

# Hunter Creative Arts Camp

Applications are now open for the 2025 Hunter Creative Arts Camp, 'The Lucky Country', to be held from Tuesday 20 May to Friday 23 May 2025.

The Hunter Creative Arts Camp (HCAC) targets students in Years 5 and 6 with a passion for and exceptional abilities in music, art, dance or drama. This four-day intensive residential camp provides students with access to specialist teachers in creative and performing arts. Students are challenged and extended with experiences and opportunities to develop skills and techniques in their chosen art form. Students work with likeminded others in a creative and collaborative environment that culminates in a showcase for peers and parents.

**Theme:** The theme for HCAC this year is "The Lucky Country". Experiences and opportunities undertaken, as well as the end of camp showcase, will be based around this theme.

**Venue & Accommodation:** HCAC will take place at Riverwood Downs, Foothills of Barrington Tops, 311 Upper Monkeria Road, Monkeria, 2414. Students will be housed in a bunkhouse or cabins in quad share accommodation. Bunkhouse rooms open onto a central hall and stage area. The bunkhouse also holds shower and toilet facilities for all students. Each cabin contains an ensuite. All rooms have reverse cycle air conditioning. Students are grouped with others from their school wherever possible.

**Meals:** All meals are prepared on site by qualified catering staff in a commercial kitchen. Meals include breakfast, morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea, dinner and supper each day. Care is taken to ensure food is tasty, nutritious and plentiful, and caters to any dietary needs identified in student's applications.

**Transport:** Students will meet at McDonald Jones Stadium car park (Turton Rd, Broadmeadow) at 8am. Students will be coached to Riverwood Downs on Tuesday 20 May, and parents will need to collect students from camp after the showcase, which they are invited to attend, on Friday 23 May beginning at 2pm and concluding at approximately 3pm.

**Itinerary:** Students will undertake experiences and opportunities in their chosen art form every day with specialist staff. Creative and performing arts activities take place throughout the days in their selected art form. In the afternoons, students will experience opportunities in the other three artform, one per day. Each evening after dinner, students participate in activities to further strengthen student and staff relationships including a disco, games night, and a talent quest. Parents are invited to attend the showcase celebrating students' achievements at camp on the final day from 2pm.

**Staffing:** Students will be mentored and supervised by NSW Department of Education staff throughout the camp. Each staff member has been selected based on their expertise in the creative and performing arts areas.

**T-shirt:** As part of the camp fee each student will receive a 2025 camp t-shirt. This will be distributed at the camp and worn at the camp showcase.

**Cost:** The cost of the camp is \$375. This includes all meals, accommodation, activities, specialist teachers, supervision of students and a camp t-shirt. **Do not send any money until offers have been made.**

**Application process:** Parents need to complete the online application form by using the link below or scanning the QR code. Positions are offered based on the skills and experience of applicants, positions available in each art area, and accommodation capacity.



**Online application form** <https://forms.gle/UUnScbYX5vmiyhev6> **QR Code application form**

Teachers and parents should be aware of the following:

- this is a program specifically for high potential students in the areas of creative and performing arts and information should only be provided to those students who meet these criteria
- this camp is residential. Students who are not used to staying away from home should not apply
- students will be expected to work collaboratively and cooperatively with peers from all schools
- due to the intensity of the program, it is not possible to allow students to phone home
- mobile phones and electronic devices are not permitted and will be confiscated, in line with the NSW Department of Education mobile phone policy

Applications open	Term 1 Week 2	by Monday 3 February
Applications close	Term 1 Week 5	by Friday 28 February
Offers, information and medical forms sent to parents	Term 1 Week 7	by Friday 14 March
Offers list sent to schools	Term 1 Week 7	By Friday 14 March
Deposit (\$100), participation and medical forms due	Term 1 Week 9	by Friday 28 March
Final payment (\$275) due	Term 1 Week 11	by Monday 7 April
Final information sent to parents	Term 2 Week 1	by Monday 28 April
Final student list sent to schools	Term 2 Week 1	by Monday 28 April
Camp begins	Term 2 Week 4	Tuesday 20 May

**What happens if my child is successful?**

- Parents will be advised via email by Friday 14 March of an offer, a waitlist position or an unsuccessful application using the email provided in the application
- Details on how to accept or decline the offer will be included in the email
- Parents accepting their child’s offer will be required to pay the camp deposit of \$100 and complete all participation and medical information forms by Friday 28 March to secure their child’s position
- Remaining balance of \$275 will need to be paid by Monday 7 April for students to attend

**For further enquiries please email Karen O’Neill** [karen.oneill@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:karen.oneill@det.nsw.edu.au)