

The background features a detailed, aged map of the world, likely from the 18th or 19th century, showing continents and oceans. A magnifying glass is positioned in the upper left, focusing on a specific area of the map. In the lower right, a large, ornate compass rose is visible, with its needle pointing towards the top of the frame. The overall color palette is warm, dominated by the browns and yellows of the map and the metallic tones of the compass.

Welcome to the Year 7 GATE 2027 Information Session



Carey
Baptist
College
Harrisdale

Tuesday 10 February, 2026
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
- **This PPT will be uploaded to the Carey website**



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?

Who are we?

- Carey Baptist College Harrisdale was established in 1998 and now has a Secondary enrolment of over 900 students. In 2016, Carey opened its second campus at Forrestdale. Carey's GATE program at Harrisdale commenced in 2020.
- 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 Carey?

- Pastoral Care at Carey is a crucial relationship-driven foundation aimed at fostering student well-being, resilience, and character development based on Christian values.
- 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. This is defined by being the best that you can be. Improvement is the goal. This is something all our students can strive for.

Why does Carey offer GATE?

- GATE programs provide specialised, accelerated, and enriched curricula that meet the unique intellectual, social, and emotional needs of high-ability learners.
- 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. Robotics and Debating Clubs, which started as GATE activities, are also open to other students.

Aims of the GATE Program

- To engage, stimulate and connect gifted and talented students.
- To challenge and extend critical and creative thinking skills.
- To build problem solving capabilities for the 21st Century.
- To increase self-esteem and independent learning.
- To encourage a love of learning.
- To celebrate academic creativity, curiosity, the pursuit of excellence, and a sense of accomplishment.

Aims of the GATE Program

- To provide GATE students with:
 - Challenging competitions;
 - Leadership programs;
 - Community service opportunities;
 - University extension programs (e.g. the Curtin Rising Scholars program offers high ability Year 10 / 11 Carey students a tertiary experience, allowing them to earn University credit);
 - Industry partnerships;
 - Interstate and overseas study tours.

Recent GATE Program Highlights

- A Carey team participated in the VEX World Champs in Texas. 8 Carey teams won awards in the VEX State Champs; 4 teams qualified for the Nationals in Adelaide. Teams from Carey have again qualified for the World Champs in Missouri in 2026.
- Carey teams had four top 4 placings in the Da Vinci Decathlon at UWA (Science, Maths, Codebreaking, English).
- One Year 8 and two Year 9 GATE REACH students achieved Silver Awards in the National History Challenge, with one student also winning the Gold Award for for the best entry in Year 8 (2025).
- Carey teams had four top 3 placings in the Da Vinci Decathlon competition at UWA (in Maths, Science and Codebreaking).

Recent GATE Program Highlights

- Two Carey ANVDC debating teams progressed to the finals for the fourth year running.
- Carey placed third in the Junior Young Physicists Tournament held in Wellington, 2025 (out of 12 teams).
- Niyor Sharma (Year 11) represented Carey in the YPT nationals, with his combined team placing First in 2025.
- A senior submission for 'Write a Book in a Day' was 3rd in WA.
- Year 9 / 10 GATE STEM Study Tour of Singapore, 2027;
Year 9 / 10 GATE REACH Study Tour of Europe, 2026.



