



Strathcona
GIRLS GRAMMAR

GIRLS
UNSTOPPABLE

Overseas Student Prospectus.

2022



To become unstoppable,
a girl must first be set
into motion...

Strathcona is the catalyst
of a life-shaping momentum,
ensuring each girl discovers
a trajectory as unique and
full of potential as she is.

Upon their respective journeys, Strathcona girls break the stereotypes of private education — and we are proud of it. Action, meaning and fulfilment take precedence, and are aptly expressed in the School motto: 'Bravely, Faithfully, Happily.'

Through a culture of academic excellence and a rich selection of co-curricular activities, girls grow and thrive. Strong, resilient, empowered — at Strathcona these are more than just words. We imbue them with impetus tied to each girl's uniqueness and personal ambitions.

As a student's voice and identity emerge, so does her character. And it's here that Strathcona truly sets itself apart.

Our Motto

FORTITER — Bravely: *Strathcona girls are courageous*

FIDELITER — Faithfully: *Strathcona girls are ethically minded*

FELICITER — Happily: *Strathcona girls are optimistic*





Being yourself
is a lifelong
reward.

In each of us lies
unique potential.



Sometimes it's just under
the surface, bursting to get
out. Other times it flows
deep, coalescing and rising,
a swirl of steady motion.

At Strathcona we identify that rich vein of potential in each of our students, nurture it, enrich it, and guide its course until it's ready to reveal itself to the world. Every girl is different, but common to them all is the quality we instil in them — unstopability.

This prospectus is a short introduction to the philosophy and values that drive the Strathcona experience — an experience that brings the lifelong reward of truly knowing and being yourself.

I invite you to learn more about Strathcona Girls Grammar. We wholeheartedly welcome the opportunity to share with you this most important time in your daughter's life.



Marise McConaghy
Principal

Why enrol at a girls' school?

Rest assured, the decisions you are faced with for your daughter's education are shared by parents everywhere. Among the most fundamental of these is whether to enrol her in a co-educational or single-sex school.

To be fair, each has its merits. But, increasingly, there is a swelling amount of international research indicating that girls perform at their best — academically and personally — in a single-sex educational environment.

Through our junior, middle and senior years, Strathcona is a girls' school. Our long and proud tradition of providing

high-quality education is augmented by our emphasis on developing each girl according to her own strengths and interests. A girl is at her best when she is free to be herself, and though girls-only schools everywhere provide an environment for this to happen, at Strathcona we embed it into our culture.



Top left:
Your daughter will access leading edge technology and tools as she investigates 'Digital Futures' at Strathcona.



Top right:
STEM study starts early giving our girls a strong platform for further education.



Bottom left:
For our girls, physical education is as important as academic learning.



SO PRECISELY WHAT DOES THE RESEARCH FIND? IN ESSENCE:

- » Once boys are removed from the equation, girls feel more confident and assertive, and more willing to act in a competitive spirit.
- » When it comes to subjects studied, girls feel freer to enter a much broader range of non-gender-stereotypical areas of study, in particular science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM). If started early, this trend continues into tertiary education (in fact, as champions of science, Strathcona more than doubles the national average participation rate in Chemistry and Physics).
- » In general, literacy and numeracy results are better in single-sex school environments. Additionally, girls' academic performance is markedly improved in schools which have transitioned from co-ed to single-sex.
- » Girls only have themselves to compete against, with exclusive access to leadership roles, sports representation, drama, performance

- and music spots — in fact, any and every position or challenge within the student environment. This leads to a greater emphasis on risk-taking, participation and positive competition, and less likelihood of bullying or feelings of inadequacy — all vital qualities for later in life.
- » A higher proportion of students from single-sex schools progress to tertiary education than their counterparts in co-educational schools. In fact, some two-thirds of 'high-performing' schools are single-sex.
- » Girls in single-sex schools score higher on emotional and behavioural engagement at the end of Year 7 than their counterparts in co-ed schools.
- » Students at single-sex schools are more likely to complete secondary schooling, with better scores, to enter higher education, and have lower exposure to periods of unemployment thereafter.

While not the purview of research data, Strathcona can attest to the benefits of health and wellbeing programs tailored especially for girls at every stage of their journey, as well as uncompromising teaching that is personalised to the specific ways in which girls learn.

But perhaps the greatest advantage of choosing a girls' school for your daughter, from a Strathcona viewpoint, is that no matter what her interests and passions are, or evolve into, she will always be able to pursue them to the fullest. She can be who she truly is, and become what she is destined to become, in an environment of like-minded, passionate women.



"Thank you for going above and beyond to make things fun, to add variety to their days and to keep them on track with their learning. The girls have achieved and learned so much thanks to the positivity and energy of the teachers following the can-do tone set."

Year 9 parent

Why forward-thinking families choose Strathcona.

Choosing an all-girls' school is one thing. Choosing which one is another thing altogether.

By now you will have gained a sense of Strathcona's passion for helping girls reach their full, unique potential, to become truly unstoppable in and beyond the classroom.

You'll also have noticed that we have a certain personality — a personal touch — that separates us from the more corporate-themed institutions you may be considering. It's this personal approach, our belief in knowing each girl as an individual and supporting her in being her whole self in mind, body and spirit, that is unlike anything you'll find among our contemporaries. We're unafraid of breaking private education stereotypes for something more meaningful.

Where other schools may be selective in their enrolments, Strathcona develops high achievement in all, commensurate with an individual's unique blend of skills and abilities.

We are as committed to realising a girl's dream of becoming a video-game designer or author as we are another girl's desire to pursue medicine or civil engineering. What matters to us is that your daughter's inner spirit has the chance to flourish, in an environment that is supportive, challenging and rewarding.

An investment in a Strathcona education provides expertise on learning and care whether on campus or online. Our Continuous Learning Program delivers engagement, a complete wellbeing program and a positive, supported learning environment with minimum disruption to studies or classroom collaboration.



Bespoke learning

It could be said that we shape the school to fit the girl, rather than shaping the girl to fit the school. As a contemporary and always forward-thinking place of learning, Strathcona doesn't rely on the fundamentals alone to achieve results. We empower our staff to think innovatively and craft unique teaching programs that engage and inspire students as a group, and girls as individuals.

We have smaller class sizes than the average, and our teachers work hard to develop meaningful connections with every single student. This all translates into better academic performance on the one hand, and a greater sense of belonging on the other. This sense of belonging is a powerful part of the Strathcona experience. With almost 100 years of refining this sense, we enable our girls to share in it from day one.



Above:
Our Head of Junior School hearing from her girls.



Below:
Creative expression through ceramics for our Year 7 girls.



Above right:
Our Year 9 girls develop independence at their own Tay Creggan campus.



Below middle:
The Lion King musical — performance builds teamwork skills and an appreciation for the arts.



Below right:
Your daughter will feel she belongs through our cross-age programs.



Balance and belonging

Here, mind, body and spirit take equal priority, and we strive to achieve a healthy balance between the academic and the pastoral. To that end, our nurturing Pastoral Care program aims to bolster in each girl a robust sense of self, with the emotional intelligence to be resilient in the face of challenge, confident when the opportunity arises, and compassionate toward the plight of others. It instils an optimistic, productive attitude, while developing team and leadership skills.

Further entrenching belonging and confidence, while building strong support networks, is our range of cross-age programs, which provide stimulating activities and challenges that older and younger students tackle together. Our girls don't just talk to each other — they help each other. And of course our longstanding House System promotes friendly rivalry across all year levels, with annual highlights including a Debating Competition, Performing Arts Festival, Athletics and Swimming Carnivals, and a host of community engagement activities.



Right:
Our girls developing their musical prowess in the Symphonic Band.



Below left:
Collaboration between our Year 9 girls at Tay Creggan.



Below right:
Our Year 4 artists developing their talents.



Equipped for success

Strathcona is by no means a 'big' school (other than in the way we think, that is). But our modest footprint boasts an impressive array of facilities in support of our students' development. These are spread across our three campuses — the Junior School and Senior School in Canterbury, and the Year 9 Tay Creggan in Hawthorn.

From ELC to Senior School, spaces have been purpose-built to suit student needs at each year level. These include state-of-the-art smart classrooms, seminar rooms, quiet study spaces, halls and galleries, kitchens, social areas, outdoor spaces (including learning spaces), art rooms, music studios and media rooms. Our redeveloped Year 7 and 8 centre connects both year levels while providing dedicated media booths for students to record work and create podcasts.

Of particular note is the 1893 home Tay Creggan, our dedicated Year 9 school on the banks of the Yarra River. Within its heritage-listed walls students enjoy spacious classrooms, science laboratory, library, commercial kitchen and art space. Alongside the sports ground and basketball court outside, the river affords plenty of water-based activity, including canoeing, kayaking and rowing.



Body, mind and spirit

Often surprising visitors with the extent of its offering, the Senior School campus amply demonstrates Strathcona's belief in maintaining a healthy body. It is home to a large, multi-purpose synthetic oval, indoor heated 25m pool, five tennis and netball courts, gymnasium complex and a weights and training room.

Of course, the mind is also well catered for at Strathcona, not only in our curriculum, but in our libraries. Across the Wheelton Knowledge Exchange in the Senior School, the Tay Creggan Learning Lounge, and the Junior School Library, students benefit from our formidable print, audio-visual and digital collections, online databases, and flexible learning spaces with wireless network access.

When it comes to the spirit, few things uplift like the arts, and our Creative and Performing Arts Centre is the ideal take-off point. With four art rooms, multimedia lab, recording studio, music, drama and performance facilities, as well as a food technology area catering to the culinary arts, every Strathcona girl has the opportunity to express her genuine self.

Intellectually curious, emotionally intelligent, quietly confident, socially responsible — all these and more aptly describe the typical Strathcona girl. But there is no one Strathcona girl. There are as many as there are girls who have spent their time with us. Each one driven by a unique passion, which it is our role to identify, nurture and develop. It's the very reason we say that unstoppable girls begin at Strathcona.



Top right:
The Little Mermaid musical — our environment challenges your daughter intellectually and emotionally through performance.



Above right:
Building resilience in all environments at Year 10 camp.



Right:
Girls developing their competitive edge during squad training.

Welcome to Strathcona.

Strathcona was founded in 1924 and is a day school for girls from Prep to Year 12. We are an independent, non-government school in the Baptist tradition. We welcome students of all faiths and cultures.

Strathcona is not a 'big' school with a population of around 800 students from many cultures and backgrounds. Our modest footprint boasts an impressive array of facilities in support of our students' development. These are spread across our three campuses — the Junior School and Senior School in Canterbury, and the Year 9 Tay Creggan in Hawthorn.

We are a highly inclusive community and welcome overseas students from all around the world.

Through a culture of academic excellence and a rich selection of co-curricular activities, girls grow and thrive. A Strathcona girl is balanced in mind, body and spirit. Her robust sense of self is founded upon respect, integrity, compassion, courage and genuine community spirit. Being ready for life isn't about bettering others — it's about improvement within.



Strathcona Girls Grammar School is a registered provider on the Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students (CRICOS 00577C).

In essence, Strathcona affords its girls the opportunity to discover who they really are, and to pursue their life's potential by being themselves.

Or, put another way:
**unstoppable girls
begin at Strathcona.**

Our vision

Strathcona aspires to be a nurturing learning community that develops intellectually curious, optimistic, life-ready young women who are empowered to shape their future in a rapidly changing world.

OUR VALUES

Respect • Integrity • Compassion •
Courage • Empowerment

OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Our Guiding Principles provide us with direction and purpose, and are our shared beliefs and values contributing to our culture, learning and organisational path forward.

- » To be courageous, curious and creative
- » To act with purpose, service and empathy
- » To be resourceful, optimistic and resilient
- » To create authentic, agile learning places and ecosystems
- » To enrich and strengthen our multifaceted community
- » To ensure visionary leadership and wise stewardship.



OUR STRATEGIC PILLARS

Underpinning our Guiding Principles are our Strategic Pillars. These pillars represent the essential elements of focus contributing to Strathcona's ongoing success as we move to our centenary and beyond.

Experience • Character •
Connection • Momentum

OUR STATEMENT OF DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES

In our policies and practices, the School supports and promotes the principles and practice of Australian democracy, including a commitment to:

- » Elected government
- » The rule of law
- » Equal rights for all before the law
- » Freedom of religion
- » Freedom of speech and association
- » The values of openness and tolerance.

View all Strathcona policies at strathcona.vic.edu.au/governance

OUR COMMITMENT TO CHILD SAFETY

Strathcona is committed to providing a child safe and child friendly environment, where children and young people are safe and feel safe to actively participate in decisions that affect their lives.

At Strathcona we have a zero tolerance for child abuse and are committed to acting in children's best interests and keeping them safe from harm. The School regards its child protection responsibilities with the utmost importance and as such, is committed to providing the necessary resources to ensure compliance with all relevant child protection laws and regulations and maintain a child safe culture.

