



Murdoch
UNIVERSITY

MAP4U



Aspiration → Expectation → Engagement → Enrolment

2012 - 2016





2012- Low SES Schools

- Higher education age groups: 17-24 not growing as strongly in the Rockingham/Kwinana/Peel catchment
- School leavers unlikely to have direct entry to university.
- Year 12 Graduations high BUT
 - High number of students **not** in the ATAR stream
 - Aspirations are OK → Good (67%)
 - Low student educational attainment – Cert 2's

TAC Applications - Propensity to Apply by State 2011 - 2015

State & Territory	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
NSW/ACT	59.4%	61.1%	61.5%	60.2%	59.9%
VIC	69.7%	73.1%	67.4%	68.3%	67.1%
QLD	49.7%	50.3%	51.0%	50.4%	50.9%
WA	48.5%	49.6%	49.8%	51.4%	47.6%
SA/NT	56.3%	65.4%	64.2%	66.2%	65.9%
TAS	59.8%	62.2%	63.2%	61.1%	59.4%
Total	58.5%	60.8%	59.8%	59.7%	59.4%

Notes:

Propensity to apply is calculated by dividing the number of current Year 12 home state applicants aged 20 or less by number of Year 12 students aged 20 or less in each state and territory

Source:

Ravi Ravindiran (updated May 2016)
Performance and Analysis Section | Economic and Market Analysis Branch
Research and Economic Group
Australian Government Department of Education and Training

The Coastal Times.
District Jan 30th 2013

MANDURAH

College top of the class in first year

JOHN Tonkin College students excelled in recent Year 12 WACE exams, achieving both the highest average ATAR score and the most students to achieve the WACE.

John Tonkin College principal Catherine Shepherd said the results were fantastic.

"Of course it is pleasing and a celebration for us," she said.

"Especially after our first year of operation."

She attributed their success to a change in the way the school operates.

"It's due to the work of staff and students plus our monitoring process and we have restructured our curriculum," she said.

"Our deputy principal monitors the performance of the students.

"We want to be a centre of excellence for lifelong learning.

"As an Independent Public School, we have a very proactive board and a business plan and the targets we have set have definitely shown that."

The results were announced as the Australian Scholarships Group revealed the cost of educating a child privately in WA.

Although WA is one of the most affordable States to educate a child private-

ly, a child born in 2013 will cost on average \$286,000 in Perth and \$198,000 in regional areas.

Education Minister Peter Collier said parents should have choice when it came to their child's education.

"One of the advantages of WA's education system is that parents are able to choose the system best suited to their child," he said.

"The Government firmly believes parents should have a choice when it comes to their child's education and supports a diverse system encompassing public, independent and Catholic schools."

Mr Collier said it was not his responsibility to advise parents on whether to educate their children privately or publicly.

"That is a decision for parents which is made after considering a variety of factors, including academic performance and the culture of a school," he said.

"It is encouraging to see that students at John Tonkin, an Independent Public School, performed well in last year's exams. Students at a number of public schools across the State achieved exceptional results."



John Tonkin College principal Catherine Shepherd. d372477

Low-SES Situation

1. Median ATAR
2. Culture
3. Public – Private
4. First in Family + +

Median ATAR – Australian Tertiary Admission Rank

Not an average and not a %

SENIOR SCHOOL

» Improve the overall median average ATAR to 75% or above

Found in a schools strategic plan

How does it work?

	MEDIAN ATAR							AVERAGE	Number to Uni (>70)	Near Miss
School A	55	65	65	75	84	84	85	73.3	= 4	= 2
School B	45	45	45	75	75	75	76	62.3	= 4	= 0
School C	70	70	70	75	75	75	75	72.9	= 7	= 0
School D	69	69	69	70	75	77	85	73.4	= 4	= 3



Murdoch's Aspirations and Pathways for University Program 2012 – 2016. MAP4U

- *through building aspirations in schools and learning links to university the projects will grow the number of eligible, willing and able students to attend university from the region.*



MAP4U

➤ Four programs

1. **Building Aspirations** – Indigenous mentoring (AIME); Inspire academy; scholarships; individual pathway plans, parents as career partners.
2. **Innovative Curriculum** – Robotics; Science shows; Creative Arts, film
3. **University Enabling** – TLC after school program; ATAR preparation;
4. **Big Picture Academies** – Halls Head

➤ **Compacts** (Agreements) School + University

- **Collaboration** > Cooperation

➤ Multiple “touch points” contacts with schools

MAP4U Collaborations

AIME – Australian Indigenous Mentoring Program
Year 7 and 8 Day at the
Mandurah Campus



Shakayla Walley, Year 9
Pinjarra SHS flown to Sydney
to work with Google

Inspire Academy Coodanup College

Year 12 Graduation at Coodanup
 $1/2 \times \text{ATAR} + \text{TLC} = \text{Pathway to University}$



Inspire Academy in
Canberra

Inspiring students

by Amy Martin

MANDURAH students had a taste of the walking dead this week with the help of Australian actor Myles Pollard.

The *McLeod's Daughters* actor, with the help of Murdoch University film students and a film crew, had Coodanup Community College students working both in front and behind the camera in the film *Zombiefied*.

A Murdoch University community initiative, the movie is aimed at getting children in the Mandurah and Rockingham area interested in the film industry.

"It's about getting the kids inspired and be part of the filmmaking process and show them that the process needs commitment and discipline," Pollard said.

"And maybe being a part of this they will rethink about going to university and go into maybe something like post production, cinematography or whatever.

"There is such a broad base of opportunities that they can go into."

Pollard said even if the students did not want to go into film, what they



Talented: Actor Myles Pollard with zombie Dylan Brown.

learned could still have a positive effect on other aspects of life.

"It's also about ownership," Pollard said.

"By having an input with this film really creates that.

"That's not something you can be taught but once you learn it, it's great."

Zombiefied is the story of a group of children fighting over a jar of jellybeans in a post-apocalyptic school when they are faced with a life or death situation.

While the film will never make it onto the big screen, students and their families will be able to see it at a special screening at the school, as well as at the premier at the Murdoch University open day on August 27.

"None of them have been on set before," Pollard said.

"So on the first day it was a little bit daunting for them but by the last day they will be better actors than I ever will be."



University Mentors for Robotics
for 2 + years = 2017 Teacher proficient to run program.



