

Ballarat High School

International Students Information Handbook



2018

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome to Ballarat High School.

Ballarat High School has a long history and tradition of providing a quality education. While the school has changed physically over its hundred-year history, what has not changed is the significant contribution it makes to many young lives. We are pleased that our International Students Program allows us to make that contribution to international students who choose to become members of our school community.

We look forward to working with you through your transition to Ballarat High School and providing the information and support you require to ensure your transition into our learning community is a seamless one.

A COMMUNITY OF LEARNERS

Our learning culture is supported by our Ballarat High School Learning Dispositions and the values of Pride, Respect and Responsibility. As a learning community, we are committed to educating the individual learner and focus on developing a growth mindset within our community. Our tradition of academic excellence combined with a long history of outstanding extracurricular programs and a supportive mentor program ensures the development of the whole student.

As a large school we have a small team structure in place:

- Years 7 and 8 learning teams
- Year 9 ARCH Program
- Years 10 to 12 learning teams

This structure supports every student in a safe and positive learning environment, enabling all students to feel connected to their school. Every student is connected to a Learning Mentor, a teacher who will support them with their learning. We have high expectations of our students and teachers. We believe that high expectations encourage students to be responsible for their own learning and behaviour. We value and encourage parents to be actively involved in their child's learning. We have a number of parent groups (Boat Club and Performing Arts Support) that make a significant contribution to our school. This guide provides a snapshot of the learning our school offers and outlines the key programs and structure.

LEARNING AT BALLARAT HIGH SCHOOL

At Ballarat High School, we have a shared learning framework that has allowed us to put the learner at the centre and develop our Ballarat High School Learning Dispositions.

Our Learning Dispositions provide the framework for leading learning in our community.

- Perseverance and bravery develop our growth mindset.
- Creativity, curiosity and judgement relate to our thinking and ability to challenge our thinking.
- Leadership and teamwork are the dispositions that enhance the learning culture of the Ballarat High School community.

As a learning community, we value all learners and believe that every student having a Learning Mentor is the best way to ensure learners are provided with maximum opportunities to succeed.

This approach fosters personal responsibility for learning, as well as providing each student with the necessary balance of support and challenge to allow for personal growth as a learner.

In addition, Ballarat High School has a specific focus on building our pedagogical practices through deep understanding and application of our learning dispositions.

We encourage learners to seek feedback and deeply reflect on their learning as a part of our SMART goal process.

The School has a dedicated time for Learning Mentor activities every Wednesday, immediately after recess for all students and staff.

In Years 7, 8 and 9, one of the students' core teachers is their Learning Mentor, which builds on the already established relationship they have in the classroom.

Year 10 students move into the senior school where each year level has two learning leaders who support the learning mentors. Students are allocated to a group and will remain with the same mentor for the rest of their schooling.

Learning Framework

Know how and why they learn
Believe all people can learn
Develop positive relationships
Use higher order thinking skills to solve problems
Seek feedback and reflect on learning
Learn in a range of contexts

Learning Mentor

Metacognition
Learning Dispositions
Reflective Practice
Goal Setting

Pedagogical Studies

Performance and Development
Learning Culture
Growth Focused
Learning Dispositions
Reflective Practice



BEING AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT AT BALLARAT HIGH SCHOOL

Our international students come from across the world through a variety of ways:

- International Student Exchange from external student exchange organisations
- Exchange students from our sister schools in Germany and Japan
- International students who have recently migrated to Australia
- International students whose parents are working/studying in Australia

For all of these students, their arrival at Ballarat High School provides many opportunities, but also challenges. Our aim is to support students so they can take those opportunities and flourish within our school community.

International Students Liaison Officer

Sarah Mackenzie is our International Students Liaison Officer.

Her role is to support our international students and includes, but is not limited to:

- Student and parent induction and support
- Student program development
- Working with classroom teachers, literacy aides and interpreters, school teams and learning areas to develop and implement an individualised learning program for any International students identified as 'in need' which caters for the identified needs of each student.
- Tracking student progress through discussions with teachers and through the use of Edumate (our online learning management system) in order to review the effectiveness of learning plans.
- Liaising with external agencies where appropriate to support families
- Providing ongoing support to students and families in dealing with school related issues

While you will also have a Learning Mentor and a Learning Leader to support you during your time at Ballarat High School – the International Students Liaison Officer is a very important support person.

PARENT CONTACT:

You will receive a contact sheet during orientation that includes contact details of the key people that will be working with you during your time at Ballarat High School. You, and your parents, can make contact with those people through email or calling the school.

ACADEMIC REPORTING:

At the end of term 1 and term 3 students will receive an interim report that provides details of academic progress during that term. At the end of term 2 (end of semester 1) and end of term 4 (end of semester 2) a formal report will be issued that reports on learning and achievement throughout the full semester. We hold parent teacher interviews twice a year (start of term 2, end of term 3) for parents and students to meet with class teachers to discuss student progress. Our learning management system, Edumate, supports our approach to continuous reporting with student achievement and results being published on Edumate regularly throughout the year.

ABOUT BALLARAT

Ballarat is one of the largest inland cities in Australia, with a population of over 90,000 within the municipality.

Strategically located in the Central Highlands Region of Victoria, Ballarat is approximately 110km north-west of Melbourne. Travel time between Ballarat and Melbourne is around 75 minutes, and less to Tullamarine International Airport.

