



HPGE and Extracurricular Student Procedures and Opportunities

OVERVIEW

Whitebridge High School aims to support our students to Aspire to achieve their full potential. This booklet contains an overview of the Extracurricular Activities that run throughout the course of the year. Some activities may be subject to change depending on the external organisers and student interest.

Students will be notified of upcoming opportunities via Daily Notices, Posts on Google Classroom and teacher recommendations through conversations. Students are encouraged to seek out opportunities that interest them and see the teacher or coordinator identified for the relevant activity.



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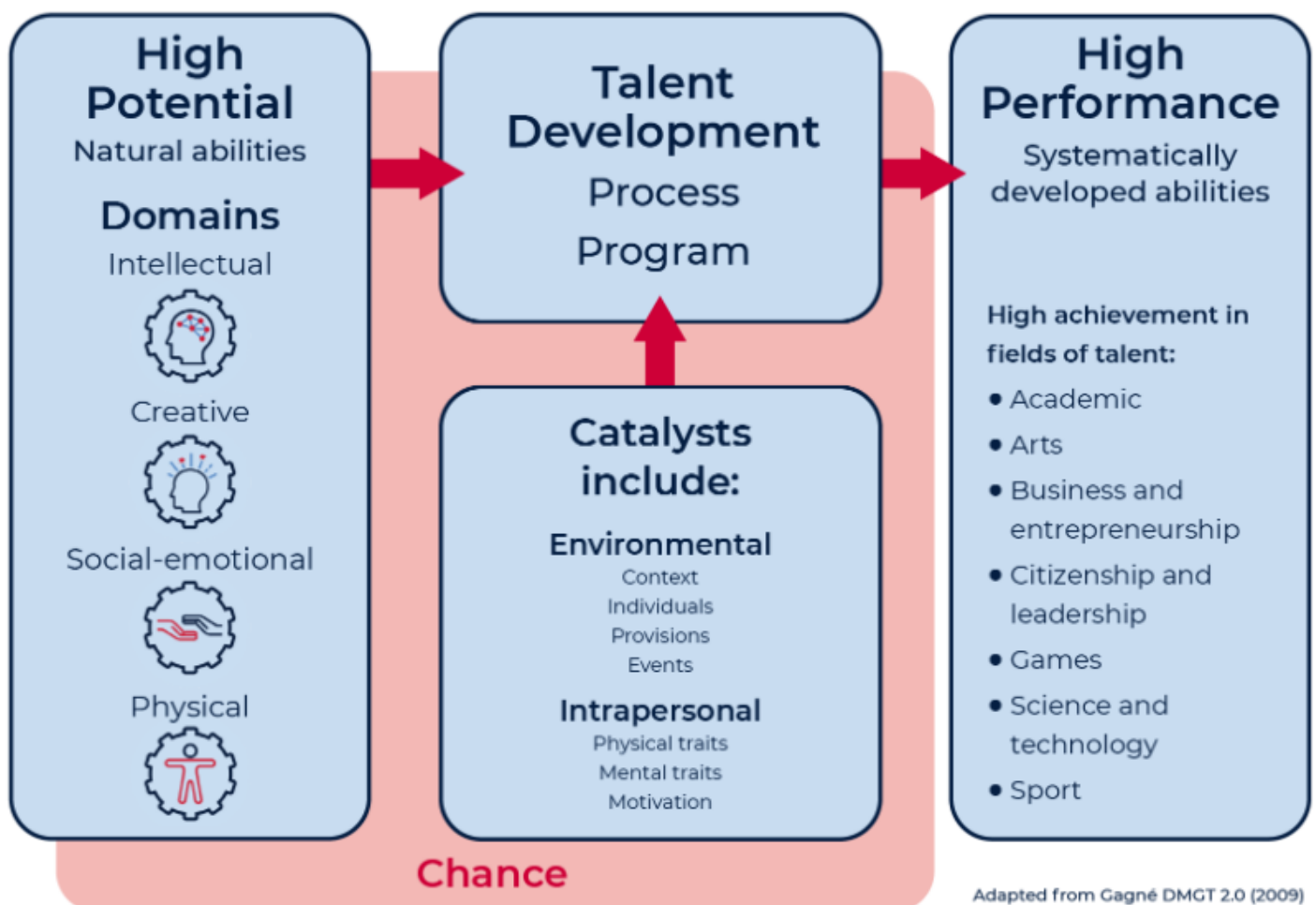
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INTRODUCTION AND RATIONALE

High potential and gifted students have advanced learning capacity compared to same-age students and, as a result, require talent development opportunities and differentiated teaching and learning practices to ensure their specific learning needs are met. This may look different across a range of educational contexts. As a secondary comprehensive high school, we aim to provide quality learning opportunities for students' talent development which may include extension, extracurricular and enrichment programs. Consistent with the NSW DoE HPGE policy, procedures implemented at WHS align with the following guiding principles.

- All Students, regardless of background or personal circumstances, require access to learning programs that meet their learning needs and support to aspire to, and achieve, personal excellence.
- Our commitment to high expectations for all students includes high potential and gifted students.
- Achieving excellence for high potential and gifted students is underpinned by effective school environments including quality teaching, learning and leadership
- Potential exists along a continuum where differing degrees of potential require differing approaches and levels of adjustment and intervention.

The NSW DoE HPGE policy draws on Gagne’s differentiated model of giftedness and talent (GMGT 2.0 2009). WHS procedures consider a differentiated approach, accessible to all students in all classrooms within our comprehensive high school setting.



The Whitebridge High School **ASPIRE** (Accomplish, Success, Persistence, Innovation, Resilience, Excellence) program is a whole of school program that is delivered both through embedded differentiated practices within classrooms and through extra curricula opportunities, individualised acceleration, timetabled withdrawal lessons, competitions, targeted events, individualised programs and mentoring. The purpose of the ASPIRE program is to provide students with challenging, high quality learning experiences across the school, taking in the goals and strengths of the “whole learner”. The schools' programs are based on the need to serve all HPGE students to support their talent development across the domains of potential underpinned by educational research and an evidence-informed approach on what works best for students.

Our focus is on developing student potential and talent across intellectual, creative, social-emotional and physical domains. Our students are supported to become self-directed learners facilitated by quality teachers, to be challenged to achieve and exceed their full potential. This program includes differentiated classroom learning with targeted groupings within each class to support extension and enrichment activities, portfolio learning, an emphasis on skill development and personal reflection, and whole school and targeted student participation in specific events and co-curricular programs.

