



Schools in Australia: caring for and educating tomorrow's leaders

Australian schools encourage students to develop communication skills, self-discipline, problem solving abilities and respect for themselves, others and society. All Australian schools take their responsibilities to students very seriously. Below is a summary of the strengths of the Australian school system.

A quality education

- Small class sizes (a maximum of 30 students in a class)
- University trained and qualified teachers; specialist teachers in subject areas
- Facilities of a high standard including a high level of technology with all schools having computers and internet access
- Gifted and talented programs to extend students who are high achievers
- High Achievement Programs, which see the top students studying university-level subjects for advance credit
- Individual learning programs for students who require additional learning support
- Quality assurance frameworks where schools must meet required standards

The curriculum

A curriculum that prepares students for the 21st century to become independent and successful learners, confident and creative individuals, and active and informed citizens. It promotes equity and excellence in education.

The school curriculum covers the key learning areas of English, history, mathematics, science, geography, languages, physical education, the arts and a wide range of subjects including economics, business, information and communication technologies, design and vocational courses.

The curriculum is designed to equip students with the essential skills, knowledge and capabilities to thrive and compete in the globalised world and information rich workplaces of the 21st century.

The curriculum is focussed on student outcomes – it develops flexible and analytical thinking and the capacity to work with others and provides a solid foundation in knowledge, skills, understanding and values for further study and learning.

Teaching styles and assessment methods

- A variety of teaching methods are used including: teacher directed learning; student research; group projects and presentations; visual presentations, e-learning and interactive classrooms.
- A variety of assessments methods are used to assess student outcomes. These may include individual research projects, group assignments; oral and visual presentations, the use of technology including power point, podcast or vodcast presentations as well as the more traditional class tests and assignments.
- National and state testing programs to ensure standards are met and maintained.

Student welfare and support

- International student coordinators in every school
- A student welfare team
- Year advisers
- School counsellors
- Careers advisers to assist students with planning and applying for post-secondary study
- English as a second language support staff and programs
- Students learn with local Australian students
- Accommodation in homestay: all host families must have a police check to meet requirements of child protection legislation and homes must meet required standards; students have a 24 hour emergency contact number
- Some schools offer boarding

Direct pathway to university or further study in Australia or overseas

- Year 12 secondary certificates are recognised throughout Australia and overseas
- Students are well prepared for further study at university, TAFE or other tertiary institutions
- Students have adjusted to Australian culture and study in a small supportive environment
- Senior secondary colleges (Year 11/12 High School)

In partnership with:



For more information about studying at an Australian school visit www.studyinaustralia.gov.au



Australian Government
Australian Trade Commission

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