Modern | Thinking | Judaism

An outstanding environment where individuality & self-expression are valued...

The King David School fosters creativity and self-expression through our exceptional music and performing arts programs. Students are offered diversity and many performance opportunities, while our highly qualified music staff provide tuition on a range of musical instruments. Our visual arts department is a dynamic area where creative thinking and conceptual development are at the forefront of programs delivered by subjects such as Art, Media Studies, Visual Communication and Design. These programs enable students to develop visual literacy and awareness and ultimately empower students to unlock their creativity, using state of the art technology.

At The King David School opportunities for excellence are increased through engagement with 21st century demands.

Technological Innovation

In an Australian first, The King David School is the only school in Australia to have competed at the International CanSat competition in France. Our School has attracted the attention of the Victorian Space Science Education Centre, and will continue an ongoing relationship with the Centre as a result of our cutting edge science initiatives. This year will also see The King David School represent Victoria at Australia’s inaugural FIRST Robotics Competition. The King David School team is backed by BAE Systems Australia, a global leader in the defence and technology industry, who have offered their support. This will provide a fantastic opportunity for our students and mentors to work alongside some of the world’s best engineers, scientists and technology experts.

Building resilience

The King David School Year 9 Expanding Horizons program offers students opportunities to explore themselves and the world in which they live, as well as develop their personal and thinking skills.

Milorad Cerovac won Teacher of the Year at the National Excellence in Teaching Awards and the Australian Scholarships Group.
We believe that academic excellence, creativity, imagination & resilience are fundamental tools for tomorrow’s leaders...

**Challenge through philosophy**

At The King David School, we challenge our students to know and understand both themselves and their place in the environment. Guided by the principles of social justice, we value the contributions of every member of the school community.

The ‘Learning & Enquiry Through Thinking Engagement & Reflection’ (LETTER) **Philosophy project** is an innovative program from Kindergarten to VCE, drawing together the skills of philosophy and the principles of Project Zero from Harvard University. The King David School’s outstanding teaching staff incorporate thinking routines in their classrooms and assist students to make thinking visible so that it can be constantly extended.

**Engaging programs**

In a unique initiative, **The Thinking Exhibition** is a Year 8 program where students delve into their own intelligences to define their individual learning styles—then study and present an eminent personality who shares their style. It is a creative, innovative program that develops independent research skills and helps students identify relevant role-models.

**Valuing every member of the school community**

The Simon Wassertheil Public Speaking Competition is held annually at our Middle School. Simon was a past student at the School who suffered from spina bifida and sadly passed away as a young person. To perpetuate and honour his memory, the School initiated this competition which promotes self-confidence, strong communication, good listening skills, among many other benefits.

Students across years 5 to 8 present written prepared speeches and deliver impromptu speeches in their English class.
As the only Progressive Jewish School, Jewish values & tradition are at the core of our being.

Creating a shared learning environment

Jewish Studies teachers Shayndel Samuel and Damian Green wrote the ‘Religion & Society’ text used by all other Jewish Day Schools.

We aim to cultivate an understanding and acceptance of cultural diversity in a caring environment of open enquiry, gender equity and positive encouragement.

Through the Centre for Living Judaism (CLJ), King David students are linked to the wider Progressive Jewish community. A unique resource, each child’s journey is enriched through junior school foundation experiences, to B’nei Mitzvot, the Yesh Israel trip in Year 10 and beyond.

At The King David School, students are actively taught tolerance and are encouraged to participate in Inter-Faith programs, embracing religious diversity as they take their position as global citizens.

An Interview with our CLJ Fellowes

As a Jewish Life Fellow to The King David School students, how would you describe your role?

Our role is to provide opportunities for students to engage with their Judaism at every turn. Whether by going on camps or celebrating Jewish Chaggim with them at school, students engage with their Judaism in an exciting way.

What is your greatest “nachat” as a Hebrew Madrich?

When our students become the leaders of their own Jewish experiences, of their own Jewish lives and we start to just be supporting roles. The conversations...after T’fillah in the corridor hearing them interact with each other or on camps - watching them discuss Jewish issues and being there if they need help with something.

How important is a Jewish education for the children of this generation?

A Jewish education is of supreme importance especially today, as the world becomes more dispersed. We are not interested in making Jewish decisions for our students - we are interested in them making informed decisions for themselves.

Marshall and Stephanie, thank you so much for your time.
‘A distinct sense of community sets The King David School apart, as our students learn the value of giving and community commitment. Every student is encouraged to take part in a journey of personal growth in the academic, physical, spiritual and emotional domains. The King David School is committed to ensuring equity and opportunity for children seeking a Jewish education’.

Michele Bernshaw, Principal The King David School

How to donate to the The King David School 2012 Annual Appeal

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Thank you sincerely for your support of the 2012 King David School Annual Appeal.