



INTRODUCTION TO
WILLIAMSTOWN
HIGH SCHOOL

WILLIAMSTOWN
HIGH SCHOOL



HISTORY

Established in 1914, Williamstown High School is a co-educational government secondary school located in Melbourne's inner west. We acknowledge the Bunurong People, the Traditional Owners of the land on which the school sits. Both our Bayview Street Year 7-9 and Pasco Street Year 10-12 campuses, uphold our strong traditions alongside programs to prepare learners of today for the future. Our values promote integrity, innovation and the individual, and we pursue optimum learning outcomes for each of our students in a supportive, inclusive environment.

The historical importance and traditions of both Williamstown and our High School are valued by the community and are reflected in our crest which shows the anchor and motto "Hold Fast".



WELCOME TO WILLIAMSTOWN HIGH SCHOOL

We are a school that celebrates the growth and achievement of our students, works continuously to develop and enhance our dynamic learning culture and observes the vibrancy and strength of our wider school community. Our school values promote the ideals of integrity, innovation and the individual.

- **Excellence** and **creativity** in our achievement and ambitions.
- **Integrity** and **honesty** in our actions and relationships.
- **Diversity** in our curriculum, in each other and in our community.
- **Strong and open** communication between our school and our homes, and between our teachers, students and our families.
- A **commitment** to social justice and a passion to protect and improve our environment and our community.



We enjoy a strong sense of community, working together to develop supportive and strong home-school partnerships, breadth and depth in our extracurricular activities, a strong student leadership program and outstanding performances in the arts, debating and sporting achievement. We encourage the highest standards of our students in their diverse pursuits for personal excellence. We celebrate outstanding academic results and focus on the development of the whole person at Williamstown High School.

We support students to explore their pathway from Year 10 and of our graduating class of 2021 that applied to the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC), 92.31% received an offer. Our dux of 2021 achieved an Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR) of 99.95, the highest possible.

Gino Catalano

Gino Catalano
Principal
Williamstown High School


STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

School Wide Positive Behaviour Support

Our School Wide Positive Behaviour Support framework allows us to create and enrich a positive and safe learning environment that continues to enhance our school culture, where we value individual academic and social growth. We have three core behavioural expectations that are explicitly taught to all students through formal social skills instruction. They are:

BE SAFE BE A LEARNER BE RESPECTFUL

Our matrix simplifies what our behaviours should look, sound and feel like.

 WILLIAMSTOWN HIGH SCHOOL POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR EXPECTATIONS					
	USING LEARNING SPACES	IN THE SCHOOL GROUNDS	OUT IN THE COMMUNITY	WHEN USING ICT	ALL LOCATIONS
BE RESPECTFUL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listen to others Let others learn 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Put litter in the bin Look after our equipment and facilities Share the space 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be considerate of the public Represent the school with pride 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make positive contributions Obtain informed consent before sharing or posting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use good manners Encourage and support others Follow staff instructions
BE A LEARNER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strive for excellence Be organised Participate positively 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take part in school events Contribute to a clean and tidy environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be a positive role model Support the community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use the internet as a learning resource Follow the WHS Acceptable Use Agreement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respect personal space, privacy and property Ask for help Wear school uniform correctly
BE SAFE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enter and exit in an orderly manner Work cooperatively 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay within designated areas Be sun smart 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Abide by road rules Use public transport with care 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect personal information Take care with my digital tattoo Report cyberbullying 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report misuse and damage Maintain appropriate noise levels Demonstrate WHS values

Our School Uniform

We aim to promote inclusion, a sense of belonging and citizenship within our school community through appropriate and respectful wearing of our school uniform. Our uniform inspires positive attitudes and a confident school culture which flows over into learning areas and our local community.

Our Uniform Policy has been developed and is supported by our School Council and our uniform options are developed to be popular with our students as well as practical and value for money. We have a school and Health and Physical Education uniform as well as uniform for our Accelerated Sports Program

Williamstown High School's uniform provider is Dobsons and we have a uniform shop on the Bayview Campus.

Our Year 12 students have a unique jumper in their final year, to symbolise their senior school identify and to recognise senior leadership as an important value of the school.





Digital Learning

We must equip students with the skills to utilise technology responsibly and empower them for life long learning. We choose a 1 to 1 provisioning model and implement a Bring Your Own Device BYOD program. BYOD refers to where students bring a personally owned school approved device to school, configured to meet their personal likes, learning and individual needs. BYOD is part of the school's overall learning strategy to personalise the curriculum and learning for our students. This also allows students to move their learning seamlessly between home and school and other learning environments.

We are an eSmart, school, an initiative of the Alannah & Madeline Foundation, where the smart, safe and responsible use of information and communications technology is a cultural norm. Our students, teachers and the wider school community are equipped to embrace the best technologies can offer.

eSmart[®]
Smart. Safe. Responsible.

Marine Education Centre

Jawbone Marine Sanctuary

To further preserve some of Victoria's most precious environments, the state government declared 11 Marine Sanctuaries and 13 Marine National Parks in 2002. One area in the declaration, Jawbone Marine Sanctuary, adjoins our Bayview campus and plays partner to our Marine Education Centre. The Sanctuary supports temperate habitats including a rocky basalt reef, sea grass beds, a sandy beach, inter-tidal mudflats, a salt marsh, freshwater wetlands, coastal vegetation and the largest population of mangroves in Port Phillip. Our students have the opportunity to undertake crab surveys, water quality testing, reef surveys and waste counts. In our Centre, students have the opportunity to learn from nine habitat displays, touch tanks and artefact walls that are meticulously developed and maintained by our Marine Biologist and teacher.





Student Leadership 'Student Voice'

Student leadership is an essential part of school life at Williamstown High School. The leadership body is student focussed, energetic and led by our school captains at both the Pasco and Bayview Campuses. Our Student Leadership Program is flexible and is adapted according to the needs of our ever changing student body.

Our student leaders experience training to develop important leadership skills in public speaking, peer support, communicating and problem solving, all which will help them succeed in the school environment and beyond.

Our student leadership teams seek to:

- Highlight new and existing opportunities for student voice to foster a sense of ownership in the school.
- Increase student participation and engagement in the classroom and within the wider community.
- Renew focus on house competition to foster a sense of school pride and spirit.

Students can make a meaningful contribution to our school community as leaders via:

- **Bayview and Pasco School Captains and Vice Captains**
- **The Junior School Council**
This is a student led group that aims to understand the issues impacting students around the school, to problem solve and be an advisory body and action research team which will drive student agency and voice.
- **The House Leaders** (supported by a School and Vice-Captain) are role models for the school and more specifically for students in their House. The House Leaders play an important role to:
 - Organise and motivate students to participate in House activities.

- Assist teachers organising inter-House events.
- Take an organisational role with other House Leaders in improving student engagement within the campus, including ideas for the increase of House oriented activities within the school
- Speak on behalf of students in the House at school functions and other special events.
- Mentor other students in the House.

■ **Events & Positive School Culture Leaders**

This group led by a School and Vice-Captain, play a key role in the organisation and implementation of a number of events across the campus. These include:

- End of term celebration assemblies
- Campus fundraising events
- Awareness events and activities
- Celebration Days
- Student representatives on SWPBS and Respectful Relationships Lead Team

■ **Leadership Roles (linked with particular curriculum or extra-curricular teams across the campus)**

Environmental Captain/s
 Visual Arts Captain/s
 Music Captain/s
 Instrumental Music Captain/s
 STEAM Captain/s
 Social Justice Captain/s
 International Students Captain/s
 Journalism Captain/s
 Drama Captain/s





STUDENT WELLBEING

Wellbeing is paramount to quality of life. We value and promote student wellbeing by developing students' social, emotional and positive relationship skills through explicit instruction in the Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships program. Students have access to a Student Welfare Co-ordinator and Mental Health Practitioner and each campus and are supported by their teachers and year level leaders and staff.

Learning Environment

1867 saw the completion of a building at our Pasco Street campus that is still in use today...A long history of education in Melbourne's inner west is associated with our school and we have developed to address the learning needs of our students and will continue to do so for the duration. Our Bayview campus is part of the 5 Star Green Star-Education Design PILOT with exceptional learning facilities for students and healthier environments for both students and staff. The wetland has been planted with indigenous coastal flora and it retains and cleans stormwater runoff improving the

Our School Wide Positive Behaviour Support framework supports the implementation of the Child Safe Standards and the Department of Education and Training's Rights, Resilience and Respectful Relationships initiative which raises awareness and explicitly teaches respect, gender equality, healthy relationships, resilience and confidence.



quality of water entering Hobsons Bay. Solar hot water and rainwater collection systems are in use delivering a 90 percent reduction in the use of potable water and a 35 percent reduction in energy consumption at Bayview.



Individual Pathways & Transition

We offer a great diversity of programs and pathway planning to our students. All students from Years 9 to 12 take part in course counselling and selection when transitioning through the school. We ensure each student receives the one-on-one support required, by trained and dedicated teaching, careers and pathways specialist staff.

We know that when students visit our Careers Centre they will have the opportunity to explore, engage, evaluate and be supported to take charge of their pathways research. They will be provided with the most relevant and up to date information that will allow them to make informed decisions about career and pathway decisions.

We have dedicated Careers Coordinator at each campus that supports staff in the teaching of The Victorian Careers Curriculum Framework. This framework focuses young people's attention on realising their aspirations by creating opportunities, making informed choices and defining their career goals.

Facing the future and thinking about study options and career direction can be a confusing time for young people. We have invested in Morrisby Online for our Year 9 students, which is a comprehensive careers guidance tool. Morrisby helps guide students who are uncertain of which direction their career path should take, by offering insights into their strengths and potential, suggesting matching careers and pathways.

Our Year 10 Work Experience Program provides a powerful insight into career pathways as our students begin to embark in their final years. We ensure that we are with them every step of the way, following their journey and celebrating the success stories along the way.



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Curriculum

At Year 7-10, core curriculum includes: English, Mathematics, Science including in the Marine Education Centre at Bayview, Humanities, Language (French and Indonesian), Health and Physical Education, Technology and The Arts. Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships and other engagement and wellbeing instruction also occurs at Year 7-11. In addition to Language choice, electives begin at Year 8 and Year 9, a Make a Difference program. Early access to the Victorian Certificate of Education begins at Year 10.

Our Year 10 curriculum provides a strong foundation for VCE and VCE Vocational Major through a balanced and individually tailored academic program. All students must study English and Mathematics all year, and at least one semester of Science and the Humanities. Six subjects are taken each semester in order to provide depth of study and to develop the habits of study required for the VCE. Students are encouraged to take a VCE subject in Year 10 provided they have shown sufficient ability and maturity in their studies in Year 9. Our Homegroup Program is designed to build confidence, resilience, awareness of personal development, career planning, and is organised around the theme of 'making the right choices'.

The Victorian Certificate of Education VCE and the VCE Vocational Major are the certificates at Year 11 and 12 with Vocational Education and Training VET as part of either certificate.

Our focus on learning is passionately directed toward successfully completing the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) and the VCE Vocational Major. This provides pathways for our students into employment, apprenticeships, technical and further education, or, in most cases, university.

Our teachers specialise in their subject areas and follow a deliberate and targeted approach to promoting learning in their subjects for all students. They recognise that positive relationships with their students is vital for effective learning, and encourage students to ask questions in and out of the classroom. Our teachers use real time learning tools to provide relevant resources and collaborative spaces. We encourage our teachers to be examination assessors for the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) in order to extend their field of expertise in their subject. Our teachers focus on the point of learning need for each student and develop a differentiated strategy to their teaching of every child.

The Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE)

The school offers a full range of VCAA subjects in Year 11 and 12, and the Unit 3 and 4 examinations are held at the school in the school gymnasium. We have a dedicated Study Centre for Year 12 students, where they attend during their study periods. This is well used by our students before school, during the day, and after school. All Year 10 and Year 11 subjects have examinations twice a year to best prepare students for the demands of Unit 3 and 4 examinations.

During the year, we provide career and pathway advice to students, and invite university enrolment officers to speak directly to our students about courses, entry scores, and the available options for gaining access to a course. All Year 12 students have an interview during Semester 1 with the school's Careers Counsellor about their possible pathway after Year 12.

