

THE KILMORE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Excellentia Academica Persequenda



WELCOME



Like many of its students and teachers, I was drawn to The Kilmore International School because of its reputation for superior academic results and innovation. Our motto and mission, "Exellentia Academica Persequenda" determines our practice: in pursuit of academic excellence.

We are a boarding and day school conveniently located in a safe rural setting in the township of Kilmore, north of Melbourne. The school has a family atmosphere where girls and boys from Melbourne, country Victoria and from around the world become part of a close-knit learning community.

The Kilmore International School has an impressive record of academic success in the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme. Our inspiring, experienced and highly qualified teachers enjoy an exceptional relationship with their students, most of whom will attend leading universities throughout the world.

As a boarding school and home to students from around the world, pastoral care lies at its heart. The Heads and Homeroom teachers know their students thoroughly. We provide a rich variety of co-curricular activities to foster experiential learning and leadership.

I believe an international education equips students to be world-ready and prepares them for university and successful careers. I invite you to visit our school and discover why.

Andrew Taylor Principal



LEARNING

At the heart of education is teaching and learning. Without ignoring the issues that dominate headlines about schooling such as class size and testing, we believe the secret of education is the personal engagement between the student and teacher and the quality of feedback they get. Every child deserves a year's growth in learning for a year's input of teaching.

An academic culture is created in the school by a relentless, practical focus on learning. Clear and well-structured lessons are given in the classroom and supported by effective classroom management to limit distraction. The curriculum is designed to challenge capable and motivated students by developing higher-order problem solving and advanced thinking skills. Our teachers promote learning by using a variety of strategies, routines and practices that emphasise individualised instruction. With the support of parents, students are encouraged to develop the study habits, homework schedules and focused task approach at home that are necessary to reach their full academic potential.



THE INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE

The International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme is a demanding twoyear programme of study of the traditional academic disciplines. It emphasises inquiry-based and independent learning as well as rigourous assessment, exactly the skills needed to succeed at university. With evidence that IB students perform better in higher education than their peers, the Diploma is recognised and welcomed by leading universities and colleges around the world.

Students study six courses at higher level or standard level. Apart from studying their first language, students also study an additional language, Mathematics and subjects from the social sciences, experimental sciences and the arts. Students are also required to complete three core elements that promote intercultural understanding and respect as an essential part of life in the 21st century. These core tasks are individual research through the Extended Essay, an inquiry into the Theory Of Knowledge and structured activities of Creativity, Action, Service for personal growth.



CARE

Pastoral care is the heart of every good school. Our first priority is the wellbeing and safety of each student. When starting at the school, each student joins a Homeroom that meets daily with their Homeroom teacher. All teachers are expected to know their students but the most important school contact for students and their parents is the Homeroom teacher. By monitoring attendance, academic progress, co-curricular involvement and personal development, the Homeroom teacher works closely with the Year Level Coordinator to understand, support, encourage and guide each student.

Students meet in their Homeroom every morning. The teacher will use this time to read the daily notices, check diaries and meet with individuals. Each semester, Homeroom teachers will write a pastoral report which is designed to highlight student accomplishments and identify any areas of concern. All students will attend pastoral workshops during the year to develop resilience and safeguard their well-being, for example on cyber safety.

Each student belongs to a vertically grouped House to promote personal relationships and responsibilities across year levels. Students are also offered support from the Year Level Coordinator, Student Counsellor, Student Services and the Careers Counsellor.



BOARDING

The Kilmore International School offers boarding from Year 7. Boarders are the "heart and soul" of the school and experience a family atmosphere where girls and boys from Melbourne, country Victoria and from around the world become part of a close-knit international learning community. Houseparents, the Head of Boarding, the Boarding Manager, medical staff and kitchen staff are responsible for the safety and welfare of boarders. Full or weekly boarding is available.

All boarding houses have their own common room with kitchen facilities, television and wireless internet. The dining room provides delicious and wellbalanced meals. The school also provides ample space and supervised activities for students to grow, learn and play. All students are members of the local 18-hole golf club as well as the community leisure centre with a swimming pool and gymnasium accessible for boarders after hours.

The academic program is first class and teachers are available after school and in the evenings to provide extra tutorials. Supervised 'prep' or homework in the evenings helps to develop study routines and further improve academic results. Frequent communication between the School and the home ensures parents are kept well-informed of their child's progress. Weekend excursions, camps and a range of competitions in sport, debating and music provide a rich experience to make lifelong friendships and to develop leadership, tolerance, independence and personal growth. Boarding enables students to live, learn and work in a community.



INTERNATIONAL

The Kilmore International School offers a true international education. Students from around the world come to receive a world-class education in a multicultural boarding school, set within the local rural community of Kilmore. Melbourne, Australia's most cosmopolitan city, is nearby and is reached by train in less than an hour. Most of the students in boarding are from countries in the Asia-Pacific region. We have had students from numerous countries including Australia, Azerbaijan, Brunei, China, England, Germany, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. With different cultures come different languages, various religions, unique foods and distinct clothes to those of young Australians.

