

# PREPARING FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL IN DAREBIN

A GUIDE FOR PARENTS 2018



**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 your local area.

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 young people 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](http://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](http://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](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/needs/Pages/supportstudents.aspx)

# CHOOSING THE RIGHT SCHOOL



**Choose a school with the facilities that will best benefit your child's learning and development.**

**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.**

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](http://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/](http://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](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/secondary/Pages/choosing.aspx)

# THINGS TO CONSIDER



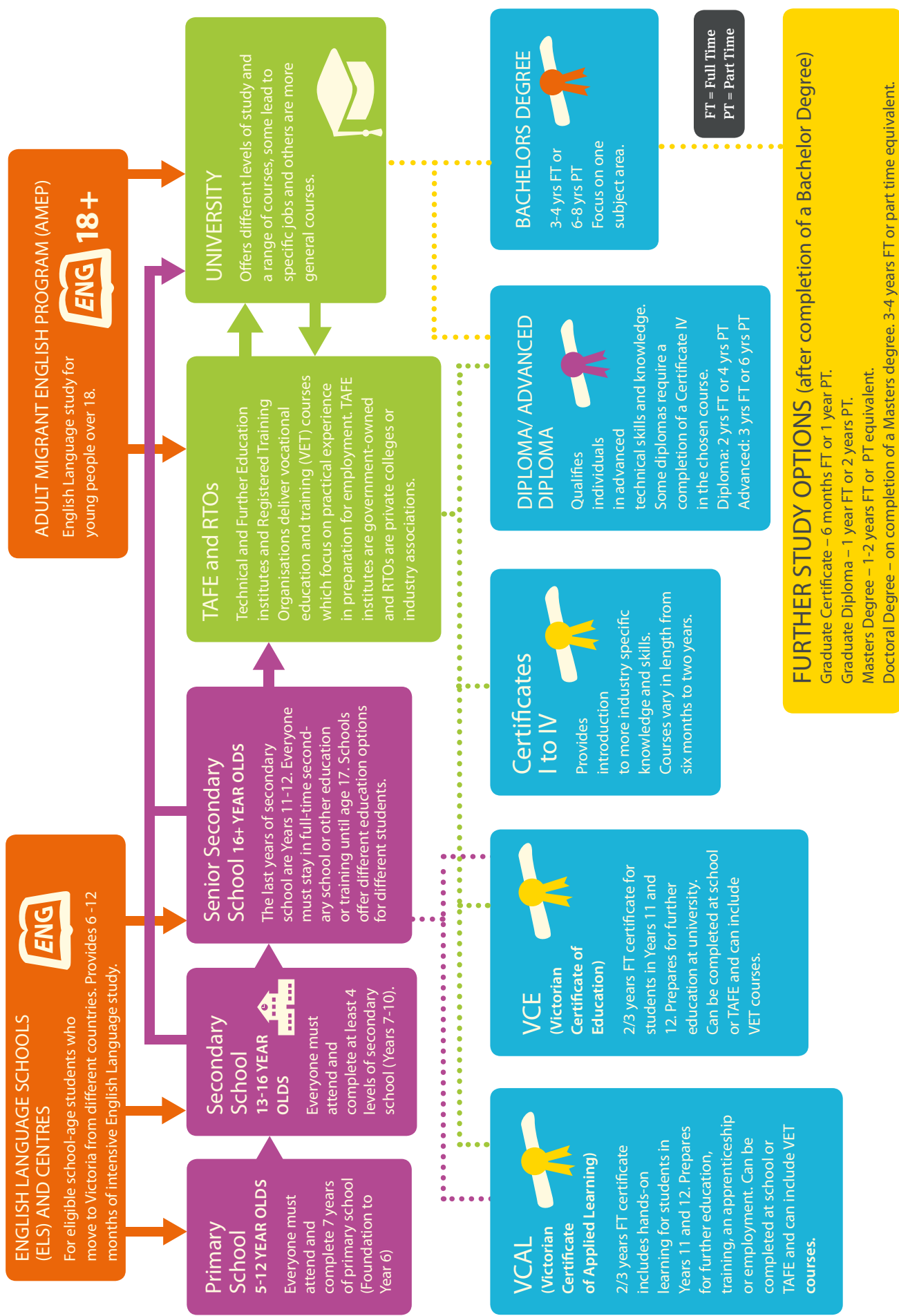
**Go local. Schools provide terrific opportunities for local families.**

**Schools offer co-curricular programs with a range of opportunities for students outside the classroom. These activities can play a very important role in the development of your child.**

**I**t 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



# SCHOOL VISITS



**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.

**Darebin 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.**

**Y**ou 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 usually run open days and information sessions in early term two.
- Government secondary schools adhere to the state-wide 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



**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



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. You should contact Catholic schools when your child is in Year 4 and apply when they are in Year 5, not Year 6.**

**T**here 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 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.

**Get to know your school wellbeing team, they are there to help you and your child.**

**Contact your new school principal if you need help with paying school fees, uniform or other school related costs such as laptops, books and camps.**

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.
- 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

- 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.

