

MindQuest 2023

St George Girls HS

Victoria St Kogarah

Saturday & Sunday 1 & 2 April 2023 9.30-3.30pm

For High Potential & Gifted Primary Students

The Courses

Secret Missions

Years 1 2

This will suit you if you:

- Enjoy solving problems.
- Love designing and making things.
- Enjoy working in a team.

Do you like to create things from recycled materials? Do you like to solve secret messages and word problems? Solve the spaghetti challenge, build the tallest tower to hold your team's flag and solve other secret missions. Learn about design processes, present your team's design and discuss its strengths. Challenge yourself to think outside the square!

How Does The Earth Work?

Years 1 2

This will suit you if you:

- Are interested in volcanoes and how the earth changes.
- Like making models.

Discover how the earth changes and how rivers and mountains are made. Build your own volcano and see how it works! Find out about famous volcanoes, great earthquakes and the ring of fire! Discover the myths and legends of the past.

Young Writers Workshop

Years 1 2

This will suit you if you:

- Love writing and are imaginative.
- Like expressing your ideas.

Would you like to write your own play? If you love writing, enter the world of heroes and heroines, winged horses and fantastic creatures. We will have fun writing scripts, making costumes and scenery to finally perform your extraordinary creation in front of an audience.

Science Action

Years 1 2

This will suit you if you:

- Are interested in Science.
- Enjoy making things and seeing how they work.

Can you design a vehicle that travels on land and water or a rocket that travels into the beyond? This course will stimulate your curiosity and challenge your thinking as you design a variety of vehicles capable of moving in air, land and water. Working in small groups you will have fun learning about the wonders of science!

Mathemagic

Years 1 2

This will suit you if you:

- Love mathematics.
- Think creatively and enjoy constructing.

Do you want to have fun with numbers, use a calculator and do tangram and tessellation puzzles? Learn the many ways to solve puzzles using logical thinking skills! Use your creative skills to build the tallest tower! This enjoyable course is full of challenges, and games.

Young Scientist

Years 1 2

This will suit you if you:

- Like design, problem solving and creating things.
- Are interested in Science.

This is a hands-on course that will stimulate your curiosity as we challenge your problem-solving and design skills. Learn about electrical circuits and electromagnets, design the strongest bridge and learn all about air pressure. All the girls who have done this course just love it!!!!

Light, Colour Action

Years 1 2

Imagine a world without colour- it brings everything to life! You will investigate the colours in light coming from objects, the hidden colours of inks, secret codes and the mysteries of dyeing and printing.

You will design and make kaleidoscopes, colour wheels and thaumotropes. This course is designed for students who enjoy designing and making, exploring the world around them and the magic of Science and Art.

The Science of Toys

Years 1 2

This will suit you if you:

- Are interested in Technology
- Are Creative
- Enjoy making and exploring how things work.

In this course we will study how toys are designed and made using science and then we will have fun creating our own. Investigate cause and effect, how sound is made and the forces behind the fun of toys.

We will research the world's biggest toy makers and see how technology and art combine to create the toys we see and play with each day.

Our courses fill up quickly so please send in your applications well before the closing date of Friday, 10 March 2023

Closing Date Friday 10 March 2023. For enquiries and late applications, please call Shelagh Poray on 02 9748 1084

WEDO 2.0 Hands on Robotics Years 1 2

Do you want to build a robot and program it to move? We'll give you an introduction to robotics in this hands-on workshop using LEGO Education WeDo 2.0. There are over 100 robot models to explore, from ballerinas and dinosaurs, to cars and trains.

Investigate mechanics, pulleys, gears, friction and levers, and work with tilt and motion sensors. No robotics knowledge is needed - we'll start you off here and if you're interested in EV3 Mindstorms or Spike Prime LEGO robotics kits, this is the perfect place to start!

Fun, Foam & Floaty Bits Years 2

This will suit you if you:

- Love to paint, create and explore.
- Like using inks, pastels, plasticine, wire and collage materials.

