



THE VICTORIAN CHRISTIAN YOUTH CONVENTION

The Victorian Christian Youth Convention is a weekend run *for* youth groups! From the program to the catering and accommodation, we take care of everything so you can make the most of a weekend spent listening to God's Word together. All you need to do is make sure your youth attend the different programmed activities and go to bed!

Attending VCYC requires a group registration to be established and confirmed before and youth and leaders can book tickets. The group leader must make this group booking and is responsible for the youth who attend across the weekend and must ensure that all adults on-site have current WWC checks. Group leaders are responsible for ensuring youth attend and engage programmed activities and adhere to noise and bed-time rules.

We are committed to encouraging and modelling biblical youth ministry that will support and enhance what you are doing in your local church. We want youth to attend and be eager to keep following in their local church rather than simply being on a high from a weekend convention.

We aim to have everything we do grounded in God's living and active Word. We are praying that VCYC's preaching, music, prayer ministry, and workshops we are seeking to equip young people with God's Word to live as disciples of Jesus.

A highlight of the weekend is our workshops. We will have a range of topics covered to equip youth with knowledge and practical skills to live for Jesus. We also have workshops for youth leaders that will provide invaluable training and encouragement.

As we endeavour to be a convention that supports local youth ministries, we welcome your feedback! The VCYC executive team is made up of men and women doing youth ministry from different churches across Melbourne. We welcome you to come and say hello and let us know how we can make VCYC is helpful and Christ-honouring as possible. Or get in touch beforehand by emailing info@vcyc.org.au.

Attached below is the:

- VCYC Vision
- What's involved in staying at VCYC
- FAQ's about VCYC

The VCYC Vision:

Who are we?

VCYC exists to equip young people with God's Word to impact their world.

We do this:

- Through Christ-centred expository bible teaching and passionate worship
- In partnership with youth ministries across Vic.
- By bringing together youth of high school age regardless of background, whether committed to Jesus or not, whatever stage of growth in their Christian life.
- All by the power of the Holy Spirit to the glory of God.

Core Values:

As a ministry of the Belgrave Heights Convention and fully committed to its vision, proprieties, ministry, beliefs, values, unity, work, and witness. VCYC is committed to:

- Modelling how the bible shapes youth ministry practice.
- Serving and enhancing local youth ministries.
- Providing opportunities for fellowship with youth from across Victoria.
- Displaying and encouraging prayerful dependence in everyday life.
- Authentic corporate worship through music.
- Teaching and challenging youth to live a life empowered by the Holy Spirit and grounded in the scriptures every day.

What we do:

The ministry of VCYC consists of:

- The annual weekend convention at Belgrave Heights Convention Centre.
- Metropolitan and Regional One Night Events (ONEs).

At these events you can expect:

- Bible teaching that is relevant and engaging for youth.
- Corporate worship through music
- Opportunities for fellowship with other youth groups.
- Prayer ministry.
- Youth Involvement (e.g. testimonies, readings, etc)

Additionally at the weekend convention includes:

- Workshops for youth and leaders.
- A dedicated prayer team and space.
- Recreational Activities.
- Youth leader networking.
- Allocated time and space for individual youth ministries.
- Opportunities and spaces for creative interaction and expression.



Staying at VCYC

Accommodation (Hope Centre + Cabins)

Accommodation at VCYC is limited, so to best use the spaces that the BHC site provides, we allocate beds for all Youth and Leaders. The VCYC team works very hard to ensure that all participants have appropriate accommodation for the Convention weekend. We aim for all Youth to have Leaders, preferably theirs, sleeping in a space nearby to supervise them.

Accommodation is allocated based upon:

Gender – Male or Female

Role – Youth or Leader

Youth Groups of similar proportions

Accommodation in the Hope Centre are ensuites with toilet and shower facilities in each cabin. For Cabin accommodation, including both on and off-site, there are separate shower/toilet facilities located within a short walk of any building or camping space.

Camping: Provided Tent

Camping in a BHC provided tent is similar to cabins. Youth or leaders will be allocated a space within a tent based on gender and role. All BHC tents will be set-up together with close access to shower/toilet facilities.

FAQs about Accommodation

Q: *What sort of accommodation can we expect?*

A: The BHC Site has a variety of accommodation options on and off-site. On-site includes ensuites (Hope Centre) or cabins with separate toilet/shower facilities. Hope Centre rooms and cabins range from 4-8 beds. Hope Centre rooms and some cabins include split-system air-conditioners for heating and cooling.

