



DANDENONG HIGH SCHOOL

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS HANDBOOK



www.dandenonghs.vic.edu.au

WELCOME TO DANDENONG HIGH SCHOOL

Dandenong High School is a highly multi-cultural school and international students are warmly integrated into the school community. The school provides a diverse educational program which prepares students for successful progress to tertiary studies. It is understood that international students have different needs and vulnerabilities, and the international program works specifically to provide support and cater to the specific necessities of overseas students.

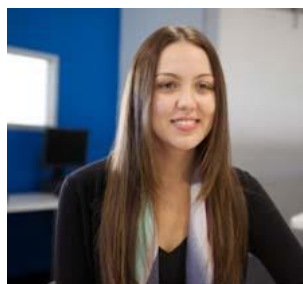
SUPPORT STAFF FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS



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The International Students Room is located in A16.

Department of Education and Training
CRICOS: 00861K

LOCATION OF DANDENONG HIGH SCHOOL

Dandenong is a suburb of Melbourne, Victoria, approximately 30 km south-east from Melbourne's central business district. Situated on the Dandenong Creek, it is at the foothill of the Dandenong Ranges.

Dandenong is the most culturally diverse area in Melbourne and is a major commercial and industrial area. It features wide-ranging shopping facilities and extensive parkland. The community is multi-cultural, vibrant and welcoming. The suburb hosts annual events such as the Dandenong Show and Carols in Harmony Square. Professional stage performances also take place regularly at the Drum Theatre.

Dandenong High School is located:

- 1.3km from Dandenong Station
- 800m from the iconic Dandenong Market
- 1.2km from the Dandenong Plaza shopping mall
- 1.2kms from Dandenong Library and Harmony Square

More information about Dandenong can be found on the City of Greater Dandenong website:

