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Welcome to Moreton Bay Boys' College

At Moreton Bay Boys' College, we strive to be a leading internationally minded school that offers its boys an innovative, broadly based education. We are committed to providing an outstanding student experience that allows students to graduate with the attitudes, attributes and skills that will provide the keys to becoming a global citizen.

During your time at our College, I encourage you to immerse yourself fully into our culture and family life, and take this special opportunity to learn about Australia and to honour the experience your family has given to you.

We work closely with all members of the school community, parents, guardians, extended family members and our homestay families to ensure that every student at our Colleges is able to enjoy a rich and rewarding experience and can achieve his/her personal and academic goals.

I hope that your time with us is educationally rewarding and that you create special memories. I look forward to welcoming you to our community.

Mr Andrew Holmes Principal Moreton Bay Boys' College

School Contact Details and Key Staff

💡 302 Manly Road, Manly West QLD 4179 Australia

⊠ international@mbc.qld.edu.au

🔯 www.mbbc.qld.edu.au

\$ +61 7 3906 9444

CEO AND EXECUTIVE PRINCIPAL (MBC & MBBC)

Mr Richard Henry henryr@mbc.qld.edu.au

HEAD OF COLLEGE

Mr Andrew Holmes holmesa@mbbc.qld.edu.au

DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL

Mr Michael Bos bosm@mbbc.qld.edu.au

HEAD OF SECONDARY

Mrs Naomi Williams williamsn@mbbc.qld.edu.au

CHAPLAIN

Mr Shane McCarthy mccarthys@mbbc.qld.edu.au

DEPUTY HEAD OF SECONDARY – STUDENT WELLBEING

Anthony Lewis lewisa@mbbc.qld.edu.au

HEAD OF PRIMARY

Mr Richard Curtis curtisr@mbbc.qld.edu.au

PRIMARY STUDENT WELLBEING COORDINATOR

Haydn Eames eamesH@mbbc.qld.edu.au

CURRICULUM COORDINATOR (PREP - YEAR 3)

Mrs Larissa Guy guyl@mbbc.qld.edu.au

CURRICULUM COORDINATOR (YEAR 4-6)

Mr Paul Dack dackp@mbbc.qld.edu.au

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC - MBC AND MBBC

Mr Ben Langford langfordb@moretonbaycolleges.qld.edu.au

DIRECTOR OF SPORT - MBC AND MBBC

Mrs Sue Pavish pavishs@mbc.qld.edu.au

HEAD OF SPORT

Ms Cerene Hughes hughesc@mbbc.qld.edu.au

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICES OFFICER

Ms Chloe Cao caoc@mbbc.qld.edu.au

Overview of Moreton Bay Boys' College

Our philosophy is built on the foundation of Christian values and aims to develop each boy's critical thinking and individual abilities, equipping them with the skills necessary to be successful, productive and responsible global citizens.

Our History

Moreton Bay Boys' College is an independent boys' school conducted within the Christian traditions of the Uniting Church in a brother/sister relationship with Moreton Bay College, a single-sex school for girls. During the 1990s families of Moreton Bay College (MBC), and the wider community in Brisbane's bayside suburbs, sought a local boys-only school that replicated the ethos and culture of MBC and provided an equivalent educational experience for their sons. Subsequently, Moreton Bay College and the Presbyterian and Methodist Schools Association (PMSA) entered into an agreement to enable the establishment of Moreton Bay Boys' College. A separate, not-for-profit company, Moreton Bay Boys' College Ltd (MBBC Ltd), which owns and operates the College, was incorporated on 10 April 2003. As the first independent boys' school to be established in Brisbane in some 65 years, the establishment of Moreton Bay Boys' College was a defining moment in history.

The school presented the opportunity for families from the eastern suburbs of Brisbane – and, increasingly, further afield – to benefit from a combination of enduring values and an innovative approach to teaching and learning. The school opened in 2003 with Preschool and Year 1 on vacant land at MBC. In 2004, MBBC moved to its permanent home at 302 Manly Road, Manly West with Preschool, Year 1 and Year 2. Years 3 – 5 were added in 2005, Years 6-9 in 2006, Year 10 in 2008, and Year 11 in 2009, with the first Year 12s graduating from the College in 2010. The College will continue to expand until it reaches a maximum capacity of 750-800 students. MBBC celebrated 10 years as a College in 2014 with family pavers and a time capsule buried on the campus.

