



Upper Coomera State College

Learning Pathways to the Future

SIGNATURE PROGRAMS

AND SCHOLARSHIPS

UCSC



**STEM
ACADEMY**



**SPORTS
ACADEMY**



**CREATIVE ARTS
ACADEMY**



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INTRODUCTION

At Upper Coomera State College we seek to develop informed, confident and well-balanced graduates. The College's Signature Programs encourage students to be aspirational and positive as they realise their learning potential. Students accepted into these programs must at all times accept personal responsibility for their learning choices, exemplify the College's rules of be safe, responsible, and respectful members of the Upper Coomera Community.

The College Signature Programs have been developed in conjunction with industry and tertiary institution partners. Students who complete these programs will be equipped with the 21st Century skills, knowledge and experience required to succeed in any chosen pathway.

Innovative
Committed
Inspired

is our vision. Join us on this journey.



Mr Mike O'Connor
Executive Principal
Upper Coomera State College

SCHOLARSHIPS

Upper Coomera State College offers scholarships to students who exemplify initiative, drive and success in Academics, Sport, Creative Arts and STEM.

Scholarships are awarded to those students already successful in their application and who are achieving well above the standard for their year level in academics, behaviour and effort.

Scholarships are offered in the following Signature Programs:

- STEM Academy
- Sport Academy
- Creative Arts Academy

Full Scholarships cover the following costs for the year in which they are awarded:

- Student Resource Scheme paid for the year
- Full Formal Uniform
- Academy fees paid

Half Scholarships cover the following costs for the year in which they are awarded:

- Full Formal Uniform
- Academy fees paid

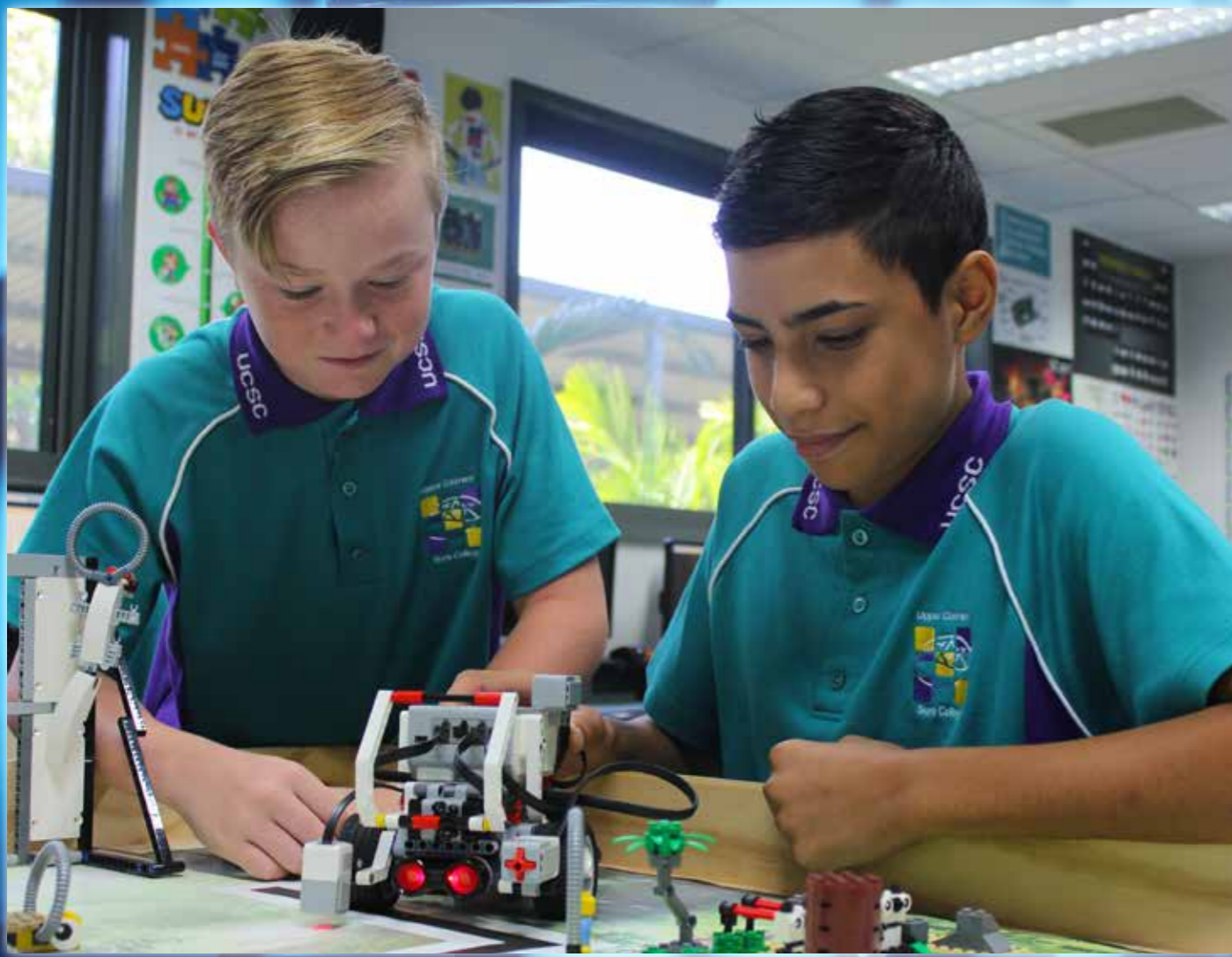
At the Principals discretion, scholarships may also be awarded to UCSC students who achieve outstanding results during a full calendar year.

