FOOTSCRAY HIGH SCHOOL

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM

Victoria, Australia
Department of Education

Footscray
High School



VICTORIA
State
Government
Australia



AT FOOTSCRAY HIGH SCHOOL, EVERY STUDENT IS KNOWN, VALUED AND SUPPORTED TO ACHIEVE THEIR PERSONAL BEST.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to Footscray High School. We are a high-performing, contemporary multi-campus secondary school in Melbourne's culturally diverse inner west, where we believe in nurturing every student's potential and celebrating the strengths and achievements of every young person.

As part of the Footscray Learning Precinct, we provide students with a wide range of learning opportunities and pathways that support them at every stage of their education.

We are committed to high-quality education, grounded in evidence-based teaching, learning and wellbeing practices. Students are encouraged to reach their full potential in an environment of high expectations, support and encouragement. Our broad and innovative curriculum allows students to develop their individual strengths while building the knowledge, skills and confidence they need for future success.

Our school culture is built on the values of Unity, Respect, Creativity and Endeavour. These values guide our classrooms, co-curricular activities, relationships and community partnerships. We encourage collaboration, kindness, open-mindedness and ambition, creating a school where students not only learn, but truly belong.

Through rich academic, social, physical and creative experiences, we support students to develop their talents, pursue their interests and prepare confidently for the future.

I warmly welcome you to Footscray High School and invite you to discover the many opportunities our school has to offer.

Jillian English
Principal



WHY CHOOSE FOOTSCRAY HIGH SCHOOL?

At Footscray High School, we understand that studying in another country is an exciting step for both students and their families. Our International Student Program is designed to help students feel welcome, supported and confident from the moment they join our school community.

Our dedicated international student team works closely with each student, providing personalised academic, wellbeing and pathway support throughout their time at Footscray High School. Students can access our onsite English language centre, where experienced EAL-qualified teachers help them strengthen their English, adjust to Australian classroom learning and prepare confidently for mainstream studies.

Support continues through individual mentoring, academic literacy support, Homework Club, a Buddy Program, careers and pathway guidance, and opportunities to become involved in leadership, sport, clubs and school activities.

For eligible students aged 15 and over, the school can arrange carefully selected school-sourced homestay accommodation, with ongoing support to help students feel safe, settled and well cared for.

Most importantly, we want every international student to feel that they belong at Footscray High School, have people they can turn to, and are supported to achieve their goals and make the most of their education in Australia.

An academic program encouraging students to excel

At Footscray High School, we believe students make their best progress when they feel supported, encouraged and confident in their ability to learn. We encourage students to work hard and take an active role in their education, while our teachers provide clear instruction, regular feedback, encouragement and individual support along the way.

Students in Years 7–10 follow the Victorian Curriculum 2.0 across English, Mathematics, Science, Humanities, Health and Physical Education, The Arts, Technology and Languages. Students who are ready to extend themselves can access enrichment opportunities, advanced Year 10 electives and early access to VCE subjects.

In the senior years, students can choose from more than 50 VCE subjects, together with VET and other pathway options. Individual course counselling helps each student build a program around their strengths, interests and future goals.

Support continues beyond the classroom through Homework Club, academic literacy support and tutoring. These opportunities help students strengthen their understanding, develop effective study habits and become more independent and confident learners.

