

Quality Education for Quality Life





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At Al-Taqwa we recognise all members of our learning community, including our students, staff and parents. We value the relationship between learning and teaching. Our values and virtues are underpinned by the Islamic ethos.

Since its inception in 1986, Al-Taqwa College has grown dramatically. Our aim is to offer our students comprehensive programs at the highest standard. Our curriculum is diverse and academically challenging. We expect our students to achieve outstanding results throughout their educational years.

The Al-Taqwa College vision includes a commitment to be the leader of learning and teaching both locally and overseas.

Our mission is to be an independent learning centre accessible to the Muslim community. The core of our mission is to promote, develop and encourage educational excellence as well as nurture leadership qualities for all students. Our endeavour is to succeed at being one of the leading Islamic schools, offering a safe and caring environment, guided by Islamic principles.

Islamic studies are an integral part of our curriculum teaching in accordance to the Qur'an and Sunnah. We believe it is important to begin teaching solid foundations at an early age.

Our students are well respected in the community. Upon leaving Al-Taqwa College, our students are prepared academically and socially to continue their life journey.

History

The Islamic Schools of Victoria (Werribee College) Inc was established in June 1986 after its founder, Mr Omar Hallak realised the importance of educating young children in an Islamic Environment.

With this inspiration in mind, over 50 acres was purchased in Sayers Road. Beginning the first school year with one portable and a total of 25 students, the College was on the road to educational excellence.

The College has grown considerably since its inception, offering education from the Preparatory years to VCE.

Al-Taqwa College established a horticultural and agricultural campus in Derrimut Road, Tarneit. The campus is now RTO accredited delivering nationally recognised and accredited training and assessment services.

Olive Branch Campus



Al-Taqwa Masjid

In 2008 a sister college was officially opened in Indonesia called the Al-Taqwa College YIISI, Sentul Campus. The campus offers the Australian curriculum and VCE diploma for their students.

Sentul is a co-educational College where the majority of its students are local and from within the Asian continents.

Our students live in an increasingly globalised world with many responsibilities.

To prepare our students for leadership in a global society, we offer students an annual exchange program with our Sentul Campus. This program is available for students in Year 10. The experience allows our students to develop into confident, independent young adults.

In 2009 a Masjid was built on the Al-Taqwa College grounds. The Masjid was fully funded using community donations, costing approximately \$4.5M.



Sentul Campus



Al-Taqwa College



Leadership

To ensure that our prep students find their transition into the College as easy as possible, our upper primary students are paired with the prep students.

This buddy program consists of the upper grade students guiding the preps and completing various projects together.

Our students also have the opportunity to represent the College at our functions and events. School captains are elected, by the students, for the students. Our captains are expected to maintain a high degree of commitment, dedication and knowledge.

The school captains act as a liaison between students and the staff and also between the College and the community.

Communication

The key to educational excellence is communication between students, their families and the College. Open communication is encouraged to ensure that our College environment and community are well informed.

The College encourages all families to come forward and discuss any matters arising regarding their children.

At Al-Taqwa, we have many avenues which we use to communicate with our families. They include:

- Monthly newsletter
- Website
- SMS
- Weekly presentations at the Masjid

Facilities

Sport

The College has its own Multi-Sporting Complex boasting running tracks, tennis/netball courts and a soccer field. All sporting events including inter-house and inter-school competitions, are held at the complex.

We encourage our students to be active and involve themselves in various sporting activities. Therefore we offer special events and competitions, including training sessions for our students. Other schools are also invited to use our Multi-Sporting Complex.



Multipurpose Halls

Our Multipurpose Hall can seat up to 400 guests in a lecture style setting. The Hall may be used for indoor activities such as, basketball, badminton, table tennis, chess, drama, testing etc. We also host the Ramadan Qur'an Competition, Inter-School Quiz Competitions, Information evenings, along with VCE and Grade 6 Graduations.

There are three smaller Halls available for use which can seat up to 120 guests each. All Al-Taqwa College Halls have full IT facilities.