An annual fee in addition to the school resource scheme fee is payable upon acceptance into a program and each subsequent year that the student is part of a program. The fee for 2019 is \$65.00 per program (the Sports Excellence - Future Stars Program has a separate fee structure - see college website for details). Fees must be paid prior to the commencement of the school year and are non-refundable. If the fees are not paid by the due date this will be taken to indicate the student no longer wishes to participate in the program. Should the student not maintain the standards of the program, their participation will be reviewed and entrance fees forfeited.



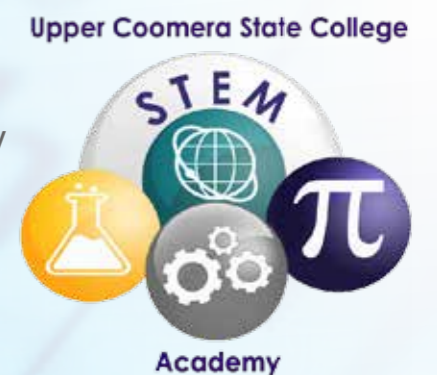
STEM ACADEMY

Upper Coomera State College was awarded the *Peter Doherty Award* for School of Excellence in STEM Education in 2017. The STEM Academy provides an academic enrichment program designed to cultivate students STEM capabilities. Academy classes are available to students in Years 5 to 9, with the Griffith University/ Upper Coomera State College Senior Secondary Academy Program providing university links for students in Years 10 to 12.



KEY OBJECTIVES

The STEM Academy provides a pathway for students to be challenged, innovative and collaborative citizens. It focusses on the acquisition of 21st Century skills through small group project-based learning. Furthermore, Experienced Senior Teachers and Heads of Department support students as they are extended academically in all core subject areas.



PROGRAM INVOLVEMENT

Students within the STEM Academy participate in tailored elective subjects to develop key attributes. Examples of such subjects include:

- STEM Innovation and Creation: project-based learning, problem-solving and collaboration;
- STEM Engineering: innovation, envisioning and making new links, and teamwork;
- Digital Technology: critical and creative thinking, communication and ICT skills;
- Robotics: being productive users of technology; imagination and initiative.

Academy students are enrolled in the compulsory STEM Innovation and Creation subject and are expected to choose STEM electives to further develop their 21st Century Skills.



▶ COMMITTED TO LEARNING

The UCSC STEM Academy focusses on developing STEM Capabilities in alignment with key 21st Century Skills. Such capabilities include:

Skills: research, learning and inquiry; problem solving; technical skills including observation, experimentation and quantitative skills; presentation and other work practices.

Ways of thinking: analytical, logical, critical thinking, systematic, structured; questioning, evaluative, independence, reasoning, sceptical; objective, evidence-based, rational; open-minded; innovative, creative and lateral.

Knowledge: scientific method, science as a process; STEM subject knowledge; foundational STEM knowledge and vocabulary.

As the program is futures orientated, the curriculum across all key subject areas is extended to provide a rigorous and challenging pathway.

