

PREAMBLE

Welcome to the Senior Handbook for St Edmund's College, Canberra. We are a Catholic school living the tradition of Blessed Edmund Rice, where faith is translated into action. At St Edmund's College, we are focused on the students taking responsibility for both their actions and their learning. We encourage a spirit of inquiry and the development of independent learning skills.

In Years 11 and 12, we are part of 28 other ACT colleges whose students are accredited by the Board of Senior Secondary Studies (BSSS) with the ACT Senior Secondary Certificate. At St Edmund's College, we have developed two distinctive pathways for our senior students. The Tertiary pathway is designed for students who, in addition to the ACT Senior Secondary Certificate, are also seeking entrance to university. The Accredited (A) pathway is for those students seeking the ACT Senior Secondary Certificate as a means to employment, an apprenticeship or study at Canberra Institute of Technology (CIT). Our classes are constructed to have like-minded students being taught by a team of professionals who foster an atmosphere of collaboration, healthy competition and seeking understanding. The pathways available are explained further in this booklet.

The pastoral focus of the College is to develop young men who will be just, honest and of service to others. The Co-curricular program offers a large number of team and individual sports as well as opportunities in the performing arts and cultural pursuits. Students are expected to maintain involvement in the Co-curricular program in Years 11 and 12.

While we seek to extend all of our boys and encourage the pursuit of excellence in all endeavours, our focus is to emphasise the importance of achieving one's personal best, of setting realistic goals, of building resilience to deal with inevitable setbacks and, most importantly, to develop a sense of service to the wider community.

Joe Zavone

Principal

Major Minor: 6 standard units, minimum 330 hours.

Double Major: 8 standard units, minimum 400 hours.

The maximum number of standard units that a course area can contribute to the ACT Senior Secondary Certificate is 8 standard units.

Tertiary students must select six subjects for study in Year 11.

It is the policy of this College that all students in Year 11 must undertake a minor course in Religious Education. The BSSS mandates that all students must study English. Students are free to choose any of the other subjects offered.

BSSS CERTIFICATES

ACT Senior Secondary Certificate:

The ACT Senior Secondary Certificate is issued at the end of Year 12 to all students who have completed an approved program of studies in Years 11 and 12 and have passed their courses without V Grading. The certificate records all units grouped into courses with a grade A – E for each unit.

An ACT Senior Secondary Certificate based on a standard package will be awarded on completion of a program approved by the College as having provided a coherent pattern of study, and includes the equivalent of at least 17 standard units from Accredited, Tertiary, Vocational, Modified and Registered units/courses in a period not exceeding five years. Units must be packaged to form at least 4 minor A, T or M courses.

Tertiary Entrance Statement

The Tertiary Entrance Statement (TES) is produced for students who qualify for the Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR). It reports information useful for tertiary admission. A TES allows entry to university or equivalent provided an adequate ATAR is achieved.

Vocational Certificates

Vocational Certificates bear the Nationally Recognised Training logo and are achieved by students meeting the requirements as described in the relevant vocational course.

Increasingly, a greater proportion of students from Years 11 and 12 will do further studies at Canberra Institute of Technology (CIT) or enter the workforce. The College has a wide range of Accredited and Vocational courses that meet these student needs. These courses are detailed throughout the handbook.

Work Experience and Structured Workplace Learning are integral parts of the Accredited package and Vocational courses.