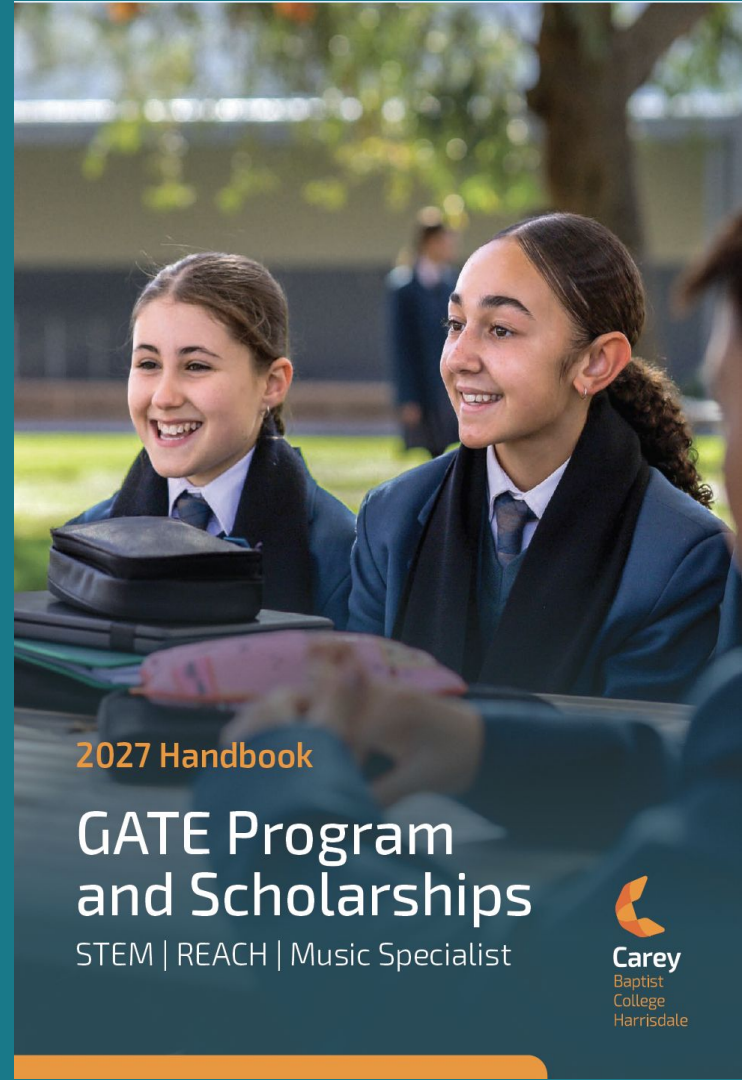
Mr Rob Stirling

GATE Coordinator

- Introducing the 2027 GATE Program
- Application Details
- Academic Selection Test (HAST)
- GATE Scholarships
- GATE Programs
- Please direct any GATE questions to rstirling@carey.wa.edu.au

GATE Handbook - 2027

- The Carey GATE 2027 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.



2027 Handbook

GATE Program and Scholarships

STEM | REACH | Music Specialist

Introducing GATE - 2027



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- GATE includes some scholarship students, identified by the HAST Test, and a majority of invited students, based on their strong Semester reports and academic potential.
- Three Specialist GATE programs are offered in Years 7-10.
 1. GATE STEM
 2. GATE REACH (formerly Academic Excellence)
 3. GATE Music SpecialistGATE students progress into Year 11 / 12 ATAR courses.
- GATE students can participate in GATE STEM OR REACH AND Music Specialist. They can also choose STEM electives (like Aviation); and join after-school clubs like Robotics (Monday) and Debating (Thursday).

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 and inquiry-based learning.



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



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

Introducing GATE - 2027

- GATE students are not in the same exclusive group for all of their classes (like EDWA schools) 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 (Australian Curriculum).
- 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).



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GATE Applications



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Applicants must include the following (also Carey students):

- Most recent Year 5 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.
- 20 students (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 Test are based on the applications (e.g. Semester 2 reports / Year 5 NAPLAN results and other information).

Application Guidelines

- Only one application per child is accepted, but additional documents (e.g. awards) can be sent in, which will be added to the application.
- 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.



