



MR PAUL'S TUTORING

Over 20 years of OC & Selective success

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TERM 4, 2024 | NEWSLETTER

OC Newsletter 2024 - 2025



Understanding the Opportunity Class and the OC Test

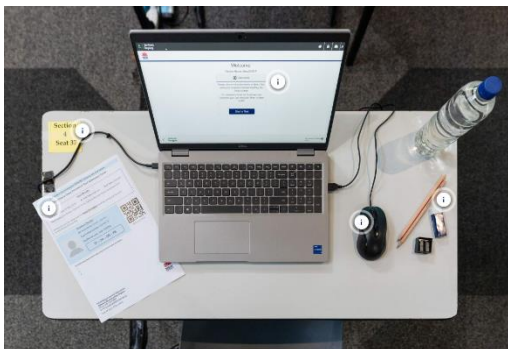
The Opportunity Class test, often referred to as the OC test, is an examination taken by Year 4 students seeking admission into academically selective Year 5 Opportunity Classes, available in 77 primary schools across NSW.

Securing a spot in an Opportunity Class can be a significant milestone for academically gifted students, providing valuable preparation for the later Selective School Placement test.

Year 3 OC Course available at a glance

Term 4, Year 3 OC Foundation Course	Face to face: Monday, 4:00 PM – 6:30 PM
	Online Zoom: Monday, 4:00 PM – 6:30 PM

Computer-based testing from 2025



From 2025, the placement tests for opportunity will move from single-version paper-based tests to computer-based tests.

Our OC tests will be computer-based to reflect this change.

What's different about opportunity classes?



Opportunity classes are special classes for high-potential and gifted students. These classes help children learn by grouping them with other kids who similar academic abilities and by teaching them in a way that allows them to learn more quickly and explore concepts deeply, so that they are constantly challenged.

Opportunity classes follow the same curriculum as other schools and usually offer more competitions, project-based learning and enrichment activities. Students who attend opportunity classes report how exciting it is to be surrounded by peers who have similar abilities and interests, and love learning as much as they do.

Key dates – applying for entry in 2026

7th November 2024 to 21st February 2025	parents and carers apply for selective high school or opportunity class entry in 2026.
2nd to 4th May 2025	students sit the opportunity class placement test for entry in 2026.
Term 3, 2025	placement outcomes and offers released to parents and carers

What is in the test?

Test component	No. of questions	Time	Weighting
Reading	25	30 mins	33.3%
Mathematical Reasoning	35	40 mins	33.3%
Thinking Skills	30	30 mins	33.3%

OC Test breakdown

The Opportunity Class Placement Test has 3 test sections.

Reading	<p>The Reading section of the OC Placement Test is designed to evaluate students' critical thinking skills in verbal reasoning. It challenges students to read various texts and respond to related questions.</p> <p>The Reading test questions assess various reading skills through a diverse range of texts.</p> <p>The texts include different genres, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• non-fiction• fiction• poetry• magazine articles• reports
Mathematical Reasoning	<p>The Mathematical reasoning test assesses the student's ability to use mathematical understanding and knowledge to solve problems from a range of math topics.</p>
Thinking Skills	<p>The Thinking Skills test evaluates the student's critical thinking and problem-solving abilities through various question types.</p>



READING test

There are four parts to the reading test:

- Part 1: A comprehension task
- Part 2: Questions based on a short poem
- Part 3: A gap match task
- Part 4: Questions based on four short extracts related to the same theme

Mathematical Reasoning test

- The Mathematical Reasoning test questions assess how well you apply your mathematical understanding to problems. The questions come from various mathematical content areas.
- The test is designed to assess your mathematical reasoning rather than the curriculum content you've learnt at school, and you don't need to study any maths concepts that you haven't already learnt at school.
- If you'd like to do any working out during the test, you can do this on paper.

Thinking Skills test

The Thinking Skills test assesses your ability to think critically and problem-solve. It includes questions requiring verbal, spatial and numerical reasoning.

