



INTERNATIONAL STUDNETS HANDBOOK

2021 EDITION | REHOBOTH CHRISTIAN COLLEGE





INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

2021 Handbook

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OUR VISION

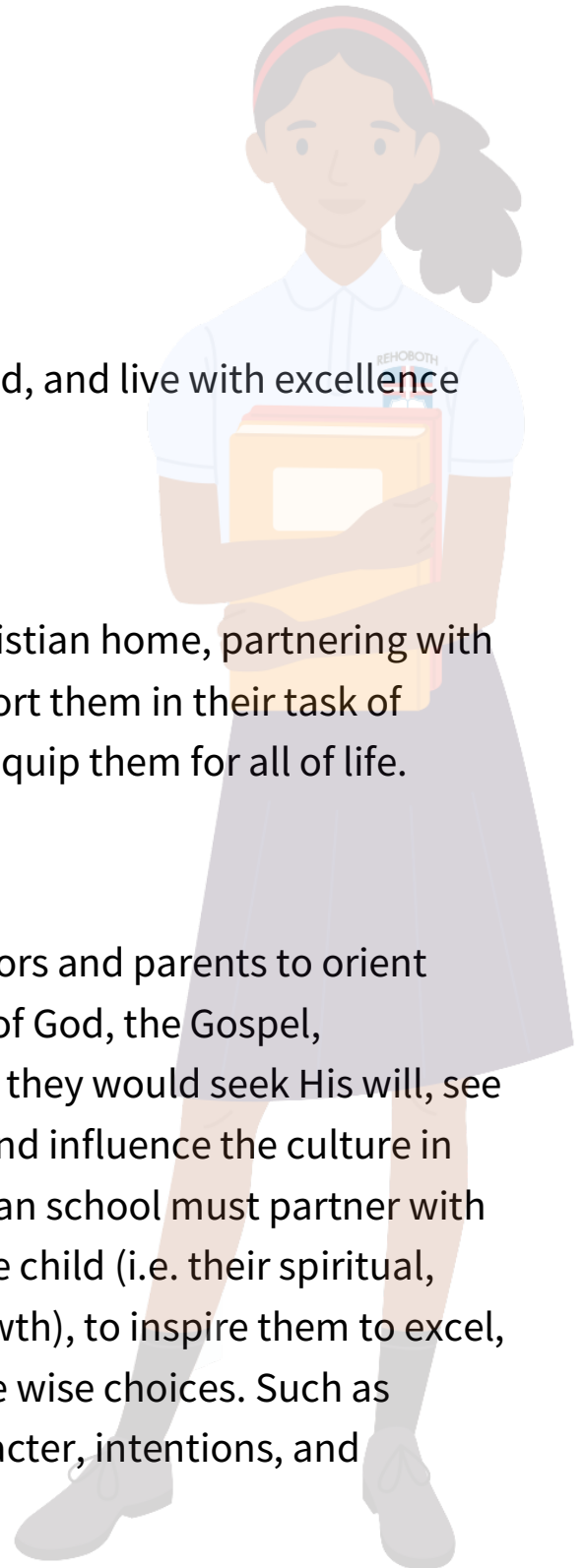
To engage the whole child to think, respond, and live with excellence for the glory of God alone.

OUR MISSION

Rehoboth exists as an extension of the Christian home, partnering with parents as a covenant community to support them in their task of nurturing and educating their children to equip them for all of life.

OUR PURPOSE

We believe that it is our purpose as educators and parents to orient students Biblically toward the knowledge of God, the Gospel, humanity, and all of God's creation so that they would seek His will, see things as He sees them, and engage with and influence the culture in which they live. We believe that the Christian school must partner with parents and churches to develop the whole child (i.e. their spiritual, moral, academic, personal, and social growth), to inspire them to excel, to be intolerant of mediocrity, and to make wise choices. Such as education is distinctly Christian in its character, intentions, and

