

CAMBERWELL HIGH SCHOOL

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM

Victoria, Australia

Department of Education





A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Camberwell High School has grown from its 350 students in 1941 to today's 1,000 young men and women who continue to thrive. Our school community promotes 21st Century learning and takes pride in its long history and rich traditions.

The school celebrates the uniqueness of each individual through its learning program. This recognises that each student needs to be taken forward from their own specific starting point.

The school has contemporary learners working in a wide range of specialist spaces and environments.

We aim to challenge, extend and enrich all, through programs such as our Launch and Learning, Enrichment and Extension Program (LEEP). As well as through the diverse curricular and extra-curricular options which challenge students to try new things and develop strengths in their areas of interest.

The school's motto is 'Disco Consulere Aliis' (Learning to be considerate of others). This underpins all that we do and is evident in the school's focus on respectful relationships and through the visible interactions of everyone shown through their learning disposition attributes.

With our school values of achievement, creativity, respect, and responsibility; we focus on developing learners who excel, have high expectations of themselves and are ready to participate as active and engaged global citizens.

Jill Laughlin
Principal



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WHY CHOOSE CAMBERWELL HIGH SCHOOL?

Camberwell High School's international student program, established in 1996, supports thousands of international students to achieve their goals. This is by providing pathways into Australian and international universities.

Many of our highest achieving international students have taken up scholarships at Melbourne and Monash Universities.

We have a range of educational and people supports specifically for international students including:

- an on-site language school for students over 15 years of age. This provides intensive English preparations for entry into Year 10 and the Victoria Certificate of Education (VCE) studies
- a number of dedicated international student and homestay coordinators.

International students have the opportunity to be part of the school's rich music program, catering for over 300 students.

We offer an extensive student leadership program. This includes international student captains being part of the regular term forums led by students working with the principal team.

Our international students currently hold the title of Victorian Chinese Debating Team champions, including best competition debater.

An academic program which encourages students to excel

Our school offers students a strong foundation for further learning with a broad selection of subjects. This allows them to choose the pathway through school that best suits their interests, skills, abilities, and likely future career.

Camberwell High School is committed to supporting the learning of all students through a diverse range of options. This includes:

- the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE)
- the select entry Year 8 LEEP and Year 9 and 10 Launch programs. These aim to extend and enhance students and help to develop future mathematicians and scientists through the problem solving of complex Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) challenges.
- students in the Year 10 launch program being supported by industry and tertiary partners. This includes the University of Melbourne and Swinburne University of Technology, Box Hill TAFE as well as high-profile private-sector businesses.
- from Year 10 onwards all students are able to complete a VCE subject and some students are given the opportunity to move directly from Year 11 on to university.





A great choice of extra-curricular activities

Camberwell High School students can pursue their extra-curricular passions in Music, STEM, Drama, the Arts and areas of Technology.

There are a variety of options on offer. For example, year level camps when students are in Years 7, 9 and 12. There are also overseas study tours in Music, Art, History and a STEM space camp.

There are many opportunities too for students to learn at least one musical instrument and join one of up to 11 instrumental groups. Students can also become involved in music camps, band competitions and concerts.

Other activities available include:

- after school clubs and programs with external professional speakers such as Lifesaving Victoria
- house choral festivals and biannual musical productions
- a diverse range of sporting activities and competitions
- an annual student organised multicultural festival
- the Victorian schools' Chinese debating competition
- Tuesday after school table tennis club
- local community events.

Making welfare and support a priority

We cater for the needs of international students by providing academic support, accommodation, and general welfare.

Students have access to a number of wellbeing and welfare support services.

Each international student has a student mentor who meets with them weekly to guide and support their learning and wellbeing.

Careers counselling provides guidance and careers testing of all students. There is also the opportunity to attend an annual onsite careers' tertiary expo with access to a wide range of tertiary providers.

We offer a weekly after school club with specialist teacher tutoring support. This includes guest speakers. They bring to the classroom a unique opportunity for our students to learn from professionals about tertiary options, learning resources as well as recreational and work opportunities.

Our other support services include:

- two international student coordinators and a homestay coordinator
- wellbeing and personal development information sessions for international students
- welfare support provided by:
 - a full-time student wellbeing counsellor
 - and a trained psychologist as a mental health practitioner.
- peer support and buddying programs to support easy assimilation into whole-school learning.

Homestay for international students

The school is fortunate to have a large number of regular and supportive homestay families.

Our homestay families receive regular visits from a staff member from the international student program. We also provide clear guidelines and expectations for our homestay families to support their student visitors.

All Victorian government school homestay families 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 each student's parents.

One of our homestay parents, Marita Shepherd, has this to say about our program:

"Hosting does indeed make a contribution to the wider community, but for us, it's just a privilege to have international students in the house who are all individuals and are all amazing."

Easily accessible location

Camberwell High School is located in the suburb of Canterbury, approximately 10 kilometres from Melbourne's city centre.

Features of the local area include being:

- convenient to train, tram and bus routes for short trips to Melbourne's city and other local centres
- in an appealing greenspace location within a safe, secure suburb
- near sports grounds, cycling tracks, swimming pools and parks
- close to Camberwell shopping and business hub with a library
- an easy walk to medical and banking facilities.



A recent success story

Jiarui (Jerry) Yan, from China, studied English as an Additional Language (EAL), Physics, Chemistry, Maths Methods, Biology and Chinese, achieving a high ATAR score of 95.5.

Jerry is the Resilience and Innovation Award Winner in the Victorian Global Learning Awards for 2021. Jerry also was the international student leader at Camberwell High School for 2019 to 2021.

Jerry actively participated in table tennis, flying and all things science and chemistry. Jerry is currently studying at The University of Melbourne.

"I studied at Camberwell High School (CHS) as an international student from Year 9 to Year 12. During this time I met some amazing people, who welcomed me into the school's community with open arms, guided me through great challenges and firmly believed that I could achieve my goals," says Jerry.

"These people are the students, teachers and support staff of CHS - essentially everyone here! With them, my high school journey is easily one of the most memorable periods of my life, in which I grew from an elementary school graduate stepping on foreign land for the first time to a university freshman prepared for the future. If I were ever sent back in time to redo high school, I would place my trust in none other than CHS."

IF I WERE EVER SENT BACK IN TIME TO REDO HIGH SCHOOL, I WOULD PLACE MY TRUST IN NONE OTHER THAN CHS.



CONTACTING THE SCHOOL

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