

Wentworth Point High School

Year 8 Expression of Interest | August 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

Thank you for your expression of interest for a Year 8 cohort at Wentworth Point High School for 2025.

The Department of Education aims to cater for the diverse curriculum interests of the community in the intake area for Wentworth Point High School to allow for the best educational opportunities, support and diverse post school pathways.

Unfortunately, after opening an expression of interest period twice during June and July 2024, **there was insufficient interest to establish a Year 8 cohort in 2025**. A thorough analysis of the expression of interest responses has shown that the low number of expected enrolments would limit curriculum offerings, particularly for elective subjects.

The impact on the curriculum when there are low enrolment numbers in a public high school include:

- Lack of flexibility of curriculum choice for Years 9 to 12 that cater for diverse interests such as STEM, creative and performing arts, humanities, health sciences.
- Courses with lower uptake will not be able to run, which may include courses such as music and physics.
- Students may be required to take courses they are not interested in or suited to to meet the requirements of the RoSA and HSC. This may impact learning outcomes and post school options.
- Fewer students will mean less staffing numbers and diversity in staff training and expertise and may limit course options. For example, language options may be limited to one language choice.
- Where a school chooses to deliver courses with small numbers of students, this may be delivered using less face-to-face time with teachers and require independent learning.
- Distance education is an option if a course cannot be offered, but these numbers are restricted for all schools and comes at a financial cost to the parent.

This decision has been made in the best interests of students, whose educational needs and preferences will be best met in their existing schools.

We understand this decision may be disappointing and we thank you for your understanding.

Sincerely,

Melissa Johnston – Principal, Wentworth Point High School

John Kennedy – Director, Educational Leadership, Auburn Network