



# JUNIOR SCHOOL PARENT HANDBOOK 2026



**ST VIRGIL'S  
COLLEGE**

*A Catholic boys school in the Edmund Rice tradition*

*A Connected, Engaged and Caring Community*

We acknowledge the muwinina people, the Traditional Owners and Custodians who for thousands of generations, lived and cared for the land on which our College stands today.

We acknowledge the continuing relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to Country that was never ceded and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation.



Student representation of the Austins Ferry property, featuring the local flora and fauna and the Charter Touchstones.

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# COLLEGE OVERVIEW & HISTORY

## Crest

The crest has significant symbolism.

The central star symbolizes Faith and Enlightenment: a faith which is the gift of God waiting to be strengthened by the enlightenment and instruction which a Catholic school should impart to its pupils.



*A Catholic boys school in the Edmund Rice tradition*

The Star is set on the Cross, the source and inspiration of our faith and the instrument of our redemption. The Cross, with its circle, the symbol of eternity, and its traceries are essentially Celtic in design. The ribbon which twines round the circle appears above the Cross and bears the inscription – to Do and to Teach – which is the motto of the Christian Brothers. The open book implies that the aim of the college is to impart religious and secular knowledge. The Greek letters Alpha and Omega, the first and the last letters of the Greek Alphabet, signify God the Father, 'The beginning and the end, and Christ, the first and the last' respectively.

## Edmund Rice

Edmund Ignatius Rice was born in Callan, Ireland, in 1762. A man of great faith, Edmund felt called by God. He contributed generously to Catholic Charity schools and gave practical help to the poor by providing food, shelter and clothing but he wanted to do more.

In 1802 he founded the Congregation of the Christian Brothers, who have become responsible for the care and education of millions of children in their schools and other ministries. The Brothers seek to help in the struggle against poverty and injustice. All followers of Edmund Rice are committed to education to achieve freedom.

The extraordinary life of Edmund was recognised when on October 6 1996, Edmund Ignatius Rice was proclaimed 'Blessed' by Pope John Paul II.

## The Christian Brothers

The Christian Brothers, a congregation of religious men currently numbering around 1800, work in 26 countries, with headquarters in Rome.

In the early years the work of the Brothers spread rapidly throughout Ireland as they founded schools before moving to England, Gibraltar, Australia and India.

The Brothers established their first school in Australia, Parade College in Melbourne, in 1871. The Brothers accepted an invitation from the Archbishop of Hobart to open a school in Hobart and in 1911 that school opened as St Virgil's College.

In recent years the Christian Brothers in Australia have moved away from direct management of schools and have refocused on those at the margins of society. Ministries are in hospitals and prisons, homes for disadvantaged youth, refugee camps and programs for underprivileged children.

There is still, however, strong support for the Australian schools and a focus on establishing and supporting schools in less developed countries such as in Africa and the Philippines.

There are currently six Christian Brothers ministering in Tasmania and two are at St Virgil's College.

## Saint Virgil

Saint Virgil was born in Ireland about 700 A.D. He became well known in his early life for his exceptional ability as an astronomer and mathematician.

In 747 A.D. Virgil was appointed to the Abbey of St Peter of Salzburg, Bavaria and in 767 A.D. became Bishop.

He is the patron saint of the City of Salzburg, and the greatest figure in its early church history. He was canonised in 1233 by Pope Gregory IX.

Virgil was one of the first to argue that the world was round, which led him into conflict with Boniface who regarded his thinking as heretical. Virgil was reported to the Pope who accepted his explanation.

The first boys' college in the farthest antipodes Tasmania, was therefore dedicated to this intrepid and zealous Bishop whose scientific learning was remarkable.

## A Brief History

At the invitation of the Archbishop of Hobart, St Virgil's College was founded by the Christian Brothers in 1911 at Barrack Street as a boarding school for the boys of Tasmania and as a day school for Hobart boys.

The College, when founded, overlooked the centre of Hobart. It was formally opened on January 22 1911.

In 1962, a junior secondary campus was opened at Austins Ferry and with it the gradual transition of secondary classes from the Barrack Street campus. In 1970, the boarding section of the College was closed, and since that time St Virgil's has been a day school only. In 1996, St Virgil's College and St Peter's School, amalgamated to be called St Virgil's College.

In 2024 St Virgil's College will expand to include Year 2 and Year 12 to offer a full Kindergarten to Year 12 education pathway, designed specifically for the learning, pastoral and wellbeing needs of boys.

