



## **Guidelines for Parents**

# **Gifted and Talented Selective Entrance to Secondary Schools and Programs**

Application, selection and placement for 2020

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## Introduction

The Department of Education in Western Australia offers exceptionally able children a choice of secondary schools and programs as part of Gifted and Talented Secondary Selective Entrance Programs.

Selection is highly sought after and competitive. Places are offered on the basis of each applicant's performance in the selection requirements specific to each program.

A parent is responsible for completing and lodging the application form for their child's current year group. The Department accepts no responsibility for incorrect applications that result in children being tested for the wrong year level intake.

**All applicants are required to sit the Academic Selective Entrance Test (ASET)** regardless of program/programs applied for. Additional selection requirements vary according to the specific program, for example arts and languages programs may include skill assessment tasks, school reports, interviews, auditions, portfolios and workshops.

An applicant accepting placement into a program can enrol at the school even if they do not live in that school's local (intake) area.

Applications must be received by the closing date of **Sunday, 10 February 2019**. This deadline is strictly observed and late applications will not be accepted.

Each year the Department engages in a diverse, multi-faceted marketing campaign aimed at informing families of their secondary schooling options. Ultimately, however, it is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to be proactive in researching their options and the Department assumes no responsibility for potential applicants who miss the deadline.

All successfully lodged applications will receive an automatically generated email confirming the application prior to the closing date.

## 1. Criteria for entry

### 1.1 Gifted and Talented Selective Academic Programs

The ASET comprises four components:

- Reading Comprehension
- Communicating Ideas in Writing
- Quantitative Reasoning
- Abstract Reasoning.

Prior to the test, all applicants will be able to access to the Candidate Information Bulletin which details the components of the test, test timings and some example questions. There are no sample/previous papers for the Western Australian ASET.

An applicant who sits the ASET receives an individual performance report. Based on the results of the ASET, the applicant may then be offered a place in their preferred program. Due to the high number of applicants for limited places in the Selective Academic Programs, there is no guarantee of an offer at the school of choice.

Acknowledgement of application is in the form of an automatically generated email response at the time of application. Information about testing date, time, venue and assessment procedures for the ASET will be emailed to the applicant as per the Key Dates and Timelines.

## **1.2 Gifted and Talented Selective Arts Programs**

All Arts applicants must sit the ASET.

Additional Arts selection requirements vary depending on the type of program and may include auditions, workshops, interviews, portfolios and school reports. Due to the high number of applicants for limited places in the Selective Arts Programs, there is no guarantee of an offer at the school of choice.

A child with a diagnosed learning difficulty may apply for an ASET Exemption (Arts Only). Exemption forms are available online once applications open. For further details, see Section 5.

Acknowledgement of application is in the form of an automatically generated email response at the time of application. Information about testing date, time, venue and assessment procedures for the ASET and any other assessments for the Arts will be emailed to the applicant as per the Key Dates and Timelines.

**Music applicants:** Applicants for the Gifted and Talented Selective Music Program must nominate one or two musical instruments that they currently play.

Applicants cannot be selected for \*piano/keyboard in the Selective Music Program. An applicant who only plays piano/keyboard can audition on the piano but will be expected to learn a second instrument if accepted into the program. Applicants who currently play piano/keyboard and play a second instrument are recommended by the School of Instrumental Music (SIM), Churchlands Senior High School and John Curtin College of the Arts to place their non-piano/keyboard instrument as their first instrument preference and piano/keyboard as their second instrument preference. The piano used as the second instrument piece at audition will show musicality.

\*The exception being two funded placements for Piano available at Churchlands Senior High School. Churchlands Senior High School recommend that to be considered for these two placements students will need to be AMEB Pianoforte Grade 7 or higher.

Singing (voice) is an instrument and can be nominated.

Note: Year 6 applicants who are unsuccessful in the first round of Music auditions may receive a second opportunity in Term 3, depending on instrument and vacancy.

## **1.3 Gifted and Talented Languages Programs**

All Languages applicants must sit the ASET.

Based on the results of the ASET and the preference order, the applicant may then be offered an interview. Due to the high number of applicants for limited places in the Selective Languages Programs, there is no guarantee of an offer at the school of choice.

Acknowledgement of application is in the form of an automatically generated email response at the time of application. Information about testing date, time, venue and assessment procedures for the ASET will be emailed to the applicant as per the Key Dates and Timelines.

#### **1.4 Test breaches of conduct**

Applicants who attend the testing need to understand and abide by the following conditions/conduct:

1. No communicating with other students inside the testing room. This rule commences as soon as students enter the room and ends only when they leave.
2. Keep your eyes on your own work.
3. When the Test Invigilator instructs you to stop work, you must stop work immediately with no exceptions. All students will be given a five minute warning towards the end of each test, but are expected to manage their time either with the clocks around the room or by bringing in their own watch\*.