On 1 July 2011, Moreton Bay College and Moreton Bay Boys' College were amalgamated. This was a turning point in the evolution of both Colleges. The amalgamation of the Colleges made sense on many levels. It was a natural progression of the Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2008, and had been a long-held objective of the Boards. The decision to join the Colleges together was, at its heart, quite simple – Moreton Bay College and Moreton Bay Boys' College are stronger together. This unique proposition in private education offers families with male and female children all the benefits of single sex education and also the convenience of having coordinated term breaks and school events, as well as aligned values, policies and student behavioural expectations. Five minutes apart by car, both Colleges remain absolutely committed to excellence in single sex education.

The schools remain separate, one committed to the education of girls and the other of boys, each with their own individual personalities and attributes, but which are now joined together to harness expertise, resources, knowledge, facilities and business functions to best effect. The first steps in the amalgamation was to reorganise the current Board structure. There is now a common Board representing each school.

Our Values

Our College values are:

- Care
- Character
- Teamwork
- Engagement

Our Location

Moreton Bay Boys' College is located in the Brisbane suburb of Manly West. We are in the Bayside area of Brisbane, close to the coastline of Moreton Bay.

Our campus is approximately 18km from the Brisbane CBD.

Our Campus

MBBC is set within 13 hectares of bushland and native plants, with a 5.5 hectare nature sanctuary behind the classrooms. This area lends itself well to environmental science work undertaken by the boys.

Classrooms are technologically rich, equipped with computers, data projectors and interactive whiteboards. The College is supported by dedicated IT laboratories and mini IT laboratories. Wireless connectivity is available throughout the college for our Digital Learning Programme.

Classrooms and verandas are spacious and airy, catering for the larger spaces required by boys. Dedicated art, drama and music rooms inspire boys to dream, think and create.

Flexible, contemporary science laboratories cater for different learning approaches. An integrated, wireless IT, Graphics and Design laboratory equipped with 2D and 3D CAD software and 3D printers and laser cutters allow our budding architects, engineers and graphic designers to unleash their potential.

A 120 seat lecture theatre and Dr Roderick Crouch Senior Studies area prepare our young men for a seamless transition into university or a higher education environment.

In 2018 we opened a new Library facility - a centre of inquiry, discovery and creativity and a central learning hub at MBBC - incorporating library resource areas, group work areas and IT facilities.

Beyond the classrooms, the College has a football and soccer oval, synthetic cricket training nets, three full-size tennis courts and three outdoor basketball courts. We also have areas designated for long jump, shotput, javelin and discus, and a gruelling cross country course.

MBBC is quite literally a trail blazer for mountain biking, being the only school in Australia with a student designed track and club on site. Our Mountain Bike course is graded as a blue intermediate level.

Our sister school allows us to share their facilities which are only a two-minute drive away, including regular access to its 50m pool for swimming lessons and carnivals, use of MBC's gymnasium, and its music and performance halls for special events.

Our multi-purpose hall is used for indoor basketball, volleyball, dodgeball, karate and ju-jitsu, as well as College Assembly, events and performances. We also have a dedicated weights room for strength and conditioning training.

Our buildings and grounds are designed employing sustainable technologies which have won the College several environmental awards. Expansion of the College's facilities will remain regulated in terms of its impact on both the natural environment and built architecture.



Pre-Arrival

Before Departure

A few weeks before you leave home, you should visit our school website to get more information about the school at <u>www.mbbc.qld.edu.au</u>. You are also recommended to access our school website to obtain practical information about moving to and living in Queensland, and studying at Moreton Bay Boys' College.

Make sure you take copies of all documentation with you, including your passport, visa, airline tickets. Use the checklists below to make sure you are fully prepared for your life in Australia:

For your travel:

- [] Passport and Travel Documents
- [] Airline tickets and student visa details
- [] Personal identification such as an identity card, including an English translation
- [] You should bring enough Australian currency in cash for the first few days (\$300 \$500) and have access to \$1500 to \$3500 in a bank account. You can open a bank account before you leave for Australia. For more information visit www.commbank.com.au/movingtoaustralia
- [] Health insurance (OSHC) details if purchased prior to entry

For your study:

- [] Letter of Offer or Confirmation of Enrolment slip issued by the College
- [] Receipts of any related payments you have made including tuition fee, health cover, etc.
- [] Stationery
- [] Dictionary (Electronic and Paper)

For your Health:

- [] English translation of prescriptions for any medications you are carrying
- [] First aid kit
- [] Insect repellent
- [] Vitamins
- [] Cold/Flu tablets
- [] Lip cream
- [] Sunscreen

