

SCOTCH COLLEGE Boarding School

Melbourne, Australia



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SCOTCH
COLLEGE
MELBOURNE

FOUNDED 1851

Boarding life is characterised by the formation of enduring friendships. Students share in each other's joys, successes and disappointments. They are challenged to appreciate the strengths and individuality of others, and they begin to establish their own personal goals and visions for the future.

Scotch College has an outstanding reputation for the standard of its academic program and extensive sporting, outdoor and cultural activities. Enrolment in the Boarding School at Scotch provides boys with an education of the highest standard in combination with accommodation in a caring, well equipped environment. The boarding lifestyle represents an integrated, comprehensive package for the education of a student from the country or overseas.

THE BOARDING HOUSES

On the 'Hill' overlooking the Scotch Senior School, the College's 160 boarders live in one of three separate boarding houses: School House, McMeckan House and Arthur Robinson House. The houses are set around a broad drive and are surrounded by trees and beautiful, well manicured gardens.

Good supervision

Each of the three boarding houses is well staffed. Houses are under the direction of a Head of House, who is a member of the teaching staff and resides in the house with his family. Two single members of staff are also resident in each house, with two other staff members living with their families in flats and houses nearby. The resident House Matron looks after laundry, sewing and basic first aid. Overall responsibility for 'The Hill' rests with the Dean of Boarding, who meets regularly with the Heads of Houses. In all, there are about 20 members of staff providing care and encouragement for boarders.

Where do boarders come from?

Some 70% of boarders are from rural Victoria and southern New South Wales, about one third of them being farmers' sons. Of the remaining two thirds, most come from families who depend on the rural sector for their livelihood.

Approximately one third of boarders are from overseas. Some are sons of expatriate Australians living in South East Asia and elsewhere; others are sons of families from countries such as Singapore, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Thailand, China and Brunei. Boarders are members of almost every class, sporting team and interest group in the Scotch Senior School. By virtue of the diversity of experiences that boarders bring with them, this group of boys makes an enormous and essential contribution to the character of the school.

FACILITIES

Boarders are able to use the College's excellent facilities to their fullest potential. The Library and Computer Centre remain open on weekdays from 8.00 am to 5.00 pm and the extensive school grounds and most of the sporting facilities are available for use by boarders during leisure hours.

With artificial grass tennis courts, an indoor heated swimming and diving pool, squash courts, weight training room, gymnasium, basketball courts and over 27 hectares of grounds, boarders have the best back yard in Melbourne in which to expend their energy.

Bedrooms and studies

In Years 7 to 11 boys sleep in small dormitory groups, with the numbers in each dormitory reducing as boys advance through the College. Boarders complete their homework either in 'Prep. rooms', where each boy has his own desk and bookshelves arranged in small private cubicles, or in study areas beside their beds. Year 12 students have their own single study bedrooms.

Music practice rooms

Many boarders learn musical instruments and make use of the College's practice rooms, located either in the boarding houses or in the nearby Music School.

Computers

To meet the challenges of the curriculum at the senior levels and to ensure work is of the highest standard, most Year 11 and 12 students at Scotch purchase their own lap-top computers. Younger students use the school's well-equipped Computer Laboratories in their lessons. Computers, printers and Internet access are provided in the Boarding Houses.

Recreation rooms

There are recreation rooms in each house, providing comfortable areas for conversation, listening to music or reading. Table Tennis tables and Billiard tables in the 'rec.' rooms are well used. A separate area is provided for television viewing, which features a home theatre system and cable television.

Kitchenette

Each house also has a kitchenette, equipped with microwave, refrigerator, toaster and electric kettle. Boys may use the kitchenette for preparing beverages and light snacks for supper, if they wish.

Laundry

A laundry is located in the boarding house complex and is operated on weekdays by College staff. Boarders are not required to do their own washing and ironing; dirty clothes are left by the boys in conveniently located laundry bags and the cleaned clothes are returned to each boy's pigeonhole. Sewing is also performed for the boys by the House Matron or her assistant. No extra charge is made for these services.

Some boarders also make use of an inexpensive dry cleaning service.

Shopping centre

A small shopping centre is located one block from the College, down Glenferrie Road. These shops, which include a small supermarket, post office and newsagency, allow boarders to purchase incidental items such as stamps, birthday cards, sweets, toothpaste and the occasional take away snack.