University Mentors + Industry Professionals + School Students = Interest + Opportunity + Aspiration + Commitment + Discipline

Media - update

Workshops target parents on how to advise teens on career prospects

- ❖ Channel 9 News
- ❖ Today Morning Show
- ❖ Naked Scientist
- ❖ Zombie Film

Special visit

by Brianna Johnson

SCIENCE is all around us as Western Australia's former chief scientist showed when he headed to Coodanup Community College (CCC) on Monday to inspire young students.

Professor Lyn Beazley visited the school's Inspire Academy students, a program designed to encourage young people to excel academically and undertake a tertiary education.

The program is run with Murdoch University as students involved take part in academic camps, excursions, a mentoring program, scholarships and other opportunities.

Prof Beazley spoke to the students about biology and human biology, which coincide with CCC's courses.

"It's great to visit this school because I've been watching it grow since I moved here in 1985," she said.

"It's so important to get young people involved with science because WA is science central. "The backbone of the resources sector is science. WA is a biodiversity hotspot and our climate is perfect for harnessing renewable energy like wind and solar

power." Prof Beazley said the Peel region was particularly important from a biodiversity point of view, with unique wetlands and species of birds.

"Students can see science in action, not just when they look around them," she said.

Prof Beazley's research career has spanned 30 years and she was inducted into the WA Science Hall of Fame in November last year.



Inspired by science: Coodanup Community College students Taylor Little and Amy Laughton with science advocate Lyn Beazley.



Years 9 and 10 creative arts students. Picture: Jon Hewson www.communitypc.com.au #42086

STARS AT SCHOOL

ZOMBIES are coming to Rockingham and Kwianna. Safety Bay Senior High School, Gilmore College and Warnbro Community College students will have their own Hollywood experience over the next couple of months, when they work with some of the industry's best to make their own zombie movies. The schools have enlisted

to take part in the Murdoch University creative arts project, which encourages students to aspire to university study.

Students will get to work with a team of industry professionals including actor Myles Pollard (*McLeod's Daughters*, *Drive*) who will direct the movie and production designer Jeremy Shaw (*Lord of the*

Rings). Pollard said he enjoyed working with the teenagers.

"The opportunity the kids have to star in their own film can only motivate," said. "It's the kind of experience I wish I had in high school."

The zombie movies will screened at Murdoch's Op Day on August 24.

Warnbro Robotics Club!



EV3 robots funded by a joint project between Murdoch University and Warnbro Community High School found their way out of their boxes and into the hands of the Robotics club for the first time in week 8 of Term 4.

The Map4U project endeavours to encourage students to pursue Science and Engineering at university and will assist our students in achieving their goals at the end of Year 12.

Robotics club students will spend this year using the new robots, being mentored by 1st and 2nd year Engineering students from Curtin and Murdoch, and eventually taking part in the Lego league – a robotics competition which develops skills in programming robots and basic engineering principles. Students will also compete in Robocup Junior in which we have been very successful in recent years.

New members are always welcome to come along to Robotics club after school on Thursday afternoons. Students who are interested in joining the club in 2014 can see their Science teacher for a permission form. – Mrs Lindstedt



Warnbro Welcomes the Big Picture

Big Picture
EDUCATION AUSTRALIA

InThe Other Election: Indigenous Students Inspire - Parliament House

23/12/2013



Shannon Hart-Cole is hoping his speech will

be named as one of the top three.

WARNBRO Community High School student Shannon Hart-Cole is one step away from having his voice heard in Parliament House after progressing to the final stages of 'The Other Election.'