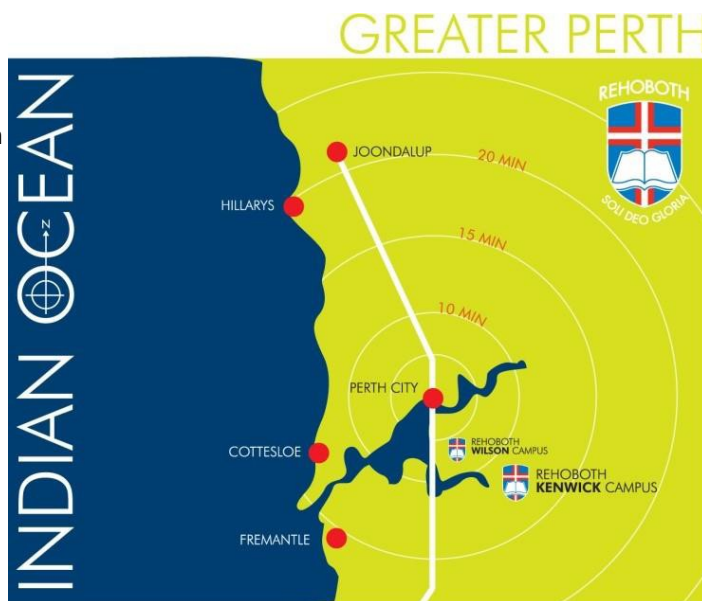


2. ABOUT THE COLLEGE

Rehoboth Christian College is a non-government independent primary and secondary school of approximately 800 students. We maintain two campuses in the southern suburbs of Perth, Western Australia. Rehoboth has been in continuous operation since first opening our doors on 14 February 1966. We were the first parent-directed Christian school to open in WA, and the third in Australia.

Students enrolling in our Primary Schools need to have a reasonably high level of English language on entry, which may involve a test through the Australian Education Assessment Services (AEAS).

Enrolments for our Secondary School need to sit the Australian Education Assessment Services test and satisfy both language and academic requirements.



3. THE ESOS FRAMEWORK

The Australian Government wants overseas students in Australia to have a safe, enjoyable, and rewarding place to study. Australia's laws promote quality education and consumer protection for international students. These laws are known as the Education Services for Overseas Students (ESOS) Framework and can be accessed via the [Department of Education, Skills and Employment](#).

4. EDUCATION AGENTS

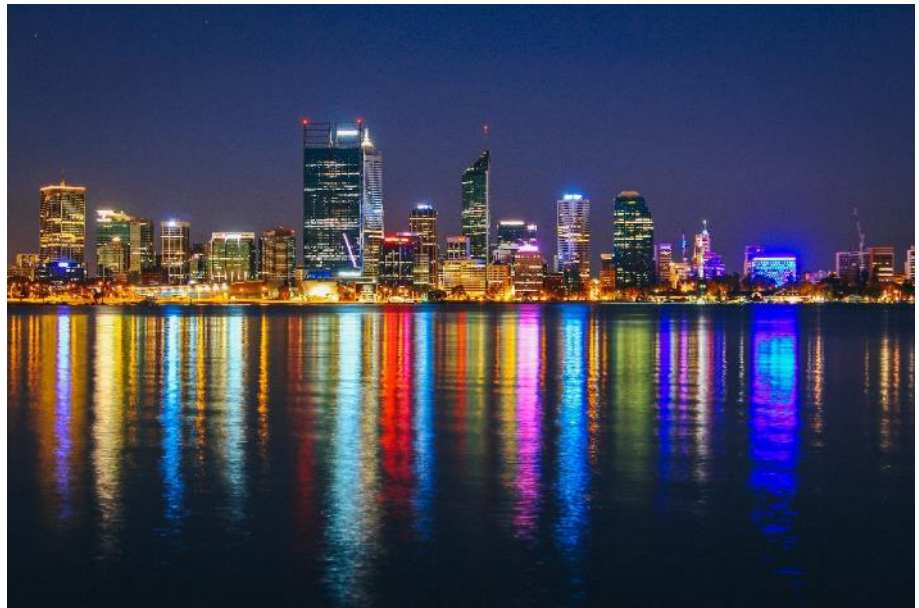
Please note that Rehoboth Christian College does not employ the services of Education Agents to recruit international students. Prospective families should contact the College directly.

5. LOCATION, CULTURE, AND QUALITY OF LIFE

Western Australia (WA) has a population of just over 2 million, one tenth of Australia's total population. WA's cultural mix is also one the most diverse in the world –12% of the State's population speak a language other than English at home, with the main languages spoken being Italian, dialects of Chinese, Vietnamese, and German.



Kings Park



Perth Skyline at Night



Local Transperth Station



Meet the Wildlife

World-standard cultural facilities and theatres are home to the State's nationally acclaimed symphony orchestra, ballet, modern dance, opera, and theatre companies. Each February, the Perth International Arts Festival provides a major showcase of international and local performers.

