FAQs

Beaconhills College

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How do I enrol my child at Beaconhills?

Beaconhills College is an independent, open-entry, co-educational school. Application for enrolment is online and can be found on the enrolment page of the College website A $100 non-refundable application fee is payable on application (waived for alumni*).

Applications are accepted for all year levels, with the main intakes in Early Years, Prep, Year 5 and Year 7. Once processed, applications are added to the waitlist by date of application.

Priority of admission is provided to siblings of current students, children of alumni*, and children of permanent full-time and part-time staff.

An email response will acknowledge receipt of application.

** Must have studied at the College for more than three years.*

When will I know if my child has a place?

We start offering places 18 months prior to your child's entry year. We don't close our offers at any stage – as vacancies arise, we will offer the place to the next person on our enrolment list. ***All offers are subject to availability.***

What happens at my child's interview?

You and your child will meet with either the Head of Section or their representative to discuss your child's education and interests. This gives a better understanding of your child's needs and helps with a smooth transition to our College.

How many students are in each class?

We have up to 26 students in classes from Prep-Year 9. Class sizes in Years 10-12 (Senior School) generally range from around 10-20 students depending upon subject and year level.

What do the school fees cover?

Fees include tuition, camps, excursions and incursions. Some overseas trips (optional) are partly subsidised by the College. The only extras are uniform and books. You will also need to buy an iPad if your child is in Years 5-8 (and doesn't have one). If you elect to have private music or tennis lessons, or join an after-hours sporting team, these are charged separately.

Do you offer fee discounts for families who have more than one child attending?

Yes, we offer a discount of 25 per cent for the third child, and 50 per cent for fourth and subsequent children. Further information can be found on the *Enrolment process* page in Welcome to Beaconhills

Does Beaconhills offer scholarships?

Yes, we do. Scholarships at Beaconhills support dedicated and talented students to help them build on their academic, performing arts and leadership strengths. We award various types of scholarships – Academic Excellence, General Excellence, Performing Arts, Indigenous and Beacon of Hope Foundation scholarships. Check the Scholarships page on the website for more information.

Does my child need an iPad?

Children in Years 5-8 need to supply or buy an iPad. Year 9 and Senior School students (Years 10-12) can bring their own computing device to school, or continue to use their iPad.

What time does school start and finish?

School starts at 8.45am and finishes at 3.20pm.

Do you have before and after school care?

Yes, both campuses have before and after school care. This runs from 7am-6pm. The school library is also open from 8am-5pm for older students wishing to do their homework.

What transport options are available?

We have a comprehensive bus service to both campuses, including a free country bus service to the Pakenham Campus from parts of the Dandenong Ranges. Details of PTV train and bus services, Pakenham country bus routes and Berwick charter bus services are available under *Transport options* on our website

How does the College foster student wellbeing?

The health and wellbeing of each of our students is of paramount importance to us. Beaconhills' Wellbeing Program is supported by Heads of House, tutors and teachers, the school nurse, our counsellors and chaplains as well as pastoral care staff. All staff are highly engaged in student care. Any negative behaviour is immediately addressed.

Are religious studies compulsory?

Yes. RAVE (Religious and Values Education) is an integral part of the College curriculum, encouraging students to explore the importance of faith in people's lives and help develop positive values for living. Students gain an understanding and tolerance of all faiths. RAVE encourages students to examine their lives for meaning and purpose and covers the key beliefs, values and literature of the Christian faith. VCE students can extend their interest in RAVE by choosing the Unit 3/4 subject Religion and Society.

What if my question isn't answered here?

You can contact our friendly Enrolments team on **1300 002 225** or enrol@beaconhills.vic.edu.au or visit our website at beaconhills.vic.edu.au

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