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Application Guidelines



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- 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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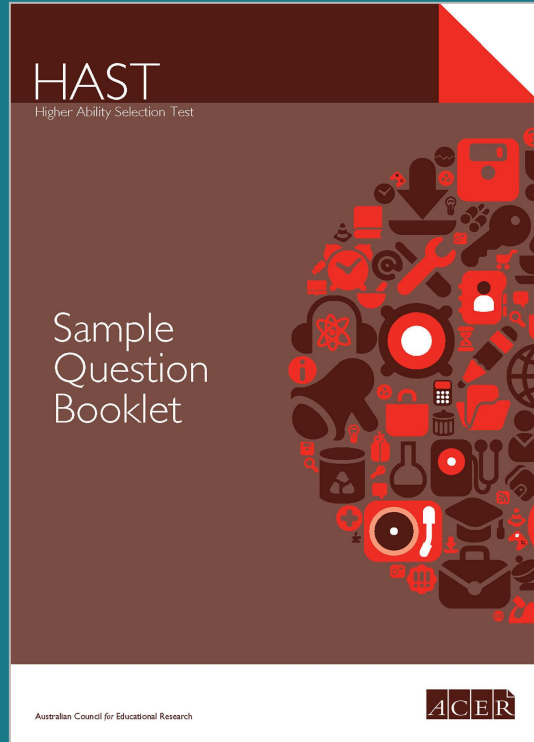
- There are four parts to the HAST.
- Parts 1-3 are multiple-choice, which are answered on a multiple choice answer sheet.
- Part 4 is a handwritten answer.
- **Students rarely perform well in all four parts, but will score more highly in the English / Humanities parts – parts 1 and 4; or the Maths / 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 2027.

Sample HAST Material



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- Visit acer.org/au/hast-secondary



HAST

Candidate Information Bulletin

Make sure you find out from the school:

- What day the test will be held
- What time you should arrive
- Where you should go on the day of the test.

The test timetable

There will be four separate tests. The approximate time for each test and the order in which they will be taken are as follows:

1 Reading Comprehension	45 minutes
2 Mathematical Reasoning	40 minutes
3 Abstract Reasoning	30 minutes

There will be a short break between tests 2 and 3.

Candidates who arrive late for the first test will be admitted only at the discretion of the supervisor, and additional time will not be allowed.

You should bring:

- two **HB or B** pencils for the multiple-choice tests
- a good quality eraser
- a pencil sharpener
- two blue or black pens for the Written Expression test.

No other equipment will be needed. For example, you will not require a ruler, paper or calculator.

Writing your answers

You will be given a special answer sheet for the multiple-choice tests in Reading Comprehension, Mathematical Reasoning and Abstract Reasoning, and lined paper for the Written Expression.

For each question there are four small ovals labelled A, B, C and D on the multiple choice answer sheet. Use an HB or B pencil to mark clearly the oval of your choice.

Example (Answer 'B' selected)

A B C D

If you wish to change your answer, carefully rub out the first mark and then mark your new choice.

Please remember, when working on the multiple-choice answer sheet

Do not:

- fold or tear the answer sheet
- make marks anywhere other than in the designated areas on the answer sheet
- use ink, ball-point pen or felt pen on any part of the answer sheet.

What are the tests like?

The test items attempt to assess the following skills: analysis, comprehension, interpretation and reasoning. The answer to the question is clearly important as are the procedures by which you arrive at the answer.

1 Reading Comprehension

This test measures how well you can understand and interpret ideas in language. The test asks you to look at written and visual material and answer questions on it. The topics for the material may be drawn from subject areas such as English, Art, History, Geography and Social Studies, though no special knowledge in these areas is needed. All the information you need to answer the questions is printed on the paper, so if you do not know or fully understand something you may be able to work out what it means from the stimulus material.

There will be approximately 40 multiple-choice questions in this test.

ACER

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Part 1 - Reading Comprehension

- 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

- 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.



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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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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.

Percentages of students in each level of performance

Reading

Mathematics

Written Expression

Abstract Reasoning

Total

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.

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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
Participation	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).


Carey Baptist College
Harrisdale Secondary Principal

12 October 2021

Date



Scholarships

- 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.**
- **Scholarship Offers (emailed at the end of Term 2): 50% deduction of academic tuition fees for the remainder of student's time at Carey. Acceptance of a scholarship enrolls the student into Carey Baptist College.**



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Scholarships

- 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 2027 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

- Once the Scholarship Offers process is completed (by the end of Term 2), the bulk of the GATE places are offered to **high performing enrolled (external and internal) Carey students** (in Term 3 + Term 4) on the basis of their HAST scores.
- The **remaining GATE places** then are allocated on the basis of excellent School reports, NAPLAN results, and other test scores. 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 (up to 24) can be offered to enrolled students during Year 7, 8 and 9 on the basis of excellent performance.