Whitebridge High School offers “enrichment” opportunities to all students and further targets specific opportunities to identified students. Students will be invited to submit an application for specific inclusion in the enrichment mentor program. Individualised learning plans targeting High Potential and Gifted students will be developed in consultation with students and parents as appropriate and all students will have the opportunity to nominate and participate in key co-curricular programs. Enrichment opportunities give students a chance to experience challenge and alternate perspectives on their curriculum, while our specially trained staff work to further enhance each child’s talent development, promote their high performance and foster high potential growth.

The students who are most suited to the enrichment program may demonstrate one or more of the following attributes:

- be intensely curious
- learn new ideas or skills quickly and easily
- display a good memory
- ask complex questions
- be creative
- enjoy thinking in complex ways
- looking to contribute to the school community
- become intensely focused in one or more area of interest or passion.
- Excel in one or more domains (intellectual, creative, social-emotional and physical)

During Term 1 of each school Year, students are invited to nominate for the enrichment mentoring program. Students are invited to apply through the nomination form on their Year group google classroom.

Once student nominations have been received, parents will be sent a parent nomination form to provide additional details about their child’s interests, strengths and particular talents in addition to acknowledging the young persons’ nomination and support for their involvement in the program.

Individual learning goals will be established for each student in collaboration with student, parent and staff to inform the students individual ASPIRE plan.

This will further supplement the identification of High Potential and Gifted Students already undertaken by school staff. Students who nominate for this program are required to maintain high standards of engagement and achievement in their learning, attend school at the expected level of above 95% and participate in targeted and available extracurricular opportunities in the relevant HPGE domains of strength.

Mentor sessions throughout each Term will provide opportunity for individual student ASPIRE plans to be monitored and reviewed as required.

Extra curricula HPGE opportunities are regularly made available and advertised to students through the school's daily notices and on notice boards around the school. Further, some opportunities are also highlighted on the school's social media pages and a copy of the extracurricular booklet outlining a comprehensive scope of activities is available on the school website. A significant component of the schools' approach in developing highly functioning independent visible learners is the emphasis placed on students taking initiative and choosing to engage in the opportunities presented across the school that are specifically aligned with their areas of strength and to further challenge themselves against areas that can open up opportunities for growth.

All applications, for the enrichment mentor program for Years 7-12 will be considered by a panel of teachers and executive.

Applications for the ASPIRE mentor program will remain open throughout the year via the Year Group Google Classrooms.

Students identified as meeting relevant criteria may be considered for advanced learning pathways and individual acceleration programs.

In class HPGE supports are in place and are ongoing throughout the year through quality teacher instruction and differentiated practice, within class grouping also provide avenues to further challenge and extend students with similar abilities, extra curricula opportunities are ongoing throughout the year. Targeted student mentoring and specific withdrawal programs to supplement the school's ASPIRE program will commence mid Term 1. Below, we have identified a sample of the wide range of HPGE programs implemented across our school.

The school's ASPIRE coordinators oversee HPGE opportunities with specific programs, supported and delivered by staff across all faculties in the school. Individual students may be exposed to some or all of the following initiatives.

Sample Program Overview

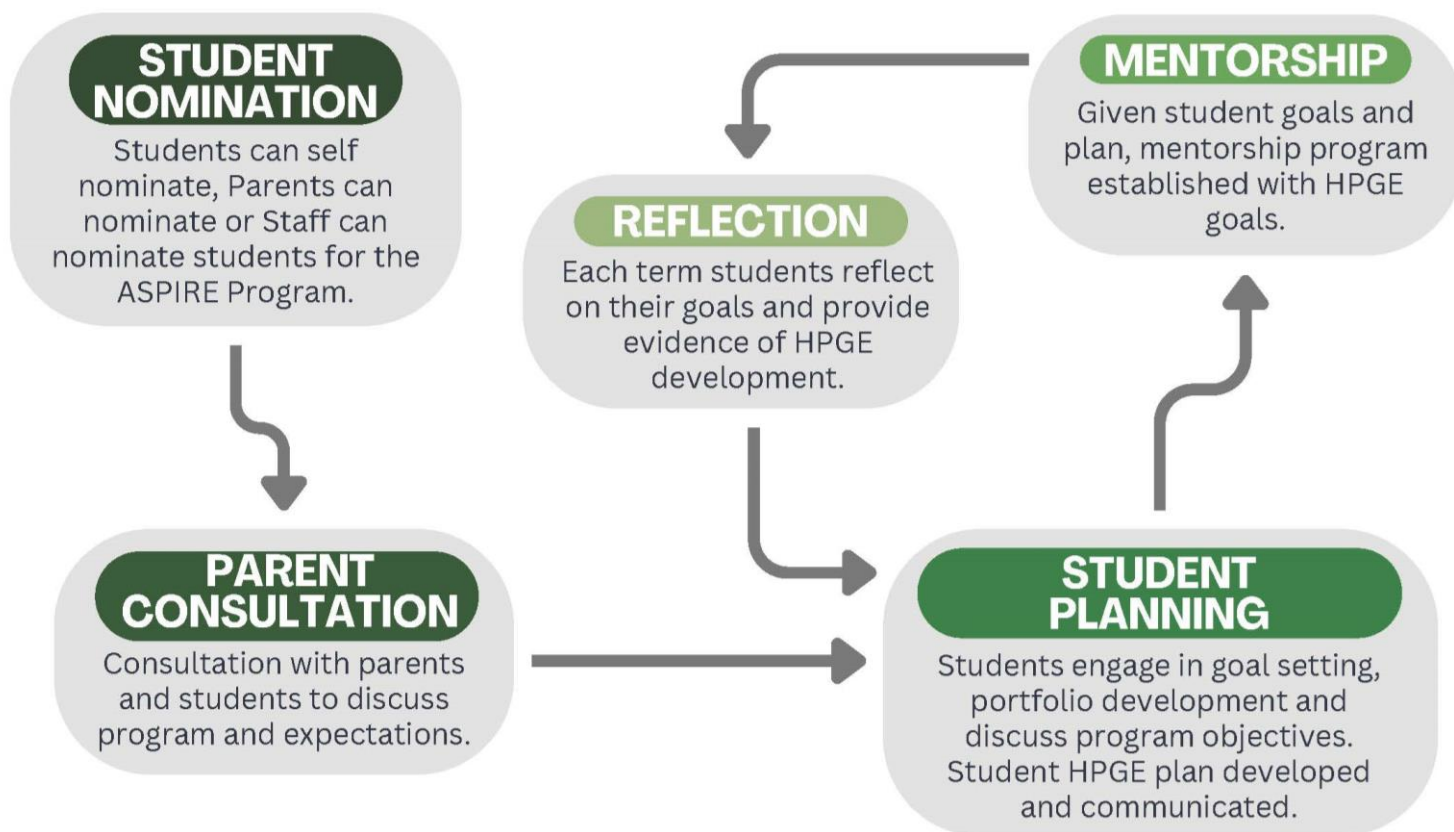
Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11 and 12
Mentor Program	Mentor Program	Mentor Program	Mentor Program	Individual and / or small group Mentor program (Mentor as identified by Students) Stage 6 programs are individualised to meet the specific goals and targets identified within the students HPGE plan. Supported Senior resources - study hub, careers, tertiary prep, future study, sessions
HPGE individualised plan – learning goals	HPGE individualised plan – learning goals	HPGE individualised plan – learning goals	HPGE individualised plan – learning goals	
Portfolio Development	Portfolio Development	Portfolio Development	Portfolio Development	
Curriculum compacting as appropriate – identification of students with consideration for individualised advanced learning pathways			Commencement of advanced learning pathways (acceleration) where identified.	
Timetabled, curriculum focus extension lessons	Timetabled, curriculum focus extension lessons	Timetabled, curriculum focus extension lessons	Timetabled, curriculum focus extension lessons	
Self-guided learning conversations with parent and staff	Self- Guided Learning conversations – goal reflection & progress reviews	Self-Reported Grades and reporting reflections through student lead conferences	Individualised Talent Development – 10% on top	
ICAS academic Competitions	ICAS academic Competitions	ICAS academic competitions	ICAS academic competitions	
HPGE Challenge Day	University of Newcastle reciprocal program	University of Newcastle Challenge experience	UoN High Performance program	

