

Welcome to the Year 7 GATE 2026 Information Session



Carey
Baptist College
Harrisdale

Thursday 20 February, 2025
5-6pm





Agenda



- **Why Carey; Why GATE; Aims of the Program; Program Highlights**
Mr Gifford – Secondary Principal
- **Introducing GATE; Applications; Testing; Results and Certificates; Scholarships; Offers; Key Dates**
Mr Stirling – GATE Coordinator
- **Carey's GATE programs - STEM, REACH and Music Specialist**
Mr Stirling – GATE Coordinator

Mr Brenden Gifford

Secondary Principal

- Why Carey?
- Carey Values
- Why does Carey offer a GATE Program?
- Aims of the GATE Program
- Recent GATE Program Highlights





Why Carey?



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Who are we?

- Carey Baptist College Harrisdale was established in 1998 and now has a Secondary enrolment of over 900 students. Carey's GATE Program commenced in 2020. In 2016, Carey opened its second campus at Forrestdale.
- Carey is a **Values Driven College**. The College values are:
Kindness | Courage | Respect | Humility | Integrity
- At Carey, we believe that all people are made in God's image, having equal value and the right to be treated with dignity and respect.



Why does Carey offer GATE?

- Carey has outstanding teachers and excellent facilities.
- GATE programs significantly extend students through partnerships in the tertiary sector and with industry.
- All students benefit through increased College cooperation with industry and tertiary sectors, innovation and the addition and retention of outstanding learners.
- What matters most to us is the development of young men and women of **character**. We believe young people formed by kindness, courage, respect, humility and integrity are what the world needs. Perseverance produces character, and character produces hope. Character is formed through the pursuit of excellence; where excellence is being the best that you can be.



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Aims of the GATE Program



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- To engage, stimulate and connect students.
- To challenge and extend critical and creative thinking skills.
- To build problem solving capabilities for the 21st Century.
- To increase self-esteem, independent learning and encourage a love of learning.
- To celebrate academic creativity, curiosity, the pursuit of excellence, and a sense of accomplishment.
- To provide students with the opportunity of being involved in: challenging competitions; leadership programs; community service; University extension programs (e.g. Year 10 Curtin Rising Scholars); industry partnerships; and interstate and overseas study tours.



Recent GATE Program Highlights



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- A Carey VEX team participated in the National championships in Brisbane.
- A Carey VEX team was selected to compete in the World VEX championship in Texas.
- Year 9 / 10 GATE STEM Study Tour of Singapore, July 2023. The next Study Tour will be in July, 2025.
- Carey teams had four top 3 placings in the Da Vinci Decathlon competition at UWA (in Maths, Science and Codebreaking).
- A **Robotics Club** commenced on Monday afternoons in 2024.
- A team from Carey were champions in the National Junior Young Physicists Tournament held in Brisbane, 2024.



Recent GATE Program Highlights



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- Ayush Shah (C) and Niyor Sharma represented Australia in the International Young Physicist Tournament in Budapest, 2024.
- A **Debating Club** commenced on Thursday afternoons in 2024.
- Second place in WA (Highly Commended) was achieved in the 'Write a Book in a Day' with the entry, *An Unexpected Hero*.
- GATE students raised over \$12,500 for the Kids Cancer Project in the 'Book in a Day' activity.
- A Carey Junior / Middle School Debating team qualified for the national quarter-finals.
- A Certificate III in Music (Year 10 / 11) has been introduced in 2024 and a Certificate III in Aviation (Year 11 or 12) will commence in 2025.

