



MORE THAN A HOME AWAY FROM HOME

What to look for in a great boarding school

There is more than one way to provide your child with a rewarding, inspiring high school education. For many growing young minds — especially those from families in regional or remote areas — choosing to head to boarding school is the ideal next step. It is also one of the most formative and enriching chapters in a young person's learning journey.

A great boarding school is defined by more than the calibre of its learning program, though. It needs to be a home away from home, a community where every young person feels welcome, seen and supported, and where their wellbeing is as much a priority as a world-class education and there are plenty of ways to stay connected, entertained and develop into well-rounded young adults.

Boarding schools, like Haileybury Rendall School in Darwin, have a unique opportunity to nurture independent, resilient learners, so that they complete their schooling with an enthusiasm for the world and the academic development to get out there and embrace an exciting future.

Here are some of the key elements of a great boarding school experience and the positive impacts they can have on your children.

An enriching experience beyond the classroom

The first sign of a great boarding school? A holistic, well-rounded boarding program that focuses on more than just a rewarding on-campus education. After all, choosing to be a part of a boarding school is a unique experience, and requires a carefully-curated approach to development both academically and personally.

Haileybury Rendall School's Boarding program is designed to reflect this. We were privileged to have been awarded the Boarding School of the Year at the Australian Education Awards in 2022 — and



we are as dedicated as we have ever been to delivering an enriching boarding experience in every sense.

From Year 7 onwards, we welcome students from across the Northern Territory to share in this experience, as well as students internationally from Year 9. Our sense of community is strengthened by the diversity of backgrounds and cultures of our students, families and staff, with positive relationships forming a solid foundation for learning and development.

Central to the Haileybury Rendall School boarding experience are our school's three key tenets — be kind, do your best and get involved. They establish a schoolwide culture that values diversity and inclusion, where each student feels valued, respected and connected with others. By committing to this holistic experience, students leave their time at boarding school as well-rounded young citizens with a love for learning, prepared for life on the global stage and with the drive to do more for society.

Modern facilities for living alongside learning

Your child does not just attend boarding school; they live and they grow there. That takes more than spaces to learn and a room to sleep in. It requires modern and welcoming facilities that help every student feel safe and comfortable like they would be at home.

Haileybury Rendall School has three boarding houses, with light and spacious single and twin rooms that are separate for girls and boys. All bedrooms come with a single bed, study desk, personal storage and air conditioning, and we encourage students to decorate their rooms and make the space their own, the way they would at home.

While living spaces in our residences are separate, boarders have the opportunity to connect and socialise in the common living and study areas, pursue their passion in the art room or activities workshop, or share meals in our cafeteria and dining hall. These shared spaces complement state-of-the-art learning facilities, as places students can feel proud to call their own.

Time spent outdoors is just as rewarding, with sports facilities like a swimming pool, basketball courts and recreational ovals all surrounding the classrooms and residences. We have landscaped spaces based on feedback from our student community as well, and boarders are free to connect and socialise around fire pits, ponds, and other shared outdoor facilities. In short, this is a community that has been designed for great living, as well as exceptional learning.



Supporting health and wellbeing in all ways

A great boarding school recognises the role it plays in nurturing and supporting the health and wellbeing of all its students, no matter their age, cultural background or identity. A culture of wellbeing shapes a community of engaged, balanced and happy young learners, who feel safe, supported and healthy in every sense as they realise their full potential.

Guided by our mantra of 'every student matters every day', Haileybury Rendall School has a holistic, evidence-based Health and Wellbeing Framework that is focused on the social-emotional, physical and cultural needs of our students — and tailored to their age and development stage as well. Our dedicated and supportive teaching and residential staff are on-hand to nurture student wellbeing, with ongoing wrap-around support provided by our team of dedicated counsellors, nursing staff, external GPs and allied health providers.

You will see this commitment to wellbeing in every facet of Haileybury Rendall School's boarding experience. From the fresh, nutritious and culturally-diverse meals that are prepared at our own kitchen facilities, through to the Yarning Circles all boarders are invited and encouraged to participate in after their evening activities. We have made a commitment to safeguard and support every young person to grow, thrive and flourish — in all ways. This is not just the measure of a great boarding school. It is the foundation for learning, discovery and lifelong skills.

Academic excellence and brilliant teaching

While the entire living experience needs to be considered at a leading boarding school, a platform for academic excellence is as essential as it would be on any other campus. An educational experience of this standard sits at the heart of Haileybury's culture — at Haileybury Rendall School, around Australia and in our overseas and online campuses as well.

When your child boards at Haileybury Rendall School, they will dive into an exciting and enriching curriculum each and every day. Our academic program is purpose-built to build resilient and independent learners, skilled in creativity, communication, collaboration and critical thinking.

Central to that is the passion and professionalism of Haileybury's brilliant teachers, who elevate every child's experience through their commitment to a world-class education and to forming positive relationships with their students. Beyond the classroom, teachers at Haileybury Rendall School are also on hand to guide students through their homework in the school library, or as tutors during compulsory evening study periods for VCE students.

Our teachers see their role not just as educators, but as mentors and as part of a broader support network. They take their passion for education and tailor it specifically to the boarding school experience, so that every student living and learning here excels inside of the classroom and out.

An exciting extra-curricular program

Life at boarding school should be exciting and immersive, from breakfast to lights out. With plenty of time spent outside of the classroom, an extra-curricular program is as integral a part of the boarding experience as the academic curriculum.

Haileybury Rendall School offers our students plenty of activities around their learning, so that they feel connected, supported and inspired. Once they have completed their homework in their library, boarders are welcome to take part in all kinds of afternoon activities. Whether they are connecting with their creative side through arts and crafts, building up their fitness, enjoying the fun of team sports, or just socialising with their friends in a more informal setting, there are plenty of ways each student can pursue their passions, stay healthy or build relationships.

Weekend activities regularly involve off-campus excursions to Darwin and nearby national parks — for everything from trips to the shops and movies, to nature walks or a swim in the wave pool. A weekly shuttle connects the school to local shopping centres, while boarding house staff take care of transport for sports training, social activities and medical appointments. Our Travel Officer can also arrange transport for parent or guardian-approved weekend leave, if it is time for your child to come home and spend some time with friends and relatives.

A great boarding school is not just a physical campus for students to learn from. It is an enriching experience in every sense — from nurturing wellbeing, to pursuing passions and fostering lifelong connections. Haileybury Rendall School strives to develop high-achieving students who are connected globally, to each other and to the communities they live and work in.

With respect, trust, connection and empathy all essential elements of our boarding experience, we are inspired by the opportunity to make every young person's time here as rewarding, exciting and supportive as possible, so by the time they complete their studies, they have not just finished their education, they have found a sense of self and an enthusiasm for the world that they will take with them for the rest of their lives.

Discover more

To discover more about Haileybury Rendall School Boarding or to register for a school tour, visit:

www.haileyburyrendall.com.au