Independent Learning Skills	Participant / facilitator WCOS HPGE partner program & Network challenge activities	Development & Leadership of HPGE Partner Primary program	Student led HPGE conference	Spotlight and other additional exposure programs
Game Changer Challenge	Game Changer Challenge	Rich task extension challenge with presentation to guest audience / Game Changer	Early commencement initiatives	Targeted programs as appropriate: eg: Music tuition, Youth Parliament, Lions YoTY competition, Subject based competitions, Elite athlete trials, Leadership, Tournament of the minds, EV challenge etc
External Competitions and Targeted programs as appropriate: eg: Music tuition, Elite athlete trials, Leadership, Tournament of the minds, EV challenge, National History Challenge, Shakespeare Festival, Debating, Chess etc				

Additional Information and Opportunities:

- HPGE activities identified on the [school calendar](#)
- [NSW DoE HPGE](#)
- [UNSW GERRIC website](#) for gifted students and their parents

HPGE IMPLEMENTATION FLOW CHART



Identification

Effective educational provision for HPGE students depends on appropriate and accurate identification. Across our diverse student population, It is necessary to be aware that gifted and talented students do not always display positive characteristics, and are present in disadvantaged and minority populations.

Accurate identification requires a variety of methods to be employed, including some of or all the following:

- Psychometric testing
- Standardised testing
- Teacher observation and nomination
- Parent information and nomination
- Peer/ Self nomination (where appropriate)
- School Performance Data
- HPGE Team / Committee nomination
- School Counsellor recommendation
- Performance in external tests

Student Application Form:

This form will be posted into the Year group Google Classrooms for students to complete. 2023 Google Form - <https://forms.gle/JCcPubBb6RwgZQAQ7>

Staff Nomination Form:

Staff will use quality differentiated practice to meet the needs of all students. In addition to analysis of internal and external school data, staff will use the attached form for further Identification of HPGE students for inclusion in the schools ASPIRE program - <https://forms.gle/91KHBG1BkkRZvDiZ9>

Parent Nomination:

The parent nomination link will be accessible through the school website, the school HPGE implementation procedures and through direct email as appropriate. Parents are invited to nominate their child for inclusion in the schools HPGE program - <https://forms.gle/zusN3o76GSKYt5GM8>

Development of HPGE Plans:

Student HPGE Plans will be developed through consultation with student and parents. These plans will be available via Sentral with a copy provided to parents. The plan will identify student specific learning needs and goals. Staff will be alerted to student plans via an Aspire program flag in the student Sentral profile.

Progress Reports and Review Process:

A progress report will be completed at the end of each term with a record kept in Sentral. This will also involve student self-reflection. Students' goals and program objectives will be revisited based on progress report. This will be done via a check in meeting in which the students HPGE plan will be updated and goals re-established.

Further Support and Classroom Adjustments:

Staff at Whitebridge High School will be provided with professional learning to ensure that appropriate classroom adjustments are provided by classroom teachers to assist HPGE students in achieving learning adjustments at the extended level. These adjustments will be included as part of the HPGE plans and reflected on via the Progress Reports each term. Staff will also consider classroom groupings to further support and advance HPGE students learning.

Further enrichment will be provided via the ASPIRE Google Classroom for students to engage with additional enrichment activities. These activities are accessible across all Key Learning Areas and cover all HPGE Domains.

Extracurricular Opportunities:

All students are offered the opportunity to engage in a wide range of extra curricula programs aligned to all HPGE domains. The school's extracurricular activities are listed in a booklet accessible on the school website. Specific activities are offered through school communication in daily notices, emails, newsletters and through the ASPIRE google classroom. Students are required to contact the organising teacher to engage in their chosen activities. Activities that run will be dependent on both availability of staff volunteering to coordinate activities and student interest. Each faculty will take responsibility for coordinating targeted HPGE activities relevant to extension and enrichment in the KLA.

Independent Student Access to HPGE:

The school aims to develop active learners who are committed to personal excellence. These learners will seek independent activities for additional challenge, extension and engagement. The school provides a suite of structured activities and tasks for students to engage in via the ASPIRE online platform.

1. All faculties are responsible for upload of HPGE extension tasks on the ASPIRE google classroom which is accessible to ASPIRE students.
2. Where online learning programs are accessible – e.g.: maths online, edrolo, etc – links are available to students in the ASPIRE google classroom to allow for independent extension / enrichment opportunities.
3. UoN Study skills program, short courses and other targeted study skills programs provided to HPGE students

Advanced Learning Pathways (ALP):

ALP are made available and supported where appropriate following individual consultation meetings and determination of student suitability, academic and emotional maturity and potential for success. Programs may include UoN High Performing Students Program, DE specific course enrolment or Individual course acceleration.

Acceleration opportunities are offered where appropriate following

1. Identification, suitability and need established through HPGE plan review
2. Mentor consultation and analysis of performance data
3. Parent / Student consultation scheduled
4. Acceleration plan developed, implemented and supported.

