



Avalon College
Geelong Australia

INFORMATION ON AVALON COLLEGE FOR SECONDARY STUDENTS

Avalon College is the first fully residential English language centre in Australia devoted solely to providing quality English language education and school preparation for primary and secondary age students.

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CRICOS No. 01803A
Abion Pty Ltd

COURSE INFORMATION

Avalon College is dedicated to providing excellent academic tuition as well as quality boarding care. Our commitment to very small class sizes means that each student has their individual needs comprehensively addressed by experienced, fully qualified, professional teachers. We believe that regular communication between parents, guardians, schools and ourselves is essential. Formal reports are issued every six weeks and the Director of Studies is always available to discuss current progress and to make suggestions for improvement and development.

English Language Preparation for Australian Schools Course

- **Secondary Elementary Level:** Students successfully completing this course will be able to maintain face-to-face conversations expressing their own opinions and ideas. They will accurately pronounce commonly used words and ask for repetition when it is needed. Simple directions relating to classroom and everyday situations will be comprehended and information given aurally in familiar situations will be processed and reused. An understanding of the gist of graded material will be evident. In reading, students will show comprehension of graded texts on both familiar and unfamiliar material. In addition, they will select relevant information from a passage and understand the gist of native speaker texts on familiar topics.

Students will be able to write in a range of text types with evidence of correct word order. Responses to graded research topics will be expressed in their own words.

- **Secondary Pre Intermediate Level:** Students successfully completing this course will be able to maintain a conversation on everyday topics using correct known grammar. In addition, known words will be correctly pronounced and the students will interact in a meaningful manner in a classroom setting. Information given in extended aural forms will be processed and reused. In reading exercises the students will be able to research a topic using native speaker material. They will show full comprehension of and respond to pre intermediate texts. Relevant information will be selected from both familiar and unfamiliar texts. All writing will show correct use of known grammar and spelling and research information will be presented in their own words for a range of different audiences and purposes. Drafting will be used to improve the overall quality of the writing.
- **Secondary Intermediate Level:** Students who complete this course will be able to maintain conversations with native speakers and present their own ideas in a sustained and organised manner. Correct pronunciation and intonation will be evident as well as correct use of known grammar. Information given in a native speaker context will be processed and reused. The students will understand a range of discourse forms and be able to take notes from a discussion. Native speaker material will be used, as a basis for research and students will be able to paraphrase and summarize key points. Accurate writing will be produced using complex sentence structures with clear use of supporting evidence. Research findings will be presented in an interesting and original manner.

Qualifications gained on completion: A Certificate of Completion is issued on the successful completion of the course.

Duration of the course: Each course runs for 20 weeks. The amount of time needed to complete the course is dependent on the skills of the student at the time of arrival at Avalon College.

Modes of Study: All courses undertaken at Avalon College are full time, on campus courses.

Teaching methods: A variety of teaching methods are used in the classroom. These include a traditional instructional approach, group work, teacher lead discussions, student-centered learning exercises, and one on one individual tutorials. Classroom teaching is enhanced by the use of videos, television programs, radio sessions, computer technology and fieldwork exercises.

Assessment methods: A balanced range of oral, aural and written assessment is used to track the progress of each student. Entry and exit testing is used to determine and confirm the academic level of the students. In addition, weekly vocabulary and spelling tests, unit and topic tests, assignments, structured essays and timed in class responses are used. Criteria-based assessment tasks form part of the above and are used to introduce students to the assessment methods they will encounter when they reach school.

Entry requirements: Students undertaking the English Language Preparation for Australian Secondary Schools

Courses must be aged between 12 and 18 years and be able to show adequate academic progress in their schooling in their country.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Avalon College staff work together with a focus on providing a supportive and nurturing environment for all students.

Additional support services include:

Academic Counsellor: The Academic Counsellor is available to provide information and offer advice on a range of school-related issues. These may include individual learning strategies and goals, subject selection for chosen schools and future career planning.

Welfare Officer: The Welfare Officer is the person who is primarily responsible for the welfare needs of the students. This person works in conjunction with all other academic and support staff to address any particular issues that arise. These may include homesickness, peer-related issues and health and general wellbeing.

Bullying and Harassment seminars: These are conducted regularly throughout the year and are designed to raise awareness of the importance of these issues in our own environment as well as in the schools the students will eventually attend. The seminars provide information, discussion through group work and the opportunity for clarification through a question and answer session.

Liaising with schools: The Director of Transitions to schools is in regular contact with the network of schools our students attend. Visits are made to the schools by both the Director of Transitions to Schools and the Principal to discuss students and their progress. In addition, we arrange orientation visits to Australian schools for all of our students.

Individual tutorial sessions: Some students require additional one-on-one tuition. This allows for the consolidation of learning for those who need additional, specialised support or those who are seeking extension in subject areas other than English.

Back-up specialist medical care: Avalon College has developed an extensive network of links with the local health care fraternity. The services provided by these professionals are available on a referral basis.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ESOS Framework: The Australian Government regulates the provision of courses to overseas students through the ESOS legislative framework. A simple explanation of this can be seen on the AEI website at <https://aei.gov.au/Regulatory-Information/Pages/Regulatoryinformation.aspx>.

Complaints and Appeals: Avalon College has an internal and external (independent) process which can be viewed on our website at <http://www.avaloncollege.vic.edu.au>. Hover your cursor over the



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Contact Us tab then click on the **Complaints and Appeals** dropdown.

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