# PREPARING FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL

## A GUIDE FOR PARENTS 2017

JOINING THE DOTS

# INTRODUCTION

**This resource has two sections:**

1. General tips and advice for parents.

2. A detailed map and listing of all the secondary schools in the City of Yarra.

The end of primary school marks a major milestone in the life of a child. As a young person enters secondary school they are moving into a new environment with different educational expectations and experiences. This normally involves moving from small and familiar settings into a much bigger and more complex school.

Although transition is a critical time for a young person, it also provides an opportunity for a fresh start and a well managed and supported transition can help maintain a sense of belonging. A young person who has a positive transition experience will develop new friends and confidence, settle well into school life, show an interest in school work and will adjust to new routines and school organisation.

This transition is often a new and challenging experience for the parents and families of the young person and many parents have concerns about the changes that the new school will bring. This resource has been prepared to support the parents and families of the young people of the City of Yarra who are moving from primary to secondary school.

- Department of Education and Training (DET) resources available at **www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/secondary/Pages/default.aspx**
- Further information about individual schools can be found at **www.vrqa.vic.gov.au/StateRegister/Search.aspx/Search** or by visiting the websites of individual schools.
- Further information for parents of students with special needs can be found at **www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/needs/Pages/supportstudents.aspx**

# CHOOSING THE RIGHT SCHOOL

**Exploring your options early will also give you time to visit different schools, attend information sessions and find a school that meets your child's needs and aspirations.**

**Choose a school such as Collingwood College (above) with the facilities that will best benefit your child's learning and development.**

To make your child's transition from primary to secondary school a happy and positive experience, it is important to choose a school that will best benefit your child's learning and development.

Your child will usually go to the secondary school closest to where your family lives, if they are attending a Government school. You can choose to send your child to another Government secondary school that has a different curriculum or focus, such as music or sport, if there are places available, or a Catholic or Independent school.

Keep in mind that some secondary schools need to restrict their enrolments – and the number of students they can take – to a particular area or zone around the school. Residential boundaries may affect whether your child can attend a particular secondary school.

For Government schools, during the first half of Year 6, you will be asked to nominate the secondary school your child will attend the following year (Year 7). For Catholic schools this will occur in Year 5. You will receive from your child's primary school a list of possible secondary schools and you will be asked to indicate your preference. Some primary schools also hold information sessions on choosing a secondary school for your child, as well as information sessions on the secondary schools in your area.

Exploring your options early will also give you time to visit different schools, attend information sessions and find a school that meets your child's needs and aspirations.

Your child's Year 6 coordinator can help you with any questions you might have about the process and they will also help you to get the appropriate paperwork for enrolling your child into secondary school.

- To find a Government school in your local area, see **www.education.vic.gov.au/findaservice/Home.aspx**
- To find a Catholic school in your local area, see **www.cem.edu.au/our-schools/school-finder/**
- To find an Independent school in your local area, see **http://services.is.vic.edu.au/ebiz/customerservice/schoollocator.aspx**
- For assistance in choosing a secondary school, see **www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/secondary/Pages/choosing.aspx**

# THINGS TO CONSIDER

**Princes Hill Secondary College students on camp. School camps are important opportunities for young people to make new friends, get out of their comfort zone and ensure your child gets the most out of the school you've chosen.**

**Go local. Yarra schools provide terrific opportunities for local families.**

It might be useful to consider the following questions when choosing the right secondary school for your child:

- How far do you want to travel and is the school close to home and/or work?
- Are any of the schools close to home and/or your work suitable for your child?
- Does your family have a connection to a particular school?
- How important is it that your child knows other children at the school?
- Will the school be able to cater for your child's needs and interests?
- Do they have a transition program and how does it include you?
- What facilities do they offer and are you comfortable with the 'feel' of the school?
- Will the teachers and the school curriculum support all aspects of your child's development?
- What educational programs are offered?
- Does the school offer English as an Additional Language (EAL) support?
- What extra activities does the school offer?
- Does the school offer scholarships?
- Does the school's policy on homework and discipline reflect your own values and expectations?
- Does the school work in partnership with families?

# A MAP OF THE VICTORIAN EDUCATION SYSTEM

cmy
CENTRE FOR MULTICULTURAL YOUTH

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE SCHOOLS (ELS) AND CENTRES

For eligible school-age students who move to Victoria from different countries. Provides 6 -12 months of intensive English Language study.

## ADULT MIGRANT ENGLISH PROGRAM (AMEP)

English Language study for young people over 18.

18+

## Primary School

**5-12 YEAR OLDS**

Everyone must attend and complete 7 years of primary school (Foundation to Year 6)

## Secondary School

**13-16 YEAR OLDS**

Everyone must attend and complete at least 4 levels of secondary school (Years 7-10).

## Senior Secondary School 16+ YEAR OLDS

The last years of secondary school are Years 11-12. Everyone must stay in full-time secondary school or other education or training until age 17. Schools offer different education options for different students.

## TAFE and RTOs

Technical and Further Education institutes and Registered Training Organisations deliver vocational education and training (VET) courses which focus on practical experience in preparation for employment. TAFE institutes are government-owned and RTOs are private colleges or industry associations.

## UNIVERSITY

Offers different levels of study and a range of courses, some lead to specific jobs and others are more general courses.

## VCAL

**(Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning)**

2/3 years FT certificate includes hands-on learning for students in Years 11 and 12. Prepares for further education, training, an apprenticeship or employment. Can be completed at school or TAFE and can include VET courses.

## VCE

**(Victorian Certificate of Education)**

2/3 years FT certificate for students in Years 11 and 12. Prepares for further education at university. Can be completed at school or TAFE and can include VET courses.

## Certificates I to IV

Provides introduction to more industry specific knowledge and skills. Courses vary in length from six months to two years.

## DIPLOMA/ ADVANCED DIPLOMA

Qualifies individuals in advanced technical skills and knowledge. Some diplomas require a completion of a Certificate IV in the chosen course.
Diploma: 2 yrs FT or 4 yrs PT
Advanced: 3 yrs FT or 6 yrs PT

## BACHELORS DEGREE

3-4 yrs FT or
6-8 yrs PT
Focus on one subject area.

FT = Full Time
PT = Part Time

## FURTHER STUDY OPTIONS (after completion of a Bachelor Degree)

Graduate Certificate – 6 months FT or 1 year PT.
Graduate Diploma – 1 year FT or 2 years PT.
Masters Degree – 1-2 years FT or PT equivalent.
Doctoral Degree – on completion of a Masters degree. 3-4 years FT or part time equivalent.

# SCHOOL VISITS

**Yarra schools offer a range of programs that might suit your child's interests. You'll be able to find out about these programs when you visit the schools.**

**Most schools welcome enquiries and will organise a time for you and your child to visit.**

## ACRONYMS LIST

**EAL Support** - English as an Additional Language Support
**VCE** - Victorian Certificate of Education
**VET** - Victorian Educational Training Courses, which can be offered as part of VET or VCAL studies
**VCAL** - Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning
**IB** - International Baccalaureate

See page 5 for more information on the Victorian education system.

You should visit your local secondary school and any others that you are considering before you enrol your child. Ideally you should start this in Year 5. Make contact well before your child is due to start to allow time to visit a number of schools.

Principals or other school staff can provide tours, classroom visits and information about their school. Most schools welcome enquiries and will organise a time for you and your child to visit.

Consider asking these questions:

- Are there places available?
- What are the fees? Are there any other costs you will be asked to pay over and above these fees?
- What educational programs are offered?
- What are the teachers'/ school's values and philosophies around educating their students?
- How does the school support children with special needs?
- Does the school offer English as an Additional Language (EAL) support?

Teachers from secondary schools may also visit local primary schools to take small groups for lessons or to talk about secondary school, introducing themselves and the subjects they teach.

Often, secondary students revisit their old primary school to tell Year 6 students what secondary school is like. This can also be taken a step further with the buddy system, where secondary students are teamed up with primary school students and regularly meet face-to-face or communicate by email.

# APPLYING FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL

## GOVERNMENT SCHOOL ENROLMENT APPLICATION

### Timeline and Process for Year 7 Enrolment

- Government secondary schools in Yarra usually run open days and information sessions in early term two.
- Government secondary schools in Yarra adhere to the statewide placement timeline. Whilst specific dates change each year, the whole process spans terms two and three.
- In early term two, transition packs (including the *Application for Year 7 Placement Form*) are distributed to all families of Year 6 students
- Families complete the *Application for Year 7 Placement Form*, and may list three Government secondary schools in order of preference
- Families return the completed *Application for Year 7 Placement Form* to their primary school transition coordinator, by mid-May
- Between May and July primary schools and secondary schools are in communication regarding 1st, 2nd and 3rd preferences. Places are offered using the DET Priority of Access guidelines.
- Families are informed of the outcome of their Year 7 enrolment application in August.

**Applications for Year 7 enrolment are administered through your child's primary school in Year 6.**

### Priority of Access

Where there are insufficient places at a school for all students who seek entry, students are enrolled in the following priority order:

1. Students for whom the school is the designated neighbourhood school.

2. Students with a sibling at the same permanent address who are attending the school at the same time.

3. Where the DET Regional Director has restricted the enrolment, students who reside nearest the school.

4. Students seeking enrolment on specific curriculum grounds. Each government secondary school may have different curriculum grounds, and may require additional documentation to support an application on curriculum grounds. Information will be available on each school's website.

5. All other students in order of closeness of their home to the school.

6. In exceptional circumstances, compassionate grounds.

The *Education and Training Reform Act 2006* states that one of the principles underlying the Victorian Government education system is that every student has the right to attend a designated neighbourhood Government school. In most cases a child's designated neighbourhood school is usually the nearest Government school to your child's permanent residence.

### Applications for Other Year Levels

Applications for enrolment in all other year levels are administered locally by each Government secondary school. The process may vary between each school and applications are only considered if there are places available at the school. Information will be available on each school's website. However, in most cases, families are expected to complete an enrolment enquiry form, along with the student's most recent school reports and attend a school tour and, potentially a pre-enrolment interview.

# APPLYING FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL

## CATHOLIC SCHOOL ENROLMENT APPLICATION

CATHOLIC EDUCATION MELBOURNE

**Applications for Year 7 enrolment are administered directly with your chosen secondary school in Year 5.**

All Catholic schools are required to have their own local enrolment policy. If you are interested in enrolling your child in a Catholic school:

- Contact your local Catholic school when your child is in Year 4. Ask to speak to the registrar or enrolments person (see contact details later in the resource).
- Let them know what year level your child is in and that you would like an enrolment form.
- Make an appointment to go on a school tour. Some schools hold tours each month or on a specific date.

This process operates independently of Government school applications and happens a year earlier, when your child is in Year 5. This does not affect your application to enrol in a Government secondary school.

### Timeline for Enrolment

- Catholic secondary schools usually hold information sessions for enrolment when your child is in Year 4.
- Key enrolment dates are published in July each year. These dates follow the same process and timing each year.
- Applications close in mid-August of Year 5.
- Offers of places are sent out in mid-October.
- The closing date for acceptances is in late-October.

Please Note: While this is a system-wide timeline for enrolment, many Catholic schools in Yarra are able to accept enrolments later than these dates. Please contact your local Catholic school to check for available enrolments.

## INDEPENDENT SCHOOL ENROLMENT APPLICATION

Alphington Grammar School Principal Dr Vivianne Nikou chatting with students.

Independent schools have their own enrolment policy. If you are interested in enrolling your child in an Independent school

- Contact the school and ask to speak to the Registrar or enrolments person.
- Let them know what year level your child is in and that you would like an enrolment form.
- Make an appointment to go on a school tour. Some schools hold tours each month or on a specific date.

This process operates independently of Government school applications and does not affect your application to enrol in a Government secondary school.

# ENROLLING YOUR CHILD

**It is important that you let the school know if you have any concerns or need any support with the enrolment process.**

## ACRONYMS LIST

**EAL Support** - English as an Additional Language Support
**VCE** - Victorian Certificate of Education
**VET** - Victorian Educational Training Courses, which can be offered as part of VET or VCAL studies
**VCAL** - Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning
**IB** - International Baccalaureate

See page 5 for more information on the Victorian education system.

