

Edmund Rice College

Give Your Child An Education
THAT BECOMES A VOCATION
Prospectus 2020



Edmund Rice College
Stronger Together

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Welcome to Edmund Rice College

As you drive along the fields that lead to our College, the first thing you'll notice is just how much space we have – over 3000 hectares.

This abundance of land, generously bequeathed by Mrs Catherine Musk in 1936 allows us to give our students space to:

- discover their strengths;
- explore their vocational options;
- grow and develop in a healthy, supportive environment.



A Warm Welcome From The Principal

The College is located on 3300 hectares of picturesque farming land in the Chittering Valley just over one hour drive from Perth. The College has been at the forefront of agricultural training in Western Australia for more than four decades. In recent years, state of the art trade training facilities have been added to expand the College's course offerings and opportunities for practical learning.

Our College is a co-educational agricultural Catholic School in the Edmund Rice tradition. We offer secondary education for boarding and day students from Years 7 to 12 from across the State. The learning programs are complemented by effective pastoral support programs to ensure all students can live and study effectively within the College community.



As a leading Vocational Education College, we specialise in providing opportunities for our students to engage with Agriculture, Equine and Trade. Our environment provides students with a unique learning experience which fully integrates theory, practice and technology. We seek to inspire the comprehensive development of each student in a healthy, rural environment. Our students are challenged to develop individual initiative and responsibility.

Each year, our graduating students have completed accredited and recognised Certificate courses, and are ready to embark on the development of their careers or further studies. They are well prepared to contribute positively to their rural and other communities. Agriculture and trades provide major employment opportunities in Western Australia. Equipped with practical work skills when they graduate, our students are well-prepared for employment or further learning in a wide range of industries. They have sound personal values and qualities to enable them to make valuable contributions and find success wherever they go.

I invite you to contact the College to discuss the opportunities and benefits an Edmund Rice College education can provide for your son or daughter.

Mrs Marie Barton
Principal

Edmund Rice Tradition

As a Catholic School in the Edmund Rice tradition, the College aims to nurture all students on their faith and learning journeys. The College endeavours to powerfully engage our diverse student population. This approach integrates the spiritual, pastoral and learning development of our students. Through innovative teaching and learning programs, behavioural management practices that guide students towards self-control, self-discipline and responsible choices and effective vocational programs, we seek to facilitate the full development of each student.

Our School

From the outset, Edmund Rice College has had a strong connection to the agricultural community. The College was founded by the Christian Brothers in 1938 as an agricultural school. Today, the school is governed by Edmund Rice Education Australia. Our scope has broadened to include vocational and agricultural education for boys and girls across a range of occupations. Equipped with practical industry-related work skills when they graduate, our students are well prepared for Vocational and University pathways and are highly sought after by employers.

Your Child Has Unique Strengths

Our flexible, integrated learning community, with a wide network of links to other educational opportunities, helps students to discover and develop their unique strengths.

We strive to give our students as many options and experiences as possible, so they can, in turn, contribute positively to their communities.

Our Pastoral Care

Jesus Christ recognised the dignity, value and uniqueness of each person, which Edmund Rice embraced. As a Catholic School in the Edmund Rice tradition, we believe they are models for leading a fulfilled life. The wellbeing of our students remains at the centre of all our endeavours.

Our full-time Registered Nurse, Pastoral Care Coordinator and College Psychologist provide support for the emotional and physical wellbeing of all students and members of the College community.

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The College House system provides students with a personal and supportive environment to assist their development and learning. It ensures every student has a sense of belonging and identity within the College community.

Our Pastoral Care is based on the following principles:

- Respect for each individual
- Shared responsibility
- Restorative justice
- Consistency of response
- Social justice



Our Learning Environment

Every student is an individual and there is no such thing as a one size fits all education. Our mix of classroom learning, combined with our practical rural and environmental focus, means we can tailor the education approach to the student so they can develop to their full potential. Year 7 – 10 students are immersed in a co-teaching model, based around the principles of project based learning, that has two teachers and a teaching assistant supporting their learning throughout each day.

The early teens are going through a period of discovery and our broad curriculum in Years 7 to 9 lets students find where their interests lie. They undertake courses in English, Mathematics, Science and Agricultural Science, Physical and Health Education, Humanities and Social Sciences and Religious Education. They also engage in specialised programs in Farm, Equine, Woodwork and Cattle Club.

From Year 10 onwards, students can choose to do vocational training in the Agriculture and Equine Industries, Automotive Industries, Building and Construction and Nursing. Central Regional TAFE (NPN 52789) is Western Australia's leading state training provider and assists the College with this endeavour, through delivering several of our Vocational Education and Training courses offered at the College. All students have the opportunity to complete Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE) courses to achieve Secondary graduation and an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank for university admission (ATAR).

