

IGNITE

Gifted Education Program



Aberfoyle Park
High School



Academic and personal development to prepare gifted students for life beyond school

GIFTEDNESS A SNAPSHOT

Giftedness is an innate ability to understand ideas and processes, which are usually linked to specific subjects.

Giftedness can present itself in many different ways. Some students comment on being able to solve complex mathematical problems with minimal instruction. Others are able to craft rich fantastical stories based on imagination and creativity, or debate complex moral topics with a unique sense of insight and justice. These situations, and many like them, are regarded as signs of giftedness in young people.



Extension and support to suit the strengths and needs of each student

While gifted young people display innate skills, being 'gifted' does not mean being 'good' at everything. It is not uncommon that gifted students can also demonstrate difficulties, whether in specific academic areas, or in wider skills including social and emotional development.

These difficulties might include the ability to form relationships with peers of their age group, or the ability to make decisions for fear of making a 'wrong' choice. In response to these difficulties, the IGNITE program offers an adaptive learning experience that encourages the development of the whole student. The aim of the IGNITE program is to ensure that every individual is happy, challenged and engaged in their learning.

Gifted young people benefit from specialised learning environments that encourage their gifts. The IGNITE program fosters student talents, providing a safe, encouraging environment for students to discover their own identity.



Big Picture Themes that stretch across subjects

WHAT IS IGNITE?

IGNITE is a year 7 to 10 specialist learning program catered to the needs of gifted young people.

The program provides students with an environment to explore and develop their gifts, while supporting the development of fundamental life skills.

The IGNITE program offers dynamic learning options in English, Mathematics, Science and Humanities, allowing students the opportunity to explore skills and concepts outlined in the South Australian Curriculum at a level that develops their problem solving, adaptability and the transfer of knowledge.

IGNITE CURRICULUM

The IGNITE program allows students to personalise their curriculum. The year 7 to year 10 IGNITE course covers the required skills of the South Australian Curriculum at each year level through an integrated learning approach. Each unit explores core themes and concepts across the subjects of English, Maths, Science and HASS.

As well as the core curriculum, students have the opportunity to explore languages, health and physical education, the arts and technology. From Year 11, students have the choice of completing the South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE) or the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program (IBDP).

THE UNIQUE FEATURES OF THE IGNITE CURRICULUM INCLUDE:



- The opportunity to explore **wider concepts** within and across the core disciplines of English, Mathematics, Science and Humanities.
- The **specialist music program**, a two-year program where all IGNITE students have the opportunity to learn an instrument.
- A focus on **language**, which recognises the academic and intellectual benefits of learning an additional language.

IGNITE CURRICULUM STRUCTURE 7-10

IGNITE CORE

Connected themes across:

English
Maths
Science
Humanities

Specialist Music 1 Year Language

Studies 1 Year

Health and Physical Education 1 Semester

2 Terms of Specialist Subjects

Year 7

Specialist Music 1 Year Language

Studies 1 Year

Health and Physical Education 1 Semester

2 Terms of Specialist Subjects

Year 8

Language Studies 1 Year

Health and Physical Education 1 Semester

3 subject choices

Year 9

Health and Physical Education 1 Semester

Exploring Identities and Futures

6 subject choices

Year 10

BEYOND IGNITE

From year 11, students have the choice of completing the South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE) or the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program (IBDP).

Students have the option to study a range of subjects in order to meet the requirements of the SACE or IBDP. This includes the study of elective and compulsory subjects.



YEAR 7 IGNITE CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Each term of IGNITE explores a central theme, which is integrated and assessed across the core subjects of English, Mathematics, Science and Humanities.

Life on Earth

'Life on Earth' explores the fundamental needs that each human being requires in order to survive and thrive within their community. In this unit, students explore a range of social and environmental concepts to better understand how humans are motivated to live, and the structures, systems and resources needed to sustain them.

Land of Tomorrow

What kind of future are the next generation likely to inherit? In 'Land of Tomorrow,' students explore the relationship between economics and environmental sustainability, while investigating the power of human voice and the history of political influence. This unit empowers students to recognise themselves as creators of the future, and custodians of the land of tomorrow.

Then and Now

We are all shaped by the echoes of our past. 'Then and Now' explores the relationship between past events, and how these inform our response to the issues of the present. Through the exploration of human perspective, and the development of ancient civilisations, students discover the fundamental concepts that have defined and influenced our understanding of the world.

Strange Dimensions

What if the laws of nature could be changed? 'Strange Dimensions' explores mathematical, scientific and social concepts, and investigates how changes in these factors would influence our reality. This unit focuses on abstract thinking, and ventures into the unknown, challenging perceptions of life as we know it.



APPLYING FOR IGNITE

As a specialised program within the Department for Education, any student can apply to join IGNITE regardless of their school zone.

The selection process seeks to gain an impression of each child in order to understand their gifts, interests and areas for development. The program is not restricted based on academic achievement. Supporting documentation regarding giftedness and twice exceptional diagnosis is welcome.

Families can visit our school website, which provides specific details about the application process for each year. Our selection processes are frequently updated through the school website and social media.

So, check these avenues to see key dates for information evenings, principal tours and application events

For information or clarification on the selection process please contact Aberfoyle Park High School on the following email address

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