4 A piece of string is initially held end-to-end in a straight line. A mark is made in the middle of the string. The string is then folded in half and the new ends again pulled tight. A mark is made in the middle of the strands of folded string. This process is then repeated a third time.

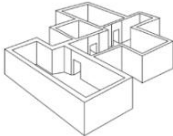
The string is then unfolded and its ends pulled so that it is once again in its initial straight line.

The distance between marks on the string is found to be 4 cm.

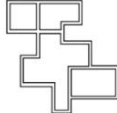
How long is the piece of string?


A 16 cm
B 24 cm
C 28 cm
D 32 cm

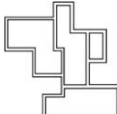
5 A view of a single level of a building is shown below:

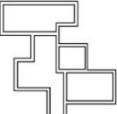


Which one of the following drawings represents the floor plan for this level of the building?

A 

B 

C 

D 

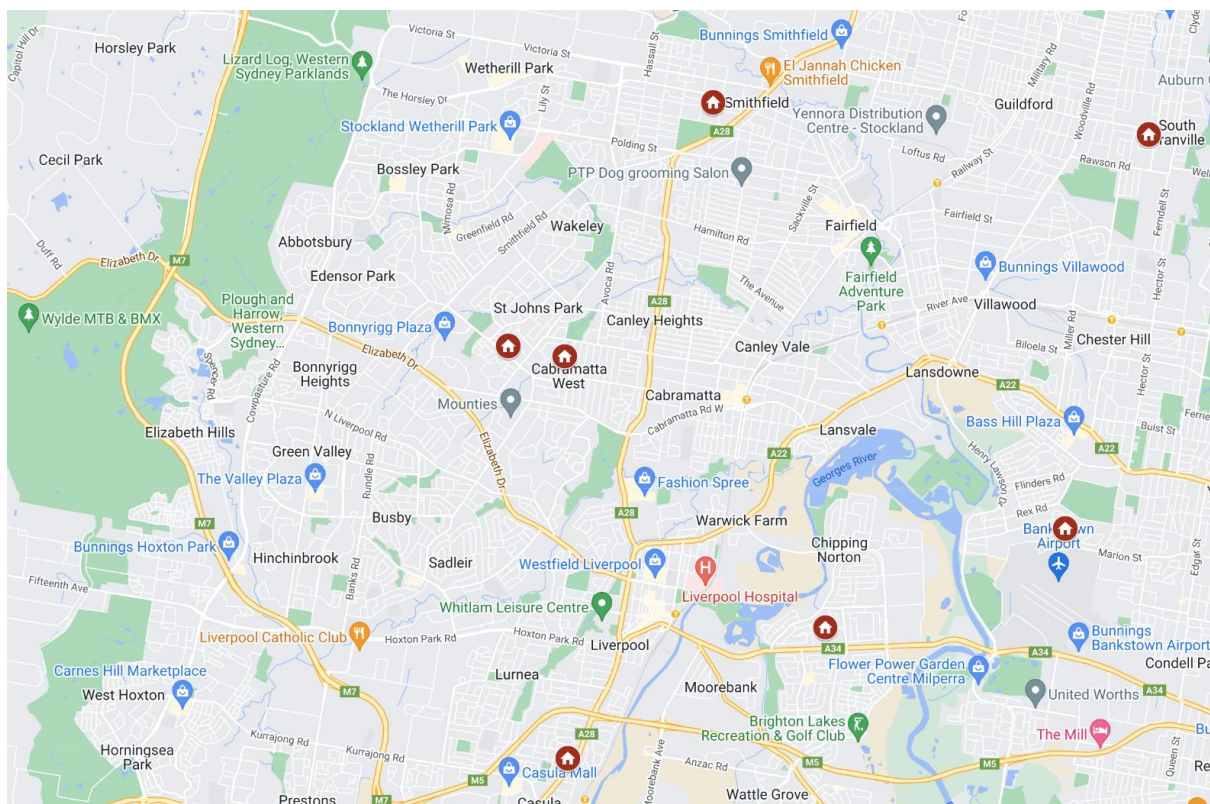
Local OC Schools

OC classes are located in government primary schools and cater for high-potential and intellectually gifted Year 5 and Year 6 students. There are 77 opportunity classes across NSW.