**Be mindful that Government schools have different enrolment processes than Catholic schools such as the Academy of Mary Immaculate (above). You should contact Catholic schools when your child is in Year 4 and apply when they are in Year 5, not Year 6.**

There are different processes for enrolling your child in a Victorian secondary school depending on whether it is a Government, Catholic or Independent school.

For all schools you will need to fill out an enrolment form. Some schools may require you to complete the enrolment process online.

You will be asked for particular information including:

- Evidence of your child's date of birth (if they were not born in Australia, a passport or travel document such as a visa)
- Your contact, phone and address details, and that of any other parent, guardian and/or carer names and contact details of emergency contacts
- Health and welfare information
- Information about the language/s your child speaks and hears at home.

Each school will have a person designated to support parents with the enrolment process. The names of contact personnel for individual secondary schools within the City of Yarra are listed later in this resource.

It is important that you let the school know if you have any concerns or need any support with the enrolment process.

# PREPARING FOR SCHOOL

Some useful tips for getting your child ready for the start of the year in their new secondary school:

- Be interested and enthusiastic when talking to your child about the new school. It is important that you keep the lines of communication open with your child.
- Attend all parent information sessions offered by your primary and secondary schools.
- Learn about school routines and timetables.
- Ensure that all of your child's books and personal items are labelled. As there are many students in a secondary school, these can quite easily get lost.
- Ensure that your child is familiar with any public transport routines. Perhaps even have a practice run over summer. Have a back-up plan in place in case your child misses their transport.
- Find out the school uniform requirements prior to enrolling your child in the school. Usually schools require students to wear their school uniform during school hours, while travelling to and from school, and when they are participating in school activities held out of school hours.
- Some schools have arrangements with uniform suppliers, or a school shop, where you can buy uniforms. Schools may also hold sales of second hand uniforms during the year. Ask your child's school if you need help with purchasing uniforms or shoes.
- Some schools may require your child to have their own device such as an iPad or laptop computer. Ask your child's school if you need help as most schools will have some available for loan or rent.

# STARTING SCHOOL

As your child begins secondary school, there will be many opportunities for you to continue to take an active part in what they are learning at school.

Here are some ways that you can support your child's learning at home:

- Listen carefully to your child and offer suggestions.
- Unless they are sick, ensure your child attends school every day of term and arrives on time.
- Help your child to develop a good sleep routine to ensure they get the recommended 9-10 hours per night.
- Find out the homework policy of the school and discuss it with your child.
- Ask your child about homework tasks they have to complete.
- Help your child to develop a homework timetable and routine.
- Even if you can't help with a particular homework task, help your child by encouraging them to find out the information they need.
- Provide a comfortable and quiet space for your child to do their homework.
- Find out about local homework clubs and encourage your child to attend.
- Help your child to maintain a balance between study and recreational activities to avoid placing too much pressure on your child.

Stay involved in your child's learning by:

- Establishing good relationships with your child's teachers by contacting them early in the year and attending parent-teacher meetings.
- Find out who is your child's year level coordinator or homeroom teacher.
- Telephone or make an appointment with the school if you have any concerns.
- Participate in the life of the school by joining councils, parent associations or by volunteering.
- Stay up to date with what is happening in the school by reading the school newsletter and regularly checking the school website.
- Stay up to date with your child's learning by using the school's parent portal e.g. Compass. Ask the school if you need help with access or using the system.

In Years 7–10, students miss on average almost a week every term – that's four weeks of school per year.

# EVERY DAY COUNTS

## Secondary school attendance

**Going to school every day is the single most important part of a child's education. Students learn new things at school every day – missing school puts them behind.**

### Why it's important

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.

Students develop good habits by going to school every day – habits that are necessary to succeed after school, whether in the workplace or in further study.

Missing school can have a big impact on students academically and socially. It can affect their test results, including VCE, and, just as importantly, it can affect their relationships with other students, and lead to social isolation.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Each missed day is associated with progressively lower achievement in numeracy, writing and reading.

### Getting in early

It's never too late to improve attendance – going to school more often can lead to better outcomes. Even at Year 9, when attendance rates are lowest, going to school more often can make a big difference. Every day counts. Schools are there to help – if you're having attendance issues with your child, speak to your school about ways to address those issues.

### What we can do

The main reasons for absence are:

**Sickness** – There are always times when students need to miss school, such as when they're ill. It's vital that they're only away on the days they are genuinely sick, and setting good sleep patterns, eating well and exercising regularly can make a big difference.

**"Day off"** – Think twice before letting your child have a "day off" as they could fall behind their classmates – every day counts.

**Truancy** – When students choose not to go to school without their parent's permission. There can be many reasons for truancy, the best way to address this is for schools and parents to work together.

While all absences are bad for academic performance, unexcused absences are a much stronger indicator of lower reading and maths achievement.

If for any reason your child must miss school, there are things you can do with your school to ensure they don't fall behind:

- Speak with your classroom teacher and find out what work your child needs to do to keep up.
- Develop an absence learning plan with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan.

Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher as early as possible.

Openly communicating with your child's school about all absences is a good way to prevent attendance issues being escalated to a School Attendance Officer. A School Attendance Officer is a Department of Education and Early Childhood Development Regional Director who has authority to follow up attendance issues. Attendance issues that are escalated can lead to an Infringement Notice.

If you're having attendance issues with your child, please let your year level coordinator, principal or other relevant staff member know so you can work together to get your child to school every day.

