

# Empowering young minds



OAKLEIGH  
GRAMMAR



# choosing a school

Choosing a school for your child can be one of the most important decisions you will make. Subjects, activities, and programs offered, and in particular, culture, vary from school to school. It's important to visit schools to get a feel for which ones will best suit your child.

Some factors to consider include, co-education or single-sex, size, location, ethos, and education approach just to name a few. This prospectus is intended to give you a quick overview of our school. We encourage you to visit our campus on one of our monthly open days to get a true sense of our school and the students and staff that bring it to life.

# why Oakleigh Grammar?

Established **1983** | over **700** students | ELC to **Year 12** | around **40** nationalities

## IN MELBOURNE'S SOUTH EAST

**zest for life** | **christian values** | **agile technologies** | **IB world school** | **door-to-door bus** | **close-knit community**

Oakleigh Grammar offers excellence in coeducational learning from ELC through to Year 12. We enjoy a diverse, inclusive and family-oriented culture that welcomes students and their families with open arms. We believe in nurturing strong relationships built on respect, trust and empathy and having fun along the way!

'Empowering young minds' is more than just a motto, it reflects our dedication to building resilient lifelong learners and responsible global citizens, and putting students at the centre of all we do.

We ensure each child is nurtured and cared for at a personal level, by exceptional educators

who are dedicated to their students and their profession. Founded in Orthodox Christian values and Hellenic traditions, Oakleigh Grammar boasts a multicultural environment where a zest for life is encouraged, good citizenship is celebrated and academic scholarship is our mainstay.



# a word from our principal

Mark Robertson has been the Principal of Oakleigh Grammar since 2011. He is a highly respected leader and change agent in the Victorian independent schools sector. His experience includes leading multi-campus and single campus schools, predominantly in faith-based communities which reflect his strong values and beliefs. Mr Robertson has devoted his career to inspiring and developing young people.

He has proudly built on the legacy of those before him to ensure Oakleigh Grammar provides a stimulating learning environment inspired by values, innovation, citizenship and scholarship.

“At Oakleigh Grammar, we wholeheartedly foster ‘a zest for life’ in our approach to education and life. We are large enough to offer leading-edge programs, and small enough to enjoy a loving close-knit community. In fact, parents often remark that the young people at our School feel more like members of an extended family, such is the individual care and attention they receive.

We put students at the centre of all we do and I am exceedingly proud of our exceptional educators who are dedicated to their students and their profession.

We believe that supporting internationalism is critical for our young people as they move into a rapidly changing internationally-minded society.

Together with our caring and committed staff, I wholeheartedly welcome you to Oakleigh Grammar!”

**Mark Robertson**  
Principal

# what guides us?

## Vision

A leading co-educational school that provides quality education at an international standard.

## Mission

Empower our students with a commitment to academic excellence and a zest for life so that they can contribute meaningfully to our community and society.

## Ethos

Our School is founded in and inspired by Orthodox Christianity and Hellenic language and heritage.

## Values

### Humility

We embrace humility, fostering a sense of modesty and open-mindedness in our students and wider community, guiding them to recognise that learning is a journey without end, where every step is an opportunity to grow and gain wisdom.

### Aspiration

We ignite the flames of aspiration in our staff and students, setting ambitious goals and equipping them with the skills, knowledge, and determination to achieve them, empowering them to dream big, plan strategically, and work diligently to transform their aspirations into tangible achievements. Ultimately, we aspire for all of our students to have a ‘zest for life’.

### Respect

We recognise and appreciate the inherent worth and dignity of every individual, regardless of differences, and we foster an environment of inclusion, consideration, and understanding, to honour both people, and the world we inhabit.

### Kindness

We cultivate kindness as a fundamental principle, teaching our students that simple acts of compassion and empathy can create a ripple effect of positivity, transforming the world one heart at a time.

## Our International Baccalaureate Commitment

In line with the International Baccalaureate Mission Statement, Oakleigh Grammar values education that goes beyond academic development. The School encourages students to develop awareness beyond the individual and his or her immediate community.

## Our Child Safety Commitment

Oakleigh Grammar is committed to the protection and safety of all students under our care. All staff and volunteers are required to hold a Working with Children Check.



