We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, therefore, is not an act but a habit.
~ Aristotle

A Bright Future

Palm Beach Currumbin State High has established itself as one of Queensland’s leading high schools with a proud record of academic, sporting and artistic achievement.

Our excellence programs play an integral role in this success and have done so for over 18 years.

Over this time we have methodically developed cutting edge programs and assembled an expert teaching team which combine to push young people to reach their fullest potential.

In a PBC excellence program, your child will receive individualised attention and have access to the range of support services necessary to excel in their chosen field and assist them to deal with any of the dilemmas that accompany being a teenager.

Each of the programs has a Head of Department devoted to the programs who select and develop their staff, quality assure the programs and monitor the individual progress of every student in the program.

In addition, each program has close links to industries that ensure that the Excellence experience at PBC goes beyond the boundaries of the school fence. Our partnerships with leading universities, national sporting bodies and leading performers and artists mean that each student experiences first-hand the benefits of committing themselves to realising their dreams.

In this ever competitive world, the right choice of school is more important than ever. PBC has the passion, the product and the expertise that will set your young person up for life.

Thank you for considering our school for your highly capable young person. I encourage you to peruse the prospectus and contact us for more information. Our results speak for themselves.

Stephen Loggie
Executive Principal
Academic Excellence

Program Summary
Our program challenges students to reach their highest academic potential through an innovative curriculum creating a unique transition from high school to university. The individual talents of each student in the program are nurtured by our specialist trained teachers, providing support to a high level curriculum that encourages students to become leaders in their field.

Accelerated Curriculum
The program focuses on developing, extending and accelerating knowledge acquisition and thinking in the core academic subjects of Maths, English, Science and SOSE.
A team of dedicated, experienced teachers deliver the program and one of the key features is the high level of contact they are able to maintain with the students and parents throughout each, and across many years.
Academic Excellence strives to develop each student as a life-long learner so that they become:
• A knowledgeable person with deep understanding
• A complete thinker
• A creative person
• An active investigator
• An effective communicator
• An independent participant
• A reflective and self-directed learner
The program includes special projects and participation in extension activities. In the initial years there is a focus on the development of thinking skills.

Challenged to Think Outside the Square
The teaching of thinking skills is fundamental to providing students with opportunities to develop the higher order thinking that is necessary for them to attain their optimum potential.
Research shows that student performance in complex reasoning processes and decision-making results in higher achievement.
Skillful thinking is neither natural nor as common as we would like, and because it is not likely to develop automatically in every student, we have made it an integral part of the Academic Excellence curriculum by incorporating the development of thinking skills into our core subjects.

Specially Trained Staff
Teachers within the Academic Excellence Program are committed to further, on-going professional development. At Palm Beach Currumbin State High we will continue to focus on:
• Enhancement of teacher knowledge and skills
• Educational provision for highly able students
• Fostering attitudes which contribute to improved learning culture in the classroom
• Updating and improving information and communication technology skills
Teachers are selected to be part of the Academic Excellence Program and all are leading practitioners. They demonstrate a passion for their subject areas and for teaching highly capable students. As a condition of teaching in the program, Academic Excellence teachers must undertake training in gifted and talented education.

Focus on Individual Achievements and Outcomes
Students of Academic Excellence are invited to participate in additional tuition each weekday morning. All core subjects are catered for in each year level. Sessions are directed by teachers from the program.

Selection Procedure
Academic Excellence is a selective program and entry is competitive. For entry into Years 7 and 8, students sit for a series of academic entrance exams in the preceding year. These academic potential tests include:
• General Ability and Aptitude (including literacy, numeracy and non-verbal reasoning)
• Mathematical Ability
• Writing Ability
• Reading Comprehension
Entry into all year levels is by application at any time throughout the year, subject to places available.
Creative Arts Excellence

Program Summary
The Creative Arts Excellence (CAX) Program at PBC sharpens the creative talents of artistic students through mentoring, practice, and specialized training. The CAX Program provides a platform for students to broaden their skills by working collaboratively with other students, industry artists, teachers, and guest professionals. The opportunities and experiences offered to CAX students are framed around the three A’s: Ambition, Artistry, and Academia.

