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## **STUDENT ATTITUDES TOWARDS AN EXTENDED CURRICULUM PROGRAM**

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This research examines the attitudes of Year 7 students in an independent girls' school in Melbourne, towards the learning environment in their English, mathematics and science classes. Whilst science classes at the school are not explicitly differentiated on the basis of ability, an Extended Curriculum Program (ECP) does operate for English and maths classes. Thirty nine year 9 students completed surveys examining their perceived self-efficacy, motivational orientation and overall satisfaction with their classes. Results indicated that students in high ability grouped classes associated with the extended curriculum program were perceived more positively and a finding of particular interest was that students in these classes were more intrinsically and less extrinsically motivated than peers in mainstream mixed-ability classes.