

An outstanding environment to shape your teaching career



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Teaching is a complex and demanding career. Unfortunately current teacher training programmes do not adequately prepare graduates for the classroom. The first few years of teaching in a school are a critical time where early career teachers have a great deal to learn and practice. It is important that the school is committed to providing the support and resources necessary to develop the core teaching skills of early career teachers. At the same time this process is much easier when there is a calm and orderly environment. A school that provides strong levels of professional support, clear resources and ongoing classroom level involvement will make an enormous difference to the development of your teaching practice.

For these reasons it is important to carefully choose the school in which you will begin your teaching career.

What GVGS offers early career teachers

Teachers who are new to the profession, or new to Shepparton are provided with a number of support mechanisms at Goulburn Valley Grammar School (GVGS) to ensure they thrive in their new roles, while also maintaining a healthy work/life balance.

Relocation support

The School will provide a payment of \$4000 to a graduate to assist with relocation costs. The School will also assist with introductions and or advice to local real estate agents for rental accommodation.

Reduced Teaching Load

GVGS acknowledges the challenges of being a new graduate and the additional time it can take to perform certain elements of your role at the beginning of your career. As a result, we ensure that teachers who are in their first year of teaching receive a reduced teaching load, when compared to more experienced colleagues. This additional time release is utilised to focus on professional learning and development, or to catch up on some of the day-to-day tasks that teachers undertake.

Mentoring

All new teachers at GVGS are appointed two mentors. One mentor is the Head of the teaching method where they spend the majority of their time teaching, while the other mentor is one of the members of the School Leadership Team. There is also informal mentoring that takes place from members of your office and other teachers who have recently joined the School, with more experienced teachers taking great pride in the support they provide our newest staff members. This strong support system helps to ensure that new staff quickly grasp the School's protocols and are able to apply them in their teaching practice.

Resources

All departments and year levels at GVGS are well set-up with clear curriculum documentation, lesson plans and supporting materials to ensure new teachers are not spending inordinate time preparing for each lesson. Colleagues are also extremely supportive in ensuring that new teachers have all the resources they need to be well-prepared for their lessons.





VIT Support

Each provisionally registered teacher at GVGS is supported through the Victorian Institute of Teaching process to move their registration from provisional to full registration. The Inquiry Process to become a fully registered teacher is carefully managed to include regular meetings with a member of the School Leadership Team to ensure the process doesn't become overwhelming and is approached with small, manageable steps.

New Staff Lunches

All new teachers at GVGS attend one lunchtime catch-up each term with their mentors to discuss upcoming events on the School calendar, get to know other members of staff, receive professional learning and be provided with the opportunity to ask any questions they may have.

Professional Learning

All teachers at GVGS are exposed to an extensive Professional Learning programme that clearly connects to our Teaching and Learning Model, which is based on the latest from the Science of Learning. All teachers attend regular internal professional learning sessions, while there are also many external opportunities that teachers are encouraged to attend. New graduates have the opportunity to involve themselves in professional learning specific to early career teachers through Independent Schools Victoria, with a strong emphasis on behaviour management. Teachers are also encouraged to identify their own areas of interest/improvement and our extensive professional learning budget ensures that off-site opportunities for learning are generously supported.





Induction Programme

The School has an Induction Programme for all new teachers to ensure that the basics of school logistics are covered before the beginning of the new school year, while also guaranteeing that new staff have a strong understanding of our Teaching and Learning Model before they start teaching.

Learning Support

GVGS currently employs five Learning Support staff members whose role it is to support students with additional needs in each classroom. Their expertise is guided by our Learning Support Coordinator, who ensures that all students with learning disabilities are well-supported, and all teachers have a strong understanding of how they can maximise learning opportunities for each student.

Socialising

With a number of young staff moving to Shepparton and GVGS from outside the region over the past few years, there is a strong network of exuberant teachers who regularly socialise at weekly Trivia competitions, and bond over their similarities in being a teacher in a new town and school. Many of our staff members are also affiliated with local sporting clubs and help to introduce new teachers to clubs they may like to connect with.





