

THE KEA PROGRAM AT KINROSS COLLEGE

KINROSS EXTENSION & ACCELERATION PROGRAM



Recognising giftedness & special talents
Fostering thinking & achievement
Inspirational opportunities
Aspirational leadership
Contribution to community





WHAT'S OFFERED THROUGH THE KEA PROGRAM

Benefits

Kinross College seeks to identify, recognise, nurture and support students who demonstrate that they are highly able, gifted or have special talents, interests or abilities. A guiding value in the development of the Kinross Extension and Acceleration program (KEA) is the pursuit of knowledge and commitment to the achievement of potential.

Earning a position in the program is the key to your child excelling and engaging throughout Years 7 – 10. If your child earns a position in the program they will be grouped with like-minded students and taught a specialised program that will prepare them for Years 11, 12 and University.

Provision and class structure

Kinross College utilises a multi-levelled approach around acceleration, extension, enrichment and compaction. The KEA program provides students the opportunity to follow a curriculum designed to meet their educational needs, which is challenging and where students can work with peers who share similar interests, aspirations and abilities.

Your child has the opportunity to earn a position in the Kinross Extension and Acceleration Program in one or both of: the following pathways:

- Humanities English & HASS (Humanities & Social Sciences)
- Sciences Mathematics & Science

Students will learn a wider range of practical activities, complex problem solving, inquiry and fieldwork, all of which will contribute to enhancing their abilities to excel in further study. They will learn skills to problem solve, become effective planners and learners, improve study skills, work collaboratively and develop their ability to become more in-depth lateral thinkers.

Acceleration

Acceleration refers to an advanced pace of learning which enables students to learn at a level corresponding to their ability and matched to the speed at which they learn.

Curriculum compaction

Curriculum compaction is a process used to streamline the regular curriculum. By rationalising the syllabus, time can be allocated for extension and enrichment that suits the learner's level of mastery, interests and learning preferences. The traditional year 7 to 10 curriculum is compacted so that there is opportunity for extension and enrichment.

Curriculum compaction also allows exceptional students the opportunity for advanced placement by subject or by year.





EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

While the core curriculum is covered, extension programs engage in a variety of stimulating activities, have sufficient flexibilities to respond to student needs, and tend to incorporate partnerships and links with outside agencies.

Students are encouraged to actively engage in prestigious external competitions.

Extension and special programs or excursions operate within the curriculum and through the provision of activities outside class time. Opportunities to be offered to students in the KEA program as part of their curriculum differentiation may include:

- World Scholar's Cup
- Scitech Innovation Festival
- Solar Car Challenge
- ECU Science Café
- University tours
- ICAS competition
- Big Science Competition
- Brainways Challenge

Special activities for KEA students will be funded through a combination of parent contribution and charges and specific school budget areas.

World Scholars Cup

For the past three years Kinross College has participated in the World Scholars Cup (WSC). This is an academic competition, but it's different from other competitions. It is a celebration of learning and it's lots of fun! Instead of focusing on memorising facts, the World Scholars Cup is all about applying them and relating them to the world around us. The WSC offers regional rounds and in subsequent rounds presents the opportunity to travel to a variety of countries overseas and finally to the Tournament of Champions at Yale University in the USA.

This competition challenges teams to work together and it deals with serious global issues (without being too serious) because before students can fall in love with learning, they have to find the fun in learning. Students work in groups of three to compete in four events; essay writing, team debates, interactive quizzes and multiple choice testing.

Kinross students have been up against teams from the very prestigious private and public schools across Perth including; Scotch College, Methodist Ladies College, Presbyterian Ladies College, Shenton College, St Hilda's, St Mary's and many more. Each year Kinross College has been successful with multiple teams successfully getting through the first round and securing themselves places at subsequent rounds. Shaun Hoskisson, a former Year 10 student and part of the initial World Scholars' Perth delegation, attended round 2 in Bangkok achieving 2 medals and a place in the finals at Yale University. To qualify for Yale you had to get an overall team score in the top 20% of all teams who competed in Bangkok. Shaun and his team, which included 2 boys from Darwin High School achieved this collectively. At Yale Shaun performed amazingly well and returned home with an array of silver and gold medals and of course many amazing memories.

Students that choose to participate in the WSC have a great experience. Whether they participate for just a regional round or continue all the way to the Tournament of Champions at Yale University, they're becoming part of a community of scholars and leaders that will last a lifetime. Students make new friends and learn from other people and even though they have to study and research a lot, they love doing it. Is it challenging? Yes. Can it be frightening? Yes. Will it be fun? Absolutely.



HOW WE IDENTIFY POTENTIAL CANDIDATES

The primary ability indicators to identify students for inclusion in the KEA program are:

- HAST (Higher Ability Selection Test) conducted at the College by application.
- Referral, by note of above average year level performance, academic records and/or empirical testing such as NAPLAN.

Student performance review

Enrolment in the KEA program at Kinross College is based on students' ongoing high performance and maintenance of a positive attitude towards learning, in terms of behaviour, effort and homework submission.

A student not consistently meeting these criteria will have their placement reviewed.

All incoming Year 7 students will have their progress reviewed at the end of Semester One to ensure that the program is suitable to their learning needs and that they are meeting work expectations.

Placement

Students will be offered places in the KEA program for the commencement of the school year upon:

- Application with supporting documentation for years 7, 8, 9 and 10.
- Completion of HAST and achievement in the top percentile for their cohort. Testing is conducted on two occasions throughout the year between May and November (dates will be published in College news). The test covers literacy, numeracy and abstract reasoning.
- Placement during the school year is possible and will involve identification by class teachers and referral to the KEA coordinator for moderation and class selection.

Student testimonials:

'KEA is a helpful and strong learning environment where I can concentrate and be confident in my working ability.' - Daniel

'We are all on the same page, we do work at our own pace.' - Matilda

'I like being in KEA as we are mentally challenged and helped along the way so we always achieve our best.' - Jasmin

'They challenge me so I get better results' - Joe

'I like the AE classes because everybody gets along and are nice to each other and it challenges us.' - Anzel

'Being in the extension program at Kinross College has given me the opportunity to extend my learning in fun and interesting ways.' - Mia

'The KEA program is an amazing way to spend your highschool years. It's a great opportunity to meet like-minded people and it gives you so many chances to do and see remarkable things.'

— Isabelle

'I am glad that I joined the KEA program as it has challenged me and helped me aim higher with everything I do. It has taught me so many life lessons and is a good environment to learn in.'

– Laura

'I am grateful to have been in the KEA program for the past 2, almost 3 years. It is such a fun class! It is a great opportunity and you get so many cool experiences. All the people are so kind and good peers.' — Kat

Further information

For further information on the testing and selection procedures, or specific detail about involvement in the program, please contact one of the Kinross College KEA Program Coordinators: Alice Sedgman or James Giles on (08) 9233 6700 or via email to:

Alice: alice.sedgman@education.wa.edu.au or to James: james.giles@education.wa.edu.au



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