

# ADELAIDE - AUSTRALIA

## A CITY OF LEARNING



### ADELAIDE - WELCOME TO OUR CITY

**Progressive, creative, cosmopolitan and stylish, Adelaide is home to about 1.2 million people. As the capital of South Australia, it is the centre of the State's economic, political, social and cultural life, and hosts leading research and development institutions in the fields of education, agriculture, fishing, defence, health and high-tech manufacturing.**

With a Mediterranean climate that allows residents to enjoy a relaxed, informal lifestyle, Adelaide is a very welcoming city. Beautiful rolling hills, pristine white beaches, extensive natural parklands and a proliferation of world class sporting facilities, combine with gracious historical buildings, cafes, restaurants and modern shopping precincts, to also make Adelaide one of the prettiest and most liveable cities in the world.

Relishing its tradition of religious freedom, social justice, political stability and respect for individuals, Adelaide is home to people from over 100 countries. This cultural diversity adds a richness to the social and cultural fabric of the city, of which all citizens are proud.



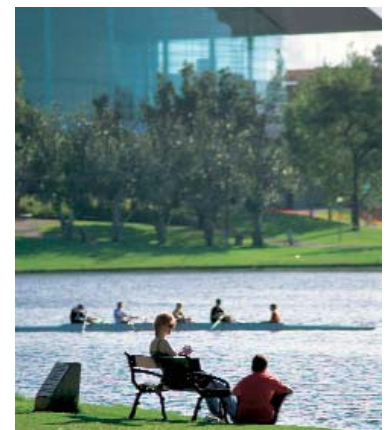
This rich cultural life gains expression not only in Adelaide's many art galleries, museums and theatres, but most vigorously in the city's exciting program of festivals, including one of the world's leading biennial arts festivals, the largest youth arts festival in the world and international festivals of music, food and literature.



Boasting a strong record of innovation in technology, education and social and political reform, it is no wonder that Adelaide is also considered to be a great meeting place of minds. Each year, students and academics from

around the world choose to live, study, work and teach in Adelaide's leading public and private sector institutions. Adelaide also attracts hundreds of great thinkers from across the globe for its biennial 'Festival of Ideas' while some are also invited to stay longer in a unique 'Thinkers in Residence' initiative.

With such priority given to cultural investment and the lifelong learning of its population, Adelaide is truly proud of its reputation as being 'a city of learning'.



## ADELAIDE - AN EDUCATING CITY

Adelaide is committed to developing a society that is well-educated, optimistic, forward-looking and enterprising so that it can take advantage of emerging opportunities and meet the challenges of the 21st century. It believes that building the capacities of individuals, communities and enterprises to contribute to the social and economic health of the State, through the processes of lifelong learning, civic participation and sustainable development, is central to the achievement of this goal.

### Our Education System

Throughout Adelaide critical foundation learning in the early years, facilitated through an extensive network of child care centres, family and occasional care programs and pre-schools, is given the utmost priority. Early childhood educators operating within this network continuously seek to weave the participation of families and communities into the learning process, and believe strongly in the importance of play to children's intellectual and social development.

Through publicly-funded school education, young people are becoming autonomous and interdependent learners, achieving personal and group goals through individual and collaborative effort. A curriculum framework of 8 key learning areas and a comprehensive program of essential learning and core competencies, ensures that all young people not only develop knowledge in the various subject disciplines, but also cultural understandings and the skills of resiliency, creative problem solving and futures thinking.

A unique feature of the South Australian schooling system is the choice and diversity of schooling options it offers to its young people. Students can



choose to study in schools that specialise in music, sport, vocational education, science, technology and the International Baccalaureate. They can also choose to participate in home schooling, or attend schools based on alternative pedagogical approaches. Independent of the nature of schooling, the quality of teaching and learning, as measured by such groups as the OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) and the Third International Mathematics and Science study (TIMSS-R), has resulted in South Australia rating amongst the top eight countries in the world.

