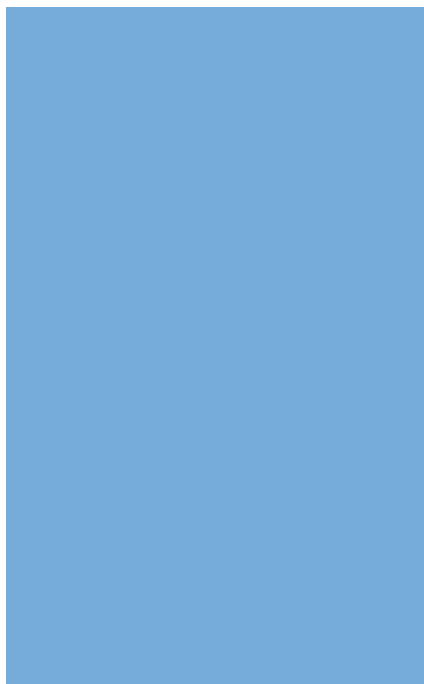


WEST WALLSEND HIGH SCHOOL

Information package and application
2024 – Year 7 **HORIZON** Class



We **LEARN** for Life



HORIZON CLASS 2024

APPLICATION TIMELINE

PHASE 1 TERM 3

21/8/23 - SECTION A RETURNED TO PRIMARY SCHOOL

PHASE 2 TERM 3

8/9/23 - SECTIONS A & B COMPLETED BY PRIMARY SCHOOL

PHASE 3 TERM 4

9/10/23 - NOTIFICATION OF HORIZON CLASS PLACEMENT

HORIZON PROGRAM – INFORMATION FOR YEAR 7 2024

West Wallsend High School offers a unique supported transition opportunity for nominated Year 7 students. Our Stage 4 Horizon program follows a middle school philosophy through which it meets the needs of students who would benefit from a more structured, strength-focused class provided by one core teacher for a number of key learning areas in a homeroom learning environment.

The philosophy of the Horizon program is driven by high expectations, authentic relationships with students and parents/carers and individualised student strength-based teaching and learning. All Horizon students are individually case managed by Horizon staff to allow for effective academic and wellbeing support. Students involved in the Horizon program will stay in this class for Years 7 and 8.

All students in the Stage 4 Horizon classes have access to and engage in the following:

- A Horizon homeroom which allows students to have access to a learning environment that is focused on their individual learning needs.
- One core teacher for at least three key learning areas.
- Differentiated learning and additional student choice in learning, including a strong focus on cross KLA assessment and project-based learning.

- Additional wellbeing and curriculum support.
- Students will collate a portfolio of best practice work which is to be collected across KLAs to demonstrate their achievement in the Horizon class. Parent/carers will be invited into the classroom to engage in reflective student-led conferencing with their young person and Horizon staff to showcase their learning.

The Horizon program has had a positive impact on the development of student wellbeing, social and emotional growth, academic performance, and attendance. Students have significantly improved their literacy and numeracy abilities, their organisational and study skills as well as growing their resilience, growth mindset and self-regulation mechanisms.

HOW DOES MY YOUNG PERSON APPLY FOR HORIZON IN 2024?

PHASE 1

Placement in the Horizon program for 2024 can occur in two ways:

- Parents/carers will be able to nominate their child for consideration for placement in the Horizon program for Stage 4. If you would like your child to be considered, please complete Section A and return it to your primary school principal by **Monday 21 August 2023**.
- During the transition process, Year 6 teachers may also nominate students to be considered for the Horizon class. However, where possible, parents/carers are strongly recommended to complete an application form if they would like their young person considered for the class.

PHASE 2

The primary school principal (or classroom teacher) will complete Section B to endorse your application for the Horizon class. They will then forward Sections A and B to the Horizon Coordinator, Mrs Sharon Jenness, West Wallsend High School, 20 Appletree Road, West Wallsend 2286, by **Friday 8 September 2023**.

PHASE 3

Successful students will be notified in writing by **Monday 9 October 2023**. Where the number of short-listed students exceeds the number of places available, a reserve list will be established. No further information about the reserve list will be available following initial notification in writing. Should a place become available, those placed on the reserve list will be notified immediately in rank order.

Parents/carers must confirm an offer of enrolment by the date indicated in the notification letter. Failure to do so will cancel the offer and allow the place to be made available to another student.

Placement in the Horizon class is competitive and based on individual student needs. Students in this class are individually case managed by Horizon staff throughout their learning journey and parent/carers will be notified if we have any concerns so that additional supports may be put in place.

Appeals can only be made regarding the process and should be made to Krystal Bevin, Principal, West Wallsend High School, 20 Appletree Road, West Wallsend 2286. The Horizon panel will co-ordinate all information concerning placement in the Year 7 Horizon class.

For further information please phone the school on 02 4953 2111 or email westwalls-school@det.nsw.edu.au - please mark "Attention Sharon Jenness" in the subject line.

Please note:

Students who are unable to apply by the timeline outlined above are eligible to apply through the special consideration process. This may include students who move into the West Wallsend High School enrolment area later in the year or students who currently do not attend our partner primary schools. In this circumstance, please complete Sections A and B of the application and submit it directly to the office at West Wallsend High School with the following note – Attention: Sharon Jenness – 2024 Horizon Special Consideration Application.

Parents/carers will be contacted in writing if their young person's application was successful before the end of the 2023 school year.

For more information, please refer to our Horizon page on the school website:

<https://westwalls-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/learning-at-our-school/horizon-program1.html>

WHAT DOES A DAY LOOK LIKE IN OUR HORIZON CLASSROOMS?



"Horizon can help students by giving extra help with work and supporting students with schoolwork or problems they may have." **Emily – Horizon student.**

"I like Horizon because the teachers are always there to help." **Savannah – Horizon student.**

"I like how in the Horizon class I have the same teacher for multiple subjects as I feel supported." **Koby – Horizon student.**

HORIZON PROGRAM APPLICATION FOR YEAR 7 2024

SECTION A – Parent/carer Supporting Statement

To be completed by parent/carer of the applicant and submitted to your primary school principal by Monday 21 August 2023.

STUDENT INFORMATION – to be completed by the parent/carer		
Student's family name:		Date of birth: / /
Student's given names:		Gender:
Preferred name:		
Student's current primary school:		
Name of parent/carer:		
Relationship to student:		
Contact numbers:	Mobile:	Home:
Parent/carer email:		
Signature of parent/carer:		Date: / /

Outline why you believe your child would benefit from the Horizon program. *Please feel free to attach further information or supporting documents for consideration.*

HORIZON PROGRAM APPLICATION FOR YEAR 7 2024

SECTION B – Primary School Supporting Statement

Please forward Sections A and B by Friday 8 September 2023 to:

Mrs Sharon Jenness
Head Teacher Wellbeing
West Wallsend High School
20 Appletree Road
WEST WALLSEND NSW 2286

Please note: the following is confidential.

TEACHER SUPPORTING STATEMENT – to be completed by the Year 6 teacher or principal	
Teacher's name:	
Teacher's school:	
Student name:	
<i>I support this application for the West Wallsend High School Horizon program.</i>	
Signature of teacher:	Date: / /

Please comment on the student's suitability for the Horizon program regarding their:

- *attitude and effort towards learning,*
- *classroom behaviour*
- *attendance.*

Why do you believe they would benefit from the wellbeing structures of the program?

SECTION B – Primary School Supporting Statement continued

Please comment further on the wellbeing needs of the student.