**For more information and resources to help address attendance issues, visit:**
www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/behaviour/Pages/studentattendance.aspx

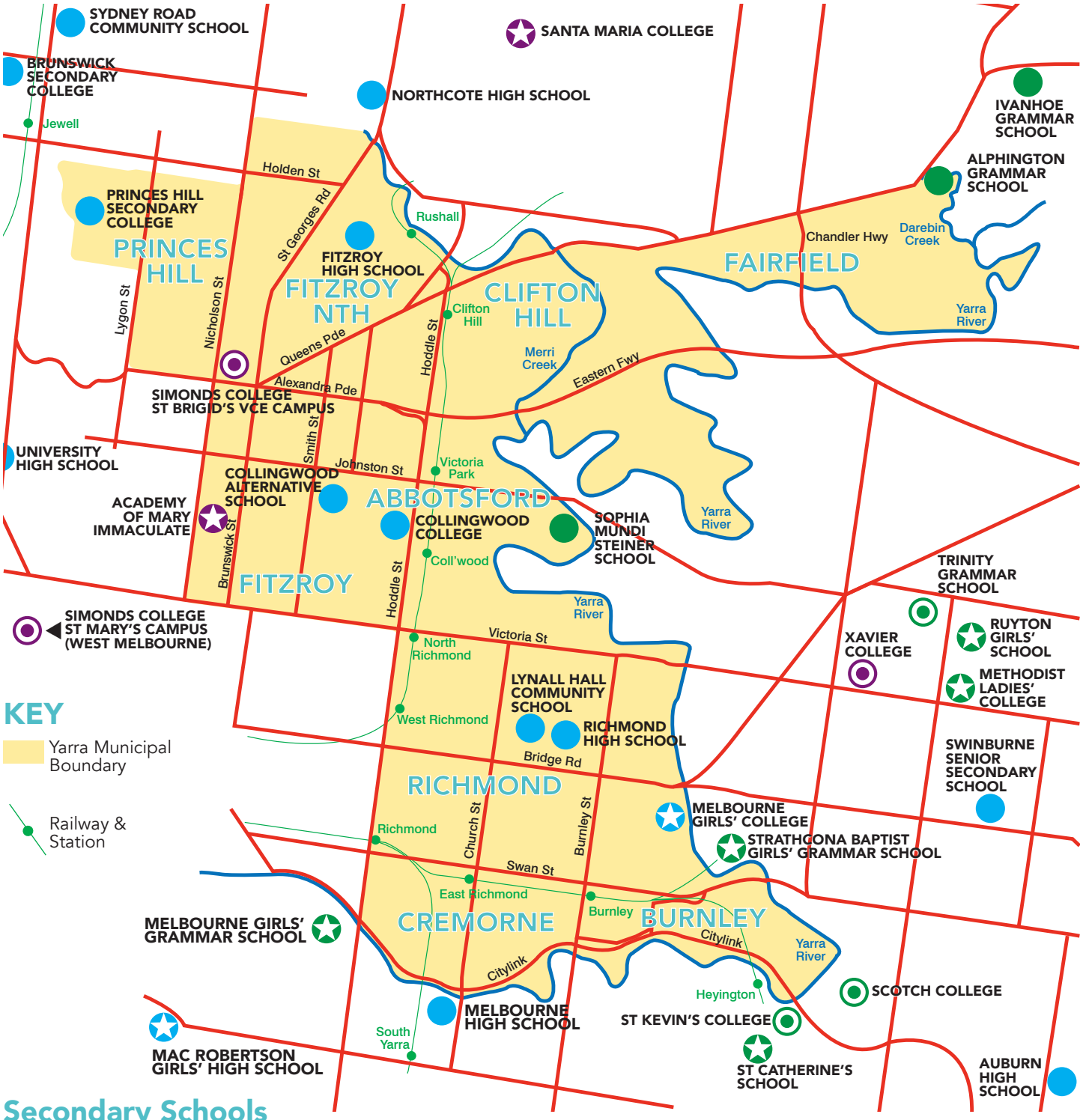
Department of Education and Training

VICTORIA State Government | Education and Training

# SECONDARY SCHOOLS

The following secondary schools are located within the City of Yarra:

1. Academy of Mary Immaculate
2. Alphington Grammar School
3. Collingwood College
4. Collingwood Alternative School
5. Fitzroy High School
6. Lynall Hall Community School
7. Melbourne Girls' College
8. Princes Hill Secondary College
9. Richmond High School
10. Simonds Catholic College
11. Sophia Mundi Steiner School




## Secondary Schools

- Catholic secondary (co-ed)
- Catholic secondary (boys)
- Catholic secondary (girls)
- Independent secondary (co-ed)
- Independent secondary (boys)
- Independent secondary (girls)
- Government secondary (co-ed)
- Government secondary (girls)

# ACADEMY OF MARY IMMACULATE

ACADEMY
OF MARY IMMACULATE

**Principal:**
Sr Mary Moloney
**Transition/Year 7 Coordinator:**
Alexandra Cowin
**School Tours:**
Fortnightly throughout the year. Call or book online.

## KEY DETAILS

| | |
|---|---|
| **Type:** | Catholic |
| **Level:** | Secondary |
| **Size:** | 650 students approx |
| **Gender:** | Girls only |
| **Religion:** | Catholic |
| **Uniform:** | Yes |
| **EAL Support:** | Yes |
| **VCE:** | Yes |
| **VET:** | Yes |
| **VCAL:** | No |

PUBLIC TRANSPORT VICTORIA PT

**Tram:** Close to Nicholson St, Brunswick St, Smith St and Victoria St trams
**Train:** Close to Parliament Station
See ptv.vic.gov.au for bus, train and tram information e.g. timetables, fares and route planning.

In 2017 the Academy of Mary Immaculate celebrates 160 years of continuous operation as a College and is the oldest girls' secondary school in Victoria. The Academy's contemporary educational focus draws on foundations within the Mercy tradition and not only prepares students for the future, but also gives them the skills, confidence and heart to shape the future.

As 'the city school for girls', the Academy's central location enables easy access to Melbourne's best learning and cultural centres, like the NGV and Melbourne Museum. A structured Year 7 immersion program creates a sense of belonging from the beginning of the secondary journey and assists students to grow independence and take responsibility for their learning. The size of the College and its orientation programs, such as the Big Sister/Little Sister buddy program, promotes a community in which every student is valued and guided along their academic journey.

Students participate in core curriculum tailored to their ability and aspirations. Co-curricular studies in music, performing arts, visual arts, academic extension and leadership development initiatives augment traditional learning. While inter-house/ interschool athletics, and indoor/ outdoor team sports promote a culture of participation and enable talented students to compete at elite levels.

With a commitment to girls' education, the Academy encourages all students to be all that they can be, and each graduate who leaves appreciates and is ready to contribute to the dynamic role of women in the future.