Become an artist as you will feel the sea through your hands. Discover that you can create fish swimming through gardens of coral. Be inspired by other artists as you work with a variety of materials to create paintings, models and collages based around a sea theme. This course will introduce you to art, using so much more than a paintbrush!

Funtastic Funfair Years 3 4

This will suit you if you:

- Enjoy learning about how things work.
- Like craft and making things.

Spin, flip and whirr your way to an understanding of simple machines and how they work! Collaborate with other students as you perform experiments and solve challenges.

Then use the design process to construct your own model funfair ride using simple machines. Will you create a pretty carousel, a superfast rollercoaster or an original funtastic ride you've dreamed up using your imagination!

Clear As Crystal Years 3 4 Introduction to Geology

This will suit you if you:

- Want to learn more about earthquakes, volcanoes & plate tectonics.
- Are interested in rocks or like collecting & classifying them.

Do you ever wonder how mountains and continents are formed? Do you want to know how earthquakes are caused and volcanoes erupt? Would you like to grow crystals and view them through a microscope? Explore the secrets of the earth's crust and make models in this exciting and challenging course.

Adventures in Art Years 3 4

This will suit you if you:

- Are highly creative and artistic.
- Enjoy manipulating different materials to create new and interesting art work.
- Enjoy experimenting with clay and collage techniques.

Take a walk through the Australian landscape, from the bush to the beach, exploring famous Australian and Indigenous artists along the way.

Create cool, clay critters, print fantastic frogs and create paintings inspired by artists such as John Olson and Emily Kam Kngwararray. Become an artist yourself as you have fun taking a line for a walk, learning the secrets of working colour and creating textures.

Maths Detectives Years 3 4

This course will suit you if you:

- Love and have an aptitude for maths.
- Like solving brain-teasing puzzles.

In this course you'll challenge yourself to be a 'Maths Detective'! You'll whiz through logic puzzles and have extreme fun creating and decoding messages. In this course you will learn new strategies to enhance your problem solving abilities and become more aware and 'world-wise' linking learning with life!

The Wonderful World Of Harry Potter Years 3 4

This will suit you if you:

- Love Harry Potter and other "magical stories".
- Enjoy reading, writing and acting.

Can you explain Quidditch to a Muggle? Would you write a war cry for Gryffindor, Slytherin, Hufflepuff or Ravenclaw? What would you do to a Snape or Quirrell?

In this workshop we will create spells, Sorting Hat songs, house war cries and magical adventures. We will also act out parts of *Harry Potter & the Philosopher's Stone*. You must have read this book to attend the course.

Crime Stoppers Junior Years 3 4

A crime has been committed and we need your help as a forensic scientist! You will be briefed on the crime and asked to investigate the scene, collecting any possible evidence which might help.

Applying the latest techniques, you will analyse everything from fingerprints to ransom notes, fingerprints to fibres. You will then have to prepare your evidence to present in court. Have you kept an open mind and checked all possibilities and angles? The court case will tell!

3D Modeling & Printing Years 3 4

This will suit you if you:

- Are interested in Science & technology.
- Like to work with your hands as well as computers.

Would you like to draw, sculpt or build things that normally exist in your imagination? In this workshop you'll be learning the basics of 3D printing by making your own custom name tags, 3D characters and other objects using Tinkercad. 3D printers are fun but VERY slow so we'll also be using 3D pens to handcraft fun designs limited only by your own imagination!!

Chemistry That's Goopy, Bubbly and Mysterious Years 3 4

This will suit you if you:

- Are interested in science and technology.
- Are curious and have an inquiring mind.

Work out what's happening as things change, froth or bubble. Solve problems as you analyse chemical concoctions. Test ideas as you try to make a polymer of a model you have produced yourself.