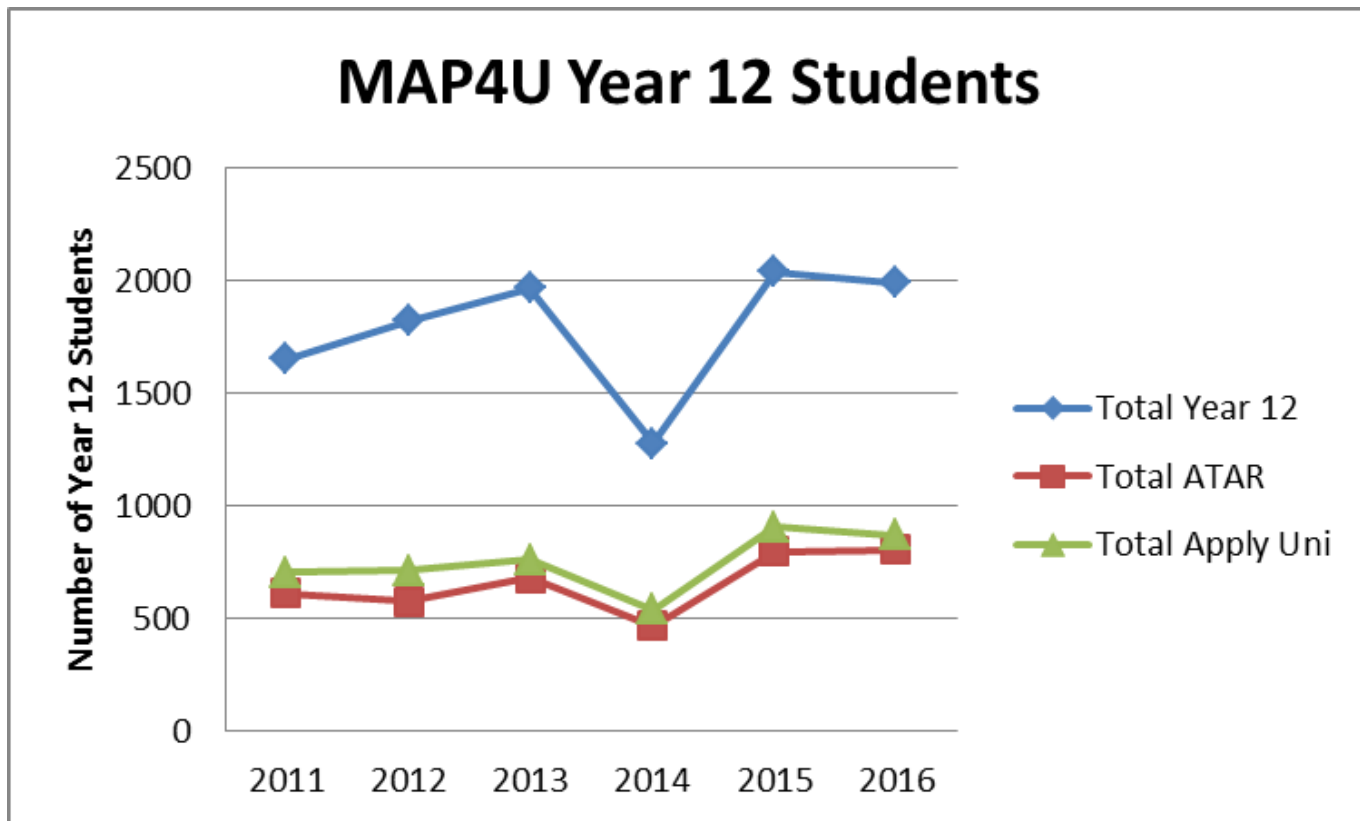


➤ **Has the situation improved in the Rockingham/Kwinana/Peel Region?**

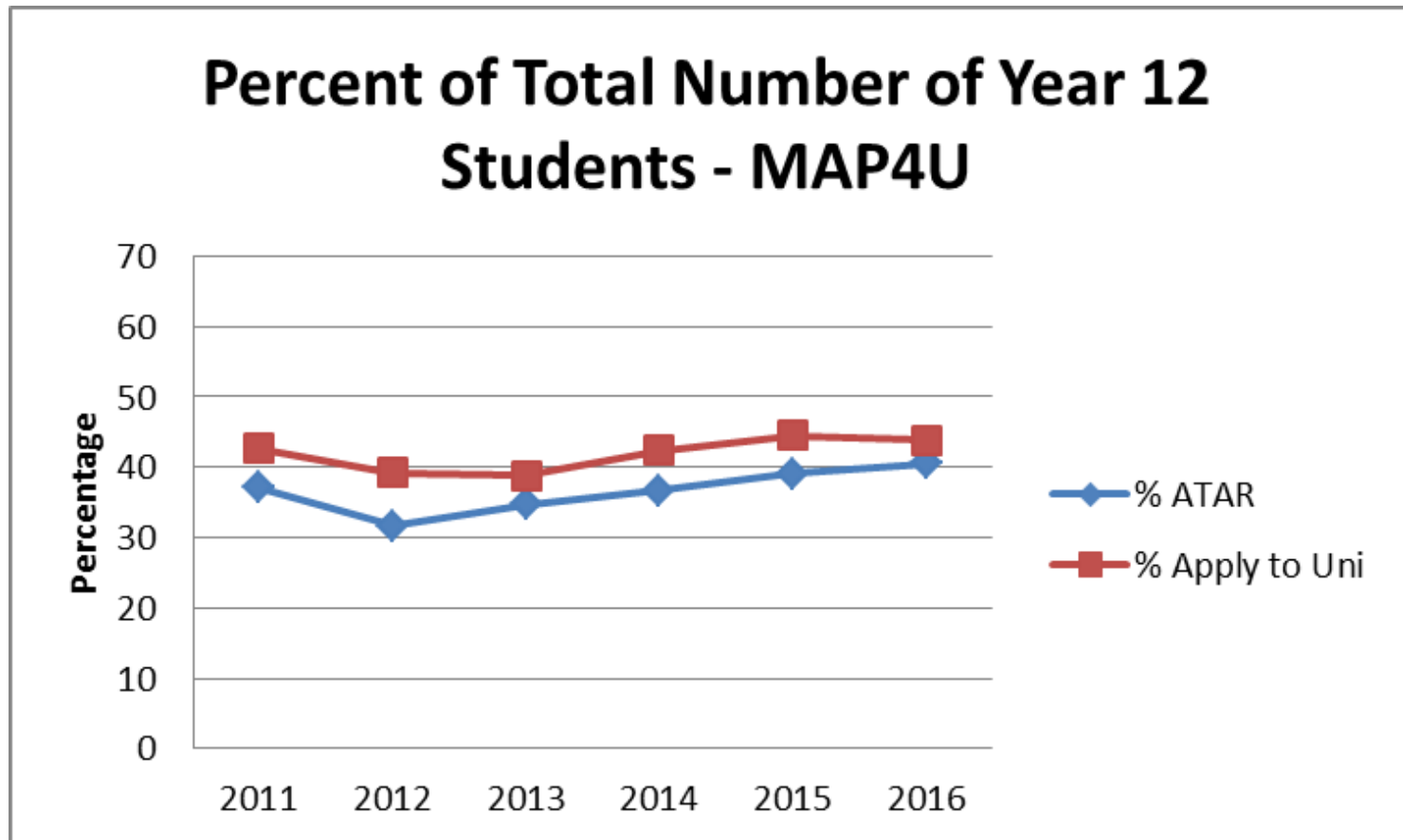


➔ **Did more MAP4U students study ATAR?**