# TOUCHSTONES

*At St Virgil's College we aspire throughout words and deeds to be faithful to the four touchstones of the EREA Charter.*

## Liberating Education



*We open hearts and minds, through quality teaching and learning experiences, so that through critical reflection and engagement each person is hope-filled and free to build a better world for all.*

When engaging in a Liberating Education we demonstrate that we are prepared to move to new places in our thinking, we seek an authentic understanding of the issues facing our world, as described by the people experiencing those issues. We develop the skills and attributes to connect and collaborate with others as we learn and then speak a language of justice and peace.

## Gospel Spirituality



*We invite all people into the story of Jesus and strive to make his message of compassion, justice and peace a living reality within our community*

Our foundation is in the Gospels, and Jesus is our example in all we do, say and strive to be. When we develop and nurture a deep sense of the spiritual in our lives, engaging in prayer and reflection with meaning and sincerity, we see the connections between ourselves and other faith traditions and value the shared wisdom of experiencing our world in this way.

## Inclusive Community



*Our community is accepting and welcoming, fostering right relationship and committed to the common good.*

We share a common life within, amongst and alongside each other, developing our individual strengths by being affirmed and supported by each other. We learn about and value Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures and we strive to make our journey of reconciliation one of truth and healing. We recognise the challenges faced by others, whose needs and abilities are different from ours and we celebrate their achievements as we would our own.

## Justice and Solidarity



*We are committed to justice and peace for all, grounded in a spirituality of action and reflection that calls us to stand in solidarity with those who are marginalised and the Earth itself.*

We create opportunities to form meaningful relationships with the marginalised, excluded and those who have been made poor. We look for, identify, and then challenge the barriers that keep us apart. We create opportunities to make the world a fairer, more inclusive and just place for everyone and we acknowledge and embrace our responsibility to do so.



**ST VIRGIL'S  
COLLEGE**

# 2026-2029 STRATEGIC STATEMENTS

*The Strategic Statements are founded upon the College's authentic expression of the touchstones of the EREA Charter and the pillars of the Archbishop's Charter for Catholic Education in Tasmania.*

## Scriptural Context

Providing an authentic expression of the touchstones of the EREA Charter by 'acting justly, loving tenderly and walking humbly with God' (Micah 6:8).

## Vision

Inspired by the example of Jesus and the faithful service of Blessed Edmund Rice, we strive to create a learning community where each boy is known and valued, inspired and empowered to contribute to the realisation of a just, peaceful and hope-filled world for all.

## Mission

We strive to build a Catholic learning community where we can become people of faith, generosity, excellence and integrity, connected in our desire to serve and care for each other, the marginalised and our environment.



# THE VIRGILIAN WAY

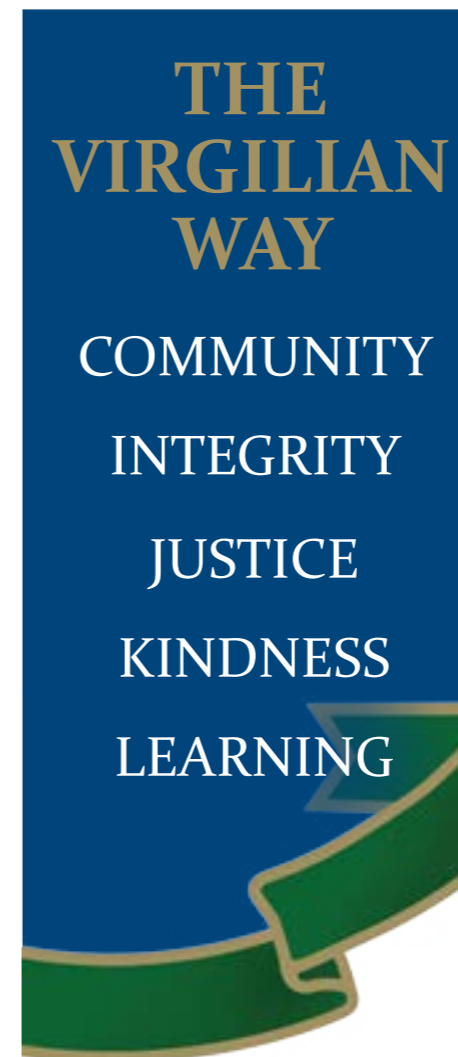
*'Our values are an authentic lived representation of who we are and who we aspire to be. They shape and inform our culture and are clearly evidenced in all interactions with members of our community. The authentic expression of our values defines our community and is the basis for all planning, decision making, reflection and renewal.'*

The Pastoral Care and Wellbeing framework of St Virgil's has at its foundation what encompasses being a true Virgilian. Our Behaviour formation model, *The Virgilian Way*, seeks to form our young men through our core values and through following in the footsteps of Blessed Edmund Rice. We expect a high standard from our young men and we expect to see in their deeds our values of community, kindness, learning, integrity and justice on display.

