



Athena Handbook



Athena Program Handbook

Registered CRICOS Provider No. 00510M

An innovative, flexible approach to helping girls dream and achieve.

At St Hilda's School we are passionate about inspiring women. The Athena Program is the culmination of this passion and our commitment to supporting creativity, individuality and personal achievement. We believe that with the right framework, our students can succeed in both academic and extra-curricular pursuits. In fact, St Hilda's has cultivated the highest standards in teaching, boarding and pastoral care from Pre-Preparatory to Year 12. The Athena Program is an extension of this outstanding care, providing girls with a supportive environment where they can follow their passions while receiving an education customised to their needs.

St Hilda's School is committed to providing tailored support for those girls who are pursuing their dreams in elite sport, cultural endeavours or innovative programs. By working with families to offer a flexible timetable and curriculum for girls with unique extra-curricular commitments, we ensure these students can balance successfully their academic and co-curricular program and remain connected to their education and the St Hilda's community throughout their schooling years. Equally, the Athena Program enables the St Hilda's community to remain connected with the students, to share and learn from their experiences, and to celebrate their achievements.

Empowering Students

Athena empowers girls with exceptional sports or arts commitments to pursue their goals by offering a new level of customised learning options designed to suit their schedule. To learn more about the Athena Program, please read on or contact:

HEAD OF ATHENA | MRS LISA CLEVERLY
lcleverly@sthildas.qld.edu.au | 07 5577 7378



The Athena Program Offers

- consultation with parents to assess your daughter's unique schooling needs
- personalised learning plans developed to make schooling sustainable
- additional pastoral care and support provided to Athena students
- ongoing collaboration and flexibility for families, to ensure curriculum delivery and schooling commitments are balanced and accessible
- additional resources and support upon request.

Students will meet regularly with their teachers / Head of Year / Head of Athena for monitoring of their academic progress and for the provision of support. Some of the ways this might be achieved are:

- flexibility with assessment deadlines based on related travel/event/training commitments
- tailoring a study load to integrate with commitments
- extra assistance with academic planning
- athlete workshops.

Criteria

The Athena Program is open to students in Years 4 to 12. The student should fulfil the category of an Elite Athlete or Performer, as stated below. Inclusion into Athena is valid for the current school year and students must re-apply for each subsequent year.

Elite Athlete

An Elite Athlete is defined as, "Someone who: has been identified as such by the Australian Institute of Sport, a State Institute (or Academy) of Sport or through membership of relevant national association."

For example:

- member of a High-Performance Sports Program run by either St Hilda's Aquatics, Pure Tennis or Delta Gymnastics through St Hilda's School
- member of a state development squad/team
- ranked at least in the top ten of the state in an individual sport in a State Titles Competition
- member of a state team or an individual competing in national level competitions
- member of a national development squad or team
- member of a national team or an individual competing in international competitions

The student must have participated in a qualification process to enter State/National Title Competition.

Elite Performer

An Elite Performer is defined as, "Someone who has been identified as having membership and significant success in major artistic performing arts or production company at a state, national or international level. For example:

- a member of a state or nationally recognised Orchestra/Choir/work at least Grade 5 or above
- achieved at least Grade 7 (or above) in an individual instrument with AMEB and working actively towards a higher grade in the calendar year
- a member of a nationally recognised production

The student must have participated in an audition process to gain selection in the State/National ensemble.

To Apply

Applications for the Athena Program can be received throughout the year and should be submitted to the Head of Athena, Mrs Lisa Cleverly, through the Junior School, Middle School or Senior School Offices. Applications are considered by a panel of staff and successful candidates will be contacted by the Head of Athena.

Student Responsibilities

Selection into the Athena Program places the student as a role model for others and it is expected that Athena students provide a good example for other students by their behaviour, maintaining a consistent standard academically and supporting the School by participating in the co-curricular life of St Hilda's School. Representation of the School in the QGSSSA / Andrews Cup Competition, eisteddfods or other competitions in their chosen sport or activity is also a requirement. Athena students will meet and communicate regularly with their teachers, Head of Year and Head of Athena for the monitoring of their academic progress.

Reviews

Athena Reviews are undertaken in Terms 1 and 4. The student and Head of Athena meet to formally review how the student is managing her academics and training load. Parents, teachers, coaches and Boarding staff (if applicable) are invited to contribute to the review to enable open communication between all those supporting the student. Regular informal meetings will also occur throughout the year.

Workshops

Athena students are invited to join several workshops designed to build skills and provide support. These occur during the year and can include sports nutrition, recovery, meeting professional athletes and US and Australian Sports Colleges Scholarship.



Communication

Communication between home and school is vital in successfully supporting the students. Please find a table outlining the relevant staff member to contact regarding a range of matters.

JUNIOR SCHOOL CONTACTS

Leave Requests and Student Absences	Head of Junior School, Mrs Amanda Shuttlewood ashuttlewood@sthildas.qld.edu.au
Applications for Special Consideration for Assessment	Your Daughter's Form Teacher
Athena Program queries and changes to Training Schedules	Head of Athena, Mrs Lisa Cleverly lcleverly@sthildas.qld.edu.au

MIDDLE & SENIOR SCHOOL CONTACTS

Leave Requests and Student Absences - <i>2 days or less</i>	Heads of Year Yr 7 – Mr Ben Andrews bandrews@sthildas.qld.edu.au Yr 8 - Mrs Samantha Stein sstein@sthildas.qld.edu.au Yr 9 – Mrs Alexa Wood alexawood@sthildas.qld.edu.au Yr 10 – Mrs Emma Pinkerton epinkerton@sthildas.qld.edu.au Yr 11 – Tr Tim Crowe tcrowe@sthildas.qld.edu.au Yr 12 – Mr Jaron Winter jwinter@sthildas.qld.edu.au
Leave Requests and Student Absences - <i>More than 2 days</i>	Head of Students, Research and Engagement Ms Sheri Upsari supasiri@sthildas.qld.edu.au
Applications for Special Consideration for Assessment	Dean of Data Analytics & Student Performance Mrs Jodie Woodall jwoodall@sthildas.qld.edu.au
Athena Program queries and changes to Training Schedules	Head of Athena, Mrs Lisa Cleverly lcleverly@sthildas.qld.edu.au

To share your daughter's achievements and results in competitions and the like, please email: the Head of Athena.

If the achievement is in Sport, please also contact Mrs Mel Lilley mlilley@sthildas.qld.edu.au (Director of Sport and Coaching) for Middle and Senior School, and Mr Brad Moore bmoore@sthildas.qld.edu.au (Junior Sport Coordinator) for Junior School.

Application Process

If you feel you meet the criteria for an elite athlete or performer, you will need to submit an application to the Head of Athena. This should be submitted along with your current training schedule/program of involvement via a letter from your coach / manager / tutor outlining your position and achievements.



You also are required to commit fully to one St Hilda's School co-curricular activity per semester.



**ST HILDA'S SCHOOL
GOLD COAST**

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The Corporation of the Synod of the Diocese of Brisbane trading as St Hilda's School
sthildas.qld.edu.au