You will investigate the chemistry of everyday substances and carry out chemical reactions to learn how substances behave. You will be challenged to use this new knowledge of chemistry to discover the contents of mystery bottles. Activities will include goopy polymers, acid bases, mystery powders and colourful chemistry!

Drama Drama Years 3 4

This will suit you if you:

- Love to act & express your ideas creatively.
- Have a great imagination & like to work with others.

Your imagination is one of your most important assets, it allows you to create other worlds, creatures and characters. Enter the world of the theatre as you learn to improvise, improve your performance skills and dazzle the audience!

Star Gazing Years 3 4

This will suit you if you:

- Love stars and space.
- Are curious and enjoy learning new facts.

Have you ever wondered what's out there? Would you like to know more about the solar system, space travel and the mysteries of deep space? In this **INTRODUCTORY** course we shall discover black holes, constellations, the marvels of lunar landings and so much more!!!

Egyptology Years 3 4

This will suit you if you:

- If you want to learn **MORE** about life in Ancient Egypt.
- Can read at an advanced level.

Visit 3000BC, Ancient Egypt and the time of the Pharaohs. Investigate the mystery of the Afterlife and The Book Of The Dead. Test your knowledge of magic and medicine, deities and wands in this world and discover the secrets of being happy in this life and the next.

In this course you will create clay tablets inscribed with hieroglyphic messages, make your own papyrus and design and create an amulet that will aid your passage into the next world.

Mind Your Own Business! Years 3 4

This course will suit you if you:

- Are creative and like inventing.
- **MUST** be able to work in a team.

Do you like designing your own inventions? How about creating advertisements, logos and catalogues? Or would you prefer acting as a CEO and running the show?

In this course you'll be working in small business teams to showcase your inventions. Designing, creating, innovating and inspiring others will be on the agenda. Can you meet deadlines and win this year's Best Business Award? This course promotes critical and creative thinking with many opportunities to showcase individual talents in art, writing, design and drama.

Art Moves Years 5 6

This will suit you if you:

- Are creative and artistic.
- Enjoy experimenting with new ideas.

Explore printing, collage, painting & drawing in ways you have never thought of before.

Learn to use all these techniques to create unique and beautiful art works on a journey through your imagination!

Dynamic Debating Years 5 6

This will suit you if you:

- Are confident in speaking with others.
- Have an interest in debating at school and are a team worker.

Do you like to state your opinion?
Can you see both sides of the story?
Do you want to learn how to express your point of view to win an argument?

In these workshops you'll learn the basic elements of debating. You will be working in teams to develop topics and case lines, gaining the necessary skills for a full scale debate. Watch exhibition debates and learn the secrets of first class debating.

Shakespeare's Heroes & Villains Years 5 6

This will suit you if you:

- Love drama.
- Enjoy English and poetry.

Meet some of Shakespeare's most loveable, devious and evil characters. Imagine you are a witch conjuring up evil spells, a king preparing his troops for battle, a young prince pursuing his father's killer or a practical joker. These are some of the wonderful characters you will be! Discover Shakespeare's fantastic mediaeval world and enjoy recreating some of the famous scenes from his plays!

Chemical Reactions: Mystery Gases Years 5 6

This will suit you if you:

- Enjoy science and problem solving.
- Love learning how chemicals work.

Challenge your thinking as you find out about chemicals and their reactions in this practical hands-on course.

Discover how colour helps chemists solve problems and learn the secrets of universal indicators. Unlock the mysteries of chromatography, polymers, the periodic table, acids & alkalis. Solve the code used by chemists. This fun filled course is a must for anyone who is interested in all things chemical!

Trial By Jury Years 5 6

This will suit you if you:

- Interested in the law.
- Are a good reader, self-motivated learner and can work cooperatively.

Guilty or not guilty? Who committed the crime? Who was to blame for the accident? Who was the thief? You will learn how to prepare a case and present it in court to a judge and jury. Learn to analyse information, think logically, prepare an argument, effectively question and present convincingly.