<http://www.greaterdandenong.com/events/home>

SCHOOL STRUCTURE

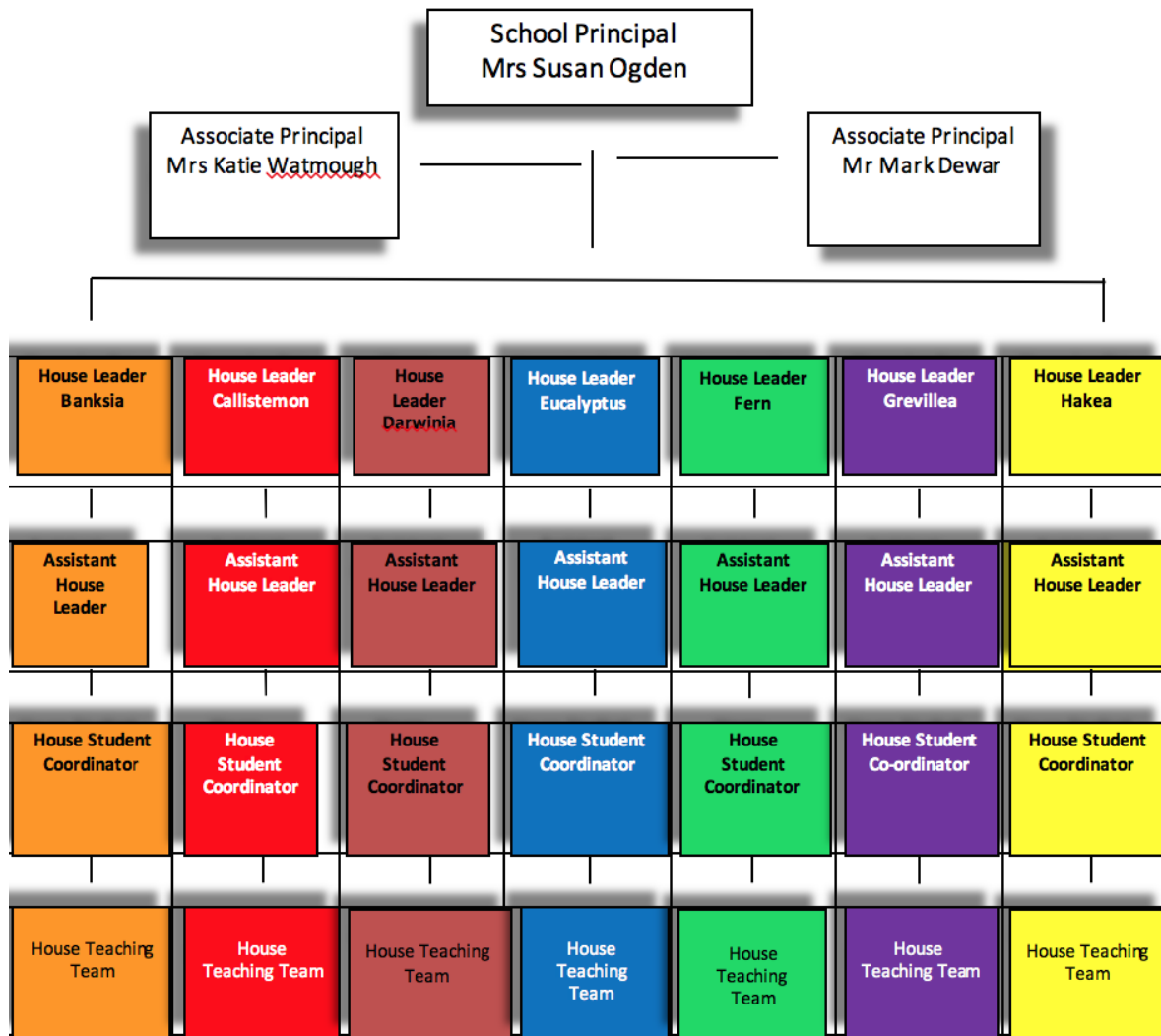
Dandenong High School's structure is based on a House system. The House system encourages a sense of community, develops connectedness to the school and creates a feeling of belonging for all students. There are seven Houses; Banksia, Callistemon, Darwinia, Eucalyptus, Fern, Grevillia and Hakea. The Houses are named after indigenous drought tolerant plants and each House and House building has a symbolic colour.

Students are placed in a House when they enrol in the school and it is intended that they remain in that House until they graduate in Year 12. Students learn in the House groups in Years 7 – 10 and compete for their House in inter-House competitions. Each House building accommodates up to 300 students from Years 7-12, with 50 students at each year level. The House also includes a House Leadership Team and 20-25 staff.

Students in Years 7-9 will learn primarily in the House. They will leave the House building for some specialist subjects and Health and Physical Education. In Years 10-12, students will regularly learn outside the House in specialist learning spaces, as they complete their individual Senior Studies program. Below is the school House Leadership structure.

DANDENONG HIGH SCHOOL

School and House Leadership Map



DAILY SCHEDULE

Students attend four 75-minute classes a day, following the schedule below.

8.45am – 8.54am	Buildings are opened for students to access lockers
8.55am – 10.10am	Period 1
10.10am – 10.30am	Recess
10.35am – 11.50am	Period 2
12.00pm – 1.15pm	Period 3
1.16pm – 1.55pm	Lunchtime
2.05pm – 3.20pm	Period 4
3.20pm	Dismissed

Some senior students may have study periods or attend TAFE during the week.

Students may not leave the school grounds during the day for any reason. If a student is leaving school early, they are not permitted to return until the following day.

LATENESS AND ABSENCES

Students who are late to school must report to their House office to sign in before attending class. A note from their parent/guardian stating the reason for being late should be provided. Students will receive a lunchtime detention for any unauthorised late arrivals.

If a student intends to leave school early, they should report to their House office at the start of the day with a note from their parent/guardian explaining why. Students will then be issued with a pass permitting them to leave at the requested time.

If a student is absent from school, the parent/guardian should contact the school in the morning by phone to notify the House attendance officer of the absence. Where possible, students should submit any relevant documentation (e.g. medical certificates) to the House office upon their return. Alternatively, parents/guardians can communicate to the school about a student's absence via **Compass**.

