



OVERSEAS STUDENTS

Enrolment Guide



WELCOME TO Geelong Grammar School

Geelong Grammar School

Geelong Grammar School (GGS) has been attracting overseas students for more than 100 years, welcoming students from all parts of the world including Africa, Asia, Europe, North America and the Middle East. We want all our learners to feel a genuine sense of belonging within a caring and inclusive environment.

At GGS, it is our privilege to enable wisdom by providing a holistic education which prioritises learning and academic skills, as well as the values of curiosity, creativity, leadership, authenticity and perseverance.

Each year, graduating GGS students gain entry into some of the world's most prestigious universities, including:

- Harvard, Stanford, Yale in the United States
- Oxford, Cambridge and Edinburgh in the United Kingdom
- Melbourne, Sydney and Monash University in Australia.

The Legislative Framework Governing Enrolment of Overseas Students (ESOS Framework)

To ensure that overseas students enjoy a safe and rewarding experience whilst studying in Australia, the Australian Government has established safeguards and laws to promote quality education and consumer protection for overseas students.

These laws are known as the Education Services for Overseas Students (ESOS) Legislative Framework, and include the ESOS Act 2000 (Cth) and related legislation, and the National Code of Practice for Providers of Education and Training to Overseas Students 2018 (National Code 2018).

As a registered provider of education and training services to overseas students, GGS is required to comply with the ESOS framework. Many of the matters contained in this Handbook are required by the ESOS Framework and assist GGS to provide quality education and services to our overseas students.

CRICOS Course Code

Geelong Grammar School is registered with the Commonwealth Government, CRICOS listing 00143G, and offers the following courses:

- 015229M Primary Years (Prep - Year 6);
- 005326D Secondary Years (Year 7 – 12)

Our Campuses

We are Australia's largest co-educational boarding school and care for more than 1,500 students, including over 850 boarders.

Our School spans across four specialist campuses:

Bostock House Campus

Early Learning Centre (ELC) to Year 4

Corio Campus

Middle School: Year 5 to Year 8

Senior School: Year 10 to Year 12

Timbertop Campus

Year 9

Toorak Campus

Early Learning Centre (ELC) to Year 6

We offer a unique educational journey that for most students involves attending more than one of our campuses as they progress through GGS.

Entry Level

We offer places for overseas students entering from Prep to Year 12.

Junior / Primary School Enrolment

Bostock House and Toorak Campus (our Primary campuses) are day schools. All students attend as day students.

As a day student, overseas students must live with an approved relative* which may include a parent, a person who has legal custody of the student or an eligible relative (aunt, uncle, grandparent or a sibling over 21 years of age).

Secondary School Enrolment

CORIO CAMPUS – MIDDLE SCHOOL

In Middle School, the following enrolment options are available:

- Full boarding: This is only for students over 13 years of age, or who have an approved relative* who is available to have the student stay with them during holidays and exeat**. Full boarders must stay with a GGS approved homestay provider while they are on exeat, or with a parent if they come to visit.
- Weekly boarding: Weekly boarders live in one of our boarding houses for four to six nights per week and spend weekends living with an approved relative*.
- Day student: Day students attend in normal school hours, returning to live with an approved relative* every night.

*An approved relative must be approved by the Department of Home Affairs (DHA) and may include a parent, a person who has legal custody of the student or an eligible relative (aunt, uncle, grandparent or a sibling over 21 years of age).

**An exeat is a three-day holiday at the weekend that extends over to Monday. At GGS, we have three exeat weekends in the year (four at Timbertop), and it is compulsory that all students leave the Campus over this time.

CORIO CAMPUS – SENIOR SCHOOL

In Senior School, the following enrolment options are available:

- Full boarding: A full boarder lives in one of our boarding houses during the term, leaving on weekends by

arrangement. Full boarders must stay with a GGS approved homestay provider while they are on weekend leave or exeat, or with a parent if they come to visit.

- Day Boarding: A day boarder lives at home and attends school from 8.20am to 8.30pm (on most weeknights). Students participate in the co-curricular program in the afternoon, enjoy dinner together and complete their homework before returning home each night.

TIMBERTOP CAMPUS

At Timbertop, all students are full boarders.

Younger Overseas Students

Students under 13 years old are not permitted to live with a homestay provider.

Until they reach the age of 13 years, students can attend Bostock House or Toorak Campus as a day student, or Corio Campus - Middle School as a day student or a weekly boarder.