▶ INNOVATIVE & SUCCESS DRIVEN FUTURES

As highlighted in a study conducted by the Australian Council of Deans of Science, STEM skills are necessary for success in 95% of employment sectors including government, business, law, education and health.

Employees have further cited that STEM graduates have exemplary skills in numeracy, analysis and problem solving. Furthermore, as technology transforms much of the economy, from manufacturing and retail, to law and banking, STEM graduates will continue to be in demand in a range of sectors (West, 2017).

The UCSC STEM Academy, aspires to provide a pathway which provides students with a significant advantage over their peers upon graduation.



**WINNER OF
THE PETER DOHERTY
“EXCELLENCE IN STEM”
AWARD FOR 2017**



SPORTS ACADEMY

The UCSC Sports Academy has been designed to cater for students from Primary level through to Year 12 to develop their skills and knowledge relevant to their chosen sporting pathway. The strength of our Sports Academy lies in its holistic approach to each student's academic, athletic and personal development promoting a seamless pathway to sporting success.

The UCSC Sports Academy has both a Sports Excellence Program and a Sports Development Program. The Sports Development Program identifies students with athletic talent who demonstrate the potential for progression towards high performance. The program focusses on technical training and sports specific practice in select sports such as track and field, touch football, netball, basketball, rugby league/union and soccer supporting students from Years 5 to 9.

The Sports Excellence Program known as the UCSC Future Stars is specifically designed to deliver quality outcomes to quality athletes. The program supports exceptionally talented young athletes from Years 7 to 12 who have attained a representative or a high level in their chosen sport, looking to take their academic, athletic and personal development to the next level.

The UCSC Sports Excellence Future Stars Program is in partnership with the Gold Coast Academy of Sport (GCAS) and is the only school in South East Queensland to have such a partnership. In addition, the UCSC Sports Excellence Program is the first and only Queensland school who are a pilot school for the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) *myAISbasecamp* online platform.

Through the access to UCSC specialist staff and industry professionals, the focus is on developing well rounded athletes who are able to effectively manage the demands of both the academic study and training commitments.

KEY OBJECTIVES

- To provide excellence through innovative programs for our athletes;
- To provide access to expertise in the area of technical training for a variety of sports combined with a well-rounded academic and life skills program for pre – elite athletes;
- To partner where possible with national, state and local partners to provide students with the most up to date information and training techniques;
- To provide a platform for student growth and development in their chosen sport.

PROGRAM INVOLVEMENT

SPORTS EXCELLENCE

UCSC Future Stars Sports Excellence students in Year 7 – 9 participate in 4 x 70min lessons per week during school hours and also participate in one educational session per term provided by the Gold Coast Academy of Sport (GCAS). The Year 8 and 9 students participate in the Australian Institute of Sports (AIS) *myAISbasecamp* online training platform.

UCSC Future Stars Sports Excellence students in Year 10 – 12 participate in extra-curricular education sessions (1 per term) with the Gold Coast Academy of Sport and have the opportunity to further their skills through Senior Physical Education, Certificate III in Fitness and a Certificate II in Sport and Recreation. These students are also linked to the AIS *myAISbasecamp* online portal as both athletes and mentors for the junior students.

The focus of the Sports Excellence Program is to develop the individual athlete rather than preparing teams, therefore, the emphasis is on the Sports Excellence Program being a training environment rather than a competition environment.



SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

UCSC Sports Development students in Years 5 to 6 complete these years in a designated Sports Development class where they receive technical and game play opportunities in addition to their HPE curriculum.

UCSC Sports Development students in Years 7 to 9 participate in 2 x 70min sessions per week during school hours with specialist staff focussing on skill development and game play.

The focus of the Sports Development Program is to develop the individual athlete in track and field and team sports, however the focus is still that of a training environment rather than a competition environment.

Whilst UCSC Sports Academy athletes enter competitions through opportunities within the school calendar we encourage students to participate in local, state and national competitions and provide flexible learning opportunities for students who have reached high levels of competition and require time out of school to compete.

Students participating in the UCSC Sports Academy programs will go through a review process annually to ensure students are meeting the expectations of the program. All UCSC Sports Academy students sign a code of conduct contract which is also reviewed annually.

