

Specialist Class Program

Tomaree High School

Year 7 2025

Academic Extension (AE)
Specialist Sports Class (SSC)

Respect • Responsibility • Success

*Tomaree High School is a caring community school
seeking excellence through a commitment to relevant curriculum*



Phone: 02 4981 1444

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INTRODUCTION

Tomaree High School is a comprehensive 7 – 12 school with a proud tradition of offering a broad and responsive curriculum to young people. Our experienced and dedicated staff seek excellence in the delivery of relevant education.

Aim of Specialist Class Program

- To retain the many high potential and gifted students in our local area by providing specialist programs.
- To challenge our most academically and talented sporting students.

What are the Specialist Class Programs?

Tomaree High School offers two specialist classes for Year 7 and Year 8.

- The Academic Extension Class targets the learning needs of a range of academically high potential and gifted students. These students work through the curriculum quickly and complete challenging rich tasks that allow students more choice and the ability to work independently through an enquiry-based learning model.
- The Specialist Sports Class provides students with an opportunity to work towards their potential across several sports. The program provides students with the opportunity to work through a program of fitness, conditioning, and skills in a group of like-minded students. The program is designed for talented athletes who can develop a range of skills and learn about sports nutrition, coaching, and sport ethics.

What effect will selection in these classes have on school curriculum?

All classes in the specialist program will receive the same time in the core subjects as the remainder of their year.

- The Academic Extension Class will be taught programs with extension activities and extra topics planned in their core class which includes English, Geography/History, Science, PDHPE, Sport, Language and Music.
- The Specialist Sports Class will have a modified PDHPE program and sports program tailored to the talented sportsperson. They will also be taught English, Geography, PDHPE, Sport, Language and Music as a group in their core class.
- Students with strong skills in Mathematics will be identified in the transition process and the specialist class selections process. Those students will be placed in Mathematics classes which expose students to extension topics and activities, regardless of whether they are part of the Academic Extension Class or Specialist Sports Class.
- Some practical based subjects, such as Technology and Visual Arts, have limits on student numbers. This means students in specialist classes will not do those subjects in their core class.

Selection of students for Specialist Classes

Eligible Applicants

- Application for the specialist classes is available to all families who are eligible to enrol in Tomaree High School.
- Candidates will not be eligible for first round offers unless all supporting documentation required provided to Tomaree High School by the due date.

Out of Zone Applications

- Parents / carers may apply for non-local enrolment of their child.
- A separate application is required for non-local enrolment.
- Call the office (Marg Pack) for the separate application form.

Academic Extension Class Invitations / Applications

Students enrolled at a local government primary school may be considered for entry to the Academic Extension Class in one of two ways:

- As a result of expressing their interest in being considered for a position in the Academic Extension class by applying to Tomaree High School.
- The student was nominated by their Year 6 teacher (for students at local government primary schools) as their professional judgement is that the nominated student possesses the ability to meet the demands and rigour of an academically extended program.

Specialist Sports Class Applications

Students wishing to be considered for entry to the Specialist Sports class **MUST** apply to Tomaree High School.

Applications and Offers

- Students can submit applications for BOTH the Academic Extension Class and the Specialist Sports Class.
- Applications open **Monday 1 July 2024**.
- The closing date for applications for the Specialist Classes is 2:30pm **Monday 29 July 2024**.
- Letters of invitation for Selection days will be emailed to parents/carers on **Friday 2 August 2024**.
- First round letters of offer will be emailed to parents/carers on **Friday 13 September 2024**.
- Students wishing to accept an offered position **MUST** advise the school by **Friday 27 September 2024**.
- Second round offers for positions in Specialist classes will occur by phone by **Friday 18 October 2024**.

Specialist Class Selection Days

- Attendance at the selection day/s is mandatory for those seeking selection into the specialist classes.
- The Specialist Sports class will hold its selection day on **Tuesday 13 August 2024**.
- Selection interviews for the Academic Extension program will occur over a range of dates. They are scheduled to occur from **Monday 19 August 2024 to Friday 30 August 2024**.
- Students invited to selection days will receive a letter providing further details.

