MOUNT CLEAR COLLEGE

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM

Victoria, Australia
Department of Education and Training

MOUNT CLEAR
COLLEGE



VICTORIA
State Government
Australia



AT MOUNT CLEAR COLLEGE WE ARE PROUD OF OUR REPUTATION AS BEING WELCOMING, CARING AND COMMITTED TO HIGH ACADEMIC OUTCOMES, WITH A STRONG WELLBEING FOCUS FOR ALL STUDENTS.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It gives me great pleasure to welcome students from throughout the world to join our College community and I encourage you to discover the vast opportunities available within the Mount Clear College experience.

Our international students value, and thrive in, our attractive natural bush setting which is located only an hour's drive from Melbourne.

The safe and caring learning environment of our school promotes a culture that respects and celebrates diversity.

Our school caters for students from Years 7 to 12, with a uniquely challenging curriculum featuring a variety of sporting and outdoor education programs. This is underpinned by successful and proven academic programs that focus on lifelong learning.

At Mount Clear College we are proud of our reputation as being welcoming, caring and committed to high academic outcomes, with a strong wellbeing focus for all students.

We know that our College is an outstanding school and we endeavour to ensure that all students have a happy and successful time.

We strongly believe in the potential of education to establish longstanding bonds of friendship and camaraderie.

Instilling resilience and encouraging every student to develop a global perspective. Our aim is to see students complete their studies at Mount Clear College as happy, confident, young adults, ready for success in an ever-changing world.

Lynita Taylor,
Principal



WHY CHOOSE MOUNT CLEAR COLLEGE?

International students enrich the diverse cultural mix at the school. We value the role our international students play in the day-to-day life of our school through their pursuit of excellence. This is in academic achievement; the arts; leadership; and in other cultural pursuits.

Our international students thrive in an environment that encourages academic success as well as the development of the whole person; we aim to produce well-rounded young adults.

International students have a record of outstanding academic achievement at our College.

We offer our international students strong welfare support; a broad and challenging curriculum; as well as activities and services beyond the classroom; in a safe and secure environment to ensure that they have a rewarding and memorable experience.

We have a range of programs specifically for international students including:

- our onsite intensive English language centre
- a dedicated international student coordinator
- native-speaking Chinese and Japanese international student coordinators
- a mentoring program for all international students
- our College as being a dedicated Resilience Project School
- regular contact and overseas family visits to report on progress and welfare
- our onsite doctor and wellbeing services.

An academic program and curriculum which fosters excellence

We provide all students the opportunity and support to achieve personal excellence and success. We ensure that we offer a broad range of subjects in all areas of the Victorian curriculum from Year 7 to Year 12.

We offer more than 40 subjects to create a stimulating and inspiring environment for each international student, through a holistic approach.

Onsite English language centre

Our onsite English language centre provides international students with English language support for their entre time at Mount Clear College.

On arrival, students spend the first 20 weeks based at the language centre. They have the opportunity to join some mainstream classes to become familiar with the functioning and requirements of the Australian classroom.

The centre provides after-school English classes and in-class English support to all students.

Science and technology

Mount Clear College has a very strong focus on STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Maths). We host one of the six specialist STEM Centres established by the Victorian Department of Education and Training. Our staff encompass new and emerging scientific thinking, The state-of-the-art facilities and cutting-edge technologies support staff to deliver immersive learning experiences within emerging scientific thinking. We offer all students the opportunity to study all Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) Science, Mathematics and Technology subjects.

We have a new technology centre that provides students the opportunities to study hands-on technology subjects including Wood; Metal; Automotive technology; Engineering; Mechatronics; and Robotics.

Students have the opportunity to study Food Technology and Hospitality in a new commercial kitchen. All students can learn and develop their hospitality skills in our fully functional café.

Music and performing arts

Students have extensive opportunities to participate in the music and performing arts program. This includes classroom music; drama; and dance (solo, small and large ensembles). Also, together with the opportunity to participate in orchestras; stage and concert bands; jazz ensembles and choir; as well as the school and state musical productions.

Our extensive facilities include a 300 seat theatre, two specifically designed band rehearsal rooms and a purpose-built dance studio with industry standard sprung flooring.

Students also have the opportunity to study media in a fully functional television studio and sound recording studio.

Beyond the classroom

We encourage each student to participate in all facets of "College" and "Aussie" life including student leadership; and an extensive variety of sport and outdoor education activities.

