

## Science and Technology Academy - An Approved Specialist Program

Leeming Senior High School is an Independent Public School located in the southern metropolitan area. The school's STEM program was recognised last year when it became a finalist in the inaugural Governor's School STEM Awards.

Leeming's Science and Technology Academy (STA) is an officially registered and accredited Specialist Program within the W.A. Department of Education. The aims of the STA are to foster a greater interest and participation in the Sciences and Technology through enrichment activities and challenges and to provide enthusiastic and able students the opportunity to work with like-minded classmates in academic extension science, mathematics and technology programs.



Students benefit from participation in special Academic Extension Programs (AEP) in their Science and Mathematics classes. The number of places available upon entry into Year 7 is limited. Places are offered following extensive testing in Maths, application of Scientific Thinking and English in Year 6.

Alongside the Academic Extension Programs in Science and Mathematics, students have the opportunity to engage in a wide

variety of co-curricular activities. These include Science and Technology challenges, Mathematics and Science competitions, excursions, incursions, talks from invited guest speakers, university courses offered to school age students, camps and tours. Students are exposed to the applications of Science through the Science and Mathematicians in Schools Program (SMiS), Mildew Mania, Aurecon Bridge Building Challenge and Robotics. Highlights of STA are the Canberra Science Tour and USA Space Camp Tour which occur bi-annually.

The strengths of the program are inquiry based learning through AEP programs and co-curricular activities, engagement with new technologies in Industry and University research facilities.

The Governor's School STEM Awards recognise principals and school leadership for high quality outcomes and approaches in the STEM subjects as well as in the way STEM teaching is integrated across the learning areas. For more information on the awards and to learn how your school can become involved, visit

<https://www.dpc.wa.gov.au/science/AwardPrograms/GovernorsSchoolSTEMAwards/Pages/default.aspx>