Accelerated Curriculum
Extension of core Arts curriculum
Students in the CAX Program will be granted opportunities to be challenged beyond the core Arts curriculum. Such opportunities may include:
• Specialised skills training
• Arts showcases
• Class, small group and independent Arts projects
• Exposure to and utilisation of specialised Arts resources and facilities
• Collaboration with students from other CAX fields

Targeted post-secondary pathways
Embedded within the CAX curriculum is a focus on identifying and exploring Arts Industry pathways. Arts pathways studied may include:
• Tertiary institutions and requisites
• Work placements
• Supplementary qualifications
• Training academies
• Portfolio development
• Audition/interview skills

Unique program elements
Underpinning its development of gifted and talented Arts students are the unique elements offered within the CAX Program. These elements may include:
• Industry standard facilities and resources
• Fostering and exhibiting of original works
• Tracking of student development for success
• Arts industry partnerships
• Opportunities for and advocating of community service
• Range and scope of performance opportunities
• Dedicated program staff
• Academic rigour and support

Specially Trained Staff
CAX staff focus on delivering an excellent program that strives for Ambition, Artistry, and Academia through quality teaching and learning. The CAX staff are selected based on the four dimensions:
• Core Curriculum Extension
• Targeted Post-Secondary Pathways
• Curriculum Pathway Experiences
• Unique Program Elements

Teachers in the CAX Program are leading practitioners who together bring a wealth of national and international arts experience and training to the program.

Focus on Individual Achievements and Outcomes
Curriculum and pathway experiences
Training in the CAX program is complemented by a number of Arts industry experiences available to CAX students. Such experiences may include:
• Workshops delivered by practising artists
• Exposure to and appreciation of industry standard Arts works
• Skills and pathway training offered by industry professionals
• Partnerships with Arts companies, identities and training organisations
• Master classes with touring artists and productions
• Support from notable CAX alumni

Selection Procedure
Entry to this program will be competitive. Students will be selected according to criteria determined by the school through an audition. Students nominating for program entry will participate in Arts specific auditions conducted by program teachers. Students recommended to the school for program entry also need to:
• Demonstrate commitment to school studies
• Have a satisfactory record of school conduct

Students who are successful in the auditions and satisfy the other criteria will be offered enrolment at the school and a place in their chosen specialty area in the CAX program subject to places available.
Sports Excellence

Program Summary
The Sports Excellence (SPEX) Program is an elite training and coaching program developed for gifted and talented sporting students which empowers them to pursue their sporting dreams. Students with demonstrated ability in one of PBC’s targeted sports are supported through mentoring, training and education from nationally accredited and industry experienced coaches.

Accelerated Curriculum
All students in the program will satisfy the curriculum requirements for their stage of schooling as determined by the Queensland Department of Education, Training and Employment and the Board of Secondary School Studies. These students will also have access to well-structured developmental programs of sports coaching and training by highly qualified and experienced State Association and school staff.

State Sporting Associations and ‘parent’ professional organisations play important roles within the Sports Excellence Program. They are involved in the selection of sport excellence students and the development and delivery of the coaching and training program.

Training and specialised coaching programs are conducted in school time and may include sports related topics such as sports nutrition, physiology, competition preparation and psychology as well as tuition in time management, study skills and goal setting.

The Senior Sports Excellence Program is a non-OP subject. However, it is compatible with both the OP and non-OP strands of senior schooling. School-based traineeships are encouraged among non-OP students.

There are three stages of the Sports Excellence Program:

Stage 1 - Foundation
- Two lessons per week
- Sport each week
- Participation in specialised clinics

Stage 2 - Development
- Two periods SPEX elective/week
- Sport each week
- Participation in specialised clinics

Stage 3 - Specialising
- Three periods SPEX elective/week
- Sport each week
- Lesson “O” extension(s) weekly to cover all development domains
- Participation in specialised clinics

Students completing Year 11 or 12 Sports Excellence gain four QCE points.

Specially Trained Staff
Teacher/coaches demonstrate a great passion for their discipline and engage in continuous professional development. Sports Excellence students benefit from the coaching staff's extensive experience in elite and professional sport.