OUR STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

- » We are committed to advancing education within a Christian learning community and operating in a manner which bears witness to the Christian faith having regard to the School's Baptist foundation.
- » We are committed to offering our students the best education possible, and allowing each student to realise their full potential.
- » We are committed to offering the best academic environment possible. To do this, we support each student's learning and ensure that each student can learn in an environment free from bullying, harassment, and discrimination.
- » We are committed to caring for each student's emotional and pastoral needs. To do this, we have a pastoral care framework and provide support such as counselling services and education on resilience and mental health.
- » We are committed to allowing each student to achieve in areas of their own interest. To do this, we accommodate each student's interests, allowing them to balance curricular and extra-curricular activities, and encourage them to pursue their interests.
- » We are committed to fostering leadership in all of our students. To achieve this, we have programs and activities which encourage each student to lead among their peers.
- » We are committed to allowing each student to live a healthy and active lifestyle. To do this, we provide education on a healthy lifestyle, and encourage sporting and other co-curricular activities.



Above Left:
Connection and sense of belonging is core to Strathcona's school culture.



Left:
Students develop and understanding of how technology works so they can help build the future.

The Strathcona Difference.



Passionate Educators

At Strathcona we have a team of highly qualified professionals who have a passion for education and a true understanding of how girls learn best. Our educators are leaders who set high expectations and expect the best of every girl. They inspire their students to embrace challenges and empower them to make a difference in the world.



Learning & Curriculum

The curriculum and offerings at Strathcona are diverse and challenging. Students in Year 9 have the unique opportunity to spend an important transitional year before Senior School in an exclusive environment at our historic Tay Creggan campus (TC). It is here that we run one of our most inspirational life-skill programs known as TC Envision. In this program students learn valuable life skills including critical thinking, communication and resilience.

For further information, refer to our Teaching and Learning page on our website: strathcona.vic.edu.au. A copy of the Curriculum Handbook is available upon request and provided with our Written Agreement.



Career Counselling

Strathcona is keenly focused on life beyond school, and the various paths our girls will take as they advance into exciting and rewarding careers. Our multi-faceted careers program, complemented by the Strathcona Centre for Learning Futures, is designed to provide age- and stage-appropriate information and helps ensure our students take the path best suited to their ambitions.

Our Careers Advisor and Senior Dean of Learning Futures provide pathway information by assisting students in Year 10, 11 and 12 with their subject selection based on each student's areas of interest and subject strengths. In Year 12 students are closely counselled to ensure they are organized and well prepared for their transition to higher education institutions whether that be in Australia or abroad.

By the time they graduate, all our students should have developed a strong sense of self, as well as the necessary skills to manage their career decisions and planning as adults.



Wellbeing Program

We have an established wellbeing program led by our Dean of Students and supported by a team of wellbeing support staff.

In addition, our overseas students are introduced to key support staff as part of their orientation, and also supported academically, emotionally and spiritually by our School Chaplain, School Psychologists, Career Advisor, Child Safety Officers, the Deputy Principal, the Heads of House and House Mentor, a Buddy program and ultimately, the School Principal.



Left: Individual care is given ensuring each child is seen and heard.



Below left: From an early age students are taught a global perspective.



Below: Year 9 students spend a year at Tay Creggan where they study entrepreneurship through Strathcona's TC Envision program.



Dedicated Overseas Student Coordinator

Our overseas students are supported by a dedicated Overseas Student Coordinator whose role is to get to know each student personally, help students to settle to life away from home and be the main point of contact for any concerns that our overseas students may have. They also closely monitor each student's visa compliance with respect to satisfactory attendance, behaviour and academic progress to ensure each student remains focused and on track to achieve success.

True Australian Experience

Our overseas students have the opportunity to live with an Australian homestay family. They work and learn alongside local students both in and out of the classroom and have the opportunity to immerse themselves within the local community and the Australian "mateship" way of life. Students are taken on cultural excursions around Melbourne and are taught Australian history and customs.

Facilities

Strathcona campuses are generous, warm and welcoming spaces with heart and soul. We have modern classrooms, enviable science laboratories, purpose built sporting fields, gymnasium and fitness centre, an indoor aquatic centre, a well resourced library (Wheelton Knowledge Exchange), a state of the art Creative and Performing Art Centre (CPAC) and hall (Featherstone Hall) for drama and music productions, a historic Year 9 campus perched along the Yarra River while landscaped courtyards and quiet study spaces are strategically spread across the three campuses to promote mindfulness, collaboration, recreation, and engagement of community.



Above:
Strathcona's Year 9 campus is on the river and also accommodates our Rowing and Kayaking facilities and teams.



Below left:
Our swimming pool is home to our learn to swim program, diving and swimming squads.



Below middle:
Strathcona's multipurpose courts have students learning and participating in a range of sports such as tennis, soccer or hockey.



Bottom:
The Wheelton Knowledge Exchange is at the heart of the Senior School and offers students a place to study, research and connect with each other.

Co-Curricular Activities

There are many benefits to a balanced lifestyle and therefore opportunities to participate in activities outside of the classroom are endless at Strathcona. Students are encouraged to try new things and discover their hidden strengths and talents. There is something for everyone from House events such as music, sport, drama, School music performances and debating as well as inter-school sport tournaments, year level camps and a large range of outdoor education activities and excursions.



House Activities

Every Strathcona student belongs to a House (colour group) and there are lots of opportunities to represent your House in debating, drama, music and sporting activities. All students are expected to participate in the House Swimming, Cross Country and Athletic Sports, as well as other events, depending on their year level. This is a fun way to meet other students from your own year level and different year levels.

Each House also has a House Mentor who arranges individual meetings with each student. These one-on-one discussions provide students with feedback and advice for how to develop their own goal/s and take ownership over how they are created and achieved. This process empowers the student to use their knowledge of their character strengths to set goals for the senior years of schooling and life beyond school.



Studying in Australia

ESOS Regulations and Compliance

THE ESOS FRAMEWORK

The Australian government wants overseas students in Australia to have a safe, enjoyable and rewarding place to study. Australia's laws promote quality education and consumer protection for overseas students. These laws are collectively known as the ESOS framework and they include the Education Services for Overseas Students (ESOS) Act 2000, the National Code (2018), Migration Act (1958) and a number of other related regulations.

Further details are available at internationaleducation.gov.au

PROTECTION FOR OVERSEAS STUDENTS

All overseas students on a Student Visa (500), must study with an education provider and in a course that can be found on the Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students (CRICOS). This ensures that the course and the education provider has met the high standards necessary for overseas students.

Strathcona is a registered provider (CRICOS 00577C).

Further details are available at cricos.education.gov.au

YOUR RIGHTS

Under Australian law, overseas students have the right to:

- » Receive current and accurate information about the courses, entry requirements, fees, modes of study and other enrolment information from the education provider and their agent.
- » Sign a Written Agreement with their education provider before or at the time they pay their fees. They do not have to pay the education provider any money or fees until they accept the agreement.
- » Seek a refund in certain situations for course money they have paid.
- » Receive the education they paid for or be placed in another course or receive a refund if the education provider is unable to teach their nominated course.
- » Access complaints and appeals processes.
- » Request a transfer to another institution and have that request assessed by their education provider.
- » Information about the education provider's orientation process, support staff and services, and policies on matters such as course deferral, suspension and cancellation, satisfactory course progress and attendance and the complaints and appeals process.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

While on a Student Visa, overseas students are responsible for:

- » Satisfying their Student Visa conditions.
- » Maintaining their Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) for the period of their stay.
- » Meeting the terms of the Written Agreement with the education provider.
- » Informing the education provider if their address or living arrangements change.
- » Maintaining satisfactory course progress, attendance and behaviour in line with the education provider's Code of Conduct.
- » Informing the education provider of any plans for overnight stay or travel arrangements that is not accompanied by an approved adult or in breach of the Confirmation of Appropriate Accommodation and Welfare (CAAW) letter issued by the education provider (if applicable).

Third Party Organisations

EDUCATION AGENTS

It is recommended that parents engage one of the school's approved Education Agents to make an application for enrolment. Strathcona has agreements and relationships with a number of Education Agents in China, Hong Kong, Thailand, Korea, Vietnam and other countries. For a current and complete list please refer to our **Education Agent list** on our overseas student enrolments webpage.

The Education Agent will assist with AEAS testing, ELICOS arrangements and Visa applications.

HOMESTAY PROVIDERS

The school may use contracted commercial agencies to help recruit homestay providers and provide "shortlists", including agency-screened homestay options for the school to review, visit and potentially approve. This accommodation arrangement is available for overseas students who are unable to live with their family while studying in Melbourne..

Weekly fees will vary, depending on the level of service required. These can range between \$325 - \$365 per week.

Advantages of Homestay

- » An Australian experience
- » Get to meet, live and eat like local people
- » Improve language skills
- » Learn local cultures and customs
- » Benefits of family life – a "home away from home"
- » Develop new relationships and gain a new family
- » Build life long memories

SUPPORT SERVICES

All overseas students attending Strathcona, irrespective of their age, must have adequate welfare arrangements in place throughout the duration of their enrolment by either:

- » Living with a parent/guardian approved by the Department of Home Affairs; or
- » Living with a nominated eligible relative approved by the Department of Home Affairs; or
- » Having a School approved support person who will act on the family's behalf while the student is studying in Melbourne.

The school may use contracted commercial agencies as an external provider of support services for our overseas students. The role of the external Welfare and Support Person is to:

- » Translate and communicate with parents and the School's Overseas Student Coordinator
- » Regularly visit / contact students online, at School or at their homestay accommodation at least each fortnight
- » Provide parents with their child's translated school reports
- » Attend parent/teacher interviews and report progress to parents
- » Liaise with the student's homestay family
- » Liaise and provide an additional point of contact for parents
- » Monitor and report student absences to the School and parents

All external Welfare and Support Persons are reference checked, hold a current Working with Children's Check and approved by the school.

Fee: Approx. AUD \$2,300 per annum.

Note: The support services provided by the school approved Welfare and Support person is not 'guardianship' and they have no responsibility for student's accommodation or welfare. The paid support services are additional to, and not in place of, the support and counselling the School would normally provide to all our students. Strathcona does not delegate, outsource or contract out that responsibility. Under this arrangement, Strathcona is not taking over the legal responsibility of the child. This responsibility remains with the parents at all times.

EXTERNAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS

Strathcona engages the services of various external Registered Training Organisations (RTO), including TAFE institutes, to deliver Vocational Education and Training (VET) programs either at the School or a separate offsite location. Some of the institutions involved include:

- » Inner Melbourne VET Cluster (IMVC)
- » Box Hill Institute
- » Holmesglen
- » COSAMP

Refer to Course Details (page 26) for further details.

OVERSEAS STUDENT HEALTH COVER (OSHC)

Overseas students are required by the Government to join a private health insurance scheme for the duration of their studies. The Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) entitles policy holders to free hospital cover and 85% off standard doctor’s fees. Annual rates vary depending on the provider. Strathcona’s preferred health insurance provider is **Medibank**.

The cost associated with the OSHC must be met by the applicant’s family and is dependent upon the length of the student’s visa.

A membership card including information about the policy and the medical expenses that are covered will be issued once a policy has been activated. You will need to keep your membership card in a safe place for when you may need to claim back your medical expenses.

Most providers now also have an app which allows policy holders to access and manage their health cover from their phone.

A copy of your membership card must be forwarded to the Overseas Student Coordinator once received.

Further details comparing other provider policy and deals are available at **oshcaustralia.com.au**

OVERSEAS STUDENT SAFETY CARD

All overseas students are given an Overseas Student Safety Card at the time of commencement in case the student needs to contact responsible persons in the event of an emergency. This card includes the contact details for the Emergency Services and Overseas Student Coordinator.

The Overseas Student Safety Card includes the following contact details for students in the case of an emergency:

- » Emergency (Police, Fire, Ambulance)
- » Commonwealth Ombudsman
- » Victorian Registration and Qualification Authority
- » 24-hour Strathcona emergency contacts (Campus and additional emergency contacts)

A world-wide emergency app called Safe Student is also available to download. The app allows students to alert up to three contacts of any emergency situation and the app also has a GPS.

For more information and to download the app visit **safestudentapp.com**

TRANSITION

The Overseas Student Coordinator, homestay family and support person (if applicable) are responsible for helping overseas students to transition to life at Strathcona. It is most important that students listen and adhere to their rules and advice as they are there to keep them safe and happy. Students can learn more about student experiences in Melbourne, including transport options and events at **studymelbourne.vic.gov.au**

Alternatively, they may wish to download the Study Melbourne app.



Additional Information

STUDENT VISA CONDITIONS

- » Maintain satisfactory course progress (Visa condition 8202)
- » Maintain satisfactory attendance (Visa condition 8202)
- » Maintain approved welfare and accommodation arrangements (Visa condition 8532)
- » Maintain visa length OSHC (Visa condition 8501)
- » Maintain correct contact details with provider (Visa condition 8533)
- » Required to pay course fees
- » Maintain appropriate behaviour

Refer to Visa Grant Letter or Department of Home Affairs for full conditions.

