

Forest Hill College is committed to catering for students' differing abilities. Research suggests that when talented and motivated students are provided with opportunities to work together in a classroom environment they are able to challenge each other and achieve better academic outcomes. To cater more effectively for talented students Forest Hill College has introduced the S.T.E.M. Program, for year 7 students, in 2010.

The S.T.E.M. Program is an enhancement program for talented students requiring work that enriches and extends them in the areas of Science, Digital Learning Technologies, English and Mathematics (S.T.E.M.). Emphasis will be placed on inquiry based learning, higher order thinking and problem solving.

We all learn in different ways. Some of us may learn best through experimenting or doing, others prefer to read or follow instructions. Some of us have highly creative minds and others are more analytical. In the S.T.E.M. Program, students will be encouraged to optimise their preferred thinking and learning style, while also developing other styles.

The S.T.E.M. Program will ensure that all students are continually challenged with work that is appropriate for their individual abilities and allows ample opportunities to work with other talented students. It will provide a challenging, technology rich environment, in four areas of core study (Science, Digital Learning Technologies, English and Mathematics). The rest of the program will be delivered in a mixed ability classroom, allowing all students to develop in their ability to work with others. This is a key feature of the Forest Hill College program and ensures that no one class or group is isolated from the Year 7 cohort.

The S.T.E.M. program will cater for approximately 20 Year 7 students in 2010 and will continue into Year 8 and Year 9, depending on appropriate academic performance. In Year 10 students will have access to a range of VCE subjects and challenging electives.

Students undertaking the S.T.E.M Testing are exempt from the Literacy and Numeracy testing on October 17.

Selection Process for Year 7 - 2010

Students wishing to be considered for the S.T.E.M Program in 2010 is required to:

1. Complete the attached application form and return it to the College *on or before Friday 28 August 2009*. Please include relevant documents as requested on the application form
2. Sit the Higher Ability Selection Test (HAST) at Forest Hill College.

Date: *Saturday 5 September 2009*

Time: *9.00am (approx 3 hours)*

3. Attend an interview at the College. Interviews will take place after the testing date.



Meagan Cook
Assistant Principal

S.T.E.M Enhancement Program for Talented and Motivated students

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| Student Name: | | |
| Date of Birth: | | |
| Address: | | |
| Contact Number: B: | P: | Mobile: |
| Primary: | | |
| Classroom Teacher: | | |
| Parent/Guardian(A): | | |
| Contact Number: | Email: | |
| Parent/Guardian(B): | | |
| Contact Number : | Email: | |

Additional student information: (Achievements in Mathematics, Science, English, Technology, Leadership, Music, Sports)

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Please return this form along with copies of the following documents:

- Copy Grade 6 Semester 1 report
- Copy Grade 5 NAPLAN report

Please do not provide additional documentation at this stage.

If you have any queries please contact Meagan Cook, Assistant Principal on (03) 9814 9444