Access to other key regional centres is excellent via four main highways which radiate from Ballarat the Western, the Midland, the Glenelg and the Sunraysia Highways. These highways provide easy access to centres such as Melbourne, Adelaide, Geelong and Portland; regional locations like Bendigo and Mildura, and agricultural areas in the Mallee and Wimmera.

Ballarat lies within a gently undulating section of the midland plains which stretch from Creswick in the north, to Rokewood in the south, and from Lal Lal in the south-east to Pittong in the west. These plains are made up of alluvial sediment and volcanic flows, and contain large areas of rich agricultural soils.

The City displays a rich variety of topology and natural environment which comprises rolling hills, granite outcrops, heavily forested areas and numerous bodies of water. The urban settlement patterns offer a diversity of living environments, including small villages and country towns, as well as the main cityscape of central Ballarat, which includes heritage architecture of national significance and international interest.

Ballarat is surrounded by farmlands and bounded by the two extinct volcanoes – Mount Buninyong and Mount Warrenheip which provide natural forested areas for leisure activities. Ballarat is known for its cooler climate.

Five things you may not know about Ballarat weather:

1. Ballarat keeps its cool: Ballarat is 400 metres higher than Melbourne. One hundred metres of altitude generally converts to one degree of temperature. So while Melbourne swelters with an average of ten days over 35 degrees per year Ballarat has only two.
2. Ballarat is sunnier than Melbourne: Despite public perception, Ballarat has a mean of 55 clear days per year. Melbourne has only just over 48. They share roughly the same mean number of cloudy days per year; Ballarat 180.2 Melbourne 179.4
3. Wet enough? Ballarat's annual average rainfall total of 691mm is not far off Melbourne's total of 648mm and certainly drier than many of its eastern suburbs. Mean annual rainfall for Ballarat also comes in lower than seaside city of Warrnambool.
4. Fancy a frost? Despite Ballarat's notoriety the temperature is more likely to drop below zero in old rival Bendigo, which has an 6.3 mean days under the freezing point per year.
5. Windy city: As locals know it is Ballarat's place near the top of the Divide that makes it windy and it is the wind that often makes it seem so cold. The daily wind run (a total of mean wind speeds) 444km is almost twice that of Melbourne that comes in at 234km.

IMPORTANT COMMUNITY RESOURCES FOR YOU

Ballarat Regional Multicultural Centre

The Ballarat Regional Multicultural Council aims to promote and develop goodwill, understanding and harmony within its cultural diverse community. They run and support a wide variety of activities and programs.

Activities

Programs provided include

- Social support and referrals to services
- Healthy and active ageing programs
- Friendly visiting and Telelink support services.
- Voluntary English tutoring and conversation groups
- Homework clubs
- Mentoring and volunteering opportunities
- Regular cultural events and celebrations

Contact Information

Phone (BH) : 03 5332 5941

Fax : 03 5332 5944

Website Address : www.brmc.org.au

eMail Address : admin@brmc.org.au

Street Address : 120 English Street

GOLDEN POINT VIC 3350

Health Services:

The Alfredton Community has a number of health services. The two services that are within easy reach of the school (please see map) are:

Ballarat Community Health

The Ballarat Community Health Centre provides the community with quality and affordable health care whilst promoting health and wellbeing. Working in partnership with the community, to create opportunities and supportive environments which empower people to develop healthy lifestyles and prevent or manage illness.

Activities

Services provided include:

- Alcohol and Other Drug Services
- Health Education and Promotion
- Youth Outreach Service
- Youth Housing (Homelessness/Accommodation services)
- Creating Connections (Life and Living Skills for Homeless Youth)
- Youth Support Services
- Sexual Health Clinic
- Counselling
- Refugee and Immigration Support
- Youth Lawyer
- Mental Health / Community Health Nursing

