



FAST PACE PROGRAM

WHERE GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENTS SHINE

WHERE STUDENTS LOVE TO LEARN



www.mcass.act.edu.au

What is the Fast Pace Program?

The Fast Pace Program offers students the chance to work in classes which are structured for highly motivated and talented students with above average ability, who are able and willing to work in an academically challenging environment. Fast Pace classes gather together students who have demonstrated both ability and a willingness to participate actively in their schoolwork. Students will demonstrate their ability to work both independently and in productive partnerships with minimal teacher direction.

Teachers of Fast Pace classes can challenge students with work in greater depth, and with enrichment or extension activities.

How is the Fast Pace Program special?

Students in the Fast Pace Program are placed in ability-streamed classes in Language & Literature (English), Mathematics, Sciences and Individuals & Societies (SOSE). The program has close connections with the Magellan Gifted and Talented program, and the MCSS Honours program. Fast Pace students are strongly encouraged to participate in academic competitions and co-curricular opportunities.

The Fast Pace Program is excellent preparation for developing higher order skills in readiness for students' college years at Melba Copland Secondary School. Demonstrated high levels of achievement assist in entering higher level courses at secondary college.

Which students enter the Fast Pace Program?

Students who are accepted into the Fast Pace Program will have demonstrated a high standard of academic achievement in primary school and a willingness to work consistently at a high level. MCSS is looking for students who are also engaged in activities beyond the classroom, as part of the wider community. These qualities are aligned with the International Baccalaureate **Learner Profile**:

<u>Inquirers</u>	<u>Principled</u>	<u>Knowledgeable</u>	<u>Caring</u>
<u>Thinkers</u>	<u>Risk-Takers</u>	<u>Open-Minded</u>	<u>Balanced</u>
<u>Communicators</u>		<u>Reflective</u>	

It is assumed that parents or guardians will actively support students in the Fast Pace Program.

How does a student gain entry to the Fast Pace Program?

Consistent with the ACTETD Gifted and Talented Student Policy, a transparent, ethical process using multiple criteria and tools appropriate to the MCSS community and

population will be used to identify students for the Fast Pace Program. **Students currently in the Primary Magellan Program are granted automatic entry.** The process for a student to be considered for the Fast Pace program will include the following:

- Completion and submission of the attached application form by **Monday 11th June 2018**
- Parents and students will be invited for an interview,
- Samples of work completed at primary school and results of literacy and numeracy assessments should be brought to the interview.
- Information will be sought from primary school teachers about the suitability of a student for the MCSS Fast Pace Program
- **Students will be required to undertake testing** (CogAT + PAT Reading, PAT Maths) which will occur on **21st June 2018**

Application forms are enclosed with this brochure.

Specific Skills

Successful Fast Pace students are characterised by a high level of academic skills, evidence of which could include:

- Above average grades in key subjects
- An inquiring approach and independent learning skills
- Being a reader by choice
- Expressing ideas and information confidently and creatively in a variety of communication modes
- Interest in gaining in-depth knowledge
- NAPLAN and Academic Competition results
- Showing a thoughtful consideration of their own learning

Formation of Classes

Fast Pace classes are formed from students selected by this process. Eligible students who cannot be placed in the classes because of lack of room will be placed on a short list, and may be offered places early in Year 7 if places become available. Priority is given to students in the MCSS Priority Placement Area (including Northern NSW Region students).

Later Entry

The progress of participants in Fast Pace classes is reviewed regularly. Students in mainstream classes who demonstrate through their work and overall readiness that they would benefit from placement in a Fast Pace class may be offered a place during Year 7 or Year 8.



Students who have problems coping with the Fast Pace environment are advised of ways to perform more successfully. If they are still unable to benefit from and contribute to the Fast Pace Class, they may be placed in other classes where they will be able to achieve more success.

Students in Fast Pace are expected to maintain a commitment to participation in extracurricular activities and the corporate life of the school.

Further Information

Further information may be obtained from:

- The MCSS website (<http://www.mcass.act.edu.au/>),
- Contacting the school on 6142 0333, or
- Contacting the Associate Principal:
Lee Pietrukowski
p - 6142 0333
e lee.pietrukowski@ed.act.edu.au



Fast Pace Program Year 7 - 2019

Application for Enrolment

Student's Name:

Address:

Current primary school:

Please state briefly why this student should be enrolled in the Fast Pace Program.

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

Will one or more parents or guardians be available for interview during the period

11th to 22nd June, 2018

Yes

No

The School will contact parents to arrange a suitable interview time. If you will be unavailable for **interview** between **11th to 20th June**, please contact the Front Office on 6142 0333 at MCSS to arrange an alternative time.

Name of Parent or Guardian:.....

Signature:.....

Best Contact number:

Email

Please return this form by **Monday 11th June 2018** directly to: MCSS High School

Campus Front Office, email : info@mcss.act.edu.au

Students applying for entry to the Fast Pace Program should write briefly about ...

Why I should be in a Fast Pace Class?...

Enjoyment of learning (what do you like to learn about?).....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Describe yourself as a learner

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Outline your other Community Interests

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....