You can include up to 4 school choices. Your child might already go to a school with an opportunity class, but most students will leave their current school to attend an opportunity class. It's important to think carefully about which schools to include in your choices, and only include schools that you would be happy to attend. The one you most want to attend would be your first choice, then your next choices are ones you'd still be happy to go to if you don't get your first choice.

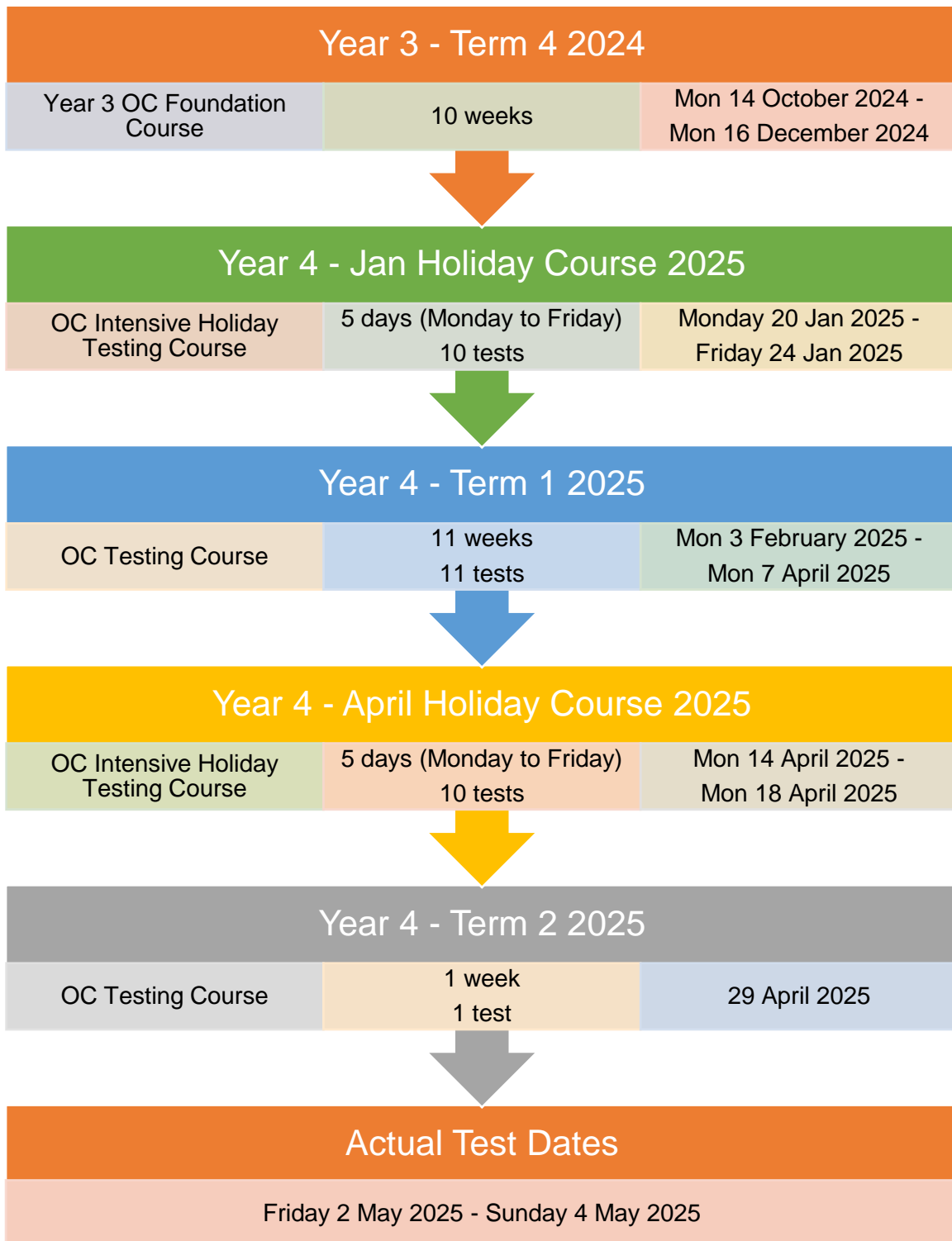
Here are some local schools to consider:

- St Johns Park Public School
- Harrington Street Public School
- Smithfield Public School
- Newbridge Heights Public School
- Casula Public School
- Holsworthy Public School
- Georges Hall Public School
- Blaxcell Street Public School



The OC Journey at Mr Paul's Tutoring

We offer OC Training for our students from Term 4, 2024 till Term 2, 2025.



