We encourage all students to find their own way to shine. We want them to discover their strengths and help light the lives of others.

Tony Sheumack
Headmaster
Beaconhills College has welcomed students from many countries and different cultures during our 32 year history.

Our international student program is very extensive, with students visiting from many parts of Asia and Europe, participating in our study tour program and enjoying the hospitality of our families.

This program has resulted in life-long friendships and connections between students in Australia and our overseas guests.

Many of our Beaconhills students participate in cultural and service tours to countries such as Vietnam, Bangladesh and East Timor, helping out in schools and orphanages. They enhance their second language skills by visiting our sister schools in China, France and Japan. This gives our students the chance to appreciate and understand other cultures.

Each year increasing numbers of international students complete their Victorian Certificate of Education at our College. We provide a very supportive homestay environment to help students further develop their English language skills while living with a local family.

Our modern new Global Beacons Centre is home to our international programs, bringing together all of our language and cultural programs. Beaconhills College provides an extensive curriculum for all students and we have dedicated teachers available to support the international students in our care.

Welcome to your light so shine

We welcome your children into our caring Christian community.
Our dedicated teachers will ensure your child has the best academic support possible. We care about the welfare and happiness of every child at Beaconhills.
Beaconhills is a vibrant educational learning community. International students have long been a part of our school life and we value the cultural diversity that they bring to our College.

Specialist staff including a Careers Counsellor, International Student Co-ordinator and House tutors work alongside the teaching staff to ensure the wellbeing and academic pathways of our students is well supported.

Our broad subject range and co-curricular program guarantees international students can pursue their areas of interest, ranging from sport to music, visual arts, chess or debating and public speaking.

of experience and opportunity

English language

We encourage students to be fully involved in the academic, co-curricular and cultural life of the school. This is an excellent way to improve English language skills and meet new friends.

International students are able to take part in Intensive English Language Programs. These usually run for 20 weeks but can be tailored for each student.
Learning That Matters

The Beaconhills education experience is based on an innovative set of education principles we have developed in close association with the USA’s Harvard Graduate School of Education. We call this ‘Learning That Matters’.

The **environment, learning, values and character, wellbeing, citizenship and service** and the **world and other cultures** are each part of ‘Learning That Matters’ at Beaconhills.

We challenge our students to achieve their best academically and personally. Most importantly, we want them to have strong values of **respect**, **compassion** and **integrity**.
Middle School, Years 5-8, has proved to be highly effective in meeting the unique needs of students in the crucial years between primary and secondary schooling.

Students in these years develop autonomy, problem-solving skills and the ability to work co-operatively with others.

Year 9 is an exciting year of opportunities, but also when students need to develop independence and build on the skills needed for senior schooling.

Year 9 students have their own purpose-built centres and specialised programs. Our Year 9 teachers have specific skills in teaching this age group.

Senior students in Years 10-12 must have high expectations of academic success while allowing their talents to flourish.

These are important years to prepare for future study and careers. Our Senior School staff are highly qualified in their fields, with many involved in developing the curriculum and assessment of examinations at state level.
Melbourne has regularly earned the prestigious title of the world’s most liveable city. Just a short 30-45 minute journey from the centre of multicultural Melbourne, Berwick and Pakenham are well-serviced by excellent public transport and road networks. Major tourist attractions such as Healesville’s Australian wildlife sanctuary and Phillip Island’s world-famous fairy penguins are less than an hour away.

City fringe

Berwick Campus opened in 2003 and overlooks the townships of Berwick and Beaconsfield.

Pakenham Campus opened in 1982 and is nestled in the picturesque Toomuc Valley on 18 hectares of beautiful grounds.
Students from many countries enjoy studying at our two spacious and modern campuses. Pakenham Campus is located in the picturesque Toomuc Valley while Berwick Campus sits on a gentle slope overlooking the attractive town of Berwick.

Our buildings and grounds are designed to incorporate the latest technology in supporting our teaching and learning programs.

Specialist centres including Performing Arts, Science, Technology and Human Movement enhance our diverse curriculum. You will find industry-standard equipment in our Technology Centres, full wireless networking throughout the College, interactive whiteboards and multi-purpose sporting grounds and stadiums. Our purpose-built Global Beacons Centre is a modern and welcoming environment for our international students.
Airport pick-up

We arrange to meet your child at the airport when they arrive in Melbourne. They will go straight to their Homestay to meet their new family hosts and settle in.

Guardians

All international students living in Australia independent of their parents must have a legal guardian. The school can arrange guardianship.

Orientation

Beaconhills staff meet each international student as soon as they arrive at school and will help answer any of their questions. Students also meet with the Head of Section and the Careers Counsellor to discuss their interests and needs. Their course of study is confirmed at this stage along with books and materials needed. Our International Student Co-ordinator arranges a special orientation program to ensure that students feel comfortable and meet friends.

Homestay carers will help set up a bank account and become familiar with local facilities. Students will also need to buy text books and a uniform from the school’s College Shop.
Homestay

Homestay is a wonderful way to learn about Australian family life and culture. It is the best accommodation for international students who come to Australia to study, unaccompanied by a parent. Homestay families are carefully selected and approved by the International Co-ordinator.

Some of our Homestay families have hosted students over several years and many students form lasting friendships, staying in contact with families long after leaving Australia.

All families live close to Beaconhills College or with convenient public transport nearby. Each Homestay student is provided with a single, fully-furnished room, three meals a day and laundry facilities.

Australian adults who work closely with children, such as teachers and professional carers, must undergo a national criminal history check. All of our Homestay hosts hold a current ‘Working With Children’ card and have been screened for their suitability to work with, and care for, children.
Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

Matthew 5:16 (NRSV)