

Introducing the T Centre

1. About

The T Centre is a combined academic and wellbeing program in a small group setting for Stage 4 learners. Its purpose is to engage the students in their own learning and help them develop the skills, behaviours and strategies for success in all areas of their school life. Students attend for one term (10 weeks) and are then assisted to return to either their campus at Balmain or Leichhardt. Students attend in regular school hours, wear their uniform and follow the normal school routines and expectations.

2. Student nomination

All students nominated have been assessed by the student's current school as likely to benefit from being in a smaller student group, between 8 – 10 students only in the class. For each nomination, the school meets with the student and their parent or carer and talk about why attending the T Centre has been recommended.

3. T Centre orientation

Before being offered a place on the T Centre program, students are introduced to the program through an individual and group-based assessment. Families can observe the individual assessment process called Discovery, a spoken guided activity-based process that is language and culture fair to help understand how every student can be best supported. Following the individual assessment, approximately one hour, all nominated students participate in a team assessment (approximately 2.5 hours).

All nominated students come together at the Balmain Campus, the location of the T Centre, and together undertake spoken and activity-based team tasks. Watching how all students work together further helps the T Centre team understand how to best help individual students and informs the teaching and learning program.

4. Student selection

Once students have completed their T Centre orientation, a selection panel representing the Sydney Secondary College Balmain and Leichhardt campuses meet to finalise the participants, up to eight in total. Letters of offer are provided to the families to accept or decline. If accepted, families have agreed to support their student by supporting attendance and their student attends the T Centre program for the term advised.

5. The T Centre program

The T Centre program draws on the existing strengths, talents and interests of the students to effect positive change. The combined academic and wellbeing program is practical, engaging and real world based. Connection to the student's home campus and classroom ensure that key learning outcomes needed to help them successfully return to their original classes is included. Examples include literacy, English, numeracy, Maths, Science and Humanities-based subjects, creative arts and sport. At the end of the program students are supported to return to their home campus. Regular updates and reporting are completed at the T Centre and family involvement is encouraged with specific family events.