In this exciting course presented by a barrister, you will take on several roles including that of a barrister, member of the jury or witness to the crime. The court is now in session!

Marine Science Years 5 6

This will suit you if you:

- Are interested in the underwater world.
- Enjoy learning about chemistry, the marine life and physics.

Our oceans are a vital part of our world and such a precious resource! In this course you will discover the infinite variety of living things that live in or near the ocean, understand currents, tides and how sand is made.

We will investigate some of the problems facing our oceans such as global warming and oil pollution. This is a hands on, practical course that will excite your interest!

Lego Robotics Years 5 6

This workshop is designed for students who enjoy constructing machines and working with computers. **In pairs**, design and build your own special machine to perform specific tasks. Learn about sensors, motors and gears.

You will be using the latest computer software to program your design to control its movements in this intriguing problem solving activity. Girls who are interested in science and design have loved this course!

Forensic Science Years 5 6

This will suit you if you:

- Can read at an advanced level.
- Are a self-directed learner who likes persevering through complex problems until you find an answer.
- Like working in a precise and careful manner.
- Enjoy solving real life problems using modern technology.

This exciting hands on course will challenge your thinking skills. You will be:

- Analysing information, thinking logically, questioning evidence and preparing an argument.
- Learning up-to-date forensic methods including; analysing fingerprints; taking casts of footprints; DNA profiling; examining evidence using microscopes and much much more!

Mysteries & Conclusions Years 5 6

This will suit you if you :

- Enjoy puzzles and challenges.
- Are an above average reader.
- Love discussing your ideas with others in small groups.

For hundreds of years people have been fascinated by the great mysteries of the world. Have you ever wondered what happened to the crew of the ghost ship, Marie Celeste? Did aliens really land at Roswell?

In this challenging course you will become a detective, investigating notorious mysteries from the past and present your own possible solutions. If you like getting to the bottom of a mystery then this course is for you!

Scan and email to:
admin@mindquest.net.au
or

Post to:
PO Box 6263
Silverwater
NSW 2128

For enquiries please call
02 9748 1084

A Space Odyssey Years 5 6

This will suit you if you:

- Interested in the universe and astronomy.
- Enjoy learning new factual knowledge.

Climb on board as we start our journey through our own solar system with the latest images and information from robot probes. Discover the differences between Red Giants and White Dwarfs. Find out what causes a super nova and what happens when you fall into a black hole.

Travel on to explore life in the universe. Find out could aliens really exist and are UFO's real? Join our adventure to the stars and beyond!

Theatre Sports Stars Years 5 6

This will suit you if you:

- Have a lively imagination.
- Like working in groups.
- Can think on your feet.

This course is an introduction to the wonderful world of Theatre Sports. Improve your communication skills and polish your performance techniques whilst learning the golden rules of effective improvisation.

Step boldly into the Theatre Sports Arena, bring your wit, wisdom and a wicked amount of courage. Stun and amaze your audience with your ability to adapt and perform!

Digital Animation and Video Editing Years 5 6

This will suit you if you:

- Have a great Imagination.
- Would like to edit and produce your own digital movie.
- Enjoy working in groups.

Explore the exciting world of animation and digital video creation. This course will have you creating sets, scripting, filming and editing a short animated film. You will be using the latest computer software and digital cameras and be covering topics including lighting, sound recording and film making.

MindQuest Is Back!!

Saturday & Sunday 1 & 2 April 2023, 9.30am-3.30pm

St George Girls HS
Victoria St Kogarah

We are so excited to be back in this 27th year of the MindQuest program! Held at St George Girls HS for Years 1-6, this fast paced challenging program offering 34 exciting courses for gifted and talented students is designed to enrich and extend students of similar interests and abilities.

Course Leaders

All course leaders are experts within their fields. Their backgrounds vary widely. They represent primary and secondary schools, as well as tertiary institutions. Each one is committed to fostering students' potential. Many have been involved in developing and teaching programs for high potential and gifted children.