Selection Process

- The selection process includes application forms, teacher nominations (for Academic Extension class) and the performance of students on the selection day. Successful students will be invited to accept a position in a specialist class.
- In the first round of offers, applicants will receive an invitation for each specialist class.
- Classes will only be formed if there are enough successful applicants.
- Should students apply for both specialist classes, and receive an offer for both, they will need to accept one position and decline the other by the due date.
- A second round of offers may be made if spaces are available after the final date of first round acceptance.
- Each class will have a waiting list if there are eligible candidates, which remains confidential.
- There will be no oral feedback given for the selection days.
- Staff will not enter into discussion concerning justification of results.

Appeals

- Appeals regarding placement in specialist classes may only be made on the process, NOT the result.
- All appeals must be made in writing, and be addressed to the Principal, Tomaree High School.
- Any appeals must be made within FIVE BUSINESS DAYS of the date of second round acceptances.
- Decisions on appeals made by the Principal of Tomaree High School will be final.

Notification to Primary School Principals

- Primary school principals will receive the names of students from their school who have accepted a position.
- This will occur one week after the finalisation of the specialist classes.

Illness / Misadventure

- If an applicant is ill or experiences “misadventure” prior to the day of the audition, the school should be contacted immediately.
- If an applicant is ill or experiences “misadventure” on a selection day, appropriate supporting documentation should be submitted to the Specialist Class contact person via the school office.
- In both cases, parents/ carers of the student are also asked to call the school as soon as possible to inform of the student’s non-attendance or misadventure.
- Any appeal documentation needs to be submitted within 24 hours of the selection day.

Expectations for students in Specialist Classes

All students at Tomaree High School are required to adhere to the school expectations of Respect, Responsibility and Success. There are additional expectations for students of Specialist Classes:

- Academic Extension class students - demonstration of deep commitment to their studies, with all work completed to a high level and all class work kept up to date. Active participation in any required extension work.
- Specialist Sports class students - active participation in Swimming, Athletics and Cross Country carnivals. Active participation in all Sports and PDHPE lessons and consistent demonstration of sportsmanship, cooperation and ethical sporting behaviour. Successful students will also be expected to be involved in at least one other additional school sport program/represent Tomaree High School.

Review Process for Specialist Class Positions

- Successful applicants for Specialist Classes will generally hold that position until the end of Year 7.
- At the end of Year 7, the Deputy Principal, Head Teachers, Year Advisor, and Specialist Class team will work collaboratively to make any changes necessary based on students’ meeting of the expectations listed above.
- The decision to require a student to change out of any class for the following year will be based on Year 7 report results and comments.
- In some cases, a review of a student’s placement may occur prior to the end of Year 7 if students do not meet course specific outcomes as outlined.
- Parents/carers and the student will be made aware of the review if this process takes place.
- Students who do not comply with the specific course expectations as outlined above will be given an opportunity to show improvement to maintain their position in the class.
- A review process will be conducted in conjunction with the students, parents, Deputy Principal and relevant Head Teachers where students will be given support to address the issues and get back on track.
- Parents/carers can request an interview to change their student out of a specialist class at any time throughout Stage 4, and the school will accommodate this request where necessary and possible.

Application Timeline (Specialist Class Programs)