[Note that international students have very specific attendance requirements that are outlined in the Visa Requirements section of the handbook.](#)

ACCESSING COMPASS

Compass is the school management system that connects families, students and teachers for administrative functions of the school in addition to curriculum, assessment, teaching and learning.

Through Compass, students can access their timetables, communicate with teachers, access information regarding upcoming events, access classwork and resources and view teacher's comments on their work. Students also have a school email account, which they are expected to check regularly for communication from the school.

Through Compass, parents/guardians can receive important communications, are kept informed about their child's learning, are provided with access to their child's attendance history, can approve absences online and can manage excursion forms and other necessary documentation. Parents can do this at their convenience via any computer that is connected to the Internet.

Compass can be accessed via the school website: <http://www.dandenong-hs.vic.edu.au>

TEACHING AND LEARNING AT DANDENONG HIGH SCHOOL

YEAR 7, 8 & 9

- Students in each year level work closely with a team of three teachers for English, Maths, Science, Humanities, Health, PE and LOTE in groups of 50 within their House
- The Teaching Teams have regular contact with their group of 50 students which enables the development of meaningful learning relationships between the student and teachers
- Health/PE, Design, Creative Technology and Arts based subjects will be delivered in purpose built learning spaces by specialised teachers
- In Years 7 and 8, students study a Language Other Than English (LOTE) as part of their learning program. Each House is allocated a language. In 2018, Banksia, Eucalyptus and Callistemon students are studying Japanese; Darwinia, Grevillia and Fern students are studying French and Hakea students are studying Latin. All students in Year 7 and 8 in that House study the nominated language. Students have the opportunity to continue their learning of a language in Years 9 and 10 through the Elective Program
- In Years 9 and 10 Dandenong High School offers students the opportunity to select from an extensive elective program. Students are encouraged to explore their learning, deepen their understanding of the world and further develop fundamental knowledge and skills through the selection of subjects such as Philosophy, Food Technology, 3D Art, History Through Film and Information Technology. **Students should refer to the most current Year 9 course handbook for more information.**

YEAR 10, 11 & 12

- Dandenong High School consistently achieves excellent student outcomes for senior students with many students choosing to pursue Tertiary/Post-Secondary studies once they leave school. The school offers an extensive Senior Studies Program which includes a wide range of VCE Subjects, VCAL and VET options. **Students should refer to the most current Senior Studies Handbook for more information.**

- The school also provides support and education for students in developing an appropriate future pathway through professional career advice and counselling from the Careers team. Students also have the opportunity to undertake Work Experience in Year 10.

ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING

Assessment: All learning in Years 7-10 is based on Victorian Essential Learnings (VELs). A variety of assessments are used to determine the students' progress against the expected levels. Formal examinations are held for all students in Years 10-11 in June and November. Year 12 VCE examinations are held in October and November.

Reporting: Teachers provide continual feedback on assessments to both students and parents via Compass, the school IT portal. A formal report can be downloaded from Compass at the end of each semester. Parents of international students will receive a translated copy of their report.

Parent/Teacher interviews: Parent/teacher interviews are held during Terms 2 and 3. It is hoped that all parents or homestay providers will take these opportunities to meet their child's teachers to discuss their child's progress. Additional interviews can be arranged by parent or teacher request.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

All Dandenong High School students are required to wear the Dandenong High School uniform. The uniform is available from the uniform supplier, Dandy SchoolWear.