Students who act outside of these conditions/conduct will receive a first warning. Any further breach may result in the child's disqualification from testing. Disqualifications will be at the discretion of the Lead Invigilator.

\*Smart watches or any watch which can also function as a calculator or communications device is NOT allowed in the test room.

## **2. Age and year**

### **2.1 Year 7 placement for 2020**

A child seeking a place in a Gifted and Talented Program in Year 7 is required to be in Year 6 when they sit the ASET.

Applicants are not permitted to apply for an intake for which they have previously applied. For example, a student who has applied and been unsuccessful for Year 7 in 2020, may not then apply for Year 7 in 2021.

### **2.2 Acceleration**

A child is eligible for acceleration if they achieve in the top 1% of all assessed applicants for the ASET. Any accelerations will be the result of negotiation between the Gifted and Talented Selection Unit, parents and the school principal.

Students who are accelerated in the year in which they sit the test can only be considered for the accelerated intake year if their Total Standard Score (TSS) is in the top 1% as above.

### **2.3 Places in Years 9, 10 and 11**

Students entering Years 9, 10 and 11 are required to be in the year level prior to the year level for which they are applying when they sit the ASET. For example, a child in Year 9 can only sit the testing for entry to Year 10.

If an applicant completes the ASET for an intake beyond that for which they are age appropriate (for example, a Year 7 applying for Year 9) they will be deemed ineligible for testing the following year.

An applicant completing the testing in the correct year group who is unsuccessful is eligible to apply for the next year level (up to a place in Year 11) the following year. Note: There is no testing for Year 8 entry.

All places are based on available vacancies. In some programs there may be no vacancies for selected intakes and applicants will be unable to select the program as a preference on the online application form.

### **3. Australian citizenship and residency status**

An applicant must be an Australian or New Zealand Citizen; or holder of a visa granting Permanent Resident status in Australia; a higher education or graduate scholarship holder; or a temporary visa holder with a local enrolment entitlement classification in the [Enrolment of Students From Overseas Schedule](#).

### **4. Enrolment entitlement**

Information for parents about eligibility for enrolment in public schools is detailed in the Department of Education's [Enrolment Policy](#).

An applicant must be an Australian or New Zealand Citizen; a permanent residence visa holder; a higher education or graduate scholarship holder; or a temporary visa holder with a local enrolment entitlement classification in the [Enrolment of Students From Overseas Schedule](#).

Successful applicants will be required to provide evidence to the school that they meet residency criteria in order to complete enrolment.

A student enrolled as a Secondary Exchange Student is not eligible to apply or enrol in Gifted and Talented Secondary Selective Entrance Programs.

**An offer and/or enrolment will be terminated if a place is offered on the basis of false or misleading information.**

### **5. ASET Exemption (Arts only)**

An Arts-only applicant diagnosed with a learning disability and with medical evidence may apply for an exemption from the ASET by completing the ASET Disability Exemption (Arts Only) form. The form must be received by the Gifted and Talented Selection Unit at least seven days before the testing date. Forms are available on the [website](#) or by emailing [gtsu@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:gtsu@education.wa.edu.au).

**Students requiring Special Conditions in the ASET**

Students with a diagnosed learning difficulty which may affect their test performance can apply to sit the academic testing with special conditions. This testing will occur on a different date to the main group and with a greatly reduced number of students and usually involves extra time. The application form for Special Conditions must be completed and is available online as soon as applications open. Alternatively, you can contact 9264 4307 or [gtsu@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:gtsu@education.wa.edu.au) to discuss.

Note: Early notification greatly assists our ability to cater for your child's special needs.

## 6. Cost

There is no cost involved in the application, assessment, selection and placement processes, except in the following circumstances:

- a. An overseas/interstate applicant who is not undertaking schooling as part of the Western Australian Department of Education is liable for any costs associated with sending test papers overseas/interstate and obtaining the services of an appropriate test invigilator.
- b. A parent in a rural location in WA may also be required to pay for a third-party invigilator if their child is unable to travel to the nearest regional testing centre.

## 7. Registration of interest for future intakes

Anyone can register interest to receive notification of the opening of applications by visiting [www.education.wa.edu.au/giftedandtalented](http://www.education.wa.edu.au/giftedandtalented).

Registration of interest is not an application for Gifted and Talented Programs. An online application must be completed and submitted by **Sunday, 10 February 2019**.

