

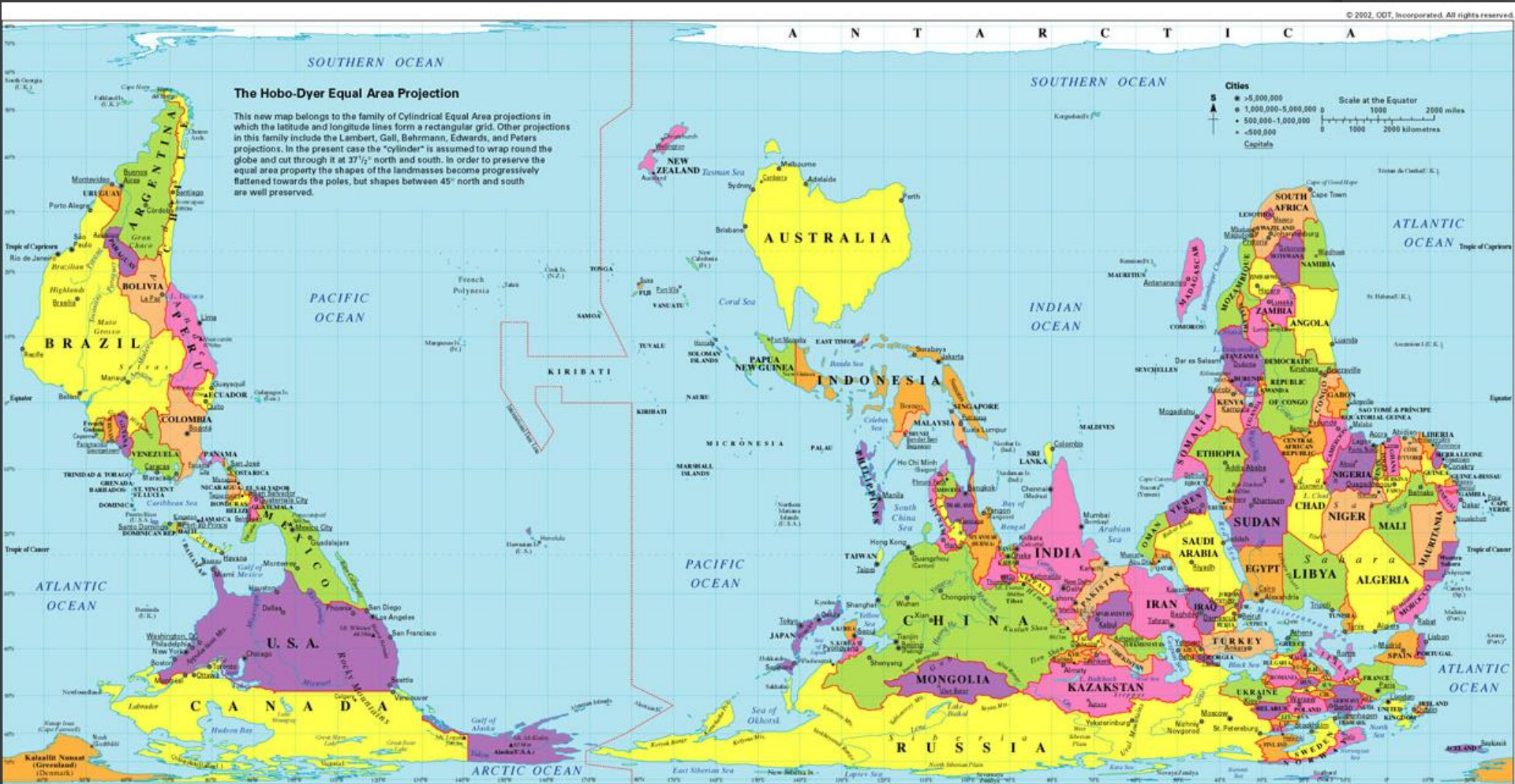


Year 9

AUSTRALIA EXCHANGE



The geography bit...



The geography bit...



What are the aims of the Exchange?