Personal:

- [] Glasses, Contacts and Sunglasses
- [] Toothbrush andToothpaste
- [] Personal Hygiene
- [] Hair Brush
- [] Soap or Shampoo

- [] Tissues
- [] Towel
- [] Sewing Kit
- [] Mobile Phone & Charger
- [] Camera
- [] Electronic Translater
- [] Swim wear
- [] Hat
- [] Other necessary personal belongings

Conditions Relating to Your Visa

All visas are electronic and visa holders are issued with a visa grant notification that will explain the conditions of the visa including period of validity and entry requirements. Some important conditions to note for a student 500 visa are:

- Condition 8202 Satisfactory attendance/academic requirements
- Condition 8105 Permission to work
- Condition 8202 Meet course requirements
- Condition 8533 Notifying address, change of address
- Condition 8532 Commission for Children & Young People & Child Guardian
- Condition 8501 Adequate arrangements for health insurance

For full version, please visit Australian Immigration Authority at

https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/already-have-a-visa/check-visa-details-and-conditions/see-your-visa-conditions

On Arrival

At the airport: Customs and Immigration

When you arrive in Australia, certain items need to be declared. You will need your passport and incoming passenger card to pass through immigration. You then collect your luggage from the baggage hall and proceed to the baggage examination area:

Green Channel: if you do not have any items to declare

Red Channel: if you do have items to declare

DO NOT BRING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS TO AUSTRALIA:

- Cereal seeds, dried beans and peas
- · Food such as poultry, fish and dairy products, fresh fruit and vegetables
- Soil and sand
- Live plants, animals and insects.

Airport pickup

If you have arranged an airport pickup with your application, The Business Class Transfers (BCT) will meet you at the airport. The drivers will be wearing a uniform and will be holding a signboard with your name written on it.

For **Domestic Airport** arrival, the driver will meet you at your luggage carousel.

For International Airport arrival, the driver will meet you at the arrival hall, in front of the Vodafone store.

About 30 minutes before the planes land the students are sent an email with the drivers details and office phone number. The meeting areas are shown as red circle on the airport diagrams on the following page. If you are unable to locate the driver, please wait there.

The driver will assist with your luggage to the vehicle, and deliver you to your homestay in complete comfort (and you can even watch a DVD on your journey from the Airport).





If your flight is delayed, changed or you have missed your flight, please contact our airport transfer service (Business Class Transfers) on: +61 7 5528 0732 (calling from Overseas) or 1300 763 005 (in Australia), and the school on +61 7 3390 8555.

Feeling Safe

If you have any concerns about your safety, please contact the colleges at +61 7 3390 8555 or email <u>international@mbc.qld.edu.au</u>.

Living with a host/homestay family

Australia is a diverse country, and Brisbane is a multi-cultural city.

One-third of people who live in Brisbane were not born in Australia. One of the reasons Australians are so welcoming of international visitors is because of our multiculturalism.

Host/homestay families represent the diversity of Brisbane's population.

There are many different types of families who host our visiting students.

When we are assessing the suitability of a homestay family, we consider the following:

- Are they a friendly, kind and welcoming family?
- Will they provide a caring home environment and provide food and adequate supervision for the student?
- Are there enough bedrooms in their home for the visiting student to have their own bedroom?
- Do they speak English as their main language?
- Are they able to provide suitable transport options for the student to and from the Colleges?
- Do they hold a valid Blue Card for Working with Children?

In Australia, it is illegal and unacceptable to discriminate or make judgement about people based on looks, race, religion, gender or cultural background.

Our Colleges are unable to fulfil requests for visiting students to be placed with families of a particular race or cultural background.

Allergies and Medical

All medical and allergy information received by the Colleges will be passed onto the homestay family upon placement. All medically-diagnosed allergies must be listed on your student profile form. On arrival, please make sure your homestay family are aware of any foods you do not eat for medical, cultural or religious reasons.

Being part of a Homestay family

Homestay families are kind and caring people who have volunteered to provide a home for a visiting overseas student.