## 8. Gifted and Talented Application process

### 8.1 Lodging an application

Once applications open, a parent must lodge their child's application online at [www.education.wa.edu.au/giftedandtalented](http://www.education.wa.edu.au/giftedandtalented) by **Sunday, 10 February 2019**.

The onus for lodging an application by the due date is on the parent/caregiver. Whilst the Department engages in multiple strategies to inform parents of secondary schooling opportunities, it does not accept liability for applicants who miss the deadline.

All successfully lodged applications will receive an automatically generated email to confirm the application (please check your Spam/Junk folders, as automatically generated emails can often be identified as spam mail).

In the event that you do not receive an email confirmation, please contact the Gifted and Talented Selection Unit on 9264 4307 prior to the closing date.

**NOTED PROBLEMS WITH HOTMAIL/LIVE EMAIL:** Applicants with a Hotmail email account are strongly advised to use an alternative email address for contact purposes. Due to previous issues reported by parents with Hotmail accounts, The Department cannot guarantee that correspondence sent to Hotmail email addresses will be received.

In lodging an application, parents commit to providing information that is true and correct at the time of lodgment. **Offers and/or enrolments made on the basis of false or misleading information will be terminated.** Overseas applicants who do not meet the necessary enrolment requirements at the time of application (see Section 4) are able to sit the testing, however placement will be withdrawn if enrolment criteria for Western Australian schools remains unmet by the school enrolment deadline.

In lodging an application, parents acknowledge that they have read and accept the [Applicant Guidelines](#) and [Key Dates and Timelines](#) for the 2019 testing schedule. The Department accepts no responsibility or liability for missed testing due to email issues, technical issues, or travel.

**Separated families/custody issues:** where a custody arrangement is in place as a result of a separated family, it is up to the parents to come to a consensus regarding their child's preferences and lodge a single application. Where a consensus cannot be reached and/or multiple applications are lodged, Gifted and Talented may need to request a copy of the custody Court Order and/or defer to the application lodged by the parent with majority custody.

## **8.2 Selecting the correct application**

It is the parent's responsibility to ensure the correct application form is completed for their child's year group and to read all correspondence from the Gifted and Talented Selection Unit.

Parents can telephone 9264 4307 to find out the correct application intake for their child based on their child's date of birth or current year of schooling. The Department of Education accepts no responsibility for the lodgment of incorrect applications.

## **8.3 Number of applications**

An applicant may only lodge one application per intake year. If you make a mistake or wish to change it, you will need to contact GTSU on 9264 4307.

Important: *Do not enter another application.* Should more than one application per intake be received, the validity of the application will be considered by the Gifted and Talented Selection Unit. Gifted and Talented reserves the right to delete multiple applications.

## **8.4 Entering preferences**

An applicant may choose a maximum of three (3) preferences for Gifted and Talented Programs from the Academic, Arts and Languages. Preferences



can be a mixture of program areas (for example, Academic and Arts) or only one (for example, Academic).

An offer of a place is based on the highest ranked preference for which the applicant qualifies.

Parents are advised to consider carefully their preferences on the application form. If successful, an applicant will receive one offer per round based on their ranked preferences; they do not get a choice of all three, regardless of test results.

If you wish to change your preferences you must contact 9264 4307 or [gtsu@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:gtsu@education.wa.edu.au). The system does not allow parents to change their own preferences.

Preference changes can be made providing the testing for the particular program sought has not already occurred (e.g. parent wishes to add Drama, but auditions have finished).

#### **8.5 Late applications**

Late applications are not accepted. The Department of Education does not accept liability for personal computer or device malfunctions, use of incompatible browsers, lost correspondence or applications that arrive after the closing date.

Although the Department endeavors through a versatile marketing campaign to have the information on secondary schooling options accessible to all families, ultimately it is the parents' responsibility to be proactive and seek out opportunities for their children.

An applicant will receive automatically generated email confirmation of their application submission and it is important to keep this as a record of your child's application.

#### **8.6 Overseas/interstate applicants**

The Department of Education has processes in place to allow overseas and interstate applicants to be tested through a third party. A parent is required to procure an appropriate third party supervisor to administer the testing and meet all costs associated with the testing, including the courier of secure test papers. All overseas/interstate applicants will be contacted with instructions regarding the process following the close of applications.

### **9. Gifted and Talented Placement Process**

Applicants offered placement in a Gifted and Talented Academic, Arts or Languages Program are required to enrol at and attend the school in a full time capacity. Country students offered placement in the Online program must enrol or be enrolled in a regional public secondary school.

Note: Country applicants within 56km of either Bunbury SHS or Comet Bay College may not be eligible for placement in the Online program.