- Support Groups
- Child Care
- Family Violence Survivors Women's Support Group

Phone (BH) : 03 5338 4500
 Fax : 03 5331 5470
 Website Address : www.bchc.org.au

eMail Address : info@bchc.org.au

Street Address : 12 Lilburne Street
 LUCAS VIC 3350

Ballarat Group Practice

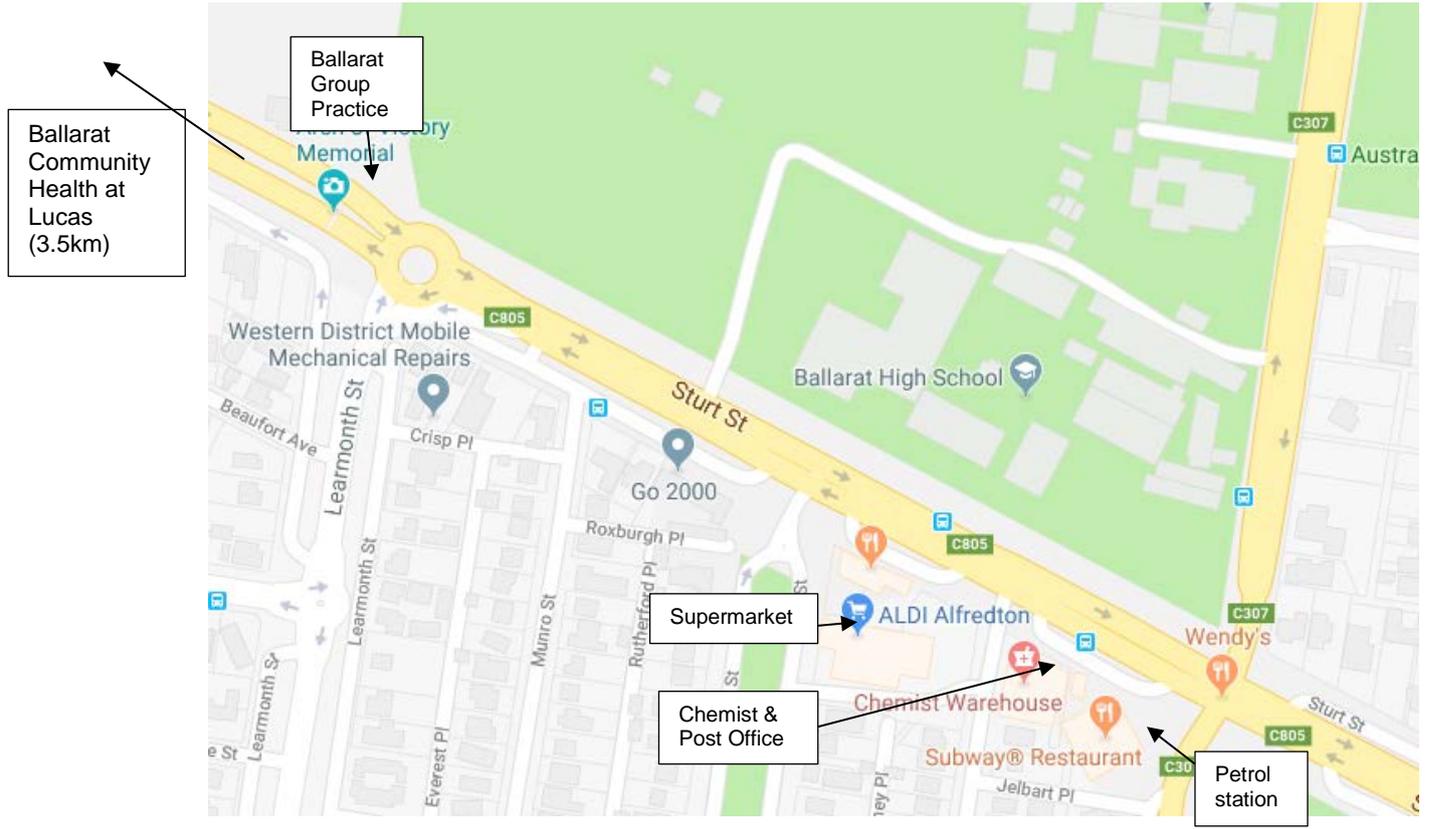
is a medical practice that is located at the western end of the school precinct. For further information concerning their services please see their website at:

<http://www.ballaratgrouppractice.com.au/>

OTHER IMPORTANT RESOURCES

http://www.ballarat.vic.gov.au/	The City of Ballarat site includes information concerning the city, services and infrastructure
http://www.ballarat.vic.gov.au/pc/community-directory.aspx	The City of Ballarat Community Directory provides information about a broad range of community services and groups. This includes services and groups linked to cultural diversity.
http://www.movingtoaustralia.com.au/australian-culture	Information about Australia and our culture
https://www.studyinaustralia.gov.au/english/live-in-australia/health-and-safety	Information about health and safety in Australia including in relation to emergencies, personal safety, safety in the home, sun and water and fire. This site also has useful information about the banking system and money, insurance and phone and internet in Australia
http://www.legalaid.vic.gov.au/	This site provides legal advice, and guidance about accessing legal services.
https://www.accc.gov.au/consumers/consumer-protection	This site provides information about consumer protection laws and issues in Australia

https://www.healthdirect.gov.au/australias-healthcare-system	This site provides a guide to the Australian healthcare system.
https://www.vicroads.vic.gov.au/safety-and-road-rules/pedestrian-safety	This site provides information about road safety and road rules



There are a number of services situated around Ballarat High School that you may find useful (as indicated on the map above)

 indicates a bus stop (please see bus information following)	Aldi supermarket - opposite the school	Chemist and post office –opposite the school
Petrol station – on corner of Gilles/Sturt streets	Ballarat Group Practice – located on western end of school site	Ballarat Community Health – located 3.5 km from the school west along Sturt Street.

BUSES IN BALLARAT

Ballarat's buses are an easy way to access different parts of the city. Bus stops are located on Sturt Street at the front of the school, and also on Gillies Street to the side of the school. These service the routes on the map above.

All you need is a myki card and you'll be ready to travel around the city. You can purchase Myki cards from all train stations and also the following retail businesses:

1. Nextra Newsagency Bridge Mall, 68 – 70 Bridge Mall
2. Ballarat Post Shop, Shop 31, Central Square Shopping Centre
3. NewsXpress Newsagency Ballarat, Shop 13, Block Arcade, Doveton Street South
4. Nextra Wendouree Village Newsagency and Post Office, Shop T75, Stockland Shopping Centre, Gillies Street, Wendouree
5. Wendouree News and Lotto, 1215a Howitt Street, Wendouree
6. Cuthberts Road Mixed Business, 27 Cuthberts Road, Alfredton

Zones

Fares for travelling on buses are separated into zones. Use the public transport maps to check what zones you are planning to visit and make sure you have enough value on your myki to cover your entire journey. Students under the age of 18 can purchase and travel on a Child Myki. Some international students may be eligible for a PTV Student Pass. Please visit (<https://www.ptv.vic.gov.au/tickets/fares/concession/school-students/>) for further details.