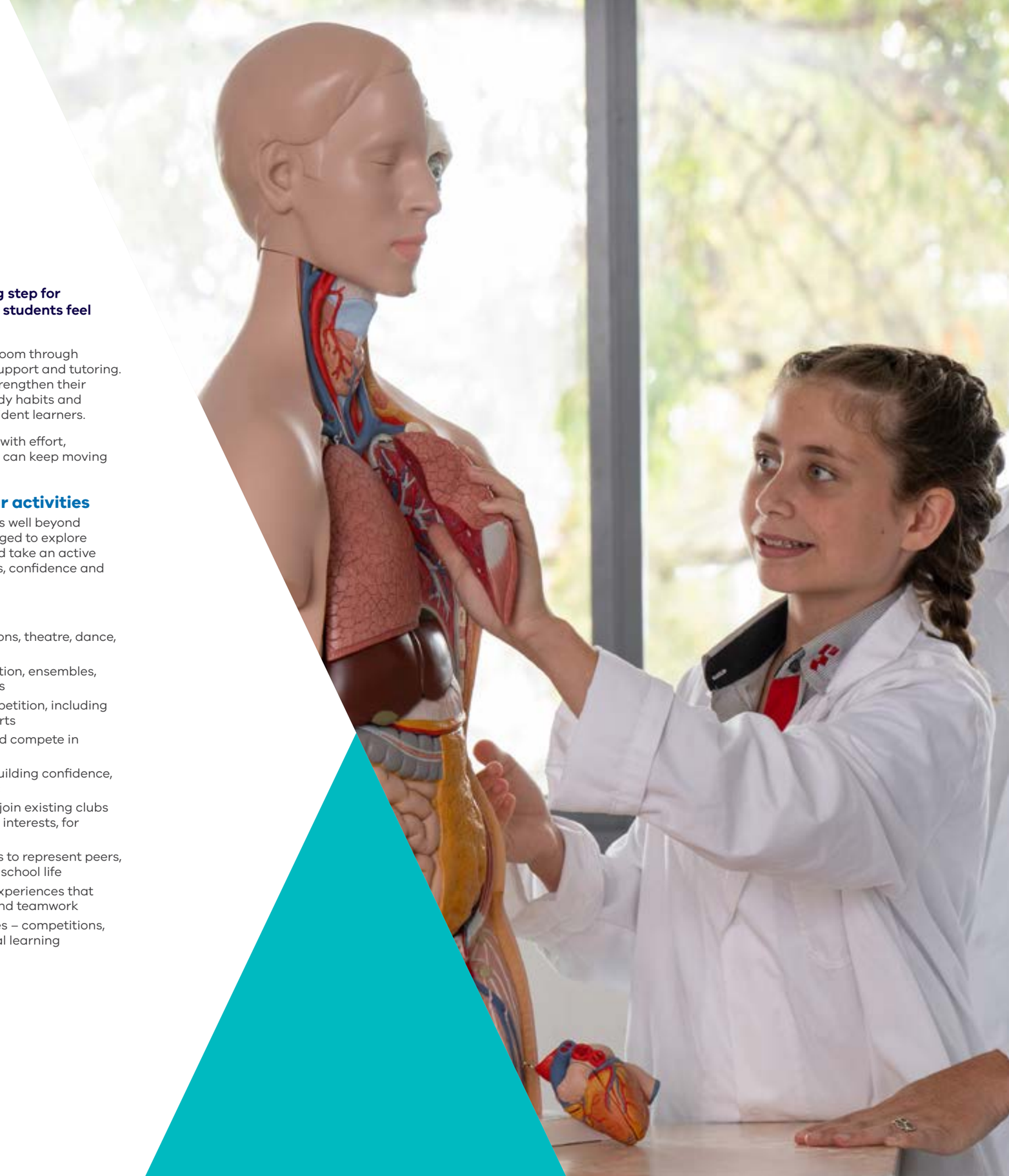
We want every student to know that, with effort, guidance and the right support, they can keep moving towards their goals with confidence.

A variety of extra-curricular activities

Life at Footscray High School extends well beyond the classroom. Students are encouraged to explore their interests, try something new and take an active role in school life, building friendships, confidence and leadership skills along the way.

Opportunities include:

- Performing Arts – school productions, theatre, dance, backstage, sound and lighting
- Instrumental Music – specialist tuition, ensembles, bands, concerts and performances
- Sport – extensive interschool competition, including athletics, swimming and team sports
- Rowing – opportunities to train and compete in Victorian regattas
- Debating and public speaking – building confidence, communication and student voice
- Student-led clubs – students can join existing clubs or create their own around shared interests, for example a chess club.
- Student leadership – opportunities to represent peers, organise events and contribute to school life
- Camps and excursions – shared experiences that build connection, independence and teamwork
- Language and cultural experiences – competitions, cultural activities and international learning opportunities.





Serious about student welfare

At Footscray High School, wellbeing begins with knowing our students. Through everyday encouragement, positive relationships and personalised guidance, we help students feel welcome, connected and confident as they grow academically, socially and personally.

When additional support is needed, experienced wellbeing, inclusion and health professionals are also available across the school.

Support includes:

- Dedicated international student team – ongoing guidance with school life, wellbeing and settling into life in Melbourne
- Year-level support – Engagement and Learning Community Leaders who know students well and work closely with families
- Individual mentoring – personalised guidance, goal setting and planning to help students build confidence and develop independence
- Student Services team – counsellors, wellbeing practitioners and social workers, with referral to external specialist services when needed
- Wellbeing and inclusion support – dedicated staff supporting students' individual needs and participation in school life
- Health support – school nurse and access to the Doctors in Schools program
- Careers and pathways guidance – experienced careers practitioners helping students plan confidently for university, further education and future careers.

