



**MURRUMBA  
STATE SECONDARY  
COLLEGE**



### Hitomi's story:

I am from Hachioji, Tokyo, Japan. I go to school by train every day. It takes for 45 minutes from my house to school. I like watching TV shows at home. Before I came to Australia to study, I worked part-time at a convenience store after school and on the weekends. I had the option of studying in New Zealand or Australia. I wanted to go to Brisbane, as the winter is not too cold; there is so much to see; I knew the beaches in QLD are beautiful and the time difference between Japan and QLD is only 1 hour.

I became more confident and mature since I came to Murrumba State Secondary College. The reason why I changed is that Queensland assignments and exam systems are very strict, so I had to work hard to pass all subjects. Completing all assignments and exams was very hard but it was worth it and made my English skills improve.

I made many best friends at this school. I will definitely stay in contact with them. All my friends, teachers and my host family that I met here are such amazing and precious people. The most enjoyable experiences in this school have been learning Australian jokes, slangs and terms from my friends during the class and the lunchtime. I found that many Australian friends are good at explaining and they are very happy to teach those kind of things to international students.

Out of all the experiences I had during my time studying in Brisbane, my favourites are the friends I have made; Redcliffe beach; the Lake Eden at North Lakes; all the slushies I have drunk from the convenience store and the Australian road signs that have pictures of kangaroos and koalas.

I stayed with a homestay family, the most important reasons that I enjoyed the experiences was being able to experience the Australian family life. Also, staying with a homestay family was always safe and relaxing.

Since I studied here, my career ambitions have changed. I have found what I want to do in the future. At first, I found to master a foreign language is very hard, so I am going to keep learning English when I graduate from high school and I want to teach English to children in Japan. In addition, I want to work in an occupation, which is looking after and supporting students who want to study abroad. I would like to support them by sharing my experiences in Australia.

Murrumba State Secondary College is the best school to study abroad; they have many supports for international students such as international meetings with many staff members willing to help at any time. Students at MSSC are very accepting of international students because they have gone out of their way to make me feel part of the Murrumba community.