OC Timetable 2024 – 2025

TERM 4 - 2024 – OC Foundation Course

Week	Test	Date	Workbook Topics & Question Types
1	Foundation class 1	Mon, 14 Oct	Strengthening Questions Algebra and Number Patterns Gapped Text Poem
2	Foundation class 2	Mon, 21 Oct	Weakening Questions Best Buy & Unit Pricing Gapped Text Magazine Article
3	Foundation class 3	Mon, 28 Oct	Logical Ordering & Sequencing Numeration Gapped Text Report
4	Foundation class 4	Mon, 4 Nov	Detecting Reasoning Errors Poem Time calculation problems Extracts
5	Foundation class 5	Mon, 11 Nov	Deductive Reasoning Poem Fractions reasoning problem solving Extracts
6	Foundation class 6	Mon, 18 Nov	Non-verbal reasoning - 3D and spatial awareness Poem Money reasoning and problem-solving Fictional Text
7	Foundation class 7	Mon, 25 Nov	Deductive Reasoning Poem Graphs and Data Interpretation Fictional Text
8	Foundation class 8	Mon, 2 Dec	Deductive Reasoning Graphs and Data Interpretation Extracts Fictional Text
9	Foundation class 9	Mon, 9 Dec	Logical Reasoning Area and Perimeter Reasoning & Problem-Solving Extracts Non-Fictional Text
10	Foundation class 10	Mon, 16 Dec	Non-Numerical Sequences & Spatial Recognition Combinations Fictional Text Non-Fictional Text

January Holiday Course – 2025 – OC Testing Intensive Course

Day	Date	Test	No. of test questions			Materials
			MR	TS	R	
1	Mon, 20 Jan	1	35	30	25	Free online retests
2	Tues, 21 Jan	2	35	30	25	
3	Wed, 22 Jan	3	35	30	25	
4	Thur, 23 Jan	4	35	30	25	
5	Fri, 24 Jan	5	35	30	25	

TERM 1 – 2025 – OC Testing Course

Week	Date	Test	No. of test questions			Materials
			MR	TS	R	
1	Monday, 27 Jan	6	20	20	Parts 1 & 2	Free online retests
2	Monday, 3 Feb	7	20	20	Parts 3 & 4	
3	Monday, 10 Feb	8	20	20	Parts 1 & 2	
4	Monday, 17 Feb	9	20	20	Parts 3 & 4	
5	Monday, 24 Feb	10	20	20	Parts 1 & 2	
6	Monday, 3 Mar	11	20	20	Parts 3 & 4	
7	Monday, 10 Mar	12	20	20	Parts 1 & 2	
8	Monday, 17 Mar	13	20	20	Parts 3 & 4	
9	Monday, 24 Mar	14	20	20	Parts 1 & 2	
10	Monday, 31 Mar	15	20	20	Parts 3 & 4	
11	Monday, 7 Apr	16	20	20	Parts 1 & 2	

April Holiday Course – 2025 – OC Testing Intensive Course

Day	Date	Test	No. of test questions			Materials
			MR	TS	R	
1	Mon, 21st Apr	17	35	30	25	Free online retests
2	Tues, 22nd Apr	18	35	30	25	
3	Wed, 23rd Apr	19	35	30	25	
4	Thur, 24th Apr	20	35	30	25	
5	Fri, 25th Apr	21	35	30	25	

April Holiday Course – 2025 – OC Testing Course

Day	Date	Test	No. of test questions			Materials
			MR	TS	R	
1	Mon, 28th Apr	22	20	20	Parts 1 & 2	Free online retests

OC Course Pricing

There are a couple of payment options:

1. **Pay term-by-term for OC Course students only** (students taking the OC Testing Course only).
2. **Pay term-by-term for Core students** (students taking both the OC Testing and Core Course).
3. **Pay the full OC Package** (students taking the Core Course and paying upfront for full OC Testing Course).