Homestay for international students

For many international students, a caring homestay family becomes an important part of their life in Australia. Feeling safe, welcome and comfortable where they live helps students settle into Melbourne, build confidence and focus on their learning. Over time, their homestay can become a genuine home away from home.

For eligible students aged 15 and over, Footscray High School can arrange carefully selected school-sourced homestay accommodation. Our international student team stays connected with students and homestay families throughout the placement, providing ongoing guidance and support.

All Victorian government school homestay families provide:

- A safe, secure and welcoming home
- A household compliant with the Child Safe Standards
- A private single bedroom
- Three meals a day, seven days a week, including snacks
- A bed, wardrobe, towels and linen
- Gas, electricity, heating, water and internet
- Cleaning of common living areas
- Access to shared living areas within the home
- A suitable study space with a desk, study light and bookcase
- Attendance at parent-teacher meetings on behalf of parents.

When students feel settled and cared for where they live, they can focus more fully on their learning, build positive relationships and make the most of their experience in Australia.

"We really want our student to feel at home with us. We prepare dinner each night and sit down together to eat, which gives us a nice chance to talk about their day and how things are going. If they need help, we're here for them, but we also make sure they have their own space to study and relax. It's lovely to see them settle in, become more confident and feel more comfortable over time. We hope that while they're away from their own family, they can feel that they have a family here too."

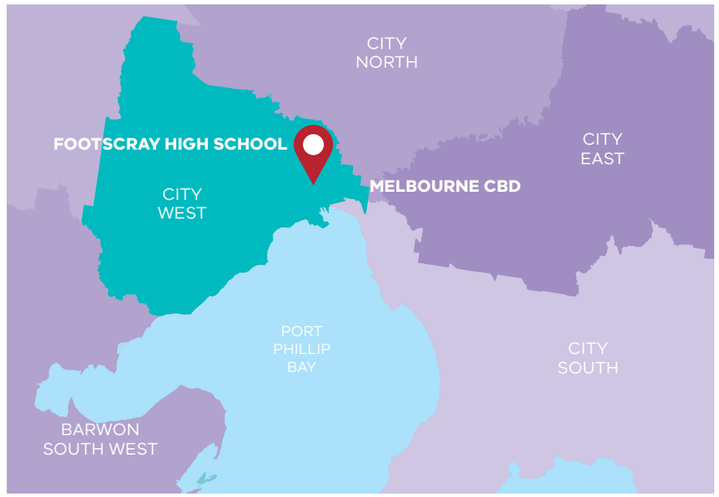
- Footscray High School homestay family



Easily accessible location

Footscray High School is located in Melbourne's vibrant inner west, close to the heart of the city and surrounded by leading universities, major health facilities and a diverse local community. For international students, this means being connected to the places, experiences and opportunities that can inspire their future study and career goals.

- Connected to Melbourne's leading universities — with multiple universities within easy reach
- Part of the Footscray Learning Precinct — Footscray High School sits within a precinct of neighbouring institutions just minutes away, creating a rich local environment for students interested in future pathways in medicine, nursing, pharmacy, health, science and related fields
- Connected to Melbourne's culture and community life — excellent train, tram and bus connections allowing students to easily access diverse experiences that make Melbourne such a welcoming and exciting place to live and learn.



A recent success story

Mie Le, from Vietnam, came to Footscray High School with a clear goal for her future. She had a strong interest in Chemistry and dreamed of studying Pharmacy at Monash University Parkville.

During her VCE studies, Mie studied English as an Additional Language (EAL), Chemistry, Biology, Mathematical Methods and Further Mathematics.

Throughout Years 10, 11 and 12, Mie worked hard towards her goal. Along the way, her teachers and staff encouraged her, guided her learning and supported the pathway she wanted to pursue.

Today, Mie is studying a Bachelor of Pharmacy (Honours) at Monash University.

"When I came to Australia, I already knew that I wanted to study Pharmacy at Monash University. I loved Chemistry and had a clear goal for my future. During my three years at Footscray High School, my teachers and staff gave me so much support, encouragement and guidance. Together with my own hard work and determination, that support helped me turn my dream into reality."

COME WITH A GOAL. WORK TOWARDS IT.
WE WILL SUPPORT YOU ALONG THE WAY.



Footscray High School

CONTACTING THE SCHOOL

Footscray High School

Kinnear Campus – Years 10–12
1 Kinnear Street, Footscray VIC 3011

Barkly Campus – Years 7–9
298 Barkly Street, Footscray VIC 3011

Pilgrim Campus – Years 7–9
3 Pilgrim Street, Seddon VIC 3011

International student support is available at Kinnear and Barkly campuses.

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