Mr Rob Stirling

GATE Coordinator

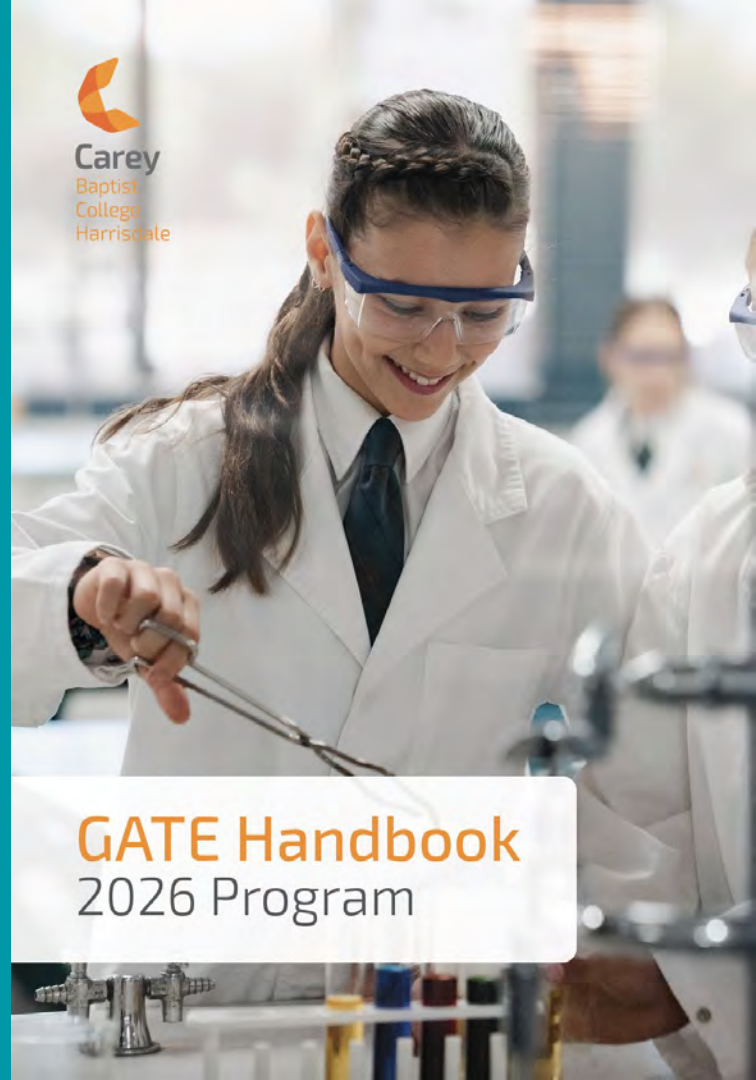
- Introducing the 2026 GATE Program
- Application Details
- Academic Selection Test (HAST)
- GATE Scholarships
- GATE Programs
- This PPT will be uploaded to the Carey website
- Please direct any questions to rstirling@carey.wa.edu.au





GATE Handbook - 2026

- The Carey GATE 2026 Handbook provides more detailed information on the topics covered in this presentation and includes feedback from students who participated in each of the GATE programs.
- It answers 34 Frequently Asked Questions that parents have asked in previous years.
- The Handbook also includes a copy of the Candidate Information Bulletin (published by ACER) on the HAST Test. This has some sample questions on each section.



GATE Handbook
2026 Program



Introducing GATE - 2026



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- Three Specialist GATE programs are offered in Year 7 to Year 10. GATE students then progress into Year 11/ 12 ATAR courses.
- GATE includes some scholarship students, identified by using the HAST Test, and a majority of invited Carey students, based on their strong Semester results, reports and academic potential.
- The GATE programs are **specialist** programs. These are:
 1. GATE STEM
 2. GATE REACH (formerly called Academic Excellence)
 3. GATE Music Specialist
- Carey's GATE students can participate in STEM or REACH AND Music Specialist programs. They can also participate in STEM based electives (like Aviation).

Carey's GATE Specialist Programs



STEM integrates Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths, engaging students in imaginative, collaborative problem solving and reasoning. It focuses on project / problem solving inquiry-based learning.



REACH = Reasoning, English, Arts, Commerce and Humanities. It provides opportunities for students to excel by engaging them in activities which develops their oral, communication, persuasive, analysis and research skills.



Music Specialist encourages students to learn through creation, performance and reflection, studying all genres of music.



Introducing GATE - 2026



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- GATE students are not in the same exclusive group for all of their classes (like the EDWA program) but mix with a wider variety of other extension students.
- This is aimed at developing their 'soft skills' (collaboration, interpersonal, teamwork, creative thinking, communication, etc.).
- GATE STEM and REACH have two sessions in the timetable per week; plus students have four sessions (4 x 55 minutes) each of Maths, Science, English and Humanities (based on the Australian Curriculum).
- These programs focus on specific GATE activities / competitions.
- STEM students will normally be streamed into Maths and Science Extension classes; REACH students will normally be streamed into English and Humanities Extension classes (commences Semester 2).