Key Dates - 2026

2027 GATE Handbook (page 4)



Applications
Open

Applications
Close

Test/Audition
Invitations
Emailed

HAST Test
Date

Music
Audition

Performance
Reports
Emailed

Scholarship
Offers

GATE
Certificates
Sent

Monday
20 October
2025

Thursday
19 March
2026
4:00pm

Tuesday
30 March
2026

Saturday
2 May
2026

Saturday
23 May
2026

Tuesday
2 June
2026

Monday
8 June
2026

Monday
17 August
2026

Unsuccessful notifications will be sent on Tuesday 13 October with further GATE positions offered at the end of Term 3 / start of Term 4.

GATE REACH Program

Year 7 2027



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Reasoning
English
Arts
Commerce
Humanities

Mr N. Turner
GATE REACH Coordinator



GATE REACH - Purpose



- 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.





GATE REACH Course Structure

1. Debating and Persuasive Speaking
2. Creative Writing and Publishing
3. Multidisciplinary Problem Solving
4. Entrepreneurial / Commerce Projects

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.

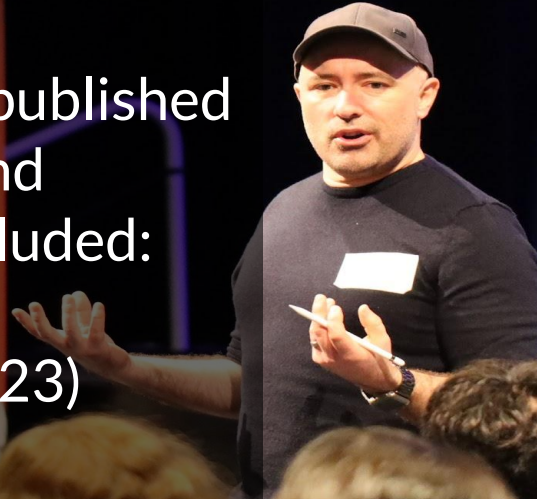


Creative Writing and Publishing

- 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.

\$23,467 raised
between 2024
and 2025





REACH Study Tour Europe

- Takes place every two years for Year 9 and 10 GATE REACH students.
- Tour takes place in Term 3 school holidays.





Quotes

GATE REACH
students

“

GATE REACH has helped me to understand Economics and argue respectfully.

“

The Write a Book in a Day challenge has helped us write creatively under pressure and to work as a team.

“

I've become a lot more confident when it comes to public speaking.

“

GATE REACH has helped me understand moral dilemmas from a lot more different points of view.

“

GATE REACH provides an amazing chance to develop your skills. Debating helps you to become diplomatic and teaches you how to argue many points in an orderly and detailed fashion.