▶ INNOVATIVE & SUCCESS DRIVEN FUTURES

Whether the goal is to reach the post-secondary, national, international, or professional level, our Academy staff are committed to developing a strong foundation for our pre-elite athletes, which will be the springboard for future success. Student-athletes will be counselled and coached on the opportunities available to them at the next level, whatever that may be. A concerted effort will be made to assist student-athletes in reaching their goals and fulfilling their dreams.

MASTER OF BUILDING THE ELITE ATHLETE



COMMITTED TO LEARNING

Educational and athletic sessions will cover a wide range of topics to provide students with a holistic sports education.

Year 7 Future Stars Program Theory Units

- Athletes that Shape the Nation
- Nutrition
- Anatomy & Physiology
- Fitness Components

Year 8/9 Future Stars Program Theory Units (over 2 years)

- Principles of Training
- Sport Nutrition & Energy Production
- Psychology & Mental Health
- Safety in Sport
- Coaching Principles
- Risky Behaviours
- Money, Media and Sport

Students in Future Stars participate in a range of practical units as well as focussed fitness lessons.

Example GCAS Session Topics

- Nutrition
- Strength & Conditioning
- Body Maintenance
- Goal Setting
- Mental toughness
- Personal Branding

myAIS **basecamp**



Upper Coomera State College

Learning Pathways to the Future





CREATIVE ARTS ACADEMY



Upper Coomera State College has a proud tradition of excellence within the Performing Arts. The Creative Arts Academy, established in 2014, encompasses all five strands of the Arts including Dance, Drama, Film, Art and Music.

The Academy is designed to encourage students with a keen interest to strive for quality in all areas of Performing Arts. It allows individual students to engage in high order thinking processes using their creativity and offers balance and enjoyment whilst providing exposure to the skills necessary within the Arts Industry as they continue to be lifelong learners. The Academy enables each child to discover their talents, interests and abilities and develop them to their full potential.

It is our aim to provide a realistic opportunity for students to realise their potential through the development of the Arts subjects on offer. The academy holds strong values in its capacity to strengthen each student in their ability to work effectively in a team, problem solve, communicate effectively and taking initiative.



KEY OBJECTIVES

- Assist students to reach their potential in chosen Arts strands/ interests;
- To provide opportunities to extend and develop skills and techniques associated with the five strands of the Arts;
- To expose students to the Arts industry and employment opportunities;
- Provide a motivating and encouraging environment where students can develop their skills with like-minded students;
- To give students the opportunity to learn, practice, rehearse and perform in front of a live audience;
- To enjoy and foster an enrichment of the Arts industry through the talents and passions of each student.

PROGRAM INVOLVEMENT

Programming of the Creative Arts Academy is centred around a broad curriculum framework focussing on each strand of the Arts.

Students have the ability to pursue a chosen area that they are passionate about and would like to explore their interests, by participating in a weekly class. These classes enable the students to engage in critical thinking, higher order pedagogical processes, collaboration and teamwork to allow them to design, evaluate and present pieces of work to the wider school community.

Within the College, the community spirit is enhanced through an annual school performance (Musical or Variety Concert) and it is an expectation that all students participate in this to engage in understanding the success and value of a production.





Throughout the year, students are also given various opportunities to engage in excursions and workshops that are relevant to their field of choice and provide an insight into the career pathway opportunities within the Arts Industry post-secondary studies.

Some of the most notable excursion and workshop opportunities have been presented by the following companies:

- Queensland Performing Arts Centre (QPAC)
- Queensland College of Art
- Griffith Film School
- Australia Playhouse
- Mashed Theatre Company
- Bangarra Dance Company
- SWELL Festival
- Queensland Gallery of Modern Art (GOMA)

INNOVATIVE & SUCCESS DRIVEN FUTURES

The Creative Arts Academy seeks to maximise learning opportunities for students in a supportive environment with students who share similar or have similar interests in the Arts. Students will be encouraged to participate in a variety of extra-curricular activities and will continue to build their confidence, self-esteem and performance abilities. This Academy allows students every opportunity to challenge their abilities and reach to their potential.

It is important that students within the Academy maintain a high academic standard and a strong work ethic. Regular reviews of student behaviour and progress will be closely monitored, to ensure each students' success within the Academy. Failure to meet the requirements may result in an interview with the students and their parents/ caregivers to determine their continuation within the Academy.



Innovative Committed Inspired

Upper Coomera



State College

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