The School Year And Holiday Breaks

The school calendar usually begins in late January and ends in December for the summer holidays. The school year is split into two semesters (study periods), with each semester made up of two terms.

Semester 1: Terms 1 and 2
Semester 2: Terms 3 and 4

The GGS Term Dates may differ per Campus and can be found on the GGS website: www.ggs.vic.edu.au

Living and Learning in Australia

Australia is an increasingly popular country for students who are choosing to study abroad. Currently, Australia is the third most popular destination for international students in the English-speaking world, behind the United States and the United Kingdom. Australia is a popular destination for a variety of reasons, including cultural diversity, quality of education, public safety, well-developed health system, low population size and friendliness.

Our campuses are in Melbourne (Toorak Campus), Geelong (Bostock House and Corio Campus) and the Victorian Alps (Mansfield).

Living Costs in Australia

Overseas students and their families considering applying to GGS are encouraged to undertake research into the cost of living in Australia, taking into consideration their own circumstances. To assist you in your understanding and financial preparation, the following sites may be of assistance:

www.studyinaustralia.gov.au/english/live-in-australia/living-costs

www.liveinmelbourne.vic.gov.au/discover

www.regionalliving.vic.gov.au/explore-regional-victoria/barwon/geelong

Accommodation

Students who are enrolled as a day student (and not as a boarder) will live with a parent, legal guardian or a DHA-approved relative while not at School. The type of accommodation available for an overseas family residing in Australia include:

- Renting a property: units, apartments and houses are available to rent across Geelong, Melbourne or regional

Victoria, and are available furnished and unfurnished. A bond payment and 2 to 4 weeks advanced payment is typically required in order to secure the rental property. Average rental costs vary between \$500 to \$1,000 per week.

- Buying a property: units, apartments and houses are readily available to buy across Geelong, Melbourne or regional Victoria. Temporary residents generally need to apply for and receive foreign investment approval before purchasing any residential real estate in Australia. Typically, property prices start from \$500,000 and will vary depending on location, size, condition and other factors.

Please refer below for further information:

www.realestate.com.au

www.domain.com.au

BOARDING

Students who are enrolled as a boarding student will live on campus during the term time, and while not at School will live with a parent, legal guardian or approved relative (if under age 13), or if over 13 may live with an approved homestay provider. For extended holidays, the student may also return home.

As a boarder, the student will live in one of the 10 boarding houses at the Corio Campus. We have two boarding houses in Middle school, and eight boarding houses in Senior School. At the Timbertop Campus all students board in one of 16 units (each unit has approximately 15 students living together).

Facilities

GGS provides our students with truly world class facilities for learning, living, co-curricular activity and sport.

BOSTOCK HOUSE

Bostock House is in the leafy suburb of Newtown, in Geelong.

The campus facilities include:

- Heritage listed building home to the Austin Library, a double teaching room for music and Special Education Centre
- ELC Centre and purpose-built classrooms, art room, multi-purpose room
- Play area, soccer field, basketball court

CORIO CAMPUS

Spread over 245 hectares, the Corio Campus is located 15 minutes from the Geelong city centre, and approximately 50 minutes from the Melbourne city centre.

The campus facilities include:

- Four day houses and 10 boarding houses. Each boarding house consists of an open area for assemblies, relaxation/games room, learning/prep study area, kitchenette, and dormitory or single study rooms.
- School for Performing Arts and Creative Education (The SPACE) building, incorporating 800-seat forum and 270-seat studio, multiple learning spaces and dance/drama studio
- Middle School, a dedicated learning area for students from Year 5 to Year 8, include multiple classrooms, outside eating area and playground
- Handbury Centre for Wellbeing, featuring a 10-lane indoor swimming pool, multi-purpose indoor courts, gymnasium, cafe and dance/yoga studios
- Kennedy Medical Centre, equipped with nine hospital beds, and rooms for counselling services and physiotherapy
- The Chapel of All Saints and the War Memorial Cloisters