Collaboration:

Opportunities and partnerships have been established to strengthen, support and enhance the schools HPGE programs. Collaborative partnerships exist with the University of Newcastle, Wiyellai Koa partner primary schools, Glenrock Network secondary schools, community agencies and targeted DoE programs.

Staff training:

All staff have engaged with professional learning to develop their understanding in the DoE HPGE policy. All teaching staff engage in regular professional learning to enhance their pedagogical practice to meet the needs of diverse learners inclusive of extension and enrichment for HPGE learners. Some staff have undertaken further training and successfully completed the Mini Certificate in Gifted Education enhancing their knowledge and skills in the education of HPGE students.

School implementation is reviewed regularly with school programs, procedures and practices analysed along with student performance, engagement and progress data to determine strengths, effectiveness and areas for future development.

LEADERSHIP HPGE OPPORTUNITIES

School Leadership Team

Description:	<p>The Whitebridge High School leadership body consists of an elected student leadership team in the roles of School Captains, Vice Captains, and Executive Prefects.</p> <p>The leadership team facilitates and leads many whole school events and works closely with the senior executive and staff to foster positive spirit in the school community. They are responsible for developing and implementing many student led programs and initiatives to enhance student participation, learning culture and kindness aligned to the school's values of learning, respect and responsibility. They often lead formal assemblies and represent the school at official functions such as ANZAC ceremonies and fundraiser events such as White Ribbon Day. The School Student Leadership Team is responsible for leading the School Representative Council.</p>
Takes place during:	All Year
Teacher / Faculty:	N Harvey
Approximate Cost:	NIL
Venue:	School

Student Representative Council (SRC)

Description:	<p>Students from Year 7-12 are able to nominate themselves to become a SRC member. If successful in the election process the students attend a meeting each week to provide feedback from their year and to discuss initiatives which they would like to foster. The SRC currently is making a greater presence within the school and the members are able to gain invaluable leadership skills in this process. Students are able to raise issues of concerns, collaborate with the Senior Executive and drive whole school events. Initiatives which students can become involved in are: 40 Hour Famine, Mark Hughes Foundation Beanie Day, formal assemblies, colour run etc</p>
Takes place during:	All Year
Teacher / Faculty:	K Mason (Mathematics)
Approximate Cost:	NIL
Venue:	School

House Leaders – Year 11

Description:	<p>At Whitebridge High School, there are four houses - Boomali, Jindabyne, Mulgabirra and Tingirra. Each house has leaders elected from students within the Sports House. School elected SRC members forming the Prefect group (Year 11 and 12) will be assigned as House Leaders to support elected House leaders in their role. The House Leaders & Prefects work closely with the School Captains and staff to assist with the various sporting events and leadership initiatives. They are responsible for increasing House Spirit and encouraging positive school participation in the PBL and rewards programs with All House Points earned contributing towards the Weerekata House Shield presented to the winning House on Presentation Day. It provides a great opportunity for students to develop leadership skills which prepare them for future roles.</p>
Takes place during:	All Year
Teacher / Faculty:	L Harradine (PDHPE) / K Mason (Mathematics)
Approximate Cost:	NIL
Venue:	School

Youth Advisory Council (YAC)

Description:	<p>YAC plays an important role in advising the NSW Government on issues that are relevant to young people across the state.</p> <p>Membership of the YAC provides an opportunity for children and young people to contribute to the work of the NSW Government. More information can be found at Youth Advisory Council (YAC) (nsw.gov.au)</p>
Takes place during:	Applications open end of year, runs all year.
Teacher / Faculty:	HSIE
Approximate Cost:	NIL
Venue:	TBA

ACADEMIC COMPETITIONS

ICAS English

Description:	The annual International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) English competition assesses students' skills in text comprehension, writer's craft, syntax, and vocabulary. Students will read a variety of texts which narrate, describe, explain, argue, persuade, and review. The texts will increase in complexity within each paper, moving from simple texts dealing with familiar subjects and topics to complex texts discussing abstract concepts and using sophisticated language structures. The 60-minute test is completed by students in Years 7-10 under normal examination conditions. Students receive a certificate of achievement and in- depth feedback on their results.
Takes place during:	Term 3
Teacher / Faculty:	C Felkai (HSIE)
Approximate Cost:	\$15
Venue:	School (exam conditions)

ICAS Mathematics

Description:	The annual International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) Mathematics competition assesses students' skills in the key areas of number & arithmetic, algebra & patterns, measures & units, space & geometry, chance & data. It requires students to observe and measure, interpret data, apply data, investigate, and use higher-order skills such as reasoning and problem solving. The 60-minute test is completed by students in Years 7-10 under normal examination conditions. Students receive a certificate of achievement and in- depth feedback on their results.
Takes place during:	Term 3
Teacher / Faculty:	C Felkai (HSIE)
Approximate Cost:	\$15
Venue:	School (exam conditions)

ICAS Science

Description:	The annual International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) Science competition assesses students' skills in the key scientific areas of observing and measuring, interpreting data, applying data, investigating and using higher-order skills such as reasoning and problem solving. The 60-minute test is completed by students in Years 7-10 under normal examination conditions. Students receive a certificate of achievement and in- depth feedback on their results.
Takes place during:	Term 3
Teacher / Faculty:	C Felkai (HSIE)
Approximate Cost:	\$15
Venue:	School (exam conditions)

ICAS Spelling (Year 7)

Description:	The annual International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) Spelling Bee tests a range of words from frequently used/ common words with simple spelling patterns to less frequently used/less common and technical words with difficult or unusual spelling patterns. These words can be organised under four types of spelling knowledge: visual, phonological, morphemic and etymological. The 60 minute test is completed by students in Years 7-10 under normal examination conditions. Students receive a certificate of achievement and in- depth feedback on their results.
Takes place during:	Term 3
Teacher / Faculty:	C Felkai (HSIE)
Approximate Cost:	\$15
Venue:	School (exam conditions)

ICAS Digital Technologies

Description:	The annual International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) Digital Technologies requires students to complete questions that test their general ICT skills, word processing, graphics & multimedia, internet & email, spreadsheets & databases, and programming & scripting. The 60-minute test is completed by students in Years 7-10 under normal examination conditions. Students receive a certificate of achievement and in- depth feedback on their results.
Takes place during:	Term 3
Teacher / Faculty:	C Felkai (HSIE)
Approximate Cost:	\$25
Venue:	School (exam conditions)

ICAS Writing

Description:	The annual International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) Writing assesses students' ability to write an extended response to a given task with a provided stimulus. Two forms of writing, narrative and persuasive, will be assessed over time. The 60-minute test is completed by students in Years 7-10 under normal examination conditions. Students receive a certificate of achievement and in- depth feedback on their results.
Takes place during:	Term 3
Teacher / Faculty:	C Felkai (HSIE)
Approximate Cost:	\$15
Venue:	School (exam conditions)