Eight Institutes of Technical and Further Education and over 800 private training providers ensure that Adelaide also has a highly skilled, competitive workforce. These institutions form part of a national vocational education and training system that enables a seamless portability of skills and qualifications across the country, and ensures that the current and future training needs of Australian industry are met.

The overwhelming majority of higher education programs in Adelaide are delivered by three large and very highly respected universities. In addition to producing graduates who are in demand both nationally and internationally, these universities participate in programs of research that have earned them a reputation as being global leaders in many fields of study.







A vibrant Adult and Community Education sector completes the city of Adelaide's lifelong learning continuum. Comprising a myriad of community-based, not-for-profit

organisations, this sector harnesses the energies of thousands of volunteers and professionals in the delivery of vocational, leisure and lifestyle programs that range from foreign language to dog obedience classes.

This comprehensive and multi-layered system of education is testimony to the fact that as an educating city, Adelaide accepts as a goal, and as a primary responsibility, the education, advancement and development of all its citizens.

### **SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION INDUSTRY**

More than 9,000 international students came to South Australia in 2003, injecting \$250 million into our economy. Over half of these students attend our three universities, but students also come to learn English, to complete school, to start a pathway to university, to further their education at one of South Australia's TAFE institutes or to study at a specialist institution such as Adelaide's International College of Hotel Management.

A further 6,600 students are studying offshore through our universities.



Government and non-government education providers offer an extremely broad and diverse range of courses structured to ensure that every student is encouraged to achieve at the highest level. Qualifications completed in Adelaide, from English language courses through to postgraduate degrees, are highly regarded throughout the world.



Adelaide's three universities - Adelaide, Flinders and the University of South Australia - are respected internationally for the quality and range of study and research opportunities they provide. For example, South Australia is a world leader in molecular biology (stem cell research), degree courses in gastronomy (Le Cordon Bleu) and hotel management (Swiss Hotel Association). There are more than 800 research scientists working in South Australia. Recent events such as the 2002 World ICT Congress and the International Baccalaureate Conference, as well as this year's World Council meeting on gifted and talented education underscore South Australia's high regard.

Government and non-government schools in Adelaide have an outstanding history of providing high quality educational opportunities to students from overseas, including the two-year International Baccalaureate (IB) program that qualifies graduates for entry in to the major universities around the world in the United States, the United Kingdom, Europe, Asia and Australia. English language courses are available at many Adelaide government and non-government education institutions, with the English Language Intensive Courses for Overseas Students (ELICOS) among the most popular.

## **ADELAIDE AND THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EDUCATING CITIES (IAEC) PRINCIPLES.**

Adelaide's commitment to the Charter and Principles of the IAEC is demonstrated through a wide range of programs and initiatives. Many of these are delivered through the State Government which has responsibility for the education and training system and for the major cultural institutions. The State Government and Adelaide City Council jointly discuss strategic issues for the city centre through the Capital City Committee, which has identified development of Adelaide as an Educating City as one of four agreed priorities. The Adelaide City Council and metropolitan suburban Councils play a leading role in community engagement at the local level and provide local services, planning and support for their citizens. Community groups and associations are very actively involved in the life of Adelaide as an Educating City, through their own initiatives and their contribution to State and Council projects.

### **Community Learning**

#### **Libraries**

Both the State Library and Adelaide City Council Libraries are taking on new roles in providing open community access to information through electronic media as well as through traditional print media. The Council is also de-centralising its libraries to locations throughout its area to provide local hubs for provision of community services and facilities as well as information. This will strengthen interaction between the Council, local residents and visitors to the city providing for better communication and participation.



It will extend access to the latest technology providing computer based information sources to people who would not otherwise have access at home or work.

