

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

**Presentation to School Principals**

Department of Education and Training

FOR 2018

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**THE VYLC PROGRAM**

**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 and Shanghai

**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 previous three 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 previous State-wide programs 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 State Government initiative is valued at $13 million and will 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

**PARTICIPATION OPTIONS**

**VYLC Program Participation**

Who can participate in the VYLC Program?

* Available to Victorian secondary schools
	+ Government, Catholic and Independent
* Students enrolled or intending to enrol for Year 9 in 2017:
	+ Current/Prospective Chinese Second Language Learners (Year 9 level) at Victorian school
	+ Schools with an active sister school partnership in China; OR
	+ Individual students studying Chinese language
* The 2017 VYLC Program offers three program options for greater flexibility and opportunity to participate:
	+ State-wide Program (school groups of 1 teacher per 10 students)
	+ Sister Schools Program (school groups of 1 teacher per 10 students)
	+ Overseas Language Study Grant Program (individual students)
* Each program consists of 6 weeks duration in China

**The VYLC State-wide Program**

The State-wide program includes a structured schedule consisting of:

1. Briefings for principals and teachers
2. A pre-departure overnight orientation camp
3. A six week in-country immersion program experiencing daily life as a young Chinese student:
	* 2 weeks language and cultural program in a university setting
	* 4 weeks in-school program, including language and cultural classes, attending selected local classes and participating in school and extra-curricular activities organised by Chinese partner school
	* Participating in excursions to nearby and key tourist attractions
	* In-country accommodation is typically campus accommodation or school dormitory
4. A post-program forum to:
	* Share their experience and learning
	* Reflect on the impact of the program on their learning, personal development and their interaction with the wider community

**Sample State-wide, In-country Itinerary**

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| **Week 1** | **Location** | **Sample Itinerary** |
| 1 - 2 | Beijing Foreign Studies University (Beijing) | Chinese language classesCultural classes and historyVisits to cultural attractions – The Great Wall, Forbidden City, Tiananmen Square, Hutong, Temple of Heaven, The Summer Palace, Chinese acrobatic theatre and Silk Market |
| 3 | Group A: Ganquan ForeignLanguages Middle School(Shanghai)Group B: Nanjing No.1Middle School (Nanjing)Group C: Yangzi HighSchool Affiliated to NanjingNormal University (Nanjing) | In-school program consisting of:• Chinese language classes• Morning exercises• Cultural classes• Attend regular subjects: Maths, Science, English, PE, Arts and Music• Self-study• Home visits – Buddy time (Weekends)• Day trips to nearby Nanjing attractions - Confucius temple, The City Wall, Xuanwu Lake, Yangzhou etc.• 2 day Cultural tour – Suzhou and Shanghai |
| 4 |
| 5 |
| 6 |

**The VYLC Sister School Program**

The VYLC Sister School program consists of:

* A tailored program developed in conjunction with and hosted by your school’s Sister School in China
* A program that aims to deepen friendships with your Sister School
* A program that builds language interests and proficiency, intercultural understanding and leadership skills
* Sample in-country highlights for Sister Schools program:
	+ Experiencing daily life as a young Chinese student
	+ Attending Chinese language classes, either continuing or introductory
	+ Attending cultural classes
	+ Attending selected local classes
	+ Participating in excursions to nearby attractions
	+ Participating in a cultural tour to a local town or regional city
* In-country accommodation which can be either school dormitory or home stay

**The VYLC Overseas Language Study Grant Program**

This program option is aimed at students who are seeking an immersion experience but whose school is not participating in the State-wide or Sister School options:

* This program is ideal for individual students of Chinese language
* It is a short-term program of a minimum of 6 weeks delivered by a registered Secondary Exchange Organisation
* Sample in-country highlights may include:
	+ In-country orientation program
	+ Accommodation with a Chinese host family
	+ Attending a local Chinese school
	+ 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 nearby cities and regions in China with host family
* Accommodation is typically a home stay with a local Chinese host family

