

## PARENT INFORMATION

### WHAT IS THE ACCELERATION FRAMEWORK?

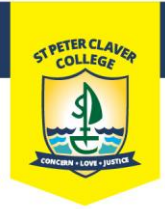
A specialised pathway for students who show advanced academic readiness, motivation and social-emotional maturity. The framework provides enriched learning opportunities through structured classes in English and Mathematics and advises the use of appropriate differentiation across all subjects and classes.

### WHAT ACCELERATION IS

- **Evidence Based and Fair:** Placement decisions are based on multiple sources of data, including school assessments, standardised tests, teacher observations and family input.
- **Open to Eligible Students:** Acceleration is not restricted to a select group. Any student who meets the criteria may be considered.
- **Balanced and Supportive:** Academic challenge is balanced with:
  - Care for student wellbeing.
  - Ongoing monitoring.
  - Support during transitions.
- **Inclusive:** The framework supports:
  - Gifted and talented students.
  - Students with learning differences (twice exceptional learners).
  - Students who demonstrate strong motivation and readiness for challenge.
- **Flexible:** Student placement is reviewed every six months. Students may enter or exit the class based on:
  - Learning needs.
  - Wellbeing.
  - Personal choice.
- **Focused on Growth:** The emphasis is on:
  - Effort and progress.
  - Developing positive learning habits.
  - Building resilience and independence.
- **A Partnership:** Successful acceleration relies on collaboration between students, families and staff.

### WHAT ACCELERATION IS NOT

- **NOT an 'Elite' or Exclusive Club:** Acceleration is not about status or labels. It is about matching learning to student readiness.
- **NOT Just About High-Test Scores:** Academic data matters, but motivation, resilience, and social emotional readiness are equally important.
- **NOT Set-and-Forget:** Students are not locked in. Movement in and out of the framework is normal and supported.
- **NOT More Work for the Sake of It:** Acceleration focuses on depth, thinking, and challenge, not simply more homework or harder worksheets.



- **NOT at the Expense of Wellbeing:** Student wellbeing is central. If acceleration is no longer the right fit, changes are made.
- **NOT One Size Fits All:** Teaching is responsive and adjusted to individual student needs.

## HOW STUDENTS ARE CONSIDERED

Students are considered using a **holistic approach**, including:

- Academic data, e.g. NAPLAN, PAT (Progressive Achievement Tests), DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills).
- Classroom performance and teacher feedback, including report cards.
- Learning behaviours and motivation, including attendance.
- Social emotional readiness.
- Transition information and parent/caregiver input.

All decisions are **consistent, transparent and evidence based**.

## WHAT LEARNING LOOKS LIKE

Students experience:

- Challenging and engaging tasks.
- Opportunities for deep thinking and problem solving.
- Goal setting and reflection.
- Collaboration with like-minded peers.
- Support to manage challenge and setbacks.

## COMMUNICATION WITH FAMILIES

- Families are informed about changes, reviews and opportunities.
- Student effort and growth are recognised and celebrated.
- Ongoing communication supports shared understanding.

## IF YOU SUSPECT YOUR CHILD MAY BE GIFTED

You may notice:

- Rapid learning or strong curiosity.
- Advanced language or reasoning.
- Creative problem solving.
- High levels of focus, imagination or persistence.

If you have questions:

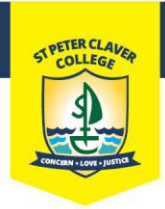
- Speak with your child's teacher.
- Contact the Curriculum Leader.
- Share observations and/or supporting information.

## COLLEGE CONTACT

Sally Waite, Curriculum Leader - Middle Years Performance and Growth.

Email: [swaite@bne.catholic.edu.au](mailto:swaite@bne.catholic.edu.au)





## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**Q: What is the Acceleration Framework?**

A: A pathway for academically advanced students to access enriched learning in English and Mathematics, with a focus on challenge, wellbeing and growth. It supports appropriate differentiation across all subjects and classes.

**Q: How is eligibility determined?**

A: Through a combination of academic data (NAPLAN, PAT-R, PAT-M, classroom results, attendance), teacher feedback, social-emotional readiness, and parent/caregiver observations. All decisions are evidence-based and equitable.

**Q: What support is available for accelerated students?**

A: Students receive mentoring, counselling and academic scaffolds as needed, e.g. Counsellors, Pastoral.

**Q: What if I think my child is gifted?**

A: Look for signs such as advanced skills, curiosity, creativity and leadership. Use online screening tools and discuss with school staff. A checklist and inquiry form are available from the College.

**Q: What subjects are included?**

A: English and Mathematics are core. Other subjects offer differentiation and electives provide opportunities for natural acceleration through subject choice and extracurricular activities.

**Q: How is my child's progress monitored?**

A: Through ongoing academic data, attendance, engagement and wellbeing checks. Multiple sources are used to ensure a balanced view.

**Q: What happens if my child struggles or wants to leave?**

A: Students can exit the Acceleration Framework based on choice, wellbeing or academic performance. Support is provided during transitions, and temporary setbacks are managed with guidance and care.

**Q: Are there awards or recognition for accelerated students?**

A: Yes. Effort based awards celebrate persistence, creativity and growth, not just achievement.

**Q: Where can I find more information or support?**

A: Access gifted education networks:

- Australian Association for the Education of the Gifted and Talented (AAEGT).
- Bright and Beyond.
- Raising Children Network.
- Flow Education Australia.
- Australian Gifted Support Centre.

**Q: Who do I contact for questions or request inclusion?**

A: **General Questions:** Sally Waite, Curriculum Leader - Middle Years Performance and Growth.

Email: [swaite@bne.catholic.edu.au](mailto:swaite@bne.catholic.edu.au)

**Mathematics Questions:** Amy Fatialofa, Curriculum Leader - Mathematics & Numeracy.

Email: [afatialofa@bne.catholic.edu.au](mailto:afatialofa@bne.catholic.edu.au)

**English Questions:** Alex Daley, Curriculum Leader - English & Literacy.

Email: [Alex.Daley@bne.catholic.edu.au](mailto:Alex.Daley@bne.catholic.edu.au)