## ENROLMENT CONTACT

Kerri Ruff
88 Nicholson St, Fitzroy VIC 3065
**Tel:** 03 9412 7100 **Fax:** 03 9419 3885
**Email:** registrar@academy.vic.edu.au
**Website:** www.academy.vic.edu.au

# ALPHINGTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Alphington
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

**Principal:**
Dr Vivianne Nikou
**Transition Coordinator:**
Ms Toula Terezakis
**School Tours:**
Regular tours each term, book on website

## KEY DETAILS

| | |
|---|---|
| **Type:** | Independent |
| **Level:** | ELC-Year 12 |
| **Size:** | 560 students |
| **Gender:** | Co-educational |
| **Religion:** | — |
| **Uniform:** | Yes |
| **EAL Support:** | Yes |
| **VCE:** | Yes |
| **VET:** | No |
| **VCAL:** | No |

PUBLIC TRANSPORT VICTORIA PT

**Bus:** The 546 bus running between Heidelberg and Melbourne University stops near the school. There is also a charter bus service.

**Train:** The Hurstbridge train line stops 10 minutes from the school at nearby Alphington Station.

Alphington Grammar School is an open-entry, co-educational ELC to Year 12 Independent school, situated in an idyllic and convenient location on the banks of Darebin Creek.

At Alphington Grammar School the primary focus is the health and wellbeing of their students, and ensuring that every student experiences success whilst at the school. Success is measured by each student's individual achievement – by knowing that they are doing the very best that they can do.

Each student is an individual, with a developing sense of self, seeking to be engaged in their learning journey, and provided with a breadth of opportunities, across a range of disciplines. The school provides a safe, inclusive and culturally rich environment.

The world ahead for today's children is vastly different from the world we navigate each day as parents and teachers. The school is committed to providing students with the skills of lifelong learning, resilience and habits of mind that prepare them for the many opportunities that come their way.

The engaging relationships that develop within the school community make a real difference, and so students are placed at the heart of everything. As a small school, AGS prides itself on knowing and understanding its students, their individual needs and their families.

Learning is more than facts and figures. Students are not only assisted in learning the fundamentals of a strong education – they are shown how to apply that learning to experiences that give them the skills and abilities to thrive in the world.

## ENROLMENT CONTACT

Mrs Pauline Sistanis, Registrar
18 Old Heidelberg Rd, Alphington VIC 3078
**Tel:** 03 9497 4777
**Email:** info@ags.vic.edu.au
**Website:** www.alphington.vic.edu.au

# COLLINGWOOD ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL

**Host School:**
Collingwood College
**Head of Campus:**
Chris Astley
**Transition Coordinator:**
Chris Astley
**School Tours:**
Ring to book an appointment

## KEY DETAILS

| | |
|---|---|
| **Type:** | Government |
| **Level:** | Secondary |
| **Size:** | 26 |
| **Gender:** | Co-educational |
| **Religion:** | — |
| **Uniform:** | No |
| **EAL Support:** | Yes |
| **VCE:** | No |
| **VET:** | Yes |
| **VCAL:** | Yes |

PUBLIC TRANSPORT VICTORIA

**Bus:** The number 200 and 207 buses stop on Wellington St
**Train:** The Hurstbridge and South Morang train lines stop at Collingwood Station
**Tram:** A short walk from either Smith St for trams from Bundoora to the city or from Victoria Pde trams

Collingwood Alternative School is a government secondary school which provides alternative educational opportunities through applied learning practises.

An experienced, dedicated and long-standing team of staff take pride in offering an engaging curriculum which targets individual needs.

The small size allows for flexibility, adaptability and responsiveness to opportunities such as: community partnerships and innovative curriculum provision.

The aim is for students to attend school regularly, set and achieve goals, learn cooperatively with others and experience success.

Literacy and numeracy support is available and students develop within a small, nurturing family-like environment.

Facilities include state-of-the-art wood technology areas; visual arts, design and photography classrooms; film making & green-screen facilities; food technology/ kitchen area; and a digital music recording and practice studio.

## ACRONYMS LIST

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**VCE** - Victorian Certificate of Education
**VET** - Victorian Educational Training Courses, which can be offered as part of VET or VCAL studies
**VCAL** - Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning
**IB** - International Baccalaureate

See page 5 for more information on the Victorian Education system.

## ENROLMENT CONTACT

Chris Astley
7 Stanley St
Collingwood VIC 3066
**Tel:** 03 9419 3816
**Fax:** 03 9419 3816
**Email:** admin@cas.vic.edu.au
**Website:** www.cas.vic.edu.au

# COLLINGWOOD COLLEGE

Collingwood College
Inspiring Young People

**Secondary Principal:**
Dale Perichon
**Transition Coordinator:**
Lisa Bianchi
**School Tours:**
By appointment and/or book via the website

## KEY DETAILS

| | |
|---|---|
| **Type:** | Government |
| **Level:** | Primary and Secondary |
| **Size:** | 820 |
| **Gender:** | Co-educational |
| **Religion:** | — |
| **Uniform:** | No |
| **EAL Support:** | Yes |
| **VCE:** | Yes |
| **VET:** | Yes |
| **VCAL:** | Yes |
| **Alternative:** | Steiner Program |

Collingwood College is a P-12 Government school with approximately 820 students on the main campus. The College offers educational programs to meet a range of individual needs in an outstanding educational environment and is a warm and welcoming school with a strong commitment to partnerships with parents and the broader community.

The College has a structure that best suits the learning needs of all students at the different stages of their development with the main campus arranged into a P-6 and a 7-12 setting. The College offers innovative and progressive teaching and learning approaches. The educational program consists of lots of choices for families with a P-6 main program inspired by a Reggio Emilia approach, a 7-10 main program and a specialist P-10 Steiner program.

The school is enriched with an outstanding P-12 Chinese LOTE program, Year 3-12 Instrumental Music program, Year 3-8 Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden program and an international student program. At the senior level the choice of subjects available is greatly increased by a co-operative arrangement with Fitzroy High School offering VCE, VCAL and VET courses.

At Collingwood College, the social, emotional and physical development of each child lies at the heart of the educational process. Staff, students and families are committed to working inclusively through open and effective communication and partnership.