DANDY SCHOOLWEAR

8/169 Cheltenham Road, Dandenong 3175

Phone: +61 3 9792 3187

NOTE THAT BEFORE ATTENDING THE UNIFORM SHOP, YOU MUST FIRST BOOK AN APPOINTMENT FOR A FITTING. Appointments can be booked by phoning the shop, or alternatively, you may book through the school website:

<http://www.dandenong-hs.vic.edu.au/school-uniform/>

TEXTBOOKS

To ensure correct editions, please purchase from Lamont Books, the official suppliers to Dandenong High School. All orders are to be placed online, and booklists can also be accessed through the Lamont Books website:

<http://www.lamontbooks.com.au/textbooks-stationery/dandenong-high-school/>

Textbooks may also be sources second-hand through the sustainable bookstore:

<https://www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au>

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS AND COMMUNITY LINKS OFFERED AT DANDENONG HIGH SCHOOL

Dandenong High School offers a range of programs, which further enhance and support student learning. These are broad in range and aim to give students further opportunity to connect with their school and participate in events and activities that will showcase their skills and talents. Students are invited to participate in the following:

- Inter-house swimming competition (Term 1)
- Year 7 Camp
- Year 7 and 8 swimming program (Term 1 and 2)
- School production (Rehearsals Term 1 and 2, performance Term 3)
- Term 1 inter-school sports competition: cricket, baseball/softball, volleyball and tennis
- Inter-house athletics competition (Term 2)
- Inter-house Chorales Competition (Term 2)
- Term 2 inter-school sports competition: soccer, AFL, badminton, futsal, basketball, hockey, table tennis
- Year 9 City Week program (Term 3)
- Year 9 Writer's Festival (Term 3)
- Year 10 World of Work program (Term 3)
- Ski Camp (Term 3)
- International Week (Term 3)
- Year 11 Leadership Camp (Term 3)

- Term 3 inter-school sports competition: futsal, basketball, hockey, table tennis
- Senior Arts Expo (Term 4)
- Surf Camp (Term 4)
- Private instrumental music lessons
- Accelerated and Enhanced Learning Program
- Volunteering - Teen Library Advisor
- Student Representative Council

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

At Dandenong High School, student leadership is recognised and celebrated. Every student has the opportunity to develop leadership skills within their house community, participate in the leadership programs offered and apply for formal leadership positions. The school encourages an active student voice through its Student Representative Council (SRC).

The student leadership team consists of 2 School Captains, 2 School Vice Captains, 2 School Council Presidents, 14 House Captains (2 from each House) and 42 Student Council representatives (1 student from each House in each year level).

STUDENT CODE OF PRACTICE

In line with the Dandenong High School vision and values, a Student Code of Practice was developed to reflect the students desire to be in a school where they all felt safe and happy. The students designed a student code of practice to ensure their vision was achieved.

All students at Dandenong High School follow the Student Code of Practice.

Safe – To ensure students feel safe and secure at school at all times:

- Students' appearance is to be neat and tidy at all times and follow the guidelines in the school uniform policy
- All students are to be in complete school uniform and follow the school uniform policy outlined in the student diary
- Students are to respect each other's personal space and not make unwanted physical contact
- Students are not to fight or be involved in play fighting

- Students are not to use mobile phones at school
- Students are not to behave in a manner that endangers the safety of any other member of the school community
- Students must remain within the school grounds during the school day unless they have an early leave pass from the House Leader

Learning – To ensure all students have the opportunity to learn

- Students respect the learning environment and the learning of others
- Students must attend all classes, arrive on time and bring the correct equipment and materials
- Students must bring and use their school diary in each class
- Students must come to class prepared to learn and take responsibility for their own learning. They must be active participants in all classes
- Students must follow all teachers' instructions immediately and they must not interrupt others' learning
- Students must attempt to complete all set work, including homework, to the best of their ability

Student well-being – To ensure all students are happy and safe at school

- Members of the school community treat each other with respect showing appropriate manners and courtesy
- All students tolerate and respect individual differences including race, culture and religion
- Students respect other peoples' property and do not touch the belongings of others without permission
- The school is a bully free zone. Direct physical (e.g. hitting) direct verbal (e.g. teasing) and indirect bullying (e.g. rumours, cyber bullying, excluding) are not permitted.

SUPPORT FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

International students receive on-going support through the International Student Coordinators, their House Leadership Team, Well-being, the Careers team and Homework Club.

