BRENTWOOD SECONDARY COLLEGE

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM

Victoria, Australia
Department of Education

BRENTWOOD
SECONDARY COLLEGE



VICTORIA
State Government
Australia



AS A COMMUNITY WE ARE VERY PROUD OF OUR STUDENTS AND STAFF. WE CHALLENGE OUR STUDENTS IN EACH AND EVERY CLASS TO CONTINUE THEIR LEARNING JOURNEY.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Brentwood has a proud history of serving the Glen Waverley and broader community. The principal team are committed to leading a school community that builds on the history of a strong culture with 1,535 students enrolled at the school. This includes 50 international students.

Brentwood Secondary College is a vibrant learning community where we support and encourage all to achieve success and to pursue excellence.

A learning community is a place where everyone is learning, both independently and together, and where everyone is continually striving to improve. We value creativity, curiosity, discipline, reflection, compassion, empathy and resilience.

Our guiding philosophy is the belief that all students learn best when they are happy, healthy and resilient. The College offers the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) and Vocational Education and Training (VET) to improve student outcomes.

We have strong partnerships with Deakin, Monash, Melbourne and RMIT universities and many other institutions.

I am very proud and honoured to be the principal of such a vibrant learning community. Our positive culture is built on strong values for learning and community. These are the foundations for our students and staff to pursue excellence in all of their endeavours.

We are committed to our students and supporting them in becoming the best learner and person they can be. Our focus is on all members of Brentwood learning as a connected community so that students grow as individuals who are future ready.

As a community we are very proud of our students and staff. We challenge our students in each and every class to continue their learning journey. This is done by students not only learning more information and skills, but by applying their knowledge to deepen their understanding.

We challenge our students to be creative, curious, reflective, disciplined and to be resilient in everything they do.

The staff at Brentwood are professional, diligent and understanding. They know their students well as learners and people. They craft their learning programs to meet the needs of our diverse student population. This ensures all of our students demonstrate growth.

I welcome you to come and visit our school to see our vibrant community that values respect, responsibility, empathy, compassion and integrity.

John Ballagh
Principal





WHY CHOOSE BRENTWOOD SECONDARY COLLEGE?

For over 20 years our international student program has been welcoming students from China, Japan, Vietnam, Cambodia, India and Bangladesh. Our international student program is a valuable part of our school's multicultural community.

We accept students from many parts of the world into our international students' program.

The current program caters for over 50 international students ranging from Year 7 to Year 12, who we integrate into the general school program.

We have a range of programs, roles and spaces specifically for international students, including:

- Chinese, Japanese, German and Vietnamese speaking teachers and staff
- weekly international student tutorials
- a careers resource centre
- a dedicated team of international student coordinators
- an English language centre located within close proximity to our school campus
- multicultural days which our international students organise and participate in
- a state-wide student voice project – in 2022 our international students represented Brentwood Secondary College.

.

An academic program encouraging students to excel

Brentwood Secondary College commits to the delivery of a challenging, high-quality inclusive curriculum.

We encourage students to strive for excellence. The College offers over 30 VCE subjects that provide pathways to university and Technical and Further Education (TAFE) courses.

Our structured English as an Additional Language (EAL) program supports student learning by providing intensive assistance.

Special programs include:

- advanced placement to VCE
- accelerated, enrichment and gifted teaching and learning programs for talented students in Years 7 to 12
- individual career and subject counselling for students in Years 9 to 12
- an extensive EAL program with the support of multicultural teachers
- extensive sporting and extracurricular opportunities
- a focus on arts, multimedia and music
- an extended study program for international students.





Extra-curricular activities to enrich students' lives

Brentwood Secondary College has a vibrant extra-curricular program that encourages students to be their best and extend themselves in a challenging and safe learning environment.

Activities on offer include:

- **Performing Arts** – artistic and cultural life features prominently in the activities of many Brentwood students. Students gain satisfaction and self-esteem from their participation in performances. The College plays, musicals, and musical performances are a major part of the extra-curricular life of our students.
- **Music** – the College music program is an exciting and energetic area of the College that provides students with a range of learning opportunities in many different areas of music. We offer a comprehensive classroom music program as well as a growing instrumental music program. These two programs work in synergy to develop well-rounded young musicians.
- **Sport** – the sports program promotes participation and individual improvement for all age groups and skill levels. With outstanding facilities and passionate coaches, our students are given the opportunity to achieve their personal best throughout their time at Brentwood.
- **Debating** – Brentwood has developed a vibrant culture of debating and public speaking in recent years. We have had many successes in both the junior and senior Debating Association of Victoria competitions. We offer support and guidance to all students who wish to get involved in debating and public speaking, encouraging all students who are interested.
- **Camps** – Brentwood runs a vibrant camp program exposing students to a variety of experiences throughout Australia. These programs are available at each year level and are an integral part of the students' college experience.
- **Sustainability** – the College is certified as a 5-Star ResourceSmart School. Sustainability is embedded across the school facilities, community and curriculum, in order to save resources. Students and staff take an active role in reducing our electricity usage, waste disposal and improving biodiversity at the College.

Making welfare and support a priority

At Brentwood Secondary College students experience a range of welfare and wellbeing support services. These will ensure their time at the school is comfortable, safe and welcoming.

Our services include:

- personalised counselling program
- a student wellbeing centre with social workers, psychologist and chaplain
- a peer support program
- one-on-one student counselling
- wellbeing staff from various backgrounds speak languages other than English
- a dedicated career advisors team offering personalised support to all students
- opportunities for international students to attend various seminars to understand the entry requirements of various universities.

Homestay for international students

All Victorian government school homestay families provide:

- a safe, secure, welcoming place to live
- a household compliant with the Child Safe Standards
- a separate single room for the student's personal use
- three meals a day, seven days a week, including snacks
- facilities including a bed, wardrobe, towels and linen
- utilities including gas, electricity, heating and water costs, as well as internet
- cleaning services of common living areas
- the use of living areas within the residence
- study facilities such as a desk, study light and bookcase
- attendance at parent/teacher evenings on behalf of your parents.

"Homestay is like my second home. They always support me if I need help, just like parents always devoted to the children. Thanks to that, I have never experienced any inconvenient or culture shocks, but instead, I have such a lovely happy time in Australia, both in school and my daily life."

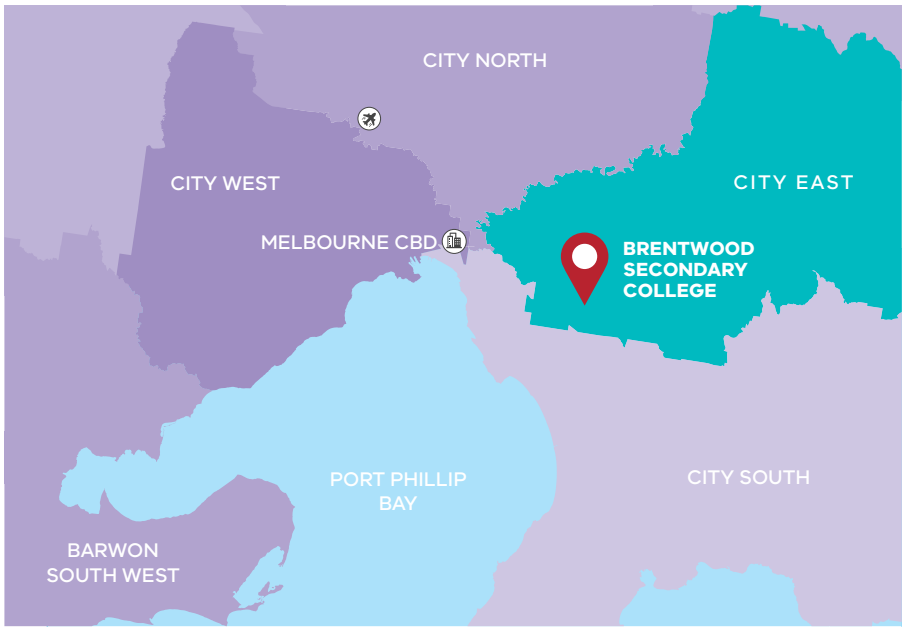
Sarah Nguyen, International student

Easily accessible location

Brentwood Secondary College is situated in Glen Waverley approximately 25 kilometres east of Melbourne's Central Business District (CBD). The College is situated in a multicultural neighbourhood with local amenities.

Our College is well-serviced by public transport and easily accessible to shopping centres, entertainment and recreational venues.

There are two council libraries within walking range of the school.



I TRULY RECOMMEND INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS TO START THEIR JOURNEY IN AUSTRALIA WITH SUCH A PERFECT SCHOOL, TO SET THEM UP FOR A PROMISING FUTURE.

A recent success story

Jessica Ji, from China,

"I still remember walking into that gate in 2017, feeling so nervous that my brain was completely empty... In 2020, I walked out of Brentwood, with my precious memory of this community and ambition for the future, feeling better than ever.

If you asked the girl four years ago who was struggling to find a purpose in life, dreading over the fact that she had to step out of her comfort zone; she would never have imagined completing high school so dramatically, yet so memorably.

I was never naturally intelligent, I also slack off at times, however, it's persistence and support from my surroundings that kept me going. Parents, teachers, friends... Whether overseas or in Australia, they have faith in me and offer me endless mental strength.

Over the past four years, I am proud to say that I am well aware of my improvements, and that originates from the growing understanding and internal perception of myself. So, the best advice I can give is just to know your self-worth, and that it can be expanded way beyond what you can imagine.

In essence, I cannot thank the people that helped me along the way enough. Their wise advice was of great magnitude to me. Being such an amazing and inclusive environment, there is no doubt that Brentwood will thrive in the many upcoming years.

All the best to all Brentwood students, especially the international student community who I have an interminable attachment to. You all are superstars!"



BRENTWOOD
SECONDARY COLLEGE

CONTACTING THE SCHOOL

Brentwood Secondary College

65-71 Watsons Road,
Glen Waverley, Victoria 3151

International student coordinator: Pramila Thapliyal

Tel: +61 3 8545 0391
Email: brentwood.sc@education.vic.gov.au
Website: https://brentwood.vic.edu.au

VICTORIA
State Government
Australia

Victorian Government Schools International Student Program

80 Collins Street, Melbourne Victoria 3000, Australia

Tel: +61 3 7022 1000
Email: international@education.vic.gov.au
Web: www.study.vic.gov.au

Published by the International Education Division

Department of Education Melbourne January 2023

© State of Victoria (Department of Education) 2023

CRICOS Provider Name and Code: Department of Education, 00861K