



# Berwick Grammar School

## Year 9 Endeavour Program



VIRTUTE ET LABORE

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The Year 9 Endeavour Program, designed specifically for young men, seeks to extend, challenge and engage. Through four unique quests, students are led out of their comfort zone and encouraged to develop greater independence, confidence and leadership.

Term 1 provides students with the opportunity to EXPLORE their own city as they base themselves in Melbourne for a two week program. The students discover the historical roots of Melbourne and explore the features of our vibrant city in its many forms. Examining cultural, geographic and legal facets of the course allows students to appreciate the complexities of our city precinct. They also engage in an in-depth study that connects them with the people and places around them. A strong service component shows students an often hidden side of our city and explores the problems of social dislocation and homelessness.



Term 2 brings the CHALLENGE of the Alpine Endeavour. During this program the emphasis is on personal growth and leadership within a close community context. The peace and beauty of the natural environment encourages reflection and self-assessment. Hidden talents are often discovered in this context and the ability to LEAD themselves and others emerges as personal challenges are met and fulfilled.



The ongoing Community Service program focuses on supporting, UNDERSTANDING, interacting and developing authentic relationships in the local community. Working to support a variety of local groups, our students discover their ability to contribute their skills to those in need. As is so often the case, students find that when they give, they often receive so much more in terms of gratitude, pride and satisfaction.





At BGS our Endeavour Program provides opportunities for our students to learn about themselves and others. They learn to trust others, to follow their instincts, to lead with integrity and to discover the importance of teamwork and community. Boys need a rite of passage on their journey to becoming men.

At the end of the Endeavour Program each student will be encouraged to reflect on how far they have come, on who they are and where they want to go. They will then be shown how they can plan to get there. As a prelude to VCE, Year 9 is a turning point in the lives of our students providing what can truly be described as a transforming experience.

Term 3 saves the best for last with all Year 9 students setting sail on a tall ship and a maxi racing yacht through the Whitsunday Islands. With a focus on TEAMWORK and COOPERATION the students learn to sail and navigate the vessels through one of the seven wonders of the natural world. Some of the time is spent studying Marine Biology with resident experts; other time is spent exploring the magnificent islands within the area. This is often a transformational experience, building upon the knowledge and understandings gained earlier in the year.

### *Further opportunities for students in Year 9 and above:*

The School ardently encourages students from both St Margaret's and Berwick Grammar School to partake in international tours that are conducted annually, serving the interests of students academically and personally. Students have encountered unique regions of the world ranging across Asia and Europe.

The Oodnadatta Trek provides Year 9 Students from both St Margaret's and Berwick Grammar School students with an opportunity to EXPLORE the Australian outback and to meet and contribute to a remote indigenous community. Students visit Lake Eyre, Oodnadatta, Coober Pedy, Alice Springs, Kings Canyon and Uluru. The international tours and Oodnadatta Trek trip take place during holiday breaks and are at an extra cost to families.

The Endeavour Program offers opportunities for our boys to complete training in self-defence, obtain a pool bronze medallion, complete a first aid course and scuba dive. Also available to students in Year 9 and above is the Duke of Edinburgh program, a voluntary program that allows students to develop new skills, provide SERVICE to others and engage in extensive outdoor education experiences. Activities are organised across weekends and holidays. An extra cost for Duke of Edinburgh camps is applicable.

