

VIEWBANK COLLEGE

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM

Victoria, Australia

Department of Education and Training



VIEWBANK
COLLEGE





A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Viewbank College's school motto is caring for excellence.

We pledge to continue to build a respectful environment that is inclusive, positive, safe and caring, promotes empowerment and strives for equity.

We honour the diversity of everyone within our community and embrace every background, experience, gender, sexuality, ability, age, culture and religion.

Viewbank College, with a current student population of 1,470, welcomes international students in Years 7 to 12 from across the world.

The College commits to providing quality teaching and learning to challenge students to grow as learners and as individuals.

With the breadth in our curriculum program and innovative extra-curricular choices, students are able to achieve strong academic results due to the positive attitudes and the support of passionate and dedicated teachers.

Sharon Grimes
Principal

THE COLLEGE COMMITS TO PROVIDING QUALITY TEACHING AND LEARNING TO CHALLENGE STUDENTS TO GROW AS LEARNERS AND AS INDIVIDUALS.



WHY CHOOSE VIEWBANK COLLEGE?

We warmly welcome international students to join our family! We are proud of our international student program. Our international students contribute a great deal to the multicultural diversity we enjoy.

We not only provide first-class academic education but also strongly support students' comprehensive ability strength training.

In recent years, we have hosted international students from China, Vietnam, Thailand, Singapore, Japan, South Korea, India, and South America. Families select our College for its academic standards and its reputation.

There are two school staff who provide comprehensive and high-quality support including:

- Homestay arrangements
- airport pick-up arrangements for new students
- pre-enrolment guidance
- our orientation program
- Chinese language support within the classroom
- school visits

A high quality academic program

The Viewbank College Acceleration and Enhancement (AE) program is for gifted and talented learners identified as very capable, committed and enthusiastic.

This program provides the opportunity to work in a challenging and stimulating environment with students of similar ability. Suitable students will have academic skills above those of their age peer group.

The Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) is a great challenge for students to really evaluate their capacity as learners and establish their best opportunity for achieving quality pathways.

Viewbank College requires that all its senior students prioritise time and effort into achieving VCE success and being proud of their efforts.

At Viewbank College we offer special programs including:

- access to VCE Subjects from Year 10
- access to a range of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths (STEAM) programs
- extension opportunities in mathematics and science
- extensive instrumental music program
- IT and media studies
- Japanese and German languages
- strong English as an Additional Language (EAL) support (for students in Years 7 to 9 there are extra EAL support lessons per week; plus, separate EAL classes for students in Years 10 to 12)
- homework clubs in mathematics/science and English/humanities
- a student leadership program
- pastoral care and student counselling support
- a college nurse
- a work experience program
- a well-developed respectful relationships program





A variety of extra-curricular activities

Viewbank College has a range of extra-curricular activities for students to get involved in. This is a great way to gain confidence in the English language and meet new friends!

We offer activities in musical instrument tuition and performance, college production and drama performances, a sporting program as well as debating and public speaking.

Plus, we also host a varied lunchtime activities program, a G'Day USA overseas trip and sister school exchange trips to Germany and Japan.

Serious about student welfare

Viewbank College commits to providing a safe environment where international students have their voices heard about the decisions that affect their lives. We ensure the safety of international students, from culturally or linguistically diverse backgrounds, receives particular attention. This includes:

Pre Departure:

All students and families receive a number of essential documents which outline the school policies, cost of books and uniforms, and information about living in Australia prior to arrival in Australia.

This also allows communication to take place between the student and the international student coordinator prior to departure.

Airport Pickup:

All students who require airport pickup will be met by a staff member from the international student program and taken to their homestay.

Orientation Program:

We have an orientation session for all students as soon as they arrive. We will provide them with a package including guidelines and school rules, procedures, etc. Details about Australia, its customs and culture, the local area, and the school community are also incorporated.

Wellbeing Team:

Our College student wellbeing team works closely with middle and senior school teams in initiating, coordinating, implementing and evaluating the student development and wellbeing programs.

The documentation available via the compass system enables all students to have consistent access to multiple physical, social as well as emotional supports.

Homestay for international students

Viewbank College homestays undergo close monitoring and regular visits by the international student coordinator and international student coordinator assistant.

Both the homestay provider and the student sign a homestay responsibility agreement to ensure each party is fulfilling their responsibilities.

We have strict homestay regulations to ensure the safety of our students.

Your homestay family will provide you with:

- 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.

"I am happy with the homestay program. Everything is well organised and helpful. The school fully supports me whenever I need any help," Jacky, homestay parent.

Easily accessible location

Viewbank College is located close to a range of native flora and fauna reserves with attractive school grounds. Our school is approximately 17kms from Melbourne's city centre and is:

- close to shopping centres, banking, medical and entertainment amenities
- serviced by regular train lines and bus routes
- a friendly and safe community environment with plenty of parks, walking, and bike trails.



A recent success story

Daniel BI from China studied English as an Additional Language (EAL), Specialist Maths, Chemistry, Economics and Chinese in VCE Year 12 and participated in basketball. Daniel is currently studying a Bachelor of Science at Melbourne University.

"My three-year Viewbank College study experience has given me a solid foundation for my future path. The best part of my school life was that I not only learned a new language and Australian culture but also expanded my network and made great friends."

THE BEST PART OF MY SCHOOL LIFE WAS THAT I NOT ONLY LEARNED A NEW LANGUAGE AND AUSTRALIAN CULTURE BUT ALSO EXPANDED MY NETWORK AND MADE GREAT FRIENDS.



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