



# Bossley Park High School

Application for 2020 are now being accepted



*Gifted and Talented Program*

Information packages are available from the school or  
downloadable from the BPHS website:

<http://www.bossleypk-h.schools.nsw.edu.au>

**Application close: Monday the 4th of March, 2019**





# Bossley Park High School

## GAT Program Application Information

Please read this information carefully before submitting the application.

### Important dates

Open Night Wednesday 20th February 2019

Applications close (applications other than Talented Football Program only) Monday 4th March 2019

Online Testing (GAT academic program only) Thursday 7th March 2019

Dance Auditions Tuesday 12th March 2019

Music Auditions Wednesday 13th March 2019

Drama Auditions Thursday 14th March 2019

Technology Testing Friday 15th March 2019

Netball Trials (over two dates) Session 1 Tuesday 19th March 2019

Session 2 (by Invitation) Tuesday 26th March 2019

Talented Football Applications close Friday 17th May 2019

Talented Football Trial Session 1 Friday 31st May 2019

Session 2 Friday 7th June 2019

(If necessary) Session 3 Friday 14th June 2019

Outcome advice (All programs) June 2019

Please direct any enquiries to:

Laura Roby

Head Teacher Learning Support / GAT Co-ordinator

Bossley Park High School

36 – 44 Prairievale Rd

Bossley Park 2176

**Email:** [laura.zaccaria@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:laura.zaccaria@det.nsw.edu.au)

**Telephone:** 02 9823 1033 **Fax:** 02 9823 7835

**Website:** [www.bossleypk-h.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.bossleypk-h.schools.nsw.edu.au)

## How to apply

Step 1: Read the application information carefully.

Step 2: Complete an application.

Step 3: Lodge your completed application to the front office of Bossley Park High School by the closing date. An application fee of \$25.00 is payable to office upon lodgement of application.

Step 4: Ensure that your child attends the required testing /audition dates as required by the selected program of choice.

The dates are published on the previous page.

**Note: Important dates are listed at the beginning of this information. Detailed times and venues can be found at the end of the document.**

Step 5: Expect to receive the outcome of your application in **early June 2019**.

## Communication

All correspondence and telephone advice is provided to the primary parent(s) or carers indicated on the application. This parent or carer is usually the parent living with the child. Ensure you complete the Family contact details. All correspondence will be sent using this information. Information cannot be provided to any person who is not listed on the application form as a parent/ caregiver.

No correspondence or telephone conversations will be conducted directly with students.

### Email and post

The school will be sending correspondence by email wherever possible. Please do not enter your email details on the application form if you do not wish to be contacted in this way.

If you do provide your email address you must contact the school if you change your email address or email provider or no longer have email access.

This is particularly important where parents have provided a work email address and change their place of employment. If providing your email address please:

- print clearly and accurately
- provide only one email address.

Note: All communication about the application is conducted with parents/carers. Do not supply a student's email address.

### Change of application details

Please inform the school by mail or email if there is a change in details such as your child's name, postal address, email address or school. You should also inform the school by mail or email if you want to withdraw your application.

Note: Changes of application details will not be accepted over the telephone.

## Criteria for entry

### Core Academic

Students must compete academically with all other candidates for entry into this program. Academic merit is determined mainly by the combination of the results of the Online Placement Test in Literacy and Numeracy, and a General Ability test, together with the primary school assessments of student performance in English and Mathematics and NAPLAN results.

Additional evidence of academic merit will also be considered by the selection committee.

To be eligible for consideration for placement into specialist programs students must meet specific criteria:

### Visual Arts

- demonstrated sophistication in the use of their chosen media and have a strong understanding of the visual elements used.
- good articulation of ideas and concepts and technical sensitivity and refinement.

### Dance

- demonstrated dance skills
- physical and cognitive potential in dance
- genuine interest, self discipline and commitment
- the ability to work independently and co-operatively.

### Drama

- group work/cooperation and collaboration
- self discipline/concentration and focus
- movement skills
- vocal skills
- adaptability to various roles
- creativity and imagination
- proficiency in script work.

### Music

- demonstrated pitch and rhythm skills
- creative ability and musical potential
- genuine interest, self discipline and commitment
- concentration and focus
- the ability to work independently and cooperatively.

### Technology

- a high level of skills and understanding in the use of a range of technologies including computer software for 3D modelling
- good understanding of 3D spatial relationships
- ability to integrate creative thought with analytical thought.

