

## **Diversity of Choice**

Situated in Gordon on Sydney's North Shore, Ravenswood recognises the importance of understanding its role in a global context. The school offers a diversity of choice for students from curriculum offerings through to trips and exchange programmes, all of which provide opportunities for increased understanding and experience of the world in which we live.

## Global Outlook to Education

Our girls are the leaders of the future and citizens of the world. Their education and outlook require an international approach to which we are committed as an IB World School. Both the Higher School Certificate and the International Baccalaureate Diploma are offered at Ravenswood.

We are committed to expanding students' horizons by providing academic challenge and extensive curricular, co-curricular programmes and community experiences both here and internationally. Our exchange programme is integral to the global outlook encouraged at Ravenswood.

All Ravenswood students learn a language from Kindergarten through to the end of Year 9. Two languages are studied in Year 7 and in Years 8 and 9 at least one language is continued.

For girls studying a language in Middle and Senior Schools, there are exchange programmes currently on offer to Japan, Germany and France, and also through private providers. The school plays host to students from these countries to enhance both language and cultural understanding.





## **Student Exchange Programme**

The school also has exchange partnerships with schools from England, New Zealand, Canada and the USA. The purpose of this programme is to:

- provide an enriching experience for students in a different culture
- participate in family and school life in another country and make new friends
- broaden a student's outlook and continue to develop her global understanding

The schools with which Ravenswood has a partnership are Kent College and Benenden School, England; Branksome Hall, Canada; Gymnasium Nieder-Olm, Germany; Hathaway Brown School, USA; St Margaret's College, NZ; Osaka Jogakuin, Japan; and Lycee Carcado-Saisseval, France. These exchange opportunities are available to students in Year 10. An information evening is run in Term 4 of each year and students and parents are briefed on all opportunities and students are welcome to apply for any or all available to their Year.



In addition to these school exchanges, many students and their parents organise their own exchanges through private providers who run briefing sessions at the school on the same evening as the school information evening. Some of our private providers include NACEL, Antipodeans and Southern Cross Cultural Exchange.

## School Cultural, Service and Sporting Trips

Ravenswood also conducts trips to support language and music programmes to enable our sporting teams to compete internationally and to provide opportunities for students to support less advantaged communities in a practical way.

Some recent trips include a netball and hockey tour to New Zealand; a language tour to Noumea; and service trips to Fiji and Peru. Some of the trips, such as the Vietnam Tour, allow students to combine both academic and service components.

For service trips, students conduct fundraising activities prior to departure, negotiate with the school or community being assisted, and then spend approximately a week *in situ* working on a special project such as maintenance, painting and teaching. In 2013, over 25 Year 11 girls will travel to Cambodia as part of an Immersion with boys from Knox Grammar School.

Whatever a student's interests or skills, there are opportunities for all girls to learn from and contribute to a world beyond their own.

"It has been such a good experience and the memories of all the people I have met, the school, and the places I have seen will last forever."

Ivey Green, from Benenden School, England

"To be in Australia is a big experience for me, because it is so different to my life in Germany ... School here is really different but it was very good to see how it works here."

Ines Heitkamp, Frankfurt, Germany

"Ravenswood is really different to my school, so I could gain many new experiences. My time here was awesome and I really want to come back"

Marie Schubert, Ober-Alm, Germany

"I've had an amazing experience during my stay here. I visited the Great Barier Reef, Went to Taronga Zoo and I got to hold a koala! But best of all I got to attend Ravenswood, of course. Everyone was very welcoming ..."

Nikita Chandaria from Branksome Hall, Canada



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GE2-2010