It is an expectation that all homestay families will be treated with respect by students. Showing disrespect to your homestay family is unacceptable. We expect homestay families to treat students with equal respect. Some ways that you will show respect for your homestay family are:

Following the house rules

- Make a positive contribution to the family and their home. This could include things like offering to do some chores to contribute to the household, doing some laundry, and keeping your own belongings tidy.
- Interact with the family. It is important that you participate in family meals and outings. Spend time in the company
 of all family members.
- Make sure you ask permission in advance to attend any social outings with friends. Provide your homestay parents with information about where you would like to go, who you would like to go with, and what time you will be home.
- Try to eat the same food as the family.
- Being kind and considerate in how you speak to family members

A vital aspect of homestay is for you to experience everyday life as a participating family member. It will take time to get to know each other and feel completely relaxed in the home. This is normal.

You can approach your homestay family if there are difficulties either in the home or at school. It is OK to ask for help or clarification if there is something you do not understand. Likewise, homestay families should feel equally comfortable addressing any issues with you.

For serious concerns or ongoing struggles, school staff will be able to assist in facilitating communication.

Homestay Parents

Homestay parents assume the role of your parents. Your homestay parents will assume all aspects of parental care and responsibility for you during your stay.

It is important that you comply with requests from your homestay parents. This could include things like asking permission to attend social outings and events. Your homestay parent may occasionally decline your requests. They may also insist that you see a doctor if you are unwell.

Your homestay parents will let you know what you should call them.

What if I don't like my homestay family?

Occasionally there is a simple mismatch of a student and homestay family. In this case mediation is the first response, which will be coordinated by the school. If an acceptable solution is not reached, a new placement may be found for the student if all parties are in agreement.

A change of homestay can be requested by either the student or homestay family. This will be negotiated on an individual basis, depending on circumstances. A fee may apply.

Meals and Food

Meal times are an important time of the day and all of your meals (three meals per day) and snacks will be provided by your homestay family. You may wish to go grocery shopping with your host parents and let them know the foods you like/dislike.

BREAKFAST

In most homes, breakfast is a rushed meal. It is common for family members to help themselves to breakfast foods such as toast, cereal, fruit, tea, coffee, juice or milk.

LUNCH

Your homestay family will provide you with a packed lunch. Homestay families will make, or provide the ingredients for you to make, a healthy packed lunch during the school week. This could include such things as sandwiches, wraps, rice, noodles and salads. Similar types of food will be available to you for lunch on the weekend. Students at MBC and MBBC eat a cold packed lunch at school. There are no facilities for heating up or cooking your food at school.

DINNER

Considered to be the main meal of the day in Australian homes, dinner is usually a healthy, hot meal. If the homestay family decide to eat a family meal at a restaurant or another location other than the home, the homestay family is responsible for any expenses incurred. You do not have to pay for your meal. If it is mutually decided that you do not participate in this outing with your homestay family, the homestay family must ensure you are provided with an appropriate meal option at home.

SNACKS

You will have access to snack foods such as fruit, biscuits, cake, yoghurt, etc for morning and afternoon tea.

Please note: all foods you cannot eat for medical or dietary reasons must be listed on your Student Profile Form.

Bedroom

A separate bedroom with your own bed (including appropriate linen/blankets) will be provided and will include a place for you to store your belongings. A desk for study may be located in the bedroom or in another area of the home. The bedroom is recognised as your own private area. You will be expected to keep your room clean and tidy.

Your homestay parent may request to inspect your room from time to time. In most homes, food is not allowed in bedrooms.

Bathroom

A shared or private bathroom will be available in your homestay home. Please talk to your host parents about the most appropriate time for showering.

General household items such as soap will be provided by your host family.

Water is a precious commodity in Australia and sometimes there are water restrictions in place. Your shower needs to be short – around 4 minutes. You will need to hang your towel out to dry.

Laundry

Host parents are requested to provide a clean linen change each week and to launder your clothing once or twice a week. If you prefer to wash your own clothes, please check with your host family.

Your host family will show you where to place the clothing to be washed and will let you know which days they plan to wash.

You may be asked to assist with laundry as part of your contribution to the household. It is your responsibility to ensure your washing is placed in the appropriate place so laundry is done on time.

Kitchen

Australian kitchens are different to what you might be used to in your home country.

You may be asked to help wash up the dishes after dinner, or set the table. Australian families sometimes have a dishwasher or will use a tea towel to dry their dishes.

Swimming Pool

Some Australian homes will have a swimming pool. Please make sure you ask your home stay parents if you wish to use the pool. You must have adult supervision if you are swimming in your homestay family's pool or around are other water activities such as the beach.

Telephone

It is important for you to ask permission to use the home telephone if you need to. Phone calls made to your home country should be reverse charged. If local calls are excessive, it would be appropriate for you to offer to pay for these calls.

You may choose to carry a mobile phone at your own expense with an Australian SIM card that has enough credit to make phone calls to your homestay family if necessary.

Homestay parents will provide you with their mobile phone numbers and other contact details. You must provide your homestay family with your mobile phone number.

Mobile Phones

Please refer to the College policies on mobile phones, which can be found in the Parent Handbook.

Once you arrive on the College campus, mobile phones should be placed safely in your bags (Secondary students) or handed to a teacher for safe keeping during the school day (Primary Students). Mobile phones are not to be used for any social interaction while on campus.

Internet and Technology

The Colleges will provide free wi-fi access during the times you are on campus. Provision of the internet in the homestay home should be discussed with your homestay parents.

In Australia home internet plans vary greatly. Most home plans have data and download limits, and exceeding these limits can be very expensive. Additional internet usage (beyond schoolwork) will be negotiated between you and the homestay family. Clear guidelines, such as time limits and download limits, will be presented to you. If you ignore or exceed these limits, you will bear any additional costs incurred. The homestay family may restrict your internet usage.

Your homestay family may monitor your internet usage, including checking what you have been accessing and the time you are spending online. This is common practice for parents in Australia. If you are accessing the internet in your bedroom via computer or mobile device, you will be expected to leave the door open with the monitor/screen in full view. Homestay parents may restrict the time you spend online for recreational usage (such as using social media, watching movies, etc).

Your homestay family will show you where your devices are to be placed overnight.

This policy is for your health and safety. We want to make sure all students are getting adequate sleep so you are well prepared for learning the next day.

Please refer to the IT Policy and Responsible User Agreement for further information about the Colleges' expectations in relation to the Internet and Technology.

Daily Routines and House Rules

There will be some areas of the home you will need to share with others, such as the kitchen, other living spaces, television, swimming pool etc.

Your host family may let you know some areas or personal items which are not able to be shared. These might include musical instruments or personal computers. Your homestay family will clearly explain this to you. Your homestay family will also show you the areas of the home that are private spaces, such as other bedrooms, ensuite bathroom or home office. It is important for you to respect these boundaries.

Your host family will let you know their daily routine, including bed times, meal times, family activities and any other special house rules, such as security, lights etc.

School days are Monday to Friday. Family routines may be more relaxed on Saturdays and Sundays.

Your family will set a bed time for you, and you will be expected to comply.

Chores

It is not common in Australia for households to employ domestic help. You may be asked to assist with chores such as cleaning, shopping, food preparation, laundry etc which are mostly completed by family members.

Security

Houses in Australia have locks on external doors and windows. Some houses also have an alarm system.

Australian houses do not generally have locks on bedroom doors as it is considered a fire hazard and dangerous practice. Homestay houses will not have locks on bedroom doors because of this fire safety risk.

Animals and Pets

Pets, such as dogs and cats are common in Australian homes. These pets may come inside the house and are very much considered to be part of the family.

School Requirements

ATTENDANCE

As part of your visa, there are requirements in relation to attendance at school which you must comply with.

You must attend school every day unless you are unwell or an emergency situation occurs.

If you are unwell and are not able to attend school, your homestay parent will inform the school prior to the commencement of the school day. You are required to see a doctor if you are sick and obtain a medical certificate.

If you become unwell during the school day, please let a teacher know.

If necessary, you may attend medical or dental appointments during the school day. Your homestay family will transport you to and from such appointments.

While you are at school, you are required to attend all your timetabled lessons and classes.

For full Attendance Policy, see page 16.

Homework

The homestay family will ensure you have adequate time and space to complete all homework. It is OK to ask your homestay family for assistance with homework.

Your belongings

Secondary Students will be issued with a locker in which to store their books, mobile phone and other belongings during the day. Primary Students will keep their belongings in their school bag, which will be stored on the bag racks outside the primary classroom.

It is an expectation that you do not carry your bag around the campus during school hours.

Uniform and personal presentation

Our Colleges have very high expectations in terms of our uniform standards and personal presentation. Please refer to the expectations outlined in our College Parent Handbook for more detail.

GUIDELINES:

- Please ensure your footwear has a covered toe.
- Tops must have sleeves. No midriff, singlet or strappy tops.
- Shorts should be mid-thigh in length.
- Leggings and active wear are not permitted.
- No visible jewellery is permitted, except a watch.
- No make-up is permitted.
- Nail polish is not permitted.
- Hair should always be neat and tidy. Hair longer than the collar should be tied back.