- Languages Building, includes multiple classrooms and learning spaces
- Music School, includes recital hall, multiple learning spaces for group and individual tuition
- Art School buildings (Sinclair Centre, The Art School and Hirschfeld Mack Centre), includes multiple art rooms, exhibition gallery space, ceramics room, recording studio, dark-room photographic studio and MacLab (computer room)
- World class David William Robert Knox Equestrian Centre, including large undercover indoor arena, outdoor dressage and show jumping arena, tack room and saddle yards. Surrounding paddocks on Campus can accommodate up to 40 horses.
- The Technology Building, featuring large open learning areas for textile, wood and metal design and technology classes, equipped with lasers, 3-D printers and CNC routers
- Science Building with multiple science lab classrooms
- Two dining halls and adjoining kitchen areas
- Three libraries (dedicated for Middle School, Senior School and Institute of Positive Education)
- Exceptional sport and open field playing areas including six football/cricket ovals, and an all-weather tennis/hockey facility with competition level lighting

TIMBERTOP CAMPUS

Nestled in a secluded valley in the foothills of the Victorian Alps, Timbertop is a campus like no other, spread across almost 300 hectares between the country town of Mansfield and the alpine resort of Mount Buller. Timbertop is approximately three hours by car to Melbourne city.

Facilities include:

- 16 student accommodation units, each with kitchenette, study area and sleeping dorm room
- Art room and multiple classrooms
- Fire bunker, functioning as classrooms
- Dining Hall
- Chapel
- Music School
- Health Medical Centre
- Outdoor auditorium
- Football field/open play area
- Vineyard and fully functioning farm

TOORAK CAMPUS

Toorak Campus is in the inner suburb of Toorak, approximately 15 minutes from Melbourne city.

Facilities include:

- The Glamorgan Centre which houses a Science laboratory, Gymnasium (Isabel McComas Hall) and Art, Music, Drama and Dance learning spaces
- The Toorak Wellbeing Centre, includes a 25-metre pool, beginners pool, fully equipped kitchen and café area, multi-purpose room and classroom spaces
- The Children's Garden and Coulter library are spaces that are enjoyed both during and out of class time.
- Sporting and play spaces include the Adventure Playground, tennis and netball courts, undercover play space, the Baillieu Field and a bamboo forest creative play space

Steps to Enrolment

STEP ONE – Contact Us

We would welcome the opportunity to discuss availability and to help you discover whether GGS is the right choice for your child. Please see the relevant Campus contact information below:

Telephone:

Bostock House:	+61 3 5221 7760
Corio Campus:	+61 3 5273 9307
Timbertop:	+61 3 5273 9307
Toorak Campus:	+61 3 9829 1406

Email:

Bostock House:	bostock@ggs.vic.edu.au
Corio Campus:	admissions@ggs.vic.edu.au
Timbertop:	admissions@ggs.vic.edu.au
Toorak Campus:	toorakcampus@ggs.vic.edu.au

STEP TWO – Apply Online

To apply for a place at GGS, you need to complete our online application: www.ggs.vic.edu.au/apply

You will need to supply the following documentation:

- Current passport and visa grant notice
- Birth certificate or similar document
- Most recent school report (in English)
- Any medical or related health professional reports
- Australian English Assessment Standard (AEAS) test report (if applicable)

STEP THREE – Enrolment Interview

Our Admissions team will get in touch with you to confirm your application and an interview will be scheduled approximately 12 months to two years prior to the intended date of entry. You will be asked to complete a Pre-Enrolment Questionnaire prior to the interview. If possible, parents and the student should attend the interview. The interview may be conducted in person, via telephone or virtually.

STEP FOUR – Offer of a Place

An enrolment offer may be made if a place is available and if the student is at the required level of English language proficiency, either by passing the AEAS test or by attending an English Language Intensive Course for Overseas Students (ELICOS).

A provisional offer may be made with the condition of successful completion of the ELICOS course. If the English level is not reached the offer may be rescinded, or the student may have to delay their entry until the required level is reached.

To accept an enrolment offer, you must pay the non-refundable enrolment fee and obtain Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC), which is a requirement of the Department of Home Affairs (DHA) to assist overseas students meet the costs of medical and hospital care that they may need while in Australia.

STEP FIVE - Congratulations

Once the acceptance process is complete, a Confirmation of Enrolment (CoE) form and a Confirmation of Appropriate Accommodation and Welfare (CAAW) letter will be sent to you (unless the student will reside with an approved relative). The CoE and CAAW letter are necessary to obtain a student visa.

STEP SIX – Keep Up-to-Date

It is important to keep up to date with your arrival details and approval of visa prior to commencement.

Details of the orientation programme will be communicated with your family before commencement.

Up-to-Date Contact Details

Overseas student families are obliged to always keep us informed of current contact details. This includes email address, residential address and contact numbers, for both your home country contact details and your contact details while residing in Australia.

