Bunbury Cathedral Grammar School

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# School Immersion Experience

### A truly immersive EXPERIENCE

Bunbury Cathedral Grammar School offers international students in Years 7-10 the opportunity to join our community and participate in an immersion program designed to provide an experience of life in a unique Western Australian Secondary School. For some students, this may function as a 'taster' program when considering full-time study in Western Australia, or offer the chance to make new friends and experience Australian culture and nature. For others, it will provide an opportunity to develop or refine English language skills, alongside the adventure of travel to and around this beautiful part of the world.

Our Immersion Program is limited to 20 international students each term, with students staying for a minimum of eight weeks and a maximum of a full term (normally 10 weeks). Students in the program live within our Boarding community, which is situated in peaceful natural bushland and just a ten-minute drive from the City of Bunbury.

Students will participate in daily classes with their appropriate year group and are provided with additional English tutorials if required. Those with an interest and ability in music will be invited to audition to join a School musical ensemble during their stay and can also nominate to have individual tuition in their instrument. In addition to the standard program, each term provides various additional experiences, from camps and excursions to opportunities to participate in sporting seasons - these are listed below. The Noongar (Aboriginal) season that each term falls in is noted, as the best representation of how they evolve throughout the year.

### Summer Sojourn : Term One Bunuru (January - March)

Commencing at the end of January with the rest of the student body and concluding in March, these months are traditionally hot, and students will enjoy participation in many aquatic activities and Australia's famed outdoors-focused lifestyle. Specific activities that occur during this program are:

**Swimming** | With a program focused on improving students' ability and competency in the lead up to the Annual Swimming Carnival. Students will spend sport periods either at the local aquatic centre or nearby beaches.

**Cricket |** The Hawks, our sporting club, participate in a local cricket competition and international students can nominate to join a team.

**Summer culture |** Our Boarding staff run regular beach buses during the term and student enjoy evening barbeques by the beach as the sun sets in the west, over the Indian Ocean.

**Outward Bound |** Students entering Year 10 have the opportunity to take part in a ten day 'Outward Bound' camp experience, a 10day hike and exploration of the beautiful South West coastline. Students work alongside their peers to navigate and "survive", learning self-reliance, grit, and problem solving.





#### Autumn Adventure : Term Two Djeran (April - June)

As the autumn weather arrives, the South West experiences generally cooler temperatures but maintains its sunny days. Winter sports commence, and it is an ideal season for outdoor exploration. This term provides the following unique opportunities:

Winter Sport | Students who play Hockey and Netball can join the School's club, the Hawks, competing in either or both sports.
Cross Country | The School sport program focus is on running, as students prepare for the whole School Annual Cross Country Carnival, which is held in the middle of this term.
Discovery Week | In the final week of Term 2, students in Years 7, 8 and 9 take part in a weeklong program called Discovery Week. This provides a week of cross curricular and real-world education, with in-depth lessons and a focus on the Round Square ideals.
Margaret River Camp | Students who join the School in Year 9 will participate in the Year 9 Experiential Learning camp, which take place for one week in the Karri Forests of the South West. The region provides a stunning backdrop for our students to walk, camp, kayak and take part in rock climbing and high ropes.



### Winter Wanden : Term Three (July - September)

This program operates during Term Three, as winter descends. July, August and September are Western Australia's coolest months, and greater rainfall is experienced. It is a beautiful time to be in the South West as our forests flourish and rivers fill.

**Athletics** Athletics becomes a focus in our School Sport program, with students to improve their skills in various track and field events, in the lead up to the Annual Athletics Carnival held in August each year.

**Camp |** Students who join as part of the Year 7 or 8 program will participate in their Year Group Experiential Learning camp. The Year 8 weeklong experience enables students to enjoy a variety of challenging outdoor adventure activities, where firm friendships are often formed. The Year 7 camp duration is shorter, with similar activities spread over three days.

**AFL Experience |** During the winter months, Boarding students often travel together to Perth to watch traditional Australian Rules Football matches at the purpose built Optus Stadium.









#### Spring Burgt : Term Four Kambarang (October - November)

The final Term of our School year sees the return of warm weather, along with an abundance of colours and flowers exploding all around. It is known to Noongar people as the "season of birth".

Term four is typically academic and assessment focused for our students and teachers, but a shorter immersion experience can be facilitated in this time period. These programs are bespoke in nature, and will be developed upon request.



## How to make your APPLICATION

Students who wish to participate in an immersion program must complete the online application form. When completing the form, students need to submit a copy of their most recent School report (translated, if not in English) and a reference from a teacher highlighting the student's attributes and suitability for the program. Parents are also required to provide a statement detailing what has attracted them to the program and their reasons for applying. Applications must be completed by the required dates to be considered for the preferred program - late applications cannot be considered.

As the program is generally 8 weeks in duration, students can participate on a tourist visa. The program fee includes:

- Transportation to/from Perth Airport to Bunbury Cathedral Grammar School
- •All meals for the 8-week duration
- Accommodation in the School boarding facility
- Tuition fees, including the provision of dedicated English Tutorials and associated materials
- Provision of a loan uniform (if the student does not wish to wear their own School uniform)
- Provision of loan laptop to enable participation in classes

All flight costs, visa costs, overseas student health cover and additional onsite expenses are additional to the program fee and need to paid by the participant. A full list of required items will be shared prior to the program commencement, which will include an indication of expected additional costs.



To start your journey to BCGS, scan the QR code to visit our Overseas Student page For more information, please contact

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