Term	Pay term-by-term OC course only	Pay term-by-term OC (for Core students)	Full OC Package
Term 4 Foundation Course	\$650	\$600*	\$2,310 (save up to \$420)
January Holiday OC Testing Course	\$650	\$650	
Term 1 OC Testing	\$715	\$660*	
April Holiday OC Testing Course	\$650	\$650	
Term 2 OC Testing	\$65	\$60*	
Total fee	\$2,730	\$2,620 (*excluding Core Course fees)	

Full OC Package conditions

1. This offer is applicable to students who enrol in the full term OCTC (OC Testing Course) starting from Term 4, 2024, and continue through 2025 Term 2.
2. This offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other discount offers.
3. To secure the offer, an initial payment of \$800 must be paid by Saturday, 7th September 2024.
4. The remaining balance of \$1,510 must be paid in full by Saturday, 2nd November 2024.
5. If a student chooses to discontinue the OCTC at any time, the offer will be forfeited, and the regular fee of \$65 per session will apply. In addition, parents or guardians will be responsible for covering any outstanding gap fee resulting from the fee recalculation.
6. Parents or guardians of students must carefully read and sign the consent form on the following page, acknowledging the implications of not adhering to the OCTC full package offer conditions.

2024 – 2025

Full OC Package Enrolment Form

I would like to enrol my child _____ (state full name) into the Full OC Package. I understand the following conditions:

- A deposit of **\$800** is to be paid by Saturday, 7th September 2024.
- The balance amount of **\$1,510** is to be paid by Saturday, 2nd November 2024.
- I understand that if my child discontinues the OC course at any time, this 'Full OC Package' discount will be forfeited. In such cases, I agree to pay any additional gap fee, which will be based on the standard OCTC fee (\$65 per session) and the number of OCTC sessions my child has attended.
- I acknowledge that this offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other discount offers, such as sibling discounts.

DECLARATION: I confirm that I have read, understand and consent to abide by the above 'OCTC Full Package' offer conditions.

Parent/Guardian's Name in full _____

Parent/Guardian's Signature _____

Date ____/____/____

HOW ARE THE CLASSES RUN?

Term 4 Foundation Course

- This course offers a guided introduction to OC-style questions. Students will receive a workbook containing the four topics to be covered during the lesson. Mr. Paul will introduce each topic, explaining the questions, their significance, and, most importantly, how to approach and solve them under timed test conditions. After working through a few examples, students will have the opportunity to work on some questions independently. The teacher will then review these questions with the class, allowing students to practice the techniques and ask questions if they encounter difficulties. The workbook will also include homework questions for students to practice at home.

WEEK 1
OC FOUNDATION COURSE
YEAR 3

WEEK 1 – Strengthening Questions

The Assumption Family is the biggest of the three Critical Reasoning Families.

Two other question types that come within the purview of this family are:

- **'Strengthen the Argument'** and
- **'Weaken the Argument'**.

We will be covering the "Strengthen the Argument" question type today.

Reiterating:
Assumptions are something an author must believe to be true in order to draw his or her conclusion. These assumptions are rarely stated explicitly in the argument.

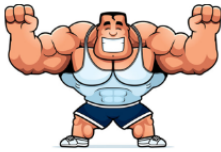
All assumption arguments will contain a "core", i.e. a conclusion and one or more premises that lead to it.

All assumption arguments will include at least one (and probably more than one) unstated assumption.

The "Strengthen the Argument" question type demands that you find a new piece of information that, if added to the existing argument, will make the conclusion more likely to be true.

On a Strengthen question, you will be asked to look into a new piece of information that does not have to be true at all. But, if this information is true, then it will highlight the conclusion and make it more logically valid.

