the work of students and consider whether their needs may be better met through a change in class placement.

Post it to:

Melonba High School
20 Galah St
Marsden Park, NSW, 2765

Or

Scan and email to:

Melonba-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au with a subject line “Learning Information – (your child’s name)”

Additional learning information must be received by Friday 3rd November 2024 for it to be considered. This submission date will enable the application to be discussed during your student interviews.

Mr L Weatherstone
Principal

Additional student learning information



Student Name:

Date of Birth:

Address:

Parent/Caregiver 1:

Parent/Caregiver 2:

Telephone Contact Number:

Current School:

To apply for the Highly Motivated class, please complete the following application. This involves:

- Parent/caregiver information about their child
- Student information about their own learning
- A critical writing piece (persuasive text) in response to the assigned question
- Letter to the principal

Additional evidence:

Please provide us with copies of:

- NAPLAN results (Year 5) and their most recent academic report

You may also choose to submit a maximum of 3 additional pieces of evidence

- Certificates of achievement and/or participation
- Student work samples
 - creative or critical writing
 - numeracy skills
 - artworks
 - projects
 - sporting achievements
 - involvement in extra-curricular programs

Video footage, photographs and other documentation may be included. Video footage must not exceed five (5) minutes. Electronic data must be able to be read by a Windows 10 system or later using Microsoft Office suite of programs.

A maximum of 10 A4 pages (separator pages not counted) may be included in the nomination. Video footage may be included of a maximum viewing time of five (5) minutes. The "Letter to the Principal as detailed on the following pages is a mandatory part of this application.

There will be a review of all Year 7 class placements at the end of Term 1 and 2 to verify the correct placement of students in classes which may lead to some changes to best meet the needs of our students. The Principal will make the final determination of class placements.

By signing below, the student acknowledges the academic integrity of this application, ensuring that all work is their own and has not involved the use of Artificial Intelligence or the expertise of others.

Student Name <input type="text"/>	Signature <input type="text"/>	Date <input type="text"/>
Parent Name <input type="text"/>	Signature <input type="text"/>	Date <input type="text"/>

Parent/Caregiver information about their child and their learning

Please tick the column that applies to each characteristic below that best describes your child

Characteristics

	Often	Sometimes	Rarely
Expresses himself/herself fluently	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is always asking questions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has a sense of humour	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Finds unusual uses for things	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is curious	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has a long attention span	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is easily bored	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is an avid reader	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mixes with older students and adults	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is impulsive	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is an independent learner	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is concerned about world issues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Demonstrates rapid learning ability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Demonstrates perfectionism	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Seems mature for age	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has a wide range of interests	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

At what age did your child first begin to read?

Is he/she self-taught? Yes No

At what age did your child show an understanding of numbers, puzzles and patterns?

How many hours per week does your child read voluntarily?

How many hours per week does your child write voluntarily?

What type of reading material does your child prefer?

Does your child have any unusual interests?
If so in what way?

What types of television programs does your child like to watch?

In what activities does your child participate outside school hours?

Please add any other information you may feel relevant to your child's application for the Highly Motivated class.

Signature of parent/caregiver

Date

Student information about their own learning

To be completed by the student for whom this application is being made.

If you were given the chance to meet anyone in the past or present, who would you most like to meet and why?

What are your favourite subjects and why?

What is your favourite type of book and why? *You may reference examples*

E.g. Fantasy, romance, adventure ... etc.

How many hours per week do you spend reading voluntarily?

What are your interests and hobbies outside of school?

Which domain(s) of HPGE do you feel are an area of strength for you and why?

Signature of student

Date

Parent/Caregiver Declaration

In dealing with this application, it may be necessary for the school, or another part of the Department of Education to look at documents held by a previous school, health care professionals or other government agencies.

This information will be collected, used and stored consistent with the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 and Health Records Information Privacy act 2002.

The cooperation of the applicant in accessing such information, while not always necessary, is appreciated and will speed up the assessment of the application.

Acknowledgement

I acknowledge that the Department of Education may seek and gain access to relevant information about this student related to one or more of the questions in this application that is held by previous schools, health care professionals or other government agencies.

I understand that the school may approach these bodies directly. The information the school requests may include information related to any of the questions I have answered in this application.

Declaration of support

I support my child in their learning to the best of my ability and support the school in their expectation that students:

- Complete all work as assigned and required by classroom teachers
- Undertake at least one hour per night study (Years 7 & 8)
- Make their best efforts toward all work in class and at home.
- Use a diary/planner to assist in learning preparation and organisation

I will ensure, to the best of my ability, that all work completed by my child for school purposes is their own original, individual work except for school organised groupwork activities.

Declaration of accuracy

I declare that the information in this application is, to the best of my knowledge and belief accurate and complete.

Parent/caregiver name

Parent/Caregiver signature

Date

Student Declaration

Declaration of Commitment

I agree that I will make a serious commitment to my studies at Melonba High School and I will:

- Complete all work as assigned and required by classroom teachers
- Undertake at least one hour per night study (Years 7 & 8)
- Make their best efforts toward all work in class and at home
- Participate in all opportunities offered for additional programs and external competitions.
- Use a diary/planner to assist in learning preparation and organisation

I will ensure that all work completed by me for school purposes is my own original, individual work except for school organised groupwork activities.

Student name

Student signature

Date

Persuasive text (*Student writing sample*)

Student Name

Compose an argument in response to **one of** the following topics. You may choose to argue for or against the issue:

- Social media and video games are more harmful than helpful for today's youth
- Should students have a voice in school policies and decision-making?
- Schools should focus on developing a well-rounded citizen, not just academic achievement alone

This response must be in your (the student's) own handwriting (not typed, unless there is some accessibility issue preventing a handwritten response)



Letter to the Principal

Student Name

Write a letter to the Principal of Melonba High School telling him about yourself and what you are looking forward to in coming to the school. Include reference to why the Highly Motivated class will benefit you and will allow you to achieve your future goals

This letter must be in your (the student's) own handwriting (not typed, unless there is some accessibility issue preventing a handwritten response)



Requested attachments:

(Please remember to attach a copy of **Year 5 NAPLAN results and your most recent school report** and submit with the application)

Optional attachments:

(Please place work samples after this separator page or submit as attachments; maximum 3 pieces)

For example:

- creative or critical writing
- numeracy skills
- artworks
- projects
- sporting achievements
- involvement in extra-curricular programs