



Year 7 STEAM Academy Program

Dear Parents /Carers

We are excited to have a new purpose-built STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) building for our college community. The project has been approved by the Department of Education and Training but due to COVID -19 restrictions there has been a delay in the Tender process start date for the project. We are hoping this is only a short delay. It is expected the Centre will be completed during 2021. This new facility will provide innovative learning spaces and access to innovative technologies. Our students will have new ways of learning about 21st Century career possibilities and strategies for real world problem solving, critical and creative thinking.

The STEAM Academy at Timbarra College will provide students, who have been identified as having special interests and a commitment to building their academic capacity, to participate in an integrated and developmentally appropriate **Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics** program. The program will operate within our existing facilities until the **STEAM** Centre is built. Whilst all students from Years 5 – 9 will have opportunities to engage in the Timbarra STEAM program, the STEAM Academy allows Year 7 students access to learning opportunities that challenge and extend learning in these areas.

Attached to this letter is an ***Expression of Interest*** form for the ***Year 7 STEAM Academy, 2021***.

Selection into the STEAM Academy

All students enrolling into Year 7 program will be offered the opportunity to apply for a place in the **STEAM Academy**. The *Expression of Interest* form attached to this letter must be completed by both parents/carer and the student, and returned to Timbarra College P-9, **Attention: Mr Michael Molina**.

The selection process will be informed by:

- Student's most recent school report
- Student's Personal Statement
- Recommendations by teachers
- Note: An Interview could be required (On-line interview is likely)

STEAM opportunities

Students who enter the STEAM Academy will:

- Be allocated to a specialised STEAM Academy homeroom for all classes.
- Undertake 3 hours of integrated STEAM sessions per week.

- Experience lessons that incorporate cutting-edge technology and specialist programs that focus on problem-solving, design-thinking and creative solutions.
- Have the opportunity to engage and work with industry experts.
- Be involved community based-projects.

All students are expected to be broadly involved in all aspects of student life at the college. A number of extra-curricular activities are available for all students to participate in and provides further enrichment across all learning areas at Timbarra. This may include participation in the Sports Academy, Music Academy, instrumental music, sporting teams, art shows and leadership opportunities.

Opting out of the STEAM Program

The STEAM Academy is a competitive program and students are expected to pursue this program throughout the academic year. Students can apply to enter in Year 6 for the 2021 STEAM Academy. It is important that applicants learn about the program requirements and consider their level of interest and commitment to the STEAM course of study before submitting an application. A minimum one-year commitment is expected. A student wishing to opt out of the program will be asked to submit a letter, signed by a parent or guardian, stating his/her intentions to withdraw from the program and attend a parent/teacher exit interview.

Expectations and requirements to remain in the STEAM Academy Program

- Uphold Timbarra's core values of learning resilience, persistence, respect and getting along.
- Remain committed to completing all STEAM Academy projects undertaken in the program.
- Attend required incursions or excursions as stipulated for the projects.
- Participants in the STEAM Academy Program who choose to undertake the decision to exit the program will be placed into a mainstream class of the college.

Please visit our College website or contact the College for more information (9704-2744). We look forward to sharing this exciting new and innovative program with our community.

Jan Adamson
Principal

TIMBARRA STEAM ACADEMY EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FORM



Section 1: Student Details

First Name:

Family Name:

Gender (please circle):

Male Female Other

2020 School:

Section 2: Teacher Reference

Teacher Name:

What grade/subject did they teach you?

Contact number:

Section 3: Parent/Guardian Contact Details

Parent/Guardian #1 First Name:

Parent/Guardian #1 First Name:

Parent/Guardian #1 Phone:

Parent/Guardian #1 Email:

Parent/Guardian #2 First Name:

Parent/Guardian #2 First Name:

Parent/Guardian #2 Phone:

Parent/Guardian #2 Email:

Section 4: Student personal statement to be completed by student

In less than 75 words, explain why you want to be in the Timbarra STEAM Academy. In your statement please tell us about your interests, passions and any extra-curricular activities that you do that is related to STEAM learning.

Section 5: Supporting Documents

Please attach the following documents to your application:

- ✓ A copy of the latest school report is attached to this application form

Student Signature:

Parent/Guardian Signature:

Application form and supporting documents must be returned to Timbarra College Administration Office by: Monday November 2nd, 2020