Australian Geography Competition

Description:	The Australian Geography Competition is an enrichment task because it's a contest for Years 7-12 Geography students, which assesses their geographical knowledge and skills. The Competition aims to encourage student interest in geography and to reward student excellence. It consists of multiple-choice questions testing geographical knowledge and skills. The answer sheets are centrally marked, and all participants receive results and certificates: high distinction, distinction, credit, or participation.
Takes place during:	Term 2
Teacher / Faculty:	S Nunn (HSIE)
Approximate Cost:	\$4
Venue:	School (exam conditions)

Australian Mathematics Competition

Description:	The Australian Mathematics Competition (AMC) was introduced in Australia in 1978 as the first Australia-wide mathematics competition for students. It has since spread internationally, with students in more than 30 countries attempting the same problems. The AMC is for students of all standards. Students are asked to solve 30 problems in 75 minutes (Years 7–12). The problems are designed to test mathematical thinking and questions are designed so that they can be answered just as quickly without a calculator as with one. The problems get more difficult through the competition, so that at the end they are challenging to the most gifted students. Students of all standards will make progress through the problems, and also be challenged along the way.
Takes place during:	Term 3
Teacher / Faculty:	N Campbel (Mathematics)
Approximate Cost:	\$4
Venue:	School (exam conditions)

Australian History Competition

Description:	The Australian History Competition consists of 50 multiple choice questions that tests students understanding of general historical skills and concepts. It provides an interesting and rewarding experience that allows students to challenge their understanding of Australian History. There is a prize of \$250 for the national winner.
Takes place during:	Term 2
Teacher / Faculty:	S Nunn (HSIE)
Approximate Cost:	\$5
Venue:	School (exam conditions)

International Chemistry Quiz

Description:	The ICQ is a unique chemical education activity. It provides a major focus for secondary school students on the relevance of chemistry in an exciting and stimulating way. The RACI invites all students to participate in the ICQ. The ICQ aims to promote interest in chemistry and the role of chemists in our society. The ICQ is not a nationwide assessment of chemistry knowledge, but rather an opportunity to promote Chemistry and for teachers to gauge the understanding their students have of the subject.
Takes place during:	Term 3
Teacher / Faculty:	S Edwards (Science)
Approximate Cost:	\$5
Venue:	School (exam conditions)

ExperimentFest

Description:	<p>For more than 20 years, the University of Newcastle has been working with local high schools to provide authentic, engaging, and hands-on experiences for HSC students. For those studying Stage 6 Science/Food Tech Subjects, Experiment Fest is the chance to improve laboratory skills and use specialised equipment that isn't readily available in regular classrooms, while conducting experiments that directly relate to the HSC syllabus in the areas of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biology • Chemistry • Earth and Environmental Science • Food Science and Human Nutrition • Physics
Takes place during:	Term 2
Teacher / Faculty:	S Edwards (Science)
Approximate Cost:	\$5
Venue:	School (exam conditions)

National History Challenge

Description:	The National History Challenge is a research-based competition for students. It gives students a chance to be an historian, researching world history, examining Australia's past, investigating their community or exploring their own roots. It emphasises and rewards quality research, the use of community resources and effective presentation.
Takes place during:	Term 3
Teacher / Faculty:	S Nunn (HSIE)
Approximate Cost:	NIL
Venue:	School (exam conditions)

Da Vinci Decathlon

Description:	e Da Vinci Decathlon Is An Academic Competition Designed To Challenge And Stimulate The Minds Of School Students. Students compete in teams of eight across 10 disciplines: engineering, mathematics and chess, code breaking, art and poetry, science, English, ideation, creative producers, cartography and legacy.
Takes place during:	Term 2
Teacher / Faculty:	C Felkai (Science)
Approximate Cost:	NIL
Venue:	KNOX Grammar

ENRICHMENT HPGE OPPORTUNITIES

Write a Book in a Day

Description:	WABIAD is a nationwide short story competition. Students collaborate to plan, write, illustrate, produce and print a book in one day. These books are judged against all other books in the country. The books are sent to sick kids in the hospital. Two thirds of the fee the students pay goes to helping fight cancer in children.
Takes place during:	Term 2
Teacher / Faculty:	(English)
Approximate Cost:	\$70
Venue:	School Library

Chess

Description:	The NSW Junior Chess League's Country Secondary Schools Competition is a knock-out team competition for schools outside the Sydney Metropolitan area. When a team loses it is knocked out of the main competition but then participates in a "second place competition" (also a knock-out) which determines second place in the region. The region winners qualify to play in finals which are held in November. This competition has been running successfully for twenty-four years and has enjoyed the participation of more than 300 secondary schools in the country regions of NSW. Benefits of school participation include providing opportunities for students to meet in friendly competition and socialise with students from other schools; the chance to elevate the self-esteem of students who may not shine in other areas; and additional opportunities to cater for G&T students
Takes place during:	Ongoing
Teacher / Faculty:	S Walker (Library)
Approximate Cost:	NIL
Venue:	Various

Debating and Public Speaking

Description:	Whitebridge High's debating team enters the Premier's Debating Challenge which is open to government schools throughout NSW, with age divisions for teams from Year 7 all the way up to Year 12. Teams entering the challenge compete in a round-robin series of debates against nearby schools, with the winners going on to compete at regional and state level to determine the eventual state champion. The benefits of Debating and Public speaking include: Collaboration with others; Time Management; Ideation; Empathy; Persuasiveness; Active Listening; Critical Thinking; Logical Reasoning; Confidence; and skills in adjudication.
Takes place during:	Ongoing
Teacher / Faculty:	S Walker (Library)
Approximate Cost:	NIL
Venue:	School

Junior Drama Ensemble

Description:	Junior Drama Ensemble is an opportunity for students to develop their confidence and performance skills in a fun, dynamic environment. Students learn the basics of stage craft, control of voice and physicality based on interest and character needs. The content of the ensemble is driven by student interest. Students work towards creating self-devised performance pieces which they audition for regional festivals and perform at MADD. In late Term 3, students begin working on improvisations skills in preparation for the Junior TheatreSports Schools Challenge Competition (TSC) in Term 4.
Takes place during:	This activity runs once a week for the whole year.
Teacher / Faculty:	A Fry (English)
Approximate Cost:	NIL
Venue:	School

