Grand Avenue
Grow - Achieve - Succeed

STARX Academic Excellence Program

105 Grand Avenue, Forest Lake Q
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www.grandavenuess.eq.edu.au

Foreword

At Grand Avenue State School, we believe that every student has the potential to achieve greatness.

Our Academic Excellence Program is designed to unlock that potential by fostering a culture of curiosity, resilience, and passion for learning.

Through innovative teaching methods, personalised support, and a commitment to high standards, we guide our students to not only meet but exceed their academic goals.

This program is more than just a path to success; it's a journey of discovery, growth, and empowerment.
Together, we are shaping the leaders of tomorrow—one achievement at a time

Warm regards,

Mrs Racheal Jones
Principal

What is STAR+X?

Our primary goal with the Academic Extension Program is to create a stimulating environment where students can thrive intellectually, exploring advanced concepts and engaging in meaningful academic pursuits. Through a blend of pedagogical approaches, we aim to cater to the unique needs of our learners, encouraging them to reach for new levels of academic excellence.

Through our Academic Extension Program, we aim to empower our senior students to become lifelong learners who are equipped with the knowledge, skills, and mindset to thrive in an ever-changing world. By fostering a culture of academic excellence, intellectual curiosity, and collaboration, we aspire to help students recognise the depth of their potential and prepare them for success in secondary education and beyond.

Key Components

	**Curriculum Enhancement**: We will supplement the standard curriculum with extension materials and resources to provide students with opportunities for in-depth exploration and mastery of topics across various subject areas.
	**Intellectual Rigor and Challenge:** Students will be presented with intellectually challenging tasks and activities that push them beyond their comfort zones, encouraging them to stretch their minds and reach new heights of academic achievement.
	**Pursuit of Excellence**: We will foster a culture of excellence, encouraging students to set high standards for themselves and strive for excellence in all areas of their academic endeavours.
	**Development of Higher-Order Process Skills**: Students will develop critical thinking, problem-solving, and analytical skills through engaging in complex tasks and real-world problem-solving activities.
	**Open-Ended Activities**: We will provide open-ended activities that encourage choice and negotiation, allowing students to pursue their interests and passions in a self-directed manner.
	**In-Depth Investigations of Real Problems**: Students will have the opportunity to engage in in-depth investigations of real-world problems, applying their knowledge and skills to develop innovative solutions and make meaningful contributions to society.
	**Opportunities to Interact with Practicing Experts**: We will provide the opportunity to interact with practicing experts in various fields, gaining insights into real-world applications of their learning and exploring future career pathways.
	**Social Interaction with Peers And the community**: Students will have the opportunity to collaborate with like-minded peers, sharing ideas, collaborating on projects, and learning from each other in a supportive and intellectually stimulating environment.
	**Students Working at Their Own Pace**: Our program will allow students to work at their own pace, providing them with the flexibility to delve deeper into topics of interest or take additional time to master challenging concepts.
	**Self/Peer Evaluation and Reflection**: Students will engage in self and peer evaluation, reflecting on their performance, setting goals for improvement, and taking ownership of their learning journey.

Who is STAR X for?

The STAR X program is designed for students currently in Years 4 & 5 who demonstrate a strong passion and aptitude for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Ideal candidates are those who exhibit a natural curiosity and a drive to understand the world through problem-solving.

These students are not only academically gifted but also possess a proactive mindset, often seeking out challenges and opportunities to deepen their knowledge and skills. They are innovative thinkers who enjoy experimenting, hypothesizing, and applying theoretical concepts to real-world situations.

This program is perfect for students who are eager to engage in rigorous coursework and collaborative projects.

School Facilities

Academic Facilities

- Large, open classrooms and learning spaces equipped with state-of-the-art technology.
- Modern library with an extensive collection of books, online resources, and study areas.
- Well-equipped science learning spaces for experiments and research.
- Computer labs with high-speed internet access and the latest software.
- Auditorium with a stage and audiovisual facilities.
- Access to robots, drones, laser cutters and 3D printers.

How do I apply?

Students in Years 4 & 5 are eligible to apply for the program starting in 2026. As this is an academic extension opportunity, we welcome applications from outside our school catchment area.

Step 1: Complete a STAR X program expression of interest form.

Step 2: Register for excellence entry examination

Entry into the program begins with an online general abilities test designed to assess a wide range of skills and competencies. This assessment serves as the first step in the selection process, evaluating candidates on various cognitive abilities critical to success in the program. The results of this test are used to determine each candidate's eligibility for entry, ensuring that only those who meet the program's rigorous standards are considered for admission. This process helps identify individuals with the potential to excel and benefit from the specialized opportunities and challenges offered by the excellence program.

Potential students are required to sit an online 50 minute assessment. Students have the option of using their own device or one that is provided to them. Please note that if using a personal device, it needs to access the departmental network using Wi-Fi. Students will need to access the internet to complete the test.

Testing Date:
When: Thursday 16 October 2025 at 3.00pm.
Where: Grand Avenue State School STEAM room
Cost: $10 – An invoice will be emailed to you once you have registered your child
Register: Please register by emailing: enquiries@grandavenuess.eq.edu.au

Step 3: The Grand Avenue State School selection panel will review each candidates submission and examination results. During each round of offers, successful applicants will receive an email advising them of the outcome.

Step 4: Once successfully accepted into the academic excellence program, the applicant will confirm their acceptance. Our academic extension program includes a levy in addition to our school resource scheme. Fees for the 2026 year are $150. This covers resources, incursions, excursions and entry fees into external competitions and events.
Please note there are limited places in the excellence program and unfortunately, we are not able to provide places for all applicants.

Want to know more?

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Assessment Information & Bookings

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STARX

Nurturing Global Thinkers, Shaping Scientific Leaders

Contact Us

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