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.

# EVERY DAY COUNTS

## Secondary school attendance

- 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.

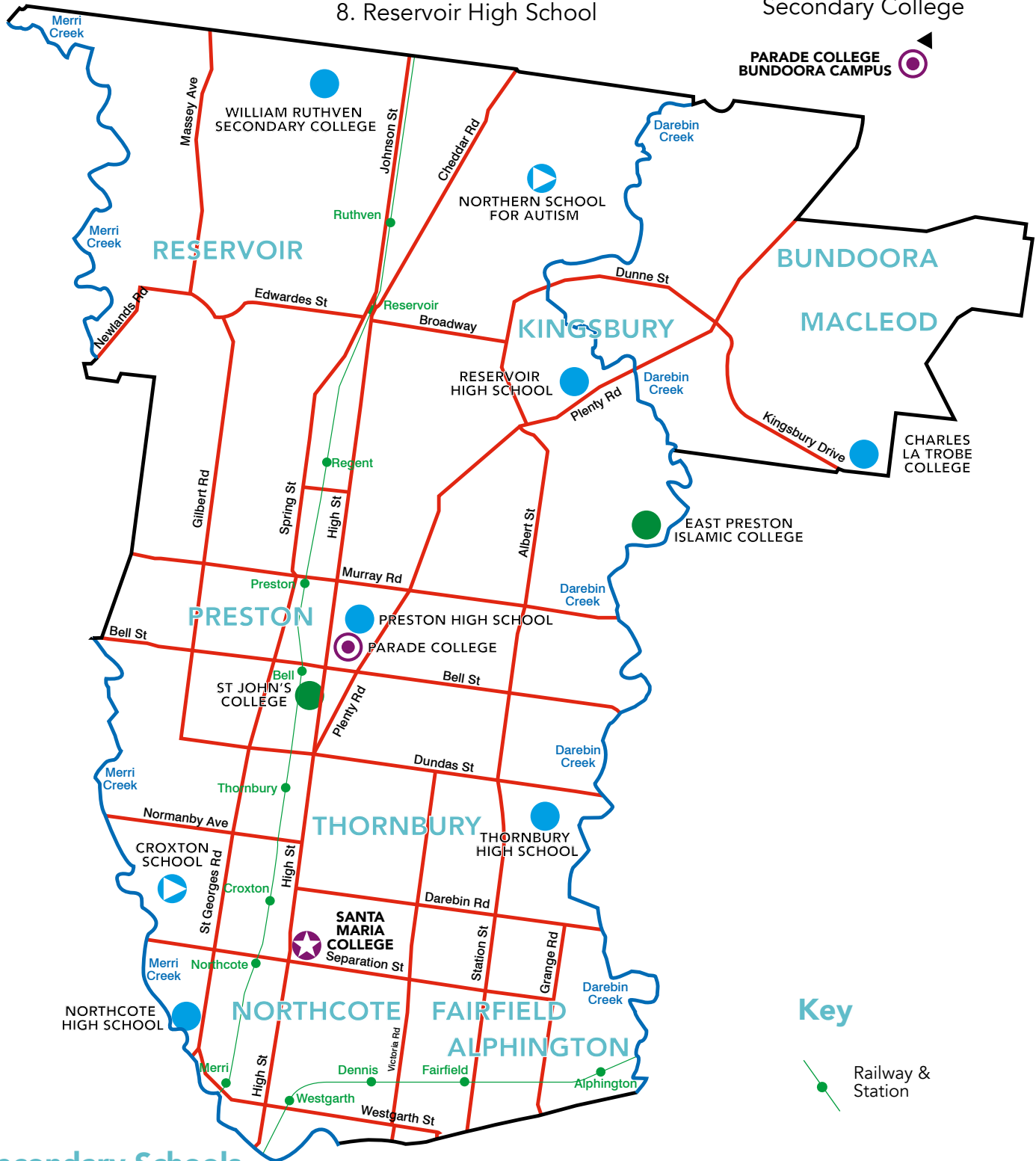
**For more information and resources to help address attendance issues, visit:**

[www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/behaviour/Pages/studentattendance.aspx](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/behaviour/Pages/studentattendance.aspx)

# SECONDARY SCHOOLS

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

1. Charles La Trobe College
2. Croxton School
3. East Preston Islamic College
4. Northcote High School
5. Northern School for Autism
6. Parade College
7. Preston High School
8. Reservoir High School
9. Santa Maria College
10. St Johns College
11. Thornbury High School
12. William Ruthven Secondary College