Residents and visitors also have access to numerous public and private galleries and museums, with major touring exhibitions supplementing local collections. For those with more contemporary tastes, Perth is on many major festival and tour itineraries, while numerous clubs and hotels foster a vibrant local musical scene.

Sporting facilities, such as magnificent golf courses, are plentiful. Compared with most Asian countries, club membership costs are low. WA teams are prominent at the national level in a wide range of sports.

5.1 Perth: Our Capital City

Perth is home to 1.41 million people with approximately 30% of its population born overseas. Society is extraordinarily harmonious, and all newcomers and visitors are welcome. Sophisticated yet uncomplicated, WA's lifestyle is a relaxed one. Enjoying more hours of sunshine than any other capital city in Australia, Perth has much to offer.



Matagarup Bridge



Cottesloe Beach

To many overseas visitors, Perth is seen as unique among the world's cities – despite its tall city buildings, extensive freeway system, and state-of-the-art electric trains. Perhaps it's the friendly people, the easy-living Mediterranean climate, and the sprawling low-rise suburbs. Perhaps it's the closeness to the beach because no matter where you live in Perth, you are never far away from the ocean.

Two out of every three Western Australians own or are in the process of buying their own home. Housing in Perth is an excellent investment and rental accommodation is readily available.

Perth's bustling central business district is just seven kilometres from the coast – perched on the banks of the majestic Swan River and nestled beneath the city's 400-hectare botanical showcase, Kings Park. A fifteen-minute drive to the east is

the modern international and domestic airports, while 15 kilometres to the southwest is Fremantle, the closest major Australian port to Singapore.

Transperth provide the Perth metropolitan region with bus, train, and ferry public transport services, with an extensive network. More information can be found at the [Transperth website](#).

6. STUDYING IN PERTH

The following online resources contain valuable information on studying in Perth as an international student:

- [StudyPerth](#)
- Study West
- [Study Australia](#)

7. ACCOMMODATION

Students enrolling for Primary Years 1-6 must be living with a parent or a close relative for the duration of the course. They must have an adequate level of English language proficiency (see details of bands and testing over page).

Students enrolling at the Secondary School who are under 18 years of age can only be accepted if the student is living with an immediate relative or with a guardian under a Home Stay Arrangement.

Living with English speaking families will be an advantage to students wishing to improve their language skills. If students want to stay with family or friends in Perth, this information must be submitted to the college before students begin their studies. The family or friends must be over 18 years of age, they must be resident in the State of Western Australia, and they cannot be international students themselves. The Finance Manager must approve all accommodation arrangements.



Fremantle Esplanade

Our Homestay Program places international students into Christian families who are committed to the care and wellbeing of the visiting student. Many of these families have children who are students at the College. Where the College arranges homestay accommodation, the parents/guardians of students who are under 18 years of age must certify that they are satisfied with the homestay arrangements made on their child's behalf.

If a student arranges their own accommodation this must be approved by the Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP). This will become evident when processing the Certificate of Enrolment through PRISMS. If the DIBP deem the accommodation to be unsuitable then the enrolment of the student is cancelled.

8. PRIMARY COURSE YEARS 1-6 (CODE 32671G)

8.1 English Level Required

It must be stressed that a student's level of English language ability is a major factor in determining whether a place can be offered at Rehoboth. There are different ways for testing language ability depending on the student's age:

Kindy to Year 3: Non-English speaking international Students from Kindy to Year 3 seeking a place at Rehoboth will be assessed verbally. The Principal may insist on English language tutoring, which will be at the parents' expense.



Wilson Campus Students at Play

Years 4-6: Non-English speaking international students in Years 4-6 seeking a place at Rehoboth Christian College must be tested by the [Australian Education Assessment Services](#) (AEAS). The AEAS Test provides an educational profile on each student and covers English Language ability. Details of international representatives who administer the AEAS Test will be sent to students who enquire about studies at Rehoboth. It is the responsibility of parents/students to contact the appropriate representative to make arrangements for sitting the Test. The cost of this assessment, which is payable by parents or students, is approximately AUD\$320. Completed test papers are forwarded by the representatives to Melbourne, Australia, for marking. AEAS will forward a completed assessment report to Rehoboth Christian College, the parents and the international representative. Upon receipt of the report, we will advise the student through the appropriate representative of the result of their application. A satisfactory result in the AEAS Test does not guarantee a place at Rehoboth. The firm offer of a place depends on a range of factor, including whether a vacancy is available at the



College. We give each applicant careful consideration, but the demand for places is heavy and, reluctantly, we are forced to disappoint some applicants.

