



THE
GEELONG
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GEELONG COLLEGE Q & A FOR INTERNATIONAL AGENTS

Where is the City of Geelong?

Geelong is a university city and the second largest in Victoria after Melbourne. It is only 75km from Melbourne and has excellent transport links by road and rail. There is a regular bus service (Gull) from Melbourne airport (Tullamarine) to Geelong which takes 1 hr 15 minutes. Geelong has a local airport with regular flights to Sydney, Adelaide and the Gold Coast.

How old is Geelong College?

Geelong College is one of the leading coeducational schools in Australia and was founded in July 1861. International students have been a part of our community since the early 1960's.

How big is the school?

We have over 1300 students across 2 campuses. Our Junior School, from Early Learning to Year 3, and Middle School, Years 4 to 8, sit about 5kms from our Senior School which is home to our Years 9 to 12 students and our boarding houses.

Where is the school situated?

Geelong College is located in the well-established suburb of Newtown which is mostly made up of young families. Our boarders only have a short walk to a nearby supermarket as well as being an easy walk to the popular shopping and café area on Pakington Street. Boarders can also walk into the CBD to the shopping centre, cinema and local beach.

Do you offer boarding or homestay?

We have 2 boarding houses (Mackie for boys and Mossgiel for girls) which have capacity for 100 boarders from Year 7 through to Year 12. We do not offer homestay.

Do they have their own rooms or are in dormitories?

All boarders have their own rooms with shared bathroom facilities. Meals are all served in the Dining Hall, a short walk from the boarding houses.

What support is offered?

We are very aware of the early difficulties faced when setting into a new environment away from family. We have a student mentor program as well as lots of people who personally look after both their academic work and emotional wellbeing. From boarding staff, tutors, our International Student Coordinator and School Psychologist and Chaplain – international students are well cared for and supported.

SHAPING THE FUTURE

The Geelong College
PO Box 5, Geelong Victoria 3220
ABN: 22 005 988 205 CRICOS: 0412G

Senior School
Talbot St Newtown
P (03) 5226 3111

Middle School
Aberdeen St Newtown
P (03) 5226 8444

Junior School
Minerva Rd Newtown
P (03) 5226 8433

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How many international students are there?

In the boarding houses we have around 35 international students who mostly come from Asian countries such as China, Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan, Thailand, Malaysia and Japan. Sometimes we have students also from the Middle East and Europe. We purposely do not grow our international student population too large as we feel it is important that they are speaking English most of the time. We also have students of Asian origin as day students whose families live in the region.

Does the School act as guardian?

No as we ask parents to appoint a guardian living in Australia or we offer a professional guardian service through ISA Guardianship.

Is sport compulsory?

Yes. We believe sport plays an important part in the development of a young person. They learn to be physically fit and healthy, as well as team work, good sportsmanship and discipline. We expect our students to try different sports over the summer and winter seasons, to train twice per week and compete against other schools in Geelong and Melbourne on Saturdays in the APS competition.

Do you offer the International Baccalaureate?

No. We offer the VCE (Victorian Certificate of Education) which is recognisable throughout the world and accepted by international universities. Students have a broad selection of more than 33 subjects to choose from. Over 98% of our Year 12 students go onto leading universities which include Melbourne University, Monash University and Deakin University. In 2015 an international student from Hong Kong was Dux of the College and has gone on to study science at Melbourne University.

Studying overseas – does this make it difficult for the parents?

We encourage our parents to be involved in their child's learning as much as possible. We communicate regularly with our parents through weekly bulletins, online reporting, social media and even skype conversations on career advice and subject selection. Our Director of Community relations is a regular visitor to Asia and meets up with parents in a number of cities.

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