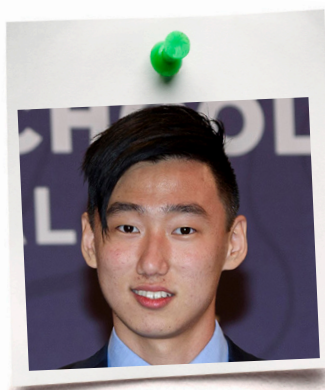


DE INTERNATIONAL STUDENT STORIES



Name: Semin (Sam) Lee
Year: 2017
School: [Castle Hill High School](#)
Program: [International Student Program](#)



I originally moved to Sydney to study and develop my English skills. As the years went by, language is not the only attribute that I have developed since commencing at a government school in New South Wales.

I vividly remember the first day of school. I was immediately warmly welcomed by my year advisor, Mr Jeptha and my peers. I would be lying if I said I wasn't intimidated by the immediate language barrier. However, they were all very eager to show me around the school and it wasn't long until I was able to adjust to the collaborative and cooperative atmosphere.

I was lucky to meet an amazing adult role model as I was passing through my senior years in high school, my music teacher, Mr Powning. At the time, he was organising a high school rock band which I was involved in. He was gentle and passionate about what he did and most importantly, he taught me how to make the most of my student life.

The school provided me with various opportunities to be involved in various inter-school events, community services and volunteering events, where I made many new connections with people from different schools.

Since graduation, with the guidance from my teachers and peers from my NSW government school, I was able to undertake a Bachelor of Design in Architecture at university. I participated in local design competitions with my friends where I could further develop my professional skills as well as my social and collaborative attributes. My career goal is to be a part of the collaborative future planning of the City of Sydney.

I would like to urge future international students to make the most of your student life, whether that is being part of a sports team or musical ensemble, volunteering or even hanging out with your classmates at the local park or shopping centre. You should build good connections with everyone around you because those connections will last, even after your school years.

