A Catholic School in the Edmund Rice Tradition for Young Men from Year 5 to Year 12
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COLLEGE TOURS AND ENROLMENTS
ON BEHALF OF OUR STAFF, STUDENTS AND FAMILIES, WELCOME TO ST PATRICK’S COLLEGE.

St Patrick’s is a Catholic school in the Brisbane Archdiocese catering for young men from Year 5 to Year 12. The College, established on its current site in 1952 by the Christian Brothers, is a member of the national educational network operated by Edmund Rice Education Australia (EREA).

We are a community that values our history of more than 60 years of service for young men, whilst also embracing new ideas, opportunities and technologies as we seek to foster men of action.

MEN OF FAITH
We are committed to fostering a caring and inclusive community. Every St Patrick’s College student is asked to actively engage in the life and mission of the College so that we can support him in growing into a young man with a sure knowledge of who he is and how he can make a difference to his community.

MEN OF LEARNING
We take pride in our promotion of learning excellence. Whether it is Year 5 students learning about Edmund Rice, volleyballers practicing their skills or Chemical titration teams working in the Chemistry lab, every young man has a part to play in the life of the College. We are proud of our students’ success, with consistently high results in OP and vocational courses a testament to the quality of our teaching and our ability to bring out the best in each young man.

MEN OF HUMILITY
Through our House-based pastoral care system, every St Patrick’s College young man is guided to form respectful relationships based on integrity and compassion.

I hope that your connection to the College begins here and will lead to a developing relationship with us.

Mr Chris Mayes
College Principal
A CATHOLIC SCHOOL IN THE EDMUND RICE TRADITION

FOSTERING MEN OF ACTION
Faith in Action

EDMUND RICE IDENTITY

We enhance and support the spiritual growth of every young man through Catholic Church faith and leadership. As a Catholic school in the Edmund Rice tradition, our identity and mission is shaped by the life and teachings of Jesus, and the Charism of Blessed Edmund Rice with a focus on presence, compassion and liberation. St Patrick’s fosters social justice, advocacy and faith formation through a sequential spiritual course that combines an outstanding Religious Education curriculum, liturgical celebrations, retreats and service programs.

INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY

St Patrick’s College strives to ensure our ministry is not confined to specific programs but inspires all that we do at the College. This is reflected in the College curriculum, College events, and through daily operations that promote justice and peace, with a particular focus on the poor and marginalised.

PRAYER

Prayer and liturgy form a significant part of College life. Each year we celebrate the following occasions:
- Year 12 Induction Mass
- Ash Wednesday Liturgy
- ANZAC Day Liturgy
- Grandparents’ Mass
- St Patrick’s Day Mass
- Feast of Blessed Edmund Rice Mass
- Sacramental Mass
- Year 12 Graduation Mass
- Eucharist – Weekly in the Fr Liam Chapel

RETREATS

The College offers an annual retreat program for students in Years 5 to 12. The retreats provide participants with the skills and opportunity to follow their own unique spiritual journey and encounter God in their own way.

SERVICE

We believe that we have an obligation to reach out to the poor and marginalised in our society and our wider world. Our young men learn about the wider community and their role as advocates through considered and structured service learning programs, which address the needs of a diverse range of people including Brisbane’s homeless (through our flagship program the Paddies’ Van), poor and marginalised children of India and communities in Timor Leste.

We are very fortunate to have Fr Liam Horsfall SVD as our College Chaplain for over 12 years. Fr Liam was an outstanding man who served the poorest of the poor in India and Papua New Guinea for more than 30 years. Fr Liam was highly regarded by students and staff. All students can attend regular services in the beautiful College Chapel named in his honour.
SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT
Student Wellbeing

THE WHOLE PERSON
Our tailored approach to boys’ education produces well-rounded, confident and outstanding men of action, who go on to be respected members of their community.

In order to achieve this, we recognise that at the very heart of life at St Patrick’s College is the belief that we are more than just a community but rather, we are a family.