Co-curricular activities include Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) Cadets program, Cattle Club, Horse Riding, Sheep Club and Sport Training.





A photograph of three students in red and black uniforms sitting at a table outdoors. The student on the left is a young man with dark hair, resting his head on his hand. The student in the middle is a young woman with dark hair, smiling and looking down at a book. The student on the right is partially visible, also looking down. They are in a sunny outdoor setting with trees and a brick building in the background.

Core Curriculum Learning

The College curriculum is offered on multiple levels for each student throughout their college life. Lower school students learn subject content prescribed by the Western Australian curriculum, whilst senior school students have the opportunity to broaden their skills, learning additional subjects such as Agriculture, Equine and Trades. Regardless of ability, the College aims to support every student's learning with the latest technology and pedagogy so that every student can achieve their potential.

Religious Education

'Live Jesus in our Hearts', is the core prayer and lived experience of the College, and the academic and spiritual meaning this implies, is the bedrock of our religious education program.

This is developed through a curriculum that moves thematically through social awareness, prayer, morality, Scriptures and adolescent development. The curriculum is also reinforced through College Masses, Liturgies, retreat programs and in our daily care for those in our community and beyond. The College is situated within a beautiful natural environment that reminds us daily of God's gifts, and the natural rhythms and harmony faith brings to our lives.

Mathematics

Mathematical concepts in number and algebra, measurement and geometry, statistics and probability are just some of the concepts taught at a secondary school level. The curriculum is largely focused on consolidating conceptual knowledge in order to problem-solve and demonstrate proof of notions. The course content makes wider connections to other subject areas, as well as demonstrating the significance mathematics has in every-day life.

Our learning support program develops individual learning programs for every student to match their ability.

English & Humanities and Social Sciences

In the Western Australian curriculum, the English learning area comprises three strands: Language, Literature and Literacy and the Humanities & Social Sciences learning area comprises four strands: Civics and Citizenship, Economics and Business, Geography and History. By studying English and Humanities & Social Sciences students will develop the ability to question, think critically; make decisions based on evidence; devise proposals for actions; and communicate effectively.

The aims of the English and Humanities & Social Sciences curriculum at Edmund Rice College is to:

- Create, foster and maintain the students interest in expression and communication
- Develop cognitive ability and the capacity to clarify student thinking through speaking, listening, reading and writing
- Promote positive attitudes and develop appreciation of the value of language through reading, writing and speaking
- Develop a deep knowledge and sense of wonder, curiosity and respect for places, people, cultures, events, ideas and environments throughout the world.
- Promote a lifelong sense of belonging to, and engagement with, civic life, with the capacity and willingness to be informed, responsible, ethical and active participants in society at a local, national and global scale.
- Develop a knowledge, understanding and an appreciation of the past and the forces that shape society

Science & Agricultural Science

Lower school students develop their knowledge of chemistry, physics and biology through exploring the diversity of the universe, including forces in motion, energy flow, classification systems and explaining the relationships between components. Students conduct scientific experiments to hypothesise and give evidence to theories, whilst also considering the role of science in decision-making processes.

Agricultural Science is a very unique learning area at the College. Students learn about the production and management of agricultural commodities and resources, as well as animal and plant productive systems, and environmental sustainability. Our College grounds and working farm serve as the perfect setting for practical investigation.





Agriculture and Equine

Edmund Rice College is a mixed farm with cattle, sheep, broad acre cropping and olive groves. Our students are involved with the Olive Enterprise and gain an insight into horticulture, production and sales.

All students study agricultural science within the classroom and may undertake related Certificates in Farm studies as VET electives. In the lower school, students learn about animal husbandry before progressing to anatomy and intensive production in the middle school years. Students learn about a variety of agricultural industries and their importance to the Australian economy.

Senior students have the opportunity to study Animal Production Systems within the classroom in association with studying Farm as a VET elective.

The College has an enviable reputation in agricultural shows and competitions and an outstanding record for graduating students to gain employment or go onto further study.





The Edmund Equine Centre is one of WA's leading educational equine facilities and includes an equine laboratory, cross-country course, jumping arena, stalls, an undercover wash-bay and various riding trails through the diverse and picturesque Chittering Valley. Students gain a broad experience in dealing with horses of different ages, gender and temperament.