### Talented Netball / Talented Football

- high level of athletic ability
- good technical ability
- proficiency in tactical understanding
- high levels of self discipline
- good leadership qualities



## Attachments

Applicants for **all** programs must provide a portfolio documenting their educational achievements.

Attachments that should be included:

- Two most recent school reports
- School-specific merit or behaviour certificates
- Certificates of achievements in the performing arts or sports
- Copies of the State or National tests such as NAPLAN
- Certificates from state-wide competitions
- Information about a disability, medical condition or behavioural disorder and their effects on the academic performance of students
- The results of individual IQ tests if appropriate. Note that these must be provided as a complete IQ report.
- Supporting information where students are outside the normal age range.
- Copy of Court Orders if they apply.

Where further information is necessary the selection committee may approach the current primary school or request further information from parents.

Note: Attachments should be A4 one-sided copies.

**PLEASE DO NOT ASK YOUR CHILD'S CLASSROOM / SCHOOL TEACHER (OR PRINCIPAL) TO WRITE A LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION. AS PART OF THE PROCESS THE PANEL WILL MAKE CONTACT. SIMPLY ENSURE YOU HAVE PROVIDED THE NAME OF YOUR CHILD'S YR 5 or 6 TEACHER**

## Other considerations

Cultural background

The selection committee will give special consideration to students of Aboriginal background or students with a language background other than English who have been doing most school work in English for less than four years. This consideration will determine whether they have been disadvantaged in their ability to demonstrate merit.

## Program Choices

You may make up to four program choices. The order in which you list those choices matters only if the child qualifies for more than one program. If your child qualifies for more than two programs, you will be offered only the highest two choices for which your child qualifies.

## Test information

The Online Placement and General Ability Test will be conducted on the morning of **Thursday 7th March 2019**. It will be administered at Bossley Park High School in the Learning Centre. All GAT Academic applicants are required to sit for the test, unless there are extenuating circumstances.

Students who miss the test through illness, or other unavoidable mishap, may be considered through the illness/misadventure process detailed below.

Students unable to take the test because they are interstate or overseas at the time should contact the school to determine whether they should apply to be considered under the illness/misadventure process. The Online Placement and General Ability Tests are developed by the Australian Council for Educational Research. It is a secure test and is unavailable for scrutiny before the test session.

A successful application does not depend entirely on a student's performance in the Online Placement Test.

Test centre

Note: Parents must not remain on the school premises during the test unless special permission has been granted for student welfare reasons.

## Test components

The On-line testing is for the GAT Academic Applicants only. It consists of three multiple-choice style tests, which assess a student's ability in literacy, numeracy and general ability. There is also a fourth component which is a writing test. 40 minutes is allowed for each test.

Additional testing will take place for Visual Arts, Dance, Drama, Music, Technology and Football. These are detailed on the Supplementary Information Sheets.

## Illness or misadventure

If some problem such as sickness or an accident stops your child from taking the test or from doing his or her best, you should download an illness/misadventure form from the school's web site or request one from the front office. The completed form should be returned to the school by no later than 5 working days after the date of the test.

You should include evidence to support a misadventure claim where possible.

You must include a medical certificate covering the day of the test and have the medical practitioner complete the *Independent evidence of illness* page of the illness/misadventure form if the child was sick or else the selection committee will not be able to consider your claim. Generally it is better to take the test where possible and make an illness/misadventure claim than to miss the test. All claims for consideration, based on illness, must be made at this stage.

Although there is an appeals process which occurs later in the year after the outcome is known, appeals based on illness will be considered only in exceptional circumstances.

Students who miss the test for unavoidable reasons such as illness may be considered on their moderated school assessment scores at the discretion of the selection committee. Where neither test scores nor school assessment scores which can be moderated are available, applicants may be considered on the basis of alternative evidence.

## Selection committees

A selection committee for each program will meet to choose students using the 'Criteria for Entry' as described on page 4. Each selection committee will consist of at least three people. All placement decisions are made by the selection committee convened for each program.

## Outcome of application

Outcome advice

The school will send you advice by mail or email in early **June 2019** telling you whether your child:

- is being offered a place and/or
- has been placed on a reserve list and/or
- has been unsuccessful for one or more choices.

Hold

In some cases students might not be sent outcome advice at the same time as the rest of the candidates. These students' applications could be placed on hold while the selection committee carries out further investigation and enquiries usually related to any extenuating circumstances.

Response to offers

If you receive an offer you must fill out a response form and return it no later than 14 days after the date of the offer. Some late offers will be made by telephone and these will usually require responses within 24 hours.