#### **9.1 Year 7 2020 placement**

The number of vacancies available for each program:

School	Program	Number of places
Applecross Senior High School	Visual Arts	32
Balcatta Senior High School	Visual Arts	32
Bunbury Senior High School	Academic	32
Churchlands Senior High School	Music	50
Carine Senior High School	Academic	32
Comet Bay College	Academic	32
Duncraig Senior High School	Academic	32
Fremantle College	Academic	32
Governor Stirling Senior High School	Academic	32
Hampton Senior High School	Dance	32
Inner City College (Planning Name)	Academic	32
John Curtin College of the Arts	Music	40
John Curtin College of the Arts	Visual Arts	25
John Curtin College of the Arts	Dance	50
John Curtin College of the Arts	Music Theatre	25
John Curtin College of the Arts	Drama	75
John Curtin College of the Arts	Media Arts	25
Kalamunda Senior High School	Visual Arts	32
Kelmscott Senior High School	Academic	32
Melville Senior High School	Academic	32
Mount Lawley Senior High School	Languages	32
Perth Modern School	Academic	225
Rossmoyne Senior High School	Languages	32
Shenton College	Academic	64
Willetton Senior High School	Academic	64
Online	Academic	See below*

\* The Selective Academic Program Online is only available to students living in country WA enrolled in a public school. Students from private schools may apply for entry, but participation in the program will be dependent on their enrolment at a regional public school.

## 9.2 Years 9, 10 and 11, 2020 placement

The number of vacancies depends on the student numbers provided to GTSU by individual schools. In some schools there will be no reported vacancies and, as such, the program will not appear on the online application form.

### Please note:

- John Curtin College of the Arts limitations:
  - o Year 9, 10 and 11 in 2020 – Dance (ballet and contemporary – Year 9 ballet only), Drama, Media Arts, Music Theatre (Year 9 and 11 only), Visual Arts (Year 10 and 11 only) and Music (Brass, Guitar, Percussion, Voice and Woodwind) only.
- Churchlands Senior High School Music limitations:
  - o Year 9 and 10, 2020 – Brass, Strings, Woodwind and Piano/Keyboard (Note: Violin applicants must be Grade 5 AMEB minimum and Piano/Keyboard applicants must be Grade 7 AMEB minimum).

- Applicants applying for Year 9, 10 and 11 Selective Music Program entry are required to have the ability to read music.

### 9.3 Gifted and Talented Academic Programs

Selection is based on scores obtained in the ASET. Applicants must score a minimum of 210 or higher to be eligible for consideration for Academic and Languages programs. Applicants will be ranked from the top down and offered places until all places are filled. Offers are made by the Gifted and Talented Selection Unit, not individual schools. Applicants obtaining the necessary scores are offered places until all places are filled. Offers are made by the Gifted and Talented Selection Unit.

The following represents the minimum Total Standard Score (TSS) per Academic program that resulted in placement for Year 7 in previous years:

Program	2017	2018	2019
Bunbury SHS	210.62	210.00	210.00
Comet Bay College	210.00	210.00	210.00
Duncraig SHS	216.98	222.30	229.47
Fremantle College	n/a	210.00	210.00
Governor Stirling SHS	210.00	210.00	210.00
Kelmscott SHS	210.43	210.00	210.00
Melville SHS	213.64	217.73	218.25
Perth Modern School	233.86	237.00	237.78
Shenton College	226.66	229.28	230.42
Willetton SHS	226.15	228.28	229.27
Online	210.00	210.00	210.00

**Important:** Minimum Total Standard Scores for entry are not set and the above scores should be used as a guide only for predicting placement in Year 7, 2020. Further, the above scores cannot be used to predict older years' placements which rely on limited vacancies.

### 9.4 Gifted and Talented Languages Programs

Selection commences with the score obtained in the ASET. An applicant who achieves a qualifying TSS and who is not likely to receive a higher preference offer, will be invited to an interview. A combination of the interview (20%) and TSS (80%) will rank the applicant for an offer. Highest ranked applicants are offered places until all places are filled. Offers are made by the Gifted and Talented Selection Unit, not individual schools.

### 9.5 Gifted and Talented Arts Programs (Dance, Drama, Media Arts, Music, Music Theatre and Visual Arts)

Entry to Arts programs occurs through a variety of selection procedures depending on the specific program. Procedures may include auditions, workshops, submission of portfolios and/or interviews.

Applicants for Dance, Drama, Visual Arts, Music Theatre and Media Arts programs are ranked by 65% practical, 15% interview and 20% Humanities Index from the ASET. Music applicants are required to participate in the ASET but are ranked for placement based on aural and practical tests and interview only.

Students who have obtained an Exemption from the ASET on the basis of a diagnosed learning difficulty (see Section 5) will be ranked by 80% practical performance and 20% interview.