As you touch on and touch off your myki, the system automatically calculates the lowest fare for your trip. Always remember to touch on and off your myki as you board a bus.

For further information and timetables , please see:

<http://cdcvictoria.com.au/visit-ballarat>

<https://www.ptv.vic.gov.au/tickets/myki>

INFORMATION FOR FEE PAYING INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

DIBP Student Visa Conditions

As a holder of a student visa you need to follow these conditions:

CONDITION	WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR YOU ?
<p>You cannot work more than 40 hours per fortnight during the school term. You can work for more than 40 hours per fortnight during recognised vacation periods offered by your education provider.</p> <p>You cannot start paid work until you have started your course in Australia.</p>	<p>If you pick up a part time job while you are studying in Australia – you need to ensure that you do not work more hours than are specified here.</p>
<p>You must remain enrolled in a registered course You must maintain satisfactory attendance in your course and course progress for each study period as required by your education provider.</p>	<p>There are attendance and course progress requirements that you need to meet. If you do not meet those requirements, the school is required to report to the International Education Division and it may mean that you have breached your visa conditions.</p> <p>Attendance: you must achieve a minimum of 80% satisfactory attendance in order to meet the requirements of your student VISA. School benchmarks of expected attendance are higher than 80% and intervention will occur to ensure support is provided to meet those higher levels of attendance. Please see the school’s attendance policy and processes, including the VCE Handbook for further detail.</p> <p>Course progress: you must complete satisfactorily at least 50% of your course requirements within a semester or be successfully completing sufficient units to enable completion of your VCE/VCAL qualification within the time period allowed to meet the requirements of your visa.</p>
<p>You must maintain adequate arrangements for health insurance during your stay in Australia.</p>	<p>You need to maintain your Overseas Student Health Cover at all times that you are studying in Australia. Ms</p>

<p>Note: Under policy, you must maintain Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC).</p>	<p>Mackenzie will ask to see proof of your cover and we will put a photocopy in your school records.</p>
<p>If you are younger than 18 years of age, you must have accommodation and support, and your general welfare must be maintained for the duration of your stay in Australia.</p> <p>To maintain your welfare, you must stay in Australia with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> your parent or legal custodian or a relative who has been nominated by your parents or custodians who is aged over 21 and is of good character 	<p>To be enrolled at Ballarat High School you needed to be living with parent/relative/ approved legal custodian.</p> <p>You need to remain living with someone who meets those conditions.</p>
<p>You must tell your education provider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the address where you live in Australia within seven days of arriving in Australia • if you change the address where you live within seven days of the change 	<p>If you change address during your time at BHS you need to tell us within seven days.</p>

CHILD SAFE STANDARDS

Ballarat High School meets all requirements of the Child Safe Standards to ensure a safe learning environment for our students.

Further information including our Child Safe Code of Conduct; Commitment to Child Safety Statement & Child Safe Environment Policy; Child Safety Mandatory Reporting and Child Safety Reporting Flowchart are available on the school website and hard copies can be provided upon request.

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND WELLBEING

At Ballarat High School we support the wellbeing of students in a range of different ways. Our Learning culture acknowledges individual differences and actively encourages all members of the school community to reach their potential through a variety of pathways and educational options.

Ballarat High School is a lead school in promoting a culture of Respectful Relationships. Everyone in our community deserves to be respected, valued and treated equally. We know that changes in attitudes and behaviours can be achieved when positive attitudes, behaviours and equality are embedded in our education settings.

Respectful Relationships is about embedding a culture of respect and equality across our entire community, from our classrooms to staffrooms, sporting fields and social events. This approach leads to positive impacts on students' academic outcomes, their mental health, classroom behaviour, and relationships between teachers and students.

Positive classroom environments are critical in developing and maintaining the well-being of students. A positive environment is one in which students feel secure, have opportunities to actively participate and have their contributions appreciated and valued.

At Ballarat High School we build positive relationships with all members of the school community based on our core values. We believe that we need to work with our parents/carers and wider community as part of a coordinated team to maximise students' learning potential. On occasions when behaviours or actions compromise a relationship within the school community, a restorative approach to repair the relationship is followed. This allows for those involved to deal with issues and move forward as productive, valued members of the school community.

The school has an Anti-Bullying Policy which outlines the steps in dealing with bullying based around restoring the relationships and building an understanding of what all parties involved are thinking and feeling.

Student engagement and participation is actively encouraged at Ballarat High School. The Student Leadership Team aims to involve students from all year levels in decision making at the school. Representatives are elected from each class and year level and regular meetings are run by the Student Leadership Team.



SUMMARY OF COURSES YEAR 7 - 10

All Year 7 - 10 students will undertake a range of subjects as outlined by the Victorian Curriculum. The Victorian Curriculum is the Foundation to Year 10 Curriculum for Victorian government schools. The Victorian Curriculum outlines what is essential for all Victorian students to learn from Prep to Year 10. This incorporates studies from the following learning areas: The Arts; English; Health and Physical Education; The Humanities; Languages; Mathematics; Science and Technologies.