Students are required to keep a copy of their Written Agreement, Confirmation of Enrolment (CoE), receipts and OSHC Card in a safe place.

The school is required by law to report any breaches of Visa conditions to the Australian Government and the consequences could result in suspension or cancellation of Visa and rights to study in Australia.

Any questions about Visas may be referred to our Overseas Student Coordinator or Registrar.

AUSTRALIAN CONSUMER PROTECTION

Students are entitled to protection and support as outlined by Consumer Protection Legislation.

Consumer advice can be obtained:

- » Consumer Affairs Victoria **consumer.vic.gov.au**
- » Helpline **1300 558 181**
- » Interpreter Service **131 450**

USEFUL LINKS FOR OVERSEAS STUDENTS

- » Department of Home Affairs **immi.homeaffairs.gov.au**
- » Consumer Affairs Victoria **consumer.vic.gov.au**
- » Victoria Legal Aid **legalaid.vic.gov.au**
- » Commonwealth Ombudsman **ombudsman.gov.au/how-we-can-help/overseas-students**
- » Education Services for Overseas Students (ESOS) Framework **internationaleducation.gov.au/Regulatory-Information**
- » Victorian Registration & Qualifications Authority (VRQA) **vrqa.vic.gov.au**
- » Australian Education Assessment Service (AEAS) **aeas.com.au**
- » Study Australia **studyinaustralia.gov.au**
- » The official site for Melbourne, Victoria, Australia **visitvictoria.com**
- » Kids Helpline **kidshelpline.com.au/teens**
- » Lifeline Australia **lifeline.org.au**

PRIVACY PROTECTION

The school is bound by the Australian Privacy Principles contained in the Commonwealth Privacy Act. The school's Privacy Policy applies to its enrolment processes. When appropriate or required by law, information is shared with Government in Compliance with the ESOS Framework.

View Strathcona’s privacy policy at **strathcona.vic.edu.au**

COMPLAINTS AND APPEALS

Strathcona has procedures in place to manage complaints in an expedient and considered manner. Complaints are handled in a confidential manner between the parties concerned and those directly involved in the complaints handling process. Both internal and external resolution processes are available.

CANCELLATION AND REFUNDS

Strathcona is a member of the Australian Government’s Tuition Protection Service (TPS) which is an initiative to assist overseas students whose education providers are unable to fully deliver their course of study. The TPS ensures that overseas students are able to either complete their studies in another course or with another education provider or receive a refund of their unspent tuition fees.

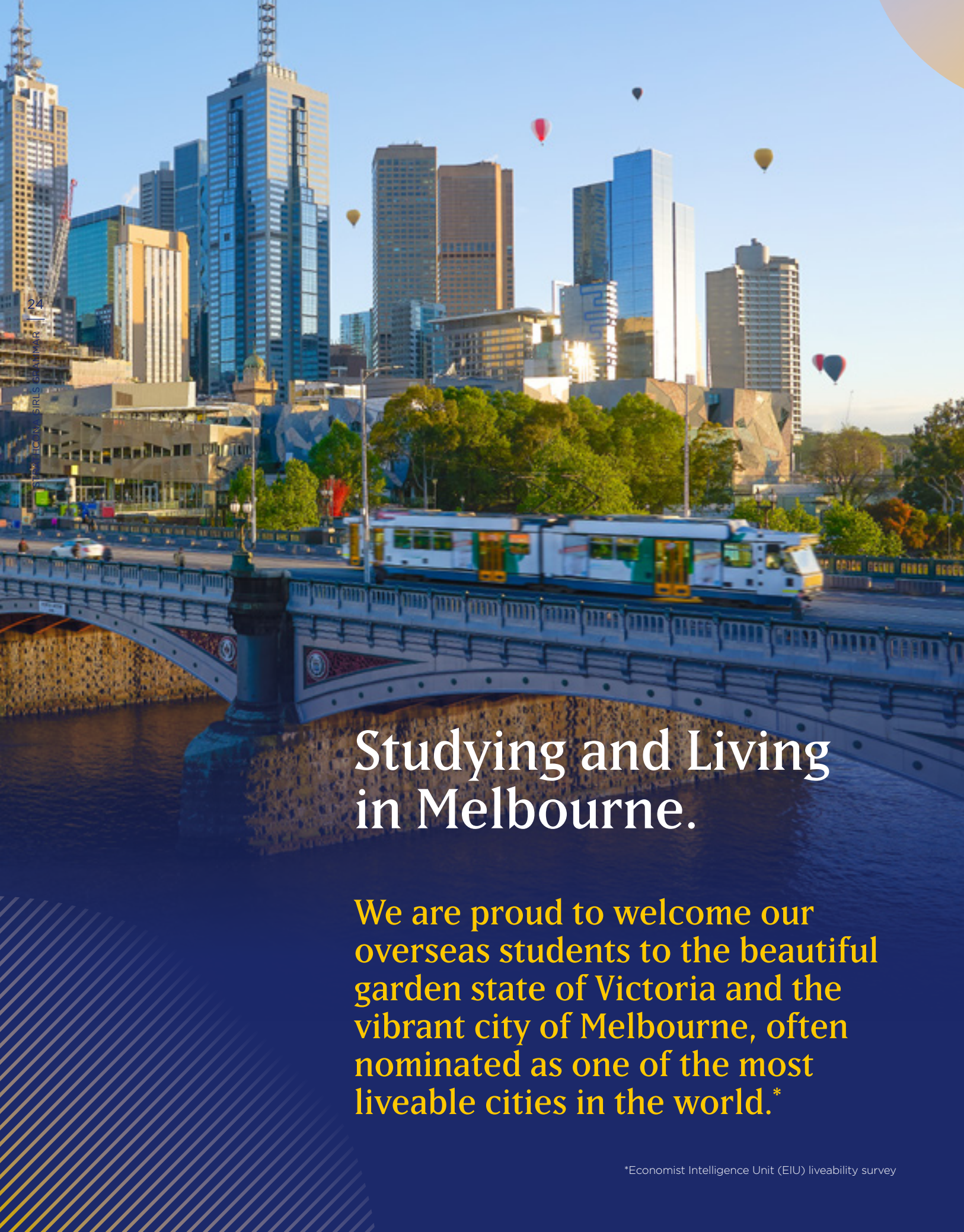
DEFERRING, SUSPENDING OR CANCELLING ENROLMENT

An overseas student’s enrolment can be deferred, suspended or cancelled. This may be initiated by either the overseas student for compassionate and compelling circumstances, or by Strathcona for an overseas student’s breach of visa conditions, breach of course progress or attendance requirements, failure to pay fees and/or misbehaviour.