Applicants are ranked, with the highest ranked qualifying applicants gaining offers of place, until all vacancies are filled. Offers are made by the Gifted and Talented Selection Unit, not schools.

Arts testing performance reports are not provided. However, feedback can be obtained by contacting the Gifted and Talented Selection Unit on 9264 4307.

Note: Year 6 applicants unsuccessful for Music program placement may have the opportunity to re-audition in Term 3. Term 3 auditions will be subject to instrument availability.

**Illness/Misadventure:** If you feel something occurred on the day of the test that could not have been foreseen, for example illness, you must fill out the Illness Misadventure Form available on the website and submit to the Gifted and Talented Selection Unit within 48 hours of your child's testing. If your child wakes up on the day of the test unwell contact the number on your testing letter or email [gtsu@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:gtsu@education.wa.edu.au) immediately so as to arrange a different test day for your child. Medical evidence will be required. It is important to note that if you choose to send a child who you know to be ill to the testing, no special considerations can be given.

## 9.6 ASET venues

Year 6 applicants in the metropolitan and Bunbury areas will be tested on Saturday, 16 March 2019 at a testing venue determined by the location of their Current School as listed on the application form.

Year 8, 9 and 10 applicants in the metropolitan area will be tested at the Old Wattle Grove Primary School site between Wednesday 27 February and Friday, 8 March 2019. This venue will be the same for all applicants, with the exception of those currently attending a Gifted and Talented Secondary Selective Entrance programs school where in-house testing may be available.

Year 6, 8, 9 and 10 applicants in regional areas (excluding Bunbury area Year 6's) will be tested at a venue determined by the location of their Current School on the application form between Monday, 18 to Friday, 22 March 2019.

Applicants unable to travel to their closest regional centre will be required to follow Gifted and Talented international/interstate testing processes in which they obtain the services of an approved third-party test invigilator at their own cost. Telephone 9264 4307 for further information.

Note: Year 8, 9 and 10 metropolitan applicants living beyond a 60km radius from the allocated testing venue have the option to follow the international/interstate testing process outlined above.

The Department takes no responsibility for any costs associated with travel to and from testing venues.

Information regarding your child's testing date, time and venue will be sent out to the email address provided on the application form as per the [Key Dates and Timelines](#).

## 9.7 Misadventure/illness

### **Prior to the ASET:**

Parents who are aware in advance that their child's test performance is likely to be affected by illness, must contact the Gifted and Talented Selection Unit on 9264 4307 prior to the test to discuss the potential for an alternate testing date.

A request for an alternate testing date based on illness/misadventure will be considered only in exceptional circumstances and must include medical evidence.

### **On the day of the ASET:**

Parents whose children are sick on the day of testing or are otherwise unavoidably unable to attend the day of testing, must contact the Gifted and Talented Selection Unit either using the number on their testing email or emailing [gtsu@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:gtsu@education.wa.edu.au) within 48 hours of the original testing date to arrange an alternative testing date.

Note: Evidence in the form of a medical certificate or appropriate alternative for the date in question must be supplied.

**Important:** ASET scores will not be reviewed in the context of illness if the child was *known* to be unwell prior to the test and the decision was made for the child to sit the test in that condition.

### **After the ASET:**

A request for consideration based on illness/misadventure can be made if there were *unforeseen* factors on the day of the test which could have prevented the applicant from performing to the best of their ability.

A parent who wishes to lodge a request for consideration based on special circumstances must lodge the illness/misadventure appeal form on the [website](#).

Completed forms must be submitted to [gtsu@education@wa.edu.au](mailto:gtsu@education@wa.edu.au) via email no later than 48 hours from the date of your child's Academic Selective Entrance Test.

A Selective Entrance Test Review Panel will respond in writing within 28 days after receiving an illness/misadventure appeal request.

## 9.8 ASET results

Applicants will receive an Academic Performance Report which shows their performance in the four test components which make up the ASET. The Report will also show the applicant's Total Standard Score (TSS) by which they will be ranked for placement. The TSS is the sum of the four equally weighted test components: Reading Comprehension, Communicating Ideas in Writing, Quantitative Reasoning and Abstract Reasoning.

As Arts ranking involves multiple assessments, minimum entrance scores cannot be provided. Performance reports for Arts testing are not provided. However, feedback can be obtained by contacting 9264 4307.

### **9.9 Preference changes**

Applicants will have 7 days from the date indicated on the Performance Report Letter to finalise their child's preference order for the First Round of Offers.

Minimum entrance scores for Year 7 entry for particular programs in previous years will be available on the website. Applicants can use this information to review the likelihood of their preferences and/or preference order.

Preference change requests must be made by phone to 9264 4307 or email to [gtsu@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:gtsu@education.wa.edu.au). Please note, the system does not allow you to go in and change your own application.

Parents can opt to change their preference order or remove preferences and replace them with others.

Note: preferences can only be added where an applicant has completed the testing for this particular program. For example, you cannot add in the Drama program if your child did not complete the Drama selection process.

### **9.10 ASET result appeals**

Parents who believe an error has occurred in the scoring of their child's test are able to lodge an appeal for a remark. Appeal forms will be available on the [website](#) for seven days following the release of results.

Completed appeal forms must be received by email no later than seven days from the date the Academic Performance Report was sent.

Emailed forms must be sent to [gtsu@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:gtsu@education.wa.edu.au).

Appeal requests will be responded to in writing within 28 days from the deadline of appeal submissions.

The first round of offers will proceed based on original scores. Should an appeal result in a score change that would have affected the outcome of the first round, this will be honoured in Round 2.

### **9.11 Early advice**

If a parent requires an early indication of their child's placement chances due to fee commitments at a private school, a request in writing must be submitted by email to [gtsu@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:gtsu@education.wa.edu.au).

You must include a copy of the offer of a place to a private school with the amount of the deposit and the date payment is required clearly stated.

A parent may then telephone the Gifted and Talented Selection Unit on 9264 4307 no earlier than the release of the Academic Performance

Reports and, given that early release of information has been approved, request a likely outcome.

Parents should be aware that as the selection process will still be underway, any early advice provided cannot be guaranteed.

Note: Early advice will be possible approximately ten days prior to the official commencement of offers as laid out in the [Key Dates and Timelines](#).

## **9.12 Offers of placement**

The first round of offers (Round 1) will commence after the appeals and change of preferences deadline closes. Applicants who are successful in receiving an offer in Round 1 will be notified by email and will generally have a period of seven (7) days to respond.

If a response is not received by the date specified, it will be assumed that the offer has been declined and that offer will then be available to another applicant for Round 2.

On receiving an offer of placement in Round 1, an applicant can choose to:

1. **ACCEPT:** When an applicant ACCEPTS a placement in Round 1, no other offers of placement will be made. Confirmation of Placement emails will be sent out within 10 working days and enrolment can then be commenced with the school. Should an applicant fail to enrol at the school by the date specified in the letter, and without negotiating beforehand with the school, placements will be withdrawn.
2. **HOLD:** An applicant can only HOLD an offer of placement in Round 1 if their offer is NOT their first preference school. You can only use this option if your offer is either your second or third preference. A HOLD means they will automatically be considered for a higher preference offer in Round 2, without jeopardising the offer they have already received. Should a higher preference offer eventuate, their original offer will be allocated to the next ranking applicant. If a higher offer is unavailable, they will be re-offered their original Round 1 offer in Round 2.
3. **DECLINE:** Applicants who decline their offer will automatically be considered for higher preference offers in Round 2. Applicants who decline a first preference offer will not be considered for any further offers of placement for 2020..
4. **WITHDRAW:** An applicant who utilises the 'withdraw' response will not receive any further offers of placement for Gifted and Talented programs for 2020.

Change of circumstances: If an offer is accepted, followed by a change in circumstances, GTSU and the relevant school must be notified immediately so that the placement can be offered to the next ranked applicant.

## **9.13 Holiday arrangements/change of address**

It is a parent's responsibility to ensure that all contact details are current.

If an applicant is to be away when offers are scheduled to be released, either ensure email access exists at your destination, or, nominate another person who can act on your behalf while you are away.

The Department is not responsible for the loss of an offer of a place due to incorrect contact details or lack of communication regarding alternate arrangements.

**9.14 Family placement claim**

A family placement claim only comes into effect where there are two applicants with equal scores – one with a sibling already in the program – and only one place available. In this situation, the Gifted and Talented Selection Unit will give priority to the applicant with a previously placed brother or sister. Family placement claims are identified automatically by the Gifted and Talented Selection Unit in the process of offers and acceptances.

**9.15 Twins/multiple birth applicants**

Due to high demand for places in Gifted and Talented Programs and the need for consistency and equity, a parent should not expect places for multiple birth siblings if only one has been successful. Consideration may be given where multiple birth siblings have similar levels of academic merit, however the placement of one multiple birth sibling does not guarantee the placement of the other/s.

**9.16 Deferring a place**

A parent is entitled to request a deferral for a maximum of six months from the commencement date of their child's offered place. Deferment will only be considered for successful applicants residing outside of Western Australia or who will be doing so temporarily. Any and all deferrals must be formally requested in writing and are at the discretion of the GTSU and the Gifted and Talented program school principal.

