

# University of Canberra High School Kaleen

## P Program: Parent Information

Dear Parent/s and/or Carer/s,

This is a letter recommending that your child be placed on a 'Personalised' (P) Program for those classes identified with a **P** on the Student Progress Report, sent earlier today.

A P program is recognised by the Education Directorate and is defined as a modified program that is aimed at your child's ability level. We anticipate that a modified program will enable your child to build the skills and knowledge necessary to access the mainstream curriculum at a later date.

All placement on P programs are determined on a case-by-case basis, through consultation between individual subject teachers and the executive teacher for the relevant faculty. P programs are subject to a renewal every six months.

**If you do not wish for your child to receive a modified program, or you would like to discuss this further, please contact the relevant subject teacher, as identified on your child's Progress Report.** All P programs can be discussed with teachers at the upcoming *Parent Teacher Interviews* or through contact using the phone number below, or work email address, found on our website [here](#).

## P Program FAQs

### 1) What is differentiation?

Differentiation refers to support and scaffolding provided within a classroom which allows students to complete class work and assessment items. Differentiation is a normal teaching practice and will enable students to be assessed against the relevant year level Achievement Standard. Assessment items judged to meet or exceed the relevant year level Achievement Standard will receive an "at standard" (C grade) or higher. Differentiation is not a formal arrangement and the level of differentiation required for a student may change between units of work.

### 2) What is a P program?

A P program provides class work, or explicit teaching, that is further modified (beyond normal differentiation) for a student's ability. For example, a student enrolled in Year 9, may complete a modified or simplified version of the class work to that their peers are completing. This class work, or explicit teaching, is likely to be pitched at a level *below* their enrolled grade Achievement Standard. It will be targeted towards the student's working level and any possible gaps in their skills or knowledge.

Depending on individual circumstance, this work may, or may not be assessed against the year level Achievement Standard. The student will be working toward outcomes determined by the classroom teacher, based on their individual learning needs. This allows the student to be assessed on class work that is challenging, yet achievable. A P program is a formal arrangement that is recognised by the Education Directorate.

### 3) Will this affect my child's ability to achieve a Year 10 Certificate?

No. Placement on a P program does not affect a student's ability to achieve their Year 10 Certificate. A P program may increase a student's chances of achieving a Year 10 Certificate, as they will be accessing coursework and/or explicit teaching that is targeted towards their working level and any

possible gaps in their skills or knowledge. The only difference to their final transcript will be, where any P programs are completed, these will be identified with a P.

**4) What will my child's report look like each term?**

Student achievement will be marked on an *A-E* scale in End of Semester Reports or *Outstanding/High/At Standard/Partial/Limited* scale in Progress Reports. On all reports, a P will appear next to any subjects where a P program has been provided.

**5) Will my child still do assessments?**

Yes. Your child will still do assessments that will be aimed at their academic level. The number of assessment items may be reduced or simplified, at the discretion of the subject teacher.

**6) How will I know what my child is being assessed on?**

Your child's teacher will be able to identify any possible modifications to assessment during conversations in *Parent Teacher Interviews*, which occur twice per term. Alternatively, teachers are available to discuss P Programs at other mutually agreed times.

**7) Is a P program temporary?**

Yes. The aim of a P program is to close the gap between students and their age appropriate Achievement Standard. If a student can demonstrate that they can satisfactorily access their age appropriate course work, then the decision will be reviewed. P programs can also be reviewed at the request of parents/carers or your child's classroom teacher.