Term 2	Week 10	<p>APPLICATIONS OPEN</p> <p>Specialist Class booklet/applications for Academic Extension and Specialist Sports Classes are available on the Tomaree High School website.</p>	1.07.24
	Week 2	<p>APPLICATIONS CLOSE</p> <p>Parents/carers to submit a completed application for Academic Extension and Specialist Sports classes to Tomaree High School by 2:30pm.</p> <p><i>Please note that it is NOT the responsibility of the applicant's school to submit application forms.</i></p>	29.07.24
Term 3		<p>LETTERS OF INVITATION FOR SELECTION DAYS</p> <p>Letters of invitation for the Academic Extension and Specialist Sports classes selection days emailed to parents / carer.</p>	2.08.24
	Week 4	<p>SPECIALIST SPORTS CLASS SELECTION DAY at TOMAREE HIGH SCHOOL</p> <p>Details of times and requirements for the selection day will be outlined in the letter of invitation. Applicants who experience illness/misadventure, must submit appropriate documentation within 24 hrs of the day.</p> <p>NOTE: In the case of rain, a backup date for the Specialist Sports Class Selection day will be 15.08.24.</p>	13.08.24
	Weeks 5/6	<p>ACADEMIC EXTENSION CLASS SELECTION DAYS</p> <p>Details of times and requirements outlined in the letters of invitation.</p> <p><i>Applicants who experience illness/ misadventure, must submit appropriate documentation within 24 hrs of the day.</i></p>	19.08.24 to 30.08.24
	Week 8	<p>FIRST ROUND OFFERS VIA EMAIL</p> <p>Letters of offer for placement in the Specialist Classes emailed to parents/carers.</p>	13.09.24
	Week 10	<p>DUE DATE FOR ACCEPTANCE OF FIRST ROUND OFFERS</p> <p>First round acceptance for Academic Extension and Specialist Sports Class. Parents/carers are required to confirm or decline placements for their children at Tomaree High School.</p>	27.09.24
Term 4	Week 1	<p>SECOND ROUND OFFERS (BY PHONE)</p> <p>Academic Extension and Specialist Sports classes second round offers will occur by phone. Parents/carers are required to confirm or decline placements for their children.</p>	18.10.24
	Week 3	<p>PRIMARY PRINCIPALS INFORMED OF SELECTIONS</p> <p>Primary Principals informed of successful applicants.</p>	28.10.24

Academic Extension Selection

Students applying for the Academic Selection Class in 2025 will be considered based on a portfolio, an in-person conversation and NAPLAN and Check-In data.

Portfolio

The portfolio should be collated in an A4 display folder.

The portfolio will be submitted at the student's in-person conversation.

In-person conversations will occur between Monday 19 August 2024 to Friday 30 August 2024.

Students and families are asked to create a short portfolio of samples which demonstrate the student's achievement in academic excellence.

The portfolio should include:

- The student's Year 5 report (end of year) and Year 6 report (mid-year).
- A sample of writing which demonstrates exemplary literacy skills.
- A sample of work which demonstrates highly developed numeracy skills.
- A sample of work which demonstrates sophisticated problem solving and/or critical thinking skills where the student has designed or created a solution to a complex problem.
- A sample which shows a hobby, interest, or talent the student engages in outside of school.

Samples are limited to **5 pages**. Samples could include written documents, worksheets, photos.

In-person conversation

Students will have a 5-10 minute conversation with two staff members from Tomaree High School. This will be an opportunity for students to share and submit their portfolio, as well as highlight their strengths and commitment to learning.

NAPLAN and Check-In Data

Data from standardised literacy and numeracy examinations will be requested from the student's primary school and may be considered as a part of the selection process.

Selection Days

Students at local government schools will complete their in-person conversations and submit their portfolios at their primary school. Students out of area or attending non-government schools will be invited to attend a session at Tomaree High School. Selection days will be held from **Monday 19 August 2024 to Friday 30 August 2024**. Specific dates will be provided when letters of invitation are emailed on **Friday 2 August 2024**.

Specialist Sports Class

Contact teachers: Neanthe Marsh and Dimity Stewart 4981 1444

Specialist Sports Class Selection Day

All students applying for the Specialist Sports Class will be required to attend the selection day. This selection day will be held at Tomaree High School on **Tuesday 13 August 2024** (with a backup date in case of rain on **Thursday 15 August 2024**).

If students are unable to attend the selection day for any reason, parents should notify the school as soon as possible. Applicants who experience illness/misadventure, must submit appropriate documentation within 24 hrs of the day. If an illness/misadventure appeal is not successful, students may be considered for a place in the Specialist Class during Term One 2025 and may then be offered a position in the class.

During the selection day, applicants will complete a variety of basic sporting skills tests. Depending on the number of applicants, students will be trialled either as a whole group or as smaller groups.

Students will also be asked to participate in several modified games and will be assessed on defending, attacking and positioning skills, as well as teamwork, attitude, communication, and sportsmanship.

