**Seven Hills High School**

**‘Self-Select’ Program 2020**

At Seven Hills High School, we are dedicated to turning potential into performance in all areas of a student’s life.

The staff at Seven Hills High School are already committed to the Quality Teaching model. This is providing them with a powerful means of providing a more challenging and innovative curriculum and supports the school's commitment to encourage each student to aim for their personal best.

The ‘Self-Select’ program recognises and caters for the needs of all students who;

* make a commitment to, and assume responsibility for, their own learning; and
* are dedicated to achieving their personal best.

The program encourages students to set and achieve higher standards of learning by promoting student ownership of and hence engagement in, their learning. Engaged students are far more likely to be successful students.

The ‘Self-Select’ Program, together with other programs within the school, supports successful learning and enhances the already established culture amongst our students that learning is highly valued at Seven Hills High School.

**Selection Criteria**

**Demonstrated Motivation/Enthusiasm for Learning**

* This relates to the demonstrated level of interest in what is being learnt and related issues, commitment to follow up this interest with research and diligence in completing learning tasks within the allocated timeframe.

**Ability to Work Independently**

* This relates to a student's willingness to take responsibility for his/her own learning; their ability to work without constant teacher supervision and stay on task. It may include being able to work at different paces, within varying timeframes, in a variety of settings, across a variety of types of activity and meet curriculum deadlines.

**Ability to Work Co-operatively with Others**

* This relates to a student's ability to consider other learners and the role they play in the learning process. It may include ability to listen to other's viewpoints, ability to work with other students in group situations, ability to take on different roles in group learning situations, ability to be both competitive and cooperative in the learning process.

**Demonstrated Literacy and Numeracy Skills**

* This is a guide as to whether the student's skills are sufficient to enable them to access the learning in the class without falling behind and losing self-confidence.

**Behaviour**

* This relates to a student's attitude as much as his/her record of actual behaviour in the classroom. It may include evidence of his / her attitude to classroom activities and evidence of their attitude towards other students.

**‘Self-Select’ Program Entry Requirements**

Students wishing to gain a place in this class need to complete a **‘Self Nomination’ form**. This nomination is considered, along with the information provided in the **‘Student Profile’ form** provided by the Year 6 classroom teacher.

**All students will need to commit to a performance agreement.** This agreement, reviewed every semester, will cover areas such as;

* Participation in academic competitions in English, Mathematics, Science and HSIE;
* Completion of enrichment activities;
* Participation in negotiated extra-curricular activities;
* Homework completion; and
* Classroom behaviour.

**The selection process** is overseen by the Deputy Principal of Year 7 and utilises the professional input of the most relevant staff in any given situation.

**‘Self-Select’ Program Organisation**

In Year 7, students remain in the ‘Self Select’ class for all subjects except for Sport and Technology and Applied Science. In Year 8, students will be placed into the class depending on their level of commitment to the performance agreement and the results gained in Year 7. Students must earn the right to be in the program.

Students in the ‘Self Select’ classes study the core curriculum in the relevant subjects in common with their year cohort; however, this curriculum will be differentiated to allow more time for enrichment, extension, problem solving and critical thinking skills.

**Enrichment Program**

One period per week is dedicated to student completion of tasks in an enrichment program, designed to increase their competencies in higher level skills associated with Key Learning Areas within the curriculum.

The enrichment program will allow students to develop their research skills, evaluate various forms of media, develop problem solving strategies and creative solutions to these problems.

Enrichment activities may include:

* **Excursions and guest speakers****:** These events will provide the students with exposure to ideas, processes and techniques beyond the usual range. The opportunity to see and question experts working in their field provides motivation and encourages curiosity and questioning. This in turn may be the basis of further research, independent study and extension activities.
* **Hands-on experiences****/projects:** Students will be required to manipulate materials and handle equipment rather than be passive observers. Students will be taught to use more sophisticated materials and equipment in order to expand their repertoire and enable them to carry out research independently.
* **Training in the use of multi-media technologies:** This will encourage independence, responsibility and enable them to develop the sound operation skills needed to vary their research sources and presentation opportunities. Correct use of equipment such as video and digital cameras, still cameras, data projectors and computers will be taught and encouraged.

**For further information please contact:**

Vivien Thurlow, Self-Select Coordinator on (02) 9624 3329

**Seven Hills High School**

 **‘Self-Select’ Program - Year 7 2020**

**Student Self Nomination Form**

**Closing Date: April 8, 2019.**

**Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Current school: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

1. Give reasons why you wish to be in the ‘Self-Select’ class.

1. Comment on your ability to work independently in completing class tasks.
2. Comment on your ability work effectively as part of a team in completing class tasks.
3. Are you willing to complete group projects in your own time? YES / NO
4. Comment on your ability to complete tasks which require you to create your own solutions to problems.
5. Are you willing to participate in all the extension activities involving the ‘Self Select’ class? YES / NO

Student signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I support my child’s application for the ‘Self-Select’ Program.

Parent / carer name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Please return this completed application to Seven Hills High School**

**Johnson Ave, Seven Hills, NSW 2147, before April 8, 2019.**