#### **State Library**

[www.slsa.sa.gov.au/](http://www.slsa.sa.gov.au/)

#### **ACC Library and Community Centres**

[www.adelaidecitycouncil.com/discover/library](http://www.adelaidecitycouncil.com/discover/library)

### **Cultural Institutions - Education Programs**

Adelaide's main cultural institutions are clustered around North Terrace along the northern edge of the CBD. These include the Festival Centre, South Australian Museum, Migration Museum, Art Gallery, and Botanic Gardens. All have innovative programs to involve schools and the community actively promoting learning about the natural history, culture and social history of the city.

#### **Festival Centre**

[www.afct.org.au](http://www.afct.org.au)

#### **South Australian Museum**

[www.samuseum.sa.gov.au](http://www.samuseum.sa.gov.au)

#### **Migration Museum**

[www.history.sa.gov.au/migration/migration.htm](http://www.history.sa.gov.au/migration/migration.htm)

#### **Art Gallery**

[www.artgallery.sa.gov.au](http://www.artgallery.sa.gov.au)

#### **SA Botanic Gardens**

[www.environment.sa.gov.au/botanicgardens](http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/botanicgardens)

### **Festivals**

Adelaide provides a perfect scale and setting for festivals. The biennial Adelaide Festival has built a reputation of one of the leading arts festivals of the world. It has been followed by a diverse range of regular festivals for different interests and different groups within the community. These include the Festival Fringe - now bigger than the Festival itself - a major biennial arts festival for young people, the world music festival Womadelaide, an international Festival of Cinema, the gay and lesbian festival 'Feast', and a biennial 'Festival of Ideas.'

#### **Adelaide Festival of Arts**

[www.adelaidefestival.com.au](http://www.adelaidefestival.com.au)

#### **Adelaide Fringe**

[www.adelaidefringe.com.au](http://www.adelaidefringe.com.au)



**Australian Festival for Young People**  
[www.comeout.on.net](http://www.comeout.on.net)

**Womadelaide**  
[www.womadelaide.ozemail.com.au](http://www.womadelaide.ozemail.com.au)

**Adelaide International Film Festival**  
[www.adelaidefilmfestival.org](http://www.adelaidefilmfestival.org)

**Feast**  
[www.feast.org.au](http://www.feast.org.au)

**Festival of Ideas**  
[www.adelaidefestival.org.au/ideas](http://www.adelaidefestival.org.au/ideas)

### **Workers Education Association of South Australia**

The Workers Education Association caters for a broad cross-section of the community, providing adults of any age with learning opportunities for both vocational and personal advantage. Short courses are offered on a variety of levels across a diverse range of subjects, from computing to Yoga.  
[www.wea-sa.com.au](http://www.wea-sa.com.au)

### **Investigator Science and Technology Centre**

The Investigator Science and Technology Centre is a South Australian, not-for-profit organisation. Its mission is to establish and maintain a centre of excellence that will facilitate a spirit of scientific enquiry and strengthen the technological and engineering capability and understanding of the community.  
[www.investigator.org.au](http://www.investigator.org.au)



## **INNOVATION IN SCHOOLS**

### **Learning to Learn**

The Learning to Learn Project consists of 72 schools (Preschool to Year 10) working with the Curriculum Policy Directorate and their communities to explore the latest research and understandings about learning to develop policy and schools for the future.  
[www.learningtolearn.sa.edu.au](http://www.learningtolearn.sa.edu.au)

### **Education Development Centre / Technology School of the Future**

The Technology School of the Future is a unique staff training and development centre within the South Australian Department of Education and Children's Services. It is a state-of-the-art research and application centre in the use of computers in education for teachers and for students. The centre is the largest provider in Australia of hands-on teacher training in school use of computers.  
[www.tsof.edu.au](http://www.tsof.edu.au)

### **Australian Science and Mathematics School**

The Australian Science and Mathematics School, which opened in 2002, is a specialist public school designed to prepare students to shape our world, our future, our global community and our environment through the great changes in science and technology, now moving to centre stage in the new century. Students take part in project-based and interdisciplinary activities, promoting authentic, vigorous and applied learning using world-leading Information and Communication technologies.  
[www.asms.sa.edu.au](http://www.asms.sa.edu.au)