We have a dedicated pastoral care team who work with and for our young men each and every day. Their roles are to ultimately support, encourage, troubleshoot and guide our students through all that is associated with school life. From our Class Teachers, who know your son best and see them each morning, to our Junior School Leadership Team we strive to give our students every opportunity to be the best version of themselves.

St Virgil's College has always had a great sense of ritual and tradition. We know that when our young men feel as though they belong and are connected they will be more likely to achieve successful outcomes. From community events, liturgical milestones, sporting activities, co curricular activities; in the arts, music and drama, to outdoor education experiences and service learning programmes we strongly encourage boys to get involved. For it is through their involvement and participation they will build relationships with both their peers and staff and feel connected, engaged and welcomed. We are a connected and engaged community and acknowledge that we work with and for each other as members of the St Virgil's College community.

We strive to educate and form our young men through our Pastoral Care Programme on the topics they need awareness of, ways of adapting, dealing with challenging times, support mechanisms in a variety of challenging and diverse social and emotional issues. Ultimately we want to create in our students a strong sense of moral and ethical behaviour and decision making, resilience and self belief with a focus on right relationships as men of integrity.



**ST VIRGIL'S  
COLLEGE**

# HOUSES

Each student at St Virgil's College belongs to one of four Houses. The House forms the basis for many competitions and other events in the College.



## Doyle

- Loyalty to God
- Generosity
- Scholarship

Named after Leo Doyle, the first pupil of the College of 1911, who went on to be a fine scholar and lawyer.

Leo Doyle was born in 1902 and lived across the road from what became St Virgil's College.

The dominating influence in Leo's life, though, was his unswerving loyalty to his religion.



## Hessian

- Leadership
- Determination
- School Spirit

Named after Brother James Hessian, a former Principal, teacher and sport master who spent over 21 years at the College.

Brother Hessian shaped the spirit of St Virgil's College. The aura of confidence that emanated from Brother Hessian became evident in everything he undertook. The spirit of Hessian House has always been based on the saying "Fight the good fight and never give up".

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## Dwyer

- Commitment
- Sportsmanship
- Team Spirit

Named after the Dwyer family who contributed immensely to the sporting history of the College

Dwyer House was named after the Dwyer family in gratitude to their contribution to Athletics at the College.

Charles Dwyer was an ardent supporter of the College over 30 years, missing only one sports meeting, and his sons Phillip and William Jon 'Kaiser Bill' contributed greatly to the sporting culture at the College.



## Joyce

- Integrity
- Justice
- Fair Play

Named after Brother Edward Joyce, a teacher and Principal at the College who spent 45 years on the staff

Brother Joyce was an extraordinary man with a mysterious magnetism. Although shy and retiring by nature, his impact on students was enormous. Brother Joyce possessed boundless energy, absolute honesty and fairness.

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# LEADERSHIP & STAFF



**Principal**  
Jon Franzin



**Head of Junior School**  
**Head of Religious Education**  
Josephine Messer



**Assistant to the Head of Junior School**  
**Head of Learning Enhancement**  
Sue Burrows



**Director of Early Years**  
Sandra Mazengarb



**Junior School Head of Curriculum and Administration**  
Katie Pugsley

Head of Junior School: Josephine Messer, [jmesser@stvirgils.tas.edu.au](mailto:jmesser@stvirgils.tas.edu.au)

Assistant to the Head of Junior School and Head of Learning Enhancement: Sue Burrows, [sburrows@stvirgils.tas.edu.au](mailto:sburrows@stvirgils.tas.edu.au)

Year 6 Teachers: Katie Pugsley, [kpugsley@stvirgils.tas.edu.au](mailto:kpugsley@stvirgils.tas.edu.au) and Husdon Arkley, [harkley@stvirgils.tas.edu.au](mailto:harkley@stvirgils.tas.edu.au)

Year 5 Teacher: Stephanie Coleman, [scoleman@stvirgils.tas.edu.au](mailto:scoleman@stvirgils.tas.edu.au)

Year 4 Teacher: Tom Beard, [tbeard@stvirgils.tas.edu.au](mailto:tbeard@stvirgils.tas.edu.au)

Year 3 Teacher: Amelia Daun, [adaun@stvirgils.tas.edu.au](mailto:adaun@stvirgils.tas.edu.au)

Year 2 Teacher: Ruby Banks, [rbanks@stvirgils.tas.edu.au](mailto:rbanks@stvirgils.tas.edu.au)

Year 1 Teacher: Connie Abate, [cabate@stvirgils.tas.edu.au](mailto:cabate@stvirgils.tas.edu.au)

Prep Teacher: Eleanore Taylor, [etaylor@stvirgils.tas.edu.au](mailto:etaylor@stvirgils.tas.edu.au)