8.2 General Requirements

- a) **Code of Conduct:** Students must demonstrate acceptable attendance, behaviour, effort, and attitude in keeping with the Christian ethos of the College. Our [Code of Conduct](#) outlines the standards of behaviour expected of all students.
- b) **Terms:** There are four terms per year, each of approximately ten weeks, with two-week holiday periods between terms. The long summer holiday of approximately six weeks occurs during December and January.
- c) **Hours of Tuition:** Hours of tuition are from 8:40am to 3:10pm Monday to Friday during term times.
- d) **Attendance:** Students must attend classes for 100% of College time unless they have a medical certificate or a letter from their parent, guardian, or homestay parent advising that there is good reason for the student to be absent. If a student is absent without permission his or her Certificate of Enrolment may be withdrawn.
- e) **Monitoring of Results:** Students in mainstream school programs at Rehoboth Christian College receive a full college report at the end of each semester. It is expected that students will maintain an academic standard that is appropriate to their ability, or their enrolment at the College may be at risk.
- f) **Student Visa:** The Primary course is available to holders of appropriate student visas.

9. SECONDARY COURSE YEARS 7-12 (CODE: 032673E)

9.1 English Level Required

It must be stressed that a student's level of English language ability is a major factor in determining whether a place can be offered at Rehoboth. For entry into our Secondary School (Years 7-12), students are tested through the [Australian Education Assessment Services](#) (AEAS) for language and academic ability. It also covers non-verbal reasoning ability and mathematical reasoning ability.

Students must satisfy all the requirements of the AEAS assessment for their age and year level. For entry to Years 7-9 this is the equivalent of Level 5+ and for Year 10 it is Level 6 on the NLLIA ESL Band scales.



Year 12 Students Hard at Work

Students may also be asked to provide work samples from a previous school as evidence of their ability in a given area of study.

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- d) **Attendance:** Students must attend classes for 100% of College time unless they have a medical certificate or a letter from their parent, guardian, or homestay parent advising that there is good reason for the student to be absent. If a student is absent without permission his or her enrolment at the College is at risk.
- e) **Monitoring of Results:** Students in mainstream school programs at Rehoboth Christian College receive a full college report at the end of each semester. It is expected that students will maintain an academic standard that is appropriate to their ability, or their enrolment at the College may be at risk.
- f) **Student Visa:** The Secondary course is available to holders of appropriate student visas.

9.3 Entry Prerequisites

International students entering the Secondary course must have completed the equivalent prior year level in their home country or within Australia (e.g. for a student to enter Year 10, they must have completed the equivalent of Year 9).

For course content, teaching methods, and assessment please see the College year level handbooks.

10. CONDITIONS OF ENROLMENT

When a student application for enrolment has been accepted by the College, the parents must agree to conditions similar to the following:

- a) **Fees Payment:** To be responsible for and to pay all fees and expenses incurred in accordance with the terms set forth in this Handbook and acknowledge personal liability, punctually as they fall due.
- b) **Removal and Deferment/Suspension:** Families are required to provide one term's notice before the removal of the student from the course in which they are enrolled, or to pay one term's fees in lieu of notice. In order to be valid and binding such notice will be in writing duly signed and delivered to the Finance Manager at the Business Office. Note that there are restrictions on transferring between schools during the first six months of attendance. Where it becomes clear that a student is unlikely to complete a course of study within the expected period of enrolment, the College may in certain limited circumstances extend the duration of a student's study period. This extension will result in the requirement for an amended COE. Circumstances that are contemplated as likely to give rise to such adjustment are:
 - i. illness supported by medical evidence;
 - ii. personal circumstances that merit an intervention on compassionate grounds;
 - iii. where the College is unable to offer a particular pre-requisite unit;
 - iv. where interventions have been put into place in order to support students at academic risk
 - v. other approved deferment or suspension of studies.
- c) **Absences:** Students are not permitted to be absent from College without leave of absence being granted by the College. The term dates as advertised by the College will be strictly adhered to. Students absent from College without permission will forfeit any credit for assessments missed during their absence, and this may place their enrolment in jeopardy. It is understood that students may require to be absent owing to illness or other unforeseen and genuine circumstances. The College Administration Assistant is to be advised before 9:00am on any day of absence and a note of explanation given to the secretary on the student's return to College.
- d) **Discipline:** To fully support the Biblical concepts as set forth in this Handbook and agree to the student submitting to the College's Code of Conduct and applicable policies as published by the College (subject to amendment by the Principal and the faculty of the College). Within the scope of our Discipline Policy, the Principal has authority to apply whatever disciplinary measure is deemed necessary in relation to the conduct of the student both inside and outside the College precincts or to require the removal of the student, for any cause judged by the Principal to be sufficient. Implications for the on-going viability of a student's visa (and therefore for their ability to remain in Australia) may occur if a student is suspended or excluded. The College will continue to provide the appropriate schoolwork until the appeal process has been concluded.