For further information about the Victorian Curriculum please see: <http://victoriancurriculum.vcaa.vic.edu.au/>

In Years 7 & 8 we have developed approaches to ensure teachers have extended opportunities to work with the same group of students.

- English and Humanities are taught by the same teacher as are Maths and Science.
- Students also undertake learning rotations through a range of other subjects which allow for broad learning experiences.
- Students also have the opportunity to select from German or Japanese as a language study.

Year 7 & 8 Learning Teams

- Each learning team contains 100 students.
- The learning team has a Team Leader.
- Each team has longer blocks of time with core teachers.
- The Learning Mentor is usually one of the core teachers.

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

Our year 7 students are required to purchase or bring an iPad for use at school. This is their own device and will travel from home to school in order to support 24/7 learning. We have established a partnership with our booklist supplier who can provide the iPad and accessories but parents are able to purchase an iPad from any provider if they prefer.

At the start of Year 7 we focus on building relationships with students.

Time is devoted to:

- Getting to know each other
- A student camp that allows teachers and students to build strong relationships, as well as an opportunity for parents to meet their child's teachers..



YEAR 7 & 8 CURRICULUM

STRUCTURE OF THE YEAR 7 & 8 CURRICULUM

In Year 7 and 8 all students are required to undertake a combination of studies from both the Core and Year 7 and 8 Art and Technology subjects offered.

Core studies must be studied by all students, for example, all Year 7 and 8 students study English and Humanities for 8 periods per week (ppw) and Maths and Science for 8 periods per week. Students also have the opportunity to study a Language subject, Music, Drama and Health and Physical Education.

Year 7 and 8 students rotate through Art and Technology subjects. The **rotational subjects** offered are: Ceramics, Home Economics, Technology – Electronics (Systems), Metal & Wood, Textiles - Clothing & Design, Visual Arts and Visual Communication & Design (VCD).

The following tables provide a summary of the Year 7 and 8 programs:

Year		Core Subjects			Languages	Music	Rotations	
7	Sem 1	English/ Humanities (8ppw)	Maths/ Science (8ppw)	Health and PE (5ppw)	Japanese or German (3ppw)	Music (2ppw)	e.g. Home Eco (2ppw)	e.g. VCD (2ppw)
	Sem 2	English/ Humanities (8ppw)	Maths/ Science (8ppw)	Health and PE (5ppw)	Japanese or German (3ppw)	Music (2ppw)	e.g. Visual Arts (2ppw)	e.g. Metal (2ppw)

Year		Core Subjects			Languages	Music/ Drama/ Health	Rotations	
8	Sem 1	English/ Humanities (8ppw)	Maths/ Science (8ppw)	PE (4ppw)	Japanese or German (3ppw)	e.g. Music or Drama (3ppw)	e.g. Ceramics (2ppw)	e.g. Textiles (2ppw)
	Sem 2	English/ Humanities (8ppw)	Maths/ Science (8ppw)	PE (4ppw)	Japanese or German (3ppw)	e.g. Health (3ppw)	e.g. Wood (2ppw)	e.g. Systems (2ppw)

Note: "ppw" refers to periods per week

SUMMARY OF THE YEAR 9 ARCH PROGRAM

YEAR 9 ARCH PROGRAM

When students reach year 9 they embark on a new educational experience. This innovative program has been developed to better meet the needs of young people who are living in a very different world to previous generations.

ARCH

Active in their learning

Resilient, prepared to meet new challenges

Connected to their learning peers and community

Happy about being at school

The ARCH Program improves student connectedness to learning by:

Know how & why they learn

We include 150 minutes a week devoted to **Thinking, Learning and Connecting** which is designed to enable students to be at the centre of learning. Students & staff develop a core set of values for each class which are also used to provide feedback.

Believe all people can learn

The goals of the program are to develop independent learners and build positive relationships and this applies to staff as well.

How we build a picture of the learner

We investigate learning preferences through various strategies including journal writing, community projects, mentoring, explicitly teaching thinking tools as well as using Hermann Brain Dominance Theory and the Myers Briggs indicator.

Higher order thinking tools to solve problems

The core subjects are run as interdisciplinary units. The themes relate to personal development, community connection, sustainability and the wider world. Learning is linked to real world problems and investigations.

Seek feedback & reflect on learning

Students give staff regular feedback through their weekly journal, we conduct student led interviews and students, staff and parents are able to share the learning journey.

Learning in a range of contexts

The program includes a full day each week where the teachers have their core group for the whole day. Much of the learning in year 9 is applied and students learn from their community, e.g. when studying forces students attend the Grand Prix, a unit focused on the wars allows students to visit the Shrine, RSL and the Prisoner of War memorial. There are a range of opportunities for students to learn in the community.

Developing positive relationships

Each teacher has 25 students they work with in the year level as the program is based on building & sustaining relationships

YEAR 10 – 12 CURRICULUM

The Senior Years curriculum is structured in such a way that students are able to pursue pathways which suits their individual needs, interests and abilities. Students who consistently demonstrate positive learning behaviours may select subjects from a higher year level.

For example, a Year 10 student may have the opportunity to study a Unit 1/2 sequence that leads to a Unit 3/4 sequence in Year 11, with the possibility of undertaking a university subject in Year 12.

At Year 10, students choose from a selection of courses that are provided within the Victorian Curriculum framework and are linked to students' interests and abilities.

