FOREST HILL COLLEGE

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM

Victoria, Australia
Department of Education and Training



VICTORIA
State Government
Australia



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to Forest Hill College (FHC).

I am proud to lead a community of academic excellence. Our teachers are experts in their chosen field who work in partnership with students to ensure ongoing academic success in state of the art facilities.

Why not join me for a tour to experience our College for yourself.

David Rogers
Principal

I AM PROUD TO LEAD A COMMUNITY OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE.



WHY CHOOSE FOREST HILL COLLEGE?

For over 25 years our international student program has been welcoming students from all across the globe and is a valuable part of our school's multicultural community.

We have a range of programs, roles and spaces specifically for international students including:

- an on-site English language centre
- an intensive English language program
- experienced international program staff including language support assistants
- our "Aspire Centre", a student centre for senior students
- a homework club
- a careers resource centre
- club activities, including sports, music, robotics and science

A formal academic curriculum tailored to each student's talents

Student choice informs teaching and learning at our College, enabling the development of authentic and individualised pathways.

Our academic program supports each student to achieve their personal best through engaging and rigorous curriculum.

We ensure every student develops as an independent learner who will flourish as a critical thinking, global citizen.

In Year 7, alongside English, maths, physical education and science classes, students take part in the William Barak Project. This combines the arts, humanities and technology with real world applications such as sustainable living and entrepreneur projects.

Students also explore a range of specialist areas such as languages (Japanese, Chinese, Italian and Auslan), the arts (painting, design, music, drama) and technologies (computing, robotics, 3d design). This gives students experience and insight into these areas before choosing electives in Year 8.

From Year 9 onwards, students receive personal course counselling to design a pathway through high school into their university course or career of choice. A wide range of subjects are available for students to select based on their talents, and future goals.

In the progression toward the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE), purposeful assessments continue to allow teachers an opportunity to provide feed-forward.

This proven practice and positive approach acknowledges each student's effort and personal growth whilst providing individualised and practical advice for students to improve.

Academy programs elite sports and performing arts

In addition to the academic education program at the College, we also offer students access to elite high performance training programs in a number of sports. This includes tennis, soccer, basketball, Australian rules football (AFL) and in the performing arts.

Expert coaches and industry leaders run the programs. Students in the academy program spend four mornings a week in training which includes coaching, game play as well as strength and conditioning training.





A variety of extra-curricular activities

International students at Forest Hill College have the opportunity to participate in a number of activities outside of class, as well as in our academic programs.

Robotics and coding clubs run at lunchtime, as well as sporting, science and art clubs.

Many students volunteer their time with community service through our Leos Club. This has links to our local Lions Club international branch. Students in Leos Club work to raise money for charities as well as plant trees and are overall working to make the world a better place.

Serious about student welfare

The director of our international student program, Chrissie Chen, leads a team of staff who provide wellbeing, homestay, academic and in-class support for all students in the program. Other support services include:

- a 'buddy program' for newly arrived students to meet local students
- an orientation program that includes excursions to explore the local area and Melbourne City
- a wellbeing team consisting of qualified health professionals with expertise in working with young people
- a careers advisor who supports students in planning their pathways into university and future education
- sub-school teams who provide support for students with their academic progress and wellbeing.

Homestay for international students

Forest Hill College has developed a strong relationship with a large number of local homestay families over the years.

We carefully select and regularly inspect homestay families to ensure a welcoming, healthy and safe environment and are either within walking distance or a short bus or tram ride away from school.

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 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.

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

"My name is Long and my wife is Jenny. We are proud to have been homestay hosts for international students for more than ten years. Each student is welcomed into our family, and we have loved learning about other cultures and sharing our culture too. Our home is your home and we hope we have a chance to support and take care of your child one day."



Easily accessible location

Forest Hill College is situated only 18 kms from Melbourne's city centre in a leafy green suburb with many trees, parks, sports fields and gardens nearby.

The Dandenong Ranges National Park is just a short drive away with hiking opportunities and beautiful views across Melbourne.

Our College is a short distance from Glen Waverley and Box Hill, both well known for their international food and shopping outlets. We are also walking distance from Forest Hill Chase and Burwood 101 shopping centres and close to The Glen, Knox, Chadstone and Eastland shopping malls.



A recent success story

Chi Kiet Vong is a student from Vietnam who graduated from Forest Hill College in 2021. He was the founding president of Forest Hill's Leo Club which is a youth branch of the Lions Club and has organised fundraising events for charity.

Chi Kiet helped Forest Hill College host the 2022 Leos Conference for Victoria. For his impressive efforts he was named the Victorian State Leo of the Year in 2020, was a finalist for National Leo of the Year, as well winner of the Year 11 Community Engagement Award in the 2021 Victorian Global Learning Awards.

Chi Kiet is currently studying a Bachelor of Business.

Chi Kiet says, "Leo Club has given me the platform to contribute to society and enrich my own experience as an international student."

> EACH STUDENT IS WELCOMED INTO OUR FAMILY, AND WE HAVE LOVED LEARNING ABOUT OTHER CULTURES AND SHARING OUR CULTURE TOO.



CONTACTING THE SCHOOL

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