WILLIAMSTOWN HIGH
SCHOOL IS ONE OF
VICTORIA'S OLDEST AND
MOST DISTINGUISHED HIGH
SCHOOLS, HAVING SERVED
THE AREA FOR OVER
EIGHTY YEARS.

80 years

The historical importance and traditions of both Williamstown and its high school are valued by the community and are reflected in the school's crest which shows an anchor with the motto “Hold Fast”. This symbolises the notion of our steadfast commitment to higher ideals and the pursuit of excellence. Many former students of Williamstown High School have gone on to become leaders in their chosen profession.

The high standards achieved by the school have been recognised by the Director of School Education which has selected Williamstown High School as one of the thirty-four Victorian state schools to provide secondary education to overseas fee paying students. Through this and various international exchange programs our local students are given the opportunity to forge international friendships and contacts.

Situated in coastal Williamstown, the school is well served by public transport providing links to surrounding suburbs and the Central Business District of Melbourne, only fifteen minutes away by train.
Williamstown High School offers a broad curriculum which is directed towards developing each student's potential.

Students with Special Abilities and Needs are catered for through a number of specialised programs.

An Accelerated Learning Program is available for able year 10 and 11 students who take advanced studies in English, Mathematics and Science at V.C.E. level.

More intensive help is offered to students experiencing difficulties through after school Catch-up Classes and a Literacy Program which offer students one to one tuition.

We believe it is important to recognise and celebrate student achievement and success. Outstanding achievement is encouraged through the presentation of Scholarships and Awards.
Our comprehensive Year 7 Transition Program begins with teachers visiting feeder primary schools to ensure a smooth path from primary to secondary school.

The key learning areas of English, Mathematics, The Arts, Health and Physical Education, Languages Other Than English, Studies of Society and Environment, Science, and Technology are offered at all year levels. Students at years 9 and 10 are given some elective options (refer to insert for detailed curriculum outline).

Homework, an essential part of the curriculum, is provided on a regular basis and is an acceptable work requirement.

Semesterly Reports outline student progress and Assessment is graded. Parent/Teacher Interviews are held each term and other consultations between parents, staff and students are encouraged.

Our Work Experience Program and Careers Counselling support students in planning for V.C.E., post secondary school study and employment.

Victorian Certificate of Education

Students are counselled to take balanced and appropriate courses of study. The full range of V.C.E. subjects is accredited by the Victorian Board of Studies is offered. Classes are formed on the basis of student demand (refer to insert for detailed curriculum outline).

We believe a balanced approach to meeting students' needs is essential in the V.C.E. years. In addition to facilitating development of responsibility and independence, V.C.E. students also need support structures which provide guidance and a secure learning environment.

A team of V.C.E. teachers co-ordinates curriculum, administration and welfare issues offering a flexible but controlled structure through which individual students' needs can be met.

We have an excellent record in students' obtaining their first choice to university, T.A.F.E. or employment.

A Dual Recognition Program is offered to V.C.E. students which leads to the award of a Certificate of Retail Operations (Sales), this gives students credit towards further T.A.F.E. studies.

Planning is underway to include Certificate of Information Technology, Certificate of Food Technology and the Certificate of Office Administration from 1997.
Music

Our Music Program is both comprehensive and innovative and as such is highly regarded. The program is disciplined while at the same time being lively and enjoyable.

The school offers Instrumental Tuition and conducts three Wind Orchestras and other ensembles.

There are many opportunities for performance where students gain a sense of achievement and the chance to perform. Many former students have successfully pursued tertiary studies and careers in music.

Sports

We believe that sport enhances physical well being, co-operation and school spirit. To support this notion we have recently built an architect designed Sports Centre providing excellent indoor facilities for a variety of sports.

Sport is compulsory to year 10. In addition to a broad range of traditional winter and summer sports, students have the opportunity to participate in Lacrosse, Cross Country Running and Outdoor Activities including Skiing, Scuba Diving and Rockclimbing. Annual Swimming and Athletics Carnivals are held. The school participates in district, zone and state competitions which are open to all students.

Enrichment Programs

Programs conducted outside the normal classroom environment play an important role in completing the education of students. The school offers a range of these activities such as sporting teams, musical productions and performances, debating, excursions, guest speakers and lunch time activities.

The school conducts an extensive Camps Program which allows for at least one camp at each year level.

Information Technology

At Williamstown High School, we are dedicated to teaching information technology through practical application across all areas of the curriculum. State of the art information technology facilities are progressively being developed.

The Information Technology Centre comprises full class sets of both Apple Macintosh and IBM computers through which students can access the Internet. Students also have access to computers, printers, CD ROM and Internet facilities through the library and computer suites around the school.
Students are required to behave reasonably and to respect the school, the teachers and other students. Williamstown High School maintains that the safety and security of students is crucial. Discipline and welfare are integrated through teaching and learning processes which highlight:

- equal opportunity for boys and girls,
- development of personal responsibility and self-discipline,
- understanding between groups and individuals,
- self-worth and respect for others.

Williamstown High School has an excellent pastoral care system. It has led in this field for many years and has been emulated by other schools in Victoria.

Pastoral Care is integrated into teaching and learning through the Home Group and Unit structure which ensures that all students are monitored and individual needs are catered for.

The Home Group Teacher is the parents’ link with teaching staff and can be expected to know your child well, taking responsibility for care in the areas of learning, personal wellbeing and social development.

Parents are encouraged to keep close contact with the Home Group Teacher.

A specific Home Group curriculum focuses on areas such as health and human relations, citizenship, group cohesion, study skills, job skills, career and course selection.

The Student Welfare Coordinator is available for counselling students on personal or school matters and can also assist parents or parent groups, providing a link between the school community and support agencies in the broader community.

Williamstown High School gives high priority to shared decision making. Students are represented on school committees and are encouraged to participate in decision making processes through the Student Representative Council.

Parents have representation on all major school committees, most notably on School Council. An active Parents Club meets each month.

Year 7-10 students are required to wear correct school uniform every day as well as a uniform for sport and physical education.

Although V.C.E. students are not expected to wear uniforms, they are required to observe a dress code.

The school grounds combine historic and modern buildings, quiet gardens, sporting and playing areas. They are designed to allow students to participate in both passive and active recreation.

Williamstown High School has some excellent physical resources. It has a modern library, and specialist facilities for subject areas.

The school will undergo a major refurbishment in 1996 and planning is underway for the redevelopment of the science and technology wings.
To assure whether Williamstown High School is the best place for your child, join in our annual Open Day or make an appointment to view the school during school hours. For further information please contact the Administrative office.

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