A shared multicultural experience is how we develop cultural empathy. To prepare students for an interconnected world all students study the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme, including learning a second language. The School helped to pioneer the International Baccalaureate in Australia when it opened in 1989. A rich variety of languages are spoken and taught here – such as English, Chinese, French, German, Hindi, Indonesian, Japanese, Korean, Russian, Thai and Vietnamese. Different values, beliefs and traditions are shared and celebrated on International Day and there are regular overseas visits and exchanges.







COMMUNITY

It takes a village to raise a child. The Kilmore International School takes great pride in its sense of community. Junior, Middle and Senior Schools share the one campus that is also home to our boarders. A common vision shared by the Board of Directors, staff, students, parents and alumni is to prepare our young people for fulfilling lives in a global community.

To further develop a sense of empathy and belonging in our fast-paced and changing world, we offer a school-wide programme of leadership and community service to all students. By way of example, a selection of current projects and charities that students actively support include volunteering and visiting nursing homes and primary schools, door knocks for Salvation Army and Red Cross, tree planting for the local council, and fund raising events to support local, national and international communities such as the Cambodian Kids Foundation.

Community service is an essential element of moral education. By engaging with people from different walks of life, students learn what it means to live in a cross-cultural neighbourhood and to lead a full adult life.



LEADERSHIP

Every student has leadership qualities within them. To find and nurture these qualities, leadership and service opportunities are provided for all students. Leadership positions are available on the student council, as captains of sport or year level, as events and service coordinators, or as publication captains. Students are also encouraged to participate in personal development programmes such as The Duke of Edinburgh Award and in community leadership forums, including Model United Nations and Youth Parliament Victoria.

Leadership begins with leadership of self. By offering a challenging and supportive environment with a wide range of co-curricular activities, every student has the opportunity to be recognised for their character and achievements. With encouragement and guidance from their Homeroom or classroom teacher, students are expected to take on positions of responsibility and to harness their talents. Even a quiet, reserved student can influence others, perhaps as a leader of opinion through their writing or artwork. Our aim is for students to develop the character and learn the habits that will last a lifetime and to be optimistic, confident, tolerant and purposeful democratic citizens. Leaders are made, not born, at The Kilmore International School.



THE ARTS

Art, drama and music are a universal and imaginative language, a window on human thought and emotion. Experiencing the Arts makes us more perceptive and sensitive and widens our horizons. That entry into other worlds and minds give us ways of seeing, hearing and expressing form, imagination and meaning. The Arts teach us to think critically, read perceptively, write lucidly and speak articulately; they connect us to others and give us pleasure for its own sake.

Great emphasis is put on the Arts at The Kilmore International School. Art, drama and music are part of the core curriculum up to Year 9. Students develop music appreciation and performance skills and have access to a keyboard studio; we also offer private instrumental and voice tuition. In the Visual Arts, students sample and explore a wide range of media and materials. Drama lessons allow students to develop character and individual performance skills. There are many opportunities to perform at assemblies and exhibitions, plays and concerts are held regularly.



SPORT

Sport, recreation and play are essential in the physical and social development of children. Sport also helps to define Australian culture. Our sports program consists of interschool competitions and internal House events throughout the year. Sports available include athletics, football, cricket, badminton, netball and swimming. Students can progress from district, regional and state to national championships. Not only does sport develop specific physical skills, it also improves health and fitness and enables children to experience friendship, team work and fair play. The friendly rivalry between Houses on Sports Days lifts school spirits. All students at The Kilmore International School are members of the Kilmore Golf Club and the Kilmore Leisure Centre with its fully equipped gymnasium and heated indoor pool.

All students attend at least one school camp during the year. These are journeys of discovery. Camps bring the curriculum alive through field work and experiential learning and challenge students through activities such as bushwalking, rock climbing, skiing, abseiling, horse riding and canoeing. On camp, students learn about themselves and how to take responsibility for their own decisions and choices; they also learn how to live and work with others.



WORLD READY

Our graduates enter leading universities in Australia, Britain, the United States and Asia. Most students enrol in competitive courses such as Commerce, Medicine, Law, Engineering, Science, Media and Architecture and many students are awarded scholarships. A Careers Counsellor provides expert guidance and support on subject selection, university admissions procedures, scholarship applications, interview techniques, academic references and writing personal statements. Students can also explore future career pathways in the Careers Resource Centre and attend Career information evenings with their parents.

Academic attainment is not an end in itself. An international education prepares students for an interconnected world. The ten attributes of the IB learner – inquirers, knowledgeable, thinkers, communicators, principled, open-minded, caring, risk-takers, balanced, reflective – equip our students to be purposeful, responsible and wise global citizens. Education at The Kilmore International School is the foundation for a fulfilling, happy and successful life. When our students graduate, they are World Ready.



Two hands, hills, gum leaves and the stars of the Southern Cross on the school's crest symbolise our identity and purpose. Care and nurture are the work of our hands and hearts. Amidst rolling green hills and gum trees, the school is located in the safe, rural town of Kilmore beneath the clear, blue Australian skies.

Excellentia Academica Persequenda In Pursuit of Academic Excellence

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CHOOL



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