- e) **Emergencies:** In the event of any medical or other emergency arising in which the College considers it impossible or impracticable to communicate with the parents/guardians of the student or any other nominated contact, parents authorise the staff responsible to act as they may think necessary or expedient.
- f) **Change of Relationship:** Parents/guardians must inform the Principal if there is a change in their relationship with each other after signing the Enrolment Form (e.g. divorce or separation). Unless otherwise directed, the Principal will require that a new Conditions of Enrolment Agreement be completed by the person who is to assume the obligation of paying College fees. All information given to the Principal will be treated in the strictest confidence.
- g) **Change of Address:** In accordance with the ESOS Legislation students are required to advise the College of any change in address and contact details within seven days of any change. Failure to notify the College will jeopardise the student's visa.
- h) **Academic Performance:** In accordance with the ESOS Legislation students are required to maintain satisfactory course progress in their academic studies. Satisfactory course progress is defined as the passing of more than 50% of the student's subjects in each study period. A study period is defined as one semester (consisting of two terms). Students can expect to be fully supported towards this aim, with academic progress being reported regularly during the year; however, it should be noted that failure to achieve satisfactory course progress may lead to a breach of the student's visa conditions.
- i) **Attendance:** If a student's attendance falls below 80% the College is obligated to report the student to the Department of Immigration and Border Protection using PRISMS which will place the ongoing validity of their Visa at risk.
- j) **Accommodation:** Parents/guardians of Primary students have arranged accommodation for the student independently of the College. This arrangement is with a parent or family members who are resident in the state of Western Australia and who are not international students themselves. Parents/guardians of Secondary students have arranged accommodation for the student independently of the College. This arrangement is with family or friends who are over 18 years of age, resident in the state of Western Australia, and who are not international students themselves.

Or

Parents/guardians are satisfied with the homestay arrangements made by the College for the student.



REHOBOTH CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

- k) **Refund Policy:** The College requires prepayment of a semester's fees in advance. Only then is a Confirmation of Enrolment form (COE) issued. This is needed to apply for a student visa. See the table below for our refund schedule:

Reason for refund	Notification period	Refund
Students application for a student visa is unsuccessful	Before semester commences	Full refund less \$200 administration charge.
Student visa withdrawn	More than 10 weeks before commences	Full refund less \$200 administration charge.
	4-10 weeks before semester commences	70% of a semester's fees less \$200 administration charge.
	4 weeks or less before semester commences	40% of a semester's fees less \$200 administration charge.
	After the semester has commences and during the first 4 weeks	30% of a semester's fee less \$200 administration charge.
	After 4 weeks	No refund is given.
Provider withdraws offer, fails to provide program offered, or terminates an education service	Before or after semester commences	Full refund is given under ESOS Act 2000.
Provider withdraws a student from an education service because the student has seriously breached international student visa conditions or provider's rules	After semester commences	No refund of the semester's fees is offered. If the student has paid for a subsequent semester in advance, no less than 40% of fees charged for the subsequent semester may be refunded. Applies to two semesters only. If more than two semesters have been paid, the third and following semester fees are refunded.



11. INTERNATIONAL STUDENT POLICY SUITE

The following College policies apply to international students and their families:

- [Child Safe Framework](#)
- [Code of Conduct \(Students\)](#)
- [Discipline \(Foundational Understandings\)](#)
- [International Students Policy](#)
- [International Students \(Complaints and Grievances\) Policy](#)
- [International Students \(Deferment, Suspension, or Cancellations\) Policy](#)
- [International Students \(Discipline\) Policy](#)
- [International Students \(Home Stay Arrangements\) Policy](#)
- [International Students \(Refunds\) Policy](#)
- [International Students \(Support\) Policy](#)
- [International Students \(Transfer Between Schools\) Policy](#)