Our reason and purpose

Moral purpose

- We aim to improve the lives of our students through learning
- Our motto "Semper Ulterius" (Always further) challenges us to strive for improvement in all that we do

Beliefs

- All students have the capacity to grow in their learning each year with appropriate curriculum and teaching practices
- Our motto sets high expectations for students, staff and the School as a whole
- A commitment to continuous improvement is critical to ensuring we continue to achieve our mission

Evidence informed practice

There is over 50 years of international research identifying which curriculum and instructional practices are most likely to have the most impact for most students. We strive to make decisions regarding what and how we teach that are informed by this extensive body of evidence.





Our commitments

- all our efforts should be directed toward student learning
- we see learning and wellbeing as being complementary to each other
- learning includes content knowledge and skills from the traditional academic disciplines and personal and social capabilities
- we strive for students to experience at least one year's learning growth for each year of engagement
- we set high expectations for each student regardless of their starting point
- all students will experience a guaranteed and viable curriculum
- we will teach students using evidence informed instructional practices
- we aim to create a school culture and classroom climate where learning and wellbeing are optimised
- we will develop powerful learning partnerships between students, teachers and parents
- through a commitment to collective efficacy our staff will strive to improve our curriculum and teaching practice
- we monitor our impact and use evidence to inform our decisions and actions



School Profile

The School is non-denominational and open entry. We hold high expectations regarding student learning and achievement. At the same time, the School places a priority on being a caring and respectful community where each student is recognised. There is a positive community culture and a rich Co-curricular Programme which aims to promote the balanced development of resilient young people.

- Co-educational, open entry and non-denominational school
- Situated on a 17-hectare site six kilometres north of central Shepparton
- Enrolment capacity of 700 students
- Typical enrolment:
 - Years 5 to 6, 50 students per year level
 - Years 7 to 12, 100 students per year level
- Employs approximately 70 teaching staff and 35 operational staff
- In Years 5 to 10 the Learning Programme is founded on the Victorian Curriculum
- In Years 11 to 12 students complete the Victorian Certificate of Education
- Well-established, high-quality facilities
- Beautifully maintained and landscaped grounds
- The School draws enrolments from across the Goulburn Valley and Northern Country Victoria including the areas surrounding Greater Shepparton, Seymour, Murchison, Nagambie, Euroa, Benalla, Yarrawonga, Cobram, Tocumwal, Echuca and Kyabram

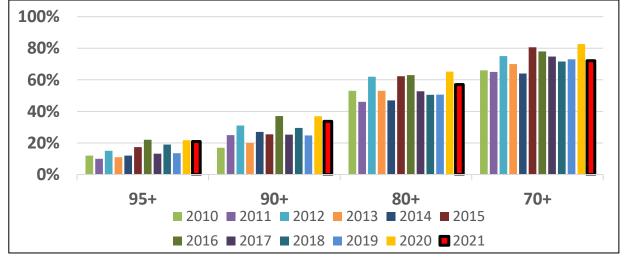
Learning outcomes

VCE - Class of 2021

- Outperformed 91% of all Victorian schools
- Ranked 3rd school in regional and rural Victoria
- Ranked 45th in State (520 schools offering VCE)
- Avg. for other schools in region = 365

Tertiary offers – Class of 2021

- 97% 1st round offer degree
- 90% offer in their first 3 preferences
- 81% offered a degree course from Melbourne, Monash, La Trobe or Deakin Universities



GVGS- VCE ATAR Score distribution over time - 2010 - 2021



Professional Environment

We have a school with abundant high-quality teaching; however as professionals, we have an ethical obligation to reflect on and improve the effectiveness of our teaching. This involves a commitment to an ongoing cycle of building professional knowledge, gathering feedback on practice and implementing appropriate strategies to improve effectiveness.

Our School motto Semper Ulterius asks students to strive always further. This motto is equally relevant for our staff. We therefore have a professional commitment for all staff to continuous improvement in their professional performance.

Our School is a professionally rewarding and stimulating environment featuring extensive collaboration and professional learning. The School supports this aspiration through extensive and generous opportunities for professional learning both internally and externally.