➔ **Did more MAP4U Students apply to go to University?**



As a Percentage of the Total Number of Year 12 Students

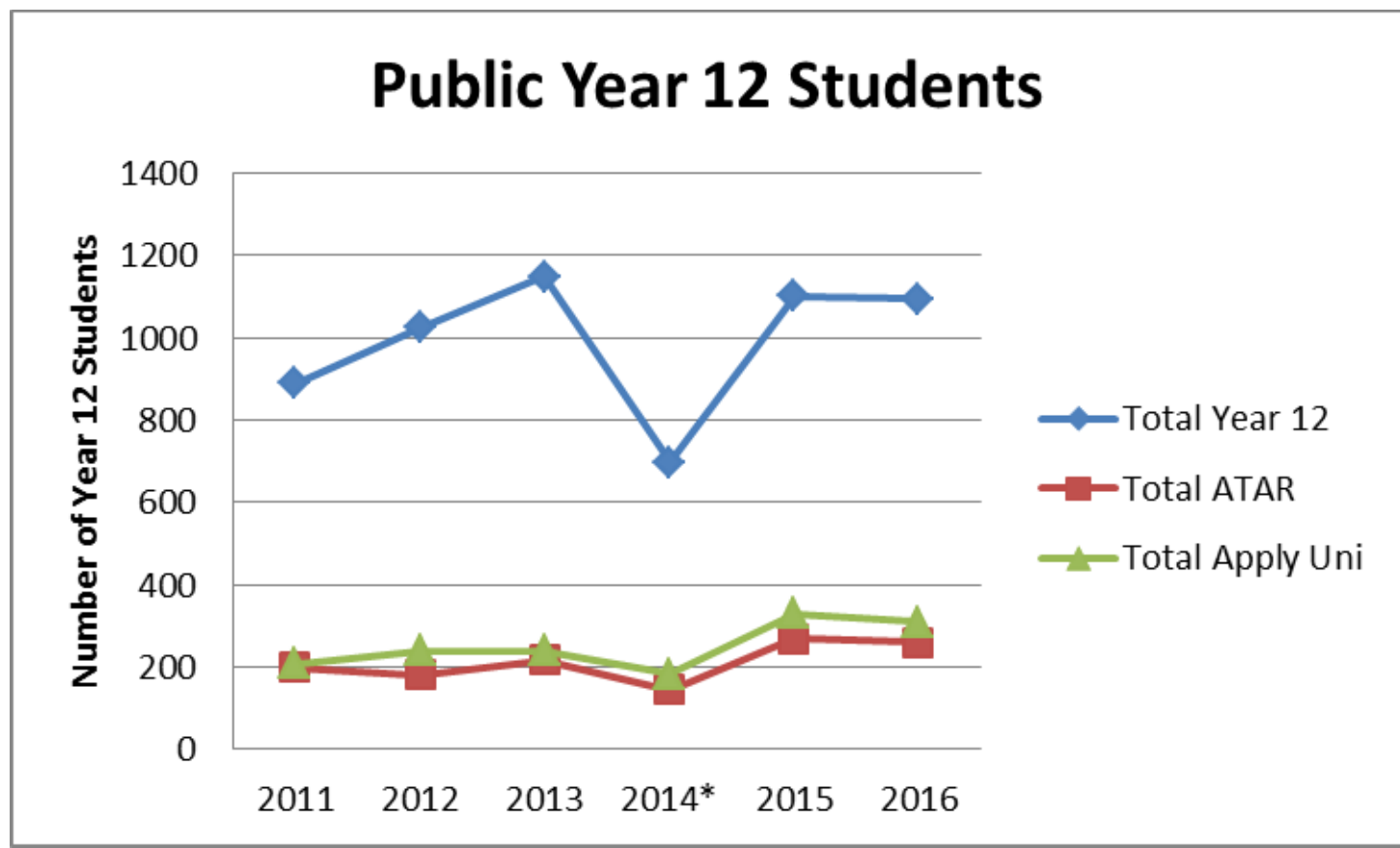




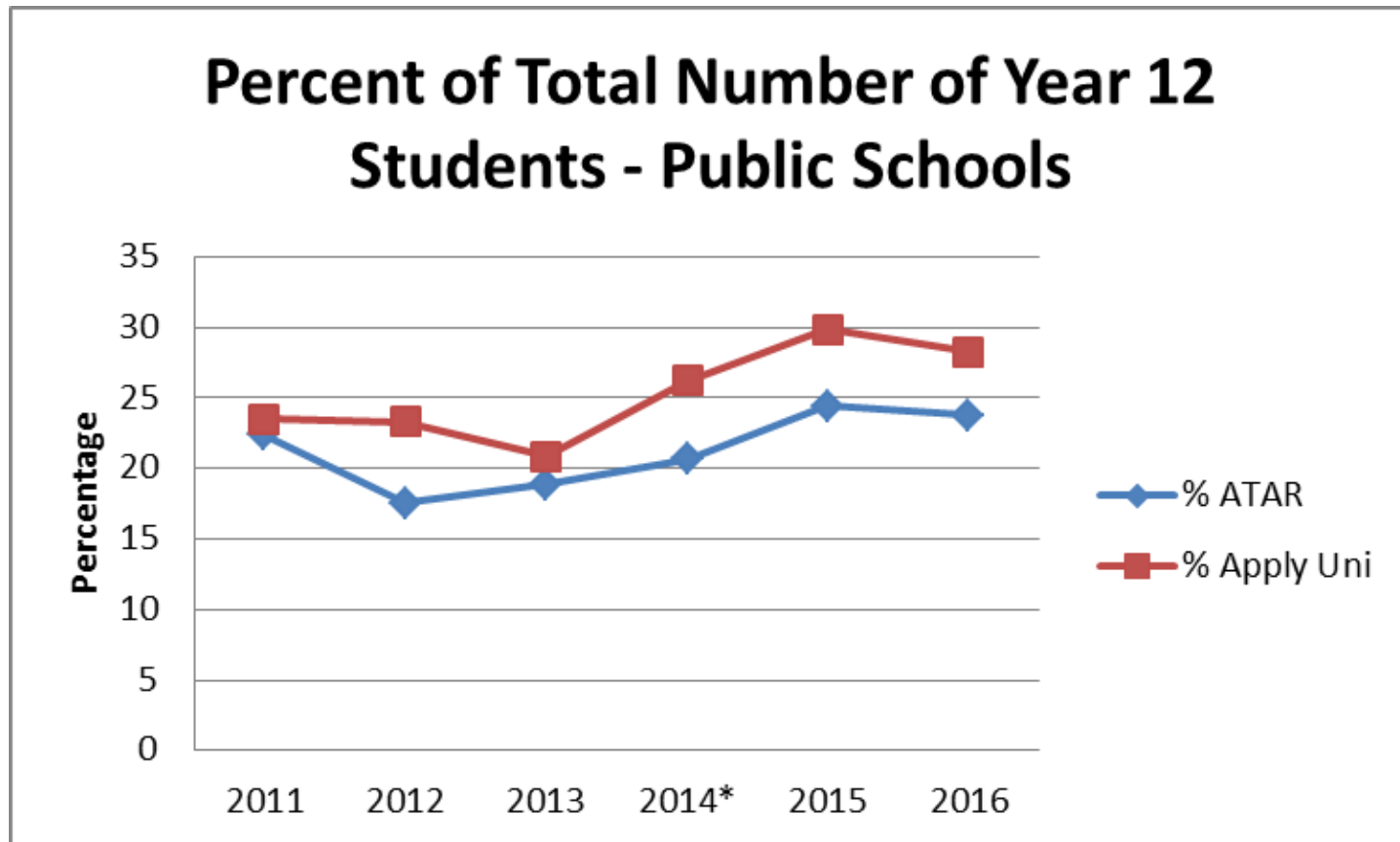
Did more MAP4U Public school students study ATAR?



