Working in Partnership to Form
Men of Action

Student Pledge

Men of Action

We believe our Call as Members of the St Patrick’s College community is to:

Be men of faith
Live our life through faith and spirituality.

Be men of learning
Acquire knowledge, skills and a desire to make the world a better place.

Be men of humility
Accept and welcome all members of the community while standing in solidarity with those at the margins.

Mission Statement

We, the community of St Patrick’s College are inspired and guided by the charism of Blessed Edmund Rice.

We seek excellence in teaching and learning, and aim to provide a Catholic, holistic, liberating education.

We strive for justice through building right relationships based on solidarity, service and respect for the dignity of every individual.

St Patrick’s College Community

St Patrick’s College is a Catholic School in the Edmund Rice tradition. Our Mission Statement acknowledges building right relationships amongst students, the College staff, the parent body and the wider community as a fundamental value of our College. Consequently, it is the responsibility of all adult members within the community to work together in partnership to assist in forming our young men into Men of Action. The guidelines set out in this document illustrate how all adults can work together, in partnership, in a consistent and effective manner to achieve this outcome.

As a commitment to this partnership, adults of the St Patrick’s community are requested to support one another by:

Ensuring that each student meets the College requirements

A strong partnership between the College and adults within the community is paramount to the formation of Men of Action. Adults are expected to support the College in ensuring that students understand, respect and meet the College’s requirements with respect to:

• Attendance;
• Meeting the requirements of Religious Education Programs;
• Participation in Religious Celebrations, Retreats and Formation Programs;
• Participation in appropriate College events;
• Presentation – including wearing the correct uniform on appropriate occasions;
• Homework and assessment expectations;
• College behaviour development program.
Ensuring that appropriate behaviour is role-modelled to students

All adults within the College community are required to model behaviour that reflects the high standards expected of St Patrick’s Men of Action. These expectations extend to all College events, activities and celebrations including co-curricular activities. These behaviours include:

- Respecting and supporting the place of Religious Education and formation programs within the College curriculum offerings and practices;
- Recognising and respecting the Catholic Church’s social teachings and its role in the Mission of the College and formation of the College community;
- Respecting and accepting the Mission of Edmund Rice Education Australia (EREA) and St Patrick’s College as a Catholic School in the Edmund Rice Tradition;
- Upholding the Mission, ideals and values of the College and model these appropriately to the students;
- Following the necessary protocols, practices and procedures that are outlined in all EREA and College policies, curriculum, and guidelines;
- Accepting that the College Principal and College Leadership Team will challenge inappropriate behaviours within the St Patrick’s community whenever necessary and appropriate;
- Accepting that behaviour of students within school hours and activities is the responsibility of the College staff and supporting them through working in partnership with such matters;
- Approaching and communicating with all members of the community in a courteous and non-confrontational manner;
- Discouraging bullying and anti-social and violent behaviour within the community and reporting these matters directly to the appropriate College staff;
- Encouraging and modelling good sportsmanship, respect for coaches, officials and positive support at all co-curricular and College events;
- Being positive ambassadors for the College by refraining from public criticism of staff, students or other College community members;
- Supporting all members of the St Patrick’s community in being able to enjoy an environment where they can feel safe, secure and supported.
Ensuring that appropriate channels and methods of communication are used when contacting other members of the College community

Effective communication between the College and parents, guardians and volunteers is essential to develop a strong and supportive College community. This can be done by:

- Engaging in active dialogue with College staff regarding student’s progress within the College;
- Using the appropriate designated means of communication to communicate with the College staff;
- Adhering to the College Electronic Communication Protocols and Email Communication Guidelines;
- Having reasonable expectation for staff to reply to parent communications (as per the College email communications guidelines);
- Not using the College Crest or other logos or materials in any social media sites or comments;
- Not setting up social media (or other) sites that purport to be attached to the College;
- Ensuring that communications with other members of the College community is done in a courteous, encouraging and respectful way;
- Communicating matters of a very important nature in a formal and confidential manner;
- Taking any grievances or concerns to the relevant personnel in the first instance;
- Using the appropriate booking arrangements to arrange formal Parent/Student/Teacher interviews;
- Ensuring that family details are kept accurate and updated through REALM;
- Reading “The Calling” and other means of communication on a regular basis to stay informed;
- Ensuring that any changes to the family circumstances that may affect students’ physical, emotional or academic state are to be communicated to the appropriate staff at the College in a timely manner;
- Visiting REALM, the College website, APP, Facebook and other official means of communication to get any updated information including co-curricular information and cancellations due to inclement conditions etc.
Participating in College events

It is important to be engaged with the College by supporting and attending school events. Parents and guardians are required to attend any meetings that are requested by the College.

Furthermore, parents and guardians are recommended to attend the following events:

- Parent Information Evenings
- Parent Education Evenings
- Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews
- Parent/Tutor Interviews
- Graduation

In addition, parents and guardians are encouraged to attend:

- Co-curricular events that their son is participating in such as sports and cultural events.
- Community events such as the Showcase, Open Day, Back to Shorncliffe Day, music concerts, choral and drama productions etc.

Contributing to the College community

In order to further enhance our community, parents and guardians are asked to become involved in relevant and appropriate activities or committees. This can be done by:

- Attending and participating in religious celebrations and formation opportunities;
- Joining one of the College Support Groups;
- Assisting with College productions;
- Assisting with event organisation and catering;
- Assisting in areas of expertise that may be required;
- Supporting and participating within the College service programs such as the Paddy’s Van;
- Tuckshop and Merchandise Store volunteers;
- Responding to feedback materials;
- Attending parent forums;
- Supporting the College Foundation.