OVERSEAS STUDENT POLICIES

Strathcona has a comprehensive suite of policies covering all aspects of our Overseas Student Program.

View all Strathcona overseas student policies at **strathcona.vic.edu.au**



Studying and Living in Melbourne.

We are proud to welcome our overseas students to the beautiful garden state of Victoria and the vibrant city of Melbourne, often nominated as one of the most liveable cities in the world.*

*Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) liveability survey

Most Liveable City.

Melbourne is the cultural capital of Australia, known for its fine dining, music, art centres, museums, cafe lifestyle and sport. The city has a population of just over five million people, and is home to many people and cultures from all over the world. Melburnians are known for being “laid back” with a relaxed and casual attitude to life and you will see these vibes float throughout the city. Melbourne has beautiful beaches, fantastic sports venues, a great climate with four distinct seasons and most importantly, outstanding schools and universities.

WEATHER

Melbourne is known for having “four seasons in one day”. This means that it could be hot, cold, windy, raining and clear with a rainbow all in the same day. However, in general the summers are warm in Melbourne, the winters are cold and windy, and it is partly cloudy year round. Over the course of the year, the temperature typically varies from 6°C to 26°C and is rarely below 2°C or above 35°C. In regional Victoria, there may be instances of bushfires during the summer months.

DAYLIGHT SAVING

Daylight saving begins at 2 am, Eastern Standard Time, on the first Sunday in October and ends at 3am Eastern Daylight Saving Time on the first Sunday in April. During this time Melbourne moves to Australian Eastern Daylight Time (AEDT), UTC +11. This means that you get to enjoy extended hours of sunlight during the summer months.

CREDIT CARDS

Credit cards are widely accepted around Australia. The most commonly accepted credit cards are American Express, Mastercard and Visa.

CURRENCY

Australia uses a dollars and cents system of decimal currency with 100 cents in a dollar. The bank notes in use are \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50 and \$100. Coins used are the silver coloured 5 cent, 10 cent, 20 cent and 50 cent and the gold coloured \$1 and \$2 coins.

TIPPING

Tipping is not the general custom in Australia and is a matter of individual choice.

TRANSPORT

Overseas students younger than 18 years of age, are eligible for half price travel on trains, trams and buses, with the use of a child MYKI card. Those aged between 17-18 must carry proof of age identification. Spot checks are made by PTV inspectors and penalties may apply.

BUDGETING

On average overseas students in Australia spend around \$400 - \$500 per week on accommodation, food, clothing, entertainment, transport, and incidental costs. However, lifestyle and individual circumstances may vary.

COST OF LIVING

From 1st October 2019, the Department of Home Affairs has set the 12 month living cost in Australia as \$21,041. Applicants may be required by the School to show evidence of access to funds to support their study while in Australia.

Further details are available at studyaussie.gov.au

Average Weekly Expenses

Homestay	» \$360-\$400
Rental	» \$185-\$440
Groceries/Dining out	» \$140-\$280
Gas, Electricity	» \$10-\$20
Phone, Internet	» \$15-\$30
Public Transport	» \$30-\$60
Car (after purchase)	» \$150-\$260
Entertainment	» \$80-\$150

Course details

COURSE QUALIFICATION

Strathcona Baptist Girls Grammar School CRICOS Code: **00577C**

CRICOS registered courses: Secondary **005486K**

Strathcona welcomes overseas students in Years 7-12. This course is based on the Australian Curriculum up to Year 10 and then the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE).

In Victoria, the highest qualification a student can obtain from secondary school is VCE. The VCE provides diverse pathways to further study or training at University or TAFE and to employment. To qualify, students must study for a minimum of two years (Years 11 and 12) and pass at least five subjects throughout that two-year course. English is the only compulsory subject.

At Strathcona all overseas students must study English as an Additional Language (EAL).



VCE VET PROGRAMS

VCE Vocation Education and Training (VET) programs are VET qualifications approved by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment authority (VCAA). They lead to nationally recognised qualifications and provide an opportunity for students to receive credit towards their VCE.

The program is normally delivered one half-day per week over a two-year period during Years 11 and 12, either onsite or offsite, by external RTO's engaged by the School. Some VCE VET programs offer scored assessment, most provide structured workplace learning and recognition.

Some of the most popular VCE VET Programs undertaken by Strathcona students include:

- » Creative and Digital Media
- » Hair and Beauty
- » Information, Digital Media and Technology
- » Dance
- » Equine Studies

Successful completion of VET in a senior secondary program can provide students with:

- » A VCE certificate issued by the VCAA and a VET certificate issued by a registered training organisation (RTO)
- » An enhanced ATAR which can improve access to further education
- » Pathways into employment and/or further VET qualifications or training
- » Workplace experience gained through structured workplace learning.

Overseas students need approval from the Senior Dean of Learning Futures and their parents before enrolling into the program. For more information, visit vcaa.vic.edu.au

MODES OF STUDY

Students are required to attend Strathcona course(s) face-to-face, on campus using School facilities. Strathcona uses a wide range of teaching and assessment methods. During class time students are expected to participate by answering questions, giving opinions, completing tasks, working with others in groups, making presentations and role playing situations.

Depending on course components, a student's course may also include:

- » Online learning in class time or after school hours
- » Approved excursions or learning journeys
- » Approved work experience program;
- » Outdoor education activities; and/or excursions
- » Approved studies that contribute to a student's enrolled course but are delivered by another approved provider
- » Sport and Co-curricular activities such as debating, Science Club, rowing, kayaking, Saturday Netball, snowsports, Duke of Edinburgh Awards and rhythmic gymnastics as examples.

All students are enrolled at the School on a full time basis.



COURSE ASSESSMENT

Ongoing assessment feedback is available online to the student and parents at all times. Students are formally assessed and reports are generated at the end of Semester 1 and Semester 2. Interim reports are provided at the end of Term 1 and Term 3. Report assessments are based on classwork, homework and subject examinations. Reports are provided to parents and eligible relatives / support persons (if applicable).

Parent-teacher interviews are conducted each semester and the parent or eligible relative / support person is fully expected to attend each of these sessions and provide feedback for the family on the progress of their child.

ATAR

The Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC) calculates an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) for all VCE students who have successfully completed the VCE and satisfied minimum tertiary entrance requirements. Only applicants who have at least four VCE study scores in an acceptable combination will have an ATAR calculated.

The ATAR is not a score out of 100 – it is a rank. It shows a student's achievement in relation to other students. The ATAR is used by tertiary institutions to compare the overall achievement of students and as a prerequisite for entry to courses for higher education.