Did more MAP4U Public students apply to go to University?



Public Schools - Studying ATAR Applying to Uni



Culture Change ?

Directions from Department General of Education

Priority Focus (from Focus Directions for Schools document)	Focus 2014	Focus 2015	Focus 2016
	Year 12 Attainment Rate – ATAR >55 and/or completion of Certificate II or higher	Increase the proportion of students in ATAR pathways and achieving university entrance	Increase university aspirations for students based on achievement information, especially in low socioeconomic status and regional areas.
	→	→	→

2017 Focus - Increase the percentage of senior secondary students studying challenging levels of mathematics and science.



What are capabilities?

- Types of capabilities (also referred to as non-cognitive skills, enterprise skills, 21st Century skills) include: **critical thinking, problem solving, creativity, curiosity, interpersonal and communication skills, self-regulation, grit, entrepreneurial skills, teamwork and craftsmanship.**
- There is a growing evidence base for the power of capabilities and **employers are increasingly seeking them in young people** (Duckworth & Seligman, 2005; Gray, 2016; Heckman, Stixrud, & Urzua, 2006; Schleicher, 2016; The Foundation for Young Australians, 2016).

(Torii & O'Connell, 2017)



The Value of Capabilities

- Without these broader (capabilities) measures of educational achievement, the useful but narrow NAPLAN and **ATAR measures are given disproportionate weight** and, in the case of the **tail wagging the dog**, are driving the priorities of teachers, school leaders and education departments.

(Torii & O'Connell, 2017)

Does measures of ATAR drive MU priorities?

Percentage of Students Acquiring an ATAR Achieving One or More Scaled Scores of 75 or More

School A	Number acquiring an ATAR	Number achieving one or more scaled scores of 75+	Percentage achieving one or more scaled scores of 75+
2014	6	1	17%
2015	42	5	12%
2016	33	4	12%

...just 4 students in 2016 getting a scaled ATAR of 75 or more is the return for investment of time really worthwhile?

School B

NAPLAN National Minimum Standard (NMS)	NAPLAN - Numeracy					
	2015		2016			
	Year 7	Year 9	Year 7	Year 9	Year 7	Year 9
Above NMS	73%	75%			72%	79%
At NMS	25%	24%			19%	17%
Below NMS	2%	1%			9%	4%

...new school, no ATAR but NAPLAN results for Year 7 and 9 indicate their maths scores are quite reasonable.

School A

NAPLAN National Minimum Standard (NMS)	NAPLAN - Numeracy			
	2015		2016	
	Year 7	Year 9	Year 7	Year 9
Above NMS	71%	74%	77%	73%
At NMS	25%	23%	17%	24%
Below NMS	3%	3%	6%	3%

These NAPLAN comparable?

UNI CHANCES LOST

Call to push students harder

EXCLUSIVE

Bethany Hiatt
Education Editor

Too many WA children are missing out on a chance to go to university because schools are failing to push them into harder academic courses, Murdoch University acting vice-chancellor Andrew Taggart has warned. Professor Taggart said he was concerned Year 12 students from Perth's outer fringe or schools in areas were much less

Rank to qualify for university entry. "Postcode doesn't determine intellectual capacity," he said. "Far too many schools offer Year 7 students less than a one-in-two chance to achieve an ATAR. WA needs many more students gaining an ATAR in the emerging knowledge economy."

Although he believed vocational education and training was also a useful path, Professor Taggart said schools should aim for at least half their Year 12s to achieve an ATAR. Figures provided by the Tertiary Institutions Service Centre

under Freedom of Information laws reveal there were 96 schools in which less than 50 per cent of Year 12s achieved an ATAR last year. Of those, 82 were public schools and 14 were private. And there were seven schools — five public and two private — in which no student got an ATAR. At the other end of the scale, 11 independent schools and one public school had more than 90 per cent of students with an ATAR.

Professor Taggart proposed publishing a new league table to recognise and reward schools such as Safety Bay Senior High School, which increased its

proportion of ATAR students from 15 per cent in 2012 to 29 per cent last year. He said existing league tables that ranked schools based on students' results encouraged schools to shunt low achievers out of difficult courses so those students did not bring down the school's average.

"Regrettably, some schools still counsel 'low-performing' students out of achieving an ATAR by withdrawing them from the ATAR stream," he said. Professor Taggart said Year 9 NAPLAN results showed many more students had the potential

to do harder courses in Years 11 and 12 but that children from disadvantaged schools lacked the academic and cultural support. He argued a low ATAR was still better than no ATAR. "Schools that counsel their students out of the ATAR stream limit their options for university study TAFE enrolment and being eligible, in some cases, for an apprenticeship," he said. Education Department director-general Sharyn O'Neill said she had asked principals to focus this year on making sure capable students had the chance to achieve an ATAR.

More schools dodge hard ATAR courses

Bethany Hiatt
Education Editor

The number of WA high schools where less than half of Year 12 students studied difficult academic subjects has increased.

Data provided by the Tertiary Institutions Service Centre under Freedom of Information laws shows there were 100 high schools where less than 50 per cent of Year 12s achieved an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank last year, up from 96 the previous year.

Of those, 85 were public schools and 15 were private, compared with 82 public and 14 private in 2014. There were nine schools where not one student got an ATAR, three private and six public.

Murdoch University acting vice-chancellor Andrew Taggart, who has previously deplored the fact that students in Perth's outer fringe are less likely than their peers in affluent suburbs to attain an ATAR, said the increase was concerning.

He said the first goal of a higher education plan signed last year by all five WA vice-chancellors with Education Minister Peter Collier was to increase the percentage of Year 12s going to university.

But too many schools counselled students out of courses that would qualify them for university entry or did not offer more difficult subjects.

Professor Taggart said schools should aim for at least half of their students to attain an ATAR.

"It is clear that more WA high school students should be enrolling in the 'harder' subjects in Years 11 and 12," he said.

"This is particularly the case for outer metropolitan schools, typically in lower socioeconomic communities, where from 0 to 30 per cent of students enrol in four ATAR subjects."

Professor Taggart said schools in disadvantaged areas that increased their proportion of students with an ATAR should be recognised as the real high achievers rather than schools that top traditional league tables.

His analysis, based on a four-year trend, shows Mandurah Baptist College ranked first for increasing its ATAR students from 50 per cent in 2012 to 73.5 per cent last year.