Director of Early Years and Kindergarten Teacher: Sandra Mazengarb, [smazengarb@stvirgils.tas.edu.au](mailto:smazengarb@stvirgils.tas.edu.au)

## Specialist Teachers

Art: Jan Stary, [jstary@stvirgils.tas.edu.au](mailto:jstary@stvirgils.tas.edu.au)

Music: Peter Hope, [phope@stvirgils.tas.edu.au](mailto:phope@stvirgils.tas.edu.au)

Years 5/6 Band: Peter Hope [phope@stvirgils.tas.edu.au](mailto:phope@stvirgils.tas.edu.au) / Gabrielle Ball, [gball@stvirgils.tas.edu.au](mailto:gball@stvirgils.tas.edu.au)

Japanese: Alison Wignell, [awignell@stvirgils.tas.edu.au](mailto:awignell@stvirgils.tas.edu.au)

Physical Education: Karryn McCullagh, [kmccullagh@stvirgils.tas.edu.au](mailto:kmccullagh@stvirgils.tas.edu.au) / Ben Farrell [bfarrell@stvirgils.tas.edu.au](mailto:bfarrell@stvirgils.tas.edu.au)



**ST VIRGIL'S**  
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# CHILD SAFEGUARDING

## Child Safety & Wellbeing Statement

All children and young people have a right to feel safe and be safe.

Edmund Rice Education Australia (EREA) is committed to embedding a culture where the safety, wellbeing, and participation of all children and young people under our care is paramount. This commitment is undertaken by St Virgil's on behalf of EREA. Particular attention is given to the needs of vulnerable children and young people, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people, children and young people with disability and mental health issues, children and young people from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, children and young people who are unable to live at home, and those who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or intersex. We are committed to at all times acting in the best interests of children and young people.

We have zero tolerance of child abuse and all allegations and safety concerns are treated very seriously and consistent with our robust safeguarding policies and procedures. EREA is committed to nurturing the wellbeing of all children and young people, respecting their dignity, ensuring their safety and protecting them from abuse and other harm. EREA, its schools and its staff, contractors and volunteers have legal and moral obligations to respond swiftly including contacting authorities where relevant when we are concerned about a child's safety, which we follow rigorously.

EREA and St Virgil's demonstrate commitment to the safety and wellbeing of children and young people by:

- taking into consideration the views of children and young people about decisions that affect their safety and wellbeing;
- empowering children and young people by taking their views seriously, and addressing any concerns they may have;
- acknowledging the cultural diversity of families, and being sensitive to how this may impact on child safety;
- taking proactive steps to prevent child abuse, and identifying risks early so that such risks may be removed or reduced;
- involving families, carers and relevant communities in decision making processes that support the development of a child safe culture;
- continuously reviewing and improving our systems and practices to protect children and young people from abuse;
- providing children and young people with the knowledge and skills to understand and maintain their own personal safety;
- ensuring that EREA and its schools have in place strategies to embed and enhance a culture of child safety and wellbeing through the leadership, governance and culture of the organisation;
- applying robust human resources and recruitment practices for all staff, contractors and volunteers;

- providing regular training and education on recognising the nature and indicators of child abuse and other harm, responding to safeguarding risks and how to build culturally safe environments for children and young people;
- implementing specific policies, procedures, training and a National Code of Conduct and a set of Child Safeguarding Standards to support the achievement of a child safe culture;
- listening to concerns about the safety of children, and suggestions to improve the child safety processes in place;
- responding swiftly to any child safety concerns and implementing clear procedures for managing and reporting child safety concerns; and
- ensuring that every person involved in EREA and its schools understands the important and specific role they play individually and collectively to ensure that the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people is at the forefront of all they do.

Statement endorsed by the EREA Board 1 June 2020.

## St Virgil's College Commitment to Child Safeguarding

St Virgil's College promotes the vision of Edmund Rice, as stated in the Edmund Rice Education Australia Charter. At St Virgil's we hold the care, safety and wellbeing of children and young people as a central and fundamental responsibility of our College. Our commitment is drawn from and inherent in the teaching and mission of Jesus Christ, with love, justice and the sanctity of each human person at the heart of the gospel.

The person of each individual human being, in his or her material and spiritual needs, is at the heart of Christ's teaching: that is why the promotion of the human person is the goal of the Catholic school (Congregation for Catholic Education 1997, n. 9).

# CODE OF CONDUCT

*They say it takes a village to raise a child. Similarly, St Virgil's College expects cooperation and support from the family of each student to ensure the best education and help equip that child with the skills required for a fulfilling adult life.*

## Parent Code of Conduct

To ensure such cooperation and support, this Code of Conduct outlines the College's expectations for a student's parents, step-parents, guardians, grandparents, extended family members and carers (collectively, parents).