GATE Applications



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Application Forms (online or paper copy)

Applicants must include the following (including Carey students):

- Most recent end of year report (include copy)
- Copy of Year 5 NAPLAN results (include copy)
- Recent Certificates and Awards won by the student (include copies)
- Other interests / abilities the applicant has and to what level
- Evidence of involvement in a PEAC or Extension program

Points are awarded for each of these areas. This determines the ranking and which students are invited to sit the test (unlike the ASET Test).

- The top 25% (approx.) of applicants are invited to sit the HAST.
- Up to 20 (approx.) are invited to the HAST + the Music Audition.



GATE Applications



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Other documents required with the application are:

- Birth Certificate
- Recent photograph (for identification).
- Copies of recent Music exam results, especially if applying for GATE Music Specialist (if applicable)
- Recommendation from child's music teacher / tutor (if applying for GATE Music Specialist)
- Information regarding disability (if applicable)

All recent evidence is allocated points towards ranking the applications.

- Points (50) from the application are also added to the HSS score.



Application Guidelines



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- Applications may be made for **up to three** GATE programs (STEM, REACH and Music Specialist). Successful students can only receive one scholarship.
- Preference order must be nominated on the application form with a 1, 2, 3, but not all three need to be numbered.
- Up-to-date and accurate information must be included in the application (by parents/guardians).
- Invitations to sit the HAST Selection Test are made from the applications (e.g. Semester 2 reports / Year 5 NAPLAN results and other information).
- Only one application per child be accepted, but additional documents (e.g. awards) can be sent in which will be added to the application.



Application Guidelines



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- All communication is by email; please ensure email addresses are current. All applications will be acknowledged by email.
- Music Auditions are held on second Saturday after the HAST.
- Successful applicants will be contacted with their audition times.
- Scholarship offers will be made on the basis of the HAST + information included in the application.
- Students who have sat the ASET can benefit if they send in their ASET results. This can add points to their rankings.
- Application forms can be filled out online at carey.wa.edu.au/scholarships and are available on request from curriculum@carey.wa.edu.au or from the Curriculum Office (Building J) at the Harrisdale Campus.



HAST (Higher Ability Selection Test)



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- The HAST is an ability test used by many secondary schools to identify academically gifted students for participation in accelerated learning and enhancement programs.
- The HAST is similar to the ASET used by the Education Department (EDWA) for its GATE entry. Both are produced by ACER. It is used by over 100 schools, mainly in NSW, Victoria and Queensland.
- The HAST is designed to measure **innate ability and academic potential unlike curriculum-based tests** which typically identify what a student has already learned.



HAST (Higher Ability Selection Test)



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- There are four parts to the HAST.
- Parts 1-3 are multiple-choice, which are answered on a multiple choice answer sheet.
- Part 4 is a handwritten answer.
- **Students rarely perform well in all four parts**, but will score more highly in the English / Humanities parts – parts 1 and 4; or the Maths / Science parts – parts 2 and 3.
- Sample questions and further test details are included in the Candidate Information Bulletin (produced by ACER). This is included as part of the Carey GATE Handbook 2026.