## Secondary Schools

- |                            |                               |                              |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Catholic secondary (co-ed) | Independent secondary (co-ed) | Government secondary (co-ed) |
| Catholic secondary (boys)  | Independent secondary (boys)  | Government secondary (girls) |
| Catholic secondary (girls) | Independent secondary (girls) | Government (Specialist P-12) |

# CHARLES LA TROBE COLLEGE

**Principal:**

Ms Anna Rigoni

**Transition Coordinator:**

Ms Patricia Reivers

**School Tours:**

By appointment, call  
or book via website



## KEY DETAILS

<b>Type:</b>	Government
<b>Level:</b>	P-12
<b>Size:</b>	518 students
<b>Gender:</b>	Co-educational
<b>Religion:</b>	–
<b>Uniform:</b>	Yes
<b>EAL Support:</b>	Yes
<b>VCE:</b>	Yes
<b>VET:</b>	Yes
<b>VCAL:</b>	No

Charles La Trobe College operates as two sub-schools – the Primary School for Prep to Year 6 and the Secondary School for Year 7 to Year 12.

The College prides itself on providing enriching education for all students. It promotes REAL values – Respect, Excellence, Acceptance and Leadership whilst maintaining its main focus on supporting students to become confident learners who achieve to their full potential.

The College encourages all students to be involved in the school community as much as possible. Their enrichment programs are a great way for students to participate in extra-curricular activities that extend their skills, uncover hidden talents and develop new friendships.

Whether their interests lie in sport, music, astronomy, STEM or debating, Charles La Trobe College has something for everyone.

Charles La Trobe College is passionate about acknowledging excellence in its students. For prospective Year 7 students, they offer academic scholarships consisting of monetary vouchers for uniform and text book purchases.

At Charles La Trobe College access to education is provided for all students. Their experienced Deaf Facility provides highly individualised programs for students with a bilateral, sensory-neural moderate to profound hearing loss.



**Bus:** Buses 548 and 561 stop outside the College on Kingsbury Drive

**Train:** Macleod Station on the Hurstbridge line is the closest train station, with students able to connect to bus 561

## ENROLMENT CONTACT

Patricia Reivers

235 Kingsbury Drv, Macleod West VIC 3085

**Tel:** 03 9223 1400

**Email:** [charles.la.trobe.p12@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:charles.la.trobe.p12@edumail.vic.gov.au)

**Website:** [www.charleslatrobecollege.vic.edu.au](http://www.charleslatrobecollege.vic.edu.au)

# CROXTON SCHOOL

**Principal:**

Bev Fegan

**Transition Coordinator:**

Poppie Hatzi

**School Tours:**

By appointment

## KEY DETAILS

<b>Type:</b>	Government
<b>Specialist</b>	
<b>Setting:</b>	Yes
<b>Level:</b>	P-12
<b>Size:</b>	172 students
<b>Gender:</b>	Co-educational
<b>Religion:</b>	—
<b>Uniform:</b>	Yes
<b>EAL Support:</b>	Yes
<b>VCE:</b>	No
<b>VET:</b>	Yes
<b>VCAL:</b>	Yes

**Northcote Campus**

**Bus:** The school is serviced by school buses provided by the DET. Students must attend three days per week minimum and reside within the school's Designated Transport Area to access this bus service.

**Tram:** Number 11 tram stops at Gladstone Ave/St Georges Rd

**Thornbury Campus**

This Campus does not have transport provision, all students attending must travel independently. See Thornbury High School information.



Croxtton School is a Victorian State Government School located in Northcote. The school caters exclusively for students with a diagnosis of Intellectual Disability. The school has a second campus located at Thornbury High School for students in years 7-10.

To be enrolled, students must be eligible for funding under the intellectual disability criteria of the Department's Program for Students with Disabilities (PSD).

Classrooms consist of around 8 – 14 students. Curriculum focuses on students reaching individual goals around communication skills, social skills, personal and interpersonal skills. The school has a wellbeing team supporting the teaching staff.

All students who attend Croxtton School are provided with an individual learning plan to ensure they are able to achieve their full potential.

Parents and carers are invited to participate in school council to contribute to the good governance of the school. Regular parent information sessions are held throughout the year on a variety of topics.

Student Support Group meetings occur four times a year, where parents work with the teaching staff to determine learning goals.