# what's important to us?

## Pastoral care

Recognising the link between positive teacher and student relationships and academic success, our dedicated staff work to ensure that students are given the individualised learning and pastoral support they need to develop into happy and resilient global citizens.

## Passionate educators

Our teachers are a highly qualified, passionate group of educators that put students at the centre of all they do. Through regular and targeted professional development, our educators adopt leading-edge practices to ensure that not only does every child maximise their potential and continually improve, but so do they. Our dedicated teaching staff work collaboratively and embrace opportunities for professional development, ensuring that our educational programs remain at the forefront of contemporary education.

## Leading edge learning

Our child-centred approach to learning, includes additional teaching support to ensure that each child's learning needs are met. Every student is encouraged to perform at their best and continually improve, whether they are high performing, experience learning challenges, or fall somewhere in between.

## Global perspective

Our school aims to be globally-focused in the truest sense, encouraging our students to develop awareness beyond themselves, the school gate and their immediate community. We aim to develop engaged global citizens who seek to actively make a positive difference in the world.

## Student advocacy

We encourage our students to have a positive impact on the quality of student life and their environment, whilst making a difference in the community and addressing social justice issues.

We are proud that personal leadership is promoted and fostered at all levels of the School. Character and competency are given equal importance. Listening and responding to student voice is highly valued within Oakleigh Grammar.

Qualities such as integrity, resilience, tolerance, compassion and valuing diversity are developed and nurtured on a continuum from ELC to VCE.

# The Oakleigh Grammar journey



We are dedicated to building resilient lifelong learners, responsible global citizens and empowering young minds. Students are educated to recognise their own unique talents and leadership potential, and to strive for their personal best.

Leadership development at Oakleigh Grammar begins in the early years as we adopt the Leader in Me program based on Stephen R. Covey's The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People. This program continues throughout the Middle and Senior School with a focus on the Seven Habits of Highly Effective Teens.

We are proud to be the first Independent School in Australia to be accredited as a Leader in Me Lighthouse School. We encourage our students to showcase initiative and creativity to develop the skills to find their voice and encourage others to find theirs.

## Junior School

Learning in our Junior School is underpinned by our proprietary Junior School Quartet Model, developed by our award-winning Deputy Principal – Professional Culture and Junior School, Shelley Parkes. The Quartet sees teaching and learning in the Junior School progress through four learning phases, tailored to developmental age and stage from Early Learning to Year 5.



### Early Learning Centre

Our ELC adopts the principles of the Reggio Emilia approach, supported by the **Explore** phase of the Junior School Quartet. In these years the academic, physical and socio-emotional learning process begins to evolve and students begin to see themselves as lifelong learners. Our teachers work collaboratively with the Junior School to prepare students for a semester of transition into Prep at Oakleigh Grammar.

**Standard hours 9.00am to 3.00pm**

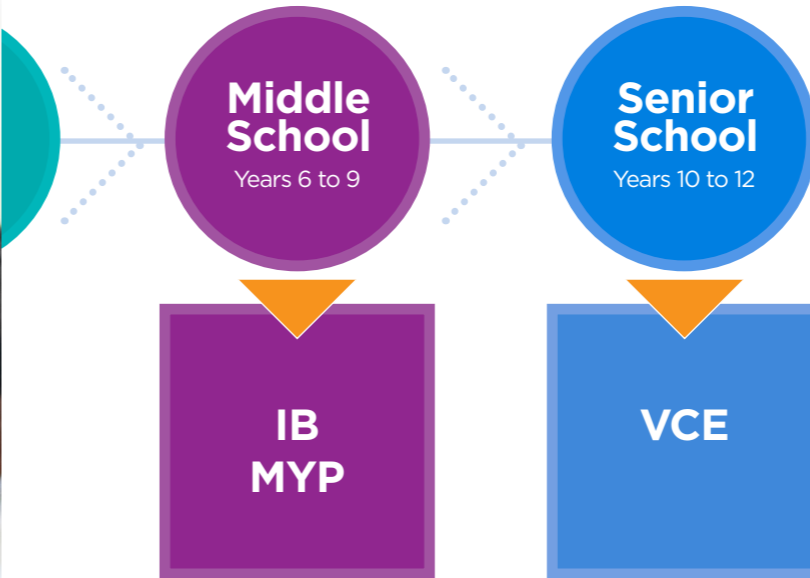
### Prep to Year 5

From Prep to Year 2, educators adopt the **Engage** phase of the Junior School Quartet Model using an 'explicit instruction' approach. Students acquire reading, writing and mathematical skills.