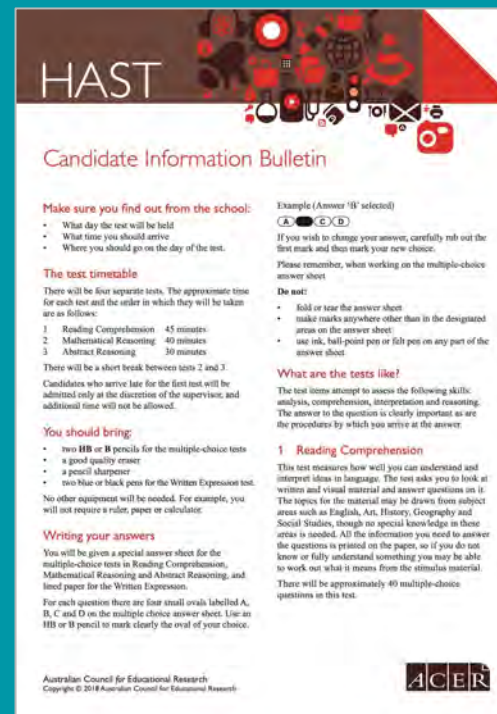
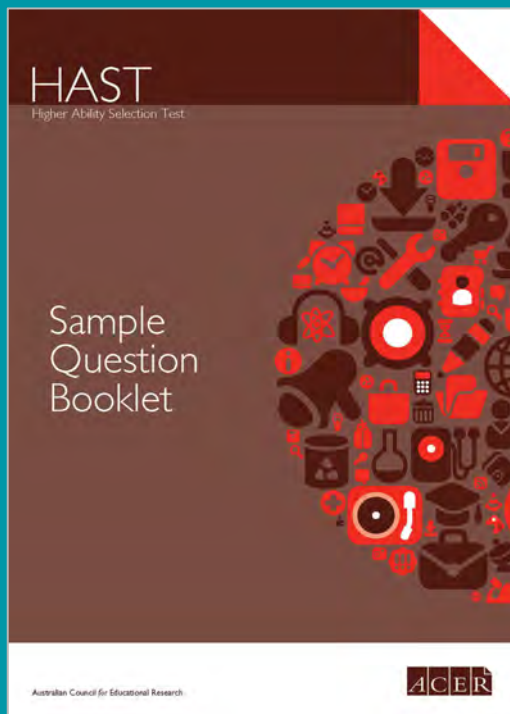


Sample HAST Material



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- Visit acer.org/au/hast-secondary





Part 1 – Reading Comprehension



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- This part measures how well students understand and interpret a range of texts, the topics of which are drawn from various subject areas, and may include diagrams, tables, charts or maps.
- No special knowledge in the subject areas is required.
- All the information needed to answer the questions is printed on the paper.
- There will be approximately 40 multiple choice questions in this part in 45 minutes.
- No Dictionary or Thesaurus is permitted.



Part 2 - Mathematical Reasoning



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- This part attempts to measure Mathematical ability.
- The material used for questions in this part is selected from a wide variety of sources and may differ from the standard curriculum materials.
- There will be approximately 30 multiple choice questions in this part in 40 minutes.
- There is a **20 minute break** between parts 2 and 3 (for drinks and snacks).



Part 3 - Abstract Reasoning



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- This is a non-verbal part that measures abstract reasoning skills, including the capacity to make sense of complex situations, to draw meaning out of events, to perceive and think logically and clearly.
- This part will ask students to identify and complete various picture sequences and patterns.
- There will be approximately 30 multiple choice questions in this part in 30 minutes.



Part 4 – Written Expression



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- This part is concerned with student's ability to express their thoughts and communicate ideas in writing. The stimulus that the students are given must be the basis of their writing.
- In assessing this part, markers consider the following:
 - **Thought and Content**
 - **Structure and Organisation**
 - **Expression, Style and Mechanics**
- This part is allocated 25 minutes.



Test Results



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- ACER produces a performance report showing where the candidate has performed against other students sitting that HAST Test (not just at Carey).
- Carey produces a standardised report showing how the candidate has performed on each of the four parts of the HAST Test, which makes up the HSS score. This report includes the percentile band and Stanine (derived from an ACER national norm reference sample).
- The total HSS score is similar to the EDWA TSS score.
- The HSS (400) is added to the application points (50) to determine the student's ranking (a score out of 450). For Music candidates, 50% comes from the HSS + 50% from the audition (400) + the application points (50).



Test Results



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HAST
Higher Ability Selection Test

Carey Baptist College Higher Ability Selection Test

Individual Report

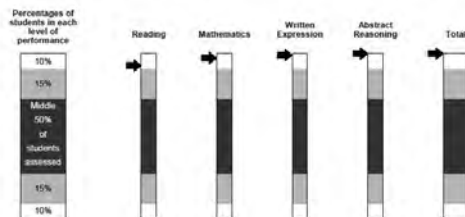
April 2024

This report shows how you performed in the recent Higher Ability Selection Test in the following subjects:

Reading
Mathematics
Written Expression
Abstract Reasoning

The wider column on the left shows how the students who sat this test have been ranked into different percentage levels. Note that lower scores are represented at the bottom of the column and the higher scores at the top of the column.

