



YERONGA STATE HIGH SCHOOL INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM

'Creating a World of Opportunities ...'

Welcome to Yeronga State High School!

International Program Staff

Name	Title	Contact
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Ms Maria Pudlyk	Homestay Coordinator	Phone: 3249 1467 Email: mpudl1@eq.edu.au
Ms Nicole Sadler	Teacher Aide	Email: nsadl0@eq.edu.au
Mr Song Huang	Chinese support teacher for International Students	Phone: 3249 1400 Email: shuan1@eq.edu.au

All International students have a “chill out” room. Students can heat up and eat their lunch, relax and read magazines, email family, do homework or have a chat to other international students.

Important Addresses

Education Queensland International Ground Floor 30 Mary Street BRISBANE QLD 4000	Phone: (07) 3513 5301 https://eqi.com.au/
Yeronga State High School 159 Villa Street YERONGA QLD 4104	Phone: (07) 3249 1400 Email: office@yerongashs.eq.edu.au https://yerongashs.eq.edu.au/ Facebook - https://www.facebook.com/YerongaStateHighSchool/ Instagram - @officialyerongashs
Department of Home Affairs 299 Adelaide St Brisbane QLD 4000	Phone: 13 18 81 https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-finder/study

Do you want to succeed at Yeronga State High School?

Here are some suggestions to help you!

How do I do this?

✓ Work Hard

Homework – A rough guide is to add 30 minutes to an hour to each of the times recommended for each year level for each night. When you are doing your homework, make sure that you are working in a quiet, comfortable, and well-lit place.

- ✓ If you don't understand something, get help quickly so it doesn't become a big problem.
- ✓ Try to make friends who will help and support you. One of the senior students will be your "buddy" (friend). Talk to your buddy regularly and ask him/her to help you with any difficulties that you may have.
- ✓ Have a balanced lifestyle. You need time to relax, exercise, go out with friends etc. Allow time each day and each week to relax, socialise with friends and engage in activities you enjoy. It's important to have a break from studying and to enjoy yourself with friends.



You may see students behaving in a way that is different from the way students behave at schools in your country.

It is quite relaxed but there are still rules and expectations:

- ✓ To arrive on time for classes
- ✓ To be prepared for classes (pens, paper, books, calculators, school diary, laptop etc.)
- ✓ To do your homework and assignments
- ✓ To attend school every day, unless you are unwell.
- ✓ To behave in a responsible way to others.

In your first few days at Yeronga, you may feel very confused. Try to be patient. There are a lot of people, staff and students, who are very happy to help you.

- 🚦 Each day begins at 8.45 a.m. and ends at 2.45 p.m.
- 🚦 The day starts with a care class and there will be 5 periods.
- 🚦 In each period, you have a different subject and teacher (e.g. English or Science).

Care Class

You have a care class teacher who will mark the roll to check on your attendance each day. Do say "yes" or "here" when your care class teacher reads out your name.

At School

Your care class teacher also tells you about important daily information called “Daily Notices”. Please listen carefully to your Daily Notices. Your care class teacher also checks that you are wearing the correct uniform.

Assemblies

You have a whole school assembly every Monday morning in the Cultural Centre and a Year Level Assembly once a week.

Timetables

Your timetable will be given to you on your first day.

Your timetable shows you the subject, teacher, and classroom to attend for your class.

All International students must attend an ISP meeting once a week. At this meeting, students can discuss problems with homestay, general problems, homework and assignments as well as seek advice about other matters.

Assessments

You will have to complete assessments for most subjects. Make sure you know the due dates and hand the work in on time. Sometimes you will have to take exams in the subjects you are studying – make sure you are prepared for them. EQI expects International students to make satisfactory academic progress in all their subjects. You will be asked to read and sign the “Yeronga State High School Assessment Policy” (Appendix A).

Tuckshop / Canteen

The tuckshop is the place you go to buy something to eat and drink. It is located at F Block. It is open before school, morning tea and lunch times. It sells a wide variety of food and drinks.

Appointments during School Time

Bring a note from your guardian/homestay parent or an appointment note from the doctor. Get an “Early Leave Pass” from the Student Services counter (D Block). When it’s time to leave school, show the “Early Leave Pass” to your teacher.

Valuables

Students should not leave their wallet, mobile phone, money, digital cameras etc. in their school bag. You can leave valuables at the Office and pick them up before you go home.

Smoking, Alcohol, Prohibited Substances

Government regulations forbid smoking within the school grounds. Cigarettes, tobacco, matches and lighters **MUST NOT** be brought to school.