Most often, the question stem of all Strengthen questions will contain some form of the words "strengthen" or "support", as well as the phrase "if true". These questions may occasionally lack the exact phrase "if true", but some other wording will provide a similar meaning; wording that indicates that the answer can be "effectively achieved" or "successfully accomplished".



Let's have a look at an example:

Astronomer: Most stars are born in groups of thousands, each star in a group forming from the same parent cloud of gas. Each cloud has a unique chemical makeup. Therefore, whenever two stars have the same chemical makeup as each other, they must have come from the same gas cloud.

Which of the following, if true, would most **strengthen** the astronomer's argument?

A In some groups of stars, not every star originated from the same parent cloud of gas.
B Clouds of gas of similar or identical chemical makeup may be distant from each other.
C Whenever a star forms, it inherits the chemical makeup of its parent gas cloud.
D Many stars in vastly different parts of the universe are quite similar in their chemical compositions.

Answer:
Let's break it down:

Conclusion: "Therefore, whenever two stars have the same chemical makeup as each other, they must have originated from the same gas cloud."

Premise: "Most stars are born in groups of thousands, each star in a group forming from the same parent cloud of gas. Each cloud has a unique chemical makeup."

We can understand the following from the above argument:

Most stars are born in group of similar makeup	Therefore	If two stars have the same chemical makeup, they originated together.
	→	
	Assumption?	

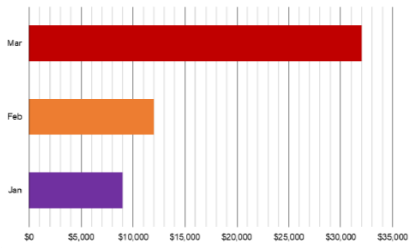

Possibly: The present makeup of each star must depend solely on the makeup of the cloud / group in which it came from.

The given conclusion considers the implication of two stars having similar chemical makeup, whilst assuming on a basic level that if he/she were to compare the chemical makeup of the stars and the gas cloud they seem to have originated from, then they would be exactly the same.

2 | Page © Mr Paul's Tutoring
3 | Page © Mr Paul's Tutoring

January Holiday Course and onwards

- At the start of each lesson, students will take an OC-style mock test. Each session will include all three tests in a shortened format, with students given the same amount of time as the actual exam and taken under exam-like conditions.
- The tests will be provided through our online testing platform and in a physical test booklet. Over time, we will phase out the booklet to help students better simulate the real OC testing environment.
- After a brief break, Mr. Paul will review all the questions with the students. Both the test and the review will be conducted within the same lesson.
- **Free retests:** Students will also have the opportunity to retake the test at home, with retests available throughout the term.

<p>Year 4 OC Testing Course TEST 15</p> <p>18 This chart shows the amount of revenue a toy shop generated in three months.</p>  <p>Which of the following statements is/are correct?</p> <p>Statement 1 - The toy shop experienced a significant increase in revenue from January to March, with revenue quadrupling during this period.</p> <p>Statement 2 - March was the month with the highest revenue, generating \$12,000 in sales.</p> <p>Statement 3 - Total amount of sales generated over the three months equals \$53,000.</p> <p>A Statement 1 only B Statement 2 only C Statement 3 only D Statements 1 and 2 E Statements 2 and 3</p> <p style="text-align: center;">15</p>	<p>Year 4 OC Testing Course TEST 15</p> <p>19 Mrs Yoshi arranges some tables in a row, placed against a wall.</p> <p>In the diagram below, the square represents tables, and the circles represent chairs.</p>  <p>How many tables will there be if she uses 25 chairs?</p> <p>A 10 B 11 C 12 D 13 E 14</p> <p>20 Sara and John are collecting stamps.</p> <p>Sara has 80 stamps, and John has 120 stamps.</p> <p>What is the ratio of Sara's stamps to the total number of stamps?</p> <p>A 2:3 B 1:3 C 1:2 D 2:5 E 3:8</p> <p style="text-align: center;">16</p>
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CLASS FORMAT

- **In-Person Classes:** These sessions take place in Liverpool once a week. During these face-to-face classes, the teacher introduces the topic, works through examples with the students, and addresses any queries they may have.
- **Online Zoom Classes:** Conducted weekly, these virtual classes over Zoom provide an interactive online learning experience.

