ST ALBANS SECONDARY COLLEGE

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM

Victoria, Australia
Department of Education

ST ALBANS
SECONDARY COLLEGE



VICTORIA
State Government
Australia



OUR GOAL IS TO INSPIRE EACH INDIVIDUAL TO ACHIEVE THEIR POTENTIAL. SO, AS THEY CAN EACH TAKE THEIR PLACE WITH CONFIDENCE IN OUR CHANGING SOCIETY.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

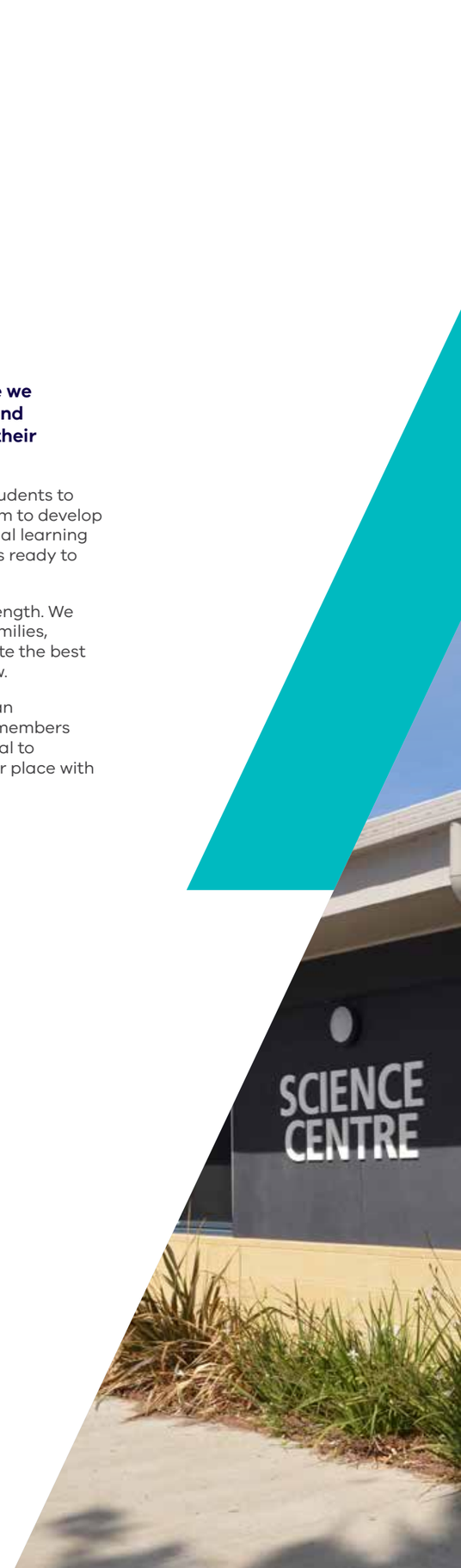
Welcome to St Albans Secondary College, where we embrace each student in a caring, supportive, and disciplined environment. This then encourages their pursuit of personal excellence.

Our highly skilled teachers commit to encouraging students to build a positive and individual identity. This helps them to develop the confidence and self-esteem that leads to individual learning success. As well as creating self-assured young adults ready to pursue their interests, hopes and dreams.

'Community' is an important part of the College's strength. We actively seek the contributions and involvement of families, business and university partners. This is so as to create the best possible surroundings for your child to learn and grow.

St Albans Secondary College dedicates to providing an environment that values excellence and respects all members of the community. Our goal is to inspire each individual to achieve their potential. So, as they can each take their place with confidence in our changing society.

Kerrie Dowsley
Principal



WHY CHOOSE ST ALBANS SECONDARY COLLEGE?

St Albans Secondary College is proud to be an accredited provider of an established education program for international students.

Our reputation for academic excellence attracts students from overseas. Mainly from Vietnam, who are currently completing their secondary education with us.

Our program offers extra academic support from teachers and coordinators; peer support; after-school tutoring; and a study skills program. All these features enrich the student experience. They help them to fully integrate into our school community.

The St Albans community has been welcoming new arrivals to Australia since its establishment in 1956. This is reflecting now in the culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds of our students. As well as in the multicultural vitality of our community. Most of our students come from non-English speaking backgrounds, covering 53 different nationalities.

A carefully curated academic program

In line with the Victorian curriculum, our college offers an array of academic subjects. We complement this by offering up-to-date facilities, including:

- a contemporary science centre
- a wonderful creative arts department
- a modern food technology kitchen and catering facilities.

We offer Vietnamese; Japanese; and Italian languages; as well as English as an Additional Language (EAL) and English Language classes. The Western English Language Centre, provides these, within eight kilometres of the school.