Students can also undertake a School Based Apprenticeship (SBA) as part of their VCAL program in Year 11 & 12. This involves two days per week in the workplace and three days studying at school. SBAs will help to build students' employability skills and often lead to full time apprenticeships or employment.

Over the final two years students will complete a pathway to further study or employment. They may choose to do this through studying for the following certificates or combinations of certificates:

- VCE (Victorian Certificate of Education)
- VCE and VET (Vocational Education and Training)
- VCAL (Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning)

By using the flexibility that exists in the Senior Years curriculum it is possible for students to tailor a course that best meets the needs of their individual learning pathway.



MANAGED INDIVIDUAL PATHWAYS (MIPS)

The Managed Individual Pathways (MIPs) program assists students in Years 10, 11 and 12 with their transition from school to further education. Pathways may include university, TAFE, full time employment, apprenticeships and traineeships.

We support students with a wide range of careers resources to help navigate and simplify the many options young people have available to them, including;

- Developing and updating career action plans
- Researching university options and applying for courses
- Assisting students applying for part time and full time work
- Coordinate work experience and school based apprenticeships

Students are welcome to book pathways counselling sessions and can access the MIPS office before or after school, at lunch time or recess.

Parents are also welcome to call or visit us on any matters that relate to student pathways.

The MIPS team at Ballarat High School is Andrew Wallace and Pauline Pipkorn.

SUMMARY OF SUBJECTS AT YEAR 11 - 12

LEARNING AREA	YEAR 11 – Units 1 & 2	YEAR 12 – Units 3 & 4
ARTS	Art Media Studies Studio Art: (Drawing, 3D sculpture, Painting, Photography) Visual Communication & Design	Art Media Studies Studio Art: (Drawing, 3D sculpture, Painting, Photography) Visual Communication & Design
COMPUTING	Computing - Informatics	Computing - Informatics
ENGLISH	English English Language Literature	English English Language Literature
HAPE	Health & Human Development Outdoor & Environmental Science Physical Education	Health & Human Development Outdoor & Environmental Science Physical Education
HUMANITIES	Business Management History: 20 th Century History Legal Studies Philosophy	Business Management History: Revolutions Legal Studies Philosophy
LANGUAGES	Japanese German	Japanese German
MATHS	Foundation Maths General Maths: Further Maths Methods Specialist Maths	Further Maths Maths Methods Specialist Maths
PERFORMING ARTS	Music Performance: Solo Drama Theatre Studies	Music Performance: Solo Drama Theatre Studies
SCIENCE	Biology Chemistry Physics Psychology	Biology Chemistry Physics Psychology
TECHNOLOGY	Product Design: Textiles Product Design: Wood	Product Design: Textiles Product Design: Wood

SUMMARY OF COURSES AT YEAR 11 - 12

LEARNING AREA	YEAR 11 – Units 1 & 2	YEAR 12 – Units 3 & 4
VET	Agriculture Animal Studies Automotive Aviation Building and Construction Community Services Dance Electrotechnology Engineering Equine Hairdressing Health Services Assistance – Nursing Hospitality Information, Digital Media and Technology Media - Gaming Music Performance Music Technology Plumbing Salon Assistant Sport & Recreation	
VCAL	Literacy and Numeracy Skills Industry Specific Skills Work Related Skills Personal Development Skills	



SUPPORT STRUCTURES

PRINCIPAL

Mr Gary Palmer's role is whole school leadership, which includes teaching and learning and student wellbeing.

ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS - STUDENT ENGAGEMENT:

Mr Shane Mathison (Years 7-9) and Mr Ian Van Schie (Years 10-12) support students at risk, and focus on student wellbeing, and individual student learning plans within their year levels.

ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL - TEACHING AND LEARNING:

Ms Jessica Sargeant's role includes student pathways, how students learn and teaching staff development.

ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL - SCHOOL OPERATIONS:

Mrs. Michele Kennedy's role includes staffing, facilities, camps, excursions and the day to day operations of the school.

YEAR 7 & 8 TEAM LEADERS

Ballarat High School has five team leaders that are responsible for students in year 7 & 8. It is their job to ensure that students are given the opportunity to succeed in all areas of education whilst at Ballarat High School. Team leaders aim to ensure that students feel comfortable and happy and are able to concentrate on learning and participating in extra curricular activities. Team leaders are the first port of call for parents with questions regarding your child's learning program. Team Leaders are available to answer any questions or concerns. Where possible your child will have the same team leader for year 7 and 8. This is to ensure that we are developing enduring relationships.

YEAR 9

Year 9 student support remains with the core teacher and they are the first port of call for parents with questions regarding your child's learning program.

YEARS 10-12 LEARNING LEADERS

Learning Leaders are usually the first point of contact for parents. Two Learning Leaders are responsible for each year level which consists of approximately 250 students. Both Learning Leaders move up each year with the level which assists in fostering strong and meaningful relationships with students and parents. The Learning Leaders' role is to ensure each student is learning effectively and reaching their overall potential. They also lead a team of Learning Mentors who support students with academic achievement and social and emotional wellbeing. Learning Mentors meet with their students once a week.



STUDENT SERVICES

Student Services at Ballarat High School is a team of professional and dedicated staff consisting of:

- Inclusion Coordinator
- MIP's/Careers Team
- First Aid Officer
- Adolescent Health Nurse
- Youth Counsellors
- School Chaplain

The team specialises in helping students with their physical, intellectual, emotional and social wellbeing, including pathways and careers advice.