Free consultations with Mr Paul



If you would like to discuss your child's progress with Mr Paul, we welcome you to schedule a Zoom consultation.

To make your booking, please visit www.MrPaulsTutoring.com.au/contactus

We look forward to assisting you in ensuring the best educational journey for your child.



Kha-Thi Tong Ho

1 review



★★★★★ 6 months ago

I have had the privilege of learning under the guidance of Mr. Paul since Year 4, and I am truly humbled by the remarkable journey it has been. His lessons have not only been insightful and practical, but also infused with genuine care and patience for every student in the class. Mr. Paul's wholehearted encouragement has instilled in me a profound sense of confidence, inspiring me to consistently strive for excellence.

I further emphasise my heartfelt gratitude to Mr. Paul for placing unwavering faith in my abilities even when I doubted myself. The invaluable knowledge he has imparted to me is a cherished treasure that I hold dear. Additionally, I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to Mrs. Joey for her unwavering support and consideration. Without the combined efforts of Mr. Paul and Mrs. Joey, I would not have achieved my dream of securing a scholarship at a prestigious private school for girls as well as a selective position at Hornsby Girls. The depth of my gratitude and admiration for both of them cannot be adequately expressed in words.

It fills me with sheer delight to have had the privilege of being taught by Mr. Paul and I am profoundly grateful for everything he has done for me. ★★★★★



Warm Regards,
K.T Tong-Ho



Abrar Zaman



1 review

★★★★★ 11 months ago

I highly recommend attending Mr Paul's tutoring as he prepares you for OC and Selective in immense style and his teaching is one of a kind. I had firsthand experience of Mr Paul as he was my teacher who guided me during my selective preparation, my 1 year of studying under him, I gained confidence within my work as he displayed multiple strategies and trained you to reach the extra mile. Also his engaging lessons enable you to enjoy studies and creates a new mindset, a mindset for success. Mr Paul's tutoring is amazing and I totally suggest you to enroll!



Elayne Huynh



1 review

★★★★★ a year ago

As an ex student of Mr Paul's, I can definitely say that he is one of the best tutors for selective training. He gave me and my class the confidence to achieve our best results. He is highly experienced, proven by all of his student's great results, and creates an engaging and humorous work environment.

Personally, Paul significantly helped me in with maths skills, teaching me the most efficient ways to handle **exam** style questions. I went from being an average student to achieving one of the highest marks in my cohort.

He may be strict at times, but he taught my class to have a good work ethic which was essential to reaching our potential. Paul genuinely cares for his students, and is motivated by results, not business. His dedication, effort and experience really is unparalleled in this industry, and you definitely wouldn't be wasting your time here.

I truly recommend his tutoring service for any student looking to excel academically.



Sanjay Karnan



1 review

★★★★★ a year ago

Mr Paul's Tutoring is a great tutoring centre as it provides you great training in whatever **exam** you do (or just general tutoring). It is vital for you to join as you would have 100% success. I unquestionably suggest attending Mr Paul's Tutoring if you want to get better academically. Thanks Mr Paul for helping us. After doing the selective **test** now, I feel so brave and better that it is over and I think that I have done good in it



MR PAUL'S TUTORING

Over 20 years of OC & Selective success

REFER A FRIEND



RECEIVE **\$50 CREDIT** FOR EVERY REFERRAL

Refer your mates to Mr Paul's Tutoring and earn a little something for yourself too! If they sign up for a new term, you'll receive \$50 credit.

It's that easy and there's no limit. Act now, and let the rewards roll in!

Terms and conditions: Offer starts 23rd April 2024 and ends 31st December 2024. Your friend must be a new student and enrol for a minimum of 10 weeks. Enjoy your \$50 credit, credited to your account for each friend who completes their payment. For the credit to land in your account, your friend must mention you or your child's name when they enrol.