**9.17 Reserve lists**

The vast majority of placements will be filled in Rounds 1 and 2. Following the close of Round 2, a Reserve List will be formed to fill any places that either remain available or become available for that intake year.

Applicants will automatically be placed on the Reserve List if they meet the benchmark for Academic programs (TSS of 210), or have progressed to interview stage in the Arts and Languages. Offers from the Reserve List will be made by phone and applicants will be required to respond within 48 hours.

Reserve Lists will remain active until the 1 December of the testing year.

**10 Transfers between Gifted and Talented Programs**

A child wishing to transfer from their current Gifted and Talented Program place has two options:



1. The child can apply for entry to their preferred program through the annual testing which involves sitting the ASET for the selected intake year.
2. The child can lodge a Request for Transfer form. Transfers can only be considered where the previous ASET/Arts/Languages score would have qualified for placement at the requested school. The child will be assessed on previous ASET scores and current school performance and may be required to attend an interview. If the transfer request is made within a current testing cycle, the score will be ranked within the current cohort vying for placement. \*The transfer option only applies to children wishing to transfer to a like program (that is, from one Academic program to another Academic program and not from an Academic program to an Arts program, for example).

\*The exception being within the first Semester of Year 7 where a change in circumstances may lead to a necessary transfer between non-like programs. Providing the applicant qualified for the program at the time of testing, a transfer can be considered by GTSU.

Current ASET scores are the most accurate measure of a child's suitability for program placement. Priority for available vacancies will be given to those children who sit the testing for their transfer year group, based on their ranked test scores. All other transfer requests will be considered once the testing process is complete.

Transfer request forms are available on the [website](#) or by emailing [gtsu@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:gtsu@education.wa.edu.au).

The completed form and required attachments must be returned by email to [gtsu@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:gtsu@education.wa.edu.au).

All transfers are dependent on available vacancies.

## **11 Boarding facilities**

### **11.1 City Beach Residential College**

City Beach Residential College provides boarding services for country applicants with preference given to students offered placements at Perth Modern School. Applicants accepted into other schools offering Gifted and Talented Programs may request to be considered once offers have been received.

W: [www.education.wa.edu.au/citybeachresidentialcollege](http://www.education.wa.edu.au/citybeachresidentialcollege)

T: 1800 645 212  
9285 2672

College Manager: Dr Chris Chuck

### **11.2 Rotary Residential College**

Rotary Residential College is situated at Kent Street Senior High School and provides boarding services for secondary school children.

T: 9470 4177  
A: Manager

Rotary Residential College  
Kent Street  
EAST VICTORIA PARK WA 6101

### **11.3 Gifted and Talented Boarding Allowance**

The Gifted and Talented Boarding Allowance is available for children boarding at City Beach Residential College who do not qualify for the Australian Government's Assistance for Isolated Children and State Boarding Away from Home boarding allowances. The Gifted and Talented Boarding Allowance is administered by City Beach Residential College for eligible children.

## **12 Scholarship**

### **Olive A Lewis Scholarship**

Children who will be studying in a Gifted and Talented Secondary Selective Entrance Academic Program in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 are eligible to apply for this annual scholarship. The Olive A Lewis provides financial support to children whose participation in a Gifted and Talented Selective Academic Program may be restricted due to financial need. Scholarships are means-tested and application forms are available on the [website](#) for all eligible children in November each year.

Successful applicants must commit to the timeframe indicated on the scholarship. Failure to meet the requirements of the scholarship will result in immediate termination of the scholarship and the return of unexpended funds to the Department of Education.

Scholarships are awarded for a single year of study. Eligible applicants can apply in consecutive years up to Year 10 level, providing their child remains in the program. Previous recipients are also able to reapply.

## **13 Sample/previous test papers**

The Academic Selective Entrance Test (ASET) is an assessment of learning potential, not acquired learning, and as such is preparation-neutral.

There are no previous or sample papers for the ASET, however parents can access sample tests utilised in the Eastern States as follows:

- [NSW Sample Test](#)

It is important to note that the Department of Education does not endorse or accept liability for the usefulness and/or cost of these sample tests, or any other company or product which promotes the enhancement of Selective Entrance Test performance.

A Candidate Information Bulletin with some sample questions and details about the format and timings of the tests will be available to all applicants prior to the commencement of testing.

## 14 Withdrawal from programs

A child who withdraws from a program and enrolls at another school, for whatever reason, without a pre-authorized deferral of placement from the school principal and Gifted and Talented Selection Unit, is deemed to have terminated their standing and has no guarantee of future access to Gifted and Talented Programs.

All program deferrals are at the discretion of the Gifted and Talented Selection Unit and the Gifted and Talented Program school Principal and cannot exceed six months under any circumstances.