Duke of Edinburgh

Description:	<p>The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award is available to all 14–25 year olds, regardless of their background. The Award is comprised of three levels, each progressively more challenging. The Bronze level award is offered to Year 9 students. They may then continue to Silver and Gold. Participants are required to complete four sections at each level: Service, Skill, Physical Recreation and Adventurous Journey. Gold level, participants also complete a Residential Project.</p> <p>At Whitebridge High School, the Adventurous Journeys are overnight hikes conducted in various locations such as the Central Coast, Watagans National Park. The hikes focus on developing navigation and camp craft skills as well as leadership and independence.</p>
Takes place during:	Various dates
Teacher / Faculty:	R Martinelli (PDHPE)
Approximate Cost:	NIL
Venue:	Various

Artist Hub

Description:	This vocal group is open to all students interested in group singing and performance, providing instruction in vocal tone and harmony singing. The ensemble performs at a number of local and regional events, with repertoire including pop, choral and acapella music.
Takes place during:	Each Friday at Recess
Teacher / Faculty:	CAPA
Approximate Cost:	NIL
Venue:	C2 Art Room

Vocal Group

Description:	This is available to anyone who wants to explore their art making further or complete work from art lessons. Senior Visual Arts students are encouraged to attend. Miss Beatty is available to supervise and help students with their work but is not giving formal lessons. This is free to anyone who is interested and students may attend when it suits them.
Takes place during:	Contact Mr Budden for information regarding day and time
Teacher / Faculty:	CAPA
Approximate Cost:	NIL
Venue:	G1 Music Room

Junior and Senior Dance Ensemble

Description:	The Junior Dance Ensemble at Whitebridge High School offers students with a passion for dance in Years 7 and 8 to learn, build skill, create and compose in an ensemble. Students will learn choreography taught by the dance teacher, with the focus of performing for a wider community audience. This ensemble has opportunities to perform at MADD night, the Creative Revue we hold for our Whitebridge Community of Schools, celebration assemblies and Hunter Dance Festival.
Takes place during:	Junior - Thursdays (Recess), Seniors Tuesday (Recess)
Teacher / Faculty:	CAPA
Approximate Cost:	NIL
Venue:	Dance Room

Starstruck

Description:	Star Struck is a NSW Department of Education annual performing arts event for Newcastle, the Hunter and Central Coast. It is a showcase of dance, drama and music performed by students from Kindergarten to Year 12. Students have the opportunity to participate as part of a combined dance, drama or choir, with their school groups, or if successful at audition can participate as featured vocalists or instrumentalists. In addition to these on stage roles, students can also participate as members of the student stage management, choreographic and props design teams.
Takes place during:	Over Term 1 and Term 2, with the performances in Week 7 of Term 2.
Teacher / Faculty:	CAPA
Approximate Cost:	\$100 - \$200, due to costuming that the child will keep
Venue:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Newcastle Basketball Stadium (Rehearsals) The Forum at Newcastle University (Rehearsals) Newcastle Entertainment Centre (Performance)

Hunter Dance Festival

Description:	Hunter Dance Festival is a Dance performance opportunity, presenting works of over 2000 students from kindergarten to Year 12. The weeklong festival highlights the range of styles explored through the study of dance in public schools. These performances are underpinned by creativity, confidence and respect for one another. The festival allows students an opportunity to experience performing in a professional production to a live audience whilst also gaining an understanding of the arts industry.
Takes place during:	Over Term 1 and Term 2, with the performances in Week 2 of Term 3.
Teacher / Faculty:	CAPA
Approximate Cost:	NIL
Venue:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dance Room (Rehearsals) Wests at New Lambton (Performance)

Encore

Description:	ENCORE is a program of outstanding performances and compositions by students from the HSC Music examinations presented by the NSW Education Standards Authority and the NSW Department of Education.
Takes place during:	Term 1
Teacher / Faculty:	CAPA
Approximate Cost:	NIL
Venue:	Sydney Opera House

Band

Description:	This ensemble is open to wind, brass and percussion players, providing a continuum of banding opportunities for graduates from our local primary school concert bands. Beginning students are also welcome to join, with support provided for new learners.
Takes place during:	Monday Lunch
Teacher / Faculty:	Mr Budden (CAPA)
Approximate Cost:	NIL
Venue:	G1 Music Room

Media for Millennials

Description:	A unique selection of programs created by Journalist and Educator Stephanie Aceglav, exploring the fascinating world of media, podcasting, social media, content creation, writing and radio/TV presenting.
Takes place during:	When organised / expression of interest given
Teacher / Faculty:	Mr Felkai
Approximate Cost:	varied, depending on the program being run
Venue:	School

ASX Sharemarket

Description:	<p>In the ASX Sharemarket Game, students receive a virtual \$50,000 they can invest over a 10 week period, in 220 companies listed on the ASX. The prices students buy and sell at are the same prices as they would get in the live market so this is as close to real life share trading as you can get. As a result of playing the Game, students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop their knowledge of the sharemarket • Learn how to research companies • Discover the importance of wise investment decisions • Gain a greater knowledge of economic and world events • Begin to learn more about investing which is beneficial for their future <p><i>Zain Masterton from Whitebridge High School was the national winner in this competition for 2020!</i></p>
Takes place during:	May and October
Teacher / Faculty:	(HSIE)
Approximate Cost:	NIL
Venue:	Online

MUNA

Description:	<p>Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA) is a Rotary District project designed to create an awareness of the role of the United Nations in mediating international issues. The purpose of MUNA is to encourage young people to learn about other nations and to understand and appreciate the workings of the United Nations while they develop debating skills and gain self confidence in public speaking.</p> <p>The debates reproduce genuine UN debates often with a fine flow of rhetoric, points of order, motions of dissent and bloc walkouts! MUNA is actually a United Nations initiative and there are a variety of MUNA events held throughout the world.</p>
Takes place during:	Term 2
Teacher / Faculty:	(HSIE)
Approximate Cost:	NIL
Venue:	Musswellbrook Council Chambers

Mars Rover Challenge

Description:	Are you interested in text based coding using Python? I am looking for students interested in using their Python coding skills to program and control our "Mars Rover" robots. You will build up your coding skills to program the rovers with the aim at the end of the year to compete in an external competition show casing these skills.
Takes place during:	Lunchtimes throughout the year
Teacher / Faculty:	TBA
Approximate Cost:	NIL
Venue:	School

