



Dear Parents and Carers

In our rapidly changing world, it is becoming more and more important for our young people to develop strong skills as they progress through their education. While our curriculum-based assessments test a student's ability to recall what they have learned in a variety of subject areas, we think it's important to do more than that, particularly in the foundation years of schooling.

Therefore, Sacred Heart gives students an opportunity to enrol in ICAS, a comprehensive skills-based assessment program that assesses the higher order thinking and problem-solving skills of students. ICAS is a product of our partner UNSW Global Pty Limited. ICAS can give you deep insight into your child's true capabilities.

HOW ICAS IS DIFFERENT FROM THE OTHER ASSESSMENTS YOUR CHILD WILL TAKE:

1. ICAS can help us discover student talents and student weaknesses that don't always get picked up by the curriculum testing framework.
2. ICAS evaluates thinking and problem-solving ability, not memory.
3. ICAS's diagnostic reports will give parents and teachers far more insight into your child's strengths and weaknesses. At school, we can act on that by tailoring our teaching and learning programs; at home, you will know where to direct more encouragement.
4. ICAS will also give us an external benchmark we can rely on to ensure our school is keeping pace with national and international standards—ICAS is the most comprehensive international assessment program, with schools in over 20 countries participating in ICAS every year.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE AND PRIVACY NOTIFICATION:

If you would like your child to participate, please complete the permission slip and return it, with payment to the school no later than 15th March. In order to analyse student results over time, we and UNSW Global collect and use data such as student names, year levels, student results, school results and contact details of school staff (ICAS Data). By permitting your child to sit ICAS, you consent to our and UNSW Global's use of the ICAS Data in the manner outlined below *. PLEASE NOTE LATE ENTRIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

Kerry Wode (AP) is the school coordinator for ICAS. Please contact Kerry to discuss any questions you may have. You can also find out more about ICAS at www.eaa.unsw.edu.au

Kind regards
Kerry Wode

***Privacy notification:** UNSW Global stores, uses and modifies the ICAS Data in order to generate reports, conduct research and analysis, and improve its products and services. UNSW Global will not hold or use ICAS Data that constitutes personal information for longer than 15 years. As the parent or guardian of a student who intends to sit ICAS, you consent to the school collecting the ICAS Data that relates to the student, disclosing it to UNSW Global and to UNSW Global's use of it in the manner outlined above. You also consent to the school assigning this consent to UNSW Global.





2018 ICAS Permission Form

Please return this form with your payment, to your school no later than 15th March

I give permission for my child, _____ of _____
Child's name *Class*

to participate in the following 2018 ICAS assessments.

Please select the subjects you would like your child to participate in:

Subject/Paper	School Year	Official Sitting Date	Participation Fee (incl. GST)	Fee Enclosed
Digital Technologies		8 May 2018	\$9.90	
Science		29 May 2018	\$9.90	
Spelling		13 June 2018	\$19.80	
Writing		14 June 2018	\$13.20	
English		31 July 2018	\$9.90	
Mathematics		14 August 2018	\$9.90	
TOTAL				

Students must sit on the official sitting date for each subject to be eligible for UNSW medals.

Please find _____ enclosed for payment of the total fee.
Amount

Name of Parent/Guardian

Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian