

## **School Profile**

Monbulk College was established in 1962, is a single campus Year 7-12, co-educational college, with an enrolment of 620 students and has a SFO index of 0.43. It is located 50km east of Melbourne in the picturesque Dandenong Ranges in the heart of the Horticulture Industry with many parents/students working in this field. Hospitality and Tourism are also large employers in the area.

The college is located in a small and relatively isolated community with limited access to public transport. The location of the college 2kms outside the township means a large proportion of students travel by school bus to attend the college at a significant cost to parents. After-school programs are limited to those students who are able to make other travel arrangements and activities have to be run within the time frame of a normal day at school. The college currently operates its own mini bus to enable students to access other environments and broaden their experiences.

Students attending the college are almost exclusively Anglo Saxon but come from a range of socio-economic backgrounds. Of the 620 student enrolments, 130 are in receipt of the Educational Maintenance Allowance and 43 students are in receipt of Youth Allowance as based on family income.

Monbulk College provides a broad curriculum. In addition to offering a wide variety of VCE studies, the College offers the Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (including School Based Apprenticeships) and Vocational Education & Training (VET) courses in Horticulture and Multimedia. Extra curricula programs are strong within the college and are valued by parents and students. The College has a well-established transition program, runs an Instrumental Music program, an ADVANCE program with emphasis on Lifesaving, Road Safety Education, has sister schools in Japan and Germany and runs a successful volleyball program.

Monbulk College is committed to maximising educational opportunities for all students, striving for ongoing improvement and enhancing our links with the wider community. Recently developed Year Level Teams are an important focus of the college. The teams facilitate improved professional practice, and take on responsibility for improved Literacy and Numeracy outcomes.

Provision of well being support within the college is extensive. The Student Welfare Coordinator works with a welfare team consisting of an Adolescent Health Nurse, an Educational Psychologist, a Social Worker and a Youth Worker. Preventative and support programs such as Expect Respect and Seasons for Growth are delivered by the team to different year levels and to targeted groups. Individual counselling support is also available for all students at the college.

Parents participate in a range of areas within the college; at School Council, working bees, course counselling interviews, parent teacher sessions and Information Evenings. Information about school policies and curriculum programs are available on the web and we regularly seek parent feedback via the Parent Opinion survey, and other school based surveys covering a range of issues.