In developing this Code, the College recognises that Parents ultimately want the best for their children. However, the College also expects Parents to recognise that it must ultimately balance the interests of all of the College's stakeholders (including not only students and Parents, but also the College's staff and their right to a safe working environment).

The Code can be viewed on the [College website](#) and covers five key areas of expectations of parents as follows:

- 1. Support the educational ethos and values of the College**
- 2. Behave respectfully towards members of our community**
- 3. Use technology and social media appropriately.**
- 4. Be a responsible visitor and participant**
- 5. Raise grievances appropriately and productively**

## Student Expectations

At St Virgil's we have expectations for our young men. These are developed in consultation with students and are designed to maintain student safety and wellbeing, promote an inclusive and nurturing learning environment, whilst honouring the standards and traditions handed down by generations of Virgilians.

- Students shall comply with any expectations the College may make in respect of dress, general appearance, behaviour and participation in the College's programme of activities.
- Students are not permitted to leave the College grounds during the day without the permission of the Principal or Deputy Principal. A written request is normally required for this purpose.
- It is the policy of the College that smoking, or the consumption of alcoholic drinks, or the possession or use of illegal drugs, is forbidden at school, in the school uniform, or at any function associated with the College.
- If a boy is absent from school a parent/carer is asked to phone the Junior School Office on (03) 6234 2440 by 9.00am.
- All students are required to attend Religious Education classes and to participate, at their own level of faith commitment, in worship and liturgy.
- School bus travellers are expected to be courteous, co-operative and appreciative of the service offered. They must abide by the terms of the School Bus Contract.
- It is suggested that parents ensure that their own insurance policy provides adequate cover for the loss of or damage to clothes, effects etc. of students.
- The appropriate uniform is to be worn on all occasions.
- Appropriate detentions will be given for serious misbehaviour. Students will be expected to attend such detentions out of school hours and as specified.
- Parents and students are reminded that non-essential electronic equipment (such as I-Pods and MP3 Players), mobile phones and other expensive items should not be brought to the College.
- If such items are seen or heard by members of staff, the items will be confiscated. We understand that some students may need to have a mobile phone in their possession, at times, for family matters, but it is to be turned off during school hours or whilst the student is on campus. The College cannot take any responsibility for the loss or damage of such items.

These regulations are subject to alteration from time to time to ensure the better running of the College. Any such alteration shall be notified in writing to parents.



# CODE OF CONDUCT (CONT.)

## Sport Policy

The community of St Virgil's College values participation in sport because it reinforces the mission of the College and promotes a healthy lifestyle.

As sportsmen, our students develop personal skills, cultivate sound friendships and foster a feeling of school spirit. At the same time, they learn what it means to play as a team, to practise self-discipline, to cope with winning and losing, to enjoy the benefits of play, and to develop healthy self-esteem.

- The College will offer a broad sports programme within the limitations of its resources.
- The sport programme will be managed by a teacher qualified and experienced in this area.
- Students will be required to comply with any expectations the College may make with regard to dress, demeanour, participation and payment of sports levies, or with the expectations of any other club or association with which the College is affiliated.
- Staff will take an active role in coordinating any sporting activities undertaken at the College.
- Under normal circumstances students will participate in teams appropriate to their year level or age group. Exemptions may be granted by the Director of Co-Curricular or Head of Junior School in individual cases
- A student or group of students may only represent SVC with the permission of the Director of Co-Curricular.
- Supporters and Team Officials will be required to uphold the values espoused by the College and the Sports Association of Tasmanian Independent Schools (SATIS) Code of Conduct at all times.

## Bus & Transport

At St Virgil's College we believe that all students should be able to travel on buses safely and confidently. We also expect the reputation of our College to be enhanced in public by the positive behaviour of our students. All boys are therefore required to abide by the following code of conduct, which requires that they:

- Behave at all times in a sensible manner.
- Board and leave the bus in an orderly fashion.
- Remain seated with their feet on the floor.
- Do not create excessive noise.
- Do not move about the bus, except when necessary.
- Do not fight or bully others.
- Do not throw objects inside the bus or from the bus.
- Do not distract the driver.
- Do not eat, drink or smoke on the bus.
- Respect bus property by not marking or damaging it.
- Respect the driver and follow any instructions.
- Do not allow any part of their body to protrude from the bus.
- Students who break these rules will be dealt with according to the normal disciplinary procedures of the College.
- Serious breaches of the Code of Behaviour will be reported to the Deputy Principal.

Students whose behaviour represents a threat to the safety of other travellers may lose their right to travel on the bus. In such cases, we will contact parents accordingly.

The College reminds parents that vandalism to buses may be dealt with under the provisions of the Transport Act, with a standard fine of \$100 plus repair charges.