Appropriate sports attire should be worn to co-curricular sport activities. You must have appropriate footwear for school and for sport.

Hats are compulsory at all times.

You are not permitted to have any hair perms/colours, tattoos or body piercings.

Religion

Religion is a personal matter and should be respected by all parties.

If your host family participates in any religious activities (such as going to church), you are welcome to attend.

What should I bring to school each day?

You should bring your college backpack with you each day together with the following items:

- A packed lunch
- Sufficient snacks to last you the day (remember to pack extra if you are attending early morning or late afternoon activities)
- A drink bottle filled with water
- A pencil case with pens and pencils
- An A4 notebook
- IT device (Years 3-6 iPad, Years 7-12 laptop device)
- A hat
- Sunscreen

Please make sure your backpack and all your belongings are named clearly with your name (in English).

College Code of Conduct

- 1. Each student is responsible for his own behaviour in any situation in which he finds himself.
- 2. It is particularly important that no student, whether through deliberate action, neglect or lack of concern, interferes with the rights of others.
- 3. Students are to follow all directions from, and respect the position of, staff at all times.
- 4. The College does not tolerate any form of discrimination. We believe all staff and students have the right to work in an environment free of discrimination and harassment. Bullying is a form of harassment and will not be tolerated.
- 5. Offensive behaviour will not be tolerated whether in school or class, on or off campus, on excursions or camps, or during any College activity.
- 6. Students will not undertake any of the following activities, including but not limited to:
 - a. smoking
 - b. drinking of alcoholic liquor
 - c. use, supply or possession of drugs (unless medically prescribed)
 - d. misuse of prescription drugs
 - e. gambling
 - f. stealing and other law-breaking offences
 - g. causing injury to another person
 - h. using objectionable or obscene or abusive language
 - i. engaging in any activity likely to compromise or endanger himself, other students, or likely to jeopardise the standing and reputation of the College.

The College advises parents, in the strongest possible terms, that attendance by students at functions where alcohol or other drugs are being consumed by students, or where students are conducting themselves in an inappropriate manner contradictory to the College Code of Conduct, is fraught with risk. Students finding themselves in such situations should make every reasonable attempt to leave, and parents should support them in their endeavours.

Adjusting To Life in Australia

As part of your new student orientation, the following information will be covered:

CULTURE SHOCK

- Overcoming Culture Shock
- Recognition
- Be Objective
- Set Goals
- Share Your Feelings

AUSTRALIAN CULTURE

- Social Customs
- Greeting People
- Clothing Customs
- Polite Behaviour
- Australian Slang
- Responding to an Invitation

SPORTS & RECREATION

There are opportunities at School for you to be involved in music and sport. Talk to the international Student Advisor regarding your interests.

WHERE TO DISCOVER ACTIVITIES AND THINGS TO DO IN BRISBANE

There are various websites to assist you to find some activities and your homestay family will also give you advice.

Try https://theweekendedition.com.au/events/

SAFETY

- Emergency numbers
- Under 18s no smoking, alcohol
- Driving
- Transport safety

HOME FIRE SAFETY

- Smoke Alarms
- Keys and security

SUN SAFETY

Sun Protection

BEACH SAFETY

- Remember the F-L-A-G-S
- The Surf Environment

STORM SAFETY

DANGEROUS ANIMALS & PLANTS

Bites and Stings

HEALTH AND MEDICAL CARE

- Overseas Student Health Cover
- You are a member of BUPA and this helps to reduce the costs of many medical costs (not Dental or glasses).
- You will be given your card in the first few weeks after you arrive
- If you need to make a doctor's appointment, please ask your homestay family to assist you. For full details, please see the BUPA website link: https://www.bupa.com.au/health-insurance/overseas-students/oshc
- Additional material is also available in the BUPA brochure received at your Orientation.

Policies

Student Progress, Attendance and Course Duration Policy

Policy is available to view online here.

Deferment, Suspension and Cancellation Policy

Policy is available to view online here.

Transfer Policy Policy is available to view online <u>here.</u>

Fees and Refund Policy Policy is available to view online here.

Complaints and Appeals Policy

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Student Accommodation and Welfare Policy

Policy is available to view online here.

Child Protection Policy

Policy is available to view online here.



 302 Manly Road, Manly West QLD 4179 Australia
 international@mbbc.qld.edu.au
 www.mbbc.qld.edu.au
 3906 9444

CRICOS Code 03772J