Terms and conditions of employment

GVGS strives to be an employer of choice. The School offers excellent terms and conditions of employment and is proactive in seeking ways to support the professional development, health and well-being of staff. The School remunerates staff with competitive salaries and allowances. The low staff turnover and long service of many staff is reflective of the positive nature of the school climate.

The School is well-established having commenced classes in 1982. The School enjoys a strong and secure financial position due to prudent financial governance by the School Board, Finance Committee and Business Manager.

Links to find out more

https://www.gvgs.vic.edu.au/ https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100071253321270



Why live in the Goulburn Valley?

The region offers a wonderful quality of life. Compared to cities such as Melbourne there is minimal traffic and daily commute times can virtually be eliminated. A wide range of lifestyle accommodation is available with lower cost and transport times. Residents can choose from affordable options including inner city (walk to everything lifestyle), to rural retreats, hobby farms and modern housing estates.

Shepparton is located in the heart of Victoria.

- easily commute to work in 10 minutes or less!
- 2 hours drive from the Melbourne CBD
- public transport links to Melbourne
- 40 minutes to leading wineries and artisan food producers
- 45 minutes to Echuca
- 50 minutes to Cobram/Barooga sports clubs
- 2.5 hours to Mt Buller

Greater Shepparton in the heart of the Goulburn Valley is the fourth largest provincial centre in Victoria. Shepparton township is located at the confluence of the Goulburn and Broken Rivers and at the intersection of the Goulburn Valley and Midland Highways. The region has a diverse population, with 15.7% of residents born overseas.

For more information:

https://www.facebook.com/Discover-Shepparton-116536731714199/ https://www.facebook.com/GreaterShepparton

Food, Wine and Farmgate

The Goulburn Valley is the food bowl of Victoria and is proud of the wide range of local food and wine producers. Many are award winning and reflect the regions distinctive productive climate and soils. <u>http://www.visitshepparton.com.au</u>

Lifestyle

The region boasts excellent lifestyle opportunities with outstanding sporting facilities and competitions including netball, football, tennis, hockey, soccer, golf, triathlon, cycling, swimming, rowing, cricket and basketball.

For an extensive listing of recreation opportunities in the region see: http://greatershepparton.com.au/community/recreation

- Aquamoves Aquamoves Shepparton is the place to go for fun and fitness, with indoor and outdoor pools, and a full range of fitness facilities and programs. <u>http://aquamoves.com.au/</u>
- Extensive shared bicycle/walking path network
- Shepparton Theatre Arts Group http://stagtheatre.com/
- SPC KidsTown is a world-class children's adventure playground http://kidstown.org.au/

Cost for sport, recreation, cafes and restaurants are also often significantly lower than in major cities e.g. Shepparton Golf Club membership \$1036p.a. (June 2020)

The ARTs

Shepparton Art Museum



The new Shepparton Art Museum (affectionately known as SAM) is one of regional Australia's premier cultural institutions. SAM's public galleries feature its permanent collection along with a series of changing exhibitions. SAM also provides a wide range of education and public programs. Open 7 days, entry into SAM is free! https://sheppartonartmuseum.com.au/

Riverlinks

Arts, Entertainment, Conventions and Exhibitions—<u>http://www.riverlinksvenues.com.au/</u> Riverlinks is the home of performing arts and entertainment in Greater Shepparton. With an extensive calendar of performances programmed for both the Eastbank Centre in Shepparton and WestSide Performing Arts Centre in Mooroopna, Riverlinks has the reputation for delivering one of the best arts and entertainment programs in regional Australia. Comedy, dance, music, theatre and family entertainment. Drop in, grab a coffee or a light meal and discover a world of entertainment in the heart of the Shepparton CBD.

SheppARTon Festival

SheppARTon Festival has been successfully staged in March each year and is regarded as a major calendar event within regional Victoria.

The diverse program achieves a balance between the innovative and the mainstream in a way that was calculated to appeal to a wide audience. There is an emphasis on mixing community created arts with professionally produced and performed work.

