

HIGHVALE SECONDARY COLLEGE

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM

Victoria, Australia

Department of Education





A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Highvale Secondary College is a co-educational college for students from Years 7 to 12, set in a quiet neighbourhood of Melbourne's leafy eastern metropolitan area.

We have been providing an International Student Program since 1996. We embrace the program through recognising the importance of cultural exchange. As well as enriching the lives of our local students by bringing cultural awareness from many countries around the world.

With a strong sense of community, we provide all students with a caring and supportive environment; allowing students at Highvale to feel safe and secure to concentrate on their learning.

We offer a broad curriculum and learning pathways to develop students' academic and social skills. Highvale actively values excellence, integrity, resilience, respect and responsibility in each student.

Ian Watkins
Principal

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WHY CHOOSE HIGHVALE SECONDARY COLLEGE?

For 25 years, Highvale has been fortunate to welcome students from many countries, including Canada, China, Japan, Korea, Malaysia and Vietnam.

Our dedicated staff commit to supporting and monitoring students' academic progress and welfare because we recognise the challenges parents and international students face in a new country.

Our international student program also values clear and regular communication with parents here and abroad. We aim to make parents feel connected with the school and we're proud of our extensive counselling which involves students, parents and teachers, and gives everyone a clear vision for success.

We also help each student adopt an individual learning plan at each major stage of high school. This is while international students are also offered up-to-date information and guidance on future study pathways.

We offer:

- a free tutoring program
- in-class language support
- daily after-school homework club
- individualised career counselling
- caring and experienced staff.

An academic program which helps students achieve their very best

At Highvale, we offer a wide range of subjects which cater for students' differing needs and interests.

From Years 8 to 10, students can choose a balanced program of elective subjects, allowing them to work at a level which suits their abilities and maturity.

Senior students benefit from learning in a 'young adult environment' in our school's well-equipped senior study centre. We also support them with study skill workshops, seminars and a residential camp held at the University of Melbourne.

High-achieving students are given many opportunities to move ahead. Our programs feature learning materials tailored to their ambitions and stage of development.

Students who participate in the Victorian high-ability program can further extend their maths and English abilities.

While many of our high-achieving students start their Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) studies in Year 10, giving them a head-start on boosting their tertiary entrance score.





Activities and programs which bring the student experience to life

At Highvale, our international students have a great range of sporting activities, music productions and leadership programs to choose from.

A highlight of our vibrant music program is instrumental music lessons taught by highly qualified visiting music teachers during school hours.

Students perform for the College community at concerts throughout the year, at the College as well as major public venues such as Government House, Federation Square and Hamer Hall.

All students can be part of our many inter-school teams, in sports such as athletics; badminton; baseball; basketball; cricket; cross country; football; hockey; netball; soccer; softball; swimming; tennis; table tennis; and volleyball.

Throughout the year, students take part in exciting and challenging school camps, designed to foster friendships and develop life skills and social skills. Year 7s attend a transition camp. Year 9s enjoy a city experience adventure camp and outdoor education camps. Years 10 to 11 tour Central Australia, and Year 12 students participate in an extremely valuable study conference.

Highvale has a busy robotics club which participates in interschool competitions, with the team coming 2nd in the national competition in 2019.

The school also offers a wide range of programs which help students develop extra skills and prepare for life after school.

These include:

- a student leadership program
- student representative council
- international student captain
- interschool debating teams
- interschool chess team
- student mentors
- science talent quest
- maths olympiad
- youth forums.

Ensuring students feel happy and at home

The international student program team works hard to ensure students feel supported and are inspired by their Highvale Secondary College journey.

We provide:

- a comprehensive orientation program
- term report reviews
- proactive communication with parents onshore and overseas
- an on-site clinical psychologist and mental health practitioner.

Homestay for international students

We understand the challenges facing students, many of whom are living away from their families for the first time.

We encourage students to be a part of their 'new family' and involve themselves in homestay family events and celebrations, gaining an insight into the Australian way of life.

Our caring staff consistently monitor and address international students' academic and welfare needs. We communicate any concerns to parents without delay, with students given extra support.

We also provide extra help in students' subject selection and future career plans.

Homestay families will provide:

- a safe, secure, welcoming place to live
- a household compliant with the Child Safe Standards
- a separate single room for the student's personal use
- three meals a day, seven days a week, including snacks
- facilities including a bed, wardrobe, towels and linen
- utilities including gas, electricity, heating and water costs, as well as internet
- cleaning services of common living areas
- the use of living areas within the residence
- study facilities such as a desk, study light and bookcase
- attendance at parent/teacher evenings on behalf of your parents.

The best of city living with access to Australia's natural beauty

Highvale Secondary College is located in the Melbourne suburb of Glen Waverley, east of the Central Business District (CBD).

The college is close to government and private language schools, making it easier for students to focus on their language studies before starting high school.

Highvale also works closely with the University of Melbourne, Monash University and Deakin University, linking students with the many opportunities that are offered at these prestigious institutions.

- large modern shopping malls, cinemas and high quality restaurants
- a vast array of sporting facilities
- a contemporary art centre
- a modern and attractive train station within an easy walk from the school.



A recent success story

Cindy Shi from China studied English as an Additional Language (EAL); Further Mathematics; Mathematics Method; Specialist Mathematics; Physics; and Visual Communication Design at Highvale Secondary College.

Cindy participated in the school's Fiji Community Volunteer Tour, the debating team, and the concert band and school choir, and she also volunteered at the RSPCA.

Cindy was awarded the 2021 Victorian Global Learning Award for Year 11 Academic Excellence and achieved an ATAR score of 97.45. She is currently studying a Bachelor of Science (Data Science) at the University of Melbourne.

"It was a great experience to study in Highvale. All the teachers are really supportive. They encouraged me to answer questions and express myself. Their way of teaching is interesting, and it made me love the classes here in Highvale."

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ALL THE TEACHERS ARE REALLY SUPPORTIVE.



CONTACTING THE SCHOOL

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