Leave to visit these neighbourhood shops, known as 'street leave', is readily obtained on weekdays after school and on weekends.

Telephones and email

Parents are provided with the telephone numbers and email address for the Head of House, Matron and Duty Staff, as well as for student telephones. Documents can be sent to boys by facsimile if required.

When telephoning home, phone cards or reverse charge calls are often employed.

CARE

Academic assistance

Homework is supervised on week day evenings by the Head of House or one of his assistants. Help is never far away, whether from a member of staff, an older boy, or from a student in the same year level. There is a structured approach to study to

ensure all students perform to the best of their ability.

Many of the College's finest students are boarders. Most Scotch students continue their studies at higher levels. The two most popular tertiary institutions are the University of Melbourne and Monash University and the courses selected by the boys are diverse, including commerce, engineering, science, law and medicine.



Meals

All meals, breakfast, lunch and dinner, are served in a communal dining hall adjacent to the living accommodation. The food is of high standard and is prepared in a modern kitchen, staffed by professional chefs and their assistants.

Every endeavour is made to ensure that each boy receives a balanced diet and there is sufficient quantity for healthy appetites. Consultation with a dietitian takes place regularly. Boys with special food requirements are catered for within limits and all meals are supervised by several staff members.

Medical

The College doctor holds clinics on one morning and one afternoon each week. He is also available on request and, together with other consultants used by the College, provides a full range of medical services to ensure the health of boarders. The boarders' health centre is well equipped, with a six bed

ward, convalescence room, doctor's consulting room, dispensary and accommodation for the nursing sisters. A nursing sister is resident on the Boarding School campus, during weekends and from 8am to 9pm each weekday. Whenever boys are admitted to the health centre parents and/or guardians are contacted as quickly as possible.



Full fee paying overseas students are covered by the Australian Government's Overseas Student Health Scheme. Documentation for this scheme and payment of the annual subscription are organised by the College. The scheme covers 85% of the scheduled fee for a consultation with a doctor and full cover in a shared ward in any public hospital.

Boys who are Australian Residents and Permanent Citizens are covered by the national health insurance scheme, Medicare. They may take out additional private insurance if desired.

Chemist supplies

Located within easy walking distance of the College, the local chemist provides a source of medical items, which are credited to a boy's school account.

Banking

Each boarding house has its own banking system, allowing boys access to pocket money as needed. This provides a safe deposit, an advisory control over boys' spending, and gives the Head of Houses knowledge of boys' expenditure.

Travel

The College's Accounts Office can arrange the purchase of tickets for travel by bus, plane and train, eliminating the inconvenience for a boy making a trip to the City. The Office will also arrange for the processing of concession forms.

Boys can travel to the airport using taxis, if they are in a hurry, or they can take the tram or train to the City and catch the airport Skybus.

Uniform

Two uniform supply shops are located just a short distance by tram from the school. Boarders may arrange for their uniform requirements to be credited either to their College account or to a private account of their parents, eliminating the need to pay for individual purchases by cash.

THE WEEKDAY ROUTINE

Boarders rise at about 7.00 am, in time for breakfast in the Dining Hall between 7.20 to 8.15 am. Following breakfast, there is time to gather books, before strolling down the Hill in time for the start



of school at 8.35 am. The boys return for lunch in the dining hall, departing for further classes that begin in the afternoon.

When lessons conclude, many students are involved in sports training. Others may go to the Library or Computer Centre for further study or return to the Boarding House. After changing

into casual clothes, they may continue to work, or relax with friends, listen to music or practise musical instruments.

Dinner commences at 6.00 pm. and is followed by a study period, between 7.00 pm and 8.45 pm. The boys may then relax, perhaps with a cup of hot chocolate or coffee in their house's recreation room. If necessary, they may decide to continue with their studies, from 9.30 pm until lights are turned out.

Each house holds a meeting at 8.45 pm most nights. All boys get together to hear announcements, any congratulations to individual boys and other housekeeping matters.

Bed time varies from 9.20 pm for Year 7 to 10.30 pm for Year 11. Since Year 12 students have their own rooms, they can study until late in the evening when examinations and deadlines for assignments are imminent.

