Department of Education

Shaping the future

Canning CollegeInformation for Applicants

The Principal's role

Canning College (the College) operates nearly 52 weeks of the year. To enable this, all non-teaching staff members are public servants. This has clear implications for the person who is appointed as Principal.

Significant work the Principal will engage with in January includes ongoing enrolment and visa processes, overseas marketing and orientation programs. Similar requirements arise in term holidays to accommodate start dates throughout the year.

A team of College staff contribute to international engagement and marketing. The Principal is not required for all of these trips, but is critical to some, particularly those that involve agreements with schools and other partners. This can mean significant time away from home and the College.

The Principal is effectively running a particular form of business. The success of the College relies on overseas marketing and the building of links with the international education community leading to the recruitment of students to meet the operational costs of the College. The Department of Education has provided additional resourcing during the COVID years as a welcome response to the reduction in international enrolments.

The Principal of the College possesses guardianship for most College students who are under 18 years of age. Exceptions are those students staying with close relatives. This imposes a level of care for students outside of school hours. The College has a 24-hour contact number for students. This number generally resides with the Director of the International Office.

The College operates a dedicated international office for the management of many of the practices touched on in this document. The operations of the International Office are essential to the well-being of the College. The Principal will work with and lead the operations of this office with close regard to the federal legislation and of course in compliance with all Department of Education Western Australia requirements.

Curriculum and partnerships

The College community and partnerships are quite unique. This includes parents, who in most cases reside overseas, adult students and public servants. Partnerships include those with education agents based in Perth and in a range of countries, the universities of Western Australia (WA), Study Perth, International Education Association of Australia, WA Trade Offices, and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT). It should be noted that some College curriculum is owned by the universities and many students are enrolled in a

"packaged" program with those universities. The College markets in conjunction with universities – particularly Curtin University (Curtin) and the University of Western Australia (UWA). Some students that are over the age of 18 are housed at Vickery House which is located at Curtin.

The College works directly with the Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) for the approval and development of its international curriculum. Other WA providers work through Technical and Further Education (TAFE) for international program accreditation.

The College holds its own Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students (CRICOS) registration. Schools operate under auspice of TAFE International Western Australia (TIWA) CRICOS. As a CRICOS holder, the College manages all aspects of its international operations. This requires implementation of, and compliance with, federal Education Services for Overseas Students (ESOS) legislation. Related to this is the essential adherence the related National Code of Practice for Providers of Education to Overseas Students. Under the ESOS framework, the College is also responsible for implementing the Foundation Program Standards 2021. This comprehensive legislative framework guides much of the work of the College and the Principal.

As a CRICOS holder, the College holds the Confirmation of Appropriate Accommodation and Welfare (CAAW) for students under the age of 18. This requires partnerships with, and approval of, homestay providers. This differs significantly from schools where the CAAW is held by TIWA.

The Diploma of Commerce is ASQA accredited but is in fact part of a higher education program (which was its initial accreditation) as the first year of Business degrees at UWA and Curtin.

The curriculum and pathways programs at the College are complex and designed to support the specific needs of international students. As an example, a student may progress through a program consisting of Bridging, Foundation, Diploma of Commerce into second year of Business studies at Curtin or UWA. Student commencements occur in February, April, July and September to meet academic needs and diverse academic years of partner countries.

The College has been delivering courses online in response to COVID. Decisions about this for the future will be a significant issue.