International Student Coordinators

The International Student Coordinators provide day-to-day support for international students including:

- Welcome and orientation
- Weekly international student meetings
- Monitoring of student attendance, academic progress and well-being

- Homestay visits
- Special lunches and activities
- Enrolment and all other administration duties

Communication with the school is encouraged and should be done through in the International Student Coordinators. International Student Coordinators make regular contact with parents and homestay providers, providing immediate answers to questions and delivering important information. Each semester, parents receive a translated report outlining student achievement.

House Leadership Team

Each student will be allocated to one of seven Houses where they will be supported by a House Leader, Assistant House Leader, Student Coordinator and House Attendance Officer. Each House Leadership Team is responsible for student management and facilitates all aspects of House culture, learning, engagement and well-being.

Well-being

A committed well-being staff member is dedicated specifically to international students. They assist international students with their orientation and transition into the school, and also see students regularly during the weekly international student meetings. Ongoing meetings between students and well-being are arranged as required.

Careers

The Careers team supports international students as they transition through secondary school to further study. There is individual subject selection support at Years 9, 10, 11 and 12 as well as during the Year 12 VTAC application and change of preference process. Students receive relevant information on courses and careers specific to international requirements.

Homework Club

Should students require additional academic support, help can be sought at Homework Club. Homework Club runs every Tuesday from 3.30pm – 5.00pm. Teachers and university students are available to assist students with their work during this time. Refreshments are also provided.

VISA CONDITIONS (student subclass 500)

8501 – MAINTAIN HEALTH INSURANCE

- You must maintain adequate arrangements for health insurance (generally Overseas Student Health Cover) while you are in Australia.
- You must not enter Australia before your Overseas Student Health Cover has begun.

- You are not permitted to remain in Australia after your Overseas Student Health Cover has expired.

More information: immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/student-500/overseas-student-health-cover

8105 – MEET COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- You must be enrolled in a full-time course and satisfy the course requirements of your enrolment including the course level, course progress and course attendance.
- The course you are undertaking must be a registered course with the Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students (CRICOS).
- The course you are undertaking must give you a qualification from the Australian Qualifications Framework that is at the same level or higher level than the course mentioned in your grant letter.

For more information about the Australian Qualification Framework: www.aqf.ed.au

8516 – MUST MAINTAIN ELIGIBILITY

- You must continue to maintain your eligibility as a person who would satisfy the criteria for the grant of your visa.

8532 – UNDER 18 APPROVED WELFARE

- You must maintain adequate accommodation, support and general welfare arrangements.
- You are not permitted to change those arrangements without the approval of your education provider. This should be in writing.
- You are not allowed to enter Australia before the date specified by your education provider.

8533 – INFORM EDUCATION PROVIDER OF ADDRESS

- You must notify your education provider within seven days after arriving in Australia of your residential address (if you were outside of Australia at time of grant). In all cases, you are also required to notify them of any change to your residential address in Australia within seven days after the change.
- If you intend to change education provider you are required to notify your former education provider within seven days after receiving an electronic Confirmation of Enrolment (COE) or other evidence of enrolment.

ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENT

Visa conditions require students to attend at least 80 percent of classes each semester. Note that the preference is for students to attend **all** classes.

Where non-attendance is covered by a medical certificate, the time:

- is included in attendance figures
- is not taken into account when determining the 80% attendance rate for compliance and DHA reporting purposes

If attendance falls below 90%, a Student Attendance Agreement will be put in place with agreement from the school, the student, parents, legal custodian and host family, if applicable.

If attendance falls below 80%, the visa requirements have been breached. The student will be issued with a Notice of Intention to Report for Non-Compliance to the Department of Home Affairs. This may lead to the student's visa and enrolment at the school being cancelled.

COURSE PROGRESS REQUIREMENT

All subjects/units must be completed satisfactorily within the expected duration.