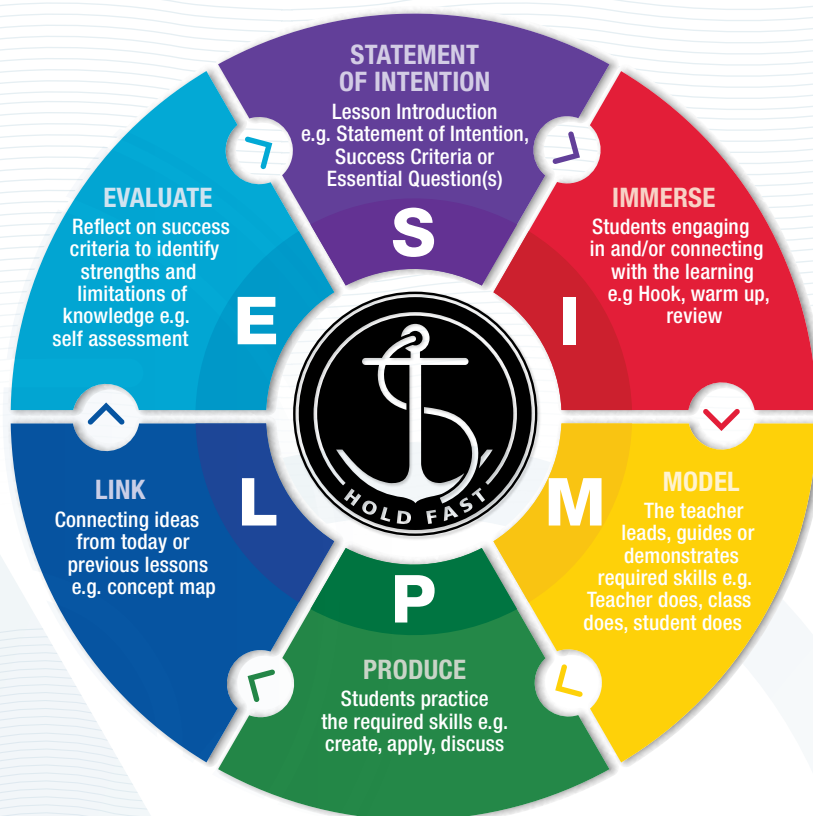
In the senior years, we develop a variety of individual learning pathways for our students. Subject options include a full range of Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) units, together with Vocational Education and Training in Schools (VETiS) subjects, school based apprenticeships and accelerated university studies to meet individual student needs. Students doing the Victorian Certificate of Education are encouraged to find a balance between their academic studies and personal interests.

For students with an interest in the trades or TAFE, we provide an alternative pathway to the VCE through the VCE Vocational Major. Students attend school for three days of the week for units on Literacy, Numeracy, Personal Development, and Workplace Learning. On the remaining two days of the week they attend their VET program and their workplace placement. This program is highly successful for students pursuing their desired pathways beyond school.

Instructional Model

Within the classroom, we use an Instructional Model based on research that indicates teaching and learning is more successful using this process.

We have developed our own instructional teaching model that is underpinned by best practice research and is the foundation of what constitutes high quality teacher practice in the classroom.



Select Entry Accelerated Learning Program (SEAL) - Year 7-10

We provide a Select Entry Accelerated Learning Program for students who have exceptional academic ability. Once students have accepted their offer of enrolment at Williamstown High School, via the Department's Priority Order of Placement, they will be invited to sit for the SEAL program. Selection is based on competitive testing and an interview process.

As a member of The Academy of Accredited SEAL Schools (TAASS) we maintain the tradition and high standards of like-minded students developing academically, socially and emotionally.

We provide opportunities for SEAL students to accelerate through secondary school and to undertake challenging learning experiences, which are tailored to deliver outstanding academic achievement.

- We emphasize higher order thinking and independent learning and research.

- Our curriculum is compacted so the mainstream Year 7-10 program is covered in a 3-year period via a comprehensive and specific SEAL Program with Year 10 including early VCE access in two subjects'.
- Enrichment is provided by broadening content, understanding, experience and skills to a level appropriate to the students' proximal zone of development.
- Extension leads to in depth study and the integration and application of knowledge at a higher level.
- Students begin to undertake VCE units at Year 10 in order to maximise flexibility, depth and breadth in their VCE program.
- Exemplary students may have an opportunity to complete a first year university subject in Year 12.



EXTRA CURRICULAR PROGRAM

Extra curricular activities are exceptionally important in our school community as we strongly encourage our students to pursue their passions and interests. We acknowledge the research that students who are happy and engaged in their schooling have increased focus across the curriculum, are likely to be successful in their academic and personal growth, and become outstanding members of the school and broader communities.

Through the commitment and dedication of our student leaders and staff, students have the opportunity to explore their interests through a stimulating Extra Curricular Program that caters to the taste of our students. Activities and clubs run weekly during the lunchtime periods, some activities take place after school and on occasions all day excursions are organised.

Accelerated Sports Program

The Accelerated Sports Program is an elite program that provides an opportunity for young athletes with excellent sporting abilities to advance their established skills while providing a challenging environment that encourages them to reach their full potential. This specialised program runs in union with the mainstream curriculum, allowing students to experience academic and athletic success.

Sports and Coaches

Our coaches are all professionals who have represented their sport at very high levels. They have links to the sporting community and offer unique programs to Williamstown High School. Elite coaching is available by our coaches in the following sports:

- Netball
- Cricket
- Australian rules
- Lacrosse
- Basketball
- Triathlon
- Soccer





Camps Program

Williamstown High School is committed to providing a Camps Program in support of the curriculum and extra curricula program. We offer our students a variety of camps and enrichment opportunities throughout each year. Our Camps Program is designed to expose and challenge all students to a multitude of learning experiences with strong and direct links to our school curriculum. Our program plays a key role in fostering healthy relationships, independence and reinforces the essential positive teacher student relationships.



Debating and Public Speaking

Our students have a long tradition of participating successfully in both Debater's Association of Victoria (DAV) Junior Schools Program and Inter-school State Competition. We provide students, in every year level, the opportunity to enhance their self-confidence and public speaking skills through regular training and competitive inter-school debates.

Students at Bayview elect to participate in the DAV Junior Schools Program, which provides training and structured support to prepare and present a speech persuasively. We encourage teamwork, build self-confidence and develop research skills in a low-risk and fun environment.

The intermediate and senior students enter in the DAV Inter-school Debating Competition, which is the largest English speaking debating competition in the world. Students work together in teams to build up a case debating controversial topics relevant to today's society. We guide and coach them to develop their skills of communication, as well as their ability to think critically and analytically.

In addition to gaining knowledge and building skills, the debating program is FUN! Students become addicted to the thrill of standing before an audience with something interesting to say and the competitive drive to win the argument. They also thrive on the collegiality of the teamwork involved and gain a significant sense of self achievement.

Instrumental Music Program

The study of music fosters intellectual, physical and emotional development. In addition to teaching students to play their instruments, playing music develops teamwork, commitment and study skills, and bestows upon students a unique musical experience from which they will benefit for the rest of their lives.

Williamstown High School provides students with an Instrumental Music Program that has been developed over many years. Our program empowers students to develop skills and proficiency across a range of fields, providing a valuable co-curricular and whole school experience.

- Music lessons
- Master classes
- Bands and ensembles
- Performances
- Fundraisers and competitions
- Music camps and tours



Interschool Sports Program

Our Inter-school Sports Program provides opportunities for students to develop skills through training and competitive experiences, connecting students to the wider community and promoting teamwork and good sportsmanship.

Although success in competitive sport is important to us, our fundamental objective is to promote participation within the school and instil an interest in, and enjoyment of, practices that support a healthy lifestyle.

We are well known for the success of our inter-school sporting teams. We have a strong record of successful achievement at local, regional, state and national levels in swimming, athletics, cross country and a range of individual and team sports in addition to our Accelerated Sports Program.

The school enjoys the healthy competition of our generational inter-house swimming and athletics carnivals. Most of all, the participation, atmosphere, fun and enjoyment of staff and students that these events always brings our whole school community together.



Performing Arts

We have a rich and wonderful tradition in the performing arts. Our focus is to ensure that every student has a meaningful experience from Year 7 that excites and motivates them to explore and extend their creative passions and talents. Our curriculum and extra curricular programs provide students with creative outlets within which to explore new ideas, express feelings through the strength of dance, song, music and drama while engaging with other students in a dynamic and exciting learning environment. Participation in the arts allows students to develop self-confidence, poise and learn to problem solve. Due to the social nature of performing arts, students learn to cooperate and collaborate with others and often make life-long friends with those who share the same passion.

We have a proud tradition of working with our local community. Our 300 seat theatre is a state of the art venue for hosting our student performances. It is an amazing rehearsal and performance space and includes an art gallery area to showcase student performance pieces.



Annual School Production

School productions are performed each year and involve performing arts students from across Years 9 to 12. Productions involve countless students acting, singing, playing in the ensemble, front of house, backstage, costuming, make-up and every other facet of theatrical life. The excitement, energy, dedication and level of professionalism is always a source of great pride for the Williamstown High School community.

Schoolaerobics

Schoolaerobics is a team based sport for girls and boys, which is run as an extra curricular activity. It is the largest inter-school sport aerobics competition for primary and secondary school students throughout Australia. The program aims to provide a path for students to improve their fitness, confidence, health and self-esteem through participation in a healthy and fun competition.

As part of our Schoolaerobics Program students enter in two competitions:

- State preliminary finals
- State finals/wildcard entry

Teams who perform well in the State finals are invited to attend the National competition. Students also have the opportunity to take part in the optional Spring Challenge. Williamstown High School continues to experience success in a number of these competitions. Some have even been lucky enough to progress through to the National level of competition but most importantly we promote and encourage participation.



Global Connections

Our Sister School

As global educators we are proud of the strong connections and relationships with our international sister school **SMP Labschool Kebayoran** in Jakarta, Indonesia.

Our sister school partnerships provide meaningful, shared and unforgettable learning opportunities for our language students. Every second year our senior language students embark on a tour abroad visiting our sister school students, staying with families, immersed in the language, attending school and visiting the sites. The alternative year, we host our sister school partners and provide a similar and unique learning opportunity.

International Student Program

Williamstown High School has a long and proud tradition of academic excellence, and our International Student Program continues to attract high quality learners eager to enhance their opportunity for success.

The international student population is located at the Pasco Campus. Our international students come from many different countries with a diversity of traditions and cultural values that Williamstown High School celebrates and embraces. Students typically live with families of current students at the school and enrich the student body with an international perspective. Currently our international students come from China, Germany, Vietnam, Norway and America.

International Study Tours

Looking outwards is an approach that we value at Williamstown High School. It is important that we look beyond school and our domestic boundaries to see what the world has to offer. It is essential to help students to develop competencies that will prepare them to be active and mature citizens and leaders in a multicultural and diverse population. We offer the following study tours to our senior students on a two year rotational bases:

- History/Literature study tour to the United Kingdom
- NASA study tour to the USA
- Visual and Performing Arts study tour to the USA



The learning and lifelong friendships that are formed from our sister school partnerships are priceless. Our students develop competencies and confidence in language learning, diplomacy skills and a deeper understanding of international issues and most importantly develop lifelong international friendships.

We have an experienced International Student Program Coordinator who leads the team that supports our international students in innumerable ways with enrolment, accommodation, homestay placements, course or pathways support and most importantly transition and pastoral care. We encourage and embrace the opportunity for all students, in particular our international students to participate in all aspects of school life.





WE VALUE

Williamstown High School provides a dynamic learning culture that promotes integrity, innovation and the individual.

EXCELLENCE & CREATIVITY

...in our achievements and ambitions.

INTEGRITY & HONESTY

...in our actions and relationships.

DIVERSITY

...in our curriculum, in each other and in our community.

STRONG & OPEN COMMUNICATION

...between our school and our homes, and between our teachers, our students and our families.

COMMITMENT

...to social justice and a passion to protect and improve our environment and our community.



WILLIAMSTOWN
HIGH SCHOOL

Bayview Campus (Middle Years)
Bayview Street, Williamstown
Victoria 3016
Phone 9399 9228

Pasco Campus (Later Years)
Pasco Street, Williamstown
Victoria 3016
Phone 9397 1899

www.willhigh.vic.edu.au