



Victoria University Secondary College

Create The Future

Create The Future

Victoria University Secondary College encourages students to Create The Future by:

*Aspiring to **Achieve**,*

*Strengthening the **Community***

Respecting Ourselves and Others



Our College Logo

The symbol is based on the appearance of a wreath. Wreaths are commonly associated with success and eternity. Each leaf of the wreath is intended to represent the school's success and the success of the students. The flowing movement of the leaves stand for the progressive journey of students. This is accentuated by the dots on the side, which gradually enlarge to indicate students going through each year of secondary school. The final leaf separated from the wreath symbolises the successful students brought up by the school, who enter and strengthen our community. The fact that leaves fly to new and unknown places relates to the multitude of students' aspirations beyond their secondary schooling. Wreaths are also evergreen plants lasting throughout all seasons. The strength of these plants signifies the strength of the school community and the bond between teachers, students and their parents.



Elaine Hazim



Sue Atzarakis



Jim Dowie



Glenn Leyland

From the Principals

Victoria University Secondary College is a learning community where all staff learn together and continuously improve, and where students are guided to discover their talents, set aspirational goals for themselves and grow and develop into independent, resilient and adaptable individuals.

Our vision is for students to be educated and enabled to Create the Future: their own future, their communities' future and the global future. Students create their future by following our values of Aspiring to Achieve, Strengthening the Community and Respecting Ourselves and Others.

At VUSC we believe all students can succeed with effort and persistence. We teach our students to aim for excellence in all that they do. Our teaching and learning framework is based on a synthesis of recent educational research. Enacting this research in the classroom leads to high quality instruction that is reliably delivered throughout the school. Our

evidence based teaching practices and strategies establish safe, purposeful and inclusive classroom learning environments while providing the individual behaviour and learning supports needed to achieve academic and social success for all students.

Our focus on Literacy and Numeracy has seen our student outcomes increase significantly over the last few years. Support is provided to students at all levels and high achieving students are challenged and extended. Parent opinion of the college is overwhelmingly positive and student attitude surveys have shown progressive increases in their satisfaction with the school. Students comment that they feel safe, are motivated to learn and that teachers help them learn to the best of their ability.

Our vision is future focused and empowering. We aim to encourage visionary thinking; to enable members of our learning community to adapt to an ever changing world and prepare

for global challenges; to be adaptive and flexible in their thinking and to have the skills to engage with current and emerging technologies.

We empower members of our learning community to develop control over their own thinking and actions, develop the self-belief and confidence to persevere with learning challenges and tasks and to take initiative and act. Our focus on reflective thinking develops independent learners. Our focus on collaboration develops students who are able to work co-operatively towards a common goal; to share ideas and resources while respecting and recognising individual contributions. Students develop the skills to create respectful learning relationships within the school and the wider community.

Parents and prospective students are warmly invited to contact the College and make an appointment for a tour to see classes in action. We look forward to seeing you at Victoria University Secondary College.



Scholarship Program

Victoria University Secondary College provides an opportunity for our community to share in our success by offering College Scholarships that support worthy students in realising their educational and social goals. The College motto 'Create the Future' signals to students that we provide them with every opportunity to reach their individual potential in an environment that promotes academic excellence, community responsibility and unqualified respect for all individuals. The College offers a range of scholarships in the following areas:

Academic Excellence Scholarships

These scholarships are available to students with an exemplary academic record who have demonstrated outstanding application and achievement in one or more of English, Humanities, Mathematics or Science along with a strong performance in general studies and technology. Students will display a passion for learning, outstanding work ethic and a preparedness to participate fully in the life of Victoria University Secondary College.

Leadership & Community Contribution Scholarships

These Scholarships are available to students who have demonstrated leadership skills in primary school as well as citizenship and a commitment to the broader community. Students will be encouraging and supportive of their peers, and display a strong academic performance, outstanding work ethic and positive behaviours, together with a preparedness to participate fully in the life of Victoria University Secondary College.

Music Excellence Scholarships

These scholarships are available to students who have displayed outstanding aptitude, experience and commitment in Instrumental Music. Applicants should have a record of involvement in all aspects of Primary School life in addition to musical talents. Students will demonstrate an outstanding work ethic and positive behaviours, and a preparedness to participate fully in the life of the College.

Sporting Excellence Scholarships

These scholarships are available to keen sports persons who have

demonstrated outstanding sporting skills, positive behaviours and a commitment to doing their best not only on the sporting field, but also in their academic development. Personal qualities of sportsmanship and leadership are important, together with a preparedness to participate fully in the life of Victoria University Secondary College.

Selection

Equality of opportunity underpins our Scholarships Program. Selection is based on a written application and interview. Students are also required to present a current school report and reference together with a portfolio of their work which best supports the scholarship they are applying for. Applicants for Music Excellence Scholarships may also be required to audition. Applicants are not required to sit an entry exam.

