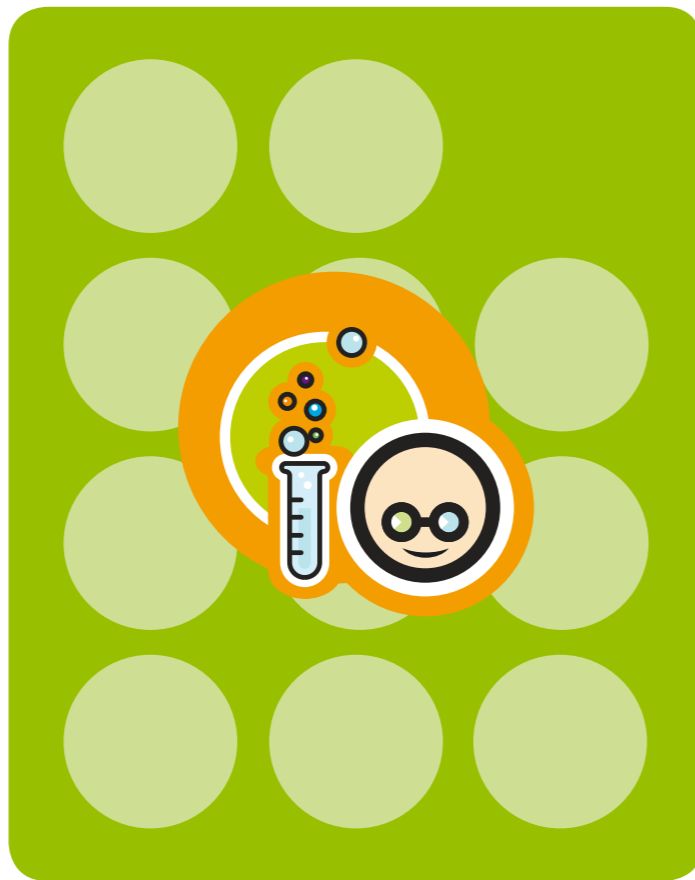


In-House Programs

Schools can request that G.A.T.E.WAYS develop special programs in one or more nominated areas of the curriculum for their gifted students as part of their school time or after school provision.

Out on the Town

This program for gifted Year 7, 8 and 9 students is offered in the Term 2 holidays and is based in the city. A range of interesting day-long workshops which utilize the city as a resource is offered. Programs may range from fashion to mathematics, from animation to genetics, from history to science, or from game development to drama. Students enrol in this program directly and may request to go on the mailing list to receive details.



Festivals

Festivals are special programs offering a large range of exciting workshops running concurrently over two days with the emphasis on challenge and fun! Students studying chemistry might make bath bombs or the easily broken glass from a Hollywood movie set; those with a passion for language might solve cryptic crosswords or participate in a feisty Slam Poetry competition; others might experience the passion of Latin American dance or uncover the mystery of magic tricks. Traditionally a mid-year festival is held for Years 1 to 6 in Canberra. End of year festivals for primary students in Melbourne and beyond, including a Prep Festival, are held each December. Parents may register directly with G.A.T.E.WAYS rather than through their schools as is the usual procedure for school time programs. All festival details and enrolment procedures can be viewed on our website in mid-October.

Parent Information Evenings

At Information Evenings parents can meet and discuss a range of issues pertinent to parenting a highly able or gifted child. Issues may include typical milestones and developmental expectations; asynchrony in intellectual, physical and emotional development; issues regarding school placement and extra curricular activities; social and emotional characteristics and their implications for highly able children.

The Presenters

Over 200 people from a range of different backgrounds (primary, secondary and tertiary teaching; science; mathematics; the arts; politics; sport; philosophy and thinking skills) have presented programs for G.A.T.E.WAYS since 1994. These presenters are expert in a given field or fields; passionate about their field and able to convey this enthusiasm to children; excellent communicators; knowledgeable about the special needs of gifted children and how they learn; creative, flexible and skilled in terms of curriculum development and delivery. Their programs are inquiry based, with hands-on activities, problem solving, and higher order thinking skills. Many of the presenters' most popular workshops are those which are scenario-based, 'hypotheticals' or mysteries - children love learning embedded in such a framework. G.A.T.E.WAYS is always keen to meet with potential new presenters.

G.A.T.E.WAYS Publications

Publications for teachers and parents are available.



developing and extending children's special abilities

THE BRAINWAVES CLUB

About the Brainwaves Club

The Brainwaves Club is based on the philosophy that gifted children need opportunities to form rewarding friendships that further foster their interests, social skills and self esteem with others of similar abilities and interests. G.A.T.E.WAYS aims to facilitate this positive social interaction in a non-threatening club atmosphere. This club holds regular meetings throughout the school year.

Bright Buttons

The *Bright Buttons for Preps* aims to provide enrichment and challenge tailored to the children's developmental needs. Included are activities selected from the areas of maths, science, problem solving, thinking skills, story telling and drama. *Bright Buttons* commences in Semester 2.

Maths/Science/Technology

Children enrolling in these clubs will participate in a range of activities over the year. Our groups are the *Dinomites* (Grades 1/2), *The SciSpies*, (Grades 3/4), and the *Einsteins* (Grades 5/6).

Language/Creative/Performing Arts

Children who demonstrate advanced artistic ability, advanced language skills with a passion for reading and writing, as well as a love of drama and performance, can enrol in the *Munchkins* (Grades 1/2/3) or the *Apprentices* (Grades 4/5/6). Children in each group rotate through sessions of books and writing, art and craft, drama and performance, and philosophy.

A Brainwaves Club meets on a monthly basis in Canberra.



Eureka

When attending a day-long *Eureka* program, children participate in three, linked hands-on workshops based on a theme. Previous themes have included 'Scintillating Science', 'Mathematical Mysteries - Are You Game?', 'The Secret Life Of...', and 'What Nonsense!'. Each term the theme changes to focus on a different curriculum area.

Journeys

Journeys are extended programs. Children attend once a week for four half days and explore a topic in depth. Subject matter is wide-ranging and is often in areas not taught in the primary school curriculum. Students as young as six can become detectives solving hypothetical mysteries, work as archaeologists on a 'dig', explore the wonders of the universe or the world of the brothers Grimm. The possibilities are unlimited.



On Location

On Location programs take children out of the classroom and into different learning environments. Budding pilots can participate in programs at Essendon Airport; filmmakers can produce a short film or animation at the Australian Centre For The Moving Image; young composers or publishers can work with the latest computer software at the Alfred Brash SoundHouse; artistically talented students might work with a professional artist in a studio, whilst those with a passion for history might join an urban historian out in the field to learn about historical research at first hand.



The G.A.T.E.WAYS Challenge

The *G.A.T.E.WAYS Challenge* takes place in Term 4. School teams are made up of students who exhibit advanced abilities across the curriculum. Over the course of a day teams rotate through a number of Challenge activities. The stress is on teamwork over individual performance.

Each child has an opportunity to demonstrate leadership in one of the challenges. Strong emphasis is placed on creativity, lateral thinking and problem-solving skills. Information about the Challenge is sent out in Term 3, so that once teams are selected, there is ample time to schedule practice sessions. Schools registering teams receive a booklet of exercises to help prepare the children.