In Year 3 students enter the **Explain** phase of the Junior School Quartet Model. Students work towards a balance of learning explicitly from educators and applying their understanding across all curriculum areas.

Years 4 and 5 implement the last phase of the Junior School Quartet Model: **Elaborate**. Aply guided by educators, students take more responsibility for their learning, build their confidence and consolidate their knowledge and skills. Our forward thinking and internationally-minded students are set up for success as they transition into Middle School.

**Standard hours 8.45am to 3.25pm**



## Middle School

Years 6 to 9 are characterised by rapid change as Middle School students approach early adulthood - they become more aware of their world and channel their interests into practical and collaborative learning. This is aided by the introduction of electives, providing students with an opportunity to discern learning preferences. Higher order thinking develops with teacher encouragement.

Students are encouraged to develop leadership and a sense of service to their community within the School and further afield.

The International Baccalaureate (IB) Middle Years Programme (MYP) prepares students in Years 6 to 9 for the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) by developing young people who are creative, critical and reflective thinkers. The MYP is a challenging framework that encourages students to make practical connections between their studies and the real world; developing international mindedness, leadership, purpose, and a spirit of service to their community within the School and further afield.

**Standard hours 8.45am to 3.25pm**

## Senior School

Recognising the link between positive teacher/student relationships and VCE success, our dedicated staff work to ensure that students are given the individualised learning and pastoral support they require in the final years of schooling. The Careers Department assists students in shaping their final years of secondary study to complement their career ambitions.

Undertaking the VCE, Senior School students are given the opportunity to complete extension studies, with capable Year 10 students given the option to include VCE units in their study programs, allowing them to shape their final scores from an earlier stage in their education. Oakleigh Grammar offers approximately 20 different studies from which to select a VCE program. These include English, Arts, Humanities, Mathematics, Science, Technology, Languages, Health and Physical Education.

Students are challenged to understand and clarify their individual beliefs and moral code. They develop an understanding of the importance of role modelling to younger students. Leadership within year levels and of the student body are the responsibility of all Senior students.

**Standard hours 8.45am to 3.25pm**

# specialist support



## Arrowsmith

We offer the renowned Canadian-developed Arrowsmith Program, addressing dyslexia, dysgraphia, auditory processing and memory. Combining cognitive enhancement with mainstream studies, students can integrate, reconnect and succeed in a mainstream learning environment.

## International

With a small number of international students, students are fully immersed in an environment that maximises opportunities to practise speaking the language. International students bring a unique perspective that helps our local students broaden their frames of reference. Students who do not have a family member living in Australia stay with a suitable local family through Homestay, so they enjoy a family living arrangement similar to their local peers.

# learning spaces



## N P Nikolakakis Centre for Academic Excellence

The jewel of our campus is our innovative purpose-built Centre for Academic Excellence opened in 2023, providing a dedicated learning space for our VCE students to focus and excel. The two-storey learning space features abundant natural light and multi-purpose areas for our students to meet, collaborate, study and learn.

## Science and Technology

With a dedicated science wing, students have access to the latest technologies allowing them to be part of a fast-paced learning environment.

## Arts and Design

For those students with creative interests, we offer dedicated art studios and design workshops. Our students have created impressive works under the guidance of our educators who are highly experienced in fostering students' creative passions.

## Sports Complex

Our sports facilities include a full gymnasium and multipurpose sports complex, rock climbing wall, outdoor futsal court and basketball/netball courts. We also have convenient access to a number of nearby community sporting facilities.

## Multipurpose Library

Our spacious multipurpose library boasts meeting rooms, private study pods, reading nooks and lots more. It is a favourite spot for many of our students to read, study in solitude, collaborate with peers, take classes, and meet friends.