Targeted Sports
Australian Rules - Basketball - Kayak - Netball - Rugby League - Soccer Boys - Soccer Girls - Surfing - Tennis - Touch Girls - Track and Field

Additional Sports
Senior students who demonstrate exceptional talent in a non-targeted sport may apply for flexibility in their course of study to engage with external coaching.

‘Externally’ coached Sports Excellence students need to provide evidence of coaching programs supporting State/National level of performance. The program Head of Department will consult with the external coaches to establish needs and evaluate student progress.

Focus on Individual Achievements and Outcomes
Sports Excellence individual student progress is tracked and directed through diary goal setting, sport specific development reports and the standard school reporting system.

Selection Procedure
Entry into the program is selective and very competitive. Only a limited number of positions are offered. Selection trials are held throughout the year.

Please refer to our website at www.pbc-shs.eq.edu.au for trial dates, times and venues.
Can my son or daughter trial or audition for more than one program?
Yes. We understand many students are multi-talented and are highly capable across all fields. Simply tick the programs for which your son or daughter would like to trial/audition/examination on the PBC Application for Student Enrolment form.

If selected, can my child participate in more than one Sports or Creative Arts Excellence Program?
No. Students can only participate in one specific field within each program. For example, students cannot study Dance Excellence and Drama Excellence at the same time.

Is there a program cost if my child is offered a place in any Excellence Program?
A fee, additional to the textbook and equipment resource scheme, is payable upon acceptance into the program and in each subsequent year that the student is part of the program.

These funds are used to provide additional resources and enhancement exclusively for students within the program. Fees are payable for each individual program.

Are Scholarship opportunities available?
Scholarships are available for Academic, Creative Arts and Sports Excellence Programs. All three types of scholarships are merit based and determined by the performance of the candidate. To be eligible, candidates must satisfy all document requirements as outlined in the PBC Application for Scholarship form.

How do Ambassadors assist with the Excellence Programs at PBC?
Our Ambassadors provide valuable links with industry professionals, coaches, state sporting associations, specialised workshops and master classes for our Excellence Program students.

Working collaboratively with our Ambassadors assists in the development and delivery of the Excellence Programs curriculum.

Sports Excellence Ambassadors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Program</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Szigeti</td>
<td>Basketball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karla Gilbert</td>
<td>Lifesaving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mick Fanning</td>
<td>Surfing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amanda Rankin</td>
<td>Kayaking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ben Ikin</td>
<td>Rugby League</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John O’Keefe</td>
<td>Sports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joel Parkinson</td>
<td>Surfing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brendan Taylor</td>
<td>European Handball</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Newton</td>
<td>Kayaking</td>
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<tr>
<td>Glen Moss</td>
<td>Soccer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Melissa Rollison</td>
<td>Track and Field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darius Boyd</td>
<td>Rugby League</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ben Hannant</td>
<td>Rugby League</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mamie Hudson</td>
<td>Hockey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarr Gilbert</td>
<td>AFL</td>
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<tr>
<td>Luke Mackenzie</td>
<td>Triathlon/Ironman</td>
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Creative Arts Excellence Ambassadors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Discipline</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Glenda Myles</td>
<td>Creative Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthony Ikin</td>
<td>Dance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drew Anthony</td>
<td>Drama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vivien Carter</td>
<td>Dance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jed Cahill</td>
<td>Film and Media</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scott French</td>
<td>Music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heath Keating</td>
<td>Dance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natasha Edwards</td>
<td>Visual Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William A Forsyth</td>
<td>Dance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joel Rea</td>
<td>Visual Art</td>
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</tbody>
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Academic Excellence Ambassadors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Role</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kate Vidgen</td>
<td>PBC Valedictorian 1991. Global Co-Head of Resources Infrastructure Macquarie Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peter Ferris</td>
<td>Dux PBC 1999. Chief Instructor RAAF School of Air Traffic Control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Szandurski</td>
<td>Dux PBC 2000. RAFF Chief Flight Instructor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kyle Duke</td>
<td>Supports the achievements of indigenous students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Narelle Morris</td>
<td>Co-ordinator of Academic Excellence in its early years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annabelle Spinoula</td>
<td>Dux 2007, International theoretical physicist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Suzzanne Owen</td>
<td>Senior Lecturer, Griffith University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elyse McNeil</td>
<td>Clinical Psychologist</td>
</tr>
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