## ENROLMENT CONTACT

Poppie Hatzi

159 Beaconsfield Parade, Northcote VIC 3070

**Tel:** 03 9482 5482

**Website:** [www.croxtton.vic.edu.au](http://www.croxtton.vic.edu.au)

# EAST PRESTON ISLAMIC COLLEGE



## Principal:

Ekrem Ozyurek OAM

## Transition Coordinator:

Ifrah Omar

## School Tours:

By appointment

## KEY DETAILS

<b>Type:</b>	Independent
<b>Level:</b>	P-12
<b>Size:</b>	700 students
<b>Gender:</b>	Co-educational
<b>Religion:</b>	Islamic
<b>Uniform:</b>	Yes
<b>EAL Support:</b>	Yes
<b>VCE:</b>	Yes
<b>VET:</b>	Yes
<b>VCAL:</b>	Yes



**Bus:** Bus 527 stops at Northland Shopping Centre and is a 15-minute walk to the school  
Bus 567 stops on Seston St, a 2-minute walk to the school

See [ptv.vic.gov.au](http://ptv.vic.gov.au) for bus, train and tram information  
e.g. timetables, fares and route planning.



**E**ast Preston Islamic College, established in 1998, offers education at all levels of primary and secondary education.

The vision at East Preston Islamic College is to ensure excellence, in both academic performance and Islamic values.

The school provides an excellent foundation for a wide range of academic, Islamic and vocational and training pathways and futures for its students via a comprehensive curriculum.

The focus of the College is to develop independent, reflective, responsible, honest, trustworthy and inquiring young people who embody Islamic values along with a genuine passion for life-long learning.

Students with limited English are provided with English as a Second Language classes at all levels. The school recognises individual cultural differences within its

Islamic community and celebrates cultural diversity.

Students are offered many opportunities including; academic and Islamic programs, sporting opportunities, student leadership, an Accelerated and Enhanced Learning Program, Out of School Hours Learning Support Program, extensive extra-curricular activities and a wide range of VCE/VCAL/VET courses aligned to future pathways in the senior years.

The staff of the school realise the joint responsibility we share in helping children grow.



## ENROLMENT CONTACT

Ekrem Ozyurek – Principal  
55 Tyler St, East Preston VIC 3072

**Tel:** 03 9478 3323

**Email:** [admin@epic.vic.edu.au](mailto:admin@epic.vic.edu.au)

**Website:** [www.epic.vic.edu.au](http://www.epic.vic.edu.au)

# NORTHCOTE HIGH SCHOOL

**Principal:**

Sue Harrap

**Transition Coordinator:**

Ciar Foster

**School Tours:**

Book via website



## KEY DETAILS

<b>Type:</b>	Government
<b>Level:</b>	Secondary
<b>Size:</b>	1800 students
<b>Gender:</b>	Co-educational
<b>Religion:</b>	—
<b>Uniform:</b>	Yes
<b>EAL Support:</b>	Yes
<b>VCE:</b>	Yes
<b>VET:</b>	Yes
<b>VCAL:</b>	Yes

Northcote High School's focus is on educating and equipping students for the future by challenging young minds and endowing them with the necessary knowledge, skills and confidence to engage with life as participating citizens.

Students learn in a supportive and positive environment that celebrates all achievements (no matter how large or small) and where diversity is highly valued. The school values of achievement, curiosity, humanity and fairness embrace the idea of lifelong learning that empowers and assists our young people to create their own personal futures.

Students learn best when they feel happy, engaged, connected and safe. Northcote High's Connect program provides a supportive environment and a sense of community and belonging, where all students can gain confidence

in their pursuit of educational excellence.

In addition to the music program, interschool sport programs and the tours and camps program, Northcote High maintains a rich and active co-curricular program.

Students engage actively with their local and global communities through programs and opportunities including year-level philanthropic projects, a vibrant international students program, sister school relationships and a range of international study tours.



- Train:** Merri Station is a 300m walk from the school
- Tram:** Number 11 tram stops outside the school
- Bike:** The Merri Creek path adjoins the school

See [ptv.vic.gov.au](http://ptv.vic.gov.au) for bus, train and tram information e.g. timetables, fares and route planning.

## ENROLMENT CONTACT

Enrolment Officer

19-25 St Georges Rd, Northcote VIC 3070

**Tel:** 03 9488 2324

**Email:** [info@nhs.vic.edu.au](mailto:info@nhs.vic.edu.au)

**Website:** [www.nhs.vic.edu.au](http://www.nhs.vic.edu.au)

# NORTHERN SCHOOL FOR AUTISM



**Principal:**

Pamela Mathieson

**Transition Coordinator:**

Brad Harris

**School Tours:**

Call 03 9462 5990 to make an appointment

## KEY DETAILS

<b>Type:</b>	Government
<b>Specialist</b>	
<b>Setting:</b>	Yes
<b>Level:</b>	P-12
<b>Size:</b>	340 students
<b>Gender:</b>	Co-educational
<b>Religion:</b>	—
<b>Uniform:</b>	Yes
<b>EAL Support:</b>	Yes
<b>VCE:</b>	Yes - 2019
<b>VET:</b>	Yes - 2019
<b>VCAL:</b>	Yes



**Bus:** The school is serviced by school buses provided by the DET. Students must attend three days per week minimum and reside within the school's Designated Transport Area to access this bus service. Some older students use public buses (route 552).



