

DE INTERNATIONAL STUDENT STORIES



Name: Eunse (Lia) Seo
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School: Asquith Girls High School
Program: International Students Program



Ever since I was a kid, I had a desire to be part of what I called ‘the bigger world’. I wanted to see a new world, a world filled with something different: new cultures, experiences, languages and people. Thus, I moved to Australia to see the bigger world.

I was excited to be part of a new world and the new environment was what I wanted. However, when I felt the language barrier, it scared me. I knew that everyone would speak English and I would not be able to communicate properly at first, but it was still challenging. I would not have been able to overcome that barrier without the support of my teachers and friends. They have been so patient with my poor English skills and tried their best to help me. Once I overcame that language barrier, I could feel that this is the world that I desired - a bigger world.

I especially enjoyed the cultural diversity of my school. I have met lots of students from different backgrounds and with different stories. I really enjoyed listening to my friends’ stories about their cultures and family histories. It felt like I was travelling around the world every lunchtime.

The school has not only fulfilled my desire for a new world. They also gave me some opportunities to find my passion. My abstract dream became a reality. At my school, I had some valuable experiences of interacting with different people and learning about the real world through subjects like international study, legal studies and modern history. These have all contributed to finding my passion for helping people suffering from inequalities and unfairness.



Lia Seo received her 2020 NSW Government Schools International Student School Service Award from StudyNSW Director Peter Mackey