Background

The current MacGregor Honours Program started in 2010 to provide an accelerated academic program from Year 10 for high achieving students. As with all programs it has been reviewed annually and improvements have been made. However, our latest review has shown that many of the options past Honours students have accessed in Year 11 and 12 are now available to mainstream students as part of our school's ongoing improvement agenda.

As part of our comprehensive future plan for Junior Secondary education at MacGregor SHS, our new Honours program will now begin in Year 7 with participants graduating in Year 10. For 2015, an Honours class will be formed in Years 7-10 as part of a transition process. The Honours group will do the same work and assessment as other students but in a manner designed to extend students and produce higher levels of outcomes.

Program Philosophy

- The program is built around the concept of “like minds working together”. The Honours program is designed to develop an enhanced capacity to collaborate with peers and teachers in achieving outstanding outcomes.
- The program may not be suitable for all students but it is anticipated most academic high achieving students will join the program.
- As with the previous Honours structure, students will still have the same mainstream academic options if a family decision is that the structure of the program is not suitable.

Program Structure

- The structure of the program will fit within the whole school academic program and allow for movement in and out of the program if necessary.
- This is a conscious decision made by the school as current educational research shows that targeted programs for students are only as strong as the whole school structure they are a part of.
- At this stage it is anticipated that each year level will have one Honours class only. This could be adjusted based on the number of successful applications received.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Course Outline</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7-8</td>
<td>Students are in a target class for English, Maths, Science and SOSE (History and Geography)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Students are in a target class for English, Science and Mathematics Extension</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Students are in a target class for English and Mathematics Extension.</td>
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<td>Target classes will also be considered in Analytical and/or Natural Science depending on student preferences.</td>
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Applications

- All current and enrolled future students who may benefit from the program will be provided with an application form based on their current academic achievement.
- Current academic achievement will be determined by past reports, internal school testing and NAPLAN results.
- The expected academic record will consist of a performance dominated by “A” and “B” levels of achievement.