

NORTHERN COLLEGE OF THE ARTS & TECHNOLOGY (NCAT)

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM

Victoria, Australia

Department of Education

NC
AT





A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

The Northern College of the Arts & Technology (NCAT) welcomes international students. In recent years the college student enrolments are from Belgium, China, Italy, Japan, and Vietnam.

NCAT is a senior college providing Year 10, Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) and Vocational Major programs for students wanting to specialise in areas such as the visual arts; design; multimedia; filmmaking; photography; music; dance and the technologies.

NCAT was the recipient of The Age newspaper's "Schools That Excel" award in 2022 for its VCE results. Each year, NCAT students' work features in Top Design and students perform in Top Acts as part of the VCE Season of Excellence.

NCAT offers students in Years 10 to 12 the opportunity to develop their creative strengths and academic capabilities. This is through participation in highly focused, cutting-edge programs and use of state-of-the-art facilities.

Our emphasis on individual guidance and support for each student helps them to maximise their achievements. As well as to produce quality outcomes and establish a solid pathway into higher education and future success.

NCAT has close links with major universities, and a proud tradition of alumni with successful careers in the arts industry and a range of technology fields.

New students quickly become a part of the NCAT family. I hope through our videos and website you gain a sense of this wonderful community and the great opportunities that we provide.

Raffaella Galati-Brown
Principal

OUR EMPHASIS ON INDIVIDUAL GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT FOR EACH STUDENT HELPS THEM TO MAXIMISE THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS



WHY CHOOSE THE NORTHERN COLLEGE OF THE ARTS & TECHNOLOGY (NCAT)?

We meet our international students arriving in Australia for the first time at Melbourne Airport. A representative from our College takes them to their homestay accommodation and provides assistance to settle them into their new home.

Students participate in an orientation program led by the international student coordinator (ISC) who familiarise them with the College campus and their timetable. The students' form group teacher, level coordinator and their student buddy help them settle into our College.

The ISC will introduce our new international students to the Preston area, including the shopping centre, health facilities, and transport. They will also take them on an excursion to Melbourne's city centre.

The ISC provides ongoing support with homestay and any school or personal issues. Plus, they refer students to key personnel for any specialist support. As the ISC is also the careers advisor, they will provide expert advice and support with subject selection, pathways planning and tertiary entrance.

Students requiring intensive language support can access one of several offsite English language centres offering a highly specialised, intensive course of study. The students complete their course in 20 weeks, approximately six months, and then return to NCAT to join mainstream classes.

An academic program geared for success

Year 10 students can choose an arts or technology stream. Both streams have core subjects such as English; Maths; Science; Health; and Humanities.

Arts students study a broad range of arts subjects including Art; Design; Multimedia; Photography; Theatre Studies; Dance; and Music. They can also choose any one of the College's Year 11 VCE subjects, getting an early start to their VCE.

Technology students study Design and Technology; Electro-Technology; Woodwork; Engineering; and Automotive. They too can choose from any of the programs in the technology or arts field.

Year 11 and 12 students can personalise the VCE to their area of interest choosing from a range of specialist VCE subjects and VCE VET Programs in the arts and/or technologies. This is in addition to standard VCE subjects such as Psychology; Business Management; Mathematics etc. They can also choose from a range of VCE Vocational Major specialist programs.

Senior coordinators and the careers advisor work together with students to design a VCE program tailored to meet their interests. Students can choose subjects to embrace their passion in preparation for further study and a range of pathways in their chosen field.

Specialist programs Years 10 to 12 include:

- Contemporary/commercial music and dance programs – entry via audition tape
- Design; Visual Arts; Media; Screen and Media; Multimedia and Photography/Digital Imaging – entry via electronic folio
- Courses in musical instrument making – some music knowledge is preferable but not essential
- Technology and Trades Training (Engineering; Electro-Technology; Integrated Technologies; Building & Construction; Automotive; Plumbing) – no pre-requisites.

Extra-curricular activities to enrich the student experience

Students can involve themselves in a range of clubs; music ensembles; music recitals; music and dance concerts and performances; dance competitions such as the Wakakirri National Dance Festival; our annual musical theatre performance; and the annual Couch (Arts) Festival.

Students also can visit artist studios and engage with industry as well as exhibit their artwork both at the college and external venues.

Extra-curricular activities include:

- our renowned contemporary music program with over 30 music bands
- music recitals and an arts festival
- dance concerts and competitions
- student art and photographic exhibitions
- our student leadership program
- creative arts industry day and industry visits.





Serious about student welfare

In addition to support from the international student coordinator, students receive a range of academic and wellbeing support to ensure their time at NCAT is happy and successful.

Form teachers, subject teachers, year level coordinators and faculty leaders provide academic support. Our careers advisor also supports students in planning and applying for tertiary study.

The youth support worker provides counselling for students experiencing personal or emotional challenges as well as links to other agencies/referral to specialist support services as they require. The college also has a mental health practitioner for specialist counselling.

Wellbeing and support programs include:

- a tutoring program
- a student wellbeing program
- a careers and pathways counsellor
- a youth support worker
- year level coordinators
- a mental health practitioner.

Homestay for international students

In Victoria, all government school homestay families provide:

- a safe, secure, welcoming place to live
- a household compliant with the Child Safe Standards
- a separate single room for the student's personal use
- three meals a day, seven days a week, including snacks
- facilities including a bed, wardrobe, towels and linen
- utilities including gas, electricity, heating and water costs, and internet
- cleaning services of common living areas
- the use of living areas within the residence
- study facilities such as a desk, study light and bookcase.
- attendance at parent/teacher evenings on behalf of each student's parents.

One of our homestay students, Mingye XIN (Tom), has this to say about our program:

"I really enjoyed living with Gavan and Ellen at their home. I was there for three years, and they looked after me very well. It was very comfortable, and they always helped me, and I felt like part of their family."



Easily accessible location in a diverse community

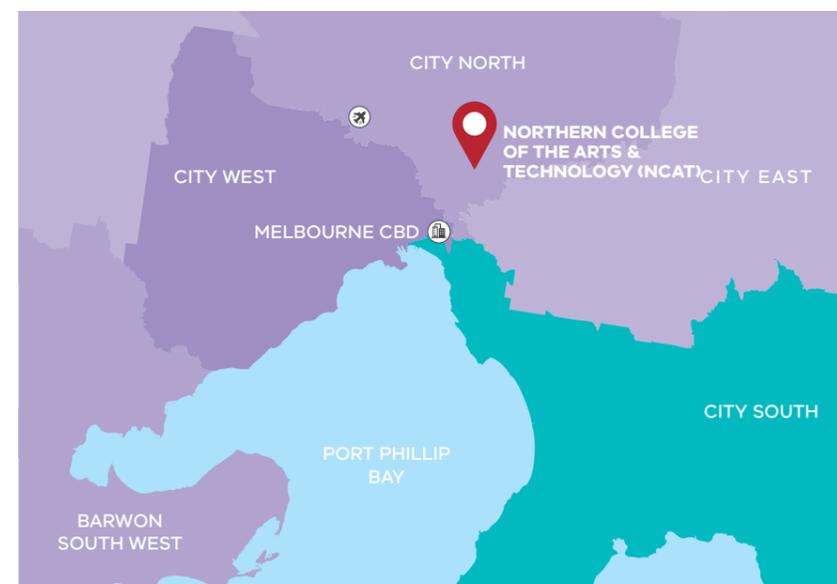
NCAT is located in Preston, 10 kilometres from Melbourne's Central Business District (CBD). The Northland Shopping Centre which is also a large transport hub is close by.

Our College is near to La Trobe University and RMIT's Bundoora and city campuses. It is also within easy travelling distance of the University of Melbourne.

We are based in a very multicultural community with an active artist community which is contemporary, experimental and culturally diverse. Writers, musicians and visual artists flock to the locality for performance and collaboration.

Our local area:

- runs a strong cultural program, including many festivals
- has a range of unique shopping precincts including the Preston Market
- has beautiful parks and reserves for recreational activities.



A recent success story

Quoc Bao Nguyen from Vietnam studied Music Performance; Business Management; English; Further Maths; and VET Certificate III in Music (Performance). Quoc also participated in several extracurricular activities including numerous music ensembles; recitals; concerts; and the Couch (Arts) Festival.

Quoc Bao has been accepted into a Bachelor of Music at the University of Melbourne (Victorian College of the Arts).

"I could not have asked for a friendlier studying environment where both teachers and students are always supportive. I got to make friends whom I feel are like family."

NCAT provided me with a lot of opportunities to develop my musicianship through hands-on experience and events. I also grew as a performer on stage and as a sound engineer working backstage or in the recording studio.

NCAT always provided me with the support I needed and thoroughly prepared me for my Melbourne University course. I really enjoyed my time at NCAT."

I COULD NOT HAVE ASKED FOR A FRIENDLIER STUDYING ENVIRONMENT WHERE BOTH TEACHERS AND STUDENTS ARE ALWAYS SUPPORTIVE



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