

Preparing for Secondary School

A Guide for Parents 2016



Joining the Dots

The Yarra Primary Secondary School Transition Project

Zita Pinda, Seven Ways Consultancy

Updated June 2016





INTRODUCTION

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.

The resource has two sections:

1. Tips and advice for parents
2. A detailed listing of all the secondary schools in the City of Yarra

This resource has been developed using Department of Education and Training (DET) resources available 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.



CHOOSING THE RIGHT SCHOOL

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 now occur towards the end of 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: <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/findaservice/Home.aspx>
- To find a **Catholic school** in your local area, see: <http://www.ceomelb.catholic.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:
<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/secondary/Pages/choosing.aspx>



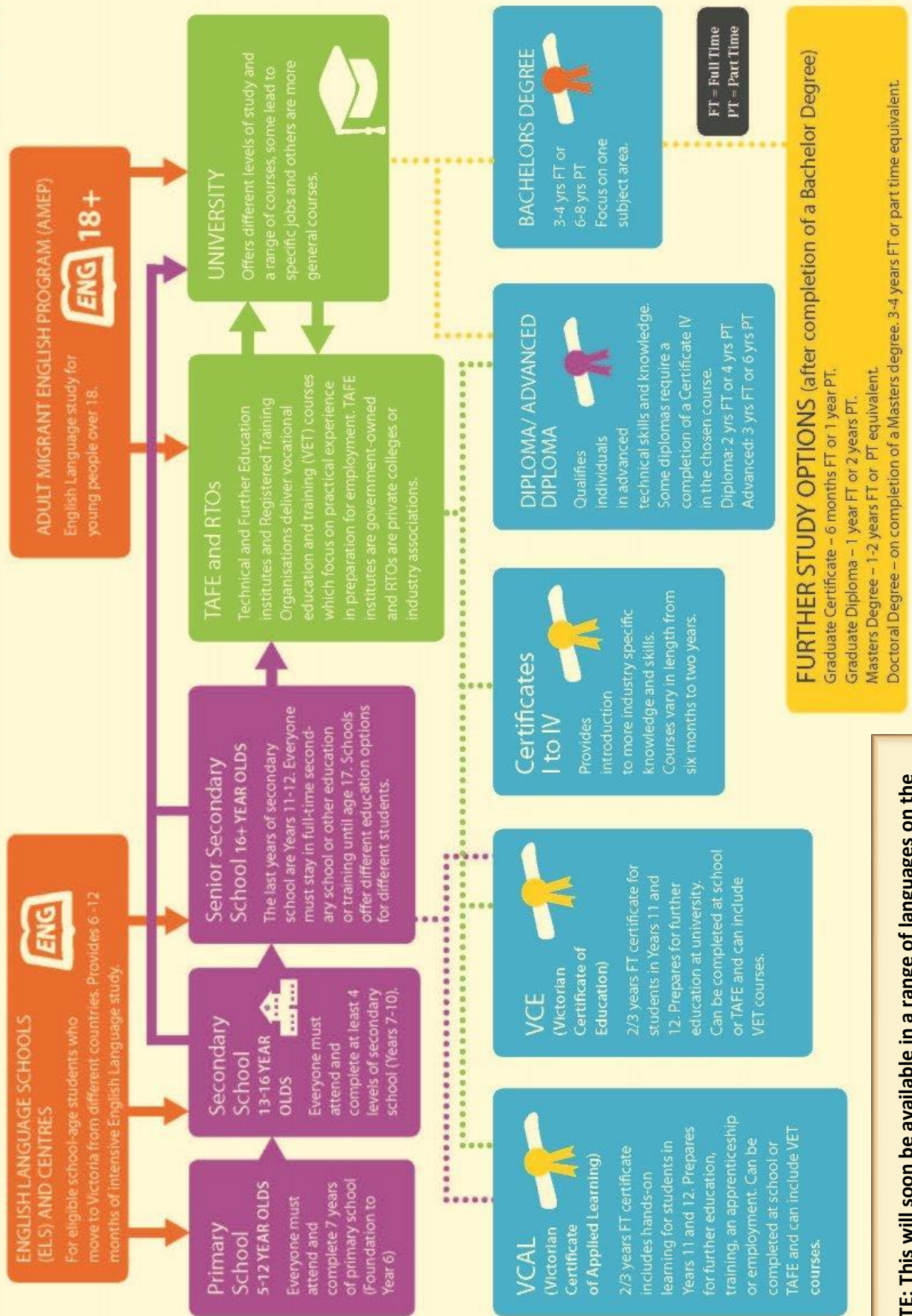
THINGS TO CONSIDER

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 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?