Northern School for Autism is a Victorian State Government School in the northern suburbs of Reservoir and Lalor. The school was established in 2006 to cater exclusively for students with a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder.

To be enrolled, students must be eligible for funding under the Autism Spectrum Disorder criteria of the Department's Program for Students with Disabilities (PSD).

Classrooms consist of around 8 – 10 students with 3 or 4 staff members. Speech and occupational therapists also form part of the teaching team. Curriculum focuses on students reaching individual goals around communication skills, social skills, personal and interpersonal skills.

All students who attend Northern School for Autism are provided with an individual learning plan to ensure they are able to grow and

learn to their full potential.

The school values family involvement and has an active parent fundraising group. Parents and carers are invited to participate in school council to contribute to the good governance of the school. Regular parent information sessions are held throughout the year on a variety of topics.

Student Support Group meetings occur four times a year, where parents work with the teaching staff to determine learning goals.



## ENROLMENT CONTACT

Simon Williamson, Assistant Principal

16-18 Gertz Ave, Reservoir VIC 3073

**Tel:** 03 9462 5990

**Email:** [williamson.simon.s@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:williamson.simon.s@edumail.vic.gov.au)

**Website:** [www.northernautism.vic.edu.au](http://www.northernautism.vic.edu.au)

# PARADE COLLEGE

**Principal:**

Dr Denis J Moore

**Transition Coordinator:**

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**School Tours:**

book via the website or  
contact the registrar

## KEY DETAILS

<b>Type:</b>	Catholic
<b>Level:</b>	Secondary
<b>Size:</b>	Approx 1900
<b>Gender:</b>	Boys
<b>Religion:</b>	Catholic
<b>Uniform:</b>	Yes
<b>EAL Support:</b>	Yes
<b>VCE:</b>	Yes
<b>VET:</b>	Yes
<b>VCAL:</b>	Yes



Parade College is a Catholic all-boys multi-campus secondary school. The School has two campuses in the northern suburbs of Melbourne, one in Bundoora and the other in Preston. The school was founded by four Christian brothers in 1871 and is a member of the national body of Catholic schools known as Edmund Rice Education Australia.

The curriculum is designed to provide students with a broad and well-balanced education in their junior secondary years.

Parade College is committed to making sure that students are personally known, valued, respected and cared for during their time in school and believe that this is fundamental in helping boys develop as balanced well-rounded individuals. Each student has access to the wide range of help and support available at

the College so they can enjoy a happy and rewarding education. This is achieved in a number of ways; through the house system, tutor groups, counselling services, career support, and student support services. Parade believes that the relationships a student builds in his tutor group, house and year level are vital in creating a positive experience.

The school offers great facilities including an athletics track, multiple football and cricket ovals, hockey fields and tennis courts.



**Bus:** Buses 382 and 566 stop directly in front of Parade College

**Tram:** Number 86 Waterfront City Docklands to Bundoora RMIT tram stops at Greenhills Road/ Plenty Rd, an 8-minute walk from the school.

## ENROLMENT CONTACT

Angela O'Connor – College Registrar  
1436 Plenty Rd, Bundoora VIC 3083  
**Tel:** 03 9468 3304 **Fax:** 03 9467 3937  
**Email:** [registrar@parade.vic.edu.au](mailto:registrar@parade.vic.edu.au)  
**Website:** [www.parade.vic.edu.au](http://www.parade.vic.edu.au)

# PRESTON HIGH SCHOOL



## Principal:

Sean Butler

## Transition Coordinator:

Sean Butler

## School Tours:

By appointment in 2019



## KEY DETAILS

<b>Type:</b>	Government
<b>Level:</b>	Secondary
<b>Size:</b>	1100 when full
<b>Gender:</b>	Co-educational
<b>Religion:</b>	—
<b>Uniform:</b>	Yes
<b>EAL Support:</b>	Yes
<b>VCE:</b>	Yes*
<b>VET:</b>	Yes*
<b>VCAL:</b>	No



**Bus:** Bus stop at the corner of High and Gower St is approximately 200m from the school

**Train:** 5-10 minute walk from Preston Station

**Tram:** The Plenty Road Tram stops at David St and Gower St both approximately 200m from the school.

Preston High School opens in 2019, giving Year 7 students the unique opportunity to lead and build a school community in their image. The school's mission, Empowering Tomorrow's Leaders, is a future-focused and learner-centred statement that guides the school's programs from curriculum, to wellbeing, to enrichment programs.