It was followed by Ballajura Community College, Irene McCormack Catholic College and Eastern Hills Senior High School.



More students fail to get uni scores

EXCLUSIVE

Bethany Hiatt
Education Editor

An increasing number of schools have more than half of their students failing to get a university entrance score.

Figures obtained from the Tertiary Institutions Service Centre under Freedom of Information reveal there were 101 schools where half the students failed to attain an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank last year.

This is up from 100 in 2015 and 96 in 2014.

Of those 101 high schools, 84 were public schools and 17 were private.

Just 14 public schools had more than half their pupils attain an ATAR by sitting exams in at least four courses, compared with 78 private schools.

There were five schools, three public and two private, where no student achieved an ATAR, down from nine the previous year.

Murdoch University Provost Andrew Taggart, who

chairs a group looking at ways to increase the percentage of Year 12s going to university, said outer suburban public schools in disadvantaged areas were less likely to push pupils to take ATAR courses.

He said even though students could still get into university without an ATAR, it was important for them to attempt the more difficult subjects.

"A low ATAR is better than no ATAR in my view, because kids engage with harder content," Professor

Taggart said. "We need the schools with low ATARs to improve and grow that cohort of year 12s eligible for direct university entry."

Education Department Statewide services director Lindsay Hale said that schools were working to raise aspirations and help students understand the benefits of taking ATAR courses.

"There are a significant number of public school students studying between one and three ATAR courses," he said.

LEAGUE TABLES

Public school first among elite

Bethany Hatt
Education Editor

A public school has topped the academic league tables for the first time in seven years as the Education Department cracks down on under-performing schools.

Perth Modern School — the State's only selective academic school — topped comparison tables measuring academic excellence released yesterday by the School Curriculum and Standards Authority.

The school was first on a list that ranks the highest academic achiev-

ing schools for last year based on the number of students to get WA Certificate of Education scores of 75 or above in stage three courses.

Perth Modern also had the highest median tertiary admission rank of 65.3, which meant half its 187 students achieved a rank higher than that.

The authority said the only other time a public school was ranked measuring academic excellence released yesterday by the School Curriculum and Standards Authority.

But that was considered a statistical anomaly because the school had so few students.

School chiefs generally oppose the release of comparison tables because they measure only one narrow aspect of what schools offer, but Education Department director-general Sharyn O'Neill welcomed them.

"I love the tables this year because we have Perth Modern coming in at number one," she said.

Ms O'Neill said she was also pleased there had been a 5 per cent improvement in all public schools attaining a basic standard of achievement after she "read the riot act" to principals of under-

performing schools at the start of last year.

The minimum expectation was for students to achieve a university admission rank of at least 55 or a vocational certificate II or higher.

"A line in the sand is drawn about our expectation of performance in public schools," she said. "It is not acceptable for students to leave school with nothing."

She said just coasting was not good enough and students had to be encouraged to tackle courses that challenged them.

"People ought to be called to

TOP 20 SCHOOLS

- 1 Perth Modern School
- 2 Methodist Ladies' College
- 3 St Mary's Anglican Girls'
- 4 Hale School
- 5 Carmel School
- 6 Perthos
- 7 Scotch
- 8 ...

WA Secondary School Principals do not give credence to League Tables

The Western Australian branch of the Association of Heads of Independent Schools of Australia (AHISA), the Catholic Secondary Principals Association (CSPA) and the WA Secondary School Executives Association (WASSEA) representing public, secondary schools congratulate all Year 12 students who have attained excellent results and given their best in their final year of secondary school.

While academic achievement is to be applauded it is but a one-dimensional assessment of a student's total school experience. Even in an academic context, League Tables are limited and superficial measures of excellence, and do not accurately portray levels of improvement and commitment at an individual level. We support the use of data to improve teaching and learning in our schools but we believe strongly that education is also about character, integrity, active citizenship, cultural pursuits and leading a purposeful and rich life. It is this holistic richness of education that we should be celebrating at the culmination of a student's years at school.

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League Tables have the potential to be divisive in pitting school against school, sector against sector and gender against gender. They compare students who have every opportunity for success against those with limited access, resources and opportunity.

