

Welcome to Sydney

June 2010



The German International School Sydney enables your child to live a fulfilled life in tomorrow's modern, fast changing and challenging global society.

German International School Sydney

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Accredited German School Abroad
The school is registered with the NSW Board of Studies



This document was compiled by parents of the German International School Sydney (GISS) and is intended to provide guidance for families, who have found a new home in Sydney. The information in this document has been carefully put together. Nevertheless, neither the school nor the authors can guarantee the accuracy of the information.

Our aim is to give you the most current information, but you will soon discover that life in Sydney is quite dynamic. Businesses come and go or the doctor you saw a few weeks ago may no longer be there. Businesses also relocate often, so we Sydney-Siders are always on the search. We hope that you will find this document valuable and that it helps you settle into this wonderful city. We are very happy to receive feedback if any information that is missing or has changed (please send updates to: gabymueller-sydney@gmx.de).

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1. Living in Sydney

1.1. Where should we live?

Sydney is the oldest and largest city in Australia with over 4.4 million inhabitants. It spans over 12.145 square kilometers.

The majority of families, whose children attend the German International School Sydney, live in a few districts which have easy access to both the CBD as well as to the school. This makes contact between the families and children easier, particularly in the adaptation phase.

Moreover, this enables families to car-pool with others living closeby, participate together in leisure activities and to build up a social network.

The appendix attached contains a graph which shows families living in each area. Please be advised this is only a snapshot from December 2009 and is subject to constant change.

1.2. Transport to the school

Students use the following transportation to travel to Terrey Hills: public buses and GISS-private buses.

The aim of this very wide range of transportation is to carry 80% of students via bus.

Information about public buses

The state of NSW supports the transportation of students to and from school under the School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS). More than 600,000 students take advantage of this offer, which the State of NSW is financing with more than \$400 million annually.

To be eligible for the Scheme students must be:

- a resident of NSW
- 4 years and 6 months of age or older and enrolled as one of the following:
 - an infant student (K-2) regardless of the distance between their home and school
 - primary student (Years 3-6) who lives more than 1.6 kms (radial distance) from school, or 2.3 kms or more by the most direct practical walking route to the nearest entry point to the school
 - secondary student (Year 7-12) who lives more than 2 kms (radial distance) from school, or 2.9 kms or more by the most direct practical walking route to the nearest entry point to the school

Due to our remote location of Terrey Hills the only students who do not meet the criteria are students who live in Terrey Hills or live on the northern edge of the neighbouring suburbs. (Belrose, St Ives, Ingleside, Duffys Forest). These are outside the radius and meet the distance criteria.

Visa status:

To get a free bus pass students must either be an Australian citizen, permanent resident or be in possession of one of the following visa classes: 309, 310, 444, 445, 448, 449, 450, 580, 785, 820, 826 or 995.

All other visa categories (including the widespread 457) do not receive a free bus pass, but students can use buses with a normal concession ticket.

Local schools in Terrey Hills use the private bus company Forest Coach Lines. The Sydney Japanese School has organised a bus that some of our students use called Beach Wheels. We are able to use these buses, where spare capacity exists - with a bus stop directly at the front of the school. This bus departs from Waverton then goes to North Sydney, St Leonards and Lane Cove then on to Terrey Hills. This is also used by Northern Beaches Christian School.

Most of the Forest Coach Lines buses are used exclusively by students. Apart from two exceptions; these are regular buses with other passengers on board (Route 270 in the morning from the Sydney CBD and Route 284 in the morning from Chatswood).

In our discussions, Forest Coach Lines has pointed out that the school buses usually have the same driver and after a while the drivers get to know the students.

Free student bus passes are valid only on school days and only for the direct route from home to school and back. If parents are separated and live in different locations, students can have a bus pass for the two areas if required. These buses are also available to overseas students (who must purchase a concession card). Public buses provide connections to/from Sydney CBD (Route 270), to/from Chatswood (Routes 280, 284, 285), to/from Gordon Station (Route 196) and to/from Mona Vale (Route 196), and they stop directly outside of our school campus.

For some sections school buses will pick up students at certain stops only. This stems from the fact that the buses go over the borders of their own concession area. Within their own concession area, the bus stops at every stop, but beyond that area they can stop only at certain approved points. For example, Route 110 travels from Neutral Bay to Frenchs Forest. The bus travels outside its concession area and picks up students only from/to 4 stops (Neutral Bay, Mosman, Seaforth x2). From Frenchs Forest on, the bus stops at every bus stop. For all coaches it is mandatory that you signal the driver to stop! This means you must hold your hand out so the driver can see that there is someone waiting.

Information about GISS-private buses:

In addition, the school offers their own private buses. These buses drive primary routes, where Preschool children must be collected (because these children cannot use the publicly funded buses unless they are 4 years and 6 months of age or older) and where there is no appropriate connection with the publicly funded buses. Older students can also use these buses, but the youngest will have priority.

Fares:

Students, who meet the criteria of the publicly funded SSTS and would like to use the public buses have to fill out an application form and give it back to Mrs. Pitcher in the administration office. This form is then confirmed by the school and Forest Coach Lines, who issues the passes and deliver them to the school. These bus passes are free.

Single tickets can be purchased for current rates and further information please go to: www.forestcoachlines.com.au.

The price for the GISS-private buses (including the one organised by the Sydney Japanese School) is \$ 1,452.00 half-yearly (at maximum occupancy). For more information please ask school administration.

Busroutes and Timetables:

Busroutes and timetables can be found on the following webpages:
www.forestcoachlines.com.au/html/school
www.131500.com.au

1.3. How do I find a house or an apartment?

Rental properties in Sydney are managed by real estate agents. Lease prices are generally higher than in major German cities. Furnished rental properties in Sydney are not common but white goods are normally provided. Lease contracts can be arranged quickly and properties are usually available right away. High quality rentals are often at a premium therefore a quick decision for a vacant property is advised.

In order to secure a property, you have to pay a deposit (security bond), but it will not be repaid if in the end the property is not taken.