By law, we must be informed within seven days of any changes.

Applying from your Home Country

GGs accepts applications directly without the services of an agent. However, if you need assistance with visas or your application, an education agent can help. Details for the GGS Approved Agents List can be found on the Enrolment section of our website.

Minimum Levels of English Language Proficiency

All overseas students applying to enter GGS in Year 5 and above and who do not have English as their first language are required to sit an approved English Language Proficiency Test which is administered by the Australian Education Assessment Services (AEAS). For student applications from Prep to Year 4, testing is not required. The AEAS test can often be done in your home country.

GGs has minimum requirements for the English Language Proficiency Test prior to entry. This is outlined below:

Entering Year Level	AEAS Score
Prep to Year 4	N/A
Year 5 to Year 6	50+
Year 7 to Year 9	60+
Year 10 to Year 12	70+

An enrolment offer can only be made when a prospective student has reached the required level of English language proficiency, either by passing the AEAS test requirements or by attending an English Language Intensive Course for Overseas Students (ELICOS) at Avalon College

www.avaloncollege.vic.edu.au

Avalon College is an ELICOS provider located within a short distance from the Corio Campus.

Recognition of Prior Learning

Evidence of prior learning may be requested for any student that intends to enter in Year 11 or Year 12. Overseas students wanting to enter Year 12 would need to apply to the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) in order to gain credit for equivalent study undertaken in their home country.

Students entering GGS who have already commenced an International Baccalaureate elsewhere must satisfy our Academic Department that they can continue the rigorous IB programme in English, without disruption to their studies. Students must be studying subjects that are being taught at Geelong Grammar to allow for academic continuity.

Mode of Study

The mode of study is on-campus via face-to-face teaching and learning.

Student Fees

Overseas student fees and charges for GGS can be found in the Enrolment section of the website www.ggs.vic.edu.au. Please note, the Fee Schedule is subject to annual review.

Curriculum

In Years 11 and 12, students have the choice to complete the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) or the International Baccalaureate (IB) diploma. Both programmes provide an internationally accepted qualification for entry into higher education and are recognised by many universities worldwide.

For detailed information on curriculum content, teaching methods and assessment, please refer to the curriculum guides located on the website, and relevant campus handbook.

Assessment

Assessment is an ongoing process integral to all teaching and learning at GGS. It can take a range of forms, both informal and formal, which may include class observation, work samples, group projects, folios, case studies, tests and examinations.

Assessment grades are awarded at the end of each semester (twice per school year) and are consistent with requirements for domestic students as determined by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) and the International Baccalaureate Organisation.

Third-Party Education Providers

GGs may offer language courses through the Victorian School of Languages, and music tuition through Virtual Schools of Victoria, if the course cannot be taught by School employees. This course is facilitated by GGS but assessed by the third-party education provider.

Overseas students typically use these services in Year 11 and Year 12, however it is available to all student year levels.

Orientation Programme

CORIO CAMPUS AND TIMBERTOP STUDENTS

GGs runs a three-and-a-half day Orientation Programme in the week prior to the start of Term 1 for students attending Corio and Timbertop campuses. The programme is designed to help students settle into GGS and form relationships with staff and fellow students. It is an Australian Government requirement that all overseas students must attend this programme. Any expatriate students who have spent all or most of their life away from Australia are also invited to attend this programme.

Students will spend three-and-a-half days at the Corio campus where they will be:

- introduced to living as a boarder at GGS
- introduced to the academic, pastoral and co-curricular programmes at GGS
- given the opportunity to spend time with current and former students of GGS
- introduced to some of the features of the Geelong region, to elements of the Australian culture and, more specifically, to life at GGS

The Orientation Programme concludes with a relaxed lunch with parents, friends, homestay providers and siblings. At the conclusion of the Programme, students leave with their parents or homestay provider for a break prior to returning to either the Corio or Timbertop campus to begin the school year. Orientation information is sent to families towards the end of the year prior to commencement.