The school is located in the heart of Preston and has received \$15.6M in funding to restore and refurbish a 2-story red-brick heritage building for state-of-the-art learning and to invest in new facilities.

The school will expand rapidly in coming years and welcomes enrolment of students from across the local area. Enrolment demand for 2019 has exceeded expectations.

The Year 7 and 8 'Da Vinci Years' curriculum covers all the Victorian Curriculum areas and adds four unique elements:

- A Performing Arts Program that in 2019 sees students participating in the State Schools Spectacular.
- The Da Vinci Project, an extended solo-investigation project that develops skills for success in the mid-21st Century.
- A university-linked program in philosophy developing the capacities to reason and think critically (in discussion and in writing) alongside pro-social skills.
- A focus on Design Thinking (or Engineering Thinking) including real-life problem-based learning, rapid prototyping and public presentations.

Enrichment programs and accelerated options for students who have demonstrated capacities or a passion for a particular pursuit are provided depending on the students' interests and needs.

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\* VCE & VET commence 2022 for early start Year10s

## ENROLMENT CONTACT

Sean Butler

Cooma Street, Preston VIC 3072

**Email:** prestonhighschool.vic@gmail.com

**Website:** www.phs.vic.edu.au

# RESERVOIR HIGH SCHOOL



Diversity • Excellence • Success

## Acting Principal:

Lea Volpe

## Transition Coordinator:

Darryl Forbes

## School Tours:

By appointment / Book via website



## KEY DETAILS

<b>Type:</b>	Government
<b>Level:</b>	Secondary
<b>Size:</b>	640 students
<b>Gender:</b>	Co-educational
<b>Religion:</b>	—
<b>Uniform:</b>	Yes
<b>EAL Support:</b>	Yes
<b>VCE:</b>	Yes
<b>VET:</b>	Yes
<b>VCAL:</b>	Yes

Reservoir High School is a middle sized Year 7-12 school located in Melbourne's northern suburbs surrounded by parkland and sporting facilities. Reservoir High provides excellent educational outcomes for all students in a positive, caring and supportive learning community where diversity is celebrated and valued, lifelong learning is embraced and all students have the opportunity to develop as leaders in their community.

The School includes a state of the art 260-seat Performing Arts Centre and three competition-standard netball and tennis courts with two more in the planning for 2018. The current leadership structure has been redesigned and improved, more accurately reflecting the needs of students and staff.

Reservoir High's values – diversity, excellence and success – are demonstrated every day. Diversity adds to the richness and quality of the students' educational

experience with a significant EAL student cohort and over 65 cultural groups represented in the school.

The school recognises and celebrates the success of all students, by awards at regular whole school assemblies or year level assemblies, through their fortnightly newsletters as well as the reporting system which informs parents and guardians of their child's progress every five weeks.

The large student wellbeing team comprises of a full-time student wellbeing coordinator, school nurse, salvation army chaplain and an on-site doctor. The careers team also provide significant support to students and families.



**Bus:** Bus 382 stops directly in front of on Plenty Rd

**Tram:** Number 86 Waterfront City Docklands to Bundoora stops directly in front of the College.

See [ptv.vic.gov.au](http://ptv.vic.gov.au) for bus, train and tram information e.g. timetables, fares and route planning.

## ENROLMENT CONTACT

Darryl Forbes – Junior School Leader

855 Plenty Rd, Reservoir VIC 3073

**Tel:** 03 9466 0900

**Email:** [reservoir.hs@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:reservoir.hs@edumail.vic.gov.au)

**Website:** [www.reservoirhs.vic.edu.au](http://www.reservoirhs.vic.edu.au)

# SANTA MARIA COLLEGE



## Principal:

Deborah M. Barker

## Transition Coordinator:

Kylie Lawtey

## School Tours:

Book via website

## KEY DETAILS

<b>Type:</b>	Catholic
<b>Level:</b>	Secondary
<b>Size:</b>	920 students
<b>Gender:</b>	Girls
<b>Religion:</b>	Catholic
<b>Uniform:</b>	Yes
<b>EAL Support:</b>	Yes
<b>VCE:</b>	Yes
<b>VET:</b>	Yes
<b>VCAL:</b>	Yes
<b>IB:</b>	Yes



**Bus:** Bus 508 stops in front of Northcote Shopping Plaza which is a 2-minute walk from school

**Tram:** Number 86 tram stops at Separation St/High St, which is a 5-minute walk away from school

See [ptv.vic.gov.au](http://ptv.vic.gov.au) for bus, train and tram information e.g. timetables, fares and routes



Santa Maria College is a Catholic Secondary College for girls. It was established by the Sisters of the Good Samaritan of the Order of Saint Benedict in Northcote in 1904.