With the lease, the broker / landlord will also hand over the Renting Guide, which contains your rights and obligations according to the rules in NSW.

When taking over a rental property a condition report must be completed by both the agent and tenant. Please remember to carefully mention any existing damages (even very little ones!!).

The rental bond is managed and administered by The NSW Office of Fair Trading and Renting Services. The landlord/your agent has to forward it within 7 days.

In unfurnished properties the bond may be a maximum amount of 4 weeks rent. For fully furnished properties the bond will depend on the weekly rent. A bond of up to 6 weeks may be required. Other useful information is available at www.fairtrading.nsw.gov.au.

Rental properties in Sydney do not always have central heating and the winter months in Sydney are often cooler than expected.

It is prohibited to mount nails and screws into walls, you have to use existing ones or you need written approval from the landlord.

In order to help you choose a property, please find a selection of large real estate firms:

- www.ljhooker.com
- www.century21.com.au
- www.raywhite.com
- www.professionals.com.au
- www.elders.com.au
- www.randw.com.au
-

Or you may also like to try the following websites-

- www.domain.com.au
- www.realestate.com.au
- www.justlisted.com.au

In general, electricity, gas, phone and water are not included in the rent, but have to be set up by the tenant directly with the suppliers. Information about the suppliers and their contacts can be obtained from the agent or landlord. However, the application must be completed by the tenant.

1.4. What should we leave behind?

A lot of people may think that winter sporting equipment and bicycles are not needed in Sydney. However this all depends on your own personal interests. The Snowy Mountains are always in season. You can ski in winter or mountain bike in Summer. If you would prefer to leave your ski gear behind there are many ski hire facilities available. Cycling and mountain biking as a leisure activity is possible in some parks, such as Sydney Olympic Park, Centennial Park, National Parks and on some roads. It is compulsory to wear a helmet.

Please ensure that all equipment that you pack is free from soil and plant material. This is an Australian Quarantine requirement.

1.5. Furniture to lease

It may make sense - as long as your own household items are not available – to lease furniture for a limited time. You can move into a vacant rental property or serviced accommodation, become acquainted with the neighbourhood and explore the local sporting and public facilities with your family.

Some of the companies that offering packages (furnitures, electrical appliances and kitchen utensils) are:

www.livingedgerental.com.au, www.radio-rentals.com.au or www.valiant.com.au

1.6. Cheap phone calls

A phone card is a cheap option for calls to Germany. Phone cards are sold in many places, such as in newsagent or train stations. Offered rates vary. If you use a very cheap rate sometimes the connection fees are higher for each call.

We recommended purchasing a "prepaid" mobile at the beginning of your stay. There are various mobile providers in Australia (Virgin mobile, 3 and Vodaphone just to name a few). Telstra and Optus are the largest land line companies in Australia.

Calling cards are also sold via the internet, e.g. www.phonecardselector.com.au. We can highly recommend "Hello" and "Day Break" calling cards which are available from all newsagents.

While smaller suppliers often offer cheaper rates, their network is not as widespread. Outside major cities sometimes there is no access to a mobile network, which often only becomes noticeable when on holidays (or in the outback). Also remember that public phones are hard to find and in a lot of cases you can only use credit cards.

SIM cards are available for purchase in newsagents, supermarkets, post offices and in phone stores.

Another inexpensive alternative to calling overseas is by using Skype. For more information go to: www.skype.com

2. Transportation in Sydney

2.1. Transportation - without a car

There is much discussion about the transportation system in Sydney and often evaluated as insufficient. This, however, also depends on the choice of residence: some areas are very easily accessible by bus, train or ferry.

You can view public transportation schedules at the following address: www.131500.com.au.

There is also a route planner available.

2.2. Buying a car

Cars in Australia have a relatively high resale value (this, however, depends greatly on the model). If you have a private sale in consideration a pre-purchase inspection is recommended. These inspections are offered by the NRMA.

We recommend to become a member of the NRMA or AAMI in order to benefit from their roadside break-down service.

The NRMA offers route planning on their website - www.nrma.com.au or www.travelmate.com.au.

An overview of the new and used cars market is obtained under www.drive.com.au - here you can find ads as well as technical data.

2.3. Drivers license

The national license in connection with an International driving license is sufficient for people with a tourist or temporary visa.

If you become a permanent resident, you have to be issued a NSW driver license within 3 months.

In order to obtain a NSW drivers liscence overseas visitors willl need to have their liscence translated and certified by a NAATI accredited translator. Please contact Bernd Fichtner bpfich@iimetro.com.au to arrange an appointment.

As there is no obligation to register in Australia, usually a license is used purely for identification purposes. Therefore, the NSW license in many situations (such as banking, postal, etc) is used for identification. This is also possible with a German passport, as well as with a telephone-, electricity or gas-invoice (with a residential address), but it's not as easy. Under the circumstances the investment in a NSW license is worthwhile if you intend to live longer Australia, even if you only have a temporary visa.

Detailed information is available on the RTA (Roads and Traffic Authority) website www.rta.nsw.gov.au .

3. School life

3.1. Who is my contact person at the school?

The school administration is available from 8:30 to 16:00 for general enquiries. For accounting and bus enquiries please also contact the administration staff. Should you wish to contact a teacher regarding your child's development please contact them directly via email or arrange an appointment.

Staff listing:

Principal:	Mrs. Hannelore Trageser
Business Manager:	Mr. Andreas Schaaf
Secretary:	Mrs. Isabella Pitcher
	Mrs. Kate Rouvray*
Head of Preschool:	Mrs. Silke Bethke
Head of Primary School:	Mrs. Elke Mayer
Head of Secondary School I:	Dr. Horst Giesler
Head of Secondary School II and IB Coordinator:	Mr. Alexander Wreth
Student Counsellor & CAS Coordinator:	Mrs. Ulrike Miehle
Marketing and Gutenberg Post:	Mrs. Antje Eildermann
Accounting and IT:	Mr. Joel Alfonso*
Play group:	Mrs. Christine Soehne (Ph.: 9986 3842)

Email: christine.soehne@germanschoolsydney.com.au
After School Care: Mrs. Karin Weller

Please note, should you wish to place your child in After School Care we do require **at least** 24 hours notice. Before/After School Care rates are \$7/hour for regular usage or \$8/hour on a casual basis. Please advise reception of your requirements.