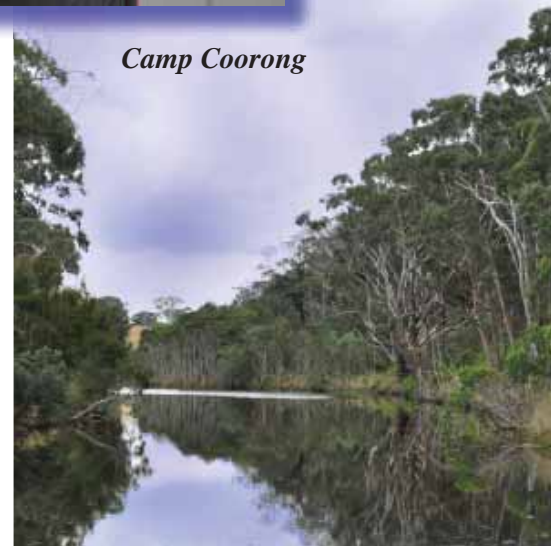
Home Economics

Our students' imaginations and creativity are able to come to fruition in our Home Economics room. The room is fully equipped with everything the students need to create magnificent dishes. The importance of nutrition is also taught.

Science Labs

The College has two science laboratories within the Secondary area, containing the latest technology. Science practices and preparations for chemistry, physics and biology are among our students' favourite subjects. During Science Week, we encourage our students to indulge in their creativity, innovation and motivation by participating in various competitions.

Camp Coorong





IT Labs & Library

Information Technology plays an important role in the learning experience. The College ensures that it is kept up to date with technology. There are three computer labs where students from Grade 1 to VCE have access.

Each IT lab consists of 30 desktop computers, a scanner and a printer. Wireless network access covers the entire College.

Laptops are also available for students to use for their work.

The Library has a mezzanine floor which acts as a quiet area for students to study. It also has computers with separate boys and girls areas.

Camp Coorong

The College has access to a campsite where students are able to take part in a myriad of activities. The camp site has a 94 bed capacity, sea shore access with its own jetty, rock climbing and a games room.

Interactive Whiteboards

Each of our primary classrooms has their own interactive whiteboard. A computer is connected to a projector which shows the desktop image on the board. The user has the ability to control the board by using a pen or their finger. Having the whiteboards encourages interaction by the students.

Transport Services

The College offers an extensive transport service for those who live outside of our community. The services runs as far north as Bundoora to Brunswick, Kensington to Williamstown and as far west as Hillside to Wyndham Vale.

Curriculum

Al-Taqwa College offers three of the most important classes associated with Islamic religion. Every child at Al-Taqwa participates in all three of these areas.

Islamic Studies

The aim of Al-Taqwa College is to expose the students to the foundation and the principles of the Islamic religion. The students learn about Islamic beliefs, principles, tawheed, aqeedah, sunnah and the prophets' lives. All the students are required to perform the zuhur prayer at the school.

Our students participate in activities to enhance their studies including, Islamic Week, Islamic Clothes Day and Hajj Week. The last day of Hajj Week has the students performing Hajj at the College. These experiences enhance the students' Islamic beliefs and assist in embedding its values.

Qur'an

The Qur'an curriculum focuses on teaching the students the rules of reading the Qur'an and memorising Surahs. Advanced students attend specialised Qur'an classes and have the opportunity to enter the Colleges Annual Qur'an Competition. Support classes are also held at the College.

The Qur'an is taught using the Iqra system and studies focus on understanding the Qur'an.

Each week the community and our students come together for Friday prayers.

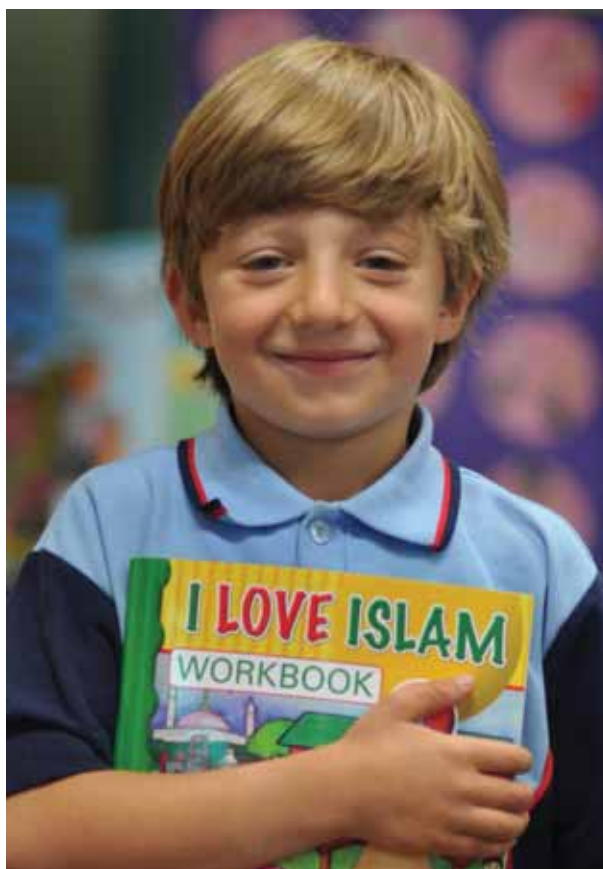
Arabic

The Arabic curriculum at Al-Taqwa College focuses on teaching the four language skills: reading, writing, speaking and listening. The students learn the Arabic language using a variety of resources and participating in various activities. The College offers extensive classes for newly enrolled students.

Extra support classes are also available for students both in the morning and afternoon.

To enhance the Arabic curriculum, the College takes part in Arabic Week where students participate in various activities and are quizzed on their knowledge.

An Arabic food day is also held where students have the opportunity to experience and taste an elaborate variety of foods.





Junior School

At Al-Taqwa College, the curriculum is designed to provide the students with a concrete foundation in literacy and numeracy. Our integrated studies include the humanities, science, technology and health. Library, LOTE (Arabic), IT, religion, Qur'an and visual arts are taught by specialist teachers. Our primary sports program includes swimming, gym school and sport days focusing on skill development in all areas.

Transition programs are available from Kindergarten to Prep, and Grade 6 to Year 7.

As children develop at different rates, various teaching strategies and learning activities are implemented to cater for the individual needs and learning styles of students.

Activities are designed to ensure the learning experience is interactive and enjoyable. Some of those activities include Harmony Day, Clean Up Day, Tree Planting Day, Islamic Week, Arabic Week, Book Week, Science Week, and Literacy and Numeracy Week. Various excursions are organised throughout the year including activities within the College.

Senior School

Al-Taqwa College provides an opportunity for students to learn in a safe, secure Islamic environment. Drawing on its Islamic values, the College is committed to preparing the students socially, emotionally and academically for a rapidly changing world.

Our curriculum is diverse and academically challenging. We offer a rich and engaging curriculum through a large range of subjects. We take pride in ensuring our courses of study reflect current educational thinking, and that they are aligned with the Federal Government initiatives and requirements.

In Years 7-9 a traditional core curriculum is compulsory and includes English, mathematics, science, SOSE, LOTE (Arabic), IT, Islamic studies, Qur'an, physical education, personal development, art, food technology and horticulture.



In Year 10, students are exposed to more demanding learning in preparation for their VCE years. Year 10 students have the opportunity to study VCE Unit 1 and 2 subjects. The purpose of this is to introduce them to the structure of VCE and allow them to pursue Unit 3 and 4 subjects in Year 11.

Our Year 10 students also have the opportunity to participate in an exchange program with our



sister school in Indonesia. This program teaches our students to become independent and confident.

Year 11 and 12 students may study a wide range of subjects and are assisted in the subject selection process by the College's Career Counsellor offering individual guidance and support.





Al-Taqwa College has the use of their own Masjid. The Masjid was the first in Victoria to be built with 100% community donations costing approximately \$4.5m.

The Masjid is architecturally designed with approximately 1250 metres of prayer space which can accommodate up to 1,500 people. The area is separated with a mezzanine floor for females, with excellent visual access and a private room.

Various lectures are held throughout the year with visiting Imams from Australia and abroad.

With our own Imam, the Al-Taqwa Masjid offers the following services to the community.

- Cold room for the deceased including Ghusul area and all the Jenazah/burial preparation
- Classes including Islamic, Qur'an, Tajweed, Hadith and Tawheed
- Women's group activities
- Lectures
- Counselling
- Community workshops
- Youth programs
- Arabic classes
- Marriage celebrant
- Open seven days a week

The Masjid is run by a Manager and a Masjid Committee comprising of people from all nations including women. There is a female Committee member who has served for over ten years. Muslim youth also assist the Masjid Committee with activities.

The Masjid serves as a place for the community to come together for salat. It is also a centre for information and education.

The Masjid offers the five daily prayers Fajr, Duha, Asr, Maghrib and Isha prayers every day of the week. Congregational Friday prayer is also available for the community and College.



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