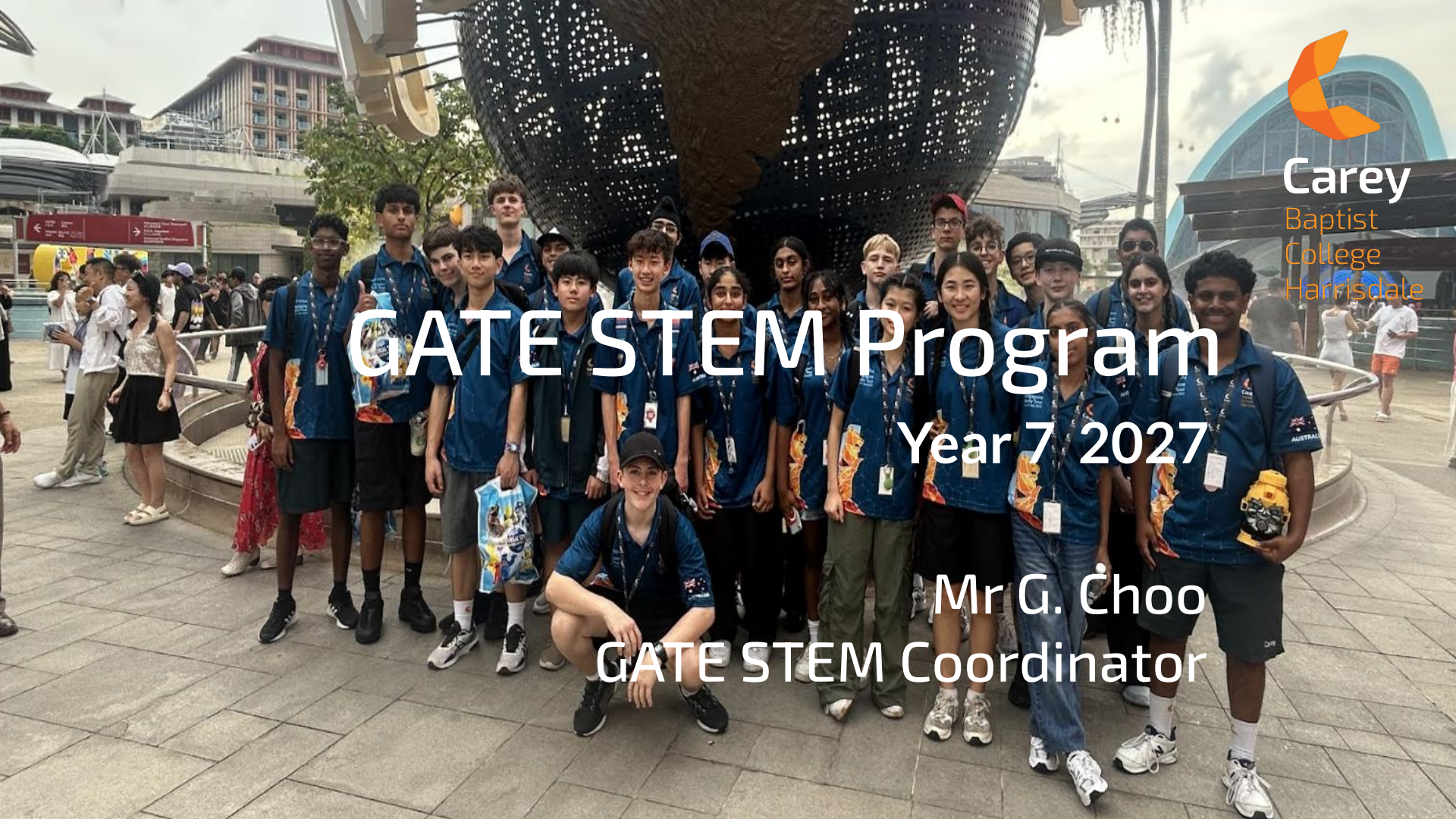


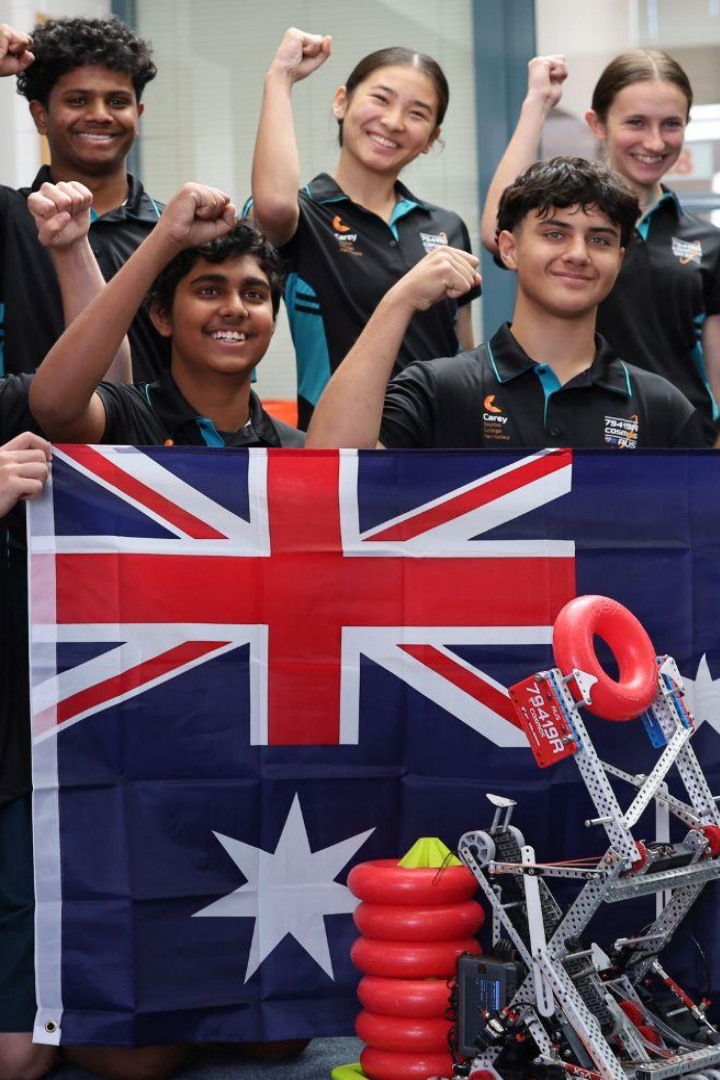
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GATE STEM Program