*Mrs. Kate Rouvray and Mr. Joel Alfonso have both been appointed Justice of Peace under the Justices of the Peace Act 2002. That means they are entitled to:

- Administer oath declarations or affidavits, and taking statutory declarations and affirmations principally under the Oaths Act 1900;
- Witness signatures; and
- Attest and certify documents. (all of the above is for use in Australia only)

At the beginning of the school year in Preschool, Kindergarten and Years 1-12 classes elect two parent representatives for each class. They provide a link between parents and the school. Issues, which concern an entire class or the school as a whole, will be presented and discussed through the parent's representatives in the Parents Representative Council meetings (PRC-meetings).

Please ask at reception for a current list of PRC members.

3.2. What are extra curricular activities?

The German International School Sydney offers a wide range of extra curricular activities twice a week in the following areas: sport, music and art education. These are all adjusted to the needs of the students. Registration takes place at the beginning of the 1st and 2nd half of the year (for students in the English Stream at the beginning of 3rd and 1st term).

3.3. My child needs coaching/private lessons

Several teachers or IB students offer after-school private tutoring. For the IB Students this is actually part of their CAS (Creativity Action Service) programme. Please consult your teacher or Ms. Ulrike Miehle if you require further information. Alternatively GISS parents are welcome to place a free ad in our newsletter (Gutenberg Post). Should you wish to do so, please contact Antje Eildermann (antje.eildermann@germanschoolsydney.com).

4. Medical Care

In Australia primary health care including immunisations (for your children) is covered by GPs (general practitioners). They treat the entire family from infants to adults. A visit to the specialist is usually only possible with a referral from a GP.

Please contact your local council for the nearest centre.

Hospitals

The nearest public hospital offers an emergency service. Private hospitals do not usually offer emergency services (except the Sydney Adventist Hospital).

Manly Hospital & Community Health Services
Darley Rd, Manly NSW 2095
Tel.: 9976 9611

Mona Vale Hospital
Coronation Street, Mona Vale
Tel.: 9998 0333

Hornsby Kuring-gai Hospital & Community Health Services
Palmerston Rd., Hornsby
Ph.: 9477 9123

Sydney Children's Hospital Randwick
High Street, Randwick NSW 2031
Ph.: 9382-1111

Childrens Hospital Westmead
Cnr Hawkesbury Rd. & Hainsworth St., Westmead
Ph.: 9845 0000

Royal North Shore Hospital
Pacific Hwy, St Leonards
Ph.: 9926 7111

Ryde Hospital
Denistone Rd, Eastwood 2112
Ph.: 9874 0119

Public hospitals often have long waiting periods. In an emergency you can get in touch by phone and receive information about the waiting time via the "triage nurse".

The "Sydney Adventist Hospital" is an exception. It maintains a private emergency room and you will be charged for medical registration. But there are usually only a small number of patients and the waiting times are often shorter. As a private hospital it offers more personalised care to patients by specialists.

Sydney Adventist Hospital
185 Fox Valley Road, Wahroonga 2076
Ph.: 9487 9111

4.1. Medical Centres

Medical centres also offer comprehensive medical services. Most suburbs have their own medical centres. Your family doctor may not always be available after hours so local medical centres may be the answer to providing the care you and your family need in these situations.

Avalon Wholistic Medical & Dental Centre
1/ 55 Old Barrenjoey Rd, Avalon
Ph.: 9918 2288

Chatswood 24 Hour Medical Centre
270 Victoria Ave, Chatswood
Ph.: 9413 2222

Edgeworth Medical Centre
22-28 Edgeworth David Ave, Hornsby
Ph.: 9482 1500

Manly Medical Centre
2 Wentworth St, Manly
Ph.:9977 4167

Macquarie Medical Centre
Shop 456 The Loft Macquarie Shopping Centre
197 Herring Road, North Ryde,2113
Ph.: 9878 6666

St Ives Medical Centre
Level 2, St Ives Shopping Centre
166 Mona Vale Rd, St Ives
Ph.: 9440 5050

Warriewood Medical Centre
10/3 Vuko Place, Warriewood
Ph.: 9970 6600

As medical centres usually do not offer a personal service, therefore it is advised to select a general practitioner.

4.2. General practitioners

Dr. E. Rust (speaks German)
564 Pennant Hills Rd, West Pennant Hills 2125
Ph.: 9875 1488

Dr. Kardell
St Ives General Medical Practice
341 Mona Vale Rd, St Ives
Ph.: 9449 5999

Dr. Maria Carmody
Suite 1, 379 Sydney Rd
Balgowlah NSW 2093

Dr. Paul Koenig
12-18 Tryon Rd., Suite 16, Lindfield
Ph.: 9416 6466
Dr. Koenig offers emergency home visits.

4.3. Early Childhood Health Centres

Please see below a few early childhood centres within the local vicinity. You can find more information at the following address:

www.bubhub.com.au/servicesclinicsnsw.php

59 Old Barrenjoey Rd, Avalon, 2107
Ph.: 9918 3741

Suite 5/ 470 Sydney Rd, Balgowlah, 2093
Ph.: 9948 8061

42 Hercules St, Chatswood, 2067
Ph.: 9448 3155

Forestway Shopng Cntr, Frenchs Forest, 2086
Ph.: 9451 7949

6 Pittwater Rd, Gladesville, 2111
Ph.: 9817 2337

The contact details below for specialists, recreational activities and general services are a broad guide only. You can find more information by visiting the following website: www.whitepages.com.au or alternatively have a look in your local newspaper.

