MacGregor State High School

Programs of Excellence 2027

Programs of Excellence

MacGregor State High School fosters a culture of growth and development in our students to help them achieve our motto, 'The Best We Can Be'. A key aspect of this development is finding individual strengths and supporting students as they learn and grow in these areas while developing the skills needed to contribute meaningfully to society. To help foster this growth, the school is committed to building capacity and excellence through our curricular and extra-curricular programs which provide numerous opportunities for academic, cultural, and sporting development.

Our school offers a range of **Programs of Excellence** to our students so that they may be supported to attain levels of mastery in their chosen fields which go beyond the traditional school opportunities.

The Programs of Excellence we offer at MacGregor State High School include:

- Academic Excellence Program
  - Honours Class (Curriculum Stream)
  - Enrichment Program (Extracurricular Stream)
- Music Excellence Program
- Performing Arts Excellence Program
- Sporting Excellence Program
- Volleyball Development Program

As MacGregor State High School operates under an Enrolment Management Plan, enrolments are managed in accordance with Department of Education guidelines. Our Excellence Programs are open to both **in-catchment and out-of-catchment students** and provide an additional pathway for families seeking enrolment at the school, including those who reside outside the MacGregor SHS catchment.

All **applications** for Programs of Excellence must include copies of your student's two most recent report cards and Year 5 NAPLAN results. In addition, each Excellence Program has specific requirements, which may include auditions, trials, application videos or interviews. Following the first round of applications, families will be advised whether their application has been successful, unsuccessful, or progressed to further consideration in a second round. Where demand exceeds available places, applications are assessed on merit, rather than on the order in which they are received.

Scholarships are awarded at the discretion of the school through a highly competitive, merit-based process. Through the Excellence Program application, MacGregor State High School identifies exceptional learners, performers and athletes who demonstrate outstanding achievement and the capacity to contribute meaningfully to the academic, cultural and sporting life of the school. A separate scholarship application is not required, as all applicants are considered automatically.

Academic Excellence Program

MacGregor State High School's Academic Excellence Pathway is designed for students who demonstrate strong academic potential and enjoy being challenged. The pathway offers a structured program of academic extension and enrichment for students who are curious, motivated learners and benefit from opportunities that stretch their thinking beyond the core curriculum.

Through rich learning experiences, students are challenged to test their thinking, solve complex problems and explore new and emerging technologies. Learning experiences emphasise analytical thinking, innovation and using learning to solve new and real-world problems.

Who the Program is for

The Academic Excellence Pathway provides opportunities for academically high achieving students to:

- Extend and deepen learning for students with demonstrated academic strength
- Engage in challenging problem solving that requires logic, creativity and persistence
- Explore STEM-focused learning, digital technologies and innovative applications
- Foster a strong culture of curiosity, effort and academic engagement

Eligibility and Application Process

Entry into the Academic Excellence Pathway is merit-based and determined through a transparent application process. Consideration may include:

- NAPLAN results (Year 5)
- Year 5 and 6 academic reports, with particular attention to achievement data and learning behaviours
- Student application video (maximum 2 minutes). In your video you should discuss your learning strengths and how you approach learning. You may like to include:
    - Your strengths as a learner
    - How you learn best
    - What helps you stay focused/motivated
    - Discuss how this would help you attain success in the Academic Excellence Program
- A suitability interview, focusing on commitment and readiness, may be requested

Applications are reviewed holistically to determine whether the pathway is an appropriate educational fit for the student.

Learning and Enrichment Opportunities

Students accepted into the Academic Excellence Pathway may access a range of extension and enrichment opportunities, including:

- Participation in academic competitions such as ICAS, Readers Cup and the Australian Mathematics Competition (AMC)
- Enrichment opportunities in STEM, digital technologies, engineering and problem-solving
- Structured extension activities that promote advanced thinking and application of knowledge
- Collaborative learning experiences that connect curriculum learning to authentic contexts

Ongoing Participation

Ongoing participation is dependent on students meeting the expectations of the pathway and engaging consistently with the learning opportunities provided. Participation is reviewed in line with school processes to ensure the program continues to support students' learning needs.

Music Excellence Program

The Music Excellence Program provides structured performance, rehearsal and extension opportunities for students who demonstrate interest, commitment and potential in **instrumental and/or vocal music**. The program supports students to develop high-level musicianship, ensemble skills and performance confidence while remaining fully engaged in their academic learning.

Who the Program is for

Students who have engaged with vocal or instrumental opportunities and have a passion to deepen their understanding and skillset should seek to apply. Students accepted in this program participate in coordinated music ensembles and enrichment experiences that foster collaboration, discipline and creative expression. The program values both technical development and the personal growth that comes through sustained musical involvement.

