

What the Oaklands School pupils thought of their trip to Adelaide...

Because it was my first time on a plane, I felt really excited, and nervous. I found Adelaide was an amazing place. There are similarities between Christchurch and Adelaide. I almost thought Adelaide was Christchurch. The weather was great. There was no need for sweatshirts. I found all the people at Direk School to be very polite. There were no hassles for me. The billet families were kind. All the places we went to were huge. I found them amazing. Cleland Wildlife Park was my favourite group trip. I liked seeing and touching animals that were different to New Zealand. You could interact with the animals.

Denholm Griffin (Year 8)

Before I went, I didn't realise how much fun it would be. I have travelled before with my family. The best days were the Cleland Wildlife Park, the Adelaide Zoo, and the Aquatics Centre. The experience of the trip was ten out of ten for me.

Tim Scollard (Year 8)

The exchange was really interesting. Some things are once in a lifetime, and you never get the chance to do them again. The Billets did a great job and looked after us really well. I enjoyed going on the Pop Eye boat on the Torrens River. The Adelaide Zoo was very big with lots of animals that you don't see here. The crocodiles and the snakes were the most interesting.

Leighton Thomas (Year 8)

I liked the trip to Adelaide, because it gave me the chance to show my family and friends that I can look after myself for ten days or so. My best part about the trip is that it gave me a chance to go to a city that I have never been to before. It was a good experience for me to have, and a good memory, that I will have forever, and ever. I had a great time.

Matthew Kenworthy (Year 7)

It was very different staying at another person's house that I didn't know. It was pretty good, as I look back, because you became used to a different lifestyle.

The best day was the day we went on the O'bahn. The O'bahn is a bus that runs on concrete rails and the road. It travels up to one hundred kilometres per hour. It was exciting and weird.

Daniel (Year 8)

First Impressions!!!!

Before I went to Australia, I had only been halfway to Nelson. I had flown on the Christchurch DC-3. On the first of the four flights I was really scared, so I made Mr. Wetthey talk to me. By the fourth flight I was feeling safer than travelling by car! So other than the first flight, they were really fun flights, especially taking off, it's so much fun! (Even though I sat next to the teachers on every flight.).

Stephen Black (Year 7)

It was a good experience going to another Country. I enjoyed going to new places and meeting different people.

Cleland Wildlife Park was great, because you could go right up to the animals, such as Wallabies.

The animals came right up to you, and let you pat them. Our host billets joined us at the wildlife park.

Corey Walker (Year 7)

With the shopping there was a lot more choice than we have. The environment for shopping was very different. Tea Tree Plaza, for example had things we don't have, and then they have some things that are very similar to what we have here. The shopping centres were huge compared to ours, with some being up to five storeys high. Everyone bought different things, because of their different tastes and their amounts of spending money and they seemed to have fun. It was a great experience going to Adelaide since it was my first time overseas.

Stacy Williams (Year 7)

I thought the exchange was a great experience. It was fun and very enjoyable. I liked the Adelaide Aquatics Centre. It was warm and inviting and a whole lot of fun. I liked the water slides and the warm water. They had some really high diving boards and really deep water. Earlier on in the year I went to the Gold Coast with my family. I found the exchange different to a holiday, but still something that was great fun. I would love to do something like that again.

Cody Wilson (Year 7)

I enjoyed the historic tramway museum. The rides on the restored trams were great. The trams had beautiful windows and woodwork. The Australian kids were a lot of fun to meet. Some of their classrooms were bigger than Oaklands.

Robert Donaldson (Year 7)

I thought the Adelaide trip was well worth going to. The teachers on the exchange were really good. The pupils and adults on the exchange were talkative. I liked the Melba Chocolate Factory. There were lots of nice chocolates and lollies there. The Birdwood motor museum had many cars that I hadn't seen before. The entire exchange was awesome.

Amanda Ellis (Year 8)