- ④ Improving social skills and developing independence
- ④ Experiencing cultural diversity through travel
- ④ Broadening educational experience

Who is the Exchange with?



- Carey Baptist Grammar School
- Co-educational independent Christian school for ages 3-18
- Kew suburb of Melbourne, Victoria
- Highly successful, well-established exchange for over 20 years

“A Carey education extends beyond the classroom, the music room and the sports field – it extends beyond the boundaries of the School itself. Our students leave Carey with an awareness of the world in which they live and a sense of responsibility towards those with whom they share that world.”

<http://www.carey.com.au/>

Carey Baptist Grammar School



Carey Baptist Grammar School



Carey Baptist Grammar School



What about the uniform?



How many pupils can go?

- Number to go: 10
- Applications: 30-40 applicants each year
- Usually more girls than boys apply from St. Aidan's



What qualities are we looking for?

- A good school record
 - Strong teacher recommendations
 - Fully completed application
 - Good responses in written test
 - A strong performance in the group test
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- Personal responsibility
 - Maturity and ability to overcome problems
 - Sociable
 - Good organisation
 - Diligence to catch up on work missed
 - Pupils largely select themselves

The Selection Process

For all applicants:

1. Information Evening
2. Application
 1. Application Form
 2. Letter of Application
 3. Personal Profile
 4. Collage of family and lifestyle
 5. A completed 1229 form along with the listed paperwork.
3. Individual written test
4. Group practical test
5. Teacher recommendations

For ~15 short-listed applicants:

1. Interviews with Miss Lally and HoY **if required**
2. Final approval from Mr Wood and SMT
3. Confirmation by letter in late October

How much does it cost?

- Flights ~£1,200
- Visas – ETA + ‘Undertaking Declaration’ ~£75
- Medical insurance – various, arranged by you
- Accommodating exchange partner in the UK
- Pocket money ~£30 per week (£1 = AUS\$2)
- The school is unable to give any financial assistance as it is an optional trip

Flights



- ◎ Airlines include:
 - British Airways / Qantas (via Singapore)
 - Singapore Airlines (via Singapore)
 - Emirates (via Dubai)
 - Etihad Airways (via Abu Dhabi)
 - Qatar Airways (via Doha)
- ◎ Fly direct out of the UK, most likely from Manchester or Newcastle, one stop
- ◎ Journey time of over 24 hours

Flights



◎ Pupils will travel alone:

- Registered as '*unaccompanied minors*'
- Chaperoned by airport/airline staff (~4:1 ratio, usually all female) from departure in UK to arrival into Melbourne – check-in / security / immigration / baggage reclaim / customs
- 'Signed for' upon arrival into Melbourne
- Access to priority lounge, depending on which airline it is
- Sit together in groups and looked after on the flight, first on / last off
- **No legal responsibility by the airline**



What about the host families?

- ⦿ Selected and vetted by the host school
- ⦿ Full police checks for **all** parents and adult family members living at home
 - Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) - UK
 - Working with Children (WWC) – Australia
- ⦿ In the UK the Australian children will legally be in a **private fostering arrangement** (next slide)
- ⦿ Parents can raise concerns and decline a host family

Private Fostering Arrangement

- Private fostering is where children and young people under the age of 16 are looked after by someone who is not a parent or close relative for more than 28 days.
- The law requires that parents and carers tell the local authority about private fostering arrangements.
- School will notify North Yorkshire Children's Social Care with the names, addresses and dates of birth of our host families, including all persons aged 16+ who live in the home.
- In addition to DBS checks, NYCSC may decide to arrange a short house visit (~15 minutes) early in the hosting period to confirm the suitability of the carers and that the needs of the children are met.

A Typical NYCSC Visit

- Hello...
- How long are you here for?
 - 6 weeks.
- Is school ok?
 - Yes.
- Can I see your bedroom?
 - Yes.
- Is there anything you would like to chat to me about?
 - No.
- Thank you, good bye!



What role does the school play?