MADD Night

Description:	<p>Semester Showcase: The Creative and Performing Arts faculty present a semester-based showcase of the programs offered in Music, Art, Dance and Drama, for our Partner Primary Schools, linking to our transition programs for Years 5 and 6. This opportunity allows our students to develop their skill in the creative and performing arts, while presenting the possibilities these subjects offer.</p> <p>Annual Showcase: The Creative and Performing Arts faculty present an annual Music, Art, Dance and Drama night, showcasing works produced from our students. Students have the opportunity to perform at this night by being involved in one of our already established co-curricular programs, or by auditioning their own individual or ensemble performance at the beginning of Term 3. Students in Visual Arts and Photography also have the opportunity to showcase their works and speaking on behalf of these at this night.</p>
Takes place during:	Semester Showcase: Term 2, Week 8 and Term 4, Week 8 Annual Showcase: Term 3, Week 7. Auditions are at the beginning of Term 3
Teacher / Faculty:	CAPA
Approximate Cost:	NIL
Venue:	School

Tournament of Minds

Description:	Tournament of Minds is a problem-solving program that aims to enhance the potential of our youth by developing diverse skills, enterprise, time management, and the discipline to work collaboratively within a challenging and competitive environment. Teams are required to work together on a long-term challenge for six weeks without assistance from teachers, parents or peers. They are encouraged to explore possibilities and experiment with ideas as they endeavour to produce their best possible solution. They develop a creative and original way to communicate this solution to others, working within predefined parameters such as limited materials, complex challenge criteria and the deadline of Tournament Day.
Takes place during:	Term 3
Teacher / Faculty:	Mr Felkai
Approximate Cost:	NIL
Venue:	School

University of Newcastle High Performing Students Program

Description:	<p>A joint initiative of the University of Newcastle and NSW Department of Education.</p> <p>The High Performing Students Program gives exceptional high school students the opportunity to get a 'taste' of tertiary education by undertaking first year university courses while still at school. The University of Newcastle program provides students with opportunities to fulfil their academic potential, help with career decisions, and can lead to credit for university studies. Now running for over ten years, the program is delivered at Merewether High School but is open to students from all schools in the region. The program aims to keep our best and brightest in the region, and to build opportunities for local growth.</p>
Courses:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Globalisation and International Management (BUSN1001) • Object Oriented Programming (SENG1110) • Foundations of Health and Disease (HUBS1417)
Takes place during:	Semester 1, Expression of Interest Forms due ~February
Teacher / Faculty:	TBA
Approximate Cost:	\$400
Venue:	School

Sleek Geek Science Eureka Prize Competition

Description:	<p>The Sleek Geeks Science Eureka Prize encourages students to communicate a scientific concept in a way that is accessible and entertaining to the public while painlessly increasing their science knowledge or, as prize patrons Dr Karl and Adam Spencer like to say, "Learn something without even noticing". It is intended to support budding young scientists across the nation, who will be our future leaders in research, discovery and communication.</p>
Takes place during:	
Teacher / Faculty:	Science
Approximate Cost:	NIL
Venue:	School

Green Team

Description:	<p>Are you and some friends at school interested in helping our environment and want to do more? Why not start a Green Team? Your Green Team can create and run projects and campaigns at your school to fix the environmental problems that you think are the most important to the kids at your school.</p> <p>Green Team members are the most important kids in the school. They set a great example and encourage others to care for our environment. Green Teams are student leaders.</p>
Takes place during:	All Year
Teacher / Faculty:	A Daugherty (Science)
Approximate Cost:	NIL
Venue:	School (possibility of excursions)

Premiers Reading Challenge

Description:	The Premiers Reading Challenge aims to encourage a love of reading for leisure and pleasure in students, and to enable them to experience quality literature. It is not a competition but a challenge to each student to read, to read more and to read more widely. The Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) is open to all NSW students in Kindergarten to Year 9. Students read at least 20 books in 5 months from a pre-approved list of books.
Takes place during:	March to August
Teacher / Faculty:	S Walker (Library)
Approximate Cost:	NIL
Venue:	School

My Place Writing Competition

Description:	The My Place Competition is open to students in Year 7 to Year 10. Through short stories, poetry, and other creative writing forms, entrants will paint a picture of everyday Australian life in 2020. This competition allows students to express their personal observations and experiences. Every submission will be unique as it will reflect each student's experiences.
Takes place during:	Term 2
Teacher / Faculty:	English
Approximate Cost:	NIL
Venue:	School

Science and Engineering Challenge

Description:	The Science and Engineering Challenge (SEC) is a nationwide STEM* outreach program presented by the University of Newcastle in partnership with communities, Rotary clubs, universities and sponsors. Through the SEC, students experience aspects of science and engineering which they would not usually see in their school environment.
Takes place during:	Term 2
Teacher / Faculty:	Science
Approximate Cost:	\$30
Venue:	University of Newcastle

STEM Squad

Description:	Are you and some friends at school interested in solving problems and developing innovative solutions? Why not join the STEM Squad? Your squad can create and run projects and participate in challenges throughout the year. Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) are essential areas of study that foster students' skills and prepare them to participate in a rapidly changing world and contribute to Australia's future development and prosperity. The future of designing and innovation starts here.
Takes place during:	All year
Teacher / Faculty:	Science / M Bayada TAS
Approximate Cost:	NIL
Venue:	School (possibility of excursions)

Sustainovation Challenge

Description:	The Sustainnovation Challenge program creates an environment for community stakeholders, local government, business and industry to interact with their local secondary students, empowering them to unleash their imagination on the problems and opportunities that we see and have in our local communities.
Takes place during:	Term 2
Teacher / Faculty:	TBA
Approximate Cost:	\$30
Venue:	School

Big Science Competition

Description:	The Big Science Competition is a 50 minute, multiple choice competition testing science knowledge, critical-thinking and problem-solving skills. Questions are set in real-life, contemporary contexts, making them relatable (and interesting). This is an easy way to challenge students from Years 7 to 10 and track their performance against state or national averages. Competition questions are aligned with the Australian Curriculum – Science. Students receive a certificate indicating their performance and those that perform well may be identified for other science enrichment programs
Takes place during:	Term 2
Teacher / Faculty:	Science
Approximate Cost:	\$5
Venue:	School

Wool 4 School

Description:	Wool 4 School is a design competition, for students in years 7 and 8. Each Year there is a new design brief which requires students to design an outfit that meets the brief and incorporates Australian wool.
Takes place during:	Terms 2 and 3
Teacher / Faculty:	TBA
Approximate Cost:	NIL
Venue:	School

EV Bike Challenge

Description:	As part of the Hunter Electric vehicle festival, students work as a team to compete for the EV prize by building a vehicle that can outlast the competition in a battle of attrition around a tight and twisty race circuit. On the way you will learn about teamwork, electric vehicles, building stuff, thinking like an entrepreneur and how to push the boundaries in vehicle design. The EV Prize is aimed at creating a fun and practical way for high school students and their families to be involved in a project that introduces high school students to Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)
Takes place during:	November
Teacher / Faculty:	Science / TAS
Approximate Cost:	NIL
Venue:	TAFE – Newcastle Campus