The school may assume that the offer has been declined if you do not respond by the due date. If you accept an offer and later change your mind you should let the school know immediately in writing, so that the next eligible applicant can be offered the place.

## Late offers

Parents whose children are on reserve lists will be offered a place if their position on a reserve list is reached. These offers can be made at any time from **July 2019 until December 2019**.

## Appeals

You may appeal against the decision of the selection committee if you feel there were special factors which might have prevented the student from gaining higher school assessment scores or test scores, or if there were other factors which might not have been considered by the selection committee. Documentary evidence should accompany the appeal wherever relevant.

All appeals must be made on an appeal form which is available from Bossley Park High School's web site or by contacting the school office. You should complete the parent's section of the appeal form and pass it on to your child's primary school principal. The principal should complete the principal's section. The form should be returned to Bossley Park High School no longer than fourteen (14) days from the date of the initial notification.

If the student's school or test performance was likely to have been affected by illness, the school should have been notified as part of the illness/ misadventure process. Appeals based on illness will only be considered in exceptional circumstances and all such appeals must include a medical certificate covering the day of the test.

If you are appealing on other grounds, you should include evidence to support your appeal.

If your appeal is based on the student's school performance, the panel will consider only evidence concerning performance up to the end of 2019. The appeals panel may consult with the primary school principal to seek further information if necessary.

## Late application

Late applications will not generally be considered except where there are extenuating circumstances.

If you have a good reason for making an application after the closing date, you must include a written explanation and a supporting statement from the school principal or other appropriate person. If no explanation is provided the late application cannot be considered.

The selection committee will decide whether or not the late application will be considered. If the selection committee accepts the reason for the late application, the student might be considered on moderated school assessment scores. Where neither test assessment scores nor school assessment scores which can be moderated are available, applicants may be considered on the basis of any alternative evidence presented.

If your application is received after 3:00 pm of the APPLICATION CLOSE DATE, (See date on first page), your child will generally not be tested and your application will be considered only if there is a shortage of suitable applicants.

***A late fee of \$10.00 will be incurred, upon the new test date, should your child be invited to sit.***

## Enquiries

Enquiries can be directed to the Principal of Bossley Park High School or GAT Coordinator at the address or numbers shown at the beginning of this document.

## Supplementary Requirements

Specialist programs have additional requirements, these are specified in each individual program description.

## Visual Arts

The Gifted and Talented Visual Arts program is designed to offer opportunities to students with a talent in Visual Arts. These opportunities include: students participating in extra-curricular workshops to extend and challenge their abilities, working with visiting artists to learn new skills and techniques and attend excursions to exhibitions and art galleries where students can appreciate art in different contexts.

Our aim is to provide extra curricular activities to students gifted and talented in Visual Arts and give them many opportunities to extend, challenge or enrich their abilities in Visual Arts.

In addition to the Visual Arts Testing and educational portfolio review, students are asked to submit a portfolio of their artwork demonstrating their various art making skills.

To be eligible for consideration into The Visual Arts Gifted and Talented program, students must meet the following criteria:

- Students must demonstrate sophistication in the use of their chosen media and have a strong understanding of the visual elements used.
- Their skills must demonstrate a good articulation of ideas and concepts and technical sensitivity and refinement.

We ask that all students applying for GAT Visual Arts **submit portfolio** containing a minimum of 3 X A4 size drawings demonstrating a portrait, landscape and still life.

Students are also encouraged to submit other work they may have created in the areas of painting, drawing or mixed media collage work. They may want to include photocopies or prints of photographs of any 3D artworks or computer generated work. PLEASE DO NOT SUBMIT ANY ORIGINALS OR USBs.

We invite students that have demonstrated a strong talent in Visual Arts to apply and who meet the above criteria. We would like to see any awards or merit certificates students may have received for Visual Arts.

The portfolio will be used to select students based on:

- the ability to meet the above criteria
- the strength of their individual expression and their use of visual arts elements
- technical refinement and sensitivity of materials and techniques

## Performing Arts

The Performing Arts Faculty runs courses in Dance, Drama and Music. Students have many opportunities to develop their talent in these courses. These include a variety of dance and drama ensembles, vocal group, instrumental ensemble, concert band and opportunities for weekly performances at school assemblies.

These activities often lead to regional, state and national representation. Opportunities to showcase this talent include school productions, year concerts, community activities and local competitions.

The Performing Arts Faculty is dedicated to nurturing talent and encouraging the highest quality in performance and academic excellence. Students who gain selection into our program will benefit from a range of curriculum initiatives which will assist in developing their talent in the chosen performing arts area.