Eligibility and Selection Process

The Music Excellence Program is suited to students who:

- Demonstrate interest, ability or formal training in **instrumental or vocal music**
- Are members of, or aspire to participate in, school-based ensembles or choirs
- Can balance music participation with academic learning requirements

Entry into the Music Excellence Program is **merit-based** and determined through a structured and transparent selection process. Consideration may include:

- A short performance audition, either instrumental or vocal, demonstrating current skill level
- Evidence of previous music learning or participation, such as instrumental music reports, ensemble involvement or external music study
- A suitability interview, focusing on commitment and readiness, may be requested

Learning and Enrichment Opportunities

Students selected for the Music Excellence Program may access opportunities such as:

- Participation in **instrumental ensembles, bands, orchestras or choirs**
- Performance opportunities within the school and broader community
- Music enrichment activities focused on **technique, musicianship and ensemble performance**
- Opportunities to develop leadership skills through ensemble participation

Ongoing Participation

Students are expected to engage consistently in rehearsals, performances and program expectations. Participation is reviewed in line with school processes to ensure students continue to meet the academic, musical and behavioural expectations of the program.

Performing Arts Excellence Program

The Performing Arts Program nurtures students with interest, commitment and potential in the performance arts, namely through **Dance and Drama**. The Performing Arts nurture students to develop expressive and performance skills, techniques and ensemble collaboration while supporting them to remain fully engaged in their academic learning. Through real-world opportunities, connections and experiences and both public and local performance opportunities; students build confidence, develop their creativity and refine their individual and ensemble skills.

Who the Program Is For

The Performing Arts Program is suited to students who:

- Demonstrate potential or experience in **Dance and/or Drama** or **Cultural** performances which are regularly shared within the local community
- Enjoy performing and collaborating in **ensembles, troupes or casts**
- Show commitment to **regular rehearsals**, continual improvement and performance
- Are motivated to extend their Arts learning through **industry opportunities**
- Can balance rehearsal and performance commitments with academic learning

Eligibility and Application Process

Entry into the Performing Arts Program is **merit-based** and determined through a structured and transparent selection process. Consideration may include:

- A 1 – 2 minute video of your **performance audition** in Dance (e.g., performance works in contrasting styles – *jazz, lyrical, ballet, Latin, contemporary, acro, hip hop*) and/or Drama (e.g., monologue or short scene)
- Evidence of **previous participation or training**, such as studio dance, school productions, drama workshops or eisteddfods
- A suitability interview, focusing on commitment and readiness, may be requested

Learning and Enrichment Opportunities

Students selected for the program may access opportunities such as:

- Selection processes in **dance troupes, drama ensembles and school productions**
- Performance opportunities at **school, community and festival events**
- Performance opportunities at **Multicultural Festival (cultural performances)**

Ongoing Participation

Students are expected to engage consistently in rehearsals, performances and program expectations. Participation is reviewed in line with school processes to ensure students continue to meet the academic, behavioural and performance expectations of the program.

Sporting Excellence Program

MacGregor State High School's Sporting Excellence Program supports students competing at a **Queensland or national representative level** to balance the demands of high-level sport with their academic learning. The program is designed to ensure students can pursue elite level sporting excellence without experiencing educational disadvantage.

Located close to a range of sporting facilities, the school is well placed to support young athletes to manage training, competition and study commitments.

Who is the program for

The Sporting Excellence Program provides support for students who are engaged in significant training and competition for sports outside of the school. To be eligible, students must be a State or National representative in their chosen sport. Acceptance in the program allows these athletes to pursue their sporting success through:

- Flexible learning arrangements to support training, travel and competition
- Academic support to maintain progress and engagement with learning
- A balanced approach that supports student wellbeing alongside performance

Eligibility and Application Process

Students may apply for the program where they can demonstrate:

- Queensland or national level representation in their sport
- Endorsement from a recognised sporting organisation or coach
- Commitment to meeting academic and sporting expectations demonstrated by academic reports from previous school
- A suitability interview, focusing on commitment and readiness, may be requested

Learning and Enrichment Opportunities

Students in the program may access:

- Adjustments to learning and assessment, where appropriate
- Ongoing academic monitoring and communication
- Connections with health and wellbeing providers who support young athletes

Ongoing Participation

Participation is reviewed regularly to ensure the program continues to support each student's learning, wellbeing and sporting commitments. Students are expected to engage positively with both academic requirements and program expectations.

Financial Support

Eligible students may have opportunities to apply for additional P&C support to assist with travel costs associated with competition, subject to availability.

Volleyball Development Program

The Volleyball Development Program provides specialised coaching and skill development for students who demonstrate interest and potential in volleyball. The program supports athletic development while ensuring students remain engaged in their academic learning.

