

Case study: global competency



Karen Gorrie, St Margaret's Anglican Girls School, QLD

Abstract

Each year at St Margaret's Anglican Girls School, approximately one third of the Year 10 cohort participates in a [Global Exchange opportunity](#) for 8-10 weeks. The program aims to assist the development of confident, capable and compassionate young women who contribute successfully to the global community and to facilitate students' knowledge from a global perspective to promote an appreciation and an understanding of the diversity of people and culture. The program encourages students to learn to adapt to new environments with different expectations, thus promoting personal growth and the qualities of becoming ambassadors for their family, school and country. This session will explain how this successful program is run and the inclusion of Cultural Competency/Intelligence testing in the selection process.

Biography

Karen Gorrie is currently the Deputy Principal at St Margaret's Anglican Girls School. She has over 25 years' experience in education, beginning her teaching career teaching Japanese to both primary and secondary students. She has also taught Geography, History, Humanities and Religious and Values Education.

She is passionate about providing quality pastoral, curriculum and leadership opportunities for girls. This has led her to write articles for various publications and present at national and state conferences in the languages area and in leadership. More recently she undertook the Art of Leadership course at Harvard University in June/July 2019.

Directly after university, Karen lived in Japan for three years and is an advocate for promoting global citizenship for young people. She truly believes that we educate our young people and those in our school communities to create an inclusive culture, so we don't perpetuate an exclusive one.

Karen currently oversees a Global Exchange Program, a signature program at her school which offers approximately 30 students in Year 10 the opportunity to spend one term abroad at one of 11 schools in six different countries. This program enables her students to acquire and further develop new skills in problem solving, independent decision-making and social poise, expand cultural and ethnic awareness, and enhance their passion for learning.