**Bus:** Hoddle St buses from St Kilda to Northcote stop on the eastern side of the College. Doncaster bus services are available from Gipps St. Johnston St buses link Bulleen, Kew, Carlton and the city
**Train:** The Hurstbridge and South Morang train lines stop at Collingwood Station
**Tram:** A short walk from either Smith St for trams from Bundoora to the city or from Victoria Pde trams
**Pedestrian:** There is a school crossing on Hoddle St and an overpass

PUBLIC TRANSPORT VICTORIA PT

## ENROLMENT CONTACT

Craig Bradley
McCutcheon Way (Cnr Cromwell St)
Collingwood VIC 3066
**Tel:** 03 9417 6681 **Fax:** 03 9416 1279
**Email:** collingwood.co@edumail.vic.gov.au
**Website:** www.collingwood.vic.edu.au

# FITZROY HIGH SCHOOL

**Principal:**
Pauline Rice
**Transition Coordinator:**
Sandra Dickins
**School Tours:**
Book via school website

## KEY DETAILS

| | |
|---|---|
| **Type:** | Government |
| **Level:** | Secondary |
| **Size:** | 600 students |
| **Gender:** | Co-educational |
| **Religion:** | — |
| **Uniform:** | No (Sports uniform only) |
| **EAL Support:** | No |
| **VCE:** | Yes |
| **VET:** | Yes |
| **VCAL:** | Yes |

PUBLIC TRANSPORT VICTORIA

**Tram:** Close to Queens Pde and St Georges Rd
**Train:** The South Morang train line stops at Rushall Station

See ptv.vic.gov.au for bus, train and tram information e.g. timetables, fares and route planning.

Fitzroy High School is located in North Fitzroy. Established in 1915, the school was closed in 1992 and reopened in 2004 as a direct result of local community action.

The school's enrolment is at capacity. Fitzroy High School has a strong educational philosophy that promotes the personalisation of learning and challenges students to take control of their levels of achievement and to improve their performance across a broad curriculum.

The school strives for excellence and equity and aims to be a humane learning community in which teachers use relationships to deepen their knowledge of students. The intent is to have a school where students reach their personal best in academic, physical, social and emotional areas, leading to high levels of performance and attainment.

The school values all young people as individuals, learners and contributors. The students will become independent, reflective and creative thinkers, responsible and active citizens.

The school community strives to provide a stimulating, tolerant and understanding environment in which all students can reach their full potential. The school's organisational structure is based on teams that support student learning, the personalisation of the curriculum and fosters the development of strong academic and personal relationships.

Each school day starts with a half-hour advisory class, promoting the building of relationships and self-knowledge with a focus on transition, social/emotional, and health curriculum.

Students are able to access VCE or VET studies in Year 10. The VCE program is co-delivered with Collingwood College, providing significant choices and flexibility for students, as well as contributing to their transition skills in preparation for tertiary study.

## ENROLMENT CONTACT

Sandra Dickins
Falconer St
North Fitzroy VIC 3068
**Tel:** 03 9488 1900
**Email:**
fitzroy.hs@edumail.vic.gov.au
**Website:**
www.fitzroyhs.vic.edu.au

# LYNALL HALL COMMUNITY SCHOOL

**Principal:**
Mary Barclay
**Transition Coordinator:**
Ben Forbes
**School Tours:**
By appointment

## KEY DETAILS

| | |
|---|---|
| **Type:** | Government |
| **Level:** | Secondary |
| **Size:** | 70+ students |
| **Gender:** | Co-educational |
| **Religion:** | — |
| **Uniform:** | No |
| **EAL Support:** | No |
| **VCE:** | Yes |
| **VET:** | Yes |
| **VCAL:** | Yes |
| **Alternative Setting:** | The Island |

PUBLIC TRANSPORT VICTORIA

**Tram:** Close to Bridge Rd, Church St and Victoria St
**Bus:** Johnston St buses link Bulleen, Kew, Carlton and the city
**Train:** The Hurstbridge and Epping train lines stop at West Richmond Station
See ptv.vic.gov.au for bus, train and tram information.

Lynall Hall is a multi campus community school focused on developing the social, emotional and educational needs of students. The school provides an alternative secondary education to students who are seeking an alternative to mainstream schooling including a work education program at The Island campus in Coburg. Many of the students are seeking to re-engage in education after disengagement from schooling.

Mutual respect is a core value of the school community and the programs encourage students to develop positive social experiences and relationships. The school responds and adapts to the needs of students through a broad, engaging and creative curriculum. Students complete individualised programs with an emphasis on improving literacy and numeracy outcomes.

Extensive classroom support is provided in each class, as well as personal support for students from youth workers and para-professionals.

Senior students access a range of VCE, VET and VCAL programs and vocational pathways.

## ENROLMENT CONTACT

**Lynall Hall Community School**
Ben Forbes
Corner Gleadell and Highett Sts, Richmond VIC 3121
**Tel:** 03 9428 4421
**Email:** lynall.hall.cs@edumail.vic.gov.au
**Website:** www.lynallhall.vic.edu.au

# MELBOURNE GIRLS' COLLEGE

LEAD & ACHIEVE

**Principal:**
Karen Money
**Transition Coordinator:**
Brent Houghton
**School Tours:**
Open Day in April each year
(Apr 27, 2017 9.30am-2.30pm)

## KEY DETAILS

| | |
|---|---|
| **Type:** | Government |
| **Level:** | Secondary |
| **Size:** | 1450 students |
| **Gender:** | Girls only |
| **Religion:** | — |
| **Uniform:** | Yes |
| **EAL Support:** | No (EAL offered from Yr 10) |
| **VCE:** | Yes |
| **VET:** | Yes |
| **VCAL:** | No |

PUBLIC TRANSPORT VICTORIA

**Train:** Close to Burnley Station
**Tram:** Bridge Rd and Swan St are only a short walk away

See ptv.vic.gov.au for bus, train and tram information e.g. timetables, fares and route planning.

Melbourne Girls' College was established in 1994. It is in the suburb of Richmond, on a site next to the Yarra River. The College is committed to environmentally sustainable practices.