The College encourages students to cultivate their talents in a safe and happy environment. Students understand the importance of balancing the pursuit of academic excellence with emotional, spiritual and physical wellbeing. They have a love of learning, which is nurtured in first-class facilities by dedicated staff. Girls at Santa Maria are encouraged to ask questions, seek answers and apply these new understandings to a real-world context.

The School is proud to be internationally recognised as an International Baccalaureate (IB) World School. Middle school students (Years 7-10) follow the highly acclaimed Middle Years Program of the IB Organisation. They provide a diverse and challenging co-

curricular program.

Santa Maria has adopted a house system which provides a sense of community and support for students, staff and parents. This feeling of community and belonging is very important at Santa Maria College as it allows students to feel connected and enhances their learning.



## ENROLMENT CONTACT

Kylie Lawtey

50 Separation St, Northcote VIC 3070

**Tel:** 03 9488 1630 **Fax:** 03 9488 1699

**Email:** [registrar@santamaria.vic.edu.au](mailto:registrar@santamaria.vic.edu.au)

**Website:** [www.santamaria.vic.edu.au](http://www.santamaria.vic.edu.au)

# ST JOHN'S GREEK ORTHODOX COLLEGE



**St John's College**

## Principal:

Lance Ryan

## Transition Coordinator:

Lance Ryan

## School Tours:

Complete an online form on the College website or contact the school on 9480 5300. Tours occur from April to June.

## KEY DETAILS

<b>Type:</b>	Independent
<b>Level:</b>	P-12
<b>Size:</b>	280 students
<b>Gender:</b>	Co-educational
<b>Religion:</b>	Orthodox
<b>Uniform:</b>	Yes
<b>EAL Support:</b>	Yes
<b>VCE:</b>	Yes
<b>VET:</b>	No
<b>VCAL:</b>	No



**Bus:** Buses 552 & 553 stop on Warrs Ave, a 5-minute walk from school

**Tram:** Number 86 stops at Raglan St/Plenty Rd (Preston), a 10-minute walk from school

**Train:** Bell Station on the South Morang line is the closest station



St Johns College is an independent co-educational P-12 school, founded on the Greek Orthodox tradition.

The College aims to provide a positive and successful learning environment by ensuring that each student reaches their potential and acquires the attitude, skills and knowledge to cope with the demands of their future.

The College provides students with the opportunities to assess pathway options, develops high self-esteem, optimism and commitment to personal excellence and creates an appropriate environment for student's core values and high expectations to flourish.

The science building is the newest

addition to St John's College. This outstanding building has been designed to signify the importance and focus on Science and Environment, Technology and Sustainability. There are three specialist science areas including physics, chemistry and biology laboratories. Learning spaces are interconnected and allow for a large range of teaching and learning possibilities, with the latest learning technologies integrated into each classroom.

The Middle Years program provides a welcoming environment for Year 7–9 students, with every aspect of their program designed to provide a learning environment that is safe, engaging and dynamic.

## ENROLMENT CONTACT

Please call Reception

21 Railway Place, West Preston VIC 3072

**Tel:** 03 9480 5300

**Website:** [www.stjohnspreston.vic.edu.au](http://www.stjohnspreston.vic.edu.au)

# THORNBURY HIGH SCHOOL

**Principal:**

Michael Keenan

**Transition Coordinator:**

Ryan Millar

**School Tours:**

Weekly tours, call the main office on 9480 4066 to book

## KEY DETAILS

<b>Type:</b>	Government
<b>Level:</b>	Secondary
<b>Size:</b>	1050 students
<b>Gender:</b>	Co-educational
<b>Religion:</b>	—
<b>Uniform:</b>	Yes
<b>EAL Support:</b>	Yes
<b>VCE:</b>	Yes
<b>VET:</b>	Yes
<b>VCAL:</b>	Yes



**Bus:** 552/567 stops in Station St. School buses after school that go to Reservoir and Northcote

See [ptv.vic.gov.au](http://ptv.vic.gov.au) for bus, train and tram information e.g. timetables, fares and route planning.



Thornbury High School offers extensive academic and extra-curricular programs, aimed at fostering and inspiring a new generation of respectful and resilient young people ready to face a rapidly changing world.

The school's enrolment continues to grow with over a thousand students and includes international students from predominantly China and Vietnam who further enrich the school's standing in the international education community.