Students must not smoke while travelling to and from school, or at any organised school activity or function.

Alcohol and prohibited substances are forbidden at school or at any organised school activity or function.

Textbooks

Textbooks are provided by the school and can be collected from the library.

The cost for hiring these books is included in your school fees.

You must return all the school textbooks at the end of the year in order to get your bond money back from EQI.

Attendance at School

You must attend school every day unless you are unwell.

If you are unwell, you should go to the doctor and get a "Medical Certificate".

When you return to school, you should give the Medical Certificate to Ms Haswell-Smith.

You are expected to attend all classes on your timetable.

You must read and sign the EQI Attendance Policy (Appendix B).

Other Costs

As an International student, you do not have to pay for compulsory excursions or trips for school purposes – the school will pay instead.

You will have to pay for optional trips or activities, e.g. Senior Formal, Camps.

Paying Fees

All Overseas Fee Paying students pay their fees to Education Queensland International (EQI).

When you have paid your fees, show the receipt to Ms Haswell-Smith.

EQI requires students to pay school fees for the whole year and homestay costs in advance.

Any students unable to pay in advance should contact EQI.

Visas

You cannot be enrolled in the school if your Visa is not current.

Make sure you know when your Visa expires and allow plenty of time to renew it.

To renew your Visa you will need to take your Confirmation of Enrolment (COE) letter and (issued by EQI) to the Department of Home Affairs.

If you need help, contact the Department of Home Affairs or Ms Haswell-Smith.

Most problems can be solved through discussions.

Medibank Private

You have a Medibank Private card to help cover some of the cost of medical treatment while you are in Australia.

Please read the Membership Guide for Overseas Student Health Cover.

Remember, when you go to a doctor or health provider (e.g. dentist or optometrist), you need to pay for their services and get a receipt. Take this receipt to a Medibank Private branch to get part of the cost reimbursed.

Your homestay or Ms Haswell-Smith can assist if you have any problems. You can also see the school nurse for any health concerns.

Change of Accommodation / Address

Before you change your homestay, you must immediately inform Ms Pudlyk that you would like to move and the reason why.

Homestay Accommodation

Homestay accommodation provides a safe and supportive environment while you are studying.

Be patient during your early days in your homestay. You and your homestay provider are learning to live together.

It is important for you and your provider to talk to each other.



What if I....	You should...
Can't find my class? Get lost?	Ask students / teachers around you, go to Student Services or go see Ms Haswell-Smith.
Feel sick?	Tell you teacher and go to Student Services.
Lose something?	Report it to Student Services.
Someone threatens to hurt me?	See Ms Haswell-Smith.
Have to leave school early?	Bring a note from your guardian to the office before school and get the "Early Leave Pass". When it's time to leave, show the "Early Leave Pass" to your teacher and he/she will let you out of class.
Come to school late?	Go to Student Services and get a "Late Slip".
Have been absent from school?	Go to Student Services with a note from your guardian/homestay parents or a Medical Certificate from the doctor.
Need to contact my homestay or parents urgently?	See Ms Haswell-Smith or Ms Pudlyk.
Have to bring money or valuable items to school?	See the office.
There's a fire or emergency at school?	Follow your teacher's instructions.
Have to see a teacher in a staffroom?	Knock on the door of the staffroom and ask to see the teacher.
Need to get a book out of the library?	Take your Student ID Card to the Loans Desk at the Library.
Need urgent advice when not at school?	Ring one of the emergency contact numbers on your Emergency Contact card.



Who Can Give You Support and Advice at YSHS?

The Principal	Mr Terry Heath	Problems in general
HOD International / Humanities / Languages	Ms Holly Haswell-Smith	All issues relating to VISAs and school.
Homestay Coordinator	Ms Maria Pudlyk	Issues with homestay and accommodation
International Student Teacher Aide	Ms Nicole Sadler	Language problems Problems with assignments and homework
Guidance Officer	Mr Brad Milford	Help with subject choices Career guidance
School Nurse	Ms Inga Clancy	Help with personal and health problems
Care Class Teacher		Problems with attendance
Subject Teachers		Problems with understanding class work or homework
Student Services		Help with late notes, paying excursion fees, ID card photos
Librarian / Teacher Aide		Help with finding an borrowing books

Health Issues for International Students

Emergency Only

If you need the Ambulance, Police or Fire Brigade in an EMERGENCY,

RING 000

Tell the operator what you need and what has happened. Do not hang up.