The College has about 1400 students from culturally and geographically diverse backgrounds. It welcomes the enrolment of girls from the local area, and also offers some enrolment opportunities for girls from across Melbourne and overseas. The student population is at capacity for the site. Enrolment demand for places is well above the number of places available.

The curriculum incorporates some interdisciplinary units in Years 7-9, and a large number of VCE and VET options are available. Year 10 students are able to access VCE subjects.

The College council is proactive in funding the upgrade of amenities and impressive new facilities. In recent years this has included arts and technology wings, cafeteria, Gillard Centre (comprising food technology centre and boathouse) and sporting facilities.

All students in Years 7-10 have timetabled wellbeing classes which draw upon the work of Seligman (positive psychology) and Dweck (growth mindset) amongst others. Each year level focuses on a different pillar of the MGC Wellbeing Framework: Emotional Literacy, Growth Mindset, Empathy, Kindness, Gratitude and Resilience.

The College community is strengthened through the active participation of parents and community groups.

## ENROLMENT CONTACT

Bryony Sahlstrom
Enrolment Officer (Year 7)
Yarra Boulevard, Richmond VIC 3121
**Tel:** 03 9428 8955
**Email:** bryony.sahlstrom@mgc.vic.edu.au
**Website:** www.mgc.vic.edu.au

# PRINCES HILL SECONDARY COLLEGE

**Principal:** Trevor Smith
**Transition Coordinator:** Agne Douvartzidis
**School Tours:** Book online

## KEY DETAILS

| | |
|---|---|
| **Type:** | Government |
| **Level:** | Secondary |
| **Size:** | 880 students |
| **Gender:** | Co-educational |
| **Religion:** | — |
| **Uniform:** | No |
| **EAL Support:** | No |
| **VCE:** | Yes |
| **VET:** | Yes |
| **VCAL:** | Yes |

PUBLIC TRANSPORT VICTORIA

**Tram:** Close to Lygon St and Royal Pde
**Train:** Close to Jewell Station on the Upfield line

See ptv.vic.gov.au for bus, train and tram information e.g. timetables, fares and route planning.

Princes Hill Secondary College (PHSC), with approximately 880 students, provides a unique, supportive learning environment that fosters the school values of Community, Diversity, Social Responsibility, Creativity, Doing Your Best and Self-reliance.

PHSC maintains mixed ability classes up to Year 10, it is recognised that students require a broad range of skills and attitudes to live sustainably and collaboratively. The school attracts a high proportion of families with a professional background who regularly contribute to decision-making processes, tutoring programs and master classes.

The School is recognised for high academic standards and excellence across the curriculum, in particular the humanities, Ssciences, the arts and music. The school engages students in the social issues of the day, encouraging analysis, values development and a sense of giving back to the community. Students are engaged in forums such as the State Executive for Student Leadership, Tomorrow's Leaders for Sustainability program and other forms of community Service.

PHSC is a vibrant learning community maintaining formal partnerships with institutions such as the University of Melbourne and CERES. The curriculum makes extensive use of the inner city location for students' studies.

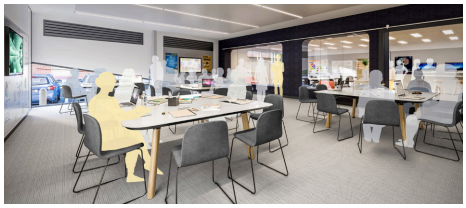
In line with a broad education, the College offers an extensive camps program through the school camp, "Mirrimbah", located at the base of Mt Buller. Further camps include study tours to China, Italy, and France. In Year 9, all students are involved in our wilderness week program where all students have a wilderness experience.

## ENROLMENT CONTACT

Anthony Avotins, Assistant Principal Years 7–9
Arnold St
Carlton North VIC 3054
**Tel:** 03 9389 0600
**Email:** enquiries@phsc.vic.edu.au
**Website:** www.phsc.vic.edu.au

# RICHMOND HIGH SCHOOL

**Principal:**
Colin Simpson
**Transition Coordinator:**
Colin Simpson
**School Tours:**
Wed, 3 May 6.30pm-8pm at Bridge Church, 10 Griffiths St, Richmond, VIC, 3121



## KEY DETAILS

| | |
|---|---|
| **Type:** | Government |
| **Level:** | Secondary |
| **Size:** | 650 students (in 2023) |
| **Gender:** | Co-educational |
| **Religion:** | — |
| **Uniform:** | Yes |
| **EAL Support:** | Yes |
| **VCE:** | Yes in 2021/22/23 |
| **VET:** | Yes |
| **VCAL:** | No |

PUBLIC TRANSPORT VICTORIA

**Tram:** Close to Bridge Rd, Church St and Victoria St
**Bus:** Johnson St buses link Bulleen, Kew, Carlton and the city
**Train:** The Hurstbridge and Epping train line stop at West Richmond Station

See ptv.vic.gov.au for bus, train and tram information.

Richmond High School will provide a stand-alone co-educational 7-12 school for the Richmond community. It will be built for 650 students and opens in Term 1, 2018.

The school will be built over two sites. The first site at 16 Gleadell St will be a multi-purpose facility. The academic precinct will be located at 280 Highett St, Richmond.

The academic precinct will function as the heart of the campus with outdoor spaces for learning and play.

The academic building will be built over four levels and have state-of-the-art learning facilities. Spaces will be flexible to promote a range of activities and experiences to suit the varying needs of staff and students.

The sports precinct includes competition grade outdoor courts, suitable for netball and other sports. The design also features change facilities, a canteen and multi-purpose rooms.

## ACRONYMS LIST

**EAL Support** - English as an Additional Language Support
**VCE** - Victorian Certificate of Education
**VET** - Victorian Educational Training Courses, which can be offered as part of VET or VCAL studies
**VCAL** - Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning
**IB** - International Baccalaureate

See page 5 for more information on the Victorian education system.