The College family-centred approach to holistic education signifies that student wellbeing is of paramount importance. This focus on wellbeing embraces the physical, emotional, psychological, intellectual, social and spiritual dimensions of each young man’s life.

HOUSE SYSTEM
The vertical House system is the foundation of pastoral care at St Patrick’s. Our College values the fostering of positive relationships as the key factor in the development of the whole person and therefore our House system is responsible for student welfare, student behaviour and Intra-school competition (academic, sporting and cultural). The House system provides students with a feeling of comradeship and a sense of belonging from the day they enter St Patrick’s. Central to our sense of family is our ‘big-brother/little-brother’ program, pairing senior students with Year 5 and Year 7 students when they begin at the College.

There are nine Houses at the College, each looked after by a House Dean who is supported by individual Group Tutors. The vertical Tutor Group (consisting of students from Years 5 to 12) structure remains an integral part of the House organisation.

THE RITE JOURNEY
Recognising the significant period of emotional and physical growth in Year 9, all young men in Year 9 participate in the Rite Journey program as an additional part of their personal formation. The Rite Journey is a unique educational program designed to support the development of self-aware, vital, responsible and resilient adults. The Rite Journey reinvents the traditional process of a Rite of Passage to assist in transforming the adolescent from dependency to responsibility.

All students in Years 5 – 10 participate in an integrated program of camps and outdoor adventures as part of the regular school program.
Building Blocks for Life

**EDUCATION FOR YOUNG MEN**

While providing a firm academic foundation is our goal right from the beginning of Year 5, we aim to provide broad, enriching educational opportunities to equip our young men for the demands of modern life. Technology is at the heart of all our learning and students have access to world-class tools and facilities.

**AN ART AND SCIENCE TO TEACHING**

Quality teaching is the key to our students’ success. We employ highly skilled teachers who are passionate about learning. They balance the necessity of researched-based data with the equally vital need to understand the strengths and weaknesses of each individual young man. Lessons staffed by talented specialists in Drama, Languages, Music, Visual Arts, Health and Physical Education and Design Technologies begin in Year 5. Our experienced and generous staff consistently contribute beyond expectations, both within and outside the classroom.

**ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**

All young men are exposed to a broad curriculum. A focus on developing core skills in literacy and numeracy in all phases of schooling positions students well in regard to their chosen senior school pathway. With access to specialist teachers from Year 5, curriculum offerings allow students to experience a well-rounded education through diverse subject offerings. Student needs and interests are well catered for with three distinct senior pathways supported, Tertiary Education (OP pathway), Vocational Education and Training (VET pathway) and a TAFE-based Certificate pathway.

**STRETCH YOURSELF**

An Exceptional Learners’ Department provides gifted students with opportunities to extend themselves with challenging projects which go beyond the standard curriculum. St Patrick’s College students regularly receive scholarships to attend both the University of Queensland and the Queensland University of Technology. Staff have access to visiting academics, teachers and experts so that our teaching staff stay in touch with the latest educational research from the world’s sharpest thinkers.

**A SUPPORTIVE FOCUS**

All young men have access to individual academic coaching to ensure that they can perform at their best. Teacher-led after-school tutorials provide students with opportunities to receive extra academic support and consolidate their learning. Structured peer support is provided for Year 12 students through supervised study sessions with past students. The Exceptional Learners’ Department also provides additional support to ensure all young men are capable of achieving success.

**CAREERS GUIDANCE**

The College Careers Counsellor is readily accessible to students and parents to provide guidance and help in selecting a future career and further studies.
CULTURAL ACTIVITIES
Extensive Music, Drama, Art and wider cultural activities are offered at the College to expand and challenge students from Year 5 to Year 12. Every young man has the opportunity to learn a musical instrument, play in a band, compete for the Chess or Debate teams, or take part in a Drama or musical production.

**LEARN AN INSTRUMENT**

All students in Years 5 and 6 are provided with an instrument as part of their curriculum program. Additionally, all students from Year 5 to 12 can access private lessons for over 25 different instruments including trumpet, guitar, drums, violin, piano, saxophone and cello. This equips them to join one or more groups, ensembles and bands available at the College.

