

Methodist Ladies' College, Melbourne, Australia

Rachelle Collins '17

I was welcomed with open arms as soon as I got to MLC in Melbourne, Australia. I was the first LCC student to ever go to MLC and I can say that I had an absolute amazing time there. MLC is an all-girls' school, to which I quickly adjusted. During my time there, I got to participate in class discussions, follow along with some of the work assigned, and provide insightful and different views on interesting subjects. My opinions were valued, listened to, and sometimes tested.

I also got to go along on a geography excursion, which was really interesting. We went to Cronulla beaches, where we learned about different types of landforms, and much more involving the environment. Every Tuesday and Wednesday, the whole school would attend devotional and assembly. We were enlightened on how we could help the local community and also told about enrichment opportunities.

I got the chance to accompany my exchange to two of her classes that I had never been to. Those classes were design and textiles. In textiles, it was really cool getting to work with materials, fashion, and sewing. In design and textiles, we learned about how things are made, and got to experiment.

I also really enjoyed getting to walk around the campus; it was so beautiful and open. There was always a view, whether it was from the extensive library or the canteen. It was different having to bring your own lunch to school but I enjoyed the change and having a homemade meal.

I received an amazing opportunity to accompany the class of year to Thailand for a service and cultural trip. We got to build a playground and the base of a resting area at a local school. It was truly a rewarding experience.

Overall, I really had a remarkable time, met wonderful people, and got to see a different side of the world that I had never visited before. I am forever grateful to MLC for giving me this opportunity. One thing that stood out was how nice all of the students and staffs were. I became adjusted and comfortable in MLC fairly quickly. Everyone was so kind and I couldn't have asked for anything more. I highly recommend MLC as an exchange school.