Your performance in each part of the assessment is marked with an arrow next to the appropriate column.



Please Note:

Remember that scores for these tests apply to a special candidate population of above average ability and not to the general population of students. These are difficult tests, and therefore, to achieve at any level in these tests indicates a good standard of achievement in the areas assessed.



HIGHER ABILITY SELECTION TEST (HAST) REPORT 2025

Adam APPLICANT

Candidate ID Number: 1234567

Part 1	Reading Comprehension	56
Part 2	Mathematics	59
Part 3	Abstract Reasoning	54
Part 4	Written Expression	41

Total HSS	210
Stanine	6
Percentile	70
ACER	Participation

NOTES

HSS is the HAST Standardised Score. The scores on each part of the HAST is standardised out of 100 to make up the total HSS score out of 400. The HAST is taken by a selected cohort of higher ability students, and therefore to achieve at any level in these tests indicates a good standard of achievement in the assessed tests.

Stanines are used to scale scores along a nine point scale. These are derived from a national norm reference sample by ACER.

- Stanine 9 (Very High) corresponds to a percentile rank of 96 and above (High Distinction).
- Stanine 8 (High) corresponds to a percentile rank of 89-95 (Distinction).
- Stanine 7 (Above Average) corresponds to a percentile rank of 77-88 (Credit).
- Stanine 6 (Average) corresponds to a percentile rank of 60-76 (Participation).
- Stanine 5 (Average) corresponds to a percentile rank of 40-59 (Participation), etc.



Test Certificates (sent to schools)



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GATE Program Certificate of High Distinction

is awarded to

Adam Applicant

Primary School

*for achieving Stanine level 9, corresponding to a percentile rank of 96
and above on the Higher Ability Selection Test (ACER).*

B Gifford

Carey Baptist College
Harrisdale Secondary Principal

12 October 2021

Date





Scholarships



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- The number of Scholarships awarded varies from year to year.
- **Scholarship offers are made for the duration of enrolment (from Year 7-12). Continuation of the scholarship is subject to the student's positive conduct, academic progress and contribution / attendance in the program.**
- First Round Scholarship Offers (end of Term 2): 50% deduction of academic tuition fees for the remainder of student's time at Carey.
- Second Round Offers (sent out in the first half of Term 3): are generally made after any declines to the Round 1 offers are received. These are also at 50% deduction of academic tuition fees for the remainder of student's time at Carey.



Scholarships



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- Acceptance of the scholarship and place in the GATE program is required within 7 days of the offer being made, following:
 - An interview with the Principal (this is required if an enrolment interview has not already occurred)
 - The enrolment forms are returned completed and signed
 - The Terms and Conditions (these can be found in the GATE Handbook 2026 and the Carey website) are accepted
 - The Enrolment Fee of \$250 (**only required** if a new enrolment) is paid
- Please note: **A GATE application is not the same as an enrolment. These are two separate processes.**

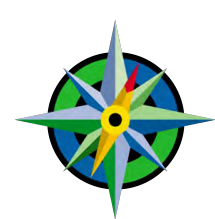


Places in the GATE Program



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- Once the Scholarship Offers process is completed (by first half of Term 3), **the bulk of the GATE places are offered to high performing enrolled (external and internal) Carey students** (later in Term 3 and Term 4).
- These places are allocated on the basis of School reports, NAPLAN results, and other test scores (the HAST is one). Generally there are:
 - 24 places in the Year 7 GATE Music Specialist program
 - 20-22 places in the Year 7 GATE STEM program
 - 20-22 places in the Year 7 GATE REACH program
- Further places (to bring numbers up to 24) can be offered to enrolled students during Year 7, 8 and 9 on the basis of excellent performance.



