

Help for non-English speakers



If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Mount Clear College on 03 5330 1500 or mount.clear.sc@education.vic.gov.au

Overview

Aspire is a select entry enrichment program that nurtures students' academic and personal development. This program targets students with high aspirations, who actively endeavour to meet challenging learning goals. The Aspire program provides a stimulating, enriched curriculum where students will learn with like-minded peers whilst being challenged across the eight key learning domains of the Victorian Curriculum, as well as participating in the Compass Award.

Purpose

To outline the philosophy and structure of the Mount Clear College Aspire program, explain the process of entry into the program, expectations of students whilst in the program and communicate placement standards and procedures.

The Curriculum

Enriched English, Mathematics, Science, Health & PE and Humanities subjects are studied in each year of the program.

Year 7 and 8

In Years 7 and 8, students study Japanese as their Language subject. They will also complete three semesters of Creative and Performing Arts and Technology subjects and undertake Critical Investigations in Year 8. In Year 7 and 8 students participate in the Compass Award Levels 3 and 4.

Expectations

The Aspire Coordinator will:

- Manage and coordinate Aspire from Year 6 to Year 8
- Communicate up to date program information to the community
- Liaise with curriculum leaders.
- Coordinate the testing and selection process across all years
- Support the implementation of the Compass Award
- Facilitate professional development for teachers of Aspire students

Students in Aspire will:

- Take responsibility for their own learning by actively engaging in all aspects of Aspire, including the Compass Award
- Develop effective, independent learning and study habits with the support of teachers and family
- Conduct themselves in a manner that meets the school's core values
- Remain up to date with all classwork and be prepared to complete all learning tasks per the school's assessment schedule
- Maintain suitable results across all subjects. This will be monitored on an individual basis by the Mentor Teacher, Year Level Coordinators and Principal team
- Students will be expected to demonstrate genuine effort in all aspects of their schooling
- Undertake a probationary period for the first semester of each year to ensure they are managing the expectations and requirements of the program

Teachers in Aspire will:

- Provide enriched curriculum and learning tasks that are purposeful and meaningful, that support learning and personal growth
- Differentiate learning where appropriate to support all students
- Provide timely and effective feedback to students, where and when appropriate

Families of Aspire Students will:

- Encourage their students to establish healthy study patterns and a growth mindset attitude
- Support them to be organised, independent and celebrate their progress
- Provide opportunities to discuss their learning at home through conversations about their school work or ideas/topics being explored in class

Entry Process

Students entering Year 7

Grade 6 students apply for the Aspire Program through the following application process:

1. Register an expression of Interest - available on the College website in Term 1 of the year prior to commencing at the College.
2. Complete an online Application which includes sections to be completed by a Parent/Guardian, a teacher and the child by the deadline
3. Register and pay for the school-based Edutest which identifies academic levels and potential in students
4. Attend the Aspire Assessment Day. These dates are confirmed in Term 3
5. May be asked to participate in team activities

Selected students are offered a position in the program for one year at a time. At the end of each year, all students across each year level are offered an opportunity to apply for the next cohort. It is not guaranteed that a child in the program one year will gain a place the following year.

Students entering Year 8

1. All students to complete an Expression of Interest (EOI). This may require students to create and upload a short video.
2. Parent/Guardian to complete a form acknowledging their child is applying for the Aspire Program. Parent/Guardian may be required to complete a Parent/Guardian evaluation.
3. Teachers to complete a recommendation form on students.
4. Aspire Coordinator to collate data collected by Mount Clear College. This may include NAPLAN results, Compass Chronicle entries, PAT Data and School reports.
5. If a student has not completed an Edutest assessment previously, Parent/Guardian will be required to register and pay for an assessment. Mount Clear College staff will supervise the assessments onsite. Edutest assessments completed in the previous two years or less can be used as part of the application.
6. A group, including the Aspire Coordinator and an Assistant Principal, will assess the applications and select the appropriate students for the Aspire Program.
7. Parent/Guardian and students will be notified of the application via email.

Offers

Parent/Guardian will be notified by email about the success of their child's application during Term 4. Acceptance will be online and must be completed by the deadline to ensure they have secured a place in the program. After this time, unaccepted offers will lapse and may be offered to other applicants.

Communication

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Policy updates are discussed at staff meetings/briefings and advised on the
- Made available publicly on our school website: <https://mountclearcollege.vic.edu.au/about/policies/>
- A link to all school policies is included in transition and enrolment packs

- Students and families will be notified of updates via Compass
- School Council
- Included as an annual reference in school newsletter
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

Further information and resources

- Mount Clear College Student Wellbeing & Engagement Policy
<https://mountclearcollege.vic.edu.au/about/policies/>

Review Cycle and Evaluation

Version Date	October 2023
Policy Date	Created May 2018
School Council Approval Date	Approved by Principal
Person Responsible	Assistant Principal – Curriculum & Learning
Next Review Date	October 2024

Aspire Program Policy - Annexure A

Agreement of Expectations

The Mount Clear College Aspire Program provides a curriculum specifically designed to meet the educational needs of highly aspirational students.

It is expected that all students at Mount Clear College agree to adhere to the Student Code of Conduct as outlined in the student planner. Some of the items within the Student Code of Conduct are mentioned more specifically below and form part of this Agreement between yourself and the Mount Clear College Aspire Program.

Commitment of the Aspire Program student

I recognise that as a student within the Mount Clear College Aspire Program that I will be expected to:

- show excellent levels of attendance and punctuality to all classes;
- consistently work to the best of my ability and complete set tasks;
- maintain a high standard of work and effort;
- display an excellent level of personal organisation;
- respect the views or the opinions of others and communicate in a courteous manner;
- ensure actions do not interfere with the rights of others to learn.

I understand the above expectations and responsibilities as a student within the Mount Clear College Aspire Program and I agree to adhere to them.

If any serious or repeated low level incidents occur that breach this Agreement, I am aware that I will be referred to the Aspire Program Coordinator where my continued enrolment in the Aspire Program will be reviewed.

Name of Student			
Signature of Student		Date	/ /
Name of Parent/Guardian			
Signature of Parent/Guardian		Date	/ /
Name of the Aspire Program Coordinator			
Signature of Aspire Program Coordinator		Date	/ /