Year 7 2027

Mr G. Choo
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

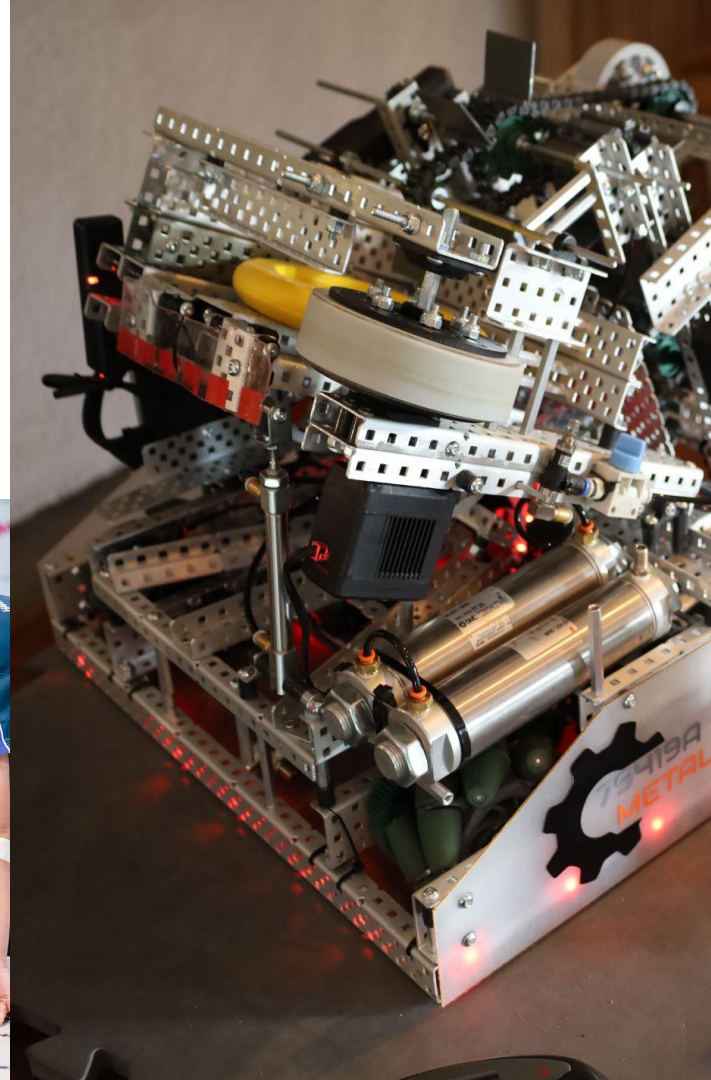
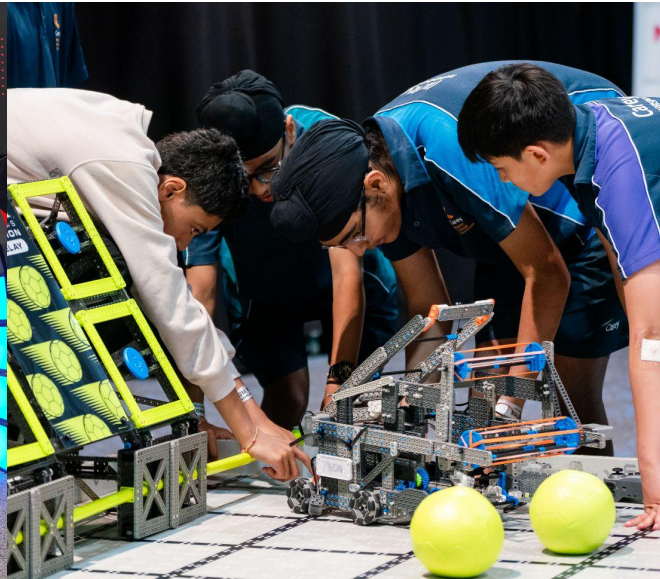
School Competitions

