

MELBOURNE
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Annual Report 2023-24

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Our Profile, Values, Vision & Mission

Profile

Melbourne Intercultural Learning Centre (MILC) is a registered school boarding premises which provides services for overseas students and local international students to develop their language skills and successfully integrate into Australian education and Australian culture.

Our Vision

To provide strong academic, linguistic and intellectual preparation for U18 students, while helping them to adjust to Australian society in a safe, secure and appropriate living and learning environment.

Our Mission

That education should take place in a fully inclusive environment with equal opportunities for all and that all students should learn to value cultural differences. Our school strives to be at the centre of the local community, with positive and effective links to the wider and global communities.

That students will develop valuable social skills, meet new friends and build relationships.

To provide a continuum of education, encouraging students to progress through the Australian education system, transitioning from MILC to a secondary school to higher education or vocational qualifications, or between providers.

The Path

Achieving our mission calls on the deep engagement and purposeful interaction of three key partners in our learning community: our students; our teachers and support staff; our families.

We will work together to build a sense of belonging and connection - among our students; among our staff; between our students and staff, our school and families, our school and the wider community; and, importantly, with our ever-changing global community. We will provide learning opportunities that connect learners with each other, ideas, people, beliefs and values. We will prepare young adults with the compassion, self-belief, knowledge, skills and desire to lead happy, productive lives and to make a positive difference wherever they may travel.

Our Values

We have a commitment to:

Care - valuing self, each other and our environment, nurturing healthy relationships

Respect - embracing diversity and individual differences, respecting others' contributions

Empathy - understanding and caring about another person's feelings and taking action to help

Excellence - being aspirational, working to achieve one's best

Responsibility - fairness; self-management; accepting civic and self-responsibility

No bias, no judgement – everyone has a story and every story should be heard without judgement

School Overview

We run a variety of programmes for overseas students including High School Preparation (HSP) program taught by International House staff to prepare students for integration into Australian schools.

MILC offers dynamic, innovative programs delivered by expert teachers who specialize in the education of all students. Instruction is delivered in the format of small class sizes tailored for the unique needs of our students. Our academic staff provide excellence in teaching, and we are serious about our student services and counselling, offering both academic and first language counselling.

Our boarding premises provide a safe and nurturing environment. Our programmes also include a number of excursions and incursions to provide students with a better understanding of Australian life and culture.

MILC has a great capacity to assist students to be empowered to grow strong and independent within a loving and safe environment, as they will be members of the society of the 21st century.



Presented is MILC's 2023-24 report. This year continued to be a challenging year as we continue to recover from pandemic lockdowns and the restrictions on global travel. Despite this, our school continued with a strong focus on learning, teaching and improving the social and academic outcomes of our students.

Some of our major achievements include:

- Continuing to refine and develop approaches to learning and teaching cycle
- Continuing to refine and develop internal policies and procedures in compliance with regulatory requirements
- Continuing to improve internal operation with a focus on child safety
- Building the number of students attending MILC
- Taking care of student wellbeing and maintaining a positive learning environment.
- Providing stimulating and engaging learning opportunities for all students
- Building a stable team with adequate professional development opportunities

We are committed to making improvements to our school boarding premises and look forward to further improvements as we head in 2025.



Michael Xiang | Managing Director

Goals and Intended Outcomes

The school focuses on building a learning environment to meet the needs of all students and enables every student to be a successful, creative and engaged learner.

We pride ourselves on offering a successful academic, cultural and social education which will enable our students to successfully integrate into the Australian education system upon completion of our programme.

We congratulate the 54 students who attended MILC and successfully transitioned into mainstream schools in Australia, both private and public.



Goals & Intended Outcomes

The school focused on providing students with an enriched environment characterized by respectful relationships and a sense of belonging. Student wellbeing is enhanced through a range of programs and opportunities offered at MILC.

The school's intended outcomes are as follows:

- Continue to provide students with the best wellbeing support
- Develop further support to parents, guardians and students through the connection with both our pastoral and academic team
- Strengthen and implement respectful behaviours and relationships for the school
- To continue to promote understanding of diversity and inclusion for all students.

Achievements

The school has a strong focus on building positive relationships between students and between students and staff.

The Pastoral Care team has provided positive and engaging relationships between internal and external support services for both our students and their parents.

The school has developed a consistent approach to positive behaviour management with a clear focus on building a positive school and classroom environment.

Student Attendance

Attendance of student is electronically recorded daily in our system and there is an expectation that teachers keep a record of attendance in each of their classes. When a student is absent, we promptly contact parents or guardians, or a member of our pastoral care team for our boarders. If the absence is ongoing, the attendance is monitored by the staff office. We record all evidence of absences, and any concerns are shortly followed up with students' parents or guardians. Strategies are applied to support students to maximise attendance to improve student's study progress.



Goals & Intended Outcomes

Melbourne Intercultural Learning Centre has been responsible for the oversight and compliance of the implementation of the Victorian Child Safe Standards and Ministerial Order 1359. In accordance with the Victorian Child Safe Standard the school has established the Child Protection Program which sets out our work systems, practices, policies and procedures designed to not only ensure compliance, but also to develop a child safe culture.

