Melba Copland Secondary School

Fast Pace Program

Where Gifted and Talented students shine......

www.mcss.act.edu.au

ACT Public Schools
So much more to offer
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 are able to 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 English, Mathematics, Science and Studies of Society and the Environment. The program has close connections with the Gifted and Talented program, Magellan, 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 gaining entry into 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, part of the wider community. These qualities are aligned with the International Baccalaureate Learner Profile:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inquirers</th>
<th>Principled</th>
<th>Knowledgeable</th>
<th>Caring</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thinkers</td>
<td>Risk-takers</td>
<td>Open minded</td>
<td>Balanced</td>
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<tr>
<td>Communicators</td>
<td>Reflective</td>
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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?
Application forms are enclosed with this brochure, further information is available on the MCSS website and is circulated among the primary schools. Submissions are required by Friday 3 June 2016.

Parents and students will be invited for an interview,

Samples of work completed at primary school should be brought to the interview.

- Information will be sought from primary school teachers about the suitability of a student for the Melba Copland Secondary School Fast Pace Program
- Results of literacy and numeracy tests may inform final class placement
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
- Mastery of basic numeracy processes
- 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.

Later Entry

The progress of participants in Fast Pace classes is reviewed regularly.

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.

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.

Further Information

Further information may be obtained from Michael Battenally or Mary Arnold on 61420333

Mary.Arnold@ed.act.edu.au
Fast Pace Program Year 7 - 2017

Application for Enrolment

Student’s Name: ...........................................................................................................................................................................

Address: ...................................................................................................................................................................................................

Current primary school: ...................................................................................................................................................................

Please state briefly why this student should be enrolled in the Fast Pace Program.
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Will one or more parents or guardians be available for interview during the period

14th to 24th June, 2016 □ Yes □ No

The School will contact parents to arrange a suitable interview time. If you will be unavailable for interview between 14th to 24th June, please contact the Front Office on 6142 0333 at MCSS to arrange an alternative time.

Name of Parent or Guardian: .................................................................................................................................................................

Signature: ..................................................................................................................................................................................................

Contact Telephone Numbers Home: .......... Work:

Email ..............................................................................................................................................................................................

Please return this form by Friday 3 June 2016 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?…

Engagement in learning ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………
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