



**ST EDMUND'S COLLEGE
CANBERRA**

"FLAME"
Education Philosophy

2022



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THE FLAME EDUCATION PHILOSOPHY

The word “education” comes from the Latin verb “educare”, which means “to lead out or draw forth.” An underlying principle within educate - fundamental to St Edmund’s College Education Philosophy - is that students come to school with previously developed interests and skills. The task of the College is to know each student well and, in working with parents and carers, build on those interests and abilities, leading each student to ever-expanding circles of knowledge, responsibility, understanding, social competence, leadership and skill development.

St Edmund’s College recognises the importance of having a philosophy of education in guiding its students to realise their potential. Our Flame Philosophy articulates the stages of growth and development of our students, in the opportunities, experiences and expectations we present through our curriculum as well as through structured and informal formation activities. Through this stage-relevant model of development and learning, we seek to make every day in an Eddies boy’s life engaging and meaningful, with every experience being an opportunity to learn and grow.

The College motto, Christus Lux Me (Christ Is My Light) gives foundation to the symbolism used in the Flame Philosophy, with various images of light representing each stage of growth and development, from the setting out period that begins with a spark, to the deepening stage emerging from the ray of light, to the leading and transforming stage that ends with a flame.

“But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another.”
1 John 1:7

Supporting documents:

- St Edmund’s College Mission and Identity Framework
- St Edmund’s College Student Wellbeing Framework
- St Edmund’s College Teaching and Learning Framework
- Statement of Eddies Pride
- Strategic Vision 2023 - 2025

“When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, ‘I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.’”
John 8:12

“While I am in the world, I am the Light of the world.”
John 9:5



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	Learning	Formation	Rituals and Rites of Passage
Year 4 SPARK	In Year 4, students become more independent; they communicate with others more effectively and they take more ownership of their learning engagement and become a part of the goal-setting process. English and Mathematics continue to be a priority, and literacy and numeracy are developed across all learning areas. The curriculum further builds the essential knowledge and skills in literacy, consolidating the skills of reading and writing.	<p>Eager to become part of a new community, opportunities to connect students to the College are utilised to help students feel a sense of belonging and purpose within the College community. The Buddy Program supports transition and connection.</p> <p>During this year students are encouraged to contribute to the many and varied aspects of school life, both in the classroom, in the playground and in our co-curricular program. There is a focus on being more selfless and working together to achieve common goals. Learning to manage individual differences within class groups, teams and friendships is also a significant focus throughout the year.</p>	<p>Year 4 Camp Year 4 Retreat Day The Buddy Program (Year 4 & Year 12)</p>
Year 5 IGNITE & Year 6 SHINE	In Years 5 and 6, students ask challenging questions and seek answers; they make informed decisions and act responsibly. The development of ICT skills increases across the curriculum at this level. Students have opportunities to shine and showcase their work. The curriculum is designed to assist with the transition to high school with an increase of complex assessment tasks and the introduction of Bring Your Own Device in Year 6.	<p>Students work on relationships and optimism, meaning and purpose, strength and emotions, exercise and vitality as well as skills and achievement. Students have opportunities to give back to their school community and share their talents and strengths with each other and the community.</p> <p>Students participate in various service activities and consolidate their understanding of what it means to help those at the margins in our society. Maintaining existing friendships and managing new relationships is a focus as well as making healthy choices. Weekly themes of positive emotions and gratitude, engagement and mindfulness, relationships and empathy, meaning and purpose, accomplishment and optimism and health and strengths assist students to continually revisit, reinforce and value their wellbeing.</p>	<p>Year 5 Camp Year 5 Retreat Day Year 6 Camp Year 6 Retreat Day Year 6 Graduation</p>

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Year 7 RAY & Year 8 GLOW	<p>Students start high school, presenting new organisational and personal opportunities and challenge. We seek to establish positive habits including organisation, reflection and engagement.</p> <p>We aim to foster the curiosity of our students, focusing on the process of learning and value of achievement through application, collaboration and mastery of core skills, knowledge and attributes. Courses are designed to build upon each student's natural curiosity, positive growth, self-efficacy and experience of change.</p>	<p>At this stage, there is a focus on developing students' abilities to maintain personal health and wellbeing, and manage personal relationships. There is a greater awareness of self and potential, as each young man discerns his passion and pathway.</p> <p>In Year 7 we focus on transition into high school, study skills, teamwork, beliefs and connections. Heads of House become familiar with their students and Year 7 students develop their skills to utilise their Head of House for support. Our Year 8 focus is on study skills, building resilience, respectful relationships and community service.</p>	<p>Year 7 Camp Year 7 Spirituality Day The Buddy Program Year 8 Spirituality Day</p>
Year 9 RADIATE & Year 10 EMBER	<p>Students are prepared for civic, social and economic participation outside of school. Students are provided with opportunities to make choices about learning and specialise in areas that interest them. Students bring together their knowledge and experience to consider possible pathways for a tailored learning plan in senior secondary school and vocational education.</p> <p>Positive work habits and resilience are emphasised and metacognition is explored with students' understanding what type of learner they are and reflect on their learning processes.</p>	<p>In Year 9 we focus on relationships: perspectives and compassion, the law and consent. Our Year 10 focus is on Year 10 Camp, healthy and unhealthy relationships, masculinity and manhood. In this stage we commence opportunities for students to participate in immersion experiences, engage further in community service and take part in justice and peace initiatives.</p>	<p>Year 9 Spirituality Day Year 10 Spirituality Day Year 10 Camp</p>
Year 11 TORCH & Year 12 FLAME	<p>This is a time of greater independence with flexible arrangements for students who are required to self-regulate and manage their time based on their personalised learning pathway. Our young men choose from a wide range of BSSS courses and work industriously towards optimising their post-school opportunities. Students have the opportunity to undertake a tailored program of study choosing from tertiary subjects, accredited subjects, Australian School Based Apprenticeship (ASBA) or a selection from a range of Vocational Education and Training (VET) studies as part of their two-year program.</p>	<p>In Year 11 we focus on being a friend and being a leader. Year 11 engage with Year 7 students in The Buddy Program. Our focus in Year 12 is on contributing to the College, contributing to society and wider perspectives. Year 12 engage with Year 4 students in The Buddy Program.</p> <p>Our community service activities and peace and justice initiatives continue throughout this stage. The Brothers Program is introduced at this stage. Students have an opportunity to participate in immersion experiences.</p>	<p>Year 11 Spirituality Day Student Leadership The Buddy Program The Brothers Program Year 12 Retreat Year 12 Graduation Year 12 Formal Year 12 Farewell Rites of Passage Week</p>

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