Remember, only ring 000 in a serious EMERGENCY

- ✚ If you feel sick at school, you should tell your class teacher or go to Student Services (D Block).
- ✚ If you fall sick at home, you should tell your homestay family and call the office at school. If the sickness continues you may need to see a doctor. Your homestay family will be able to recommend a doctor nearby.
- ✚ You can also google “Medical Practitioners around (your suburb)”. Ring the doctor’s office nearby to make an appointment. Always take your OSHC (Medibank Private) card with you to the appointment and ask the doctor for a “Medical Certificate” to give to Ms Haswell-Smith.

Medical Insurance

All International students currently studying in Queensland government schools must ensure they have current Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) (your Medibank Private) at all times. The OSHC helps to pay for medical bills while you are in Australia.

When you go to the doctor or health provider (e.g. dentist or optometrist), you should:

- ✚ Pay for the service
- ✚ Get a receipt
- ✚ Take the receipt and your OSHC card to a Medibank Private branch
- ✚ Part of the costs may be reimbursed.

School Nurse








A Registered nurse works at Yeronga State High School to help students with health and personal problems.

Information Brochures

Brochures about diseases, drugs, alcohol, sexual issues, contraception and mental health issues, are available at the Nurse’s room.

Yeronga State High School Assessment Policy

All students are expected to submit assessment work on time. Failure to hand in assessment work adversely affects progress and results. EQI students who fail to hand in assessment items will be dealt with as follows:

Action	Consequence
One assessment item not submitted	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Parents contacted  Assignment to be completed
Two assessment items not submitted	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Parents contacted  Assignment to be completed  Interview with Guidance Officer
Three assessment items not submitted	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Parents contacted  EQI informed

EQI Attendance Policy

Students enrolled in an EQI course are required to attend school on every school day. Schools regularly monitor student attendance and are proactive in identifying, notifying and assisting students who are at risk of not meeting attendance requirements. EQI reports students who have breached EQI's attendance requirements, as required by Australian law.

Excessive levels of absence can result in your Visa being cancelled.

All EQI students should read and fully understand the following.

Percentage of days absent (per 10 week term)	Action
Up to 5% (e.g. 2 to 3 days)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ School monitors and records student absences and ISC interviews student to ensure he/she is aware of consequences of non-attendance.
Up to 10% (e.g. 5 days)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ School writes to student (copy to Alliance/EQI) warning of the consequences. ✚ Meeting with the Guidance Officer. ✚ Parents contacted.
Up to 15% (e.g. 7 to 8 days)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ School writes stronger warning letter to student (copy to Alliance/EQI). ✚ Principal talks to student and asks student to make an appointment with Alliance/EQI. ✚ Parents contacted.
20% (e.g. 10 days)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ School advises Alliance/EQI in writing and student is reported to DIMIA (Department of Immigration) by Alliance/EQI. ✚ Parents contacted.

NOTE: All days absent are counted (except excursions) – **including those for which a medical certificate has been produced** and time lost through late return after a holiday or early departure.

I have read and understood the EQI Policy regarding absence from school and the Yeronga State High School policies on truancy and assessment.

I am aware of the implications for my Visa if I am absent too often, skip classes and /or fail to submit items for assessment.

I will make every effort to attend school on a regular basis, attend every lesson and to submit all assessment items on the due date.

Name: _____

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Yeronga State High School Truancy Policy

It is an expectation of Yeronga State High School and EQI that students attend all classes.

Skipping classes adversely affects academic progress and is disruptive to lessons.

EQI students who skip lessons will have to face the following consequences:

Action	Consequence
Skip 1 lesson	Make up the lost time after school on the following school day.
Skip 2 lessons	Make up the lost time after school on the following school day.
Skip 3 lessons	Make up the lost time after school on the following school day. Parents contacted. EQI contacted - issue "at risk" warning.
Further skipped lessons	Recommendation to EQI that student be asked to show the reason why their Visa should not be cancelled.