- ⦿ Careful selection and matching of exchange partners
- ⦿ Meeting with all families beforehand
- ⦿ 'Pairing' of families for support
- ⦿ Network of information
- ⦿ Regular meetings within school with both St Aidan's and Carey pupils
- ⦿ Point of contact for all queries and concerns

What roles does the family play?

- ⦿ Lead a normal life!
- ⦿ Share activities with a 'paired' family
- ⦿ Return the Carey student to the departure airport at the end of their time in the UK
- ⦿ Provide a separate bedroom – vital?

Are there any issues missing school?

- ⦿ It is not an academic exchange
- ⦿ Year 9 Options:
 - All pupils/parents will receive all information as normal
 - Parents will attend Parents Evening
 - Deadline for Options is 'flexible' for pupils involved in the Australia Exchange
 - It is **not** first-come-first-served
- ⦿ GCSE coursework
- ⦿ Work set by St Aidan's teachers is taken to Australia and completed when appropriate
- ⦿ The Exchange will coincide with the Year 9 trips week in 2016

What are the risks?

- ◉ Travel – unaccompanied minors
- ◉ Host family – police checks
- ◉ Homesickness
- ◉ Bush fires
- ◉ Medical conditions
- ◉ Snakes, spiders, water-based activities

- ◉ Risk assessment has been checked and approved by Mr Holdsworth (EVA) and Mr Wood (Head Teacher)

- ◉ You will be asked to sign to acknowledge that you accept these conditions.

What are the dates for 2016?

● St Aidan's to Carey:

- 27th February to 9th April (including all of Easter holidays)

● Carey to St Aidan's:

- 14th May to 25th June (half-term is week 3)
- Year 9 Trips Week 5th – 10th June (week 4)

What happens next?

- ④ Visit the St Aidan's website for more information
- ④ Think about the academic implications
- ④ Think about the risks
- ④ Think about similar experiences which have been successful
- ④ Does your family have time?
- ④ Complete an application fully and on time...

FORM
SPECIALIST STATUS
HEALTH ZONE
EXTENDED CURRICULUM
School Trips
Duke of Edinburgh Award
Eco Committee
Clubs
Sport
Music
Global Links
Charity
PARENTS
CATERING

The Australia Exchange programme has been running successfully for over twenty years. The school has well-established links with [Carey Baptist Grammar School](#) in Melbourne. At the end of Year 8, pupils are able to apply. The following are required:

- an application form
- a personal profile
- a letter (see below for details)
- a collage of photographs of you, your family and the outside and inside of your house

In addition, parents need to read and sign the [Agreement and General Information](#).

For any pupil wishing to be considered, they must have an outward going personality, an excellent school record and good organisation to catch up with work upon their return.

The 2015 exchange takes place over two six-week blocks. The St. Aidan's pupils will go to Australia for six weeks in March/April and the Australians will return for six weeks in May/June.

Please note, all applications must consist of an application form, a letter of application and a personal profile and **must be typed**, together with a collage of photographs that is no larger than A3 size.

Letter Of Application

The letter must be written by the pupil applying for the exchange.

The letter should outline the reasons why the pupil wants to participate in the exchange. It should include personal qualities, any relevant experiences or travel, how he/she copes away from home, how to deal with a problem and what is necessary to make a reciprocal exchange successful.

The letter should be approximately 300 words. Please note that your letter and application form will be sent to the host school in Australia and your potential host family.

Click On The Following Links For More Information:

Presentation	General Information	St Aidan's Documents	A Survival Guide to Australia
Important Information About Fostering Arrangements	Risk Assessment Form	Carey Documents	
Application Form	Safety	Pupils' Personal Reflections	
Personal Profile	Expectations in Australia	Photographs	

How to apply?

- ⦿ Visit the St Aidan's school website for more information...
- ⦿ Complete **all** parts of the application:
 - Application Form (typed)
 - Letter of Application (typed)
 - Personal Profile (typed)
 - Collage of family and lifestyle (no bigger than A3)
- ⦿ Submit **in person** (no email) to Miss Lally (Maths) by 4pm on Monday 28th September at the latest.
- ⦿ Incomplete and/or late applications will not be accepted

Good Luck!