4.4. Ear, nose and throat specialists

Dr. Bill Johnston
Suite 12, 25-29 Hunter Street, Hornsby
Ph.: 9477 3717

Dr. Frank Elsworth (Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist, Nasal Allergy)
Suite 202/20, Bungan Street, Mona Vale
Ph.: 9979 3888

4.5. Specialist for respiratory diseases - asthma (children)

Dr. Penny Field
82-86 Pacific Highway, St Leonards
Ph.: 9439 7300

4.6. ADHD-Specialist

Dr. Mark Selikowitz
Sydney Developmental Clinic
Level 3, 9 Bligh Street, Sydney
Ph.: 9221 4783

4.7. Physiotherapy

Northside Sports Physiotherapy
Suite 602, SAN Clinic
185 Fox Valley Road
Wahroonga NSW 2076
Ph.: 9473 8699

Also in Wahroonga und Hornsby

4.8. Paediatric dentist

Mr Kareen Mechertichian
Suite 7, 6 McIntosh Street, Chatswood 2067
Ph.: 9419 8955

Dr. Mechertichian specialises in children under 12 years of age who need special care.

4.9. Orthodontists

North Shore Orthodontics
Drs Vickers, Lewis, Armstrong, Fong, Omar
5 Khartoum Ave, Gordon 2072
Ph.: 9418 1660

Dr. Ronny Marks
55 Grandview St., Suite 5, Level 1, Pymble
Ph.: 9440 2522

4.10. Orthotic Specialist

Lane Cove Foot Clinic
Andrew Scown
Level 1, 90 Longueville Rd, Lane Cove 2066
Ph.: 9428 3000

4.11. Dentists

Dr. Sabine Barford (speaks german)
Suite 1, 364 Barrenjoey Road, Newport Beach 2106
Ph.: 9997 5198

Dr. Leonard Leung
1st floor, 288 Pacific Highway, Lindfield 2070
Ph.: 9416 6288

Dr. Gus Jones
1312 Pittwater Rd, Narrabeen 2101
Ph.: 9913 1466

4.12. Chiropractors

Sydney Health Centre
Chiko Ko Huang
Suite 8, 53-55 Gladesville Road, Hunters Hill 2110
Ph.: 9817 7138

Scott Philipson
Suite 2, 186 Mona Vale Road , St. Ives 2075
Ph.: 9983 0532

4.13. Naturopath

Concept Holistic Health (speaks German)
878, Lvl 1 Military Road, Mosman
Ph.: 9960 6488

5. Shopping and Services

5.1. Shopping malls

In regional shopping malls everything can be found from department stores to hardware stores whatever your heart desires.

Pittwater Place Shopping Centre
10 Park Street, Mona Vale
Tel.: 9979 4455

Westfield Chatswood
1 Anderson Street, Chatswood 2067
Ph.: 9412 1555

Chatswood Chase
Cnr Victoria Avenue & Archer Street, Chatswood 2067
Ph.:9411 6376

Castle Towers Shopping Centre
6-14 Castle Street, Castle Hill 2154
Ph.: 8858 9700

Centro Warriwood
Jacksons Road, Warriewood,2102
Ph.:9913 4444

Maquarie Centre
Cnr Herring & Waterloo Roads, North Ryde 2113
Ph.: 9887 0800

Warringah Mall
Cnr Old Pittwater Road & Condamine Street, Brookvale 2100
Ph.: 9905 0633

Westfield Hornsby
Cnr Florence & Hunter Streets, Hornsby 2077
Ph.: 9477 5111

5.2. Where can I get German products?

Aldi: locations of the stores can be found under www.aldi.com.au

Aldi carries a small assortment of seasonal German products. You will get German delicacies (especially around the festive seasons like Christmas and Easter).

Meat, Sausages & Smallgoods

Bavarian Smallgoods
Shop 4, 39 Bartlett Street, Ermington 2115
Ph.: 9638 7809

European Taste Delicatessen
19 Hill Street, Roseville 2069
Ph.: 9884 8055

Swiss Goodies
Sausages, Meat loaf, Swiss cheese, Bretzel, etc.
Please ask for a complete product list:
bwagner@tpg.co.au (Mob: 0409 081612)
gabywagner@tpg.com.au (Mob: 0408 6287599)

Morgan's Fine Foods
Shp9/ 9 Bungan St, Mona Vale 2103
Ph.: 9997 4431

Brot und Wurst
1442 Pittwater rd Rd, North Narrabeen, 2101
Ph.: 0425 368 234

Biodynamic meat

www.mooralcreek.com.au

Biodynamic food

www.organicfood.com.au

www.lettucedeliver.com.au

Bread and bakery products

Arthur's Bavarian Bakehouse
9 Duneba Ave, West Gordon 2072
Ph.: 9880 2242

Blue Moon Bakery
Shop 5, 335 Barrenjoey Road, Newport 2106
Ph.: 9997 3337

Lüneburger German Bakery (Bread imported directly from Germany)
Shop 72, Lower Ground, Queen Victoria Building
455 George Street, Sydney 2000
Ph.: 9264 2377

Lüneburger German Bakery
Shop 401, Level 4, Macquarie Centre
Cnr Herring & Waterloo Roads, North Ryde 2113
www.luneburger.com.au

Schwarzes Bakery, Patisserie & Coffee Lounge
30 Station Street, Wentworth Falls, Blue Mountains
Ph.: (02) 4757 3300

Quark

Forestway Fresh
341 Mona Vale Rd, Terrey Hills NSW 2084
Ph.: 9486 3340

Athena's Deli
213 Mona Vale Rd., St. Ives 2075
Ph.: 9988 4292

Thomas Dux Mona Vale (Quark/Bratwurst)
Park Street, right opposite Mona Vale library.

European footwear for children and adults

The Shoe Shop
135 Sailors Bay Road, Northbridge 2063
Ph.: 9958 4818

The Italian Shoe Connection
16 Fisher Road, Dee Why 2099
Ph.: 9984 0633
(Attention: no children shoes!)

