



SEALP Information Sheet 2020

What is Select Entry Accelerated Learning?

The SEAL Program offers a curriculum that enables students with exceptional academic ability to benefit from a faster paced, more challenging and enriched program tailored to their learning needs.

How are students selected for the SEAL Program?

Year 7 Footscray City College SEALP students are selected in Grade 6 through the following process

- Academic testing conducted by Edutest at Footscray City College on **Friday May 24th 2019 at 9:30am.**

How is the program structured?

The SEAL Program at Footscray City College is offered as a six-year program. While there may be exceptional cases where a student completes Years 7 to 12 in five years, our program is aimed at SEAL students completing the full six years of secondary schooling. A student may be academically ready for tertiary study after five years, however we believe a further year for social development and maturity will enhance a student's readiness for study in a tertiary environment.

Please note that by 2020 Footscray City College will have merged with Gilmore College for Girls. The year 7 program, including the SEAL Program, will be conducted at the Gilmore College site which will be the Junior Years 7-9 campus of the merged schools.

The structure of the program is as follows

- Years 7 to 9 - completion of the Year 7 to 10 curriculum
- Year 10 - a combination of the study of enriched Year 10 units as well as some VCE Units
- Years 11 and 12 - the study of VCE units, and the possibility of studying a first year university subject in Year 12

What are the defining features of the curriculum?

The curriculum will have an emphasis on:

- Content of greater complexity and depth
- More abstract and challenging open-ended tasks
- Higher order critical and creative thinking and problem-solving skills
- Independent research and opportunities for active investigations with a local and global citizenship focus
- a supportive environment that encourages learning and working cooperatively with like-minded peers

How are SEALP students integrated within the school?

In Year 7 and 8 there is a comprehensive and compulsory curriculum and all students are organised into homegroups, which they remain with for all classes except languages (Italian and Japanese) and sport. The SEAL students will also form a homegroup.

There are further opportunities in these junior years, for diverse peer interactions and friendships with students outside of their homegroup. For example, there are college swimming and athletics carnivals, year level camps and excursions, as well as a range of other extra-curricula options.

Year 9 SEAL students remain together for their core subjects of English, Mathematics, Science, Humanities and Health/PE. They will also be in mixed groupings for a range of electives and projects that are common to the entire year level cohort.

SEAL students will have individualised programs in Year 10 where they will remain as a group for English and Mathematics, but will be in mixed groupings for other Year 10 and VCE units. In Years 11 and 12 they will undertake VCE units with the rest of the VCE cohort.

Students will also have many opportunities to engage in the wider life of the college through participation in events such as the school productions, music performances, sporting competitions, student leadership programs, academic competitions, debating, and the many clubs available.

What are the expectations of students in the SEAL Program?

Students will need to be capable of independent learning and demonstrate a high level of motivation.

Accepting responsibility for their own learning, an ability to overcome difficulties and a high level of resilience are also important attributes in meeting the challenges of the program.

Students will be expected to meet a demanding work and study schedule and consistently demonstrate serious effort and persistence. They will also be involved in a range of curriculum challenges in partnership with external organisations, such as Melbourne and Victoria Universities.

Accelerated learning programs do not necessarily suit all students with exceptional academic ability so it is important that students are committed to entering the program. The student's' progress will be monitored regularly to ensure their continued suitability for the program. Students will be supported to remain in the program, but should a student demonstrate continued difficulty with meeting the expectations of the program, they may be required to move into a mainstream class.

Generally students who commit to the program will rise to the academic challenges and enjoy learning in a supportive environment that extends the horizons of their considerable talents and potential.

Closing date for SEALP applications Friday 17th May 2019
Edutest at Footscray City College Friday 24th May 2019

Enquiries to SEALP Coordinator via email: sealp@footscray.vic.edu.au