Students and families are welcome to approach any member of the team to assist in a variety of issues to ensure that students have support, understanding and direction. The Student Services Team can also refer to outside agencies should more specific assistance be required.

Student Services at Ballarat High School is supported through a number of policies and programs which aim to provide a positive and supportive school environment for all students. Some of these programs include, Resilience Building, Drug Education, Peer Support, Drum Beat, White Ribbon, Anger Management and Body Esteem.

If you would like to contact the Student Services Team, please phone the school on 5338 9000.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

LEADERSHIP AT BALLARAT HIGH SCHOOL

The history and traditions of Ballarat High School are grounded in developing the leadership qualities of all students that attend the school. Ballarat High School's priority is to develop leadership qualities and capabilities in all students. The school sees leadership and its underpinning attributes as being essential to successful personal outcomes both at school and in the broader community as a citizen and in employment. Ballarat High School provides students with a range of opportunities to develop their leadership skills including specific leadership programs, camps and seminars that further build on the foundations developed in the classroom learning program. The school's strong traditions and celebrations provide explicit opportunities for students to experience and participate in leadership through student leadership positions that extend from year 7 -12.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Each class elects a male and female student leader who will attend fortnightly meetings run by the year 12 leadership team. The role of the student leader is to communicate leadership information and represent the views of their class. Two student leaders from each year level will be selected as representatives on the student council. The role of the year level student leaders is to represent the students' views at student council meetings.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

SPORT

Each student will be placed into a sporting house. These houses will compete at athletics and swimming carnivals. There are also a wide range of other sporting opportunities. If you have any questions, please contact the Sports Director, Mr. Robert Simmonds.

Ballarat High School is a member of two sporting associations. The first is Ballarat Associated Schools (BAS), where most sporting events take place after school with the Swimming, Athletics and Cross country taking place during school time. We are also part of the Schools Sports Victoria (SSV) – Eureka Division. These Sports are all completed during school time. Wherever possible, if a student shows interest in a particular sport we attempt to include that student in a team. Our main emphasis is on participation and involvement. We encourage students to play on behalf of the school to enable them to become part of the school community and to identify with the traditions of the school. We also have a range of summer and winter sports, ranging from lawn bowls and croquet to tennis and cricket, just to name a few. The school offers rowing for both boys and girls, and maintains a fully maintained boat shed on Lake Wendouree. Twenty five boys and girls crews are entered in the annual Head of the Lake Regatta. For those interested in sport Ballarat High School has a sport to suit you.

SPECIALIST SPORT

Ballarat High School runs a Specialist Sports program which includes netball, basketball, football, badminton and athletics. This program caters for students who have been identified by sporting associations as 'talented' young men and women, with both the potential and application to be successful at an elite level. The school offers these students an opportunity to continue their education while at the same time, receiving specialist coaching in their chosen sport. Students have the ability to become involved in the Specialist Sport program from Year 7. The program includes a range of specialist parent evenings and a focus on developing all the talents and abilities of our students.



CAMPS & EXCURSIONS

Camps and excursions are a valuable part of the school learning program, and provide a range of social and practical experiences for students. Year 7 students participate in a two night, three day camp. This camp is run in the first weeks of year 7 and is an important part of the transition program as it focuses on getting to know each other. Year 8 students travel to Anglesea for a three day camp, based around trying adventure activities in a safe supervised environment.

GENERAL INFORMATION

GENERAL OFFICE

Students can make payments or general enquiries at the General Office before school, recess or during lunch time. The office is open between 8.15am to 4.30pm Monday to Friday.

CANTEEN

The canteen is open at recess and lunchtime and sells a wide range of healthy food.

LIBRARY

The Library provides a supportive environment for student study and recreational reading. Book enthusiasts might like to join Junior Book Club or share their reading interests via one of the library blogs. The Library is open for all students before school (from 8.40am) and after school for study: until 3.30pm Monday, 4.30pm Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and until 4.00pm Friday.



DEBATING & PUBLIC SPEAKING

All students are able to participate in debating as an extra-curricular activity through the South Street competitions which are held in Term 3 and through DAV competitions which are held throughout the year. All students may also participate in Legacy and public speaking competitions as representatives of the school. Year 7 students also participate in a public speaking competition, which is run as an inter-class competition in Term 4.

EDUMATE

Ballarat High School has an online learning management system called Edumate. This program allows teachers to place student assignments and homework on line which students and parents can access from home at their convenience. Student attendance can also be checked and other information about your child and the school, including school reports and assessment results.

SICK BAY

The school provides a fully operational sick bay, staffed at all times during the school day by our First Aid Officer. Robyn will attend to the medical needs of students and make immediate contact with parents where the need arises. If your child is unwell and would like to go home they must go through sickbay to contact home.

UNIFORM AND GENERAL APPEARANCE OF STUDENTS

Ballarat High School wishes to promote personal pride and a strong school identity through the wearing of our uniform. We believe that the purpose of maintaining a strict uniform code is:

- To create a sense of collective and individual pride in the students and their identification with the school.
- The image of the school benefits from the neat appearance of students all wearing correct uniform.
- Over a period of time, uniform is more durable and therefore more economical.
- Dress competition between students is eliminated, thus ensuring greater equality among students.
- Student safety is enhanced through the easy identification of our students on excursions and the detection of outsiders in the school grounds.

