



Leadership Seminar 2026

FRIDAY 20 MARCH 2026, at Kooyong Tennis Club



Ben Palmer

Genos International

ENHANCING SCHOOL CULTURE

Ben Palmer, Ph.D., is the founder and CEO of Genos International and creator of the Genos model and measure of emotional intelligence. A widely recognised academic expert on emotional intelligence, he has an extensive publication list in the field. He has received numerous academic awards, including the 2006 Australian Institute of Learning and Development Award for an outstanding contribution to the practice of learning and development. He holds a BAppSci (Hons) and Ph.D. from Swinburne University and is a member of the Consortium for Research on Emotional Intelligence. He is currently lecturing at the Sydney Graduate School of Management as co-facilitator of its program on developing human capital.



Liam Wood

Saints Knowledge Institute

SUPPORTING OUR COLLEAGUES AND OURSELVES TO FIND UNCONDITIONAL POSITIVE REGARD

Liam Wood is an experienced trauma-informed instructional leader with a unique skill set developed across multiple educational sectors. He has led alternative education as Director of Teaching and Learning at Australia's largest registered specialist education secondary school and as Lead Teacher at The Berry Street School.

At Teach For Australia, Liam co-designed, led and evaluated initial teacher education programs for teachers working in various disadvantaged schools across Australia, including urban, regional, alternative and youth justice settings.

He is an experienced instructional coach who has coached across all school sectors in Victoria, implemented whole-school instructional coaching programs in alternative schools and trained mainstream school leaders to establish their programs.

Liam is passionate about trauma-informed practice, high expectations and developing teacher capacity to support all young people to achieve, regardless of background or disability.

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PROGRAM

9.00	Welcome Belinda Hudak, VASSP President
9:10	VASSP Member Presentation
9:30	Enhancing School Culture Ben Palmer, Genos International
10:15	Business Partner Presentation
10.30	Morning Tea
11:00	Business Partner Presentation
11:20	Supporting our Colleagues and Ourselves to find Unconditional Positive Regard Liam Wood, Saints Knowledge Institute
12:50	Closing Remarks Belinda Hudak, VASSP President
1:00	Collegiate Lunch

