



Optima Semper - *Best Always*





FRANKSTON HIGH SCHOOL



# PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

I would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which Frankston High School sits, the Boon Wurrung people, and pay my respects to their elders past, present and emerging.

Welcome to Frankston High School, a school of high performance where our exemplary learning culture is reflected in our school motto, **Optima Semper: Best Always.**

Frankston High School opened in 1924 and has a wonderful tradition and rich culture which has continued to evolve during the past 97 years. We are very proud of our outstanding reputation of academic and personal excellence, along with providing many opportunities for student success in our acclaimed Sports, Music, Drama and the Arts, Languages and Student Leadership programs. We actively seek and respond to student voice across all levels of the school, combined with valuing feedback from parents and our staff to ensure we continue to develop our wonderful school.

All members of our community work together to always demonstrate our best. We have dedicated teachers who reflect on the impact of their teaching and collaborate with others to provide excellent learning experiences, students who are empowered to take responsibility for their learning and meet our high expectations, and parents who value education.

Our priority is to educate young people, so they have the knowledge and skills necessary to contribute positively to both their local and global community.

These skills include collaboration, communication, creativity, critical thinking, independent learning, leadership, resilience and problem solving. Our graduates leave well equipped with outstanding VCE results and a readiness to make their mark on the world.

The health and wellbeing of our students is supported across all year levels with a variety of programs including pastoral care and a focus on respectful relationships. We celebrate diversity and being inclusive of everyone.

We have some outstanding facilities and purpose-built learning spaces across both campuses including our STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) Centre, Music Centre, Sports Stadium with a full gymnasium, Swimming Pool and a recently completed state of the art Performing Arts Theatre.

We are very proud to be part of the community of Frankston. I welcome you to come and see for yourself our wonderful learning community and look forward to meeting you on a school tour soon.

Andrew Batchelor  
**Principal**



# | TRANSITION

Frankston High School is very happy to welcome new students, whether they are Grade 6 students transitioning into Year 7 or students transferring into Years 8 - 12. Please feel assured that all students and staff are eager to help new students settle in as quickly as possible. This provides them with an immediate sense of belonging to our caring community, enabling them to take advantage of the excellent educational opportunities on offer.

Our new Year 7 students are given exceptional care and support through our Tutorial Program. In tutorial time, students take part in many games and activities which help them get to know each other as well as the school. Our Tutorial Program is based around The Resilience Project with its three 'gems': Gratitude, Empathy, Mindfulness. It aims to build each student's resilience and enables them to lead happier, more productive lives. Year 7 students also attend a camp at the beginning of the year which assists them in building ties with their teachers and helps them to make new friends, not just from their tutorial group, but from across Year 7.

New students entering Years 8 - 12 are also warmly received. They are matched up with buddies and shown around the school. We connect them with people and programs that can assist in furthering their interests and talents. Students at Frankston High School are very friendly and supportive and new students soon feel a part of the Frankston High School community.



# JUNIOR SCHOOL

Our Junior School is comprised of students in Years 7 and 8. It provides an exciting and challenging transition from primary school to high school. Students are able to experience subjects like Science, Geography, History and Information Technology in depth and take part in new subjects such as Drama, Food Technology, Woodwork and STEM. This broad range of subjects gives them a taste of many areas of study which assists them in narrowing down their choices in future years.

Whilst in the Junior School, students are also strongly encouraged to take part in the many extracurricular activities provided, whether it be sport, music, leadership or one of a number of other offerings. This helps them to cement friendships that can last a lifetime.





## | MIDDLE SCHOOL

Middle School consists of Years 9 and 10. It varies considerably from most other schools as it is built around an extensive elective program. This program is set up to ensure all students not only receive a broad education but are able to capitalise on their strengths and interests. It is designed around vertical groupings which allow the school to cater more effectively for individual differences. There are a number of advanced classes and Year 10 students are strongly encouraged to undertake a VCE subject. Not only does this prepare them better for Years 11 and 12, it also assists in maximising their ATAR score at the end of Year 12. Accelerated and advanced classes are offered in Mathematics, English, Leadership, French, Japanese and Physical Education to suitably gifted and talented students.

To further enhance the Middle School Program, Year 9 students take part in MEGAR (Mindfulness, Empathy, Gratitude, Acceptance, Resilience) Week which assists them in focusing on their own health and wellbeing and enables them to make more informed and responsible decisions. At the same time, Year 10 students participate in Work Experience. This is a very significant opportunity for students to “test out” possible career options. These programs, amongst many others, assist in developing young people who are both knowledgeable and active in designing their own futures in the 21st Century.

Aviation, Outdoor Education and STEM are only three examples of the exciting subjects students can study as a part of Frankston High School's Middle School program. Middle School students can learn the physics of flight, use flight simulators and ultimately have their first flying lesson through Frankston High School's Aviation Program. Outdoor and Environmental Studies provides students with a range of opportunities to teach students to value and protect our natural environment, some of which include hiking, canoeing and skiing. The STEM program operates from the school's state of the art STEM Centre and allows students to explore the exciting world of science, technology, engineering and maths.





## | THE SENIOR YEARS

The Senior School at Frankston High School includes students from Years 11 and 12 and embraces the VCE (Victorian Certificate of Education), VCAL (Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning) and VET (Vocational Education and Training) courses. We are the only school on the Mornington Peninsula with a designated Senior Campus, an adult learning environment, with a strong culture of academic excellence.

The VCE curriculum encourages students to extend themselves and pursue their interests by accelerating into subjects in the next year level. Most of our Year 10 students accelerate into Unit 1 and 2 VCE by undertaking a study in an area of interest. Similarly, most students accelerate into a Unit 3 and 4 VCE study in Year 11. Selected students have the opportunity to undertake a University Enhancement Study in Year 12.

VCAL is an approach that emphasises the relevance of what is being learnt to the real world outside the classroom. At Frankston High School we offer both Intermediate and Senior VCAL classes. Subjects studied in VCAL include: Literacy, Numeracy, Work Related Skills and Personal Development Skills. Students undertake a structured work placement throughout the year.

We have a close partnership with Monash University and through our Schools Access Monash Program, students access a wide range of aspirational opportunities and activities regarding university education and career pathways.

Each year students are awarded a wide array of prestigious scholarships including the Kwong Lee Dow Scholarship to the University of Melbourne and the Australian Defence Force Long Tan Leadership Awards.

We are very proud of our results and the large number of students who complete Year 12, achieving excellent results to enter their preferred tertiary education or vocational pathway. The school offers extensive careers counselling and support services to maximise the learning opportunities for all students.

High expectations amongst staff and students, and a collaborative work ethic among staff, students and their families, ensure a strong focus on success in our Senior School. Our focus is to ensure that every student is given every opportunity to achieve their very best.



## | THE ARTS

Displays of amazing artworks throughout the buildings and grounds are a great tribute to the brilliance of our Arts Program. Year 12 students' final pieces are often shortlisted and selected for Top Arts and Top Designs exhibitions indicating that the quality of work is amongst the best in the state. This is also true in Photography and Music Performance. Junior School students have the opportunity to experience all areas of Art. Students in Middle School can choose from a range of engaging Art electives including Advanced Drawing, Architecture, Photography, Costume Design, Experimental Art, Film Making and Sculpture. This prepares students for selecting from a range of VCE subjects: Studio Arts, Visual Communication and Media.

Annually we have a great celebration of student art and design at the Creative Works festival where final products are exhibited from all year levels. It attracts art enthusiasts from far and wide to view the many varied pieces which include paintings, photography, film, sketching, sculpture and products made from wood and allied materials.

The Drama, Music and Visual Arts Faculties also work together each year to produce a well known musical. This is an excellent way to showcase student talent to the local community. Recent productions include Legally Blonde, Seussical, Matilda and Fame.







## | MUSIC

The Instrumental Music Program is one of the highlights of Frankston High School. More than 200 students from Years 7-12 play a wide range of musical instruments and perform regularly at local, state, national events and on occasion perform overseas. Our bands compete each year in the Victorian Schools Music Festival and regularly receive the top awards. Many students have been introduced to Instrumental Music in Year 7 and have discovered it to be a passion which will continue with them throughout their lives. For some it becomes their profession. Most importantly, involvement in the bands is an excellent way to enhance a student's resilience, empathy, mindfulness, leadership and self-expression. Band membership is an excellent way to promote supportive and cooperative friendship between students of all ages as our more experienced students act as mentors for the younger members of our program.





## | TABLET PROGRAM

Frankston High School is a Microsoft Showcase School and a leader in the use and application of technology in education. Our school has a 1:1 Hybrid Tablet Notebook Program and embedded pedagogy to support the successful program.

Frankston High School has a long history of hybrid laptop use and was the first government school in Australia to utilise personal laptop computers as learning devices and the first to introduce tablet notebooks to maximise student learning outcomes.

Along with our staff expertise, Frankston High School's technological infrastructure allows our 1:1 Hybrid Tablet Notebook Program to thrive, providing true '24/7' learning opportunities, anywhere in the world for all staff and students.



## | STUDENT LEADERSHIP

At Frankston High School, our SLC (Student Leadership Council) has a strong history of being actively involved in the decision making processes of our large dual campus school. We have an active membership of approximately 90 students from Years 7–12. Within the SLC we have Year Level Captains. Each year the school elects two School Captains and two Deputy School Captains from the Year 12 cohort. Our School Captains attend School Council meetings and use their position to represent the student body.

The SLC meet once a week, often as a whole, or in small cross year level groups led by the Year 12 SLC students. These subgroups have various focuses including student voice and agency, social events, leadership training, fund raising, wellbeing, engendering school spirit, running whole school assemblies, supporting international and new students and improving student facilities.

To further promote the development of leadership skills, we have introduced The LEAD (Leadership Education And Development) Program at Year 9. Selected students are involved in a semester length unit focused on expanding students' independence, creativity and problem-solving skills as well as emphasizing effective teamwork and community engagement. The students in this select entry class are empowered to create real change in their community. A recent example of a student led initiative is the Chill Out and Look About campaign, created after the tragic death of a classmate in an accident while he was riding home from school. The students who were involved were awarded the Frankston City Council Community Event of the Year Award in 2021.





## | SPORT

Frankston High School has a long history of excellence in Sport at the local, state, national and international level. We are recognised for our outstanding participation, programs and success which we continue to achieve in both individual and team sports. Previously we were Sports Victoria State Athletics Champions for 16 years in a row, then runners up for six years before regaining the title in 2019. With these championships and team performances at State Swimming and Cross Country Frankston High School has earned the title of being one of the top sporting schools in Victoria.

Our Semper Squad Program is our most recent innovation. It engages interested students in a high quality training program run by top local coaches and experienced staff. This program offers students before school training sessions with each term having a different focus. It allows our students to develop their personal fitness and learn skills which will significantly benefit their participation in other sports of personal interest. Whilst this is a highly specialised program, it is open to all interested students, regardless of their ability level and we offer Athletics, Cross Country, Swimming, AFL, Cricket, Netball, Basketball, Volleyball, Tennis, Rowing, Table Tennis and Strength and Conditioning.

The Sport Program at Frankston High School aims to provide all students with the opportunity to participate in a wide range of sporting activities. We are very successful in getting all students involved in our sporting program and finding sports that they can particularly enjoy.



# BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Students at Frankston High School have access to a broad array of extracurricular activities, designed to stimulate interests, passions and to build a strong sense of connectedness. Surf Lifesaving program not only provides students with valuable training but gives them the skills to become active, valued members of local lifesaving clubs. They are able to earn their Bronze Medallion as well as compete in state wide lifesaving events. Students can take part in events such as the Great Victorian Bike Ride and Human Powered Vehicle, fun ways to stay healthy in body and spirit. The school camp program includes Year 7 Orientation Camp, outdoor education ski and hiking camps and the Year 11 Central Australia Tour. Excursions extend student learning beyond the classroom, with a range of excursions undertaken each year. These may include visits to the Melbourne Zoo, the Sea Life Melbourne Aquarium, the local courts, art galleries, Cape Schank, Sweetwater Creek, various museums across Melbourne and scuba diving in the bay.





# INTERNATIONAL CONNECTIONS

A global approach to teaching and learning is demonstrated by our strong international connections. Our sister schools in Japan and France ensure regular student exchanges and biennial visits between schools. Frankston High School also has a special relationship with Frankston's sister city in Japan, Susono. These programs give our students valuable insights into other customs and cultures. As a result of the school's highly regarded International Program, our classrooms are enriched by international students from countries around the world who choose to study at Frankston High School. Many of our local students also access other student exchange programs to undertake study abroad.

World Challenge is another very exciting program giving Frankston High School students the opportunity to participate in an extended visit to South East Asia. The expeditions teach life skills and expand minds outside the classroom, during a demanding four week journey through areas of breathtaking beauty and astonishing poverty. Built into the expedition is a range of community project work such as teaching English in an orphanage or undertaking construction projects in a school. This unique expedition is one of the most exhilarating and rewarding experiences available to high school students.



*Together we become  
purposeful learners*



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EMPATHY

INTEGRITY

OPTIMISM

PERSISTENCE

RESPECT

RESPONSIBILITY