## 15 Frequently Asked Questions – Reference Guide

### Can I apply online?

Yes, just go to [www.education.wa.edu.au/giftedandtalented](http://www.education.wa.edu.au/giftedandtalented). Applications open on 8 October 2018 and close Sunday, 10 February 2019. All applications are now online.

### If my child has only applied for Arts programs is he/she required to sit the Academic Selective Entrance Test?

Yes, all children applying for Gifted and Talented Programs are required to sit the Academic Selective Entrance Test, regardless of program. See [1. Criteria for entry](#).

### My child has a learning difficulty, will he/she get extra time in the Academic Selective Entrance Test?

Possibly. If your child has a diagnosed learning difficulty or condition that requires particular testing adjustments, you will need to apply for Special Conditions Testing for the ASET. Click [here](#) for the Special Conditions form you will need to complete for your child to be considered. If a parent opts not to apply for Special Conditions Testing, they will be tested with the main cohort under standard test conditions.

### My child has applied for Arts programs only and has a learning difficulty. Can my child be exempted from the Academic Selective Entrance Test?

Yes, you can apply for your child to receive an exemption from the ASET. If you choose not to apply for exemption, your child must sit the test with the main cohort under standard testing conditions. See [Academic Selective Entrance Test Exemption \(Arts only\)](#).

### When will the testing take place?

Please refer to the [Key Dates and Timelines](#) on the website. For information on testing venues see [Academic Selective Entrance Test venues](#).

### Why have I not heard about my application?

See [Lodging an application](#) for information on application confirmation procedures.

**I will be away throughout the correspondence/notification period, what can I do?**

See [Holiday arrangements/change of address.](#)

**What if my child, who is an Australian citizen, will be overseas/interstate at the time of the testing?**

The Department of Education can make allowances to have your child tested through a third party. You are required to provide an appropriate third party supervisor to administer the testing and meet all costs associated with this and the courier of test papers. See [Overseas/interstate applicants.](#)

**Can my child, who is not an Australian citizen, apply for Gifted and Talented Programs?**

Possibly. See [Australian citizenship and residency status.](#)

**Is the preference order important? Can I change my preferences?**

Yes. See [Entering Preferences](#) and [Preference Changes.](#)

**Can I obtain previous years papers or sample tests?**

No. There are no previous or sample papers for the Western Australian Academic Selective Entrance Test. See [Sample/previous test papers.](#)

**What if my child is sick on his/her testing date?**

See [Illness/misadventure on the testing day](#) and [Misadventure/illness.](#)

**What happens if my child's testing details aren't received and we miss the testing?**

Parents are required to acknowledge and accept the Key Dates and Timelines for the 2019 testing schedule at the time of application, which includes information on when test packages are emailed to applicants. See [Lodging an application.](#) Parents are responsible keeping track of the timeline and following up where they believe correspondence should have been received but hasn't. The Department accepts no liability for missing or misplaced correspondence resulting in missed test opportunities.

**Can I get some early advice to make a decision about placement at another school?**

Possibly, See [Early advice.](#)

**My elder child is in a Gifted and Talented program, can I get the younger sibling in the same program?**

See [Family placement claim.](#)

**I have twins with only one being offered a program. Can the unsuccessful twin be offered a place?**

See [Twins/multiple birth applicants.](#)

**I do not believe the results from the Selective Entrance Test are correct. Can I appeal the results?**

Yes. See [Test result appeals](#).

**Can I obtain a report for my child's Arts testing?**

No. Progressions through the Arts selection process are on the basis of a moderated panel. See [Gifted and Talented Arts Programs \(Media Arts, Dance, Drama, Music, Music Theatre and Visual Arts\)](#).

**Can my child request a transfer to a different Academic Gifted and Talented program?**

Possibly. See [Transfers between Gifted and Talented Programs](#).

**Can my child be accelerated a year in Gifted and Talented programs?**

Possibly. See [Acceleration](#).

**I filled in the wrong application form and now my child has sat the Selective Entrance Test for the wrong year group – what can I do?**

Selecting the correct application intake is important. See [Selecting the correct application](#).

**Can I enter more than one application?**

No. See [Number of applications](#).

**My child's testing venue seems to be a very long way from our home – can he/she be tested somewhere closer by?**

Flexibility with testing venues is extremely limited. See [Academic Selective Entrance Test venues](#).

**My child wants to take a break from the Gifted and Talented program – is this possible?**

Possibly. See [Deferring a place](#) and [Withdrawal from programs](#).

For any other questions, please contact 9264 4307 or email [gtsu@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:gtsu@education.wa.edu.au)