Code of Conduct for International Students

- ✚ Follow and respect the school rules.
- ✚ Follow and respect the homestay provider's household rules.
- ✚ Show consideration and courtesy for the homestay family.
- ✚ Ensure a suitable home / bed time is negotiated.
- ✚ Let your homestay provider know where you are going and with whom. If you are going to be late or if you are going to miss meal times, please call them and advise them at a reasonable time.
- ✚ Obtain permission from the homestay provider before inviting friends home.
- ✚ Obtain permission from the homestay provider and Ms Haswell-Smith before accepting invitations to sleep over at a friend's house.
- ✚ Provide your homestay provider with an address / phone number to enable them to contact you should an emergency arise.
- ✚ Negotiate use of computer / internet facilities.
- ✚ A fee is required to hold your room while you are away on holidays. \$120 ?? during Christmas and full homestay fee applies during your holidays.
- ✚ If you are absent from school or you're going to be late, you must provide a letter / note from your homestay family.
- ✚ You should not treat homestay as a service for you. You must respect your homestay provider and their position. General cleaning is your responsibility. Helping out in the kitchen and being an active member of the family is expected.
- ✚ There are three important Visa conditions while you are a student in Australia.
 - You are required to achieve satisfactory academic standards each term.
 - You are to attend school every day (sick days must be covered by medical certificate).
 - EQI and DIMIA (??) need to know your address and contact numbers at all times.
- ✚ You must follow school rules relating to attendance, performance, travelling and behaviour etc. A copy of the school rules will be given to you at the commencement of your course.
- ✚ You must obey the Australian laws and regulations.
- ✚ You must notify Ms Haswell-Smith if you drive a car to school.

Homestay Rights and Responsibilities

Homestay provides a warm, friendly and safe environment for students studying in a different country/culture. Both provider and student must work at the relationship for it to succeed.

STUDENTS...

- ✚ Respect that you are in their home – don't just feel like you are paying for a service.
- ✚ Communication is vital. The provider needs to know where you are at all times. If you are going out, e.g. won't be home for a mean, give the provider prior notice. If you will be late, ring and explain. Leave a number where you can be contacted. Respect the house rules – don't put the provider in a situation where they'll be worried or concerned.
- ✚ As you talk with your homestay family, your English understanding and pronunciation will improve. Your understanding of Australia will also increase and your association/relationship with the family will develop.
- ✚ Communication is vital.

Living in Brisbane

Brisbane is the bustling capital of Australia's Sunshine State, Queensland and it is the perfect place to learn and experience marvellous new things.

Here are some of the reasons why International students love studying and living in Brisbane.

- **Brisbane is a safe and welcoming city**

Brisbane is a warm city in more ways than one. Perhaps thanks to the city's relaxed vibe, locals are generally incredibly friendly, easy going and open-minded – so you're sure to have many opportunities to make local friends if you study in Brisbane.



- **Brisbane is a multicultural melting pot**

An advantage of living in one of the world's most multicultural countries is the variety of food and activities at your doorstep. The city's diverse and inclusive community is reflected in its extensive calendar of events and festivals held throughout the year including the popular Paniyiri Greek Festival, multicultural food festivals like Regional Flavours and BrisAsia festival. Here at Yeronga we have a biennial event where we celebrate multiculturalism and everything that brings us together as a community. [Click here](#) to watch our Yeronga Celebrates video.



- **Brisbane is Australia's most sustainable city**

Brisbane is well and truly on its way to becoming a world leader in sustainability. There's more than 2000 parks and more than 2500 species, making Brisbane Australia's most biodiverse city.



- **Brisbane is affordable**

Brisbane has one of the lowest costs of living in comparison with other Australian cities – from transport to accommodation to meals. That doesn't mean there's a compromise in quality though – it just means that your dollar will go a lot further living in Brisbane than in our southern counterparts.

- **It is easy to get around**

Commuting to and from classes has never been so simple. It takes only 9 minutes on the train from Yeronga SHS to Brisbane City. Our school can be accessed by both train and bus, which has proven to be very convenient for our international students. Secondary students aged 15 years or older are eligible for a concession fare. School students aged 5 to 14 years fall under the child concession category. To receive a concession fare, students must carry an approved Queensland student photo identification card, or wear an official Queensland school uniform. Brisbane students receive a 25% discount on bike hire with CityCycle. There's also a free CityHopper ferry to jump between the city, South Bank and Kangaroo Point.



- **Weekend trips**

Brisbane's international students spend the weekends exploring rainforests, beaches, islands and waterfalls. There are also lots of amazing weekend markets around Brisbane.



- **Sunshine**

Everyone just loves the weather, and with 283 days of sunshine, who wouldn't?!

- **The Arts and Culture scene is exciting**

Don't forget to explore Brisbane's major cultural institutions, including the impressive Gallery of Modern Art, the Queensland Museum and Science Centre (which showcases Queensland's science, culture and natural histories), Brisbane Powerhouse, and the Maritime Museum. The impressive Wheel of Brisbane in South Bank offers 360-degree panoramic views for those brave enough to go to the top!