Year 7 and 8 students have the choice of the Mainstream Program or the Concept Program for high achievers. The Mainstream Program includes challenging but appropriate work, with additional support for

students with literacy problems and small class sizes. The Concept Program runs from Year 7 to 9 and caters to students who have a love for learning and is an extension to and more challenging than the Mainstream Program. Thornbury High adopts high academic expectations and standards and offers a safe and secure learning environment for their students. There are a wide range of opportunities for students to pursue their career aspirations.

Thornbury High School values diversity in all its forms and models this in its day-to-day practices. The benefits of this are evident with students feeling deep pride and a sense of belonging within their school community.

## ENROLMENT CONTACT

Vicki Denovan

238 Collins St, Thornbury VIC 3071

**Tel:** 03 9480 4066 **Fax:** 03 9480 1214

**Email:** [thornbury.hs@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:thornbury.hs@edumail.vic.gov.au)

**Website:** [www.thornburyhs.vic.edu.au](http://www.thornburyhs.vic.edu.au)

# WILLIAM RUTHVEN SECONDARY COLLEGE

**Principal:**

Judi Benney

**Transition Coordinator:**

Andrew Elborough

**School Tours:**

By appointment



## KEY DETAILS

<b>Type:</b>	Government
<b>Level:</b>	Secondary
<b>Size:</b>	400 students
<b>Gender:</b>	Co-educational
<b>Religion:</b>	—
<b>Uniform:</b>	Yes
<b>EAL Support:</b>	Yes
<b>VCE:</b>	Yes
<b>VET:</b>	Yes
<b>VCAL:</b>	Yes

William Ruthven Secondary College is a single campus 7-12 co-educational secondary school located in Reservoir. The school is currently undergoing a significant re-build including state-of-the-art facilities which will open in 2019.

William Ruthven caters for a diverse range of students. The school has invested significant time into re-aligning their curriculum to include a focus on 21st Century Learning Design and STEM. Its Year 9 program has a strong emphasis on student self-regulation, collaboration, knowledge construction and innovation using technology to support the learning. The senior school students are also well supported to achieve their best in VCE, VCAL and VET programs, and the success rate for entrance to university or TAFE continues to improve every year. Each week teachers undertake dedicated

professional learning together to focus on improving student outcomes and developing a holistic learning model.

Families are regularly updated on student progress to ensure learning is fully supported.

William Ruthven has strong partnerships with community organisations to ensure they are consistently providing students with the opportunities to learn, grow and develop the skills they need to achieve their goals.



**Bus:** Bus 902 stops on Mahoneys Rd at the back end of William Ruthven Secondary College.

**Train:** Keon Park Station on the South Morang line is the closest station students can take the 902 bus or walk 11 minutes via Merrilands Rd.

## ENROLMENT CONTACT

Andrew Elborough

60 Merrilands Rd, Reservoir VIC 3071

**Tel:** 03 9462 2177

**Email:** [elborough.andrew.a@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:elborough.andrew.a@edumail.vic.gov.au)

**Website:** [www.wiliamruthvensc.vic.edu.au](http://www.wiliamruthvensc.vic.edu.au)

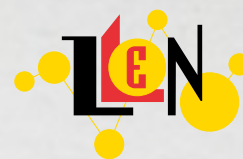
# NOTES

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# NOTES



INNER NORTHERN



## Working to improve the skills and knowledge of schools, families and community to better support student transition from primary to secondary school (Year 5 – 9).

In 2012 the Joining the Dots Project (originally called the Yarra Primary Secondary School Transition Project) was initiated in the City of Yarra. The Project aimed to identify, implement and evaluate a transition model for young people, their families, the community sector and schools to ensure young people transition well from primary to secondary school, remain engaged in education and connected to their learning.

With funding support from two City of Yarra Investing in Community Grants, this six year project concluded with the development of a Joining the Dots Model for Transition. Reflecting current research, data and project learnings, this Model will provide guidance for schools and community agencies to improve primary and secondary school transition for students and families.

Joining the Dots now includes several collaborative school-community projects and has contributed to improving transition practice in at least 25 schools across the inner north of Melbourne. Funding support from School Focused Youth Service and Darebin City Council has enabled INLLEN to expand this highly regarded project into Moreland and Darebin.

The INLLEN also continues to extend the JTD Project through the development of an Inner North Transition Network and a Transition Guide for schools.

In addition to this Guide, you are encouraged to explore a range of other transition resources that will help you and your child transition to secondary school. These include useful links, short videos and a book for students and families.

For more transition information, resources or to download a copy of this Guide (available in Arabic, Chinese, English, Somali and Vietnamese), please visit [www.inllen.org.au/joining-the-dots/](http://www.inllen.org.au/joining-the-dots/)



### WITH SUPPORT FROM



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the support of the  
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A range of school and community partners have contributed to the creation of this Guide, that has been adapted from the original version created by Zita Pinda, Seven Ways Consultancy (2014).