



Edmund Rice College
Stronger Together



*Ready Set **Grow***

Prospectus 2024

Parent & Student Information

Edmund Rice College Bindoon is a year 7 to 12 Co-ed College in the Chittering Valley.
Visit our website to learn more. erc.wa.edu.au



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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.

Welcome to Edmund Rice College

"Our College is
a co-educational
agricultural
Catholic School in
the Edmund Rice
Tradition."



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





We strive to give
our students as
many options
and experiences
as possible.

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.





Core Curriculum

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

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.



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)





Equine

The Edmund Equine Centre includes an equine laboratory, cross-country riding trails, open-air arena and an undercover wash-bay and grooming area. Students are exposed to equine and horse care and management from Year 7 onward at the College as part of the options curriculum provided to all students from Year 7-9.

Year 10-12 students have the opportunity to complete additional Equine units as part of the Certificate I in Agriculture in Year 10 and Certificate II in Agriculture in Years 11 and 12. This allows students to pursue further post-secondary training in the Equine industry and pursue careers as a Farrier, Riding Instructor/Coach, VET Nursing or Stud Assistant.

Career opportunities in the Equine industry include:

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

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.

Automotive

Career opportunities include:

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





Career opportunities
include:

- Metal Fabrication
- Boilermaker
- Fitting & Turning
- Trades Assistant

Engineering

The Engineering course provides the fundamental skills and knowledge needed for entry into the engineering industry. It covers occupational health and safety, task planning and quality procedures, along with skills training in production and process areas.

Students who are successful in the engineering programme are ready to pursue careers in the engineering industry, either in the workforce, through an apprenticeship or traineeship.

The Aboriginal school-based training (ASBT) program includes an institutional pathway for Year 10, 11 and 12 students. It consists of selected *Certificate I* and *Certificate II* level qualifications.

Aim of the ASBT Institutional Pathway

The ASBT Certificate I and Certificate II qualifications provide a transition program for those students still at school:

- who are not yet 'work ready'; or
- living in regional and remote areas with limited access to employment-based training (apprenticeships and traineeships)

The key outcome for students enrolled in the ASBT institutional pathway is to develop skills not yet achieved through general education and work readiness to help them transition into further training or employment. Successful completion of the qualification may count towards the student's Western Australian Certificate of Education.



Aboriginal School-Based Training



Program Institutional Pathway 2023

ASBT Qualifications for Students

ASBT qualifications available for Year 10 students have included Certificate I in Leadership and for Year 11 and 12 students Certificate II in Leadership with a focus on civil construction, automotive, resources and infrastructure work preparation. In addition, students engage in many cultural and self-development.

ASBT Course Offerings & Qualifications 2023

In 2023, Aboriginal School Based Training is available for 52878WA Certificate I in Leadership (streams in Art, Fashion or Music) for secondary students in Year 10 and 52879WA Certificate II in Leadership and CUA 20620 Certificate II in Music for secondary students in Years 11 and 12. Students will travel to Perth Creative College weekly to engage with the selected programs and offerings.



Building & Construction

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.



Career opportunities
include:

- Bricklayer
- Carpenter
- Site Joiner
- Quantity Surveyor
- Construction Worker/Manager

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.

Residential Community





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

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.

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.

DFES Cadets

& Community Services





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:

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