- DaVinci Decathlon 🏆 *Top 4: Codebreaking, Science, Maths*
- Tournament of Minds 🏆 *State Finalists 2025*
- Famelab, STEM Video Competition, VEX IQ



What is VEX?

- STEM | Computer Science | Robotics
- VEX Worlds 2025 held in Texas, USA
- Carey hosts WA State Championships





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Carey STEM
VEX Robotics
Championship

Carey STEM
VEX Robotics
Championship

VEX 79419A

VEX 79419A

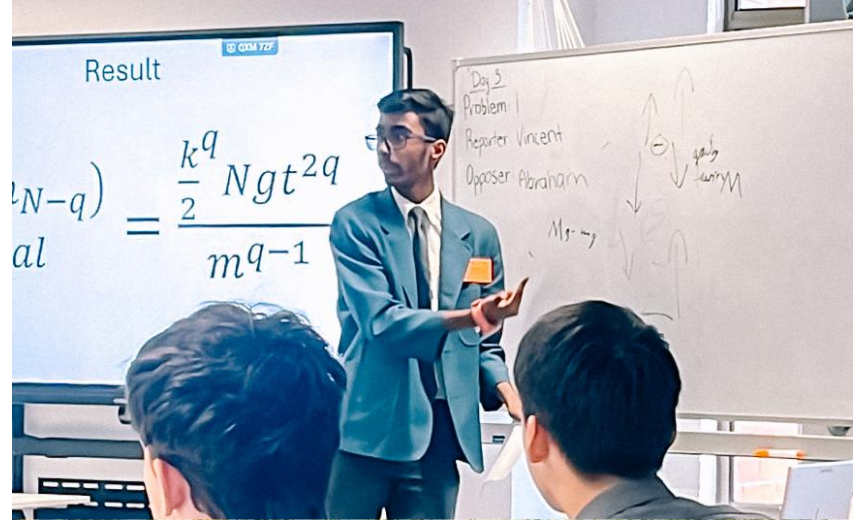
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Junior Young Physicists Tournament

- Real world Physics phenomena
- Define own experiments
- Debate findings
- 2025 JYPT team in third place - Wellington, New Zealand
- 2024 JYPT Champions - Brisbane

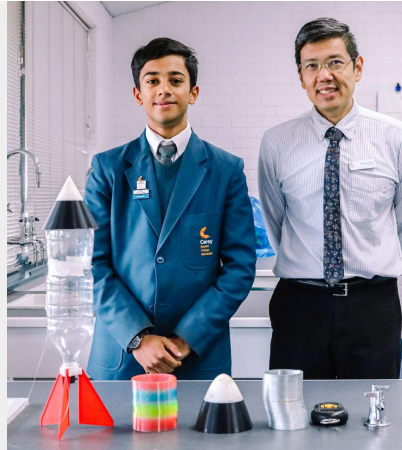


International Young Physicists Tournament

- Australian Team IYPT Budapest 2024 A Shah (Captain), N Sharma Bronze place, 15th out of 38 teams



2023 O Yandell
2022 G Vazalanickal
Qualified to
represent Australia
in Budapest.



STEM Study Tour Singapore

Year 9 & 10 GATE STEM students. The tour occurs in the July school holidays.