COURSE DURATION

The VCE comprises of Units 1 & 2 for Year 11 and Units 3 & 4 for Year 12 which spans over two years.

TERM DATES

The school year runs from January to December and includes four school terms, with holiday breaks at the end of Terms 1, 2 and 3. Students are required to be at school for the duration of each academic term time.

- » Semester 1 includes Terms 1 & 2 (20 weeks)
- » Semester 2 includes Terms 3 & 4 (20 weeks)

Current term dates are available at strathcona.vic.edu.au/term-dates

Entry Requirements



AGE REQUIREMENTS

At Strathcona we welcome overseas students for all secondary year levels, Years 7 to 12.

Students in Years 7 and 8 must be accompanied while living in Australia by a parent or live with a Student Guardian approved by the Department of Home Affairs. Homestay accommodation is not available to students under 13 years of age.

Students studying in Year 9 are usually about 15 years of age and students studying Year 12 are usually 17 or 18 years of age. Year 12 is the last year of secondary school and is designed to prepare students for university or other tertiary education. Entry to tertiary courses is dependent upon the score the students achieve in their VCE (Victorian Certificate of Education).

Note: If an overseas student turns 18 while enrolled in the final period of their course, it is the requirement of the School that the student continues to reside in their approved accommodation until the completion of their course. Over 18 students may not reside independently in private accommodation.

RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING

Historically, Strathcona has not granted course credits for semester units completed by overseas students in their home countries. However, students who have studied all or part of the equivalent of Year 11, prior to commencing Year 11 at Strathcona can apply to the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) for credit towards Unit 1 and 2 of the VCE.

Further information is available at vcaa.vic.edu.au/assessment/results/credit-recognition

PRE-REQUISITES TO ACHIEVE A PLACE

To be eligible for a place at Strathcona in Years 7-12, an application must be submitted along with the following documents:

- » Notarial Birth Certificate
- » Certified and translated copy of latest School Report
- » AEAS Report
- » Copy of current passport

Additional school-based testing in Mathematics and English may be required.

Strathcona will not enrol an overseas student who does not meet the entry prerequisites.

Note: Strathcona will work with overseas students to ensure success but cannot guarantee that students will:

- » successfully complete their studies;
- » successfully complete their VCE; and/or
- » gain entry into a tertiary institution

In addition, Strathcona cannot secure migration outcomes. This responsibility remains with the applicant's family.

TUITION FEES

School Fees are invoiced in two instalments (by Semester). The first instalment is invoiced by November in the year prior to the new school year and the second instalment invoiced in May of the new school year. Invoices will be sent via email. No payment plans are available for overseas students.

View Strathcona's Fees Schedule and Business Regulations Notice at strathcona.vic.edu.au/contact-admissions/fees/

ENGLISH REQUIREMENTS

Students are asked to undertake an Australian Education Assessment Services (AEAS) and submit their test results with their completed application form. AEAS is an independent test provider and the AEAS assessment includes English language proficiency, non-verbal general ability and mathematical reasoning. The test takes approximately 3 hours to complete under supervision.

Recommended AEAS Test Result Guidelines for Strathcona prior to commencement:

Entry Year Level	Minimum Application Score	Recommended Score
Year 7/8	40 or higher	60 or higher (if not, 8-12 weeks language school may be required)
Year 9/10	60 or higher	80 or higher (if not, 4-8 weeks language school may be required)
Year 11	80 or higher	80 or higher (if not, 8-12 weeks language school may be required)



ELICOS REQUIREMENTS

The AEAS report indicates how many weeks of English language preparation the student is required to successfully complete in order to be proficient to commence at Strathcona. The report is valid for 12 months.

For this reason, the AEAS test should be completed at least 6-12 months prior to the student's anticipated commencement date. This gives the student time to plan their English Language Intensive Course for Overseas Students (ELICOS) course to ensure they are ready to commence school at the beginning of the academic year.

- » Overseas students applying for Year 11 or 12 entry must start in Term 1.
- » Overseas students applying for Year 10 entry can start in Term 1 - Term 3.
- » Overseas students applying for Year 7 to 9 entry can start Term 1 - Term 4.

English Language Centres must be CRICOS approved. It is usual for the Education Agent to book the ELICOS course for the student.

ACCOMMODATION, WELFARE AND SUPPORT SERVICES

All overseas students must have acceptable arrangements for their accommodation, support and general welfare for the duration of their enrolment at Strathcona. They may choose to either:

1. Live in Australia with their parent/guardian, or
2. Live in Australia with an eligible relative over 21 years old who is nominated by their parents and approved by the Department of Home Affairs, or
3. Live in Australia under a welfare arrangement that has been approved by the school (CAAW).

Students in Years 7 and 8 must be accompanied while living in Australia by a parent or live with a Student Guardian approved by the Department of Home Affairs.

Homestay accommodation is not available to students under 13 years of age.

The School requires an environment that provides supervision and encouragement for our overseas students, with specific and additional requirements for families accommodating and caring for younger overseas students (under 18 years of age). Unsuitable living arrangements can lead to illness, tiredness, absenteeism and a reduction in academic success.

Option 1: A parent/guardian may apply for a Student Guardian Visa and stay in Australia as the student's primary carer. In this instance the School does not issue a Confirmation of Appropriate Accommodation and Welfare (CAAW) Letter and is not responsible for monitoring the student's accommodation, support and welfare arrangements for the duration of the student's visa.

Option 2: If an eligible relative living in Melbourne is providing the welfare and accommodation for the student during their stay in Australia, the student's parents/guardian will need to give their permission for this arrangement and the relative must be nominated on the Application Form, the Visa Application Form and be approved by the Department of Home Affairs.

The relative must be one of the following: brother, sister, step-brother, step-sister, grandparent, step-grandparent, aunt, uncle, niece, nephew, step-uncle/aunt/niece/nephew, and also be aged over 21 years of age, of good character and be eligible to remain in Australia until the student's visa expires.

In this instance the school does not issue a Confirmation of Appropriate Accommodation and Welfare (CAAW) Letter and is not responsible for monitoring the student's accommodation, support and welfare arrangements for the duration of the student's visa.

Option 3: If you require Strathcona to issue a Confirmation of Appropriate Accommodation and Welfare (CAAW) letter as part of your visa application, the following conditions must be met as a condition of your enrolment and for the entire period you are enrolled at Strathcona.