St Virgil's will continue to encourage safe and sensible bus travel and will continue to work closely with the bus companies which provide services for our students in monitoring student behaviour and implementing this Code of Conduct.

# COMPLAINTS & CONFIDENTIALITY

*St Virgil's is committed to handling complaints effectively and efficiently. To manage complaints effectively, the College has established a Complaints Handling Program.*

## Complaint Handling Procedure

St Virgil's College is an Edmund Rice Education Australia (EREA) governed school and as such is subject to the EREA Complaints Handling Policy. The EREA Complaints Handling Policy can be accessed via the following link:

[EREA Complaints Handling Policy](#)

## St Virgil's College Complaints Handling

### What is a Complaint?

A complaint is an expression of dissatisfaction made to St Virgil's College, related to services or operations, or the complaints handling process itself, where a response or resolution is explicitly or implicitly expected.

### St Virgil's College's Commitment

The College's Complaints Handling Program is in line with both the international complaints handling standard (ISO 10002:2014 Quality management – Customer satisfaction – Guidelines for complaints handling in organisations), and the Australian/New Zealand complaints handling standard (AS/NZS 10002:2014 Guidelines for complaint management in organisations).

The College's programme includes the establishment of an online complaints management system which allows St Virgil's to effectively capture, manage and report on complaints.

Regular analysis of complaints received and the implementation of rectification action, where deficiencies are identified, are key to the College's commitment. Internal complaints handling process are available at no cost.

### Informal Complaints Resolution

The vast majority of issues causing concern in schools can be handled quickly and in an informal manner. In most cases these issues can be resolved through informal discussions with appropriate staff members. Even if an issue is able to be resolved informally, all staff are required to log issues through the St Virgil's College Complaints Management System to enable the College to identify any systemic issues arising, and take appropriate rectification action.

### Formal

### Complaints

Instructions how to make a formal complaint and the College's internal complaints handling process can be viewed online.

## Privacy Policy

The College is committed to protecting the rights of individuals in accordance with the Federal and State legislation.

The [EREA Privacy Policy](#) can be viewed here. This policy outlines:

- Information gathered by the College
- information collection methods
- Use of personal information by the College
- Student and parent information
- Job applicants and contractors, staff members, volunteers
- Marketing and fundraising
- Disclosure of personal information
- Management of sensitive information
- Security of personal and sensitive information
- Access to personal information
- Consent
- Updating personal information
- Notifiable data breaches



# P&F ASSOCIATION

*Parents of St Virgil's are invited to take an active role in the life of the College. We understand that everyone has different demands on their time and contributions to make, and we greatly appreciate your help wherever you can.*

An energetic and effective Parents & Friends Association operates at the Senior and Junior School. As well as raising funds to support the work of the College, they organise social activities for parents and convene forums relevant to the education of boys.

The Parents & Friends Association host various social and fundraising events during the year. Proceeds go directly towards supporting students and project initiatives including facilities and equipment.

The committees are involved in planning and organising multiple initiatives including the Easter Raffle, Quiz Night, Mother's Day and Father's Day Breakfasts, Mary Rice Day, Teachers' Dinners, Gala Auction and Choomalaka Festival & Feast.

Families are encouraged to be involved in the P&F activities, whether than be once off as an event volunteer, on a working party or as a part of the Association as a way of supporting the College and students, and being a part of the St Virgil's community!

# UNIFORM

*The students of St Virgil's College wear a distinctive uniform as a sign of their membership of and loyalty to the College Community. The uniform is an important part of our public image as well as being serviceable and practical clothing for school wear.*

## Guidelines

- The uniform is compulsory and should be worn neatly and with pride.
- The College blazer and cap must be worn to and from school when wearing formal uniform.
- All items of uniform must be clean and in a good state of repair.
- Uniform items will derive their colour scheme from the Royal Blue, Green and Gold of the College colours.
- Representative teams wear uniforms appropriate to their particular sports.
- Additions or modifications to the uniform or changes in the way it is worn are the domain of the Principal.
- The Management Committee of the Clothing Store will make recommendations regarding changes to style or fabric.
- Cost, style, quality, availability and compliance with the Sunsmart Policy will be taken into account when setting uniform requirements.
- The regulations regarding the wearing of uniform apply when travelling to or from school or school functions as well as while at school.

## Hairstyles

Our young men at St Virgil's take pride in their appearance including presentation of their hair. While in College uniform hair is to be of a style and length unlikely to cause comment. Hair must be clean, tidy, of natural colour with no trace of dyes, bleaches or tints. Hair may be shaved with a number two blade, but not a number one, and should be shaved evenly all over with no long hair on top and with short sides. Hair should not exceed collar length or cover eyes or the face. A small amount of mousse or gel may be used to keep hair in place but not to create spikes or other effects.