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HOW YOUR SCHOOL RATES



TOP 2012 students



Perth Modern shines

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HOW YOUR SCHOOL RATES

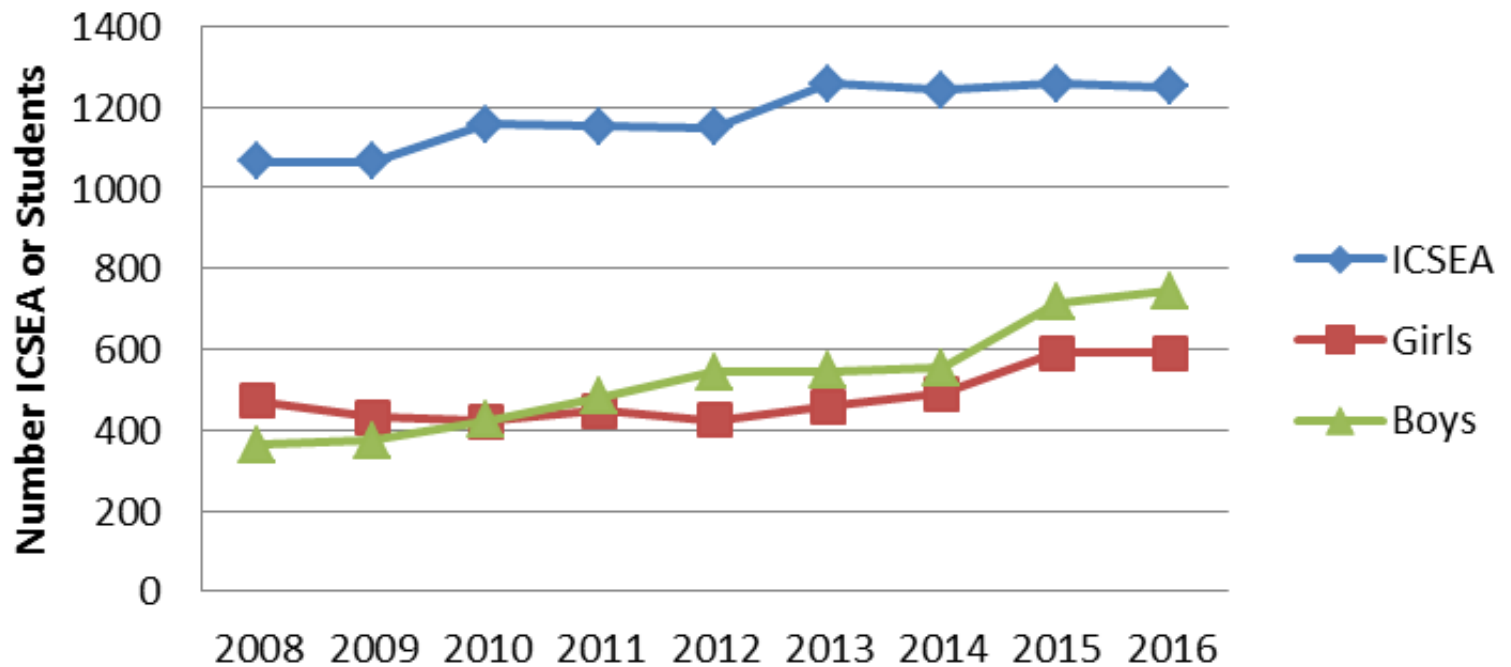


Shining stars

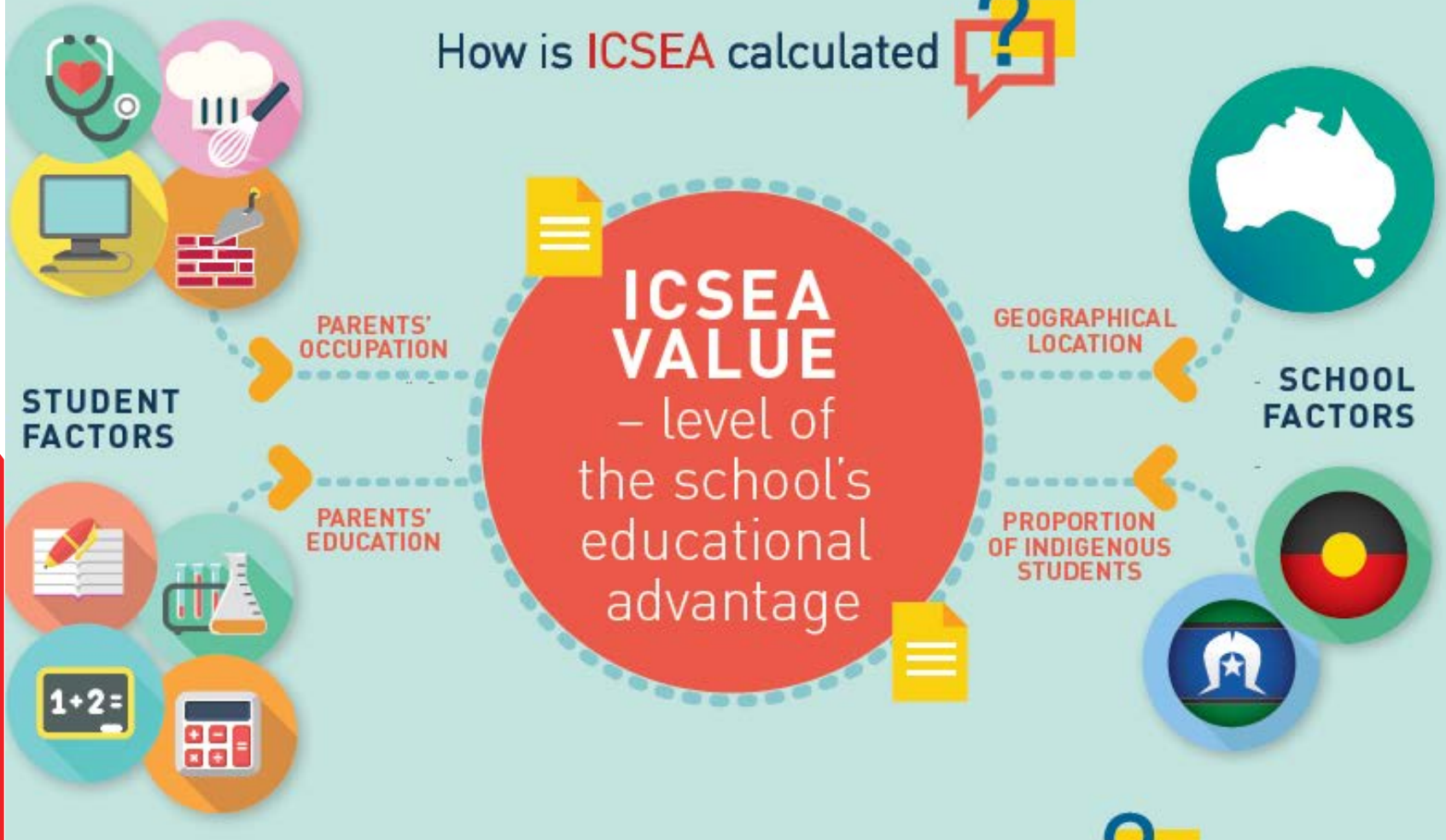
Perth Modern is No. 1



Perth Modern - Gender and ICSEA Trends



How is ICSEA calculated



School Name https://www.myschool.edu.au/SchoolProfile	Location	ICSEA	% Indigenous	% in bottom Quarter	% in Top Quarter
SCEGGs	Sydney - Private	1223	1	1	88
Scots college	Sydney - Private	1166	1	1	75
Sydney Grammar	Sydney- Private	1303	0	0	98
Melbourne Girls Grammar	Melbourne- Private	1184	1	2	76
Presbyterian Ladies College Croydon NSW	Sydney - Private	1174	1	1	77
Geelong Grammar School	Geelong – Private	1154	2	1	70
Hale	Wembley Downs - Private	1180	1	1	76
Christ Church Grammar School	Claremont - Private	1210	1	0	86
St Hilda's Anglican School	Claremont - Private	1203	1	1	84
Perth Modern School	Subiaco - Public	1258	0	0	88
Rossmoyne SHS	Rossmoyne – Public	1128	0	4	57
Shenton College	Shenton Park - Public	1169	0	2	72
Comet Bay College	Rockingham – Public	1019	2	21	15
Gilmore College	Kwinana - Public	931	12	52	3
Kolbe College	Rockingham - Catholic	1039	2	15	22
Average School		1000		25	25

Rich kids dominate elite State school

Bethany Hiatt
Education Editor

Top public school **Perth Modern** has more pupils from wealthy backgrounds than many of the State's priciest private colleges, prompting questions about how accessible it is to disadvantaged students.