* See page 5 for a Map of the Victorian Education System and explanation of VCAL, VCE, etc.

A MAP OF THE VICTORIAN EDUCATION SYSTEM



NOTE: This will soon be available in a range of languages on the CMY website. See www.cmy.net.au for more information.

SCHOOL VISITS



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 teacher's/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 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

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

Timeline and process for Year 7 Enrolment Applications

- 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.

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 all 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

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. 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 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 5
- Key enrolment dates are published in July of the Year 5 year for the following year. These dates follow the same process and timing each year
- Applications close as near as possible to the last day in February of the Year 6 year
- Offers of places are sent out at the end of April
- The closing date for acceptances is mid-May

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



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.

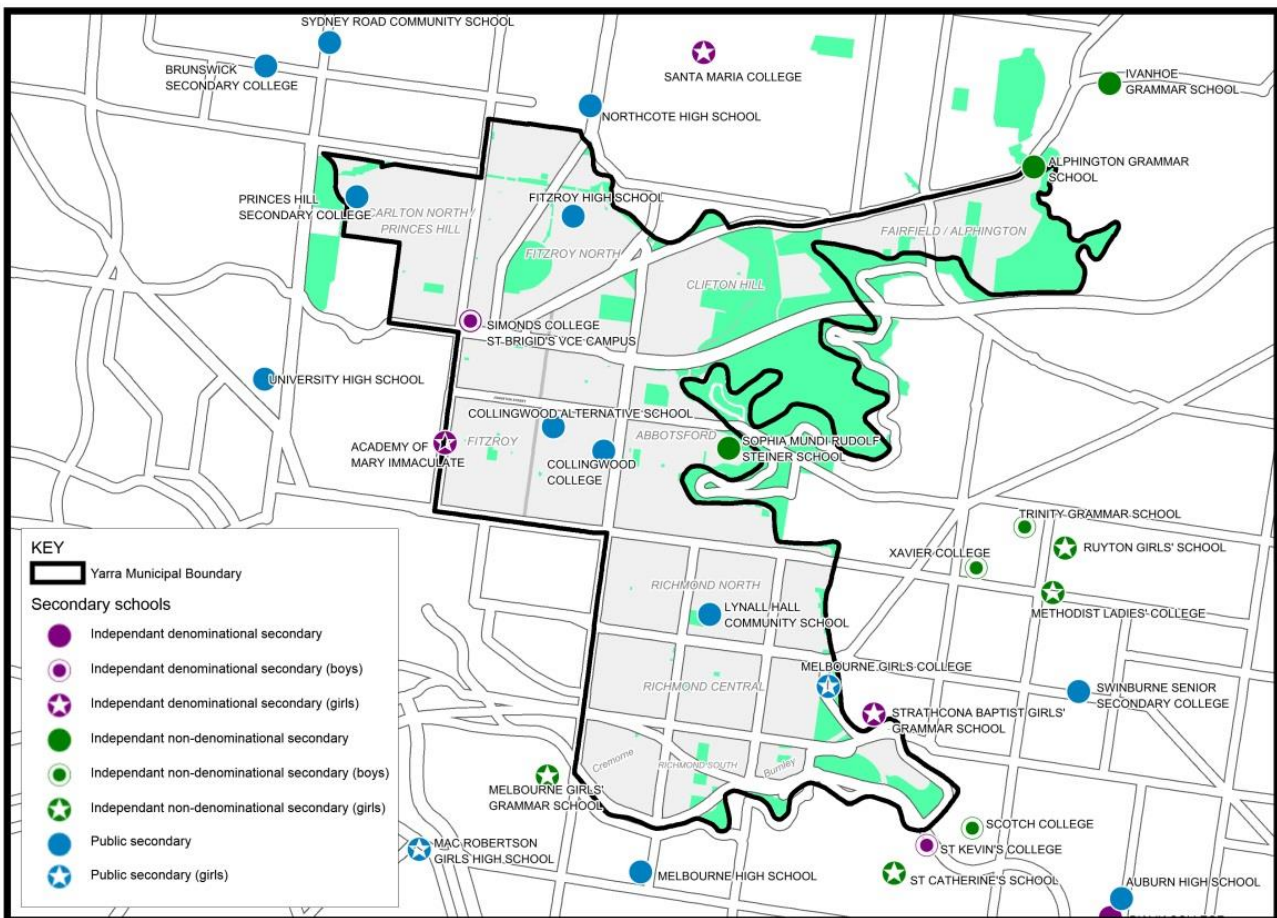
For more information and resources to help address attendance issues, visit:

www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/behaviour/Pages/studentattendance.aspx



