

# UNIVERSITY CAMPUS

## A FACT SHEET FOR PARENTS

University Campus is a dedicated campus for Year 9 students at Ivanhoe Grammar School. Building upon a long-standing educational partnership with La Trobe University, the program provides a quality curriculum, including experience-based learning opportunities, in a supportive environment designed to challenge the curious minds of Year 9 students.

### WHY YEAR 9?

Current research pinpoints Year 9 as a particularly pivotal year in a young person's school life. Some of the most profound physical, social, emotional and intellectual changes take place during this stage of adolescence as young people transition from dependence on their parents and teachers to a peer-driven independent identity. Strong, positive relationships are vital to their development during this time as they explore where they fit in the world.

### WHAT DOES THE YEAR 9 PROGRAM LOOK LIKE?

Year 9 students respond positively to a curriculum that links to, and is meaningful in their lives outside, as well as in the classroom. Year 9 students value opportunities to explore new ideas in depth. They enjoy cooperative, small group learning which is secure and supports them moving beyond their comfort zone. They learn what they think is useful and enjoy using their skills to solve real-world problems.

This is why, additional to their core studies, students will have dedicated university-style lectures from academics at La Trobe University - learning from some of Australia's most inspired thinkers. They will also have supervised access to facilities such as:

- media lab
- scientific labs
- wildlife sanctuary

### WILL THE CURRICULUM BE ANY DIFFERENT?

Core units of the Year 9 curriculum remain the same. Additional to this will be:

- transdisciplinary units of work - where different disciplines collaborate (eg. arts and humanities)
- one week per term of experience-based learning including service learning, creative arts and future readiness
- a passion project (under the IGNITE program)

Students will be encouraged to think critically, be reflective and responsible learners and expand their learning journey. These practices will help them develop a love of learning and the kinds of study and work habits that will prepare them for VCE and IB, tertiary study and the future workforce.

### WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES OF A STANDALONE CAMPUS?

The opportunity to learn at a standalone campus has both academic and social benefits. Only a short walk from La Trobe University's main hub, University Campus takes full advantage of its location by giving the students supervised access to university academics and facilities throughout the year. Student safety is our highest priority so activities that take place on the La Trobe University main campus are supervised by Ivanhoe Grammar School staff.

On a developmental level, giving students their own space during this time is critical to the cultivation of their identity. By bringing together Year 9 students from Plenty Campus and The Ridgeway Campus, students will be sharing a unique experience with their peer group, enhancing the impact of relationships during this time.



**IVANHOE**  
**GRAMMAR SCHOOL**  
*courageous and kind*

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For more information, visit [www.ivanhoe.com.au/university-campus](http://www.ivanhoe.com.au/university-campus)