Students requiring assistance with their performance will be counselled. Counselling will include suggestions for improving performance such as additional support for subject specific tutoring, career and guidance counselling, or personal counselling.

Note that services beyond those normally provided within the school's resources may incur an additional cost to the family.

BEHAVIOUR REQUIREMENT

When a student does not fulfill the requirements of the host school's policies and rules and/or the student enters into activities that are unsafe, a student's enrollment may be suspended or cancelled.

TRAVEL POLICY

Overseas travel

Students are only permitted to travel overseas during the school holidays. Students under 18 and under the welfare of DET are not permitted to travel unless they are directly in the care of a parent or legal guardian, or a direct family member over 21 years of age approved by the parent.

Any travel undertaken during the school term will count as an unauthorized absence, unless the school granted approval in advance:

- School approval will only be granted for compelling or compassionate circumstances (e.g. sick family member)
- The ISC may approve a maximum of 5 days, more than this will require IED approval
- Approval will not be granted based on prior high attendance
- Any student wishing to apply for travel during term must contact the ISC as soon as they are aware of the need to travel.

The ISC must be provided with a flight itinerary before departure. Students should also complete and submit the School Holiday Student Location Form.

For students under the welfare of DET

For any overnight stays, students must have written approval from their parents or legal guardian, as well as the school principal.

COMPLAINTS AND APPEALS

The ISP Complaints and Appeals Policy allows overseas students, parents, schools and agents to lodge a complaint or appeal. Through this process, applicants can express their dissatisfaction with the quality of an action taken, decision made or service provided, or dissatisfaction with a delay or failure in providing a service, taking an action or making a decision.

The DET will respond to any complaint or appeal regarding the applicants dealing with DET.

More information on the procedure can be found in the **ISP Complaints and Appeal Process Guide**, which can be accessed via www.study.vic.gov.au. Complaints should be submitted to isfinance@edumail.vic.gov.au.

External complaints and appeals:

If the applicant is not satisfied with the outcome of an internal appeal, they may seek an external appeal by making a complaint to the Victorian Ombudsman. IED will comply with a decision or recommendation made by the Victorian Ombudsman and will immediately implement the decision or recommendation.

The contact details for the Victorian ombudsman are:

Address: Level 2, 570 Bourke Street, Melbourne VIC 3000

Phone: +61 3 9613 6622

Website: <http://www.ombudsman.vic.gov.au/Complaints/Make-a-Complaint>

MEDIBANK PRIVATE OVERSEAS HEALTH COVER

Medibank Private Insurance covers:

- 100% of treatment from a GP
- 85% of treatment from a specialist, including x-rays and pathology
- Hospital
- Ambulance

When you see a doctor (GP or a specialist) in Australia there is a set fee for the consultation called the Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) fee. With Medibank Essentials OSHC you are covered for 100% of the MBS fee for GPs and 85% of the MBS fee for specialists. If the doctor charges above these benefit amounts, you will need to pay something to cover the difference (an out-of-pocket cost).

For example:

The MBS fee for item 23 (a GP visit) is \$37.60. You visit a doctor that charges \$50. You have Essentials OSHC that pays 100% of the MBS fee for GP consultations. This means you would get back \$37.60. Your out-of-pocket cost would be \$12.40.

CLINICS THAT PROVIDE MEDIBANK OVERSEAS HEALTH COVER DIRECT BILLING

The below Medibank OSCH direct billing providers send the bill directly to Medibank. You simply need to provide your Medibank card, and you will not have to pay any extra for a standard appointment.

Dandenong Superclinic

56-58 Stud Road, Dandenong

Ph: 9791 5344

MyHealth Medical Centre

Shop LO3370a Dandenong Plaza, Dandenong

Ph: 8842 3880

TLC Primary Care, Noble Park

33 Frank Street, Noble Park 3174

Ph: 8652 3700

TLC Primary Care, Hallam

8 Young Road, Hallam

Ph: 8652 3700

A full list of available clinics and further information on Overseas Student Health Cover can be found on the following website: <https://www.medibank.com.au/overseas-health-insurance/oshc/>

WORK RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Legally, you must be at least 14 years and 9 months before commencing paid work in Australia.