## Other Facilities

### Cafeteria

Our cafeteria *The Caf* is a new eat-in cafeteria where students can eat lunch brought from home or purchase nutritious meals. The cafeteria is a true community space where family and friends will be encouraged to share a coffee before or after pick-ups and drop-offs.



beyond  
the classroom



Oakleigh Grammar boasts a range of activities and events which provide regular opportunities to build relationships, community spirit and sense of belonging for students, staff and the overall community. These include regular events such as interschool sports, House activities and carnivals, camps and school excursions.

### Sport

Oakleigh Grammar participates in several interschool sporting competitions in a range of sports. For our older students, we participate in the Eastern Independent Schools of Melbourne (EISM) competing with 22 other independent schools within school hours. The EISM is the largest association of its kind in the Victorian independent schools network. Our Years 5 and 6 students compete against local primary schools within the Bentleigh District.

### Camp

Camps begin in Year 3 and focus on experiential learning, teamwork and the development of character and independence. Camps continue through to Year 12 and are held in a variety of environmental settings.

### Extra-curricular

Our extra-curricular activities offer more than an opportunity for students to pursue their passions. They allow students to develop social, intellectual and technical skills. Our extra-curricular activities encourage students to improve their communication, performance, creativity, decision-making, teamwork and leadership skills.

Just some of these include choirs, creative and performing arts, sports, computer games, media, dance, board games and more. Oakleigh Grammar is a leading school in the Debating Association of Victoria competitions.

We foster a close-knit community, with students at all year levels interacting on a daily basis.

# beyond the bell

## Transport

### Oakleigh Grammar School bus

Our level of personalised service extends beyond the classroom, with a door-to-door bus service. Students are collected from and dropped off to their front door to reduce the burden on parents and guardians. There is a small additional cost for this bus service.

### Train

The School is well serviced by public transport with Hughesdale train station just 600 metres away (7-minute walk) and Oakleigh station just 700 metres away (8-minute walk).

### Before and after school care

Our before and after school care is offered onsite to students from ELC to Year 5. The quality of our centre is designed to harness our students' interests.

Before school care is available from 8.00am, and after school care is offered until 6.00pm.



# scholarships

Check our website for the latest information at [oakleighgrammar.vic.edu.au/scholarships/](http://oakleighgrammar.vic.edu.au/scholarships/)



Oakleigh Grammar offers scholarships to students who are talented, motivated and civic-minded, and who have the potential to make a positive contribution in a leadership and academic capacity, becoming part of our close-knit community. Our scholarships are granted to a handful of talented and passionate students who wish to excel in their learning journey, be it in sport, science, art, or community service.

## Academic Excellence

We offer these scholarships through the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) for students entering Years 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10. Applications open in November and close in February the year before entry.

## Junior School Scholarship

Scholarships are open to students in Years 4 to 5 who demonstrate commitment and passion to learning and developing proficiency in one of the following: languages, sport or academic pursuits.

## Sport Scholarship

Scholarships are open to students who excel in, and have a passion for sport. Students must demonstrate a commitment and enthusiasm to learning, while actively developing further proficiency in their sport.

# where to from here

Our enrolment process is quite straight forward. We are a non-selective, open-entry school that welcomes students of all abilities, religions and cultures.

# 1

## Visit

If you have not yet visited our campus, the first step is to register to attend one of our Open Mornings to experience our vibrant campus in action. You can book at [www.oakleighgrammar.vic.edu.au/open-days/](http://www.oakleighgrammar.vic.edu.au/open-days/)

# 2

## Apply

If you decide that Oakleigh Grammar is right for your child, we encourage you to submit your application early to avoid disappointment. You can apply at [www.oakleighgrammar.vic.edu.au/apply](http://www.oakleighgrammar.vic.edu.au/apply). A deposit of \$100 is required to submit your application.

# 3

## Interview

You and your child will be invited to come to our campus to meet our Admissions staff and Principal. You'll have the opportunity to ask any questions about life at Oakleigh Grammar.

# 4

## Offer

In Term 3 the year prior to entry, we will advise you if your application has been successful. You will need to pay Term 1 fees for the following year to secure your position.

# 5

## Welcome

We welcome you to the Oakleigh Grammar family. In Term 4 the year prior to entry, your child will be invited to our campus to meet teachers and students and get a feel for their new school.



FAITH AND WISDOM



OAKLEIGH  
GRAMMAR

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