Achievements

- The development and implementation of a range of policies and procedures, including a Child Safety Code of Conduct outlining appropriate standards of behaviour to children.
- All staff, including management, and other Mandatory Reporters are responsible for supporting the safety of children by reading and accepting the Child Safety Code of Conduct and all other relevant policies.
- The effective implementation of the school's Child Protection Program
- Identifying and removing children protection risks by adopting a risk management approach
- Professional development and induction for staff, management, third party contractors, volunteers and visitors relating to expectations for them to comply with MILC policies and procedures.
- Providing Child Protection Training to staff, managers, and other Mandatory Reporters
- Identifying ways that students can identify concerns and a clear procedure for staff to report child abuse
- Offering all students enrolling at MILC a comprehensive orientation program which includes respectful relationships and a student conduct policy

Goals & Intended Outcomes

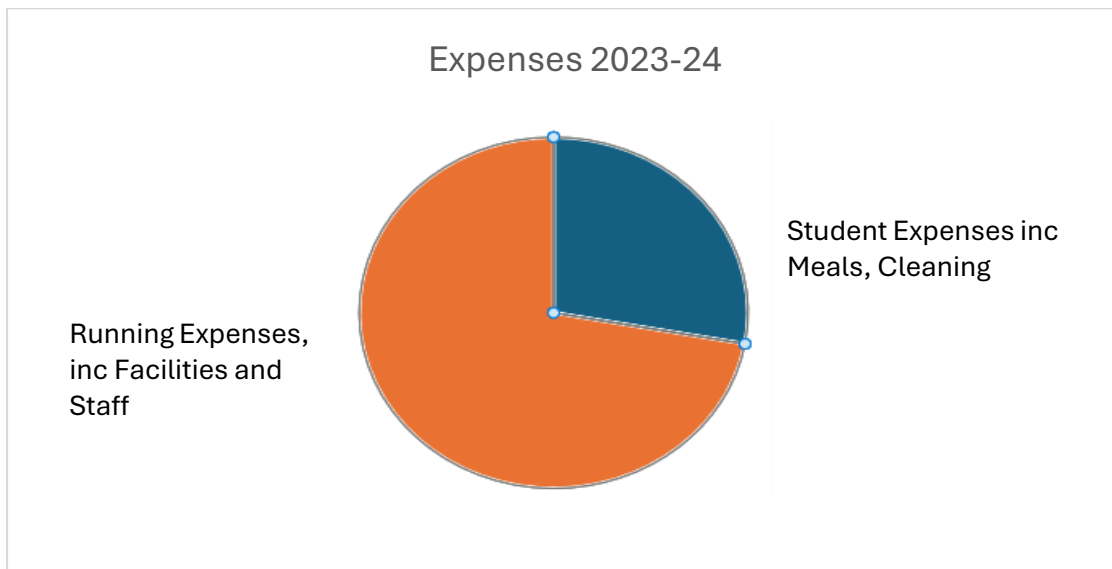
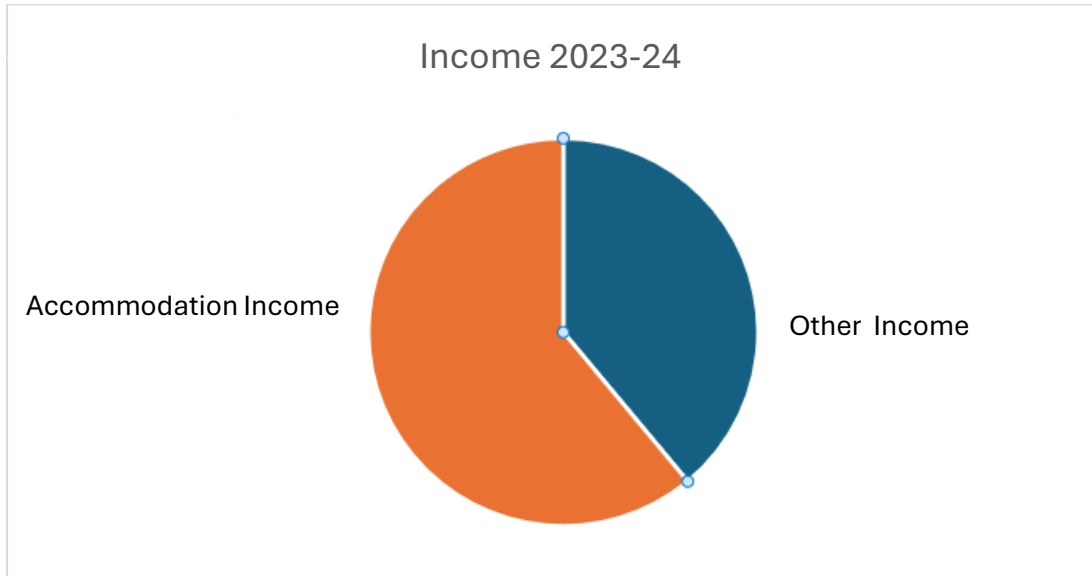
- To develop leadership capacity within the school community of staff and students

Achievements

In 2023, the school created opportunities for student representatives within different year levels to plan, organise and manage activities/events mainly with the purpose of encouraging and inspiring leadership capacity among students.

The quality and professional development of staff is the key to MILC. The school has benefited from the diversity of staff, with a mixture of experienced and young teachers and pastoral carers who place student interests as their first priority and strive to do their best for students at all times to make an excellent school. All MILC teachers are registered with the Victorian Institute of Teaching. Staff at MILC undertook training in OHS, Anaphylaxis and First Aid, as well as Child Safety.

Financial activities



Future Directions

MILC will continue to provide students with the opportunity to excel in academic performance, integrate successfully into Australian Culture and grow as individuals in 2024-25.

Following a successful trial this year we aim to expand our after-hours programme, with an official launch in July 2024.

We anticipate that our boarding numbers will grow over the next 12 months, as well the number of students participating in our cultural programs.

After a challenging few years, we at MILC are very optimistic about the future. We have an outstanding facility and excellent staff.