International students are permitted to work a maximum of 20 hours per week during the school term. A student will be in breach of their visa requirements if they work more than this. Working additional hours is permitted over school holiday periods only.

All people working in Australia have basic rights and protections in the workplace, including minimum pay and conditions.

- Minimum wage in Australia for adults is \$18.25 an hour + approx. 25% more if you are **casual**. If you are under 18, you will receive a percentage of this.
- You should get paid at least once a month
- You should get more money for working public holidays, weekends and over-time
- You should get paid for some of your breaks
- You should get paid for work trials that last more than a shift
- You should get a pay slip that shows how much you got paid and if you paid any tax
- You should get paid superannuation (minimum 9% of your wage). When or if you decide to leave Australia for good, you can cash out your super before you go.

Further information on work rights for international students can be found on the Fair Work website: <https://www.fairwork.gov.au/how-we-will-help/templates-and-guides/fact-sheets/rights-and-obligations/international-students>

The Fair Work Ombudsman can also be contacted for free information and advice, especially if you believe that minimum work rights and conditions are not being met.

Fair Work Infoline: 13 13 94

APPLYING FOR A TAX FILE NUMBER

Your tax file number (TFN) is your personal reference number in the tax and super systems. You don't have to have a TFN, but without it you pay more tax. You should provide your tax file number to your employer.

You can apply for a tax file number online: <https://www.ato.gov.au/individuals/tax-file-number/>

FILING A TAX RETURN

The Australian financial year is July 1 – June 30. If you paid any tax between this time, you should file a tax return between July 1 and October 30.

Tax returns may also be lodged online: <https://www.ato.gov.au/Individuals/Lodging-your-tax-return/Lodge-online/>

LEGAL ADVICE

STUDY MELBOURNE STUDENT CENTRE

If you need help understanding the law or you have a legal problem, Study Melbourne Student Centre support staff can refer you to a legal service that provides the advice you need.

Phone: 1800 056 449 (free call from landline phones)

Email: info@studymelbourne.vic.gov.au

Visit the office: 17 Hardware Lane, Melbourne, Victoria, 3000

VICTORIA LEGAL AID

Victoria Legal Aid provides free legal advice. They may also be able to help you in your own language.

Telephone: 1300 792 387, Monday to Friday 8.45am to 5.15 pm.

More information on legal services available for students can be found on this website:

<https://www.studymelbourne.vic.gov.au/help-and-support/the-law-and-my-rights/legal-advice>

EMERGENCY SERVICES

The number to contact emergency services in Australia is **000**.

When you call triple zero:

- State whether you need police, fire or ambulance
- Stay calm, don't shout, speak slowly and clearly
- Give an address of location

STUDENT EMERGENCY CONTACT CARD

You will be given an emergency contact card upon arrival in Australia. If you need to speak to the ISC urgently, use the phone number listed on the card.

GETTING AROUND MELBOURNE AND VICTORIA

PUBLIC TRANSPORT INFORMATION

To travel on public transport in Victoria you will need to purchase a 'myki' card. This card will enable you to travel on suburban buses, trains and tram services. The 'myki' card system conveniently allows you to top up your 'myki' card with money at most newsagents and convenience stores.

It is important to remember in Melbourne the public transport network is divided into two zones according to the distance from the city centre. The price of your trip will depend on the:

- zone(s) in which you want to travel
- time period for your ticket (two hours, daily, weekly, monthly, annual).

