

DE INTERNATIONAL STUDENT STORIES



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School: Bonnyrigg High School
Program: International Students Programs



Honestly, when I was first given the chance to study abroad in Australia, I was still unsure if I should risk the comfortable environment that I used to have, to restart my life in a whole new country. However, with the recklessness and curiosity of a 16-year-old kid, I decided to venture out into the bigger world, trusting that Australia is a country of great opportunity and multiculturalism. I went to Sydney and got to have Bonnyrigg High School as my second home, and fortunately, I have never regretted my decision.

Initially, my family chose this school because there were a lot of people who have similar cultural background to me residing here. Especially for someone living far away from home like me, seeing my own culture represented in a foreign place is absolutely the best comfort and encouragement. Not only in Bonnyrigg, every suburb of Sydney has its own unique culture.

Consequently, this makes Sydney a melting pot of culture, allowing it to be so welcoming and inspiring for people to embrace each other's cultures.

Regarding my high school experience, I struggled a lot to adjust into the education system initially. As I was quite reserved, I found it very hard to make friends when we had to change different classes for different subjects. Nevertheless, this experience was what encouraged me to step out of my comfort zone and be a more social person. As a result, I was able to have a lot of friends, build courage and became an International Student Captain, which was such unique leadership experience that NSW government schools offer.

The achievements that I am most proud of is when I received the NSW Government Schools International Student Academic Achievement Award, and was invited by DE International to be part of the NSW Government Schools International Student Ambassador program. I am absolutely glad and more than excited to talk to international students in the program to strengthen this diverse community and also to prospective students to share my experience.

In hindsight, I immensely appreciate and love my high school experience. For prospective students coming to NSW, I would say as long as you have that mindset of willingness to learn and embrace new things, then coming to NSW is truly a door to a new world, a wonderful world in which you can choose what you want and excel in what you love.



Ruby, with her school basketball team.