Please note that refusal to meet this expectation will be cause for disciplinary action, which could include a parent meeting and/or suspension from school.

Student should consult their Classroom Teacher if they require further advice on this matter. The ultimate acceptability of styles is determined by the Head of Junior School.

## Further Details

Details about school bags, other items, special circumstances and non-conformity can be viewed on the College website.



# ABSENCES

## Reporting an Absence

Parents/carers are required to report an absent student prior to 9.00 am by one of the following methods:

- Using the Parent Access Module (PAM) - preferred method
- Call the Junior School Office on (03) 6234 2440

## Lateness

Students who arrive to school late need a signed note or telephone call from home to the Junior School Office, with a reason for their lateness.

Students need to sign in at the Junior School Office when they arrive at school.

## Students Leaving During the School Day

Parent/carer approval and reasonable explanation for students to leave during the school day. Students will sign out at the Junior School Office.

# BELL TIMES

8.15 am	Junior School gates open and duty commences
8.15 am – 8.45 am	Before school play
8.45 am	Classes commence
8.45 am – 10.50 am	Morning block
10.50 am – 11.20 am	Recess
11.20 am – 12.50 pm	Middle block
12.50 pm – 1.30 pm	Lunch
1.30 pm – 3.00 pm	Afternoon block
3.00 pm – 3.20 pm	Car park supervision on Patrick Street
3.15 pm – 3.35 pm	Bus supervision on Harrington Street

# COMMUNICATION

*The College has a number of mediums for communicating with our parents/carers and sharing news and achievements with members of the community.*

## EdSmart

The College uses EdSmart to send Broadcasts (information) and Slips (permission forms) to parents/carers. You will receive these via email or via the St Virgil's College App.

## Seesaw

Seesaw is primarily a learning platform for students to share their learning with teachers and parents. Teachers may use the Seesaw platform for less formal communication and reminders between school and home.

## Consent2Go

Consent2Go will be used for gain permission for excursions and camps. You will receive this communication via email.

## Parent Access Module (PAM)

PAM is for access for parents/carers. This allows you to view the calendar, engage with assessment tasks, see feedback from teachers, read rubrics and see the work which has been submitted.

## SIMON

SIMON is the user interface for students where they can access the following:

- Timetable
- Notices
- Submit tasks
- Classroom resources
- Email teachers
- See their dashboard with what is due/overdue

## The Star

This fortnightly e-newsletter is emailed to all parents and students each week during term time.

## Website

Find term dates, news, portals and more at [www.stvirgils.tas.edu.au](http://www.stvirgils.tas.edu.au).

## Social Media

St Virgil's College has official social media accounts on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and YouTube.

## Words & Deeds

A bi-annual colour magazine showcasing recent news and achievements is mailed to our parent/carers and Old Virgilians.

## The Virgilian

The College annual provides a historical record of the academic year.

## Photography

Sharing photographs of students engaged in activities is a wonderful way to share our College spirit and achievements with the community. At the time of their enrolment application, parents/carers can consent or decline photos and video of their child to be shared. This can change this at any time during the school year via Consent2Go.



# CURRICULUM

*St Virgil's College offers a broad curriculum with specialist teachers in Music, Arts, Japanese and H& PE.*

*Much emphasis is placed on the key areas of literacy and numeracy.*

*Religious Education is central to the studies undertaken. The College exists to nurture the gift of faith in all students with particular emphasis on passing on a solid understanding of the teachings and traditions of the Catholic Church.*

## Homework

We believe that regular homework reinforces school learning, establishes good study habits, and development of skills in revision, research and organisation. It encourages independent learning and presents students with a chance to take responsibility for their learning.

Homework is set to supplement and complement work done in class. It is an integral part of each student's work and can cover areas of research, consolidation and revision.

Homework is dependent on the age of the student. It may involve reading, collecting things from home, set work, completing assignments, reading a novel, studying for a test, researching a topic, conducting a search on the internet, revising current class work from texts and exercise books, and developing skills by ongoing practice.

Parents should communicate with teachers if concerned about any aspects of homework.