Australian ACER High Schools Cup ESports Competition

Description:	<p>The Acer High Schools Cup is a national program that provides students across Australia a robust and well structured competitive environment for High Schools to compete in Video Games. The Acer High Schools Cup offers students a platform to pursue their passion for video games and esports. Esports is a constructive pursuit that hones cognitive skills, team building, communication and sportspersonship through Video Games.</p> <p>Tournaments will be conducted during each term of the school year. High Schools may register their students at the start of each term, or in advance. Competition takes place over the internet familiarising students with the benefits of the latest technology and software.</p>
Takes place during:	Throughout the year
Teacher / Faculty:	TBA
Approximate Cost:	\$30 per tournament entered
Venue:	Online

Whitebridge High School Book Club

Description:	<p>Whitebridge HS Book Club is an opportunity for students of all reading levels to engage in the reading and discussion of texts in a supportive and engaging environment. Students are welcomed to contribute to discussions on how the craft of writing is exhibited within their chosen text. Book Club meetings vary between discussions, presentations and quiet reading. The intention behind WHS Book Club is to build skills in collaboration, critical thinking and to assist budding readers find their next great book.</p>
Takes place during:	Weekly for whole year
Teacher / Faculty:	L Salcole (English)
Approximate Cost:	NIL
Venue:	At school

SPORTING HPGE OPPORTUNITIES

Representative Sports

Description:	Whitebridge High Students regularly attend trials for Hunter Region teams in numerous representative sporting programs that compete at the regional, state and national levels. These include Water Polo, Netball, Basketball, Cricket, Soccer, Tennis, Touch Football and Hockey.
Takes place during:	Terms 1 to 4
Teacher / Faculty:	PDHPE
Approximate Cost:	Various
Venue:	Various

Knockout Teams

Description:	Whitebridge High School runs trials for school teams that compete in a range of sports for boys and girls including but not limited to Basketball, Cricket, Soccer, Tennis, Hockey, Touch Football and AFL. Knockout sports teams' trial and train throughout the year as needed.
Takes place during:	Terms 1 to 4
Teacher / Faculty:	PDHPE
Approximate Cost:	NIL
Venue:	Various

Carnivals

Description:	Whitebridge High School has a long tradition of high level competitions in athletics, swimming and cross country. These are run as stand-alone carnivals throughout the year and students qualify for Zone, Regional and State Carnivals.
Takes place during:	Terms 1 to 4
Teacher / Faculty:	PDHPE
Approximate Cost:	Various
Venue:	Various

SERVICE HPGE OPPORTUNITIES

Wowzers Cafe

Description:	The Whitebridge Wowzers Café was established in 2016. Barista training provides students with pre- employment skills enabling them to access casual employment in café settings. Students undergo a period of training where they learn how to use and care for a commercial coffee machine. During this training period they will be required to “Prepare and Serve Espresso Coffee” to industry standard in a café setting at school. Use of hygienic practices for food safety are also emphasised. Upon successful completion of the training and service in the Café, students could achieve a Certificate II in Hospitality.
Takes place during:	One morning per week
Teacher / Faculty:	TBA
Approximate Cost:	NIL
Venue:	School

Work Experience/Service Learning Year 10

Description:	Workplace learning helps students to gain increased confidence and maturity as well as greater self-knowledge through experiencing a busy adult working environment. This directly benefits their career planning and also builds on course work, career education activities and work education programs that the student may already be doing at school. Students also have the choice of completing a week of Service Learning in our local community which helps develop a local profile links between business and the community and the importance of being involved in the community.
Takes place during:	Term 4, Week 8
Teacher / Faculty:	M Bendall (Careers)
Approximate Cost:	NIL
Venue:	Various

Ration Challenge

Description:	For a week in September, participants of the Ration Challenge eat the same rations as a Syrian refugee living in a camp in Jordan - just a small amount of rice, flour, lentils, chickpeas, beans, oil and fish (or tofu). Money raised through this experience will help provide emergency food, hygiene kits and life-saving support to refugees and other conflict and disaster affected communities around the world.
Takes place during:	Term 3
Teacher / Faculty:	SRC
Approximate Cost:	NIL
Venue:	NIL

Charity Fundraisers

Description:	Some examples include Mark Hughes Foundation, Pyjama day, jeans for genes day
Takes place during:	All Year
Teacher / Faculty:	SRC
Approximate Cost:	NIL
Venue:	NIL

OTHER HPGE OPPORTUNITIES

Japanese Trip – Sister School visit

Description:	Every second year in September, a group of Whitebridge High School students studying Japanese have the opportunity to visit our sister school in Japan, Hisai High School. For about two weeks students stay with their Japanese host families, attend school and participate in sightseeing trips. In return, every year in March, we host Japanese students from Hisai High School for two weeks. This exchange program is a crucial element of the Japanese syllabus, giving our students the opportunity to develop their language skills, explore the culture and forge friendships.
Takes place during:	TBA
Teacher / Faculty:	T Quartermain (Languages)
Approximate Cost:	\$2500
Venue:	Japan

CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS HPGE OPPORTUNITIES

	TERM 1	TERM 2	TERM 3	TERM 4
Beginning	Excursions: Callback, Onstage, Encore, Reprise, First Class	Star Struck rehearsals throughout term	Hunter Dance Festival	Primary Schools: On the Road performances
		Bandfest	Education Week performances	
Middle	HPGE Primary Schools program: led by HPGE CAPA students	MADD Night	HSC Showcases performances and exhibition: Dance, Music, VA	Kahibah Club Music performances: Stage 4 and 5
		CAPA Concert: Year 7 and 8 audience		
End	Bullying No Way: Drama workshop	Live Lunch: Music	Live Lunch: Music	CAPA Concert: Whole school
	Live Lunch: Music	Star Struck: Dance and Drama	Are You Ok Day? Performances	Orientation Day concert and taster lessons
	Hunter Region Dance Camp	HPGE Interest Electives: whole school	Wellbeing Week: Performances and workshops	Presentation Day performances
		Lizottes Music Night: Stage 6		HPGE Interest Electives: whole school
		Kahibah Music Performances: Stage 4 and 5		

Whole faculty	Primary School: On the Road Performances
Music	Concert band Choir
Drama	Drama workshops Junior Drama Ensemble- breaks Senior Drama Ensemble- breaks
Dance	Junior Dance Ensemble- breaks Senior Dance Ensemble- breaks
Visual Arts	Artist of the Month
Photography	Photography workshops
Ceramics	Pottery wheel throwing- lunch club