Figures on the Federal Government's My School website show the proportion of students in the top quarter for socio-educational advantage at WA's only fully academically selective school has increased significantly in recent years — up from 67 per cent in 2012 to 87 per cent last year.

University of Technology Sydney senior lecturer Christina Ho, who has done research on selective public schools in NSW and Victoria, attributed the



These public schools are not really serving the public.

Christina Ho

inequality to an increasing focus on private tutoring.

She said many students got into selective schools after their parents spent thousands of dollars on intensive tutoring to coach them for the entry test.

"Tutoring is about getting ahead, rather than catching up," Dr Ho said.

On the My School website, **Perth Modern** School scored an index of community

socio-educational advantage of 1250, far higher than the national average of 1000 and a big increase on its 2012 score of 1150.

In comparison, Presbyterian Ladies' College in Peppermint Grove, which charges \$26,000 a year, scored 1115 and had just 56 per cent of pupils in the top quarter.

Dr Ho said that the selective public schools were designed to cater for gifted children.

"But now you might be gifted and talented but if you haven't had that training in passing the test, you're unlikely to get a place," she said.

"That's obviously not open to most families, which means these public schools are not really serving the public. They're serving the people that can afford to

invest that amount of resources into training their kids to pass the test."

Education Department assistant executive director of innovation, performance and research David Price said private tutoring would not have a big impact on students' performance in the test because they did not have to recall knowledge to answer the questions.

"The Academic Selective Entrance Test requires students to think critically and work out solutions to questions," he said.

"The test is designed to discover the potential in students, not what they have learned from their studies."

The department also offers scholarships worth up to \$1000 to disadvantaged students who win a place in a gifted and talented program.

By Bethany Hiatt
Education Editor

Modern plan trashes tradition



Now that the new Labor Government has taken office, it's time to ask questions about the future of elite public schools.

In the Perth region it's been the only fully academically selective school to have been opened in the last 100 years. And it has become an icon for the city.

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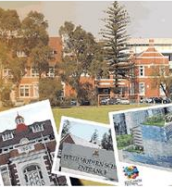
At some point Perth will need a high school in the centre of the city.

What if it did not say yes that before it was a kind of teacher school, Perth Modern was an independent school. It was founded in 1907 and was the first public school in Perth.

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Modern plan trashes tradition



At some point Perth will need a high school in the centre of the city.

What if it did not say yes that before it was a kind of teacher school, Perth Modern was an independent school. It was founded in 1907 and was the first public school in Perth.

But that's not the only story. Perth Modern was founded in 1907 and was the first public school in Perth. It was founded in 1907 and was the first public school in Perth.

School move fury

Bethany Hiatt

Perth Modern School parents stunned by WA Labor's plans to reopen the State's only academically selective school to local students and relocate its current pupils to Northbridge are fighting back.

The Opposition this week revealed its election commitment to shift WA's most gifted students to a new high-rise public school near Perth train station.

Labour said it would dump the Liberals' plan to build a new college in City Beach, because reopening Perth Modern as a regular secondary school for 1500 students would take pressure off crowded western suburbs schools.

Lathlain parent Alana Dowley, who has two sons at Perth Modern, has started an online petition calling for people to object. She said the school had proved its success by achieving outstanding academic results.

"The WA Labor party proposes to take this proven successful environment at Perth Modern, where our most gifted and talented children can be brilliant but can also just be kids, and move these children into the stifling, adult-oriented CBD where they can begin their career in sterile, high-rise captivity at age 11," she said.

Ms Dowley said the school's P&C group was expected to hold an emergency meeting to discuss parents' concerns.

Competition heats up for top school places

EXCLUSIVE

Bethany Hiatt
Education Editor

Demand for places in gifted and talented programs at WA public high schools has become so competitive that some parents are signing up children as young as seven for academic coaching.

Education Department figures show the overall number of students applying for places in gifted programs has soared 30 per cent in just four years, from 381 to 476.

The number of children hoping to get into Year 7 at WA's only fully academically selective school, Perth Modern, also increased by 30 per cent, with 1548 students competing for the 225 places available next year, up from 1187 in 2014.

Even though the department says coaching will not improve a child's chances, private tutors report growing demand for entry-test preparation courses.

Rachel Hayes, owner of Claremont tutoring agency My Academy, said when she started the business seven years ago she had about 15 students preparing for gifted program testing, but



Eleven-year-old twins Misree and Rudra Trivedi with their mother Sejal. Picture: Nic Ellis

now she has more than 300. "We start offering workshops from the beginning of Year 5," she said, adding some agencies take children as young as Year 2.

Julia Gilmore, who owns A1 Learning in the northern suburbs, said the selection tests differed from those at school so it was unfair to put a child into the

exam without some preparation. "There is a chance that a gifted child could miss out to a child who wasn't so intelligent, because the other child has been prepared," she said.

Misree Trivedi and her twin brother Rudra sat the public school entry tests three weeks ago after about six months tutoring

at A1 Learning. The Year 6 students will find out in July if they have won a coveted spot at Perth Modern or their second choice Shenton College.

Their mother, Sejal Trivedi, said they would also sit private school scholarship exams, but even if successful, they would still prefer Perth Modern.

How can Universities collaborate with high schools?

MAP4U + Psychology

➤ 28+ Psych students (4th yr) working in MAP4U

MAP4U	Uni Student	Schools
4200 hours of work	Interpersonal skills	Subject Mentors
Equivalent 112 FTE weeks work	Communication skills	> Educational aspirations
28 theses	Team work	> Self-confidence
Parent and Teacher engagement	Self-Regulation	> Career reference
	Problem Solving	<p>Murdoch survey lets Peel parents have their say</p> <p>Mandurah Mail 9 August 2016 Author: Jess Cockerill</p>



2017 - University Collaborations

- 18 post-grad students completing observational practice in low SES schools working in classes of psychology (pathway to future employment)
- 1 PhD student (Uni enabling)
- STEM tutoring
- ATAR workshops
- → Grow Year 12 enrolment



Questions?