Homestay Accomodation

- » You must stay in homestay accommodation approved by the School, regardless of your age, for the entire period you are enrolled at the School.
- » You must notify the school so that the school can arrange homestay accommodation for you prior to your arrival. The school will work with you to find a homestay that meets both your needs and the school's requirements. The school will conduct a homestay inspection prior to you moving in and every 6 months thereafter to ensure the living arrangements remain suitable to your needs..
- » Once accommodation is arranged and all parties are satisfied, the accommodation should not be changed, unless a student can provide a suitable reason for wishing to change. This must be discussed with the Overseas Student Coordinator, and approval given, before any decision is reached.

WELFARE AND SUPPORT PERSON

You will be required to have a Welfare and Support Person appointed by Strathcona for the entire period you are enrolled at the School, regardless of your age. This service is an additional cost to the family. **This service is compulsory and not negotiable.** Please refer to Third Party Organisations (Page 21) for further details.

View all Strathcona overseas student policies at strathcona.vic.edu.au



Moving toward an exciting future.

Time doesn't stand still. So one of the most important qualities we can instil in our students is a preparedness for the future.

Strathcona girls learn to accept challenge, adapt to new environments, and make the most of every opportunity afforded them.

At its core, this involves inspiring a love of learning — an invaluable, lifelong attribute. Such a growth mindset enables students to frame the rapidly changing world in

a positive light, highlighting the possibilities rather than the obstacles. As they develop this quality and negotiate their way into the world, Strathcona girls can rely on these foundational life skills to progress beyond what even they thought might be possible.

Learn more about Year 7
to Year 12 Pathways.

» strathcona.vic.edu.au/teaching-learning

Getting to Campus.

Strathcona is conveniently located in Melbourne's inner eastern suburbs of Canterbury and Hawthorn.

Our Canterbury Campus comprises of the Junior School on Prospect Hill Rd (Prep to Year 6) and Middle School (Year 7 and 8) and Senior School (Years 10 to 12) on Scott St.

We have a dedicated Year 9 campus (Tay Creggan) located in Hawthorn on the banks of the Yarra River. Tay Creggan, is Melbourne's first independent Year 9 girls campus established in 1969. Unlike other Year 9 programs our students have the unique opportunity to study at a separate campus, while still living at home and importantly remain part of the whole Strathcona school community for school events and celebrations.

Public Transport Victoria (PTV) can provide helpful information to assist you with your commute planning, and a map is available of all of the local public transport options in the immediate area.

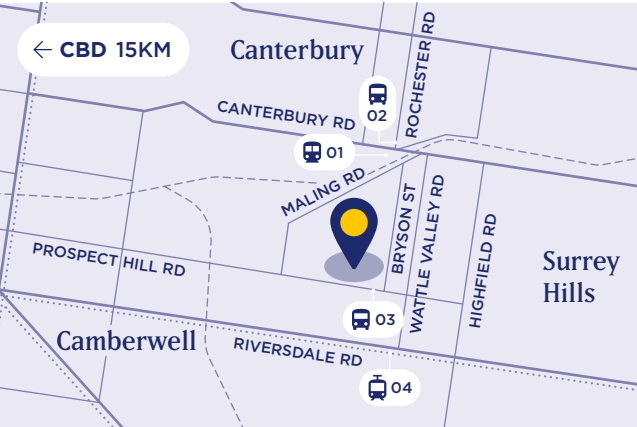
Travel to and from Strathcona

Train, tram or bus to either of Strathcona Girls Grammar campuses. Conveniently located in Melbourne's inner-east suburbs of Canterbury and Hawthorn, Strathcona offers students easy access to both campuses.



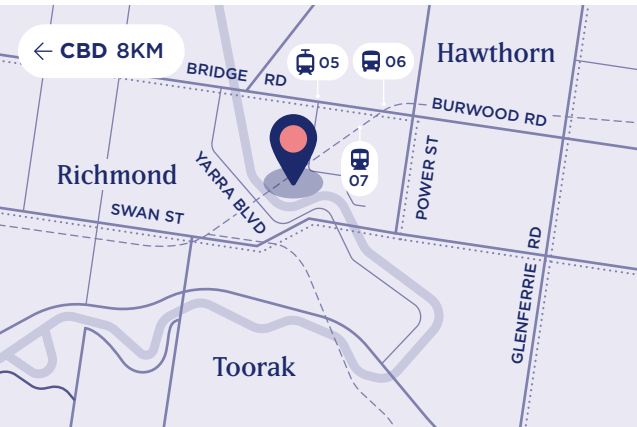
ELC, JUNIOR SCHOOL, MIDDLE & SENIOR SCHOOL Canterbury Campus

The Canterbury Campus is a five minute walk from the Canterbury train station or Riversdale Road tram stop. The bus stop is outside the School gates offering transport to Chadstone or Box Hill and the Doncaster bus services leaves from the Canterbury train station (a five minute walk).



YEAR 9 TAY CREGGAN Hawthorn Campus

Our unique Year 9 campus, Tay Creggan is located at 30 Yarra Street, Hawthorn and like the main campus offers a range of transport options. Hawthorn train station, tram stop for Number 75 tram and the bus stop are five minute walks from the campus gates.



Our Locations

Early Learning Centre
34 Scott Street,
Canterbury VIC 3126

Junior School
173 Prospect Hill Road,
Canterbury VIC 3126

Year 9 Tay Creggan
30 Yarra Street,
Hawthorn VIC 3122

Middle & Senior School
34 Scott Street,
Canterbury VIC 3126

KEY

- Roads
- Main Roads
- - - Railway
- Tram Line
- Yarra River
- 01 Canterbury Train Station (Belgrave & Lilydale Line)
- 02 Bus 285 (Doncaster Park & Ride — Camberwell via North Balwyn)
- 03 Bus 612 (Box Hill — Chadstone via Ashburton)
- 04 Tram 70 (Waterfront City Docklands — Wattle Park)
- 05 Tram 75 (Etihad Stadium Docklands — Vermont South)
- 06 Bus 609 (Hawthorn to Fairfield via Kew)
- 07 Hawthorn Train Station (Alamein, Belgrave & Lilydale Line)



Strathcona
GIRLS GRAMMAR

**GIRLS
UNSTOPPABLE**

**Thank you for taking the time to
read a little about what makes
Strathcona Girls Grammar.**

We invite you to contact us directly with any questions or comments you might have. We would only be too happy to chat or meet with you and your family.

The enrolment process is straightforward, and you can begin today. Please refer to the enrolment information provided in this guide, or if you have received this Prospectus by other means, contact the School and we can begin you, and your daughter's Strathcona journey.

P +61 3 8779 7500
E registrar@strathcona.vic.edu.au

strathcona.vic.edu.au/enrol