Make sure you put plenty of time aside to take in the delights of the SheppART on Festival. <u>http://www.sheppartonfestival.org.au</u>

Aboriginal Heritage

The Yorta Yorta are the Traditional Owners of a unique stretch of country now known as the Murray Goulburn region of northern Victoria and southern NSW. It includes towns such as Echuca, Shepparton, Wangaratta, Benalla, Yarrawonga and Tocumwal. At its heart is the Murray River.

The name Yorta Yorta comes from the traditional language spoken by all Aboriginal Traditional Owner clans across the region. The Yorta Yorta Nation is inclusive of all clans and family groups. These include the Kaitheban, Wollithiga, Moira, Ulupna, Bangerang, Kwat Kwat, Yalaba Yalaba and Ngurai-illiam-wurrung.

Shepparton has Victoria's second largest Aboriginal community after Melbourne, making up approximately 10% of the city's population.

Diversity

Shepparton has a large immigrant community, with people from places such as England, Scotland, Wales, India, Albania, Afghanistan, Iraq, Greece, Italy, Sudan and Macedonia as well as many other places. Shepparton has Churches, Mosques and a Sikh Gurduara. As the city has a large and diverse mix of people from different cultures, and faith backgrounds the community benefits from this mix with a wide range of food and festivals in the area.

Cost of Living

The cost of living in the Goulburn Valley is considerably lower than in Melbourne. A recent graduate was able to purchase a new 3 BR home after only a few years of employment.



Renting (Median per Week)	Shepparton	Brunswick	Buying (Median prices)	Shepparton	Brunswick
Units	\$	\$	Units	\$	\$
Median	290	390	Median	281,000	565,000
1 BR	207	330	1 BR	-	420,000
2 BR	270	420	2 BR	265,000	595,000
3 BR	365	617	3 BR	383,000	1,025,000
Houses	\$	\$	Houses	\$	\$
Median	360	620	Median	380,000	1,350,000
2 BR	310	550	2 BR	315,000	1,187,500
3 BR	350	667	3 BR	360,000	1,430,000
4 BR	435	820	4 BR	490,000	1,660,000

Median property rent and prices (May 2022)

Source: https://www.realestate.com.au/neighbourhoods/shepparton-3630-vic

There are many more options in the outskirts and in neighboring towns including lifestyle properties on large allotments with acreage.

Health Care

Goulburn Valley Health provides a range of high-quality services for people of all ages and diverse health needs – from services for Women and Children to Aged Care, Mental Health, Cancer and Wellness Services, Community Services, Dental, Dialysis, Drug and Alcohol Services, Emergency Department, Medical and Surgical Care.

The hospital is currently undergoing a \$229 million redevelopment to expand and further improve emergency care.

Shepparton Private Hospital is a 69-bed private surgical and medical hospital owned and operated by Australia's largest private hospital operators, Ramsay Health Care. The hospital provides medical, surgical, endoscopic, oncology, mental health, and rehabilitation care. Shepparton Private Hospital is considered one of the finest private hospitals in rural Victoria.

Universities

University of Melbourne

The Shepparton Rural Clinical School (RCS) is a University of Melbourne Rural Clinical school affiliated with Goulburn Valley Health and is located adjacent to the hospital. Students studying the Doctor of Medicine (MD) are allocated to a clinical school for the final 3 years of their course.

LaTrobe University – Shepparton Campus Undergraduate programmes include:



Aboriginal studies, Accounting, Arts, Business, English, Exercise Science, Health Promotion, History, Human Resource Management, Marketing, Nursing, Occupational Therapy, Paramedicine, Philosophy, Physiotherapy, Podiatry, Politics, Psychology, Sociology, Speech Pathology

TAFE

GOTAFE is the largest vocational education provider in regional Victoria. Offering over 130 courses across nine campuses, GOTAFE services 11 local government areas with an estimated resident population of over 240,000 people. We service more than 9,000 students per year on average. <u>https://www.gotafe.vic.edu.au/campuses/shepparton-fryers-street</u>

For more information on living in the Goulburn Valley:

http://greatershepparton.com.au/region/moving-here