Who the Program Is For

The Volleyball Development Program is suited to students who:

- Show interest or ability in volleyball
- Enjoy structured training and skill development
- Are motivated to improve performance and teamwork
- Can balance sporting commitments with learning

Eligibility and Application Process

Entry into the Volleyball Development Program is merit-based and determined through a structured selection process. Consideration may include:

- A volleyball trial, assessing skills, movement and game understanding
- A suitability interview, focusing on commitment and readiness, may be requested

Learning and Enrichment Opportunities

Students selected for the Volleyball Development Program may access opportunities such as:

- Selection in school volleyball teams for Karawatha district sport
- Selection in school volleyball teams for state and national volleyball competitions
- Engagement in specialised training and workshops with expert coaches to develop volleyball proficiency and mastery

Ongoing Participation

Students are expected to participate actively in training sessions and meet program expectations. Participation is reviewed in line with school processes to ensure students continue to meet the academic, behavioural and performance expectations of the program.

Applications for Year 7 2027

To assist in the facilitation of selections and enrolment, there will be a consistent application process to gain entry into each of our Programs of Excellence. When completing the application, please complete the application and ensure you include any supporting documentation required. The application timelines for enrolments into Year 7, 2027 are:

- Applications for the **first round** of 2027 Excellence Programs will close on **May 5, 2026.**
- Applications for the **second round** of 2027 Excellence Programs will close on **August 7, 2026.**

Application Checklist

Standardised requirements:

- ☐ Application form (this document)
- ☐ Previous Two Academic Report Cards
- ☐ Year 5 NAPLAN Results

Specific Excellence Program Requirements:

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE:	**Application Video** is to be submitted with application
MUSIC EXCELLENCE:	**Auditions** will be held at MSHS within two weeks of the closing date **Previous experience evidence** (music reports/ensemble involvement)
PERFORMING ARTS EXCELLENCE:	**Auditions** will be held at MSHS within two weeks of the closing date **Previous experience evidence** (training history/eisteddfod results)
SPORTING EXCELLENCE:	**Results** from National/International competitions **Endorsement** from coach/sporting organisation
VOLLYEBALL DEVELOPMENT:	**Trials** will be held at MSHS within two weeks of the closing date

YEAR 7 PROGRAM OF EXCELLENCE APPLICATION FORM

SECTION 1 – PERSONAL DETAILS

STUDENT DETAILS

Student's Full Name: _____

Current School: _____

PARENT/CAREGIVER DETAILS 1

Parent/Caregiver Name: _____

Contact Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

PARENT/CAREGIVER DETAILS 2 (Optional)

Parent/Caregiver Name: _____

Contact Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Please indicate (✓) below the MacGregor Scholarship or Excellence Program/s you wish to apply for:

- ☐ Academic Excellence Program
- ☐ Music Excellence Program Instrument - _____
- ☐ Performing Arts Excellence Program Dance Drama (Please circle)
- ☐ Sporting Excellence Program
- ☐ Volleyball Development Program

SECTION 2 – INVOLVEMENT IN SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Please list any official school positions you have held and indicate the year:

_____

_____

Please detail any extra-curricular activities you have participated in through the school (e.g. cultural, academic, citizenship, sport – attach copies of any supporting documentation i.e. certificates of appreciation/participation, awards)

_____

_____

_____

SECTION 3 – AREAS OF EXCELLENCE

Please list any experience/results which highlight your preparedness for engagement in this Excellence Program:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Please provide a list of outside of school commitments you have made (lessons/training/performances) which highlight your commitment to the are Excellence Program you are applying to:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

SECTION 4 – DECLARATION

Programs of Excellence Expectations

The student agrees to:

1. Demonstrate continued effort and sustained commitment to improving performance.
2. Agree, within parameters determined by the Principal, to participate in school activities before outside engagements.
3. Show leadership qualities appropriate to all scholarship holders. This includes being a positive role model for other students, displaying leadership by encouraging and supporting other students and fostering Clan and School Spirit. This also requires the student and parent/carer to demonstrate support for the values of the School both at school and outside school.
4. Show an awareness of, and appreciation for, school life and willingness to accept the broad range of opportunities offered at MacGregor State High School.
5. Be committed to the School's motto - 'The Best We Can Be'.

PLEASE READ AND COMPLETE:

- I/We hereby declare that to the best of my/our knowledge all documentation and information submitted or made available by me/us to the school is true, accurate and complete.
- I/We understand and accept that MacGregor State High School reserves the right at any stage to withdraw a place, which has been offered on the basis of incomplete or incorrect information.
- I/We understand and accept the conditions of the scholarship as set out in the Scholarship Expectations form included in this information pack.

Signature of Student (or print full name): _____

Date: _____

Signature of Parent/Caregiver: _____

Date: _____

Please submit your application either in person at MacGregor SHS Administration or via email:

Enrolments Officer Email: enrolments@macgregorshs.eq.edu.au

Please submit video files using the naming convention (Program being applied for)_Surname_First name – eg Academic_Smith_John) and keep file sizes under 500MB, by uploading to google drive and share to the email info@macgregorshs.eq.edu.au

For further information please refer to our school website www.macgregorshs.eq.edu.au or contact our Enrolments Officer on the above email address or phone (07) 3347 3550.