WEEKEND ACTIVITIES

All boys appreciate the break in the busy weekday routine that a weekend provides. There is plenty of activity on weekends. Whilst older boys often have homework to complete and may need to study for forthcoming exams and tests, there is much more for boarders to do:

Interschool sport

On Saturday mornings, College sporting teams of all age groups compete against teams from other private schools. Most boys participate in this sporting program and up to 20 different sports are catered for, at different levels of ability. Scotch has an outstanding reputation for sportsmanship and success in these competitions.

Movies

Each Saturday evening a recently-released movie is shown in one of the Houses. The television rooms in each house are fitted with large screens and high quality sound equipment.

Melbourne City

Because Scotch College is located only a short train or tram ride from the centre of Melbourne, Australia's second largest city, boarders have the opportunity to be exposed to and benefit from its cultural life.

Large groups frequently go to the sporting events, theatre, art galleries, special exhibitions and the cinema, often at a cost considerably less than normal. Boys may also obtain City leave on weekends for these activities, either individually or in small groups.

Visiting friends

Where parents have given permission for boarders to visit friends resident in Melbourne, Heads of Houses grant leave for these visits on Saturday afternoons or on Sundays.

Leisure sports

Weekends are often a time for informal games between boarders. Boys might choose to play Tennis, or perhaps kick a football on one of the school ovals.

The Glenn Centre, the College's indoor sporting complex, is open on both Saturday and Sunday afternoons. Boarders may swim in the heated swimming and diving pool, under the supervision of duty staff, or use the other facilities of the Centre for a game of Squash, Basketball, Badminton or Volleyball.

Weekends away

The G H Owen Lodge is located in an isolated mountain bushland setting 20 km south of Mansfield, a small town in central Victoria at the foot of the Australian Alps. Built and maintained by boarders and parents, up to 20 boys can at any one time spend their weekends at the Lodge. Under the supervision of a staff member employed specifically for this purpose, they can ski, ride horses and mountain bikes, hike, become involved in water sports on nearby Lake Eildon or simply enjoy the fresh country air with friends.



Dances

Boarders are often invited to dances conducted by local private girls' and co-educational schools. Heads of Houses ensure that arrangements for transport and other details are appropriate. Socials are also held at Scotch.

Dancing classes for Year 10 boys are held on Thursday evenings, in conjunction with girls from local schools such as the Methodist Ladies' College. The boarders have their own annual Boarders' Dance.

Chapel

All boarders attend Chapel each Sunday evening, helping to remind boys of the spiritual dimension to their lives.

Social service work

Each year boarders assist charities in the area with major fund raising appeals.

Boarders' revue

The annual musical revue provides an opportunity for boarders to display their theatrical talents. The presentation varies in style from year to year, but involves acting, singing, backstage work and co-operative activity that the boys find thoroughly enjoyable.

WEEKLY BOARDING

'Weekly Boarding' places are available for students wishing to stay in the Boarding House on Monday to Thursday nights and return home for weekends.

LEAVE

Boys are normally resident on week days. Dinner leave on weekdays is available for parents visiting Melbourne.

On Saturdays, boys are usually granted leave for approved activities once their involvement in school activities (eg. sport) is completed. They might, for example, join a group going to the theatre, a movie or the football. Alternatively, they might visit friends of whom the parent or guardian has previously approved.

Extra Saturday night leaves are also available when parents can collect and return their son to the boarding house. This extra leave allows parents access to their sons when they are in Melbourne. When parents approve, overnight leave may also be granted on other occasions. For overseas students, a guardian can act as a parent in this regard.

There is one long weekend of three or four days three times in the year, called an 'exeat', in which all boarders leave the Boarding School. The exeat provides boarders with a change of routine and country boys use the opportunity to visit their parents. Overseas students usually stay with friends in Melbourne, or travel with country boarders to their homes.

One weekend a term is a 'closed' weekend for inter-house activities. Overnight leave is not granted for this weekend as various excursions and competitions take place as each house tries to win the coveted Wedderburn Cup.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships are available for entry at Year 7 and Year 9 and provide exemption from tuition fees and, in some instances, boarding fees. Some scholarships are means tested and are for students whose parents would not otherwise be able to send their sons to the school.

ADMISSION

Enquiries should be made to:

Dr Chris Commons

Director of Admissions

Phone +61 3 9810 4203



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