**VYLC Options, Eligibility and Dates**

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| **VYLC PROGRAM OPTIONS** |
| **State-wide program** | **Sister School Partnership** | **Overseas Language Study Grant** |
| School application | School application | Individual student application |
| *“Organised for schools by DET makes it simple and easy.”* | *“Opportunity to further build Sister School partnerships.”* | *“Opportunity for individual students who otherwise couldn’t participate.”* |
| **Eligibility:*** Victorian secondary schools offering Chinese Second Language Program (Year 9) in 2018
* Students enrolling in Chinese Second Language Program Year 9 in 2018 as continuing learners of the subject (completed Years 7 and 8 level)
* One teacher to accompany up to 10 students (1:10 ratio)
 | **Eligibility:*** Victorian secondary schools with an active sister school partnership in China
* Students enrolling in Year 9 in 2018 who are prospective and/or continuing learners of Chinese second language
* One teacher to accompany every 10 students (1:10 ratio)
 | **Eligibility:**Individual student:* enrolling in Year 9 Chinese second language at a Victorian secondary school in year of proposed VYLC program
* continuing learner of Chinese language
* completed Years 7 and 8 Chinese second language studies
 |
| **Program duration:** 6 weeks in China  | **Program duration:** 6 weeks in China (minimum 4 weeks in-school program) | **Program duration:** minimum 6 week Chinese language program in China |

**COSTS AND MANAGEMENT**

**VYLC Program Costs**

What does the VYLC program cost schools and parents?

* 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, incl. 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.)
* For the State-wide and Sister Schools program options:
	+ DET will contribute $5,500 for the accompanying teacher costs

**VYLC Program Additional Costs**

There may be other incidental costs not included in the core program elements:

* Additional costs for schools:
	+ Any teacher replacement costs are the responsibility of the participating schools
	+ Any operational costs for schools participating under the Sister School Partnership Program
* Additional costs for parents/teachers:
	+ Any incidental travel-related costs, such as vaccinations, passport and spending money, are the responsibility of participating students and their parents, and participating teachers
	+ Any extended stay costs beyond the six week program for participating students and teachers

**VYLC Program Management**

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| **PROGRAM OPTION** | **PROGRAM MANAGEMENT DETAILS** |
| **1. State-wide Programs 2018** | * The International Education Division (IED) manage all program funds
* DET will manage key operational requirements.
 |
| **2. Sister School Partnership Program 2018** | * The participating schools will manage all program funds from DET and co-contributions from parents.
* The participating schools will oversee all program expenditure and operational requirements.
 |
| **3. Overseas Language Study Grant Program 2018** | * The individual student's parents/guardians will manage all program funds including receipt of student grants from DET.
* The individual student's parents/guardians will also oversee all program expenditure and organisational requirements, in conjunction with a registered Student Exchange Organisation (SEO).
 |

**PARTICIPATION BENEFITS**

**VYLC Program - Student Benefits**

* Improved 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

**VYLC Program - Teacher Benefits**

* Unique opportunity for personal and professional development in chosen field of educational expertise
* First hand insights and understanding of social, historical and cultural diversity of China
* Knowledge and understanding of drivers that shape teaching and learning in China’s high performing education system
* Opportunity to develop and reflect on professional practice and thinking within an international context

**VYLC Program - School Benefits**

 Positive impact on school reputation and development:

* Exchange and learn from high-performing schools in China
* Build on forward-thinking and innovative reputation
* Attract and retain teaching staff
* Attract greater local and international enrolments
* Recognition from participation in prestigious and aspirational State-wide program
* Increased opportunities for other partnerships and developments in international education

Increased language curriculum expertise:

* Foundation group of teachers acquiring and being advocates of greater Chinese literacy and cultural understanding
* Greater appreciation of the value of learning Chinese in an interconnected world
* Chinese language advocates back in the school community
* Collective learning will benefit other Chinese language students in the school who have not participated in the program
* Increased interest and enrolments in Chinese language classes in Years 7, 8 and 9 through to VCE

**ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

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

* All participating students are expected to adhere to the VYLC Program Student Code of Conduct
* During the program, participants are expected to:
	+ Attend and enthusiastically participate in all scheduled activities including:
		- A pre-departure overnight orientation camp
		- Any information session 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 VYLC program evaluations.

**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 them to participate

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

* All participating students are expected to adhere to the expectations of the registered Secondary Exchange Organisation
* During the program, participants are expected to:
	+ Attend and enthusiastically participate in all Chinese school organised and scheduled activities
	+ Learn about the Chinese culture
	+ Develop their Chinese language proficiency
	+ Represent their school and country with integrity
	+ 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 them to participate

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

* Primary duty of care
* Attend VYLC State-wide Program pre-departure overnight orientation camp, six week program in China and post-program forum
* Conduct regular briefing and debriefing sessions with students and maintain regular parent/school contact during the six weeks in China
* Participation in in-country professional learning and investigation

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

* Primary duty of care
* Attend any school and Sister School organised or scheduled activities, including pre-departure, in-country and post-program
* Conduct regular briefing and debriefing sessions with students and maintain regular parent/school contact during the six weeks in China
* Participation in in-country professional learning

**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, eligibility 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 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 School 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 if I have a number of students that are low SES?
* 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.)**
* 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 should organise their own travel insurance
* What are the VYLC Program expectations of participating students?
	+ All participating students are expected to abide by the program Student 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?
	+ IED has developed a risk management framework for the State-wide program, which is managed centrally by DET
	+ A risk management template is available to participating schools to tailor to their needs and manage themselves
	+ Risk is managed by the Student Exchange Organisation for participants in the Overseas Language Study Grant

**INFORMATION AND SUPPORT**

**Further Information**

For full program details including program overview, program information flyer for principals, 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)

**Further Information – Schools**

Information for principals and teachers:

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

Principals’ enquiries to the International Education Division by email vylc@edumail.vic.gov.au

**Marketing Support**

* DET has developed a suite of marketing support materials to help inform principals, teachers, parents and students, and help schools to promote the program to parents and students
* These marketing and promotional tools can be found at [www.education.vic.gov.au/youngleaders](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/youngleaders):
	+ Program information flyer for principals (downloadable PDF, Word document)
	+ Program information flyer for parents and students (downloadable PDF, Word document)
	+ Poster to promote Information Session for parents and students (downloadable PDF, Word document)
	+ PowerPoint presentation for principals and/or school liaison officers to use at information sessions to parents and students (editable PowerPoint)
	+ Shared experience blogs from previous program participants (read online)
	+ Video testimonials of three students and a teacher from the 2016 program (view online)

**HOW TO APPLY**

**How to Apply**

Application forms

* + 2018 State-wide Program
	<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/Documents/about/programs/cultures/vylcstatewideappform.pdf>
	+ 2018 Sister School Partnership Program
	<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/Documents/about/programs/cultures/vylcsisterschoolsappform.pdf>
	+ 2018 Overseas Language Study Grant Program
	<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/Documents/about/programs/cultures/vylcolsgappform.pdf>

**NEXT STEPS**

**What Schools need to do**

1. Review the VYLC Program options to determine your school’s eligibility and the most suitable program option for your school
2. Nominate a school liaison officer for the 2018 VYLC Program
3. Get the full details from [www.education.vic.gov.au/youngleaders](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/youngleaders)
4. Enquiries to the International Education Division by email vylc@edumail.vic.gov.au
5. Inform eligible students and parents – Chinese language class announcements, information sessions, marketing tools
6. Make a schools application for the 2018 VYLC Program **before Wednesday 2 August 2017**

**What schools need to communicate to parents**

1. Inform and promote the 2018 VYLC Program to Chinese language students and their parents
2. Discuss with interested parents/students the 2018 VYLC Program option suitable for the school or students’ circumstances
3. Ask them to read the full details from [www.education.vic.gov.au/youngleaders](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/youngleaders)
4. Ensure parents review and understand their financial contribution requirements
5. Ensure students understand their roles and responsibilities as a program participant
6. Remind parents to organise incidental travel requirements for their child
7. If participating under the individual student Overseas Language Study Grant Program (OLSG), ask the parents to contact a registered Secondary Exchange Organisation (SEO)
8. Confirm the student’s participation for the VYLC Program, either with your school (for 2018) or a registered SEO (2017 or 2018 for OLSG) within stated timelines.

**THANK YOU**

For all enquiries, visit [www.education.vic.gov.au/youngleaders](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/youngleaders) or email vylc@edumail.vic.gov.au