Kalamunda Senior High School
An Independent Public School

Gifted and Talented Education
Visual Arts

Learning - Respect - Resilience - Pride - Community
Gifted and Talented Education (GATE)

The Gifted and Talented Visual Art program began at Kalamunda Senior High School in 1981. For more than 30 years students have enjoyed expressing their creativity through art.

The GATE Visual Arts program aims through enrichment and extension, to develop ability and visual awareness. Activities are planned to offer students over five years, a wide variety of art encounters and challenges in many forms of visual arts. Students have opportunities to explore painting, ceramics, sculpture, drawing, printmaking, photography, graphic design, textiles, animation, fashion design and jewellery.

The Kalamunda Senior High School GATE Visual Arts Program is offered to students identified as Gifted and Talented in the Visual Arts. The program hinges around extension classes that are run on Saturday mornings between 9.00am and 12.30pm. Artists from the local community are employed as Tutors for these classes, thus providing students with a unique opportunity to gain an understanding of how their art making fits into the larger community. During the week, students participate in GATE Visual Art classes as part of their regular timetable.

Each student has the opportunity to pursue their own interests and strengths thereby developing a personal style of art practice.

While the course is not vocationally focused, some students do inevitably set their sights on further tertiary studies in arts. In these instances their participation in Gifted and Talented Visual Arts does give them considerable preparation. Many students have gone on to have successful careers in the arts, while others have been able to apply their creativity and skills to other occupations.
Students within the program share a special bond and have many opportunities to interact with each other and the wider community. Student work is exhibited at festivals and events, where students are often awarded prizes for their endeavours. Community art projects are frequently undertaken and recent work can often be seen around the school and local area.

The annual Kalamunda Senior High School Visual Arts Exhibition is held either at school or another venue and is a showcase of all the student work made throughout the year.

**Selection Process**

The selection process begins in Year 6 and the normal point of entry into the program is in Year 8. However, a small number of special placements may be available in Years 8, 9, 10 and 11. An application must be made online at the Department of Education website. All applications should be lodged by the deadline. For further details see http://www.det.wa.edu.au/curriculumsupport/giftedandtalented/detcms/portal/

The testing and interview process will be outlined to you after your application form has been received by the Department. Testing normally takes place during the Easter Holidays. Students who are successful at the testing are invited to a school based interview.

Successful students are formally offered a place by the Gifted and Talented Branch during the second half of the school year.

Students who have a passion for creating through drawing, ceramics, photography and digital art and enjoy creative challenges are encouraged to apply.