Key Dates - Year 7 2026

2026 GATE Handbook (page 4)

Applications Open	Applications Close	Test/Audition Invitations Emailed	HAST Test Date	Music Audition	Performance Reports Emailed	Round 1 Offers	Round 2 Offers
Monday 14 October 2024	Thursday 20 March 2025 4:00pm	Tuesday 1 April 2025	Saturday 10 May 2025	Saturday 24 May 2025	Tuesday 3 June 2025	Tuesday 10 June 2025	TBC Term 3 2025

Unsuccessful notifications will be sent on Tuesday 14 October with further GATE positions offered at the end of Term 3 / start of Term 4.

GATE STEM Program



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Mr G. Choo
gideon.choo@carey.wa.edu.au
GATE STEM Coordinator





GATE STEM Philosophy

- Excellence in STEM
- Reputable projects / competitions
- Hands on engagement
- Deep thinking
- Collaborative
- Communication skills
- Collaboration with schools and industry



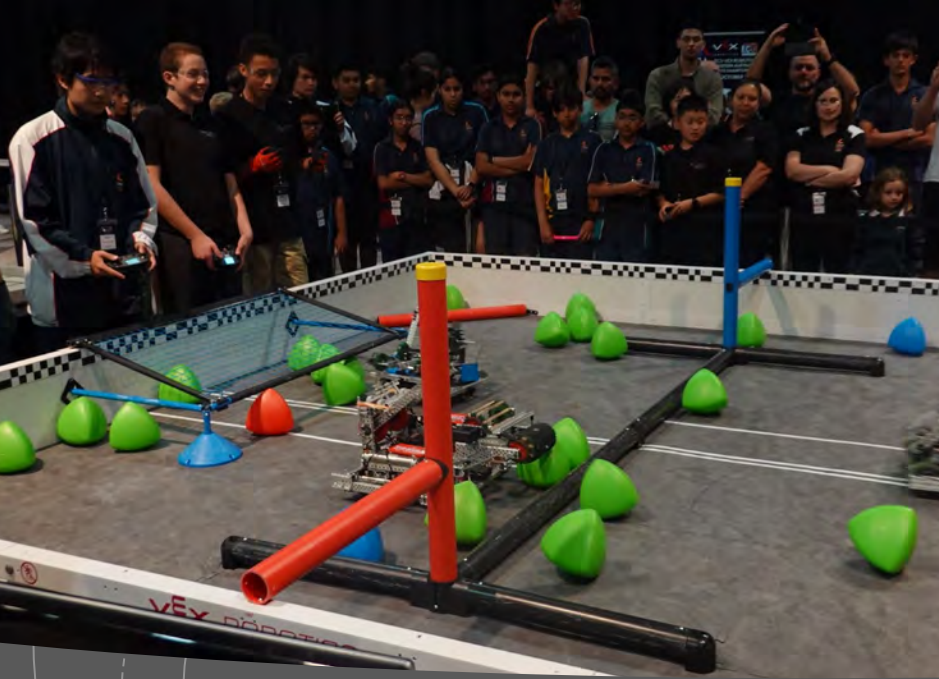
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School Competitions

- Da Vinci Decathlon (Top 3: Code breaking, Science, Maths)
- Tournament of Minds
- Famelab, STEM Video Competition, VEX IQ



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What is VEX?

- STEM, Computer Science, Robotics
- VEX Worlds 2023 (Texas)
- Carey hosts WA State Championships



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Carey STEM
VEX Robotics
Championship

Carey STEM
VEX Robotics
Championship

79419A

79419A

7479B

745B

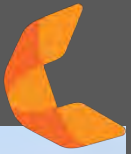


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Junior Young Physicists Tournament

- Real world Physics phenomena
- Define own experiments
- Debate findings
- Champions (Brisbane) 2024;
Second (Wellington) 2023