### **Open Access College**

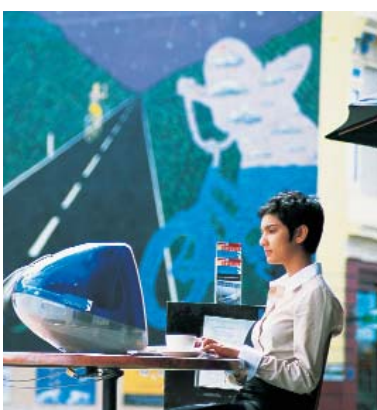
The Open Access College was established as a South Australian Government school in 1991, and has grown to build a team of educators recognised as leaders in distance education and online schooling and publishing services in the Asia Pacific region.  
<http://oac.schools.sa.edu.au>

## TRANSITION FROM SCHOOL TO WORK

### Futures Connect

Futures Connect is a State Government initiative to increase learning opportunities for students through a collaborative, cross agency approach to services which assist young people make the transition from school. Schools will draw on the Futures Connect strategy to help young people in mapping options and directions that will assist their transition from adolescence to adulthood. They will work with students to ensure that curriculum provision meets their needs and connects them with their community and future aspirations.  
[www.decs.sa.gov.au/futuresconnect](http://www.decs.sa.gov.au/futuresconnect)

### New Times, New Ways, New Skills



The State Government's 10-point action plan, New Times, New Ways, New Skills, is intended to further develop the skills needed to meet the local, national and global challenges of the

21st century, underpinned by considerations of social inclusion and economic development. This whole-of-government framework includes a Workforce Development Strategy designed to create a highly skilled and responsive labour force, as well as link with the State's research expertise. A Training and Skills Commission has been established as the peak advisory body and regulatory authority on post-school education and training in the State (excluding the public universities). This role recognises the importance of the views of industry in helping shape the South Australian Government's training plans and priorities.

[www.training.sa.gov.au](http://www.training.sa.gov.au)

### AIT (Adelaide Institute of Training and Further Education)

The AIT on Currie Street is the main city centre campus for training and further education, providing courses of study that are relevant to today's and tomorrow's workforce.

Its purpose is to achieve relevance, innovation and quality in the courses offered, whether they are in the class, in the workplace, via video-conferencing or on-line computing.

[www.ait.org](http://www.ait.org)

### Helpmann Academy

Formed in 1994 the Helpmann Academy is a unique partnership of all the tertiary arts training establishments in South Australia offering award courses for people seeking professional careers in the arts. The Academy unifies the skills and resources of South Australia's universities and TAFE, bringing together courses in music, dance, drama, directing, visual arts, technical theatre production and design.

[www.helpmann.sa.edu.au](http://www.helpmann.sa.edu.au)

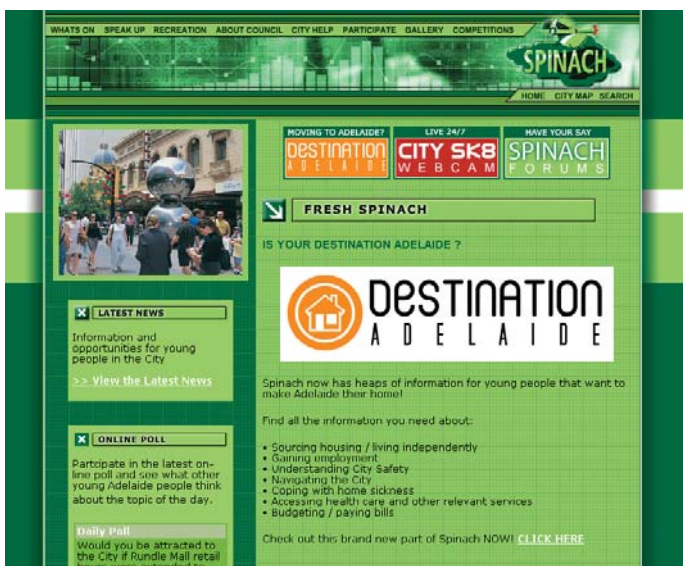
## SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE

### ACC Youth Programs

Adelaide City Council runs a range of initiatives for young people, providing recreational facilities, supporting school programs, helping students moving to the city and providing opportunities to become involved and develop leadership skills. Projects include:

- **Young Voices** - a collaborative project between the Adelaide City Council and the Youth Affairs Council of South Australia to provide leadership training and education sessions on local government to young people.
- **Adelaide Young Ambassadors** - a group of approximately 30 young people who show newly arrived students around Adelaide and organise social functions to enable students to expand their social networks, help plan youth events and activities and promote Adelaide as a place that welcomes young people to live, learn, work and visit.
- **Schools Interaction Program** - through which the Council works with schools to involve students in practical projects such as planning public space, environmental projects, safety initiatives, citizenship education and public art projects.
- **Adelaide Unplugged** is a teacher's resource to assist with the orientation of students to the City of Adelaide. Around 1,000 students participate in 'unplugged' excursions each year.

- A 'City Classroom' is currently being established in Council's Children and Youth Library and Community Centre to provide support for school excursions and act as a meeting space for young people.
- **Study in Adelaide Guide** - a comprehensive guide produced by the Adelaide City Council to provide information to international students to assist them in living and studying in the City.
- **Destination Adelaide** - an online resource for young people that have moved (or plan to move) to the City to continue their study. Destination Adelaide provides relevant information on housing, employment, entertainment, budgeting and coping with home sickness.
- **'Spinach'** - the Council's specially designed website for young people provides on-line information on these initiatives and encourages participation in forums on current issues. [www.spinach.org.au](http://www.spinach.org.au)



### Carclew Youth Arts Centre

Carclew Youth Arts Centre is a unique youth arts organisation (the largest in Australia) that provides young people with the resources and opportunities to develop as successful and innovative artists and arts workers. It has become established as a dynamic breeding ground for the ideas, energy and enthusiasm of South Australia's young artists aged 4-27 years. [www.carclew.on.net](http://www.carclew.on.net)

### South Australian Youth Arts Board

The South Australian Youth Arts Board is the State Government's Youth Arts policy body. The Board encourages participation and excellence in the arts through a range of scholarship, grants and funding programs. It aims to encourage exciting and innovative youth arts activity of a high standard, across the full range of the arts, providing grants and schemes to support and develop artistic activity for, by and with young South Australians 26 years and under. [www.sayab.org.au](http://www.sayab.org.au)

### Active8 - Premier's Youth Team Challenge

The Active8 Premier's Youth Team Challenge is a South Australian Government initiative aimed at building upon and extending the range of skills, talents and abilities of young people. It provides young people in year 8 or above at secondary school, and young people aged 15 to 19 who are not enrolled in formal education, with challenges and opportunities to develop new skills, and to find the confidence to become actively involved in their local community. [www.active8.on.net/](http://www.active8.on.net/)

### THE CITY AS A LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

The City of Adelaide itself provides all sorts of opportunities for learning through its urban form, heritage and Park Lands and through its community life. Informal walking trails, brochures, volunteer guides and community programs provided by the Council help build knowledge and awareness. [www.adelaidecitycouncil.com](http://www.adelaidecitycouncil.com)

### Thinkers-in-Residence

Under the South Australian Government's Thinkers-in-Residence Program, two or three world-class thinkers are invited to Adelaide each year to undertake short-term residencies during which they are assisting South Australia to build on its climate of creativity, innovation and excellence. The Thinkers provide the State with strategies for future development in the arts and sciences, social policy, environmental sustainability and economic development. [www.thinkers.sa.gov.au](http://www.thinkers.sa.gov.au)



**For more information about “Adelaide - A City of Learning” contact**

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