



CATERING FOR STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENTS IN 2021

At Bunbury Cathedral Grammar School, we seek to cater for each and every individual's needs and appreciate that all our children are unique. While the classroom teachers will differentiate the work within their classrooms, there are times when further resources are required to ensure that the needs of students with significant special educational needs, and those that are gifted and talented, are catered for. Every year, the School provides 'Enrichment Support' and 'Honours Classes' to cater for these needs; but how this is specifically addressed varies from year to year.

Students with Special Educational Needs (SEN)

Mrs Sue Blenkinsop is our SEN Facilitator and works within the Primary School from Monday to Thursday. She provides tailored learning for individuals and small groups, on a regular basis, to support the needs across the primary years. Students may participate in several sessions a week, addressing fine and gross motor issues, sensory concerns, phonemic awareness and other learning difficulties.

Other Interventions (Enrichment and Extension)

Within the Early Childhood Years (Kindergarten through to Year 2), each class has a designated Education Assistant to help deliver the curriculum, whether this be to extend or support the students.

A small group of students from Year 2 to Year 6 have been selected to participate in Enrichment English sessions to assist their progress. These are held during the timetabled French lesson and are delivered by either Mrs Blenkinsop or the class teacher.

For Year 2, in addition to an Educational Assistant and the support offered by the SEN Facilitator, the students are supported by Mr Rob Whirlledge and Mr Benjamin Duff for two periods a day. Their roles are to support the delivery of the curriculum, enabling small group work, individual assistance and extension activities. The Year 3 class will be similarly supported by Mr Whirlledge and Mr Duff.

With the dual streaming of Year 4 this year, the students in this cohort will benefit from smaller class sizes and timely feedback from the teachers. In addition to the support provided by Mrs Blenkinsop, there will be extension opportunities in both Mathematics and English at least once a week.

As highlighted above, support for the dual streamed Year 5 and Year 6 classes is provided by Mrs Blenkinsop and through Enrichment English lessons. The Mathematics classes for both years are streamed into a core group, an extension group and an enrichment group, taken by the class teachers and Mr Geoff Dunbar. Ms Jan Pocock, our Teacher Librarian, will continue to drive the Honours English program; however, activities for this will be consolidated into a single day in Semester 1, which will look at creativity skills, and one day in Semester 2, which will have a different focus.

With the absence of Gap Assistants this year due to COVID restrictions, we have been proactive in initiating a program with several students from ECU, providing them with opportunities to develop their own learning in a classroom environment and to assist with the learning of our children. All these individuals are studying to become teachers.

Further extension for Primary Students is delivered through competitions and clubs including, but not limited to, the following: Maths Olympiad, Tournament of Minds, Have Sum Fun, Robotics, Literacy Centre Incursions, Science Discovery Day, Oral Language Assessment, Da Vinci Decathlon, Speakers' Challenge, Choir, Strings Ensemble, Steel Pans, Brass and Wind program, Orchestra, Camps, Primary Production and Round Square activities.

Please do not hesitate to contact your class teacher, Mr Benjamin Duff or Mr Rob Whirlledge should you have any questions.

Rob Whirlledge
Head of Primary