Being Beaconhills

An holistic education that inspires excellence and nurtures confident, independent learners with values that empower them to be responsible, caring citizens in their local and global communities.

Respect
Compassion
Integrity

- Environment
- Learning
- Values and character
- Citizenship and service
- Wellbeing
- Our world and other cultures
Learning That Matters

Environment
We aim to develop students with a deep understanding of environmental and sustainability issues and be responsible stewards.

Our world and other cultures
We strive for our students to learn the importance of cultural diversity and their responsibilities as global citizens.

Learning
We aim to develop students who will be highly skilled learners for their entire lives – We challenge our students to be knowledgeable, adaptive, creative and resilient learners.

Citizenship and service
We strive for our students to participate actively in service to enhance the lives of others.

Values and character
We encourage our students to lead a life that is informed by the Christian values and experiences of the College.

Wellbeing
We strive for our students to develop a positive sense of self and awareness of others through a healthy body, mind and spirit.
Senior School aims to foster a love of lifelong learning that will enable students to develop independence, resilience and a sense of self-worth. Our flexible learning pathways cater for individual student differences. Our focus on teachers being mentors enables our students to achieve academic excellence.
Choosing Subjects

Subject choices for the following year are always made during Term 3. Some changes to the original choice may be necessary later in the year. However, where initial decisions have been carefully and thoughtfully made, these changes should be few. By the end of the school year, students wishing to make a change may find their choices restricted because of timetabling constraints.

Each student will be given a Subject Selection Package which contains:
- Academic History
- List of Subjects available
- Selection Draft sheet

Following the Senior School Expo, students will receive the following via e-mail* to their school account:
- Web Preferences Access Codes
- Instructions on how to place preferences
*Please ensure that your student e-mail account is not full.

When choosing subjects, students should consider:
- Keeping their options open when their future career path is not certain
- Their interests, skills and abilities
- Their past academic results
- Possible career paths
- Exploring the possibilities of a subject area to help decide on future pathways
- Prerequisites for Unit 3 & 4 sequences
- Prerequisites and recommended studies for particular careers and tertiary courses.

Parents should talk with their son or daughter and assist them in making their online subject choices. Once the online subject selections have been completed, the receipt must be printed and handed to the student’s Head of House. Heads of House and subject teachers may all be involved in reviewing the choices made by students to assist in ensuring the suitability of the selected options.

The Careers Counsellor has current and detailed information on tertiary courses, as well as the skills to help students in the process of choosing courses. There are important resources available in the Careers Room including:
- Internet websites
- Software programs
- VTAC Guide
- VICTER

Further information about each subject can be obtained from the 2017 Subject Guide and selecting either the appropriate Department or Subject link from the Contents Pages.

*It is important to note at this stage of the selection process that some of the subjects listed within the Subject Guide may not run in 2017. The pattern of student subject choices and the deployment of teaching resources will have an influence on this decision. This is why it is important to choose a reserve subject.*
For Students Entering Year 10 in 2017

Year 10 is an opportunity to develop teamwork, interpersonal skills and an understanding of the world we live in through reflection, problem solving skills and creative thinking. An emphasis on Learning that Matters and communicating in a digital world will provide students with the resilience to become life-long learners. The curriculum at Year 10 channels our students through an increasing range of pathways in preparation for them moving into Year 11 and the VCE. This pathway includes students continuing with units of English, Mathematics, Humanities and Science as well as a Personal Development curriculum.

Key Features of the Year 10 program

- Experiential opportunities (in each semester) which include an outdoor education experience
- Strong Personal Development program focusing on physical health, food and fitness, learning skills, emotional development and vocational planning and preparation through a structured careers program
- A core and elective program that reflects a balanced approach to increasing choice for students leading into the VCE
- An optional Elective Research Project (ExTENd Project)

Year 10 students will study 6 subjects each semester. All students study English at the appropriate level and they must choose one of the three Mathematics electives offered each semester, as advised by the Mathematics Department.

All students are required to study a minimum of one semester in both Science and Humanities/Commerce. Students may select an additional Science or Humanities/Commerce elective, depending upon their other subject selections and personal preferences.

A Personal Development Unit runs for the whole year that encompasses Ethics & Life (Religion and Society Unit 2 VCE), Physical Health & Wellbeing and Learning Pathways. This unit completes the compulsory part of the Year 10 program, leaving 4 other semester-based Year 10 courses and appropriate VCE units available for students to select from.

Many VCE Unit 1 & 2 subjects have specific subject requirements or a requirement of a past record of high academic achievement in general or in related subject areas. It is not necessary to study some of the Unit 1 & 2 Subjects as a sequence. Therefore, a Unit 1 can be done on its own while a Unit 2 can be studied without attempting Unit 1. Such decisions can only be made after specific consultation with the relevant Head of Faculty.

If there is any doubt at all about likely career pathways, it is best to keep options open in Year 10. All students and their families will be required to have a Subject Counselling interview with their Head of House.
Sample Selection Chart Year 10 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester 1</th>
<th>Semester 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. English Option</td>
<td>7. English Option</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Personal Development Unit</td>
<td>9. Personal Development Unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Elective 1</td>
<td>11. Elective 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Elective 2</td>
<td>12. Elective 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes:

- All subjects in Senior School are allocated 8 hours a cycle.
- Electives only run for a semester.
- Personal Development Unit consists of: Ethics and Life (Religion and Society Unit 2 VCE), Physical Health & Wellbeing and Learning Pathways (Careers). This will run for the whole of the year.
- Year 10 courses in French and Japanese are taught over the full year and count as one of the two elective spots for each semester.
- Electing to study a VCE subject at Year 10 should be carefully considered as these courses are generally aimed at Year 11 students who have successfully completed the experience of Year 10 studies.
- The timetable will dictate when you complete your semester based subjects, which includes Science, Humanities/Commerce and electives.
- All subjects will have at least a 1.5 hour examination at the end of each semester.
- The Senior School has two designated examination weeks during the year (June and November). All senior students are expected to complete examinations for each subject they study at these times.
- VET is a whole year program offered by external providers and takes two subject choices.
Year 11 students will normally study 6 subjects each semester. In most situations students will study these as a sequence; however, there are some changes that students make to their program during the middle of the year. All students must study at least one English subject from the English Group comprising: English, English A, Literature or English Language. For students who have difficulty with English there are more options available at Year 11. The remaining subjects can be chosen from the list of VCE subjects on offer.

Units 3 & 4 must be taken as a sequence (Unit 4 must be selected in addition to Unit 3). This does not apply to Units 1 & 2 as these Units can be studied discretely. However, for any student wishing to study Units 1 & 2 in sequence, the College’s Promotions Policy requires students to achieve at least a Low Average in order to progress.

Year 11 and 12 subjects are blocked in a way that provides all Year 11 students with the opportunity to study a Unit 3 & 4 sequence, giving them early experience in the VCE demands of Year 12. This strategy also gives students an opportunity to contribute to their ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank).

Students considering a Unit 3 & 4 subject in Year 11 must have achieved strong academic grades (B or better in related subjects) in Year 10. Each request to undertake a Year 12 subject at Year 11 will be considered on an individual basis.

Many studies do not specify Unit 1 as a prerequisite for Unit 2, or Units 1 & 2 as prerequisites for Units 3 & 4. However, it is generally advisable to complete Units 1 and/or 2 before attempting Units 3 & 4. Any specific pathway requirements are listed in the subject guide.

If there is any doubt at all about likely career pathways, it is best to keep options open in Year 11. Students or families are invited to have a Subject Counselling interview with their Head of House.

Sample Selection Chart

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 11</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. English Option</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Choice 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Choice 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Choice 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Choice 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Choice 5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes:
- All subjects in Senior School are allocated 8 hours a cycle.
- Year 11 students will normally complete 12 units of study (6 units per semester). Units 1 & 2 are discrete and there is the possibility of change at the end of Semester 1.
- All subjects will have at least a 1.5 hour examination at the end of each semester.
- The Senior School has two designated examination weeks during the year (June and November). All senior students are expected to complete examinations for each subject they study at these times.
- If a student wishes to select less conventional options such as: VCE Extended Investigation, VSL, VET or Higher Education Studies, they should read the information contained in the next section.
For Students Entering Year 12 in 2017

Year 12 students will normally study 5 subjects for the year. All students must study at least one English subject from the English Group comprising: English, English A, Literature or English Language. For students who have difficulty with English there is the option of studying English A, which enables the school to target extra support for the class. More details are available in the subject guide.

The remaining subjects can be chosen from the list of VCE subjects on offer.

Units 3 & 4 are taken as a sequence (Unit 4 must be selected in addition to Unit 3). Examinations occur in all subjects at the end of the year.

Students entering Units 3 & 4 should ensure they have satisfied the entry requirements and achieved the minimum academic standard as set out in the Promotions Policy. Any specific pathway requirements are listed in the subject guide.

If a student wishes to select less conventional options such as VCE Extended Investigation, VSL, VET or Higher Education Studies, they should read the information contained in the next section.

Sample Selection Chart

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 12</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. English Option</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Choice 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Choice 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Choice 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Choice 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes:
- All subjects in Senior School are allocated 8 hours a cycle.
- Year 12 students will normally complete 10 units of study (5 units per semester). These subjects are taken as a sequence; therefore you cannot opt into a Unit 3 & 4 subject midstream.
- In exceptional circumstances, there is the opportunity for Year 12 students to undertake a sixth study sequence.
VCE Extended Investigation

Students in Senior School have the opportunity to study this innovative VCE subject which teaches them the art of Critical Thinking. In it, they are given the opportunity to research, analyse and evaluate a key investigative question of their choice developing skills in line with future University methodology. Students should discuss their intention to study this subject with the Head of Senior School or Head of Teaching and Learning. This subject is intended for students that enjoy setting themselves a challenge and who are self-motivated. Further information can be found in the subject guide.

External options available

• **VCE Higher Education Studies**

The Higher Education Studies program provides opportunity for very able students to extend their learning in a particular subject area by completing the first year of a standard university subject as part of their Year 12 Program.

The program is offered by Monash and Melbourne Universities. The mode of delivery can differ between subjects. All Higher Education Studies are offered externally from the College.

For more information and a list of subjects offered and their locations, students should speak with the Careers Counsellor or Head of Senior School. Applications must be lodged by the end of October each year.

• **Victorian School of Languages**

Students in Senior School have the opportunity to study a language not offered on our usual curriculum with the Victorian School of Languages. However, families are advised that in such instances tuition is offered either by distance learning or by attending Saturday morning classes. In both of these cases a tuition fee is payable to the providing Institution. Any student considering this option must discuss their plans with the Head of Teaching and Learning.

• **Dual Recognition for TAFE Courses and Vocational Education and Training (VET)**

Vocational Education and Training (VET) courses are offered at TAFE in various specialty areas. Some areas of study are recognised by the VCE as equivalent to Units 1, 2, 3 or 4. This allows a student to work towards the VCE and a TAFE certificate at the same time. It is most important that students interested in these courses seek advice and details from the Careers Counsellor.

Popular VET subjects in recent years have included Hospitality, Community Service and Equine Industry.

The Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC) has advised that existing arrangements for tertiary entrance and ATAR calculation will be modified to reflect the integration of VET programs within the VCE. Approved VCE VET Units 3 & 4 sequences will include scored assessment from which a study score for the sequence will be calculated.

Further details of VET Courses can be found in the Subject Guide. Interested families should discuss these arrangements with the Careers Counsellor.
Satisfactory Completion of the VCE

To be awarded the VCE, students must satisfactorily complete at least:

- 16 Units in total
- 3 Units of English*, and
- 3 sequences of Units 3 & 4 in studies other than English.

* The 3 Units of English may be selected from VCE English Units 1 – 4 (including English A); English Language Units 1 - 4, and Literature Units 1 - 4. Any English Units 3 & 4 sequence will be counted in the ATAR, but no more than 2 of them will be permitted in the primary 4. Foundation English is only offered for Units 1 – 2.

Students who satisfactorily complete more than 4 Units from English, English Language of, Literature or Foundation English will have the additional Units credited towards meeting their 16 VCE Units.

Students wishing to be eligible for an ATAR must successfully complete both Units 3 & 4 in their chosen English course as well as three other 3 & 4 sequences.

It is possible to complete the VCE without undertaking Year 11 examinations and final VCE examinations. Students pursuing this pathway will be able to gain their VCE by will be ineligible for an ATAR. For further information about this, or to determine the suitability for an individual student, please contact the Head of Teaching and Learning.

Satisfactory Completion of a Unit

In order to achieve an S (satisfactory) for a VCE Unit, a student must:

- Complete all aspects of the learning outcomes to the minimum required standard (> 50%)
- Submit all assessment tasks on time
- Ensure that the work is clearly their own
- Attend a minimum of 80% of all lessons unless there are valid reasons for non-attendance
- Adhere to College and Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) rules

Students can resubmit work to meet satisfactory completion requirements of a unit but may not resubmit tasks for the reconsideration of school-assessed coursework scores awarded by the College.

Note: Satisfactory completion is independent of the Promotions policy. If a student does not meet a Learning Outcome, they will be given an N for that outcome. If any of the outcomes are not achieved, the student also receives an N for the unit.

Learning Outcomes

- describe activities which involve students tackling the areas of study in ways which will enable them to achieve the objectives of the unit
- are a fundamental part of a course, not separate from course work. However, they do not describe all of the work students may be asked to do as part of a course

Units 1 and 2 Assessment Tasks

In each Unit 1 and Unit 2 course, approximately four Assessment Tasks will be applied. One of the assessment tasks will be a 1½ hour examination at the end of the semester. The other Assessment Tasks will vary from one unit to the next, but generally each will be built out of a particular Area of Study. Reports will show whether students have satisfactorily completed the learning outcomes and provide an indication of student performance on each Assessment Task through the award of a letter grade on a scale of A+ to F, UG or NA.
Satisfactory Completion of a Unit (continued)

Unit 3 and 4 School Assessed Tasks (SATs)
SATs are assessment tasks, which are undertaken by some students taking Unit 3 & 4 in the Visual Arts and Technology areas. They are designed to assess different aspects of student performance in Units 3 and 4. Each SAT will be graded on a scale of A+ to E. If the quality of a student’s work is insufficient to sustain an E grade, the grade of UG (ungraded) will be awarded. Failure to submit work will be indicated by NA (not assessed).

Unit 3 and 4 School Assessed Coursework (SACs)
Coursework assesses each student’s overall level of achievement on the assessment tasks designated in the study design. The study design specifies a range of tasks to assess achievement of each of the Unit’s outcomes. Assessment tasks are part of the regular teaching and learning program and are completed mainly in class time.

Results of Coursework count towards student’s Study Score in each VCE study and ultimately towards the student’s ATAR.

It must be noted that School-Assessed Coursework scores may change following statistical moderation by the VCAA.

College Promotions Policy
Beaconhills is built upon an educational philosophy that encourages all students to achieve their personal best. Our Promotions Policy gives guidance on how this can be achieved academically.

Year 10: There are no entry requirements for the Year 10 Elective subjects. In order to study a VCE Unit 1 or 2, students will require a B grade or better in a related Year 9 subject. Students will require a Low Average grade or better in Unit 1 if they wish to continue the subject in Semester 2.

Mathematics and English are compulsory subject areas. Student placement is dependent on past results and recommendations from their subject teachers. Entry into Higher Mathematics or English Enrichment generally requires an A grade or above. Essential Mathematics and Essential English are usually undertaken by those students who have not secured at least an E grade in their previous studies of Mathematics or English.

Year 11: Students will require a minimum of a D grade or better in a related Year 10 Elective to study a Unit 1 or 2 subject. To study a Unit 3 and 4 subject, students need a B grade or better in a related Year 10 elective, or a Low Average grade if they studied Unit 2 in the previous year.

Any grade below a Low Average will normally result in the student ceasing that course of study. Exceptions can be made at the discretion of the Promotions Committee. This may result in a student sitting a supplementary examination or providing additional assessment pieces as directed by the committee.

Special provisions operate in the compulsory subject area of English. Foundation English Unit 1 and 2 is usually taken by students who have not secured at least an E grade in their previous studies of English, or at the recommendation of their subject teacher. This may be undertaken in conjunction with the English Units 1 and 2 if the student intends to attempt to complete a full VCE pathway. Foundation Mathematics Units 1 and 2 are also offered to those students who wish to continue with Mathematics in Year 11, but who have not achieved the grade required for entry into Further Mathematics.
College Promotions Policy (continued)

**Year 12**: To study a subject a student is expected to have achieved a minimum grade of *Low Average* or better in a related Unit 1 or 2. In the compulsory subject area of English, the minimum grade for entry into the subject is a *Low*.

Any grade below a *Low* will normally result in the student ceasing that course of study. Exceptions can be made at the discretion of the Promotions Committee. This may result in a student sitting a supplementary examination or providing additional assessment pieces as directed by the committee.

1. An N in a VCE unit would necessitate a student discontinuing the subject; in exceptional cases English may be exempted from this requirement. The Promotions Committee will confirm any N award.

2. An S grade does not guarantee promotion to the next level if effort grades indicate a lack of focus in a student’s work and if the overall standard attained is not at a minimum level of achievement.

3. In Years 10 and 11 the Beaconhills Achievement Grade will include the examination results. The report will state, for each subject, the proportion allocated to the examination.

4. The Promotions Committee, made up of Campus Principal, Head of Senior School, Deputy Head of Senior School, Head of Teaching and Learning and Careers Counsellor will meet at the end of each semester to consider the merits of individual student cases.

5. All teachers will inform parents about unsatisfactory progress through Notices of Academic Concern, continuous online reports or e-mail as necessary throughout the year.

6. Exceptional student work is rewarded through teachers sending parents an Acknowledgement of Academic Advancement through the continuous online reporting system.
VCE Guidance

At the beginning of each year we place VCE information on the College’s website which provides details about the structure of the VCE, assessment, SAT/SAC dates, examinations, Special Provision, reporting and school policies as they relate to the VCE. There are also sections of the Administrative Handbook from VCAA that have been incorporated within this information.

Further Information

For more specific information about the VCE, please contact the Head of Teaching & Learning Years 9 - 12, or Head of Senior School, at the College, or visit the VCAA website. Other information about the VCE is also maintained on the Teaching and Learning Page in BeaconNet. Active discussion with relevant Heads of Faculty and Subject Teachers is also encouraged to help develop an understanding of course requirements.

Recommended Internet Sites

- BeaconNet Community Portal  http://portal.beaconhills.vic.edu.au
- Victorian Curriculum & Assessment Authority (VCAA)  http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au
- Victorian Tertiary Admission Centre (VTAC)  http://www.vtac.edu.au
# 2017 Pakenham Campus Subject Choices

*(Refer to Subject Guide for further information about each subject – located in Teaching and Learning in Senior School)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty</th>
<th>Year 10 Subjects</th>
<th>VCE Units 1 &amp; 2</th>
<th>VCE Units 3 &amp; 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **English**          | • English and Literature  
• English  
• English A  
• English as an Additional Language | • English  
• Literature  
• English A  
• English as an Additional Language | • English  
• Literature  
• English A  
• English as an Additional Language |
| **Mathematics**      | • Mathematics (Higher)  
• Mathematics (Core)  
• Mathematics (Essential) | • Specialist Mathematics  
• Mathematical Methods  
• General Mathematics  
• Foundation Mathematics | • Specialist Mathematics  
• Mathematical Methods  
• Further Mathematics |
| **Personal Development** | **Topics:**  
Ethics & Life (Unit 2 Religion and Society)  
Physical Health & Wellbeing  
Learning Pathways (Careers) | • Biology  
• Chemistry  
• Physics  
• Psychology | • Religion and Society |
| **Science**          | • Science  
• Biology and Psychology  
• Physics and Chemistry | • Biology  
• Chemistry  
• Physics  
• Psychology | • Biology  
• Chemistry  
• Physics  
• Psychology |
| **Humanities**       | • History (Conflict and Change)  
• History (The Fight for Freedom)  
• Geography (Human wellbeing)  
• Geography (Environmental Change and Management) | • Geography  
• History (20th Century) | • Geography  
• History (Revolutions)  
• Global Politics |
|                      | • ExTENd Project | | • Extended Investigation |
| **Commerce**         | • Commerce (Local)  
• Commerce (Global) | • Accounting  
• Business Management  
• Economics  
• Legal Studies  
• Industry and Enterprise | • Accounting  
• Business Management  
• Economics  
• Legal Studies  
• Industry and Enterprise |
| **Health and Physical Education** | • Sport Science  
• Personal Skills for Life | • Health and Human Development  
• Outdoor and Environmental Studies  
• Physical Education | • Health and Human Development  
• Outdoor and Environmental Studies  
• Physical Education |
| **Information Technology** | • Computer Applications  
• Coding | • Computing | • Informatics  
• Software Development |
| **Languages**        | • French  
• Japanese  
• Chinese (First Language) | • French  
• Japanese  
• Chinese (First Language) | • French  
• Japanese  
• Chinese (First Language) |
| **Performing Arts**  | • Music Foundations - Semester 1  
• Music Extension - Semester 2 | • Dance  
• Unit 1 Drama and Unit 2 Theatre Studies  
• Music Performance | • Dance  
• Music Performance  
• Music Investigation  
• Drama (2018)  
• Theatre Studies |
| **Technology**       | • Product Design and Technology  
• Systems Engineering  
• Food Studies  
• Product Design and Technology (Textiles) | • Product Design and Technology  
• Systems Engineering  
• Food Studies  
• Product Design and Technology (Textiles) | • Product Design and Technology  
• Systems Engineering  
• Food Studies  
• Product Design and Technology (Textiles) |
| **Visual Arts**      | • Art  
• Media (Film)  
• Media (Photography)  
• Graphics | • Studio Arts  
• Media  
• Visual Communication Design  
• Art | • Studio Arts  
• Media  
• Visual Communication Design  
• Art |
| **External Provider** | • VET  
• External Language Studies (VSL) | • VET  
• External Language Studies (VSL) | • Higher Education Studies  
• VET  
• External Language Studies (VSL) |