The 2025 itinerary included:

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





Quotes

GATE STEM

students

“

I think STEM is a great way to try new things and gain knowledge that applies to real life.

“

I like how you have to ‘think outside of the box’ to get results. It motivates me and it is very fulfilling and satisfying when your idea comes to life.

“

The GATE program is very hands on, and there’s lots of opportunities to take part in competitions and challenges.

“

GATE STEM has helped me in my teamwork skills, analytical thinking skills, documentation skills, communication and networking skills.



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GATE Music Specialist

Year 7 2027



Mr J. Florisson
Head of Music

Overview

- Tuition
- Ensembles
- Classroom
- Events



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Ensembles

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

Classroom

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



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Events

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

GATE Music Specialist

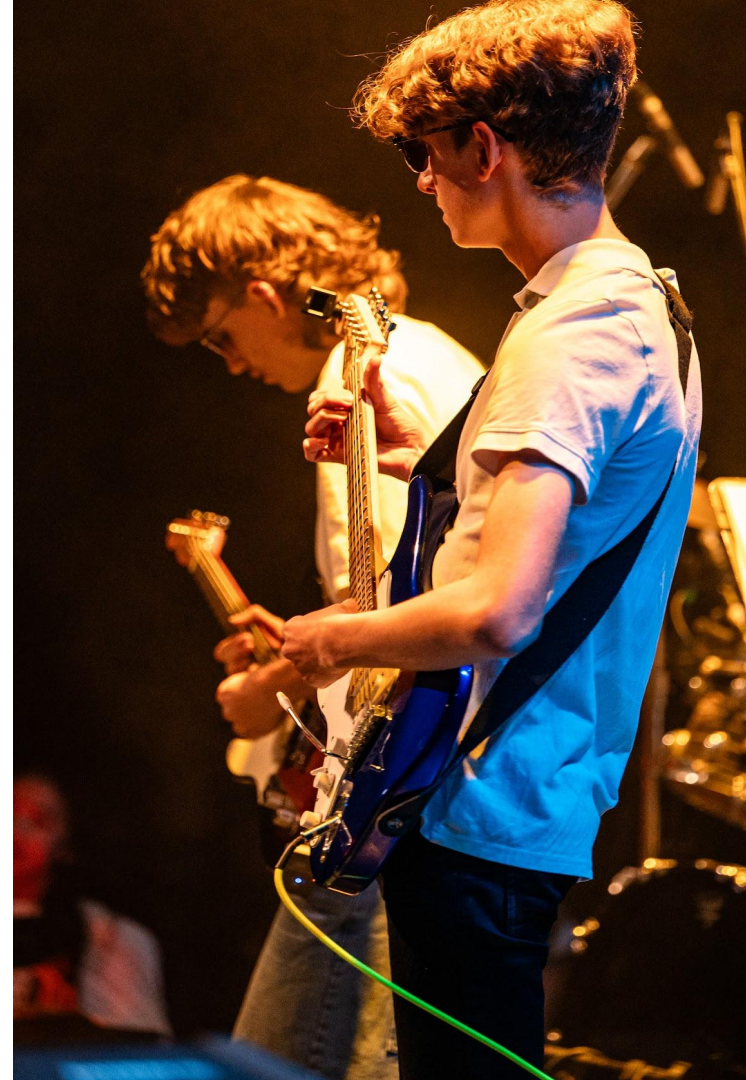
Available places are offered following auditions.

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



Quotes

GATE MUSIC Specialist students

“

The best part of the program is having performances with cool light shows.

“

Music Camp is the best because we get together with other musicians of different levels and instruments, and play in all kinds of bands.

“

I love playing the pieces together as a class, and perform on stage with the whole class.


“

The GATE Music program has helped me develop a new range of music skills.

“

My favourite GATE activity is composing Music, and by composing music, it enables me to stretch myself and see how far I can go.





Carey Attempt
the Extraordinary















Carey
Baptist
College
Harrisdale

2027 GATE INFORMATION SESSION

Thank you for your attendance this
afternoon