TOORAK CAMPUS AND BOSTOCK HOUSE

Toorak Campus and Bostock House offer an Orientation Session for all new students on the day prior to the first day of Term 1. During this session students will:

- be shown their classroom and meet their classroom teacher
- tour the campus and be introduced to specialist teachers in Art, PE, Drama, LOTE, Library, Science and Music
- participate in interactive games on the sports field with all other new students

Homestay Providers

Parents may nominate a Homestay Provider for the student, which is then approved by GGS. If parents do not know anyone for consideration, GGS must appoint a homestay provider for the student for the duration of their enrolment. The role of the Homestay Provider is an important one and all homestay providers must be genuinely interested in the student's welfare. Homestay Providers must:

- comply with the National Code of Practice for Providers of Education and Training to Overseas Students 2018 (as amended)
- be over 25 years of age (subject to the exercise of discretion by the Principal, but at least 21 years of age)
- all people over 18 years old at the Homestay Provider's residence must have a valid Working With Children Check, including siblings of the student who are over 18 years old
- have a current Australian drivers licence
- comply with GGS policies and expectations and be aware of their responsibilities particularly in relation to child safety
- must live in the Melbourne/Greater Geelong area and be easily contactable by the School and/or the student and student's family;
- must be able to communicate effectively with GGS and the student in English, and have empathy with the student's culture, religion and beliefs
- during exeats, holidays and other periods the student is with the Homestay Provider, the Homestay Provider must be prepared to work with the student and GGS when required, and particularly with respect to classwork, illness, grievances, behaviour, unhappiness or discipline

Child Safety Officers

GGS is committed to the safety of children and has a zero tolerance of child abuse. Everyone at GGS has a role to play and is responsible for protecting children and upholding the duty of care that GGS owes to all its students.

GGS has appointed Child Safety Officers at each Campus who are trained to be the first point of contact and to provide advice and support to students, parents and homestay providers regarding the safety and wellbeing of children within GGS.

Homestay Providers receive information and education regarding the Child Safety Policy and their obligations.

Student Support for Tertiary Pathways

Our Careers Department works extensively with students from Year 10 onwards. In designated Year 10 careers classes, and in partnership with House Learning Groups, students complete Morrisby Assessments that help to make the connection with interests, aptitudes, and personality with future career and study options. Students arriving in Year 11 and 12 also have the opportunity of completing Morrisby, and the follow up counselling session to discuss the report. Parents are also encouraged to be part of these sessions via zoom meetings or in person.

Individual Career appointments are available on demand for all students throughout the year, with peak times leading up to subject selection and tertiary course applications. There are formal presentations to students and parents regarding the Victorian Certificate of Education, the International Baccalaureate Diploma and transition to tertiary education.

The annual Careers Day at the Corio campus provides an opportunity for students and parents to talk to local and interstate universities, along with GAP Year providers and Residential Colleges from the University of Melbourne. A mentor programme, in partnership with the GGS Alumni, enables many OGGs (Old Geelong Grammarians) to return on this day to talk to students and parents about their experiences in the workplace after GGS.

Though the majority of our students elect to continue their education at Australian universities, we have students successfully applying to overseas institutions every year, including high-profile universities in both the USA and UK. Assistance and support through the overseas application process is individual and ongoing.

Presentations from Education USA and visiting universities provide a valuable insight to the application process and the options available. SAT entrance tests are offered at GGS several times a year. UK admission tests through Cambridge Assessments are also available on campus in November. Overseas students can attend the University of Melbourne's Schools Partnership Initiative (MSPI), which offers special opportunities and assistance to overseas students.

Not all students are intending to go to university immediately following Year 12. The Careers Department also offers individual support with Gap Year applications, resume production, scholarship applications, sporting scholarships, work experience, internships and job applications.

Australian Qualifications Framework

The Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) establishes the quality of Australian qualifications. The AQF is the national policy for regulated qualifications in the Australian education and training system. It incorporates the quality assured qualifications from each education and training sector into a single comprehensive national qualifications framework. AQF qualifications link with each other in a range of learning pathways between schools, VET (Vocational Education and Training) and higher education. This allows students to move easily from one level of study to the next, and from one institution to another, as long as overseas students satisfy visa requirements. It allows for choice and flexibility in career planning.

The AQF aligns with overseas qualifications, so institutions are linked across the country and across the world, which makes it easy to move throughout the education system between courses or institutions. Formal recognition of prior learning and experiences mean that every step of a student's learning journey will contribute to their future no matter what their study or career goals.



To learn more about
enrolling at GGS,
we warmly invite
you to contact us.

Geelong Grammar School
50 Biddlecombe Avenue
Corio, Victoria AUSTRALIA 3214

T: +61 3 5273 9307
E: admissions@ggs.vic.edu.au
www.ggs.vic.edu.au

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EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATION