

**VICTORIAN YOUNG LEADERS TO CHINA PROGRAM – Discovering and Learning in China**

**Presentation to Parents and Students**

2018

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**PROGRAM INFORMATION**

**The VYLC Program**

What is the VYLC Program?

* A life-changing opportunity for Victorian Year 9 students
* A world class 6-week immersion program in China, one of Australia’s main trading partners
* A program that develops young leaders through immersive discovery and learning
* A program that provides the opportunity for students to:
	+ Discover and learn Chinese language, culture and life
	+ Build a foundation to learn, live and work in a global community
	+ Discover their potential as future leaders and global citizens
* A program that engages with high performing host schools in Nanjing (Jiangsu), Shanghai and Chengdu (Sichuan)

**The VYLC Program**

How the program has already transformed young lives:

* Since 2014, over 500 Year 9 students from 46 schools across Victoria have participated in the program
* Shared experiences from three previous State-wide intakes are available to read online at [www.education.vic.gov.au/youngleaders](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/youngleaders)
	+ March-April 2015
	+ August-September 2014
	+ March-April 2014
* Inspirational participant video testimonials from a previous State-wide program are also available to view online at [www.education.vic.gov.au/youngleaders](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/youngleaders)

**The VYLC Program**

How the State Government is helping:

* The VYLC Program is a State Government initiative to help transform Victoria into the Education State
* The program is costed at $13 million to enable 1,500 Victorian Year 9 students and 150 teachers travel to China over 5 years
* The program aims to develop Victorian secondary schools into world leaders in learning and development

**STUDENT PARTICIPATION**

**VYLC Program Participation**

Who can participate in the VYLC Program?

* Available to Victorian secondary schools
	+ Government, Catholic and Independent
* Students intending to enrol for Year 9 in 2017:
	+ Current Chinese Second Language Program (Year 9 level) at their school; OR
	+ Schools with an active sister school partnership in China;

OR

* + Individual students studying Chinese language
* Each program consists of 6 weeks duration in China

**VYLC Program Highlights**

* Sample in-country program highlights may include:
	+ Experiencing daily life as a Chinese student
	+ Attending Chinese language classes, either continuing or introductory
	+ Attending cultural classes
	+ Attending selected local classes
	+ Participating in excursions to key tourist attractions such as The Great Wall
	+ Participating in a cultural tour to a local town or regional city
* In-country accommodation which can be either school dormitory or home stay

**Eligibility – State-wide Program**

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| --- |
| **VYLC Program – Schools Undertaking State-wide Program** |
| School application |
| * Students enrolling in Year 9 in 2018
* Continuing learners of Chinese second language
* One teacher to accompany up to 10 students
 |
| **Intake 1**: March/April 2018 |
| **Intake 2:** October/November 2018 |

**Eligibility – Sister Schools Program**

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| **VYLC Program – Schools Undertaking Sister Schools Program** |
| School application |
| * Students enrolling in Year 9 in 2018
* Prospective and/or continuing learners of Chinese language
* Victorian secondary schools with an active sister school partnership in China
* One teacher to accompany up to 10 students.
 |
| ​Individual Victorian school to determine their program dates during 2018 |

**Eligibility – Individual Student Overseas Language Study Grant**

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| **VYLC Program – Individual Students Applying for Overseas Language Study Grant** |
| Individual student application |
| * Students enrolled in 2017 or intending to enrol in Year 9 Chinese Second Language in 2018 at a Victorian secondary school
* Continuing learners of Chinese
* Individual students
* Program delivered by a registered Secondary Exchange Organisation
 |
| ​In conjunction with a registered Secondary Exchange Organisation, individual students determine their program dates during 2018 |

**PROGRAM COSTS**

**VYLC Program Costs**

What does the VYLC program cost parents of participating students?

* The VYLC program, including all core program elements, is costed at $6,000 per student. Core program costed inclusions for all three program options cover:
	+ All travel arrangements, including return airfares and visas
	+ Travel insurance for government schools
	+ Accommodation and meals
	+ Activities organised by the Chinese partners
	+ Student uniform and curriculum materials
* The core program costs are funded through a co-contribution model:
	+ DET contributes $3,000 per student
	+ Parents contribute the other $3,000
	+ DET funds the entire $6000 program cost for students whose parent/guardians holds a current healthcare or pensioner concession card that lists the student by name. (Please note that fully funded places are capped at 25% of total places for the sister school partnership program.)
* Additional incidental costs for students and their parents:
	+ Any incidental travel-related costs, such as vaccinations, passport and spending money, are the responsibility of participating students and their parents
	+ Any costs associated with an extended stay beyond the six week program for participating students (This is only possible for the Overseas Language Study grant program model).

**STUDENT PARTICIPATION BENEFITS**

**VYLC Program - Student Benefits**

* Improved Chinese language proficiency – written, practical and conversational
* Greater aspiration to continue Chinese language studies through to VCE
* Heightened appreciation of contemporary China, its culture and history, educational and political landscape
* Broader international perspective on their future careers, with a focus on China
* Greater intercultural understanding and sensitivity
* Personal development and foundation skills for leadership development – interpersonal, presentation, self-confidence, self-sufficiency, resilience
* Real sense of achievement and recognition

**STUDENT ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

**Student Roles and Responsibilities (State-wide Program)**

* All participating students are expected to adhere to the VYLC Student Code of Conduct
* During the program, participants are expected to:
	+ Attend and enthusiastically participate in all scheduled activities including:
		- A full weekend pre-departure overnight orientation camp
		- Any information sessions organised by their school
		- A six week immersion program in China
		- A post-program forum organised by DET
	+ Engage with and learn about the Chinese culture
	+ Develop their Chinese language proficiency
	+ Represent their school and country with integrity and professionalism
	+ Strive to develop their personal and leadership skills
* Upon their return, participants are expected to:
	+ Become Chinese culture and language ambassadors at their school and within their region to help share their learnings
	+ Engage with other students and the broader school community to promote the benefits of the VYLC Program and encourage others to participate
	+ Assist DET in the promotion of the VYLC Program through blogs, presentations, testimonials and videos
	+ Participate in evaluation of the program

**Student Roles and Responsibilities (Sister Schools Program)**

* All participating students are expected to adhere to their school’s Student Code of Conduct
* During the program, participants are expected to:
	+ Attend and enthusiastically participate in all Sister School organised and scheduled activities
	+ Engage with and learn about the Chinese culture
	+ Commence their introduction to the Chinese language or continue to develop their Chinese language proficiency
	+ Represent their school and country with integrity and professionalism
	+ Strive to develop their personal and leadership skills
* Upon their return, participants are expected to:
	+ Become Chinese culture and language ambassadors at their school to help share their learnings
	+ Engage with other students and the broader school community to promote the benefits of the VYLC Program and encourage others to participate

**Student Roles and Responsibilities (Overseas Language Study Grant)**

* All participating students are expected to adhere to the expectations of the registered Student Exchange Organisation
* During the program, participants are expected to:
	+ Attend and enthusiastically participate in all Chinese host school organised and scheduled activities
	+ Learn about the Chinese culture
	+ Develop their Chinese language proficiency
	+ Represent their school and country with integrity and professionalism
	+ Strive to develop their personal and leadership skills
* Upon their return, participants are expected to:
	+ Become Chinese culture and language ambassadors at their school to help share their learnings
	+ Engage with other students and the broader school community to promote the benefits of the VYLC Program and encourage others to participate
	+ Participate in evaluation of the program

**FAQS**

**FAQS**

* How are students selected to participate in the VYLC Program?
	+ Selection for both State-wide and Sister School Program options, are conducted at the individual school level either by the school principal and/or school program liaison officer
	+ Apart from financial capability and availability to participate in the six week program, other selection criteria may include:
		- Student demonstration of developing maturity and leadership inclination
		- Student enthusiasm about learning more about the Chinese language and culture
* How are teachers selected to participate in the VYLC Program?
	+ Selection for both State-wide and Sister School Program options, are conducted at the individual school level by the school principal
	+ Apart from availability to participate in the six week program, other selection criteria may include:
		- Teacher experience in the area of student management and organisation of international activities and trips
		- Teacher demonstration of a collaborative and nurturing approach to student engagement
		- Teacher commitment to professional development
* How can principals communicate with the accompanying teachers?
	+ Principals and accompanying teachers are able to communicate on a regular basis via email or via phone on an as needs-basis
* How are health and safety issues managed?
	+ The accompanying teacher will have primary duty of care, for State-wide and Sister Schools program options
	+ Participants in the Overseas Language Study Grant program should check with the relevant Student Exchange Organisation
	+ Pre-travel vaccinations should be organised with the participant’s own medical practitioner

**FAQS**

* What about travel insurance?
	+ Travel insurance is organised for DET as part of the State-wide program and the Sister School program for participating Government schools, for both teachers and students
	+ Non-Government schools in all programs should organise their own travel insurance
	+ Students participating in the Overseas language Study grant should check with their registered student exchange service provider about insurance arrangements
* What are the VYLC Program expectations of participating students?
	+ All participating students are expected to abide by the Program Students Code of Conduct
	+ Details are included under Roles and Responsibilities slides
* How can parents communicate with students?
	+ Student communication with their parents is restricted for the first 2 weeks of the State-wide program. Communication between parents/guardians both in China and in Australia will be conducted at a set time during the week. The set time will be determined by the teachers and will be communicated in advanced.
	+ Student and teacher communication with parents will be determined by the individual schools participating in the Sister Schools program
	+ Student communication with their parents will be determined individually for participants in the Overseas Language Study Grant program
* How is risk managed?
	+ DET has developed the VYLC Risk Management Framework for the State-wide program, which is managed centrally by DET and approved by School Council
	+ The VYLC Risk Management Framework is a minimum standard but can be added to meet the needs of participating schools
	+ Risk is managed by the Student Exchange Organisation for participants in the Overseas Language Study Grant
* How are families eligible for the full funding?
* Students whose parent/guardians hold a current healthcare or pensioner concession card that lists the student by name are eligible for full funding of entire $6000 program costs. (Please note that fully funded places are capped at 25% of total places for the sister school partnership program.)

**NEXT STEPS**

**What I need to do next as a parent**

1. Obtain initial information about the 2018 VYLC Program from your child’s school
2. Discuss the 2018 VYLC Program being offered through your child’s school, with the school principal or nominated school liaison officer
3. Determine if this VYLC program is suitable for your child, and which option best suits their needs
4. Ensure you read the full details at [www.education.vic.gov.au/youngleaders](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/youngleaders)
5. Ensure you review and understand the financial contribution requirements or are made aware of funding for healthcare and pension concession cardholders.
6. Ensure your child understands his/her student roles and responsibilities as a program participant
7. Remember to organise incidental travel requirements, such as vaccinations, passports and travel insurance (if required), for your child
8. If your child intends to participate under the individual student Overseas Language Study Grant Program, you must contact a registered Student Exchange Organisation (SEO) directly

**Further Information**

For full program details including program overview, program information flyer for parents and students, application forms, shared experiences from previous program intakes, and student/teacher video testimonials, see:

[www.education.vic.gov.au/youngleaders](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/youngleaders)

**THANK YOU**

For all enquiries, speak to the school principal or school liaison officer, or visit [www.education.vic.gov.au/youngleaders](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/youngleaders)