Career opportunities in the Agricultural industry include:

Farm Manager
Farm Contractor
Jackaroo/Jilaroo
Woolclasser
Research Officer
Veterinary Nurse
Agricultural Teacher
Landscape Gardener

Stock Agent
Butcher
Horticulturist
Station Hand
Agribusiness
Personnel (Sales, Finance, Marketing)

Career opportunities in the Equine industry include:

Stud Assistant
Horse Trail Guide
Riding Instructor/Coach
Stud Manager
Vet Nursing
Farrier



Automotive

This popular course allows students to learn about the care, maintenance and repair of a wide range of engines, motors, vehicles and machines. There is an important focus on the application of current automotive technology, including the use of computer technology in the diagnosis of engine problems. Practical work is integrated with theory and safety practices to provide a sound grounding for a career in automotive related industries

Career opportunities include:

- Auto Mechanic
- Heavy Diesel Mechanic
- Machinery Dealership
- Machinery Sales
- Auto Electrician
- Vehicle Manufactory

Leadership

Career opportunities include:

- (CALM) Conservation & Land Management
- Park Ranger
- Horticulturist
- Customer Service Officer
- Aboriginal Liaison Officer
- Community Leader

This course provides students with the necessary employability skills which will support their transition to work, further education and community participation. The course is customised to the College agricultural training facility and the local environment but also with a strong focus on native flora, fauna and land management.

Students are also actively engaged in many cultural and self development activities such as painting, basket weaving, dance and music, growing and cooking with traditional herbs and developing personal character strengths.



Building and Construction

Career opportunities include:

Bricklayer
Carpenter
Site Joiner
Quantity Surveyor
Construction Worker/
Manager

Learn the skills of a tradesperson, gain an understanding of trade procedures and have hands-on experience operating tools and machinery for a wide range of tasks. Learn the correct start up, operation and shut down of equipment, how to conduct a site inspection, quality and quantity control, and how to follow correct health and safety procedures.

The courses teach skills that will equip you to enter into the resource industry workforce or construction sites.

Nursing

The College proudly offers students, who have an interest in healthcare and assisting others, the opportunity to complete a Certificate IV in Preparation for Health and Nursing studies. This course offers high quality learning and is overseen by TAFE lecturers.

Students involved in nursing studies gain grounded knowledge in multiple fields including anatomy, physiology, physics, chemistry, microbiology and health mathematics. Students experience using medical equipment, how to professionally conduct medical research, and how to observe, examine, care and assist clients in their needs.

On completion of the nursing course, students are equipped with the essential skills to go on to further studies in this field, or begin a rewarding career in a variety of healthcare roles.

Career opportunities include:

District Nurse
Paramedic/First Responders
Hospital/Ward Nurse
Support Services Worker
Aged Care
Pharmacist
Health Services Assistant
Pathology Courier
Ward Assistant
Community Care Services



Our Residential Community

Given our rural location, many of our students choose to board either on a fulltime or weekly basis. Our residential care is friendly, comfortable and affordable – everyone is made to feel welcome into our residential family, even the horses! We have five residential houses; housing male and female students separately.

Each house has its own house parent who is there to provide high quality care and support the emotional needs of students. Within each house, we promote the values of community cooperation, friendship and harmony.

Boarders get the chance to join a variety of sports clubs that train during the week and play matches on a weekend; these include football, cricket, basketball and netball. During the weekend, boarders participate in a variety of activities which may include attending rodeos, going to socials in Perth, excursions such as bowling and the cinema, camping, bushwalking, competing in sporting matches, swimming, trail riding, watching videos or quiet study.

Over a number of years residential students have visited a large seaside camp-style house at Guilderton (Moore River) and have the opportunity of attending other camps throughout the year.

Our Day Community

Day students take part in the fundamental aspects of Edmund Rice College life and are active participants in all school life activities including after school sporting, equine and cattle club events, DFES cadets and the Senior School Ball. All students dine together during the day.

Our day students strengthen the Edmund Rice College connection with the local community and often participate and represent the College in co-curricular events.

Buses run daily from Bindoon, Chittering, Bullsbrook, Gingin, Toodyay and Northam to support our day students with transport to and from the College.



Philanthropy & Community Service

Compassion and social responsibility are at the core of our College community. To help our students develop these important traits we participate in multiple community service activities throughout the College year. Students regularly help in the local community, setting up for events and shows, as well as helping to pack away. As part of their Christian Service Learning, Year 11 students offer ongoing service to others in need.



Bunnings Sausage Sizzle Fund Raiser

DFES Cadets

Edmund Rice College proudly hosts the Bindoon Brigade of the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) Cadets which offers students the opportunity to train and experience an array of prevention, harm minimisation and response procedures when dealing with an emergency.

This rewarding, yet fun-filled course is comprised of two units, and equips each cadet with invaluable skills for future leadership roles and support in the wider community. Cadets participate in a range of activities such as fire safety, search and rescue, camping, water safety, first aid and communication and navigation.





LEARN MORE

This prospectus is just a brief introduction to what our College has to offer students. To learn more about the practical curriculum please contact our Registrar:

Phone: (08) 9576 5500

Email: admin@erc.wa.edu.au

Fax: (08) 9576 1146

Website: www.erc.wa.edu.au

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Pool Road, Bindoon, WA 6502



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A Catholic School in the Edmund Rice Tradition