

# High School Preparation Program

## **What is the High School Preparation Program? Who should enrol?**

The High School Preparation Program is designed to assist international students who wish to improve their English and Study Skills so as to enter St Paul's School's mainstream classes or another Australian High School. Students aged between 12 and 18 years of age will be considered for enrolment. Copies of a student's two most recent academic reports are required.

## **What is the content of the High School Preparation Program? What subjects are taught?**

Students learn how to communicate meaning in English through General English which includes developing English language skills in a range of areas such as note-taking, listening, reading strategies, vocabulary development, writing, research and study skills, IT and computer skills, discussion, giving oral presentations. English for main school subjects is also taught through the following subjects: Literature, Maths, Science, Visual Culture, Music and Health and Physical Education.

Individual student needs are catered for at all levels and excursions to places of interest are organized as reinforcement of the content of the course. Students are able to observe some suitable high school classes and integrate into some main school subject classes in their final term at St Paul's International School.

## **Who are the teachers?**

Our teachers are well-qualified, English as a Second Language (ESL) teachers with experience in intensive English language courses and up-to-date knowledge of current High School curriculum and teaching methods. Specialist teachers assist in some High School subject areas.

## **What is the teaching style?**

Our experienced teachers assist students to gain the knowledge, skills and confidence for High School study. Students are encouraged to communicate by sharing and developing ideas and knowledge. Classroom tasks are purposeful and designed carefully to develop the language and study skills required. Learning in context is a basic feature of the communicative language teaching style and students learn their English through using a variety of interesting materials.

## **How long does it take to prepare for High School?**

Each student learns at a different pace. St Paul's International School offers a four-level Program and students enter at the level appropriate to their ability. Each level is approximately 10 weeks in length. Progress is carefully monitored and possible pathways are discussed in class. An experienced Careers Guidance Officer can offer advice about educational pathways.

## **How are students assessed?**

Students are placed in a class after an initial interview and assessment upon arrival. Student progress is assessed on an on-going basis and frequent feedback is given to students. School Reports are sent home at the end of each term. These Reports give comments regarding English language progress in Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing and for Study Skills. Each language skill is also assessed according to the National Languages and Literacy Institute of Australia (NLLIA) ESL Bandscales.

Students must achieve a Bandscale of '5+' in each of the four skills in order to graduate from the program. A Certificate of Completion is awarded when a student successfully completes the Program.