

SOUTH OAKLEIGH COLLEGE

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM

Victoria, Australia

Department of Education

SOUTH OAKLEIGH
COLLEGE





OUR STUDENTS HAVE THE ABILITY TO
CONSIDER DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES,
DEVELOP EMPATHY, BUILD POSITIVE
RELATIONSHIPS, AND MAKE INFORMED
DECISIONS.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

South Oakleigh College is committed to developing the whole child. Each of our students has talent and we offer a range of opportunities so that individuals can achieve their potential and become confident, respectful and effective learners, able to contribute constructively as global citizens of the 21st Century.

Our students learn resilience - to persevere and to be resourceful when faced with challenges - and to take responsibility for their learning by being creative. We celebrate the diversity of our students and encourage them to develop social responsibility, empathy and compassion for others.

South Oakleigh College offers a comprehensive and challenging curriculum supported by a vibrant extra-curricular program. Our values of high expectations, respect, responsibility, resilience and teamwork are woven through all facets of school life: during student learning, throughout teaching practice and in school management.

We're delighted that you are considering our thriving community as a pathway for your child. Please feel free to contact the College if you have any inquiries regarding our school and the programs we offer.

Helen Koziaris
Principal



WHY CHOOSE SOUTH OAKLEIGH COLLEGE?

At South Oakleigh College, our successful International Student Program is recognised for its quality and for how well it caters for a diverse group of students. We provide a supportive and stimulating environment for all students, and a comprehensive curriculum designed to help students become successful in further studies, work and life in a fast-changing world.

We proudly provide:

- an extensive English as an Additional Language (EAL) program
- International Student Program assistants who offer each student individual support and tutoring
- an after-school homework club
- individualised education plans which cater for the different needs and backgrounds of students
- a range of extra-curricular activities, including excursions with educational and cultural value, tours of universities and opportunities to participate in enrichment clubs, sports teams and competitions inside and outside of school hours
- ongoing support, including one-on-one counselling sessions and mental health workshops provided by external partners.

A high-quality academic program

Our school's Accelerated Program is designed to challenge high-achieving students to be their best. The program aims to develop higher-order thinking skills so students can gain a deeper understanding of topics studied in English, mathematics and science.

Our careers and pathway adviser is responsible for careers and course counseling, maintaining a library of relevant material for student use and helping place Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) students in relevant courses. This aims to give students all the relevant information, allowing them to make informed choices about their lives.

Global prefects' perspective

South Oakleigh College has teachers with diverse cultural backgrounds that can advise you in your preferred language about different subjects, including science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) and arts. The school offers a tutoring program that can develop students' understanding in literacy, numeracy and humanities.

South Oakleigh College offers an international language program that includes Greek and Japanese language courses. To access the program, students can select the language course that they wish to enrol during subject selection at the beginning of the school year. These language courses operate within the school grounds, and we offer advanced, mainstream and beginner courses in these languages, so don't worry if you're not confident!

Studying these languages can provide a deeper understanding and appreciation of the cultures associated with them. By learning a language, students can gain insight into the customs, values, and beliefs of a particular community. For example, by studying Greek, students can learn about ancient Greek civilisation, mythology, and literature, as well as the modern Greek culture and way of life. Similarly, studying Japanese can expose students to the rich cultural heritage of Japan, including its traditions, arts, and technology.

In addition to expanding cultural knowledge, learning a new language also has practical benefits. Furthermore, it can prepare students for future international travel and work opportunities.

We look forward to welcoming all international students to our College and assisting in the further development of cultural knowledge and diversity, in our extensively inclusive community.

We hope to see you at one of our events including Lunar New Year (incorporating Chinese and Vietnamese customs), Mid-Autumn Moon Festival, Diwali and more.

Sally Wu, Thanh Viet and Phuc (Mollie) Pham
2023 Global Prefects





A variety of extra-curricular activities

We offer students a wide range of opportunities to explore their learning, deepen friendships and develop new talents through our extra-curricular programs. These include:

- academic competitions
- chess
- choir
- IT coding
- Monash University lectures
- debating
- drama and school production
- breakfast club
- TV and media club
- lego master
- work experience program
- fitness club (gym)
- STEM club
- art and design club.

From Year 7 to Year 11, students attend school camp each year - a great way to build new relationships through challenging activities that teach students the value of persistence and trust in others. Students visit popular destinations around Victoria, such as Phillip Island, Gippsland and Geelong. With further opportunities to participate in overseas cultural and language immersion programs such as our STEM experiences in NASA, community projects in Fiji, cultural immersions to Greece, Japan and Northern Territory.

At South Oakleigh College, we are very proud of our media centre. Containing the latest professional equipment, including cameras, vision-switching, teleprompting and sound equipment used by national television stations. As Channel Nine News Anchor Peter Hitchener said, "It's the best television and media facility I've ever seen in a secondary school."

Serious about student welfare

Our International Student Program is supported by an international team who are dedicated to supporting students in every aspect of their school lives.

Our international student team is comprised of our principal and assistant principal, an international student coordinator, international student assistant, multicultural aides and our English as an Additional Language (EAL) teachers.

As well as classroom teachers, international students are also supported by our head of house, mentor teacher, careers/pathways coordinator, wellbeing team and the sub-school leaders.

To assist our international students in adjusting to studying in Australia, we have a network of support professionals who have significant experience in addressing concerns of students from a wide range of cultures. We pride ourselves on our open-door policy when it comes to offering support to students; we encouraged to ask for help and guidance whenever they need it.

Homestay for international students

In Victoria, all 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 your personal use
- three meals a day, seven days a week, including snacks
- facilities – a bed, wardrobe, towels and linen
- utilities – gas, electricity, heating and water costs, internet
- cleaning services of common living areas
- the use of living areas within the residence
- study facilities – desk, study light, bookcase
- attendance at parent/teacher evenings on behalf of your parents.

Some of our South Oakleigh international students live with their parents or approved relatives. One of our student's relatives, Jessica, had this to say about the program:

"Studying overseas might be difficult and challenging for international students, but my niece, Tris, has been enjoying her journey studying in Australia. The school keeps in touch with us by emailing attendance records, term reports and checking in about students' wellbeing. It helps us to know that our child is being taken care of and the school always supports international students both academically as well as in their health and wellbeing."

Easily accessible location

South Oakleigh College is in the south-eastern suburbs of Melbourne, with the area well-served by trains and buses. The college has attractive school grounds and is close to native parkland and reserves. South Oakleigh College is also close to:

- Monash University's Clayton campus
- a sports and aquatic centre, community library and a wide variety of restaurants of different cuisines
- Chadstone Shopping Centre - the largest shopping centre in the Southern Hemisphere.



A recent success story

"I have been in South Oakleigh College since year 8, and my time here has been filled with both good yet challenging memories. I know that it is tough to be in a new place that you are unfamiliar with, but when you start to open up to people, you will find out that there is always going to be someone around to support you. From my experience of being an international students captain in both Year 9 and Year 12, I developed valuable leadership and social skills, so don't be scared to go for these opportunities as you'll never know how much you will gain from them. With all the international students being very much like a large family, they have your back. And your English will get better!"

- Maggie from China, International Student Captain in 2021. Studied Psychology at Monash University after graduating from South Oakleigh College

IT HELPS US TO KNOW THAT OUR CHILD IS BEING TAKEN CARE OF AND THE SCHOOL ALWAYS SUPPORTS INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS BOTH ACADEMICALLY AS WELL AS IN THEIR HEALTH AND WELLBEING.



**SOUTH OAKLEIGH
COLLEGE**



CONTACTING THE SCHOOL

South Oakleigh College

Bakers Road, Oakleigh South 3167 Victoria

Principal: Helen Koziaris

Assistant Principal: Anthony Katsianos

Tel: +61 3 9579 2322

Email: south.oakleigh.sc@education.vic.gov.au



**Victorian Government Schools International
Student Program**

80 Collins Street, Melbourne Victoria 3000, Australia

Tel: +61 3 7022 1000

Email: international@education.vic.gov.au

Web: www.study.vic.gov.au

Published by the International Education Division

Department of Education Melbourne February 2023

© State of Victoria (Department of Education) 2023

CRICOS Provider Name and Code: Department of
Education, 00861K