In addition to the on-line tests and educational portfolio review, students will undertake an audition in order to be considered for placement in a Performing Arts program at Bossley Park High School.

The audition will be conducted by a panel chaired by the Head Teacher and members of the Performing Arts Faculty.

Each audition is assessed on its own merits. Information on individual student's performance in their audition will not be given. The purpose of the audition is for the school to select the top students as assessed by the selection panel.

Photographs:

One (1) passport size photograph will be required on the day of an audition. Each photograph should have the name of the student clearly printed on the back. The photograph will help the audition panel identify each student. Failure to supply photographs seriously disadvantages the student in the audition. Photographs are not returnable.

### Dance

Students will participate in a contemporary technique class, which will include floor and centre work, progressions and learning and performing a short modern piece.

This class will give students the opportunity to demonstrate their skill, flexibility, coordination and strength. At the end of the class students will learn a short phrase to perform. Students are not expected to prepare a solo dance.

The audition will assess

- demonstrated dance skills
- physical and cognitive potential in dance
- genuine interest, self discipline and commitment
- the ability to work independently and co-operatively

Clothing: Students should wear plain, form fitting dance wear and be prepared to work in bare feet. Hair should be tied back as necessary.

### Drama

Students will participate in an audition focussing on improvised drama group work and unprepared script readings. Students can prepare themselves by thinking about the important elements of drama. Rehearsed or 'set pieces' are not required.

The audition will assess:

- group work/cooperation and collaboration
- self discipline/concentration and focus
- movement skills
- vocal skills
- adaptability to various roles
- creativity and imagination
- proficiency in script work

Clothing: Students are to wear comfortable clothing which is easy to move in, such as track suits, T shirts, jeans, sloppy joes. Footwear should be track shoes or bare feet.

### Music

Students will participate in an audition which will include performance (vocal and/or instrumental) and a listening test.

Performance Requirement:

Instrumental: A short prepared piece, preferably unaccompanied - 2 minutes maximum. Please bring your instrument to the audition. A piano, drum kit and amplifiers will be available.

Voice: A short prepared song of any style with a backing track that does not contain the vocal line.

Listening Tests: will be 40 minutes in length, and tests pitch and rhythmic abilities. Please bring a pen with you.

The audition will assess:

- demonstrated pitch and rhythm skills
- creative ability and musical potential
- genuine interest, self discipline and commitment
- concentration and focus
- the ability to work independently and cooperatively

Clothing: Students should wear comfortable clothing.

### Technology

The BPHS Centre for Advanced Engineering and Design is an established high technology centre utilising the latest equipment for design in engineering. The school's link with the Warren Centre for Advanced Engineering at Sydney University provides opportunities for our students to tackle real-world 21st century problems. Students will develop problem-solving skills and utilise Computer Aided Drawing/Computer Aided Manufacture(CAD/CAM) technology in developing solutions through the PTC Design Quest program and the school's link with Dimension, Roland DG and a range of other engineering companies as partners. Successful technologists are needed for Australia's future.

Students entering this program will have good technical knowledge and problem-solving skills, and good scientific and mathematical abilities. They will be interested in how things work.

To be eligible for consideration for placement into the Technology Gifted and Talented program students must meet the following criteria:

- a high level of skills and understanding in the use of a range of technologies including computer software for 3D modelling.
- good understanding of 3D spatial relationships.
- ability to integrate creative thought with analytical thought.

In addition to the educational portfolio review, students will participate in a workshop where their ability to meet the above criteria will be assessed.

### **Talented Netball**

The purpose of this program is to enrich and extend those students with talents in Netball to achieve their potential. It is our newest edition to the programs and is developing links with Netball Australia and other outside agencies to support students in attaining their goals of reaching an elite level within the netball career /athlete pathways.

During the session students will be assessed on:

Agility  
Ball skills  
Footwork  
Tactical understanding of the game

The practical program is based around exercises instead of drills. These allow the players to develop the process of performing technique whilst making decisions. Thus the main aim is at increasing the players' speed of thought by developing their technical ability.

In addition to the educational portfolio review, students will undertake two trial sessions including physiological profiling.

Although academic performance is not critical, positive attitude towards learning in all curriculum areas is expected. Student athletes will be selected based on their performance in each of the selection stages.

**Clothing:**

Students need to wear appropriate sporting attire as well as bring their own drink bottle.