Involvement in these activities assists students in developing a wide range of friendship groups with shared interests. This also assists in developing the building of their community and sense of belonging.

Outdoor education

The regional park adjacent to our College provides many opportunities for mountain-biking, bushwalking and environmental studies. Students have the opportunity to participate in a variety of creative and fun outdoor activities. For example, abseiling; orienteering; rock climbing; and canoeing.

With Australia's beautiful coastline only an hour and a half's drive from our College, students can also participate in surfing and snorkelling activities. They have the opportunity to discover first-hand and learn more about our marine environment.





Camping program

Our College has an extensive camping program including Urban camp; Alpine camp; country/lake camps; interstate camps; and international camps/ tours. Our students gain fabulous insight and benefits from a multitude of excursions to a variety of locations within our city, region and throughout Victoria.

This variety of camping opportunities and excursions introduces our international students to the diversity of our county's landscape, history and culture; whilst providing exposure to the ultimate all-encompassing Australian lifestyle.

Sports program

Mount Clear College is widely known for its outstanding sporting endeavours. Our sports program offers every student the opportunity to participate in a wide range of sporting competitions during and after school.

These competitions include:

- football/soccer
- athletics
- badminton
- basketball
- clay target shooting
- cricket
- European handball
- golf
- hockey
- lawn bowls
- netball
- squash
- soccer
- table tennis
- tenpin bowling
- tennis
- swimming
- ultimate frisbee
- volleyball.
- Leadership

All students have substantial opportunities to be part of student leadership including the opportunity to undertake the Duke of Edinburgh International Award.

This international award is a leading structured youth development program. This empowers students aged 14 to 24 to explore their full potential and find their purpose, passion and place in the world; regardless of their location or circumstance.

Work experience and volunteering

All students participate in the work experience and volunteering program. Students have the opportunity to spend one week working in a range of industries; community organisations; service industries; educational providers; and retail stores.

Students also have the opportunity to volunteer in a range of service areas.

Making welfare and support a priority

Our College has a dedicated team of compassionate professionals who commit to assisting our international students.

Our kind, considerate and experienced coordinators lead a team of teachers who guide, educate and nurture our international students as they settle within their new school.

Our student wellbeing team provide support to students, as well as access to a range of services. This includes an onsite doctor; student counselling and referral to support agencies (if required). This also offers the opportunity to access native speaking specialists. Career counselling is available too providing opportunities for students to develop career pathway plans.

Homestay for international students

Local caring families provide homestay accommodation. These families are willing to open up their homes and their hearts providing each international student with the all-round "typical" Australian home-life experience.

Homestay provides all students with a safe and comfortable home during their time in Australia, where the students become one of the family.

We have a dedicated Homestay coordinator who is in regular contact with each of our homestay providers to ensure a quality experience for our students and our families.

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 and fruits
- 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 and the student's laundry
- 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.

The best of city living with access to Australia's natural beauty

Mount Clear College is located in Ballarat, one of Australia's largest regional cities. Just one hour's drive from Melbourne; and an hour and a half's drive to Australia's beautiful coastline and beaches.

Our international students thrive in our natural bush setting. In the busy education schedule, this is a pristine environment with clean fresh air. Therefore, providing the opportunity for our learners to enjoy the natural flora and fauna in our own backyard.

Ballarat is a thriving hub of contemporary arts, sports, events and food and wine venues, all within a beautiful heritage backdrop.

Ballarat embraces multi-culture, evidenced by:

- the variety of restaurants, cafes and event centres contained in and around our city centre.
- being a leading education city of excellence - featuring two major national universities; and the Australian home of IT industry leader IBM's Data Centre.



A recent success story

Xuzhong Duan from China is currently studying Commerce at the University of Melbourne.

"My time at Mount Clear College has been amazing. The school supported my academic achievements and provided me with many life-changing opportunities. I had many opportunities to develop my leadership skills and become very involved in the community.

I was very excited to be awarded the Mount Clear College Dux and Victorian Government's International School Student of the Year. Plus, I got the opportunity to be an ambassador for Victorian International Education."

I WAS VERY EXCITED TO BE AWARDED THE MOUNT CLEAR COLLEGE DUX AND VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT'S INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL STUDENT OF THE YEAR.



CONTACTING THE SCHOOL

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