Department of Education and Early Childhood Development

SECONDARY SCHOOLS



Data Source: Mapping by Yarra City Council (Pitney Bowes MapInfo GIS)
 © 2011 Pitney Bowes Business Insight. All rights reserved.
 Based on data provided under licence from PSMA Australia Limited and ABS data.

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

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

ACADEMY OF MARY IMMACULATE

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

Principal: Sr. Mary Moloney

Transition / Year 7 Coordinator:
Alexandra Cowin

School Tours available. Ring or book online for appointment.

Transport

Tram: close to Nicholson St, Brunswick St, Smith St and Victoria St trams

Train: Close to Parliament Station

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

The Academy of Mary Immaculate is the oldest girls' secondary school in Victoria, having been established by the Sisters of Mercy in 1857. From 1857 until the present day, the Academy has existed on its original site in Nicholson Street, Fitzroy.

While the College is rich in history and tradition, it also provides a modern and dynamic environment to lead the students into the future and prepare them for their life journey.

The Academy of Mary Immaculate endeavours to promote the Catholic faith and ethos and to provide an environment in which the students develop spiritually, physically, emotionally and intellectually, according to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The College offers a most comprehensive range of subjects, both academic and practical, catering for approximately 650 students from Years 7 – 12 who come from a wide area of Melbourne.

At the Academy there is a commitment to a tradition of scholastic excellence and the provision of a wide range of co-curricular opportunities. The right of each person to be a learner is respected and individual differences are capitalized on to maximize student engagement.

Among the hallmarks of successful learning and teaching at the Academy are the development of a well rounded set of skills and attributes in each student and the capacity for each student to take considered risks.

A life-long love of learning is fostered through students and teachers both engaging with ideas, people and concepts that inspire creative processes and responses. Such processes and responses encourage the innovative use of information and communication technologies in all fields of study.

Enrolment Contact

Kerri Ruff
88 Nicholson St
Fitzroy VIC 2065
Tel: 03 9412 7100
Fax: 03 9419 3885
Email: enrolments@academy.vic.edu.au
Website: www.academy.vic.edu.au

ALPHINGTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Key Details

Type:	Independent
Level:	Pre-school, Primary and Secondary
Size:	500 students approx.
Gender:	Co-educational
Religion:	Non-denominational
Uniform:	Yes
EAL Support:	Yes
VCE:	Yes
VET:	Yes
VCAL:	No

Principal: Dr. Vivianne Nikou

Transition Coordinator:
N/A

School Tours available. Ring or book online for appointment.

Transport

Close to Heidelberg Road

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

Alphington Grammar School is an open-entry, co-educational Pre-Prep to Year 12 independent school established in 1989, providing an exemplary secular education at a competitive cost. Students are encouraged to aim high, analyse critically, think globally, respect others, show compassion, value diversity and live creatively.

Alphington Grammar sets out to inspire and equip all students to strive for excellence in their academic, creative and sporting pursuits and to reach their personal best in all fields. The school aims to nurture and promote the unique qualities and personal well-being of all students and their respect for the individuality of others. Programs are designed to equip all students with the knowledge, skills and attributes to participate successfully in Australian Society, and to develop lifelong learning skills that will prepare them for a multitude of futures in a globally mobile workforce.

Having been established by the Greek Orthodox Community of Melbourne and Victoria, part of the ethos is to promote students' understanding and appreciation of our culturally diverse society, including the teaching of Greek language and culture, and of the contribution of the Hellenic intellectual tradition to the development and progress of human society. About 60% of students come from a Greek background, with the remainder representing a full range of Melbourne's culturally diverse population.

From Prep to Year 10 the program ensures students gain experience and capabilities in all learning domains, including enhancement and learning support where appropriate, and comprehensive sports and creative arts opportunities, before making key choices about their learning paths in the senior (VCE) years. At VCE we offer a wide choice of subjects in small classes with an emphasis on academic excellence.