You'll find some more information and pictures at: <https://www.bhc.org.au/accommodation>

Q: *Why am I sleeping separately to my Youth?*

A: While we understand that different Denominations have different policies about Adults/Youth sleeping in the same place, so we abide by the rules of the majority. Youth and leaders will be allocated to separate rooms, cabins, and tents (if provided by BHC). If you would like to organise a different arrangement, we recommend using the 'BYO Tent' option.

Q: *Will our group be allocated to rooms, cabins, and provided tents exclusively?*

A: It is the endeavour of the VCYC team to allocate rooms, cabins, and provided tents to youth or leaders from one group only. This however, is not always feasible to make best use of the beds we have. It is likely that groups that have 1-2 male or female youth or leaders will be allocated to share with another group.

Q: *Can we choose to do a combination of 'Accommodation' and 'BYO Tent' registrations?*

A: Absolutely! It is possible that a group may need to select multiple accommodation options. If the group members begin by selecting one option (such as a cabin or Hope Centre Room), these may sell-out before all youth or leaders have registered and another option required.



BYO Tent

The BHC Site has a variety of spaces for tents and caravans on the property. Camping spaces are mostly first-in, best-dressed and most sites are powered.

Shower/toilet facilities are located within a short walk of any building or camping space.

Catering

Our wonderful Hospitality team and Volunteer ninjas help us to provide all meals including Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner, Morning & Afternoon tea, and Supper out of the larger spaces at BHC. Unfortunately we are only able to cater for Vegetarian, Gluten free, Dairy/Lactose free & Nut free special diets. We recommend Self Catering for all other dietary needs.

Self Catering

If your group has chosen to self cater, there are some kitchen facilities available to you. Please specify on your booking form in the 'comments' that you require a Kitchen.

If you would like further information about the facilities, please contact the Belgrave Heights Convention Office on 03 9752 6855 or email office@bhc.org.au

Other FAQ:

Q: *What sort of responsibility does the VCYC team have for my Youth?*

A: Very little. Over the course of the weekend the responsibility of health (medical information), hygiene, participation in the program, bedtimes, etc lies with their Leader/s. Our aim is to provide a Convention program that is filled with different ways for Youth to engage with the Gospel and each other, and we don't believe we can care for your youth better than you can whilst doing that.

Q: *My Youth Group aren't coming/I don't have a Youth Group – can I still come?*

A: Due to the busy-ness of running the Convention, the VCYC team do require all Youth participants to attend with a Youth Group or Parent. This is important because having your own Youth Leader or Adult to look out for you will be crucial to your enjoyment & safety over the weekend. If you would like for us to put you in touch with a Youth Group in your local area, please email us at info@vcyc.org.au

Q: *Are you able to cater to my dietary needs?*

A: Unfortunately we are only able to cater for Vegetarian, Gluten free, Dairy/Lactose free & Nut free special diets. We recommend Self Catering for all other dietary needs. VCYC will endeavour to provide all you need to make this happen, such as fridge or freezer storage, as well as heating options (microwave/oven). Feel free to contact us to discuss any concerns further at info@vcyc.org.au

Q: *I'm too old for VCYC now (18+ & graduated high school) – can I be involved still?*

A: Absolutely! It takes a massive team of Volunteers to make VCYC happen. A lot of the work goes on behind the scenes, but it is very rewarding and mostly fun! Become a VCYC volunteer!

Q: *What do Volunteers actually do?*

A: Volunteering at VCYC happens in one of our core teams:

- Music/Band – help to lead our time of faithful corporate worship.
- Prayer team – a dedicated group who pray for and with Youth over the weekend.
- Hospitality – Catering & Food preparation, or serving in our Cafe.

Q: *What do Volunteers actually do? cont...*

- Ninjas – are our amazing team who make everything happen including:



Convention set up, Setting up Workshop rooms, Helping prepare & Serve meals, Clean up, Registration support, Saturday arvo games, Photography, and much much more! It's not all glamorous work, and unfortunately we can't promise that you'll hear all of the sessions, but the work is worth it when it's for God's glory!

Q: *Sounds great! What do I have to do to Volunteer?*

A: Please email us, tell us a little about yourself and how you might like to be involved, to info@vcyc.org.au

Q: *How can our Organisation/Church/Ministry be involved?*

A: There are many ways to partner with us! From financial partnership, support with resources or activities, and promotional opportunities, there are many ways to contribute to the work of VCYC.

Please email us at info@vcyc.org.au for our 'Partners Information' document.