Students Who May Wish To Apply

In the past these courses have proved very successful for a range of students:

- High Potential and/or gifted students
- Gifted underachievers
- Students of well above average abilities with a special interest.

The majority of students applying have been nominated by their schools. However, if you believe that your child is in one of the above categories and has not received a form, or is a sibling of a past participant, please contact the MindQuest program on 02 9748 1084 for an application form. **If your child has a physical or learning disability or medical condition please make sure that you inform us in the medical section on the application form.**

Kindergarten Students

Each year we have a number of enquiries from parents of kindergarten children who wish to attend. In general, we encourage parents to wait until the next year except in the case of exceptional students. These children not only have high intellectual ability and language skills, but demonstrate excellent reading, writing and hand eye coordination equal to that of an advanced year 1 student.

Course Selection & Advanced Placement

Your child will participate in one course for the weekend. Please choose carefully and only put down those courses that your child would like to attend. We do place children on course in the order that we receive applications, however we take into consideration the balance of the courses in terms of age and gender. A child's specific interest should govern his/her choice. However, girls should be encouraged to choose more courses in science and technology and boys in drama, writing and other creative fields. Advanced placement on our courses (e.g. a year 1 student participating in a course for years 2-3) are available for outstanding students. You will need to ring Shelagh Poray on 02 9748 1084 to determine suitability prior to filling in the application form.

Cost, Part Scholarships

The fee for the MindQuest Enrichment Weekend is \$240 (incl. GST). A limited number of part scholarships are available for students whose families find themselves in difficult economic circumstances. Please contact us on 02 9748 1084 for details.

Refunds & Credit

A full refund is issued for any course cancelled. Refunds are available up to the **closing date of Friday, 10 April 2023**. After the closing date no refunds or transference of credit to the next weekend can be issued unless a medical certificate is received. Please do not ask.

You should receive an email/ letter giving details of your course before Friday 24 March 2023. If we are unable to place you on course we will contact you by email/ letter prior to this date.

Please email your application to admin@mindquest.net.au or post to:

NSW Talent Centre Pty Ltd
PO Box 6263
Silverwater
NSW 2128
www.mindquest.net.au

Closing Date Friday 10 March 2023

MindQuest Enrichment Weekend St George Girls HS
Sat & Sun 1 & 2 April 2023 9.30-3.30
Application Form

Personal Details

First Name _____ Surname _____

Date of birth _____ Home telephone _____

Address _____

_____ Postcode _____ Grade/Year _____

Parent Email Address _____

School _____ Male ☐ Female ☐

Please list up to **six** enrichment courses in order of preferences.

You will participate in only **one** course for the weekend.

Please list **ONLY** those courses you are willing to attend.

Course 1	
Course 2	
Course 3	
Course 4	
Course 5	
Course 6	

Contact numbers and names
for this weekend

1st Name:
2nd Name:

Number:
Number:

Payment may be made by credit card, cheque or money order to NSW Talent Centre Pty Ltd.
Post application and payment to the address below or email to admin@mindquest.net.au.
NSW Talent Centre
PO Box 6263 Silverwater 2128 NSW

Cost of attending the enrichment weekend is **\$240 (including GST)**. Payment by instalment is available for families with 2 or more children attending. Contact Shelagh Poray on **02 9748 1084** for information.

Credit Card Details

Please debit my ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard for the amount \$ _____

Card Number _____/_____/_____/_____/_____

Expiry Date _____ Card Holders Name _____

Signature _____

Medical Information. Please indicate below any illnesses/conditions in case medical treatment is required or that course leaders/organisers need to be aware of.

Parent/Guardian Consent

In the event of an accident or illness during the weekend, I give permission for my child to receive medical attention. I have informed the NSW Talent Centre of any condition/illness which may inhibit or affect treatment. I have read and understood the REFUND policy.

Parent/Guardian Name _____ Signature _____