

INTRODUCTION

At Queen of Apostles, we have designed an exciting and unique curriculum for our academically talented students. Using Tony Ryan's *Thinker's Keys* as a stimulus, our Gifted and Talented Programme for students in Years 3 to 6 is aimed at developing critical and creative thinking skills to enhance problem solving capabilities. Each unit of work provides the opportunity for students to use creative, high-order, lateral thinking and problem solving skills, challenging students beyond their comfort zones in a supportive environment.

"Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn."

Benjamin Franklin

Selection into the program is based on school testing, NAPLAN results, teacher recommendation and participation in previous GATE programs. **Please note that all courses are subject to change.**

Year 3/4

Students participate in the units of work from Term 1 - 4. They are withdrawn for one period a week during a core subject.

Term 1: Brain Teasers and Problem Solving Activities

An introduction to the GATE program where students participate in a number of problem solving and creative thinking activities. This course aims to encourage students to think outside the box and take risks in preparation for the more competition-focussed curriculum in Years 5 and 6.

Term 2 and 3: STEMtastic Space

In this unit of work, students work in teams to investigate the Engineering Design Process through a set of activities aimed at teaching students about human efforts to return to the moon. Students will be involved in

investigating modes of transport to and on the moon and how humans will live and work on the moon.

Term 4: Design a Board Game

In this unit of work, students will be designing an educational board game for 10 - 12 year olds. Design and planning are key components of the game. Students must use *Tony Ryan's Thinker's Keys* in their original planning and throughout the construction phase.