## Academic Integrity

The principles of academic integrity are to act with honesty, trust, responsibility and respect. Therefore, the College has a legal responsibility to clearly communicate to learners, parents and staff the expectations for compliance of the Guidelines for Academic Integrity. The authenticity and academic integrity of all work submitted for assessment must be assured, including externally assessed folios. Teachers are committed in teaching students to act responsibly by ensuring their work is authentic and original. Furthermore, these guidelines align with the College's ICT strategic plan where teachers model and students learn that reliability, security and privacy underpin our work. In aligning with these guidelines, students will also learn to use digital environments and tools responsibly, safely and ethically. Breaches of Academic Integrity will be followed by fair, effective and efficient resolution, in accordance with the College's guidelines

# FEES

The annual tuition fees, including compulsory levies for 2026 are:

	Tuition Fee	Edmund Rice Foundation Donation	Building Levy	Total Payment
Kinder	\$4,000	\$50	\$160	\$4,210
Prep	\$4,770	\$50	\$160	\$4,980
Year 1	\$4,770	\$50	\$160	\$4,980
Year 2	\$4,770	\$50	\$160	\$4,980
Year 3	\$5,290	\$50	\$160	\$5,500
Year 4	\$5,290	\$50	\$160	\$5,500
Year 5	\$5,290	\$50	\$160	\$5,500
Year 6	\$7,300	\$50	\$160	\$7,510

For all enquiries about fees please email the Business Manager, [fees@stvirgils.tas.edu.au](mailto:fees@stvirgils.tas.edu.au).

St Virgil's College annual tuition fees are as inclusive as possible and cover such expenses as:

- The cost of all classroom and activity resources that are provided to students such as library materials, classroom resources such as materials for art, photocopied material, copyright charges, PE and sport equipment, musical instruments, visiting artists, subject competitions, camps for Years 3 to 9 and the Year 6 Canberra trip. (The Canberra Trip is an integral part of the Year 6 curriculum. Accordingly, the cost has now been included in the annual tuition fee).
- Charges for whole-of-school activities such as the Edmund Rice Mass, athletics and swimming carnivals, reflection days, The Virgilian and College diary.
- The provision of up to date technology in the classroom, an extensive wireless network throughout the College, connectivity to the internet and all related costs associated with the use of a school iPad/MacBook including apps and AppleCare.

## Payment Options

Fees can be paid in a variety of ways, including weekly, fortnightly or monthly instalments. There are various methods available to make payments of the annual fees.

All families are required to return the fee payment plan to the Business Office by 24 January 2026.

## Withdrawal

Written notice is to be provided to the Principal prior to the withdrawal of a student from the College.

## Financial Hardship

In line with the College's mission as a Catholic school in the Edmund Rice tradition, a variation to the level of Tuition Fees payable may be available in cases of demonstrated financial hardship. Application forms are available from the Business Office.



**ST VIRGIL'S**  
COLLEGE

# MOBILE PHONE USE

*Technology does have a role to play in the classroom, but this needs to be facilitated. Personal mobile phones, on the other hand, do provide a distraction for students in terms of their access to social media sites, as well as potentially being a source of bullying activities.*

We ask students to adhere to the following guidelines.

- Students are not able to access their phones during school time (8.15 am - 3.00 pm), including break times.
- Students must hand in their phone to the mobile phone box in their classroom when they arrive at school and collect it at the end of the day.
- Any messages from parents/carers that students need during the day are required to go through the Junior School Office. Please do not send messages directly to your son.
- Phones are not required as part of any learning tasks.
- The use of phones to film any form of interaction among students or staff will be dealt with in line with the College's Behaviour Management Policy. This is inclusive of bus activity or interactions in the school yard.
- For off campus excursions or activities, there may be some instances where mobile phones are permitted in the interests of student safety. This requirement will be advised by facilitating staff members.
- Exemption for medical purposes may be given, after direct negotiation between the parent/guardian and the Deputy Principal.

If students are found to be using their device;

1. Students found to be using their phones for the first instance will have their phone taken to the Junior School Office, where they can be collected from at the end of the day.
2. Should a second infringement occur, the student's phone will be taken to Junior School Office for the remainder of the day. Parents/carers will be notified on this instance.
3. After a third infringement, parents/carers will be required to collect the phone from the Junior School Office when convenient. In supporting future usage students and parents will be required to sign a phone agreement.

# TECHNOLOGY

St Virgil's College recognises that Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is an important and pervasive element of contemporary society. ICT is comprised of a set of powerful tools. As with all tools, guidelines and boundaries need to be established to ensure that ICT is used in appropriate and safe ways.

School-owned devices are issued to students and should be treated with care.

Students in Year 3 to 6 are issued with an iPad, case and charger. Kindergarten to Year 2 students will have access to class sets of iPads.

An ICT Acceptable Use Agreement is required to be signed by students and parents/carers at the start of the school year.

If the devices are damaged, repair or replacement costs will be charged.

# VISITORS & VOLUNTEERS

Visitors and volunteers to the College are required to sign in at the Junior School Office and provide their Working With Vulnerable People (WWVP) card, or provide identification and complete a statutory declaration and then be accompanied at all times whilst on campus. Relevant safety information is included in the sign in process.



**ST VIRGIL'S  
COLLEGE**

*A Catholic boys school in the Edmund Rice tradition*

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