



Accelerated Learning Program (ALP)

The Accelerated Learning Program (ALP) was established in 1997 as an additional pathway to support students' learning needs. The ALP program is highly sought after by families and supports gifted student education.

What is the Accelerated Learning Program (ALP)

The ALP is a fulltime accelerated learning program for students who benefit from an increased pace and breadth of learning. Acceptance into the program requires high levels of verbal and non-verbal reasoning. ALP is a dynamic approach that is continually modified to suit the needs of students and to ensure alignment with research and Educational Policies.

How are students selected for the Accelerated Learning Program

A comprehensive testing procedure to identify potential candidates for the program is administered by trained staff. The process begins in Term 3 each year with identified students having the opportunity to engage in the program the following year.

How is learning differentiated

In a differentiated classroom teachers are aware that students respond differently because each individual's innate learning style, learning rate and interests differ. Learning experiences encourage the learner to accept responsibility for their own learning, supported by teacher guidance and encouragement. The ultimate goal is for the student to come to realise that learning requires sustained application.

How are students grouped for learning

As children move through primary school it is most likely that they will experience working in both cluster and class groups. Cluster groups are when groups of ALP students are grouped together across mainstream classes. Class groups are when a full class group of ALP students are in the same class group working parallel with the mainstream classes. This fluid grouping from year to year ensures that children have opportunities to work with different students, which provides opportunities to support their personal, academic and social development. It also allows class groups to comply with class size requirements, whilst maintaining integrity with allowing only high achieving students to access the program. The changes in cluster groups and class groups over time allows children to experience change which is important to prepare them for the years ahead in high school.

Mathematics Differentiated Learning Groups

At Garran Primary all children are grouped according to mathematical achievement in daily maths lessons. To ensure that every child is working at their proximal zone of development, students are grouped with other peers who are learning the same concepts at that period of time across a year level. These groups are fluid and students can move between groups as the year progresses, depending on student needs. Parents are notified during the year which teachers are supporting their child's numeracy learning. Before and After School enrichment groups are offered for students who are high achievers and are seeking an additional challenge or enrichment in mathematics. Children who are identified as part of the ALP program may be in different mathematics groups with different peers, depending on what they need to know next to move forward with their achievement in this area.