Our Select Entry Accelerated Learning Program (SEAL) is available from Year 7 to Year 12. This offers students special programs of academic support and personal wellbeing.

A variety of programs are on offer, including:

- study skills workshops
- a homework club
- VCE enrichment classes
- student leadership
- scholarships
- outdoor education
- camp programs.

We provide a friendly and supportive learning environment. This enables students to achieve high academic results. They can then transition to further study or technical education.

We provide student reports in their first language, alongside regular updates with families.

A great choice of extra-curricular activities

We actively encourage our students to be an integral part of our College by participating in co-curricular activities.

These activities bring enjoyment. They help to form well rounded and skilful individuals. The rich variety of activities include:

- our broad instrumental music program
- drama and music productions
- public speaking and inter-school debating
- inter and intra-school athletics and swimming carnivals
- a wide range of sports, including badminton, soccer, and volleyball
- a range of lunchtime clubs including craft and gardening.





Serious about student welfare

At St Albans Secondary College, we welcome our international students into a caring, disciplined learning environment. We continually monitor their wellbeing and academic progress.

Our school-based supports include:

- •our health promotion programs
- our student wellbeing team including counsellors, psychologists and a school nurse
- an experienced and active careers counselling team.

Our international student program supports include:

- individual consultation and support with our experienced international student coordinator who speaks Vietnamese
- pre-departure advice and assistance
- a personal welcome on arrival at the airport
- a comprehensive orientation program to familiarise them with the local area, the school, and their new education system
- the international student coordinator who conducts parent-teacher interviews with the families of the international students each term.



Homestay for international students

We carefully select homestay providers for the safe, secure and comfortable home environment they offer. Their understanding of, and respect for, cultural differences is of the utmost importance.

Our international student coordinator ensures each homestay provider:

- holds a current Working with Children Check (WWCC),
- conducts home visits
- maintains regular contact with homestay families and parents.

Your homestay family will provide you with:

- 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, and 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.

A regular host, Rafael, has this to say about our program:

"I open my home to our international students based on my love of Vietnam. As well as my understanding of the loneliness and isolation that moving abroad can bring with it.

"I aim to support students in their overseas transition and to become a second family. I learnt Vietnamese in order to communicate effectively and also cook some traditional dishes to help the students feel at home. My efforts are rewarded with happy, healthy students who enjoy their international experience."

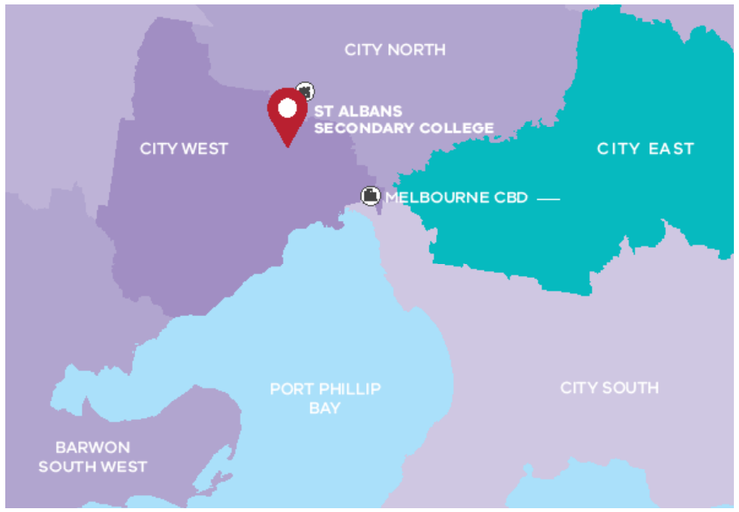
Easily accessible location

St Albans Secondary College sits at the heart of a vibrant multicultural community. St Albans shopping village offers a range of experiences. This varies from international grocers and eateries to the community hub and local theatre.

Other local attributes include:

- easy access to the city
- being just 16 kilometres away from Melbourne's Central Business District (CBD)
- regular public transport, including trains and buses.

Brimbank City Council also showcases the full range of local services available at https://www.brimbank.vic.gov.au/



A recent success story

Cao Minh Anh Bui, from Vietnam, studied Chemistry; EAL; Maths Methods; Psychology; and Specialist Maths.

He also participated in several extracurricular activities including Badminton and being the International Student Captain.

Cao Minh is currently studying a Bachelor of Arts and Psychology at Monash University.

"I am sincerely grateful for being a part of this amazing cohort. I would not have achieved as well as I did in my VCE without the special care provided through the international student program.

My year level coordinators, teachers and the international student coordinator assisted to integrate me into the school community. The college also supported me academically and in terms of my wellbeing. I have made lasting friendships!"

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