Polish

The need
Many young people are simply not being taught the skills needed to survive in the world of work and in life that were traditionally taught in the home.

While this can be partly attributed to generational welfare dependence and the breakdown of the family unit, it must also be noted that schools are unable to stretch resources to include lessons in life skills - Polish is now filling this void.

The solution
The Polish program is a one-day workshop that helps young people prepare for their careers through personal presentation and communication training, giving students the skills to conduct themselves appropriately when entering the world of work and throughout their employment.

Key outcomes
The key benefits for participants include:
- Improved standard of personal presentation
- Better communication skills
- Increased confidence and self-respect
- Proficiency in goal setting and planning
- Confidence in job interviews
- Better understanding of employers' expectations
- Public speaking skills
- Development of business contacts

Program outline
The one-day, dynamic and highly interactive program is tailored for 25 Grade 10 students and includes work ethic, deportment, grooming, employers' expectations, mock interviews, manners and etiquette. The day is broken up with a sit-down lunch where local business representatives are invited to attend.

This gives the students an opportunity to network with potential employers and use their newly found communication and culinary skills acquired in the morning tutorials.

- Goal setting and success
- Confidence
- Body movement
- Voice and vocalisation
- Impression management
- Employer's expectations
- Mock interviews
- Presentation and grooming
- Personal hygiene
- Wardrobe
- Skin care
- Interview preparation
- Manners and etiquette
- Communication
- Body language
- Eye contact
- Interactive luncheon with guests

Testimonials
Students
“The program has made a difference to the point of view of how an employer sees your reactions and behaviour”

“This program has taught me that you don’t have to be the smartest to get a good job but present yourself well, have self confidence and the right attitude”

“It was a great programme, if people don’t take the time to teach us how to act in business situations it would be so much harder to go into the workforce - thank you”

“I have realised that eye contact and posture helps with confidence.”

“I now know how to introduce myself to my friends and my future boss.”

Teachers
“This event would have to be the most beneficial and rewarding program. Students were exposed to a variety of experiences that were not familiar to them and gained confidence from the experience. Business reps were impressed with the students, how the program operated and what the school had to offer. The best reward of all however, was in the weeks following when students who had been involved in the program were able to put into practice what they had learnt and acknowledge this without being prompted by staff.”

Business
“Bulla Dairy Foods has been incredibly pleased to be involved with the Beacon Ambassador and Polish programs at Colac Secondary College. This is a fantastic opportunity for all Year 10 students to develop skills and an understanding of their future in the workplace. It also enables mentoring relationships to be formed between our staff members and students which are mutually beneficial. Programs that incorporate local schools and local businesses working together will help sustain future employment and growth in the Colac area for years to come.”

- Lucy Sudweeks
  HR Training Coordinator, Bulla Dairy

Polish is a High Impact Beacon program offered to existing Beacon schools at a membership rate, but is available on request for non Beacon schools. To find out more or to get involved, contact Ben Cooper 0418 592 971, benc@beaconfoundation.net or visit our website www.beaconfoundation.com.au