**STAR IN A MUSICAL OR DRAMA PRODUCTION**

There are opportunities for students to be the lead, join the chorus, work backstage or operate the lights. Drama productions are held at the College every year and musicals are collaboratively staged with St John Fisher College biannually. Students are also able to compete in the Youth Theatresports competition where the College has reached the Queensland State finals for consecutive years and were crowned champions in 2014.

**JOIN A CLUB**

Fun, enquiry-based learning and creative problem-solving activities are vital in keeping young men engaged. Such depth and variety is catered for through access to Art Club and Film Crew opportunities.

**CHESSMEN**

Chess at the College is seen not just as a fun pastime but as a vital way for students to develop thinking skills, develop friendships and work as a team. Students from Years 5 to 12 can join the Chess team and compete both within the College and also as a representative for the College at Inter-school meets.

**BE HEARD...**

Students can sing their hearts out with our chorale groups. Young men are also able to participate in the College’s strong debating program, with opportunities for involvement in both the Inter-House competition and the QDU Inter-school competition. Students are also actively supported to participate in a range of public speaking programs.

**...OR BE BEHIND THE SCENES**

Students can be part of our Tech Crew who operate the sound, lights and technical equipment for the College’s productions. These young men are well prepared with access to state-of-the-art equipment and facilities under the guidance of industry experts in this field.
SPORTING PROGRAM

Team Focus

Playing sport is an essential part of every young man’s education at the College. St Patrick’s College actively competes in the Association of Independent Colleges (AIC) competition and students are also encouraged to participate in activities within the College. Participation and commitment are the keys to the College’s sporting program.

GET FIT AND HAVE FUN WITH MORE THAN 15 SPORTS

The diverse range of choices available ensures that all students can choose to participate in something, at their own level of skill. Opportunities exist to represent the College at District, Regional, State and National levels.

- AFL
- Athletics
- Basketball
- Cricket
- Cross Country
- Fitness Classes
- Football
- Golf
- Hockey
- Netball
- Rugby Union
- Rugby League
- Squash
- Swimming
- Tennis
- Tri-Athlon
- Volleyball
- Water Polo

TRAINING AND MATCHES

Students in Years 5 to 10 participate in curriculum sports a number of times throughout the week. Interschool sport for Years 5 to 12 occurs on Saturdays during term time. Training occurs after school on scheduled days.

LEARN FROM THE BEST

All sports programs are overseen by qualified professional coaches who have received expert training. Our coaches model effective teamwork, mental fitness, fair play and how to deal with loss as well as success.
SPORTING PROGRAM
OVERSEAS IMMERSION
Social justice trips to places such as India and Timor Leste provide young men with the opportunity to make a positive difference to those on the margins. The immersive experience in these countries allows students to fully involve themselves in new cultures and develop much broader understandings of the world they live in.

EXPLORE NEW HORIZONS
Optional cultural and outdoor expeditions occur regularly. Recent trips have included journeys to the ski slopes of Victoria and Canberra. Overseas History, Music and sport tours have also taken place with students visiting Italy and New Zealand.

HOMESTAY
St Patrick’s College welcomes a number of Indigenous students from remote Australian communities through an established homestay program. If you are interested in pursuing a place in the remote homestay program please contact the College for more information.

EXPERIENCE OTHER CULTURES
Year 10 students have the opportunity to participate in cultural exchange programs in the United States and Canada.

GIVE BACK TO THE COMMUNITY
Cook a dish for the homeless, fundraise for charity or volunteer for a community organisation; every St Patrick’s College man has opportunities to make a difference to the lives of others, with advocacy the focus of our work.

SOMETHING DIFFERENT
Activities such as Debating, Optiminds, Chess and Robotics provide our young men with opportunities to hone new skills. From Math Tournaments to mock trials and youth parliament, there’s something for everyone.
BEYOND THE CLASSROOM
OUR FACILITIES
OUR FACILITIES

Building for the Future

Situated on the stunning cliffs overlooking beautiful Moreton Bay, St Patrick’s College offers exceptional facilities. Our classrooms, sports, Drama and Music facilities provide opportunities for every young man to pursue his diverse talents.

MORVEN
The central building of the St Patrick’s College campus, Morven was constructed in 1864 as the home for one of Queensland’s first Parliamentarians, Mr John McDonnell. From 1890 to 1910, Morven was the official summer residence for the Governor of Queensland, Sir Henry Wylie Norman. In 1951, Fr O’Rourke’s purchase of Morven saw the College open its doors to its first students. Today it still sits as the centrepiece of the College housing the Principal’s office and College administration whilst majestically overlooking Moreton Bay.

WATERFORD
2011 saw the imposing multipurpose Waterford Building open. Its name honours the nearby town of Edmund Rice’s birthplace and the location of his first school. Standing alongside the College’s own swimming pool, the building now houses the Fr Liam Chapel, function rooms, dedicated theatre-style Drama rooms and state-of-the-art Manual Arts facilities. Waterford is also home to the College gymnasium, where our young men have access to the latest cardio, strength and conditioning equipment, all supervised by professional fitness staff.

SPORTING AND CULTURAL PRECINCT
School sport has been an established tradition at the College since 1952. Since 1992, the College has proudly called Curlew Park home to its outdoor sporting activities, with students able to access high quality playing fields either at Curlew Park or on the College’s own synthetic oval. The College also boasts the recent opening of the Christian Brothers Building which has additional digital media and music rehearsal rooms alongside a dedicated student well-being centre and world-class basketball and volleyball facilities.

CLASSROOMS
Contemporary classrooms maximise learning opportunities through their innovative layouts. The entire campus is equipped with wireless networks for the students to use their laptops.
Community Connections

Being a St Patrick’s College student and parent means that you become part of an extended College community. Involvement of parents and supporters is actively encouraged.

COLLEGE BOARD
The strategic direction of the College is supported by the College Board, a group of professionals from a wide variety of fields. Board members generously volunteer their time, knowledge and expertise to support and guide the College.

THE COLLEGE FOUNDATION
St Patrick’s College is proud to be connected to the Foundation, who enrich the educational experience for many young men at the College through their comprehensive bursary and support program. Support for the Foundation ensures the continuation of the generous bursary program and helps provide funding for new academic developments. New families are welcome to apply to be a recipient of a Foundation bursary based on financial circumstance.

CONNECTING THE GENERATIONS
Past students are a vital part of the College’s future. Once you attend the College, you are a Paddies’ Boy for life. The St Patrick’s Old Boys’ Association maintains contact with our community of former students by supporting reunions, social gatherings and networking opportunities. They also play an active role in the annual Back to Shorncliffe weekend celebrations, which are integral to maintaining our link with past students.
HISTORY AND TRADITION

The Green and Gold

EARLIEST DAYS
In 1951, Fr O’Rourke, parish priest of Sandgate, purchased “Morven” with the intent of beginning a school for boys. Schooling commenced at St Patrick’s on 29 January, 1952 with a roll call of 172 students.

THE CHRISTIAN BROTHERS
Four Christian Brothers were chosen to pioneer the new foundations. Br Coffey was the Superior of the Brother’s community and the first Principal of the College. The Christian Brothers have continued to play an important part in the history and ethos of this community. The founder of the Christian Brothers, Blessed Edmund Rice was known for his concern for the poor and marginalised. The College’s non-selective enrolment policy is reflective of the Founder’s original vision.

MOTTO
“Certa Bonum Certamen” is the College motto. It is Latin for “Fight the Good Fight”. The motto was selected by Br Coffey.

PADDIES’ BATTALION
Student leadership and emotional growth are a strong focus at St Patrick’s College and our young men have many opportunities to attain leadership roles during their time at the College. College leadership and House leadership are the most significant achievements for students, but all young men can develop their leadership skills in areas of personal interest with dedicated captains for sport and cultural activities. More recently, leadership of the College’s passionate supporters, the Paddies’ Battalion, has become an honour for senior students.

COLLEGE CREST
The College Crest was created by Br Brian Saward, one of the first four Christian Brothers at the College in 1952. Our College Technology Centre is named in his honour. Br Saward explains the meaning behind the Crest elements as follows:

Shape:
The Crest is shaped like a shield. The shield serves as a visual reminder that what the College teaches its community should protect them throughout their life.

Cross:
The cross signifies that St Patrick’s College is a Catholic school and reminds its community to employ Christian principles in their daily lives and decision making.

Rays:
The rays stemming from the cross serve both as a signifier of Christ’s example but also the example St Patrick’s College students extend to the wider community as they model good citizenship.

Battlements:
Below the cross are “battlements”, a defensive like structure, to remind the St Patrick’s College community that the quest to live a good life can often be a battle. They are also shaped like a mitre, the ceremonial head-dress of bishops, to reflect that Archbishop Duhig officially opened the College in 1952 and served as a loyal friend and supporter of the College in its foundation years.

In 2002, for the College’s Golden Jubilee, the College Crest was redesigned to include a circle around the Crest, with two blue ovals included on either side of the shield, with the wording ‘Est.’ and ‘1952’ written in white text. A gold colour was introduced to the Crest to signify the College being established for 50 years.
COLLEGE SONG

School Song
We’re the sons of SPC
Faithful, true and loyal we’ll be
Raise her green and gold
And cheer with voices bold
Rah! Rah! For S P C. U Rah! Rah!
We will try in every game,
Strong of heart and true to her name.
We will ne’er forget her,
And we’ll cheer her ever,
Loyal to S P C.
U Rah! Rah!

Chorus
Cheer! Cheer! For old S P C
Our Alma Mater facing the sea.
We’ll uphold the green and gold
No matter what the years may hold
What tho’ the odds be great or small
Good old St Pat’s will win over all
While her loyal sons are marching
Onward to victory. (Repeat Chorus)
TRANSPORT TO THE COLLEGE

Getting to St Patrick’s

CATCH THE TRAIN
The College is a short 500m walk from Shorncliffe Station and many students travel by train. The students are directed to walk a specific route from the station to ensure safety and convenience for everyone. Trains run approximately every 30 minutes.

HOP ON A BUS
The College is serviced by a number of buses operated by Thompson Buses and Hornibrook Buses. Responsive to our growing community, additional bus routes are added as the need arises. Red and White buses currently operate local routes as part of a private College circuit in both the North Lakes and Aspley/Chermside areas. Buses arrive and depart in Pier Avenue near the side gate of the College.

GET FIT
For those students wishing to ride their bicycle to school, a number of safe bike racks are provided.

OUR LOCATION
The College is located in the picturesque northern suburb of Shorncliffe, just over 20kms from the Brisbane CBD. We are five minutes drive from the Gateway Arterial.
TRANSPORT TO THE COLLEGE
Discover Who You Can Be

The choice of school for your son is one of the most important decisions you will make as a parent. We are happy to assist you in any way we can.

JOIN US AT OPEN DAY
We would love to show you around our stunning campus. College tours are held as part of our annual Open Day each year and are a great way to see the facilities in use by the students and to ask questions. Visit our website www.stpatricks.qld.edu.au to check dates and confirm attendance.

ENTRY POINTS
Young men can enter St Patrick’s College in any year group provided a vacancy is available. Significant intakes are in Year 5 and Year 7. We strongly encourage you to submit an Application for Enrolment as soon as possible. Confirmation of places occurs 2 years before starting, following an interview process.

BURSARIES
A number of bursary programs are available through the St Patrick’s College Foundation. For more information please get in contact with us or visit our website.

STAY UP TO DATE WITH COLLEGE LIFE
For the latest news from St Patrick’s, visit www.stpatricks.qld.edu.au or stpatrickscollegeofficial

DO YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS?
We look forward to hearing from you
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The information in this Prospectus is correct at the time of printing but is subject to change. For the latest information about what’s on offer at St Patrick’s, please contact our Enrolments staff.