Birkenstock By Nature
Shop7/ 197 Military Rd, Neutral Bay, 2089
Ph.: 9908 7077

Birkenstock By Nature
Shp 3/ 1761 Pittwater Rd, Mona Vale ,2103
Ph.: 9979 4144

5.3. I need services...

... also to be found in the „Yellow Pages“

Car Service

Balmain European Car Repairs (Richard Scheurer)
39 Crescent Street, Rozelle 2039
Ph.: 9810 8105

Max Harder Motors (Speaks German)
228 Harbord Rd, Brookvale 2100
Ph.: 9938 3180

Veterinarians

Ku-ring-gai Veterinary Hospital
290 Bobbin Head Road, North Turramurra 2074
Ph.: 9449 4111

Pittwater Animal Hospital
1 Arnotts Crs
Warriewood NSW 2102
Ph.: 9913 7979

Handy men

Harald Pommerening
57 Trevitt Road, North Ryde 2113
Ph.: 9888 1830

Roland Leverenz (speaks german)
215 Midson Rd., Epping 2121
Ph.: 9868 2927, Mob.: 0418 648467

Electrician

Enno Wiese (speaks german)
106 Plateau Rd,Bilgola NSW 2107
Mob.: 0423 400 997

Pool Technician

Eberhardt Boldt
74B Glenhaven Road, Glenhaven 2156
Mob.: 0417 042 759

6. Leisure time sports and fun**6.1. Sports and fun**

Please see below a selection of sporting/recreational activities:

Swimming Centres and Schools

Terrey Hills Swim School (next to the school)
31 Myoora Road, Terrey Hills 2084
Ph.: 9486 3941

Ryde Aquatic Centre
504 Victoria Road, Ryde
Ph.: 8878 5111

Castle Cove Swim School
2B Holly Street, Castle Cove
Ph.: 9417 2060

Lane Cove Aquatic Centre
2 Little Street, Lane Cove
Ph.: 9418 3288

Warringah Aquatic Centre
Aquatic Drive,Frnchs Forest
Ph.: 9451 8000

Manly Andrew 'Boy' Charlton Swim Centre
Balgowlah Road ,Manly
Ph.: 9976 1495

More information under www.swimaustralia.org.au

Yoga

Franziska Thiele (school mum - speaks German & English)
Ph.: 9476 3747 or 0405 020 201

Tennis

Chatswood Tennis Club
52 & 120A Fullers Road, Chatswood 2067
Ph.: 9411 1500

Tennis World
Epping Road, Ryde
Ph.: 9888 7466

Balgowlah Tennis Club
Cnr. Balgowlah Rd. & Condamine St., Balgowlah
Ph.: 0413 742 071

Bayview Tennis Club
Pittwater Rd., Bayview (on water's edge, nearest street: King Edward Avenue)
Ph.: 9997 3333

Belrose Tennis Club
Glen St., Glenrose (behind Belrose shops)
Ph.: 9975 4620

Collaroy Tennis Club
Griffith Park, Anzac Ave, Collaroy
Ph.: 9971 1488

Mona Vale Tennis Club
Kitchener Park, Pittwater Road, Mona Vale
Ph.: 9979 6772

*Some of these clubs offer school holiday tennis camps. For further information please visit the following website: www.tennisnorthernbeaches.com.au

Gymnastics

SXL Gymnastics Coaching
UTS Sports Centre
Eton Road, Lindfield 2070
Ph.: 9411 4393

Manly Warringah Gymnastic Club
Unit 1, 8 Aquatic Drive
Frenchs Forest, NSW, 2086
Australia
Ph.: 9453 5481
Email: info@mwgymclub.com

More information can be found at the following address www.gymnsw.org.au

Ballet

You will find a wide range of ballet schools for each district in the "Yellow Pages".

Dancing

The Performing Arts Academy
PO Box 804, St Ives NSW 2075
Miss Tess (principal) Mob.: 0404 367256
tessacrington@bigpond.com

The North Shore Dance Academy
P.O. Box 509, St. Ives NSW 2075
Ph.: 9413 4027

www.northshoredanceacademy.com.au

McCarthy Studios
101 Cambourne Ave., St. Ives NSE 2075
Ph.: 9449 3530
www.mccarthystudios.com.au

Fitness Centres

Fitness First Mona Vale
Level 1, Pacific Square Shopping Centre 10 Park St
Mona Vale NSW 2103
Ph.: 8401 0800

Fitness First Dee Why
800 Pittwater Rd
Dee Why NSW 2099
Ph.: 1300 557 799

Virgin Active Frenchs Forest
16 Rodborough Road, Frenchs Forest 2086
Ph.: 9975 8600

Horse riding

Samarai Park Riding School
90 Booralie Road, Terry Hills 2084
Ph.: 9450 1745

Palomino Riding School (Manager: Cheryl Ludow)
192 Forest Way, Belrose 2085
Ph.: 9450 1726

Surfing

Manly Surf School
North Steyne Surf Livesaving Club, Manly
(in the middle of Manly Beach, opposite Pine St.
Ph.: 9977 6977
www.manlysurfschool.com

Soccer

In the Ku-Ring-gai district: Ku-ring-gai District Soccer (www.kdsq.asn.au)
St. Ives: www.stivesfootball.com.au
Narrabeen: www.footballsg.com

Parents are often the coaches and/or managers of the teams.

Mini Tots Soccer (up to 5 years old)
Warriewood, NSW
Ph.: 9944 7568
www.minitotssoccer.com.au

www.footballssg.com

For children and/or parents wishing to participate in local teams more information can be found at the following address: www.mwfa.com.au

Music schools

Belle Music Studio
Susan-Gai Anderson
French Forest 2086
Ph.: 9451 8923
www.bellemusicstudios.com

International School of Music (offers programs for infants)
Jay Cooper Warringah Road
Frenchs Forest
Ph.: 9880 8867
www.ismasustralia.com

Forte School of Music (offers programs for infants)
Level 1/785 A Pacific Hwy.
Gordon NSW 2072
Ph.: 9499 5955
www.fortemusic.com.au

Recommended for young children: music lessons at Macquarie University
www.access.mq.edu.au

Gitarre: Guitar: www.g4guitar.com.au

Bankstown Academy of Music
Neil Youel
12 Featherstone St.
Bankstown 2200
Ph.: 9707 3111

Violin
www.violins.com.au

Barbara Hayward
Elgien St. Gordon
Ph.: 9498 5419

Instrumental teaching in general:

The Learning Lounge (suitable for all age groups, from teenagers preferred)
1a Eastern Rd, Turramurra
Ph.: 9488 9970
www.thelearninglounge.com.au

Chorus and Orchestra:

Chorus of the Protestant Church of Martin Luther, Sydney
Hermann Simon
Ph.: 9451 3423

Youth Orchestra of the Catholic Church
Paul Driessen
Ph.: 9772 2690
www.sydneyphilharmonicchoirs.com.au

In addition, you can ice-skate at Macquarie shopping centre, play mini golf in Ermington or Narrabeen (see item 7, just to mention a few). "Sydney's Child" a publication that can be picked up at Preschool or newsagenices also offers an extensive range of leisure activities.