Application & School Tours

Year 7 Scholarship Applications are available early in Term 1 for entry the following year. Academic Excellence and Music Excellence Scholarships are also available for entry in Year 10. School tours can be arranged by appointment.



Junior Campus Deer Park

(Years 7, 8 and 9)

As students progress through Year 7 and 8, their curriculum is grounded in the areas of Literacy and Numeracy, with Information Communication Technologies and AVID strategies also at the foreground of each subject area. Students undertake a breadth of discipline areas, allowing them to explore their interests. Working within the Year 7 - 9 Learning Village and situated in flexible learning areas, life long learning skills such as good organisation, a strong work ethic and a desire to achieve their full potential are promoted throughout these years.

Throughout Year 9, students have the opportunity to engage in exciting new programs within a range of electives and specialised classes. Students focus on developing their life skills by strengthening and engaging with the broader community. Students are also involved in a range of programs and initiatives designed to build their self-confidence, foster independent learning and develop a greater sense of respect for themselves as well as others, ensuring our students enter the Later Years with confidence and a clear sense of direction.

Our unique TEAM 9 Program assists students with their growth and development, and provides them with the opportunity to express themselves by experiencing a variety of activities which are challenging and engaging. It successfully improves the engagement and connectedness of students to their learning and the development of leadership qualities in a team environment. The program is made up of four elements relating to the college vision and values.



Trade Training Centre

The Trade Training Centre at our Cairnlea Campus is a state of the art training facility which was funded by the Federal Government.

The Trade Training Centre provides industry standard facilities and vocational training courses for secondary school students in selected trades occupations. As with all Vocational Education and Training (VET) subjects, students from Victoria University Secondary College as well as students from other schools within

the Brimbank VET Cluster may enrol in these subjects and attend the Trade Training Centre for classes.

Students may elect to undertake a VET subject as part of their Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) or Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL). VET programs offer students industry specific and practical experience in a particular vocational area, as well as gaining a nationally recognised certificate. The courses are designed to meet

the needs of industry and prepare students for the workforce.

Our College has specialised facilities for VET courses including building and construction, sport and recreation, telecommunications, electrical and information technologies. Please refer to the College's Later Years handbook for more information.

A full range of VET subjects is offered to students through our Brimbank VET Cluster arrangements with local schools and TAFE providers.

Senior Campus St Albans

(Years 10, 11 and 12)

Victoria University Secondary College takes pride in guiding and supporting students as they travel through secondary school life and beyond. Our extensive VCE (Victorian Certificate of Education), VET (Vocational Education Training) and VCAL (Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning) programs give students every opportunity to specialise in the subject areas of their choice.

Our expert careers staff coordinate our Managed Individual Pathways (MIPS) and Careers programs. Together we help plan individual learning needs and preferences. Subject selection and VCE/VCAL/VET programs are discussed with each student. Industry based work experience and structured workplace learning is also facilitated at all levels within the Later Years.

The Later Years staff work to ensure the individual success of every student, with extensive support for all to achieve their goals in the final years of their secondary schooling and beyond. They are supported by the Later Years Learning Village team, with a separate study area and continual support programs in the areas of study techniques, well-being, additional tuition and careers advice.

As students progress through to post-compulsory education, we look at every opportunity to pursue tertiary studies, traineeships and apprenticeships. Each step provides exciting new possibilities for the future of each of our students.

Students have access to a wide range of aspirational opportunities and partnerships.

These include:

- The Kwong Lee Dow Young Scholars Program
- The Hall & Wilcox Aspirations Program
- University Readiness Program with Victoria University
- The Beacon Foundation
- Western Chances Scholarship Program
- Sports and Rugby League Academy



University Readiness Program

Our partnership with Victoria University continues to greatly benefit our students with the implementation of the University Readiness Program. Year 11 students may apply to participate in the University Readiness Program. This program runs on Tuesday afternoons at school in

collaboration with Victoria University. Students will engage in learning experiences that will prepare them with the skills and knowledge required for a successful transition into university. Learning experiences during the year will include Victoria University Learning Hub workshops, VU Ready workshops and

21st Century Skills workshops through the VU app.

On completion of the app based workshops, students will earn digital badges that can be used when attending Victoria University.



Transition to Year 7

The transition from primary school is seamless for our Year 7 students. Our orientation program brings Year 6 students into the College where they quickly begin to develop new friendships and familiarise themselves with their teachers. Students start the secondary school year with confidence, supported by the Year 7-9 Learning Village team.

At Year 7, each student works with their Home Group teachers, meeting with them during the week in their homeroom. The Home Group teacher also teaches that group throughout the week so that a strong and

trusting relationship can be built. This enables teachers to take an active interest in each student's wellbeing.