## ENROLMENT CONTACT

Colin Simpson, Principal
Old Police Station, Bridge Rd, Richmond VIC 3121
**Email:** hello.richmondhs@gmail.com
**Website:** www.schoolbuildings.vic.gov.au/Pages/Schools/Richmond-High-School.aspx

# SIMONDS CATHOLIC COLLEGE

**Principal:**
Peter Riordan
**Transition Coordinator:**
Stephanie Rocke
**School Tours:**
www.trybooking.com/JORC
or phone 03 9321 9206

## KEY DETAILS

| | |
|---|---|
| **Type:** | Catholic |
| **Level:** | Secondary |
| **Size:** | 500 approx |
| **Gender:** | Boys |
| **Religion:** | Catholic |
| **Uniform:** | Yes |
| **EAL Support:** | Yes |
| **VCE:** | Yes |
| **VET:** | Yes |
| **VCAL:** | Yes |

PUBLIC TRANSPORT VICTORIA

**Tram:** Close to Elizabeth St and Victoria St
**Train:** Close to Flagstaff Station

See ptv.vic.gov.au for bus, train and tram information
e.g. timetables, fares and route planning.

Simonds Catholic College is a unique two-campus Catholic secondary school for boys. The size means that each boy can be individually known, valued and have a sense of belonging. In 2017, 82 students enrolled in Year 7, arriving from more than 50 different primary schools.

The excellent facilities allow the College to offer a broad and exciting curriculum within the setting of a small school. The close proximity to the beautiful St Mary's Church at West Melbourne, and St Brigid's Church in Fitzroy North, means that boys are provided with frequent opportunities to reflect, pray and celebrate the Sacraments in an inspiring and historical religious setting.

Simonds Catholic College is a member of the Associate Catholic College Competition, which includes sport, music, drama, debating, chess, public speaking and student leadership. Over four weeks, a Year 9 program offers students a week-long city experience, a community service placement and two outdoor adventure camps.

In addition to the VCE classes taught at the St Brigid's VCE Campus, students have access to a wide range of VET subjects through the Inner Melbourne VET cluster. VCAL was introduced as an alternative senior secondary pathway in 2013. A small number of VCE classes are shared with students from the Academy of Mary Immaculate.

The staff are committed to providing a high standard of education in an environment of mutual support. All Year 7-10 students are issued with an iPad to support and enhance their learning.

Simonds Catholic College is an excellent school that provides a high quality program to students within a spiritual, academic, social, sporting and cultural dimension.

## ENROLMENT CONTACT

Stephanie Rocke, Registrar
273 Victoria St, West Melbourne VIC 3003
**Tel:** 03 9321 9206
**Email:** enquiries@sccmelb.catholic.edu.au
**Website:** www.sccmelb.catholic.edu.au

# SOPHIA MUNDI STEINER SCHOOL

**Principal:**
Fiona Cock
**Transition Coordinator:**
Tanya Sarmas
**School Tours:**
Ring or book online for appointment

## KEY DETAILS

| | |
|---|---|
| **Type:** | Independent |
| **Level:** | Pre-school, Primary and Secondary |
| **Size:** | 190 students approx |
| **Gender:** | Co-educational |
| **Religion:** | — |
| **Uniform:** | No |
| **EAL Support:** | Yes |
| **VCE:** | No |
| **VET:** | No |
| **VCAL:** | No |
| **IB:** | Yes |

**Bus:** Close to Johnston St buses
**Train:** Close to Victoria Park Station
See ptv.vic.gov.au for bus, train and tram information e.g. timetables, fares and route planning.

Sophia Mundi is an independent, non-denominational and co-educational inner city Steiner school offering an affordable, enriching educational pathway from early childhood to senior secondary. The school was founded on 16th May 1985. The school is located in inner city Melbourne within the beautiful and safe surrounds of the Abbotsford Convent, adjacent to the Collingwood Children's Farm. It is a not-for-profit organisation, a member of Steiner Education Australia, and an IB World School offering the unique combination of a Steiner Curriculum and the International Baccalaureate Diploma. This unique educational offering marries the richness of Steiner education to Year 10, with the IB in Years 11 & 12 contributing an internationally recognised benchmark qualification.

Students are drawn from a wide area, with many coming from Melbourne's inner eastern suburbs. They represent all parts of the economic spectrum. The curriculum and pedagogy is equally suited to a diverse range of ethnic and cultural backgrounds and our mix of students reflects the cultural and ethnic richness of the surrounding population. The school is supported by a strong parent community and maintains a belief that we all share in the education of our children. The school encourages an active lifestyle, healthy eating – organic/biodynamic food where possible – and sustainability.

Parents are encouraged to participate in support of the school. The school celebrates a range of festivals, particularly those in response to seasonal changes. It is commonplace within the school to see colourful dancing, live music, drama, games, singing, puppetry and story telling.

## ENROLMENT CONTACT

Tanya Sarmas
1 St Heliers St
Abbotsford VIC 3067
**Tel:** 03 9419 9229
**Fax:** 03 9419 0835
**Email:**
enquiries@sophiamundi.vic.edu.au
**Website:**
www.sophiamundi.vic.edu.au

# JOINING THE DOTS

## The Yarra Primary Secondary School Transition Project (Year 5-Year 9)

**2012-2017**

The Yarra Primary Secondary School Transition Project was initiated in 2012 in response to critical concerns about primary secondary school transition in the City of Yarra. The purpose of the project is to identify, implement and evaluate a transition model for young people, their families, the community sector and schools that ensure young people remain engaged in education.

Now known as Joining the Dots, this six-year action research project was a key initiative of the Yarra Youth Commitment, a strategic cross sector partnership which came to an end in 2016.

With funding support from two City of Yarra Investing in Community Grants, elements of this highly regarded project have since been implemented in smaller projects across the inner north of Melbourne.

For more information on the project or to download a copy of this resource (available in Arabic, Chinese, English, Somali and Vietnamese), please visit: www.inllen.org.au/joining-the-dots/

**WITH SUPPORT FROM**

CITY OF YARRA

A range of school and community partners have contributed to the update of this Guide, which was adapted from the original version created by Zita Pinda, Seven Ways Consultancy (2014).

**CONTACT**

Rochelle Darby
Manager Transitions

INNER NORTHERN LLEN

Inner Northern Local Learning and Employment Network (INLLEN)
420 Victoria Street, Brunswick VIC 3056
PO Box 298, Brunswick VIC 3056
M: 0408 036 602 | F: 03 9940 1454
E: rdarby@inllen.org.au | W: www.inllen.org.au