One of the sessions will involve problem solving and initiative. Students will be assessed on their adaptability and their range of strategic awareness across a variety of sports.

Throughout the day students will be observed for their ability to follow instructions, and demonstrate Tomaree High School's PBL values of Respect, Responsibility, and Success.

If successful students will be offered a provisional placement for Semester One 2025. This placement will be reviewed continually throughout the year. Successful candidates are expected to attend and participate in an active capacity at school carnivals as well as trialling for at least one other additional school sport program/represent Tomaree High School. Active participation can involve assisting with organisation, demonstrating house spirit, preparing equipment and set up, involvement in alternate activities etc.

Application Form Checklist

Hard copies of applications are required and **MUST** be received or delivered to the school by **Monday 29 July 2024 by 2:30pm (Term 3 Week 2)**.

The following pages include the appropriate forms to apply for the Academic Extension and Specialist Sports Classes **in Year 7, 2025** at Tomaree High School.

Please read all the information carefully and ensure each form or document required are sent with the application. NOTE: Documents will NOT be returned to applicants, so please only send copies.

Documents to be submitted with applications:

PHOTOGRAPH

Please include with your application one passport size photo of the applicant. This is for identification purposes only. Each photograph should have the name of the student clearly printed on the back. The photograph is not returnable.

COPY (not original) of SEMESTER ONE (2024) SCHOOL REPORT

All application forms and corresponding documents must be forwarded to:

The Principal

Tomaree High School

Salamander Way

SALAMANDER BAY

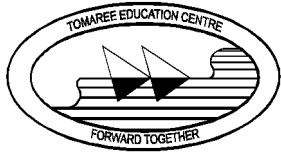
NSW

2317

Please contact the school if you require additional information or assistance:

Phone: 4981 1444

Email: tomaree-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au



ACADEMIC EXTENSION CLASS APPLICATION FORM

*Attach applicant
photo here*

STUDENT INFORMATION *(Please Print)*

Family Name _____

Given Names _____

Date of Birth _____

Gender: Female Male

Aboriginal or Torres St. Islander? **Yes / No** From a non-English speaking background? **Yes / No**

Parent/Guardian's Name _____ Ms Mrs Mr Dr (Please circle one)

Home Address _____ Postcode _____

Contact Numbers Home _____ Work _____ Mobile _____

Email Address: _____

Name of Primary School the applicant is currently attending _____

EXPERIENCE

Give details of your academic achievements, including participation in external competitions.

Parent/Guardian signature: _____ Date: _____

MOTIVATION To be completed, as a handwritten response, by the student.

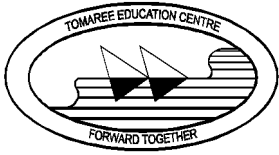
Why do you wish to be part of the Academic Extension Class?

Student signature: _____ Date: _____

APPLICATION CHECKLIST – To be completed by class coordinator

PHOTOGRAPH

SEMESTER ONE (2024) SCHOOL REPORT



SPECIALIST SPORTS CLASS APPLICATION FORM

*Attach applicant
photo here*

STUDENT INFORMATION *(Please Print)*

Family Name _____

Given Names _____

Date of Birth _____

Gender: Female Male

Aboriginal or Torres St. Islander? **Yes / No** From a non-English speaking background? **Yes / No**

Parent/Guardian's Name _____

Ms Mrs Mr Dr (Please circle one)

Home Address _____

Postcode _____

Contact Numbers *Home* _____

Work _____

Mobile _____

Email Address: _____

Name of Primary School the applicant is currently attending _____

EXPERIENCE

Give details of sporting experience and achievements from the previous two years:

SCHOOL SPORT:

COMMUNITY/REPRESENTATIVE SPORT:

Parent/Guardian signature: _____ Date: _____

MOTIVATION To be completed, as a handwritten response, by the student.

Why do you wish to be part of the Specialist Sports Class?

Student signature: _____ Date: _____

APPLICATION CHECKLIST – To be completed by class co-ordinator

PHOTOGRAPH

SEMESTER ONE (2024) SCHOOL REPORT