*The NSW government also has a listing of school holiday programes available.

You will find more information at the follwing address:

www.citysearch.com.au
www.sydneypinkpages.com.au
*www.dsr.nsw.gov.au/camps

6.2. Recreational activities

Please see below a list of websites which show whats on in Sydney:

www.citysearch.com.au
www.timeoutssydney.com.au
www.sydney100.com
www.sydney.com.au
www.discoverssydney.com.au
www.thisweekinaustralia.com
www.whats-on-in-sydney.com.au
www.whatsonsydney.com
www.sydneyolympicpark.com.au
www.sydentcent.com.au
www.sydneyhills.com.au
www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au
www.infobahnaustralia.com.au (deutschsprachige Internetseite)
www.warringah.nsw.gov.au/services/yoyos.aspx
www.manly.nsw.gov.au
www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au

Music events:

www.mva.org.au
www.seymour.usyd.edu.au
www.spraci.com
www.musicaviva.com.au
www.sydneyoperahouse.com
www.sydneypubguide.net
www.ticketek.com.au (Konzertkarten)
www.ticketmaster.com.au (Konzertkarten)
www.timeoutssydney.com.au

Cinemas:

www.bcl.com.au/sydney/watson/cinema.htm
www.dendy.com.au
www.greaterunion.com.au
www.unitedcinemas.com.au

www.hoyts.ninemsn.com.au

www.stgeorgeopenair.com.au (this is a FANTASTIC event held during the summer but sells out EXTREMELY quickly. Tickets go on sale every year on boxing day.)

Youth Centers

Councils in each district provide activities for young people under 18 years of age, such as YoYo's in Frenchs Forest, a youth center, open two days a week which offers dance parties, movie nights and music evenings.

www.warringah.nsw.gov.au/services/yoyos.aspx

7. Councils and advanced education

7.1. Local Councils

On each council's website you can find useful information for each district. There is an activities calendar, information on hiking, bike paths and activities for the school holidays. Similarly, the councils offer a free library service and language tuition by volunteers.

www.kmc.nsw.gov.au

www.warringah.nsw.gov.au

www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au

7.2. Advanced education

TAFE

One of the leading providers of further education is TAFE (Technical and Further Education). TAFE has more than 100 years of experience in education and training, is also operated and financed by the NSW government. TAFE NSW offers over 250 courses for students. International students have the opportunity to study in English courses and advanced courses to prepare for further study at TAFE or at a university. TAFE certificates and diploma certifications are approved by the related industry and are provided with a guarantee by the Government. Many students use the courses as a stepping stone to university study.

TAFE has 11 institutes, 130 colleges and over 500,000 enrollments.

Further information: www.tafensw.edu.au

Community Colleges

Community colleges are comparable with the German (Volkshochschule). They offer a broad education, vocational training and are easy to find in most suburbs. Not only do they offer English/German classes for adults (different levels are available) they also offer a broad range of courses from fun activities to courses to enhance professional skills.

Further information available at:

Macquarie CC: www.macquarie.nsw.edu.au

Sydney CC: www.sydneycommunitycollege.com.au

North West CC: www.nwcollege.net

Manly Warringah CC: www.mwcc.nsw.edu.au

Hornsby Ku-ring-gai CC: www.hkcc.nsw.edu.au

Mosman CC: www.mec.nsw.edu.au

8. It's my child's birthday - where can I celebrate?

"Sydney's Child," a free, monthly magazine offers very extensive information regarding activities for children. You will find the magazine at GISS Preschool as well as in all Early Childhood Health Centers, newsagencies and in some toy shops.

The website is: www.sydneychild.com.au.

Please see below for more venue ideas:

Ceramic painting activities

Kathryn Hand
Ph.: 9484 3915 (Mob.: 0438 204858)

Climbfit (climbing wall)

Unit 4, 12 Frederick Street
St. Leonards 2065
Ph.: 9436 4600

Northern Beaches Rockhouse

Unit 4E "Winbourne Estate"
9-13 Winbourne Rd, Brookvale
Tel: 9905 6202

Fairyland

Fairyland
733 Military Road, Mosman
Ph.: 9960 7222

Ice skating

Maquarie Ice Skating Rink (in Maquarie Shopping Centre)
Cnr Waterloo & Herrings Rds, North Ryde 2113
Ph.: 9888 1100

Minigolf

Pirates Mini Golf
1500 Pittwater Road, Narrabeen 2101
Ph.: 9913 7991

Putt Putt
Cnr Victoria & Wharf Rds, Ermington 2115
Ph.: 9858 2190

9. The German Community in Sydney

9.1. Diplomatic missions

Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany

Consul General: Mr. Hans-Günter Gnodtke
13 Trelawney Street, Woollahra 2025
Ph.: 9328 7733
www.sydney.diplo.de

Consulate General of Switzerland

Consul General: Mr. Markus Melli
Tower 2, Level 23, 101 Grafton Street, Bondi Junction 2022
Ph.: 8383 4000
www.eda.admin.ch/australia

Honorary Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Austria

Honorary Consul General: Mr. Guido Stock
Level 10, 1 York Street, Sydney 2000, Ph.: 9251 3363