**Photographs:**

One (1) passport size photograph will be required on the day of the trial. Each photograph should have the name of the student clearly printed on the back. The photograph will help the trial panel identify each student. Photographs are not returnable.

### **Talented Football**

The BPHS Gifted & Talented Football Program is dedicated to providing a learning environment to maximise the football education of junior and youth players in order to assist them in attaining their goals of reaching an elite level within a variety of football career paths.

The course is designed to educate and challenge student athletes in all aspects involved within the world of football. A specific focus is on the technical and tactical components of the game with sessions designed to create a competitive, as opposed to competition, environment. Other areas covered include refereeing, coaching, media, sports science and event management.

Bossley Park High School has employed an international football coach to support the Talented Football Program.

The practical program is based around exercises instead of drills. These allow the players to develop the process of performing technique whilst making decisions. Thus the main aim is at increasing the players' speed of thought by developing their technical ability.

In addition to the educational portfolio review, students will undertake a minimum of two trial sessions.

During the two trial sessions student athletes will partake in small-sided games. From this they will be assessed on the following:

- Technical ability
- Tactical understanding
- Speed of thought especially with regards to transition speed
- Self discipline and leadership qualities

Student athletes will then have their academic reports scrutinised for ability to learn, motivation to work towards objectives and behaviour in the learning environment.

Although academic performance is not critical, positive attitude towards learning in all curriculum areas is expected. Student athletes will be selected based on their performance in each of the three selection stages.

**Clothing:**

Students need to wear appropriate sporting attire including boots and shin-pads as well as bring their own drink bottle.

**Photographs:**

One (1) passport size photograph will be required on the day of the trial. Each photograph should have the name of the student clearly printed on the back. The photograph will help the trial panel identify each student. Photographs are not returnable.



## Documentation Checklist

Before lodging the application please check the following are included:

- ☐ General Application Form
- ☐ Application to enrol in a NSW Government school
- ☐ Your child's Year 5 NAPLAN test results
- ☐ Your child's TWO most recent school reports
- ☐ Certificates of achievement or participation
- ☐ Student work samples relevant to your child's skills, such as:
  - Creative or critical writing
  - Numeracy skills
  - Artworks  
(Visual Arts applicants please see additional information)
  - Projects
  - Photographs or electronic work samples may be included on CD/DVD
- ☐ OPTIONAL- Reference/s from dance / music / drama teacher/s  
(PLEASE DO NOT REQUEST A REFERENCE FROM YOUR SCHOOL TEACHER/  
PRINCIPAL)

Ensure that you provide EVIDENCE of your child's skill in the selected program/s above.

You will also need to provide:

- ☐ Child Immunisation details and Birth Certificate
- ☐ Proof of Address (Please refer to the 100-point Identification of Residential Address Document found on the school website)

Please submit all documentation in the folder supplied with the application package. If you have downloaded the application from the school's website, please obtain a folder from the school's office and complete before lodging your application. Do not use plastic sleeves, (Exception: For submitting electronic work samples on CD/DVD).

Note: An application fee of \$25.00 is payable to office upon lodgement of the application. This covers the cost of processing and testing.

**PLEASE NOTE: If you miss the deadline for this application, you are still permitted to submit the application. However, this will be taken to the GAT selection committee. You will be required to pay the \$25 application fee upon submission plus an additional \$10 late fee upon the date of your child sitting the test.**

## Test Timetable 2019

### Test Timetable 2019

PROGRAM	DATE	TIME	VENUE
Online Placement Test GAT ACADEMIC PROGRAM ONLY	Thursday 7th March	3:30 - 6:00 pm	Learning Centre
Auditions / Testing			
Dance Auditions	Tuesday 12th March	3:30 - 5:30 pm	Dance Centre
Music Auditions	Wednesday 13th March	3:30 - 4:30 pm	Music Rm 1
Drama Auditions	Thursday 14th March	3:30 - 4:30 pm	Learning Centre
Technology Testing	Friday 15th March	3:30 - 4:30 pm	TC1
Talented Netball Trial - Session 1	Tuesday 19th March	3.30 - 4:30 pm	Netball Courts
Talented Netball Trial - Session 2	Tuesday 26th March (if necessary)	3:30 - 4:30 pm	Netball Courts
Talented Football Trial - Session 1	Friday 31st May	3:30 - 5:00 pm	Oval
Talented Football Trial - Session 2	Friday 7th June	3:30 - 5:00pm	Oval
Talented Football Trial - Session 3	Friday 14th June (if necessary)	3.30 - 5.00pm	Oval