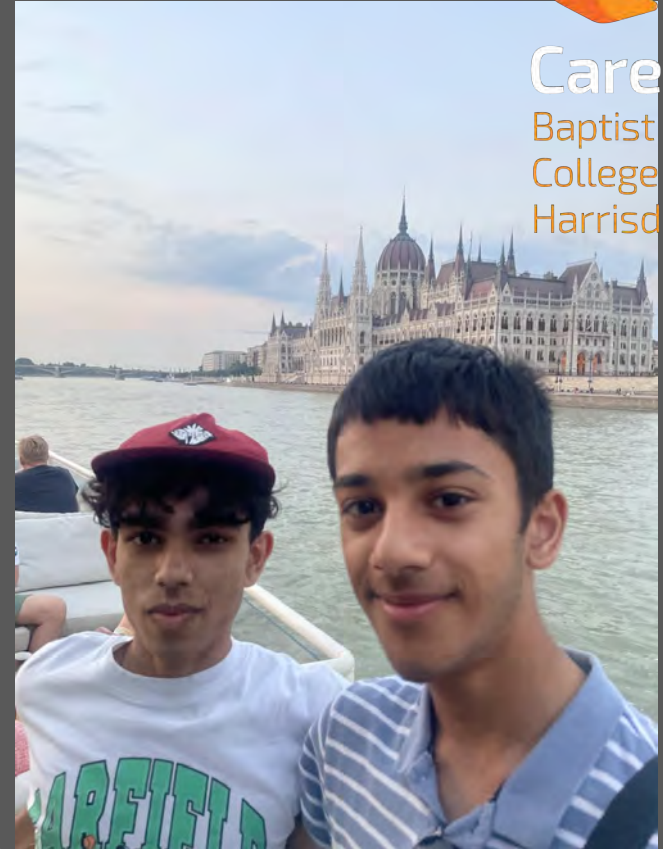
International Young Physicists Tournament



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- Australian Team IYPT Budapest 2024:
Ayush Shah (Captain), Niyor Sharma
- Bronze (15th out of 38)
- Owen Yandell (2023), Geo Vazalanickal (2022/23)





Singapore STEM Study Tour

This takes place every two years for
Year 9 and 10 GATE STEM students.

2025 tour: 8 - 13 July. The itinerary includes:

- Science Centre
- Singapore Zoo
- Sandbox VR
- Universal Studios
- St Nicholas School
- Art / Science Museum
- Wings of Time
- Singapore Flyer
- Changi Museum



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GATE REACH Program

'Reach for the Stars'

Reasoning
English
Arts
Commerce
Humanities



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Mr N. Turner

nick.turner@carey.wa.edu.au

GATE REACH Coordinator



GATE REACH - Purpose



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- To develop high-order critical thinking, analytical, reasoning, teamwork, research and creative writing skills that build upon those established.
- To complement student's progress in English and Humanities Extension courses.
- To provide students with usable content and skills to help them to thrive in the classroom.
- To set students up for success in the areas of English, Humanities, the Arts, Commerce and in their future careers.



Debating and Persuasive Speaking

- Learning the structures and processes of formal debating.
- Learning how to interpret debate topics and form responses using methodical research and rhetorical devices.
 - Links to English and HASS class assessments
- Students engage in a series of mock debates which will culminate in a debate night.