All students are required to be in full uniform during the School day, including travelling to and from School and on excursions, unless otherwise specified. On rare occasions when an item of uniform is not able to be worn, the parent/carer must furnish satisfactory written explanation and the student will be issued with a uniform pass, which they must carry throughout the day. Students out of uniform without the required permission and pass will be given a detention.

GENERAL APPEARANCE

- T-Shirts, skivvies and singlets, must not be visible under school shirts/blouses.
- Hair must be kept clean and tidy; rinses, tints and extreme fashion styles are not acceptable, and must be avoided. Students with hair below collar length must wear it tied securely for practical classes. This is an Occupational Health and Safety requirement.
- Black leather, lace-up shoes (traditional style) must be worn and should be regularly cleaned. Ballet shoes, slip-ons, sneakers, T bars and boots are NOT permitted.
- Students with pierced ears are permitted one small stud per ear. School Council has reaffirmed the policy and NO other body piercing jewellery is permitted.
- No jewellery is permitted apart from a watch and/or an SOS pendant.
- The only jackets permitted to be worn at School are either a school blazer or spray jacket.
- Students can wear a brimmed hat or cap in navy blue. The only logo or writing permitted on headwear is the school logo. The wearing of headwear in the buildings or classrooms is not permitted without specific permission.
- Only clear or natural nail polish may be worn. Only natural looking makeup is acceptable.
- Long sleeve shirts are always to be worn tucked in. Short sleeve shirts must also be tucked in when worn under a jumper/jacket/blazer.

STUDENT UNIFORM

GIRLS & BOYS UNIFORM

Approved School suppliers: Crockers, Lowes and Messer and Opie.

GIRLS' UNIFORM

BHS Specific Items (only available from our approved suppliers):

Winter Skirt	Monteith tartan, box pleated. Length, for student safety, is to be knee length
Unisex Shirt	Light blue long sleeved/short sleeved with school logo
Jumper	Green V-necked
Tie	Green striped (optional for wearing with the winter skirt)
Summer Dress	Gingham (knee length)
Socks	White with school colours band (with summer dress or shorts)
Navy blue pants/shorts	Worn with unisex shirt and navy socks or tights (pants only)
Blazer	Green (optional – can be worn instead of jumper)
Spray jacket	Blue (optional – can be worn instead of jumper)
Bags/Backpacks	Bags/backpacks (Backpacks have a padded pocket for iPads/Notebooks)

General Items

Tights	Navy tights (NOT black) are to be worn with the winter skirt
Ribbons	Blue or green should be used. White is acceptable with summer dress
Gloves/Scarves	A colour to match the school jumper
Shoes	Black leather lace up (traditional style)

BOYS' UNIFORM

BHS Specific Items (only available from our approved suppliers):

Trousers	College grey. Jeans and cotton trousers of various shades are not acceptable
Unisex Shirt	Light blue, plain long sleeved/short sleeved with school logo
Jumper	Green V-necked
Tie	Green striped. Tie must be worn at all times
Walk Shorts	Grey poly-cotton business shorts
Socks	Grey with school colours band
Blazer	Green (optional – can be worn instead of jumper)
Spray jacket	Blue (optional – can be worn instead of jumper)
Bags/Backpacks	Bags/backpacks (Backpacks have a padded pocket for iPads/Notebooks)

General Items

Gloves/Scarves	A colour to match the School jumper being worn.
Shoes	Black leather lace up (traditional style)

YEAR 12

Year 12 students wear the Ballarat High School navy blue VCE jumper and VCE navy blue tie.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION UNIFORM

Physical Education uniform is compulsory for all students. Students may not wear their PE uniform to school and must change back into their normal school uniform at the end of their PE/Sport classes, except if they have PE/Sport class period 6 they are permitted to wear their PE uniform home. The only track pants to be worn are the school track pants – Skins are not acceptable. Sports shoes (sneakers) with non-marking /white soles are required for use on the gymnasium floor.

Students representing the School in interschool sports competitions are required to wear the Physical Education uniform including the sports socks with the school colours band. Students selected into the Specialist Sport program need to speak with the Specialist Sport Co-ordinator prior to purchasing uniform as the requirements are different for these students.

- BHS rugby top
- BHS navy track pants
- BHS navy blue shorts
- BHS pale blue short sleeved sports shirt
- White sport socks with school colours band (optional)



CONTACT INFORMATION

BALLARAT HIGH SCHOOL

Address 1726 Sturt Street, Lake Gardens, VIC, 3355
Phone (03) 5338 9000
Email ballarat.hs@edumail.vic.gov.au
Website www.ballaraths.vic.edu.au

School Principal	Mr Gary Palmer
Associate Principal School Operations	Mrs Michele Kennedy
Associate Principal Teaching & Learning	Ms Jessica Sargeant
Assistant Principal Student Engagement Years 7 - 9	Mr Shane Mathison
Assistant Principal Student Engagement Years 10 - 12	Mr Ian Van Schie
Business Manager	Mrs Lesley Thorpe
International Students Liaison Leader	Ms Sarah Mackenzie



Ballarat High School is an innovative learning community committed to developing all individuals through positive relationships. We provide quality learning and diverse pathways to successful futures.

pride, respect and responsibility