WANTIRNA COLLEGE

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM

Victoria, Australia
Department of Education

WANTIRNA
COLLEGE



VICTORIA
State
Government
Australia



WANTIRNA COLLEGE OFFERS A STRONG ACADEMIC PROGRAM WITH A COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE. INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS ARE ASSURED OF A PERSONALISED APPROACH TO THEIR LEARNING NEEDS FROM THEIR TIME OF ARRIVAL TO THEIR LAST DAY.



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

"What makes Wantirna College a great school? How is it unique? How do we achieve great outcomes for our students?" These are the common questions that prospective students and parents ask me when they are considering our school for enrolment. The short answer is that we have an outstanding, committed team of teachers.

My continued focus is to recruit, develop and retain the very best. Terrific facilities are important, the right programs are imperative, engaging and lifelong experiences for all our students are essential, but the single most important factor for a student's success at school is a quality teacher. As a result, we are focused on better understanding what it means to be an outstanding teacher and more importantly on ensuring all our teachers are learners themselves.

Learning and life experiences shouldn't be restricted to the classroom. We encourage students to challenge themselves physically and mentally and work as a team.

Wantirna College welcomes all international students from around the world and offers a well-rounded curriculum program that offers lots of choice to allow students to discover what they are good at, and passionate about. We aim to inspire student's curiosity, creativity, imagination, compassion, self-knowledge, social skills and emotional health of all students.

Kevin Murphy
Principal





WHY CHOOSE WANTIRNA COLLEGE?

Students at Wantirna College are encouraged to explore new interests while continuing to develop their academic strengths by participating in a wide range of extra-curricular activities, such as performing arts, student leadership and sport.

Since Wantirna College was first established, we have interviewed many parents of our graduate international students. We have asked them about the reasons they entrusted us to look after and educate their children. The answers are unanimous: it is the academic excellence and the wide range of Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) subjects that we offer. Parents also comment on the modern technologies in the classrooms and the personal care and support we provide to each student. We have a range of programs specifically for international students including:

- dedicated international coordinator
- bilingual international student program staff
- specialist classroom support
- local university student mentoring
- free after school tuition three days a week
- homestay coordinator
- wide range of VCE subjects
- international student term celebration lunches
- end of Year 12 celebration dinner and activities.

A high-quality academic program

Wantirna College provides more than 30 VCE subjects to provide the opportunity to study areas of interest, maximise strengths and create a pathways to university.

The Skepsi class is a Wantirna College initiative designed to cater to the learning needs of very high achieving students in Years 7, 8 and 9. Teachers place a strong emphasis on inquiry-based learning, higher-order thinking and problem solving.

Collaboratively working with Swinburne University, the Knox Innovation, Opportunity and Sustainability Centre (KIOSC), the program is designed to connect students to "green" knowledge and skills for their success in a global technology focused workplace of the future.

Learning support

We develop an individual learning plan for each student whose literacy and numeracy testing identifies them as two or more years different from their peers. Each teacher will carefully consider the student's point of entry into learning and will adapt and develop appropriate learning activities and strategies for their needs.

Parent involvement

We understand the importance of keeping parents informed about their child's progress, especially for the parents of international students. We set up individual accounts for parents so that you can follow and review academic progress of your child on our learning management system, Compass.

You will be able to access child's attendance, classroom behaviour, assessment tasks, teacher comments and also any major school events on any computer or mobile device. Our International Student Program team will also provide you with a school report each term and contact you individually to discuss the needs of your child.





A variety of extra-curricular activities

Wantirna College is a place full of energy. We encourage all our students to get involved in all aspect of their schooling to build their interpersonal communication skills and leadership skills. Some extra-curricular activities include:

- camp at all year levels
- one-on-one music instrument lesson
- annual school production
- swimming carnival
- athletics carnival
- inter-school sports competition throughout the year
- many clubs including debating, art and photography
- Central Australian camps.

Student care and welfare

Wantirna College offers support to international students and their parents in a range of practical, academic, and other ways. Support includes:

- international support team
- multicultural aide
- health centre with a full-time nurse
- student wellbeing centre with psychologist and social worker
- orientation program
- school psychologist and counsellor who speaks Cantonese and Mandarin.

Homestay for international students

In Victoria, all 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 your personal use
- three meals a day, seven days a week, including snacks
- facilities – a bed, wardrobe, towels and linen
- utilities – gas, electricity, heating and water costs, internet
- cleaning services of common living areas
- the use of living areas within the residence
- study facilities – desk, study light, bookcase
- attendance at parent/teacher evenings on behalf of your parents.

"I have been a homestay family for Wantirna College for the last 15 years. I absolutely enjoy the experience being a host family, hosting students from all over the world and provide them with a home away from home. It is my pleasure to witness the growth and see those students excel in the environment." - Frankie White, hometay parent



Easily accessible location

Wantirna College is located in the leafy suburb of Wantirna, east of Melbourne, one of the most liveable cities in the world. It is just a 15-minute walk to the large and popular shopping centre, Knox City, which includes a lively entertainment area including restaurants and cinemas.

We are also located in close proximity to Monash, Deakin and Swinburne universities. Students find moving around the city of Knox and travelling to Melbourne accessible with the use of regular public transport. Our local multicultural environment includes medical and dental services and is close to the Mount Dandenong National Park and tourist attractions.



A recent success story

"Hey, I'm Richard Ha, the college captain at Wantirna College for 2021 and 22. I have been working at other leadership roles such as student representative council president in 2020 and secretary in 2021. I have a strong passion to change things for the better, I represent the student voice and provide improvements to the school community. I have been at Wantirna College for the last five years and have been thoroughly enjoying the College life. My ATAR score is 98.95. 2022 has been a tough year personally. Wantirna College has supported me in getting through this tough time and the teachers are fantastic. I am so glad that I have chosen Wantirna College."

- Richard Ha, currently studying Bachelor of Biomedicine at University of Melbourne.

EACH STAFF MEMBER AT THE COLLEGE WENT ABOVE AND BEYOND IN THE HOMESTAY ARRANGEMENT, TRANSITION TO AUSTRALIA AS WELL AS THEIR DAY-TO-DAY LEARNING. BOTH OF MY CHILDREN RECEIVED EXCELLENT VCE RESULTS AND WENT TO THEIR DREAM UNIVERSITIES - JULIA LI, PARENT.



WANTIRNA COLLEGE

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