Students at Year 7 have the majority of their classes in a specialised area. Students are required to bring their own device for use at school as ICT technologies are incorporated throughout the curriculum and are facilitated by a wide range of online teaching and learning applications. Each student is provided with a locker and combination lock to securely store their belongings.

Further Transition Programs

Our students are supported throughout their secondary schooling to progress to the next year level with confidence. The College's promotion policies give clear expectations of the required level of commitment for progression to the next year level and our orientation activities in Term 4 each year assist students to gain a good understanding of the curriculum and opportunities available to further their education.

As part of the transition for our Year 9 students to our Senior Campus, students are involved in a number of visits and activities throughout the year. For our senior students, classes are arranged after end of year exams to give students a headstart to their VCE/VCAL courses.



Student Leadership

Student leadership development is a priority of the College and is strongly supported by the school community. Through a 'student voice' focus, students are encouraged to have an input into programs and new initiatives, while developing strong teamwork and leadership skills. Our Student Representative Council (SRC)

led by our Junior Captains and College Captains, plan and implement several events during the year, and organise assemblies and activities for their fellow students. Students also sit on the College Board and meet with parent, staff and community members twice per term.

AVID

Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) is a highly successful and innovative teaching program which is offered to students at Years 7 – 11. It is designed to provide students with academic and organisational skills which prepare them well for VCE, university and beyond.

Students who successfully apply for the AVID program are encouraged to take the most difficult subjects in the later years of their schooling and are taught the skills to be successful in those subjects through their junior years. The College has invested in AVID training for our teachers who use strategies in every subject school wide to teach

the students specific skills in reading, writing, inquiry, collaboration and organisation.

In addition, students may apply for the AVID elective which prepares students for further study in VCE and tertiary education. Statistics collected over the last 30 years in the USA show that AVID students have triple the success rate of getting into and completing university, compared to non-AVID students. The College enjoys a partnership with Victoria University which provides the College with several university students who attend the AVID elective classes twice per week to run tutorial sessions.

STEM

Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics

STEM covers a wide range of disciplines and skills, which are increasingly in demand in our rapidly changing world. STEM skills and knowledge are important for all stages of our learning, jobs and everyday lives.

STEM education and training covers the specific knowledge and skills found in science, technology, engineering and mathematics disciplines. STEM education also develops capabilities such as critical and creative thinking, collaboration and ethical decision making.

Our College offers a wide range of STEM subjects from Year 7 – 12. Junior students begin by learning coding and robotics in Information Technology, cooking and nutrition in Food Technology and core Science and Mathematics.

Senior secondary students with a strong interest in STEM can access various subjects in the Later Years as part of the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) and Vocational Education and Training (VET) programs, such as Food Studies, Computing, Systems Engineering, Electrotechnology and a full range of Science and Mathematics subjects.



Music and Performing Arts

Victoria University Secondary College has a long-standing reputation for excellence in Music and Performing Arts. Through a multitude of performance ensembles and theatrical productions incorporating music, drama and vocals, we encourage our students to develop their individuality and talents, and increase their self-confidence.

The college engages many music instrumental and singing teachers offering students a wide range of learning options including piano, guitar, percussion, and woodwind instruments.

Instrumental music and vocals students have a weekly 30 minute lesson on a rotating timetable so that they do not miss the same class each week. These lessons are compulsory



for these students and essential in developing their skills in vocals or on their chosen instrument.

Students perform at campus assemblies and events as solo performers and as part of the Junior and Senior Concert Bands, Rock Band or Choir.

Students also have the opportunity to take part in the college theatre production every year in our Drama complex. The production involves students from both the Junior and Senior campuses, participating in everything from singing, dancing and acting to costumes, make-up and set production. In previous years, productions have included 'Fame', 'The Wedding Singer', 'Grease', 'Hamlet' and 'Macbeth'.

The VUSC Sports Academy Programs are:

1. Athlete Development Program (Year 7-12)
2. Netball Development Program (Year 10-12)
3. Rugby League Academy (Year 7-12)



Sport, Health and Physical Education

The College encourages and provides for participation in a wide range of team and individual sports through inter-school sports, camps and excursions. These are held regularly to help personal development, build self-esteem and foster teamwork. Our Sport, Health and Physical Education program challenges students to move beyond their comfort zone and explore new frontiers, encouraging self-motivation and well-being.

Sport, Health and Physical Education play an important part in an individual's holistic growth and development, and the Sports

Academy programs at VUSC offer students the opportunity to develop these skills further. The aim of the Academy is to encourage positive educational and career outcomes for boys and girls in the areas of sport and recreation.

VET Certificates in Sport and Recreation are offered in the Later Years with a focus on either Fitness or Rugby League. These programs provide students with the opportunity to seek employment within the Community Recreation sector, equipping them with industry-recognised qualifications and the aspiration to excel both academically and physically.