Enrolment Contact

Pauline Sistanis

18 Old Heidelberg Road

Alphington VIC 3078

Tel: 03 9497 4777

Email: ags@alphington.vic.edu.au

Website: www.alphington.vic.edu.au

COLLINGWOOD ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL

Key Details

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

Host School: Collingwood College

Head of Campus: Chris Astley

Transition Coordinator:

Chris Astley

School Tours available. Ring to book an appointment.

Transport

Bus: The number 200 and 207 buses stop on Wellington Street.

Train: The Hurstbridge and South Mornag train lines stop at Collingwood Station.

Tram: A short walk from either Smith Street for trams from Bundoora to the City or from Victoria Parade trams.

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

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 a flexible, adaptable and responsive 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 & photography classrooms; film making & green-screen facilities; food technology/kitchen area; and a digital music recording and practise studio.

Enrolment Contact

Chris Astley
7 Stanley Street
Collingwood, VIC 3066

Tel: 03 9419 3816

Fax: 03 9416 4005

Email: admin@cas.vic.edu.au

Website: www.cas.vic.edu.au

COLLINGWOOD COLLEGE

Key Details

Type:	Government
Level:	Primary and Secondary
Size:	780 students approx.
Gender:	Co-educational
Religion:	Non-Denominational
Uniform:	No
EAL Support:	Yes
VCE:	Yes
VET:	Yes
VCAL:	Yes

Alternative: Steiner Program

Secondary Principal: Craig Bradley

Transition Coordinator:
Liria Stratus

School Tours available. Ring or book online for appointment.

Transport

Bus: Hoddle St buses from St Kilda to Northcote stop on the eastern side of the College. Doncaster bus services are available from Gipps Street. 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 Street for trams from Bundoora to the City or from Victoria Parade trams.

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

Pedestrian: There is a school crossing on Hoddle Street and an overpass.

Collingwood College is a P-12 government school with approximately 780 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 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.

At the senior level the choice of subjects available is 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.

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

Key Details

Type:	Government
Level:	Secondary
Size:	600 students (capped)
Gender:	Co-educational
Religion:	Non-denominational
Uniform:	No
EAL Support:	No
VCE:	Yes
VET:	Yes
VCAL:	Yes

Principal: Pauline Rice

Transition Coordinator:
Sandra Dickins

School Tours available.
Ring for appointment.

Transport

Tram: Close to Queens Parade and St Georges Road

Train: The South Morang train line stops at Rushall Station.

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

Fitzroy High School is located in the inner city area of 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 continues to grow.

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.

Enrolment Contact

Sandra Dickins

Falconer Street

North Fitzroy VIC 3068

Tel: 9488 1900

Email: fitzroy.hs@edumail.vic.gov.au

Website: www.fitzroyhs.vic.edu.au

LYNALL HALL COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Key Details

Type:	Government
Level:	Secondary
Size:	100 students approx.
Gender:	Co-educational
Religion:	Non-denominational
Uniform:	No
EAL Support:	No
VCE:	Yes
VET:	Yes
VCAL:	Yes
Alternative Setting:	The Island
Principal:	Mary Barclay
Transition Coordinator:	Nim McIntyre
School Tours available.	Ring for appointment.

Transport

Tram: Close to Bridge Road, Church Street and Victoria Street

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

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 individualized 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

Principal: Mary Barclay
Corner Gleadell and Highett Streets, Richmond 3121
Tel: 9428 4421
Email: lynall.hall.cs@edumail.vic.gov.au
Website: www.lynallhall.vic.edu.au

The Island

Manager: Laura Stock
189 Urquhart St Coburg 3058
Tel: 9489 0611
Email: stock.laura.l@edumail.vic.gov.au
Website: www.lynallhall.vic.edu.au

MELBOURNE GIRLS' COLLEGE

Key Details

Type:	Government
Level:	Secondary
Size:	1400 students approx.
Gender:	Girls only
Religion:	Non-denominational
Uniform:	Yes
EAL Support:	Yes
VCE:	Yes
VET:	Yes
VCAL:	No

Principal: Karen Money

Transition Coordinator:
Brent Houghton

School Tours available. Ring or book online for appointment.

Transport

Train: Close to Burnley Station

Tram: Bridge Road and Swan Street are only a short walk away.

See PTV (www.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.