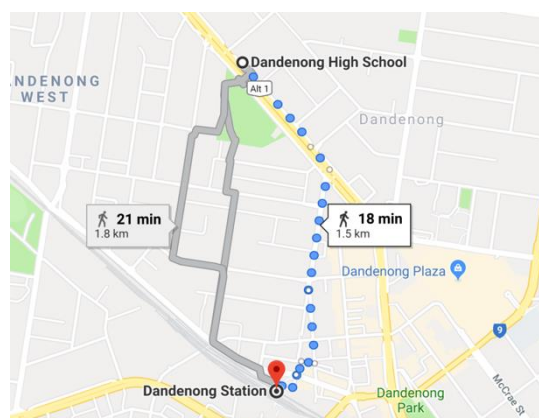
All public transport users aged between 5 and 18 years (under 19) can purchase a Child myki and pay a concession fare.

This applies to anyone aged 18 years and under, including international students and tourists provided that they can demonstrate they are aged 18 years or under.

Customers aged 17 and 18 must carry government issued proof of age identification (such as a Drivers Licence, Learner Permit, Proof of Age card or passport), or proof of another concession entitlement (such as a PTV School Student ID or Health Care Card) at all times when travelling on public transport. No proof of age is required for children aged 16 and under.

TAKING PUBLIC TRANSPORT TO DANDENONG HIGH SCHOOL

Dandenong Station is located 1.5 kilometers from Dandenong High School.



The following bus routes can also be taken to Dandenong High

School.

850	Glen Waverley to Dandenong
811	Brighton to Dandenong
800	Chadstone to Dandenong
802	Chadstone to Dandenong

More information about public transport can be found on the Public Transport Victoria webpage:

<https://www.ptv.vic.gov.au>

DRIVING IN VICTORIA

If you are 18, you may decide to drive. If you decide to drive, you must follow the road rules. You must carry a valid driver licence or permit. Your car must be registered and insured.

Your overseas licence or permit may allow you to drive in Victoria.

If your licence is in a language other than English, it must be accompanied by an English translation. The translation must be done by an authorised translator.

For more information on licenses, see the following website:

<https://www.vicroads.vic.gov.au/licences/renew-replace-or-update/new-to-victoria>

When you are driving in Victoria you must follow our road rules. The rules keep Victorian drivers and pedestrians safe. There are fines and other penalties if you do not follow the rules.

For more information on Victorian road rules, see the following website:

<https://www.vicroads.vic.gov.au/safety-and-road-rules/road-rules>

More information on driving in Victoria and purchasing cars can be found here:

<https://www.studymelbourne.vic.gov.au/getting-around-melbourne-victoria/driving-a-car-in-victoria>

SAFETY

- Be sensible and be alert
- Melbourne is a large city. Make sure you know which areas in Melbourne are unsafe at night or other times. Avoid going to these areas
- Do not carry a lot of cash with you
- Know where you are going. Stay in a group as a general rule
- Avoid quiet or dark streets, especially if you do not know the area
- If you feel uneasy, go to a shop or an area where there are people

- Ask for help. Follow your instincts
- Carry a card which has your name, your school's name and the name and contact details of your Homestay host
- If you ride a bicycle, wear appropriate safety equipment, *i.e.* standard helmets
- It is best to be in a group when travelling on public transport at night
- If you get on a train, get in a carriage with lots of people
- Avoid using public transport late at night

For further information on staying safe in Victoria, visit the following website:

<https://www.studyinaustralia.gov.au/english/live-in-australia/health-and-safety/personal>

AUSTRALIAN CULTURE

The Department of Immigration has listed the main values of Australia that international students should know in their free e-book, *Life In Australia*.

Access it here: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/help-support/meeting-our-requirements/australian-values>

USEFUL WEBSITES

Victorian Government Schools International
Student Program

<https://www.study.vic.gov.au/en/Pages/default.aspx>

Dandenong High School

<http://www.dandenong-hs.vic.edu.au>

Public Transport Victoria

<https://www.ptv.vic.gov.au>

Medibank – Overseas Students

<https://www.medibank.com.au/overseas-health-insurance/oshc/>

Study Melbourne

<https://www.studymelbourne.vic.gov.au>

Visit Melbourne

<https://www.visitmelbourne.com>

Tourism Australia

<https://www.australia.com/en>