Rugby League Academy

The Rugby League Academy is a select entry program offered to Year 7-12 students. Selection is made via application and interview.

The program provides students with specialised and individual support in skill development and strength and conditioning by high performance coaches who have many years of experience working with rugby league teams at all levels.

VUSC has experienced enormous success in Rugby League competitions since the implementation of the

Academy, including students being selected to represent Victoria and winning major competitions both locally and interstate. The Senior VUSC Team currently competes in the NRL Schoolboy Cup – a Tier 1 competition with only 16 teams Australia-wide.

Scholarships are available to students who demonstrate outstanding sporting skills in Rugby League and are interested in joining the VUSC Rugby League Academy at Year 10 or 11.



High Achiever's Pathway

At Victoria University Secondary College, high achieving students have the opportunity to be extended and challenged within all or some of their subject areas.

Based on the student's interests, ability and testing data obtained in Year 7, students will be invited to participate in one or more of the following:

English Years 7-9

High achieving students will study literature together instead of participating in Enhanced Literacy classes. Students will study challenging novels and learn how to write literary analyses and essays that will prepare them for VCE.

Maths Years 7-9

High achieving students will be extended through a specialised program to challenge them and further develop their skills. Students will be withdrawn from some mainstream classes in order to focus on higher level mathematics and gain a deeper understanding of their year level curriculum.

Science Years 7-9

High achieving students will participate in a science fair and study extension enquiry units designed to challenge students and build higher order scientific thinking skills.

Humanities Years 7-9

High achieving students will study the Victorian Curriculum and will be challenged with higher level assessments designed to deepen their thinking and broaden their knowledge of History, Geography, Economics and Civics and Citizenship.

Acceleration Program

High achieving Year 10 students have the opportunity to commence their VCE Certificate in Year 10. With the endorsement of the Engagement Leader and Senior Campus Principals, students may enrol to study Units 1 and 2 of a VCE subject of their choice. Upon successful completion of Units 1 and 2, students will go on to study Units 3 and 4 in Year 11. Students accepted into the Acceleration Program will be expected to have outstanding academic grades as well as exemplary records for organisation, behaviour and attendance.

Sister School Relationship

As part of strengthening the community and developing a global understanding, our College has introduced an international education focus through creating connections with China and increasing the number of classes in Chinese language.

Each year we welcome a visit from Chinese students and teachers from our sister school, the High School Affiliated with Yangzhou University in the Jiangsu Province, China, to both our Junior and Senior Campuses for a week long visit.

Students from all year levels are also invited to travel to China for two weeks at the end of Term 3 each year for a reciprocal visit. The students have the opportunity to participate in cultural and immersion activities, visit our sister school and stay with host families.

Students from our College have participated in the Department's Victorian Young Leaders to China program each year since 2014. The program comprises a 6 week study tour, where students stay with buddies and their families while attending their Chinese school, learning the language and developing an understanding of the Chinese culture. The Victorian Young Leaders to China program is a life-changing opportunity for students and teachers, combining language and cultural learning with personal development and leadership skills.

Our sister school relationship is a fundamental part of the College's teaching and learning strategy for internationalising education, and we will continue to strengthen this relationship so that students are provided with the knowledge, skills and attributes required for a globalised world.



College Uniform

At Victoria University Secondary College students are required to wear the College uniform correctly at all times.

A uniform dress code reinforces in students pride in their own appearance, instils recognition of themselves as an integral part of the school community, and assists in developing pride in representing their school. Issues of equality, health and safety, and expense are also factors that contributed to the establishment of the college's Uniform Policy. The school makes every endeavour to ensure the uniform is affordable for families and has supports in place where assistance is required.

The College blazer is compulsory for all students in Years 7 to 11. Students in Year 12 may elect to wear the College blazer or Year 12 jacket. The blazer/jacket must be worn every day to and from school. Full black leather school shoes must be worn with the uniform.

Details of the uniform as well as itemised price lists can be accessed through our uniform suppliers:

PSW, 58 Westwood Drive, Deer Park (Tel: 9363 8458)
Website: www.psw.com.au.



Victoria University Secondary College operates a personalised bus service for students from areas that are currently lacking public transport. The route can be varied to cater for student needs.



Senior Campus
5A Jamieson Street
St Albans Victoria 3021

P 03 8312 0200
F 03 8312 0211

Junior Campus
88 Billingham Road
Deer Park Victoria 3023

P 03 9363 1155
F 03 9363 8681

Trade Training Centre
Cairnlea Campus
43 Ken Jordan Rd
Cairnlea Victoria 3023

P 03 8312 0200

Correspondence to:
PO Box 83
St Albans Victoria 3021

Email victoria.university.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au
www.vusc.vic.edu.au