The pastoral care focus of the tutorial program provides the opportunity for the students to explore their identity and gain a sense of belonging in a safe, secure environment. Social skills and conflict resolution strategies are also developed.

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

Enrolment Contact

Cheryl Shea
Yarra Boulevard
Richmond Vic.3121
Tel: 03 9428 8955
Fax: 03 9428 2737
Email: cherylshea@mgc.vic.edu.au
Website: www.mgc.vic.edu.au

PRINCES HILL SECONDARY COLLEGE

Key Details

Type:	Government
Level:	Secondary
Size:	880 students approx.
Gender:	Co-educational
Religion:	Non-denominational
Uniform:	No
EAL Support:	Yes
VCE:	Yes
VET:	Yes
VCAL:	Yes

Principal: Trevor Smith

Transition Coordinator:
Bron Hutchinson

School Tours available. Ring or book online for appointment.

Transport

Tram: Close to Lygon St and Royal Parade

Train: Close to Jewell Station on the Upfield line

See PTV (www.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 recognized 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, Sciences, 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

Margaret Fry (Assistant Principal)
Arnold St
Carlton North VIC 3054
Tel: 03 9389 0600
Fax: 03 9387 0108
Email: enquiries@phsc.vic.edu.au
Website: www.phsc.vic.edu.au

SIMONDS CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Key Details

Type:	Catholic
Level:	Secondary
Size:	500 students approx.
Gender:	Boys only
Religion:	Catholic
Uniform:	Yes
EAL Support:	Yes
VCE:	Yes
VET:	Yes
VCAL:	Yes

Principal: Peter Riordan

Transition Coordinator:
Stephanie Rocke

School Tours available. Ring or book online for appointment.

Transport

Tram: Close to Elizabeth Street and Victoria Street

Train: Close to Flagstaff Station

See PTV (www.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 2013, 81 students enrolled in Year 7, arriving from almost 40 different primary schools.

The excellent facilities mean that the College is able 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 high quality program to students within a spiritual, academic, social, sporting and cultural dimension.

Enrolment Contact

Stephanie Rocke
273 Victoria St
West Melbourne VIC 2003
Tel: 03 9321 9200
Fax: 03 9321 9299
Email: principal@sccmelb.catholic.edu.au
Website: www.sccmelb.catholic.edu.au

SOPHIA MUNDI

Key Details

Type:	Independent
Level:	Pre-school, Primary and Secondary
Size:	190 students approx.
Gender:	Co-educational
Religion:	Non-denominational
Uniform:	No
EAL Support:	Yes
VCE:	No
VET:	No
VCAL:	No
I.B.:	Yes

Principal: Fiona Cock

Transition Coordinator:
Tanya Sarmas

School Tours available. Ring or book online for appointment.

Transport

Bus: Close to Johnston St buses

Train: Close to Vitoria Park Station

See PTV (www.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 organization, 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 Street
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

Yarra Primary Secondary School Transition Project (Year 5-Year 9) 2012-2017

The Yarra Primary Secondary School Transition Project (Joining the Dots) is a major initiative of the Yarra Youth Commitment (YYC).

The YYC is a strategic partnership of schools, education providers, government agencies, community organisations and industry that work together to design, deliver and align local approaches that improve outcomes for young people in the City of Yarra. The YYC has identified primary to secondary school transition as a critical issue.

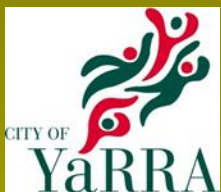
The purpose of the Joining the Dots project is to identify, implement and evaluate a transition model for young people, their families, the community sector and schools that ensure young people remain engaged in their education.

For more information on the Project, please see <http://inllen.org.au/yarra-youth-commitment/yarra-primary-secondary-school-transition-project>

To download a copy of this resource in English, Arabic, Chinese, Somali or Vietnamese, please see <http://inllen.org.au/resources/>



With grateful support from



Thank you also to:

- **Fitzroy Primary School, Fitzroy High School and Simonds Catholic College** for kindly providing photos of their young people; and
- **Trinity Catholic School and Fitzroy High School** for developing the enrolment section

Contact

Rochelle Darby
Manager Transitions

Inner Northern Local Learning and Employment Network (INLLEN)
420 Victoria Street, Brunswick VIC 3056
M: 0408 036 602 E: rdarby@inllen.org.au