9.2. German-Australian Chamber of Industry and Commerce**German-Australian Chamber of Industry and Commerce**

Head: Mr. Markus Gilbert
Level 10, 39-41 York Street, Sydney 2000
Ph.: 8296 0400
www.germany.org.au

9.3. Churches**German Protestant Lutheran Church, Sydney**

Pastor Michael Petzoldt
Martin Luther Kirche
90 Goulburn Street, Sydney NSW 2000
Gnadenfrei Kirche
10-12 Gurney Road, Chester Hill
Ph.: 9738 5733
www.kirche-sydney.org.au

German-speaking Catholic community Sydney

St Christophorus, Croydon
112 Edwin Street North, Croydon 2132
Ph.: 9716 9021 und 0407 946 986
www.dkg-sydney.com

9.4. Goethe-Institut**Goethe-Institut Sydney**

Head: Mr. Klaus Krischok
90 Ocean Street, Woollahra 2025
Ph.: 8356 8333
www.goethe.de/ins/au/syd/deindex.htm

9.5. German radio and TV

SBS radio has German-language broadcasts:
SBS Radio (97.7 FM)
www.radio.sbs.com.au

SBS televisises the "Deutschen Welle" daily. German films are also shown on SBS from time to time. www.sbs.com.au

10. Miscellaneous

10.1. Underage Drinking

Laws related to serving alcohol to people under 18 years of age are very strict in comparison to Europe. The sale for and to people under the age of 18 is prohibited! This legislation also extends to private consumption: if you host a private party and have alcohol available to young people under 18 years old you may be prosecuted with high penalties (and / or face up to 12 months in prison!). In addition, at a party, the police can demand directly AU\$ 550 for every person under-18-years who has access to alcohol.

10.2. Where can I find a german speaking babysitter?

Students in Years 11 and 12 are usually willing to baby-sit in the evenings. Please contact the administration office for further information or alternatively you are welcome to place an ad in the Gutenberg Post.

10.3. Who offers English courses for adults?

Several community colleges offer adult education. In general, there are various English and German courses, available 1-5 times a week. Courses are offered for different language levels.

Further information available at:

- Macquarie Community College, Ph.: 8845 8888 or www.macquarie.nsw.edu.au
- Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Community College, Ph.: 9482 1189 or www.hkcc.nsw.edu.au
- Manly Warringah Community College, Ph.: 9970 1000 www.mwcc.nsw.edu.au
- Mosman Community College, Ph.: 9968 4000 or www.mec.nsw.edu.au

10.4. Life Coaching for Immigrants

Rebecca Wells is specialised on the integration of immigrants. She helps people who need more self-confidence, guidance or want to be successful in their personal and professional life. In order to make a free, no obligation appointment with her, please contact the following address:

Clear Horizon Coaching
Helping expatriates lead successful and fulfilling lives
Ph.: 9130 1498
Mob.: 0432 782 969
Email: rebecca@clearhorizoncoaching.com
www.clearhorizoncoaching.com

10.5. Christmas trees

If you wish to celebrate Christmas with a real tree you have the chance to choose and cut your own at the following address:

Sydney Christmas Tree Farm
Ron & Barbara Junghans
6 Namba Rd., Duffys Forest 2084
Ph.: 9450 2027
www.sydneychristmastreefarm.com.au

10.6. Newspapers

The following newspapers are available online:

www.smh.com.au
www.dfr.com.au
www.news.com.au
www.woche.com.au (german newspaper)

There are also a number of local newspapers, according to the district for free home delivery. They provide information about activities and events in their respective areas:

The Manly Daily (www.manly-daily.whereilive.com.au)
North Shore Times (www.north-shore-times.whereilive.com.au)
Pittwater Life (www.pittwaterlife.com.au)
Peninsular Living (www.peninsulaliving.com.au)

9.7. References

White pages

www.whitepages.com.au

Yellow pages

www.yellowpages.com.au

Road maps

www.whereis.com.au

9.8. Venomous spiders and snakes (see appendix)

Venomous snakes and spiders can be a sensitive issue for families from abroad. The main thing to do is stay calm. While you can encounter snakes in the bush (which does not mean that there might not be one at sometime in the garden!), spiders are almost everywhere. If you see a spider web, you should generally act with caution. Never leave your clothing (especially shoes) outside overnight, they should always be kept inside the house.

You may like to contact a Pest Control Company who will fumigate the house. You can also purchase effective pesticides/inspect repellants from any hardware stores or supermarkets.