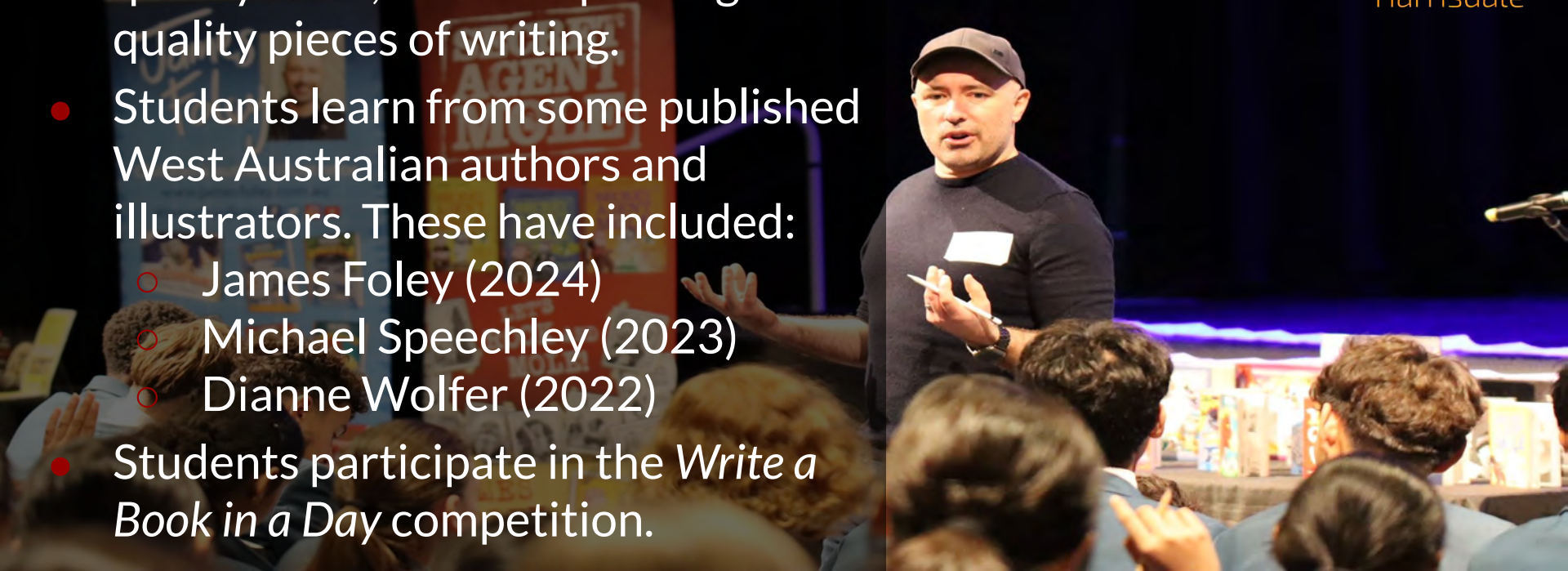


Creative Writing and Publishing

- Students learn how to enrich their creative writing, develop higher quality texts, and interpret high quality pieces of writing.
- Students learn from some published West Australian authors and illustrators. These have included:
 - James Foley (2024)
 - Michael Speechley (2023)
 - Dianne Wolfer (2022)
- Students participate in the *Write a Book in a Day* competition.



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Multidisciplinary Problem Solving

- Da Vinci Decathlon
- Teams of 8 across 10 disciplines:

REACH

Art and poetry
English
Ideation
Creative producers
Cartography
Legacy

STEM

Engineering
Mathematics
Code breaking
Science



Commerce Projects

- Students learn about the marketplace and come up with innovative ways to improve on existing ideas and develop brand news ones.
- Using concepts derived from a Murdoch Uni workshop, students develop, market and present their ideas including costing and scaling.



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Europe GATE REACH Study Tour



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This takes place every two years for Year 9 and 10
GATE REACH students.
2026 tour - Week 10 Term 3 / Week 1 Holiday

GATE MUSIC SPECIALIST Program



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Mr J. Florisson
jflorisson@carey.wa.edu.au
Head of Music

Overview

- Tuition
- Ensembles
- Classroom
- Events



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Ensembles

- Jazz Big Band
- Concert Band
- Strings
- Worship
- Choir
- Percussion
- Contemporary



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Classroom

- 50% Written
- 50% Practical
- GATE Music Specialist + Music General
- ATAR Music
- Cert III in Music



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Events



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- Music Camp
- Piano Festival
- Ensembles Concert
- WA School Jazz Festival
- Lunchtime Concerts
- Assembly Performances
- Primary Soiree
- Year 11 Recitals
- Year 12 Recitals
- Christmas Concert
- Choir / Drum Evening
- Graduation
- Generations in Jazz 2025
- School Musical (biannual)



GATE Music Specialist



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- Auditions are held to qualify for this class.
- GATE Music Specialist has 2 sessions per week in Year 7 and Year 8.
- These combine performance, theory, aural skills and music technology.
- One session is part of the Music elective and the second (optional) is held before or after school.
- Carey has close links to
 - WAAPA
 - UWA School of Music



Features of the Program



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- Weekly sessions of Music combine performance, theory, aural skills and music technology
- Guest performers have included James Morrison; and 'The Idea of North'
- Excellent facilities – Yamaha C6 Grand piano and Yamaha sound equipment
- Music technology – Mac lab, Mini recording studio
- Practice rooms, small ensemble rooms
- Nationally renowned music tutors
- Performance opportunities





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Music Camp



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2026 GATE INFORMATION SESSION

Thank you for your attendance this
afternoon

