

ST PAUL'S SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION PROGRAM

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

The St Paul's School High School Preparation program prepares students (12 – 18 years old) for entry into the Australian High School System, by helping them to adapt to the tasks and assessment styles they will encounter in mainstream classes, either at St Paul's School or another Australian School.

Students must provide copies of their two most recent academic reports when enrolling, along with any results from English language tests they have undertaken. Students will also complete assessment as part of their enrolment interview and will also undertake assessment at School prior to their commencement.

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

Students in the HSP program will develop their English skills through subjects including General English, Reading, Writing, Speaking, Listening and Australian Studies. They will also participate in specialty subjects, which may include HPE, Food Technology, Drama, Music and Visual Art. These speciality subjects can change each semester.

Individual student needs are catered for at all levels and excursions to places of interest are organised as reinforcement of the content of the course. Students attend a Tutor group in the main School every morning, to help them start adjusting for their transition into mainstream classes.

Who are the teachers?

Our teachers are qualified and experienced, English as a Second Language (ESL) teachers. Our Teachers have 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. 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.