

## **DE INTERNATIONAL**STUDENT STORIES



Name: Yirong (Andrea) Zhao

**Year:** 2018

School: <u>Burwood Girls High School</u>

Program: International Student Program



I chose to study in NSW because it allows me to experience Australian culture and make friends with local students. From high school to university, I have gained so much confidence from participating in school events such as leadership forums and studying with people from different backgrounds.

I do appreciate our international student coordinator and all of my teachers, who kindly helped me throughout the past three years. They always cared for me and asked about my life in school and at home. Whenever I had any problems or stress, they would give me solutions or suggestions that enabled me to overcome many hardships.

I think studying and living in Sydney is challenging but at the same time, it is life changing. For example, I met people from all of the world and made friends with them. The diversity here allows me to better understand Australia and other traditions as well as learn various languages, which is extremely important and necessary in this society.

Another good thing about living here is that it helps me to become a global citizen through my charity work and volunteering. I felt a sense of mission to help others and contribute to the community as a way of giving back.

Thirdly, studying in Sydney greatly enhanced my chance of getting into the university where I dreamed of studying. For future students who want to come and study here, I would say, YES, just come! There are way more incredible things waiting for you other than those I mentioned before. It would change your life for sure, even though the beginning part may be a bit difficult, but, don't worry too much, everything is going to be ok as time goes by. Take it easy and enjoy your study and life here!



Andrea was the winner of the 2019 NSW Government Schools International Student Academic Achievement Award.