Appendix: Residential maps of GISS families

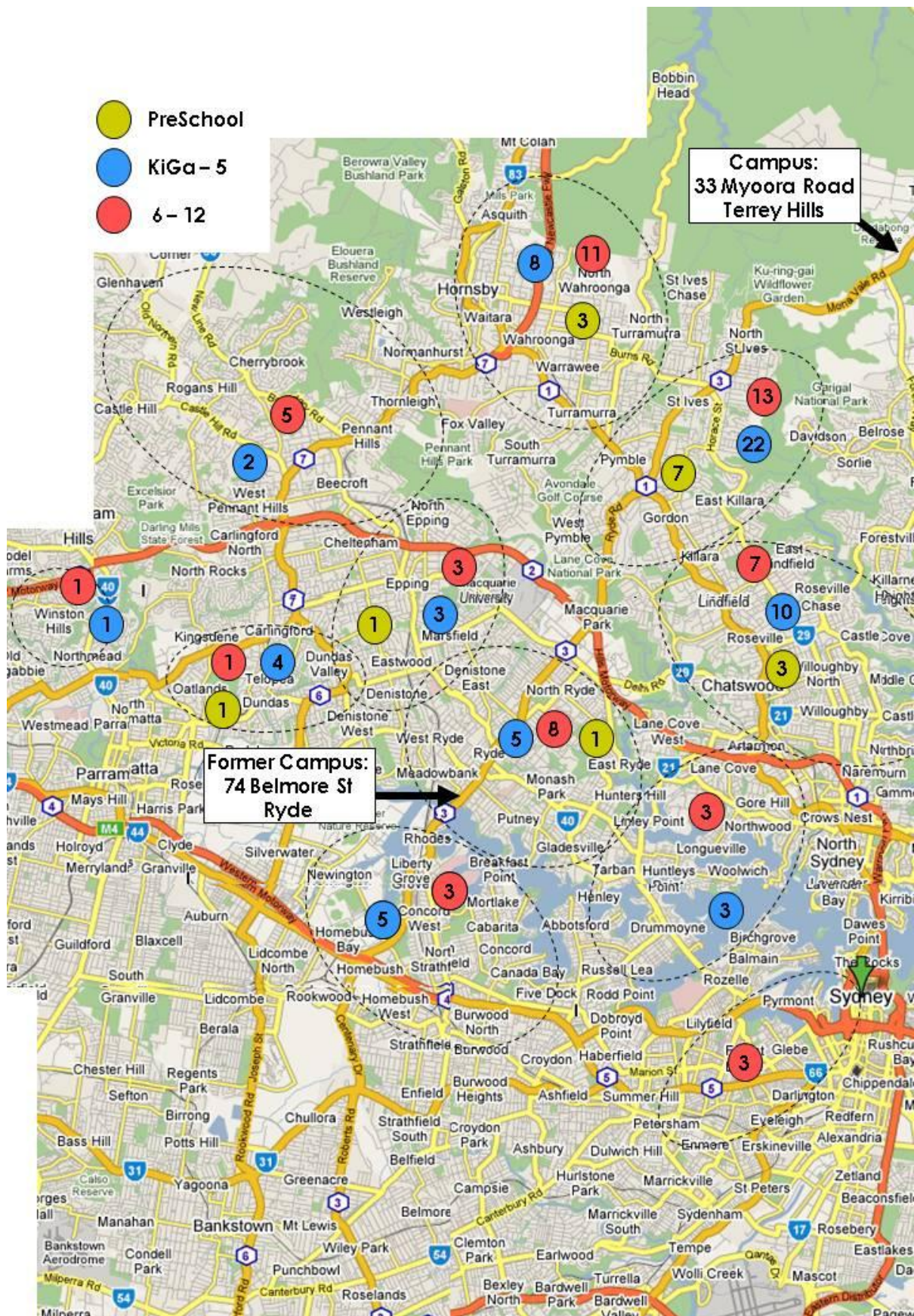
The following two maps roughly outline the distribution of students and their corresponding areas. The maps illustrate districts (circles), with different student groups in each area. Within each group, you will find the number of students who are living in that area - divided into pre-school, kindergarten to Year 5 and Years 6 to 12. In addition to the marked areas, there are still some pupils who are not listed in the overview. The figures do not include the students who arrived after June 2010 (*the addresses were not available at the time this documentation was prepared*).

The maps are according to statistics dated June 2010. Several factors lead to permanent change:

- Some families from the school are only temporarily in Australia

- The usual leases last for 6 to 12 months, which results in frequent changes of residence much more so than in other countries.







ACTUAL SIZE IDENTIFICATION
SPIDER CHART

THE DEADLY & DANGEROUS ONES

FEMALE SYDNEY FUNNEL-WEB
25 YEAR LIFE-SPAN - GROUND DWELLING - AGGRESSIVE - ONE OF THE WORLD'S DEADLIEST SPIDERS

MALE SYDNEY FUNNEL-WEB
13 FATALITIES RECORDED - FOUND IN RUBBISH, UNDER HOUSE, ETC.

RED-BACK
13 FATALITIES RECORDED - FOUND IN RUBBISH, UNDER HOUSE, ETC.

WHITE-TAIL SPIDER
MAY CAUSE HORRIFIC ULCERATION TO SKIN OF SENSITIVE PEOPLE - FOUND IN THE GARDEN & Indoors

NOTICE: MALE SPIDERS HAVE A SMALLER ABDOMEN, LONGER LEGS & SWOLLEN PALPS (FOR REPRODUCTION)

TOXIC (POISONOUS) — PAINFUL BITE

FEMALE MOUSE SPIDER
ENLARGED HEAD & FRONS - DEEP PAINFUL BITE - GROUND DWELLING - OFTEN MISTAKEN FOR FUNNEL-WEB

MALE MOUSE SPIDER
SMALL SPIDERS

Common BLACK HOUSE SPIDER
VENOMOUS - RAABIA, SWEATING, ETC. - OFTEN FOUND IN THEIR WEBS IN WINDOW FRAMES, EAVES, ETC.

WOLF SPIDER
NON-AGGRESSIVE - GROUND DWELLING

WARNING! MOST OF THESE SPIDERS CAN BE DANGEROUS TO PEOPLE WITH ALLERGIES OR HYPER SENSITIVITIES

THE "LOW RISK" SPIDERS

SPIDERS CAN BE BENEFICIAL IN THE CONTROL OF MOSQUITOES & FLIES - BUT IF THEY PRESENT A DANGER - CALL FUMAPEST

FEMALE TRAP-DOOR
MILKY TOXIC - NON-AGGRESSIVE - GROUND DWELLING (BURROW - OFTEN WITHOUT A LID)

MALE TRAP-DOOR
SWOLLEN PALPS

GARDEN ORB-WEAVING
RELATIVELY HARMLESS - BENEFICIAL - OFTEN SEEN IN A LARGE WEB IN THE GARDEN

SAINT ANDREW'S CROSS

HUNTSMAN
TIMID - RARELY BITES - FOUND UNDER LOOSE BARK - MAY REENTER Indoors

FUMAPEST - YOUR LOCAL PEST CONTROL EXPERTS

ALL SYDNEY SUBURBS 9771 2400	NORTH SHORE 9905 7800	SUTHERLAND 9545 3200	CAMPBELLTOWN 4628 2400
	EASTERN SUBURBS 9371 7717	WESTERN SUBURBS 9771 2400	PENRITH 4732 2005

FIND OUT HOW TO PROTECT YOUR HOME FROM TERMITES (WHITE ANTS) - REFER INTERNET - www.termite.com