

Edinburgh College

Transition to School Information Booklet





Character.... through Nurture, Learning and Service

We aim to nurture your child and give them the best care they need to feel safe and loved while at our College. We hope your child will see and act in ways to nurture those around them.

We aim to inspire your child to be a lifelong learner. Learning incorporates all areas for your child to thrive, from academic achievement, creativity, faith development, social skills, physical fitness, to personal insight.

With an attitude of service, we will do our best to serve your child and your family.

We actively encourage you and your child to join in serving the College, and the local community as well.

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Message from the Principal

Mr Tim Borgas



At Edinburgh College, our team of caring, talented and dedicated staff and volunteers endeavour to be the best educators and support possible for your child. We strive to understand each student's individual learning journey; their learning preferences, what inspires them, and how they can turn failure or disappointment into a growing opportunity.

From Early Years right through to Secondary, Edinburgh College provides Christian education with a focus on nurture, service, and the development of character for each student. We instil the core values of our college, demonstrating what it means to be Respectful, Responsible, Resilient and Willing to Learn.

Our Year 7-12 Curriculum offers a balanced education from the core subjects of English, Maths and Science to the Arts and Health, providing your child with the opportunity to further refine their interests and capabilities through elective subjects in Years 9 and 10.

Our Secondary Campus is a safe and wholesome environment where each student has the opportunity to flourish. Upon completion of their journey at Secondary, our students graduate with confidence and are ready to meet the needs of a challenging world.

Welcome to Edinburgh College.



Message from the Head of Primary

Mrs Tanya Pascoe



Welcome to Edinburgh College. I am so pleased that you will be joining our school community. Together we begin an exciting adventure as your child starts their school life. We look forward to sharing these school years with you, growing, learning and celebrating as a school family.

We welcome God in this school and trust His leadership over our community. The College staff live out their Christian faith actively, and we encourage you and your child to do the same. We pray a blessing over your family and your child, that God will grow and guide you throughout their school years ahead.



Dear Friends, let us practice loving each other, for love comes from God and those who are loving and kind show that they are the children of God, and that they are getting to know Him better.

1 John 4:7 New Living Bible

Message from the Assistant Director of Early Learning Centre



Mrs Rachel Whelan

At Edinburgh Early Learning Centre we are privileged to journey with you as your child forms the foundational skills upon which all future learning is built.

We are passionate about providing a Christ-centred environment where our children's curiosity is nurtured and they are encouraged to explore, wonder, grow and know they are loved. We are blessed at Edinburgh ELC to be a part of a bigger school community. Building relationships through programs such as buddies and chapel gives our children confidence and we see them blossom. Having access to our beautiful school grounds enriches our emerging program and through programs such as bush kinder our children experience the wonder of nature-based learning.

We look forward to meeting you, building relationships with you and your children and watching everyone come through our centre thrive and grow in Jesus.



Introducing our Kindergarten Teachers



Our Kindergarten teachers are a team committed to your child's success. Paula and Melanie are qualified Early Childhood Teachers with a drive to always be learning to be the best for your child. They develop current and applicable programs to support your child where they are but more importantly, prepare them to be equipped and excited for where they are going. Paula and Melanie are both mothers and they understand this journey from the perspective of your child, a teacher and you. They dedicate their time and effort to support you as much as your child acknowledging the partnership that you are part of.

"I feel blessed to be part of a team that fosters a love of learning. Working with children is my passion where every day is filled with learning opportunities as children engage in play and make sense of their world. I look forward to building relationships with our families and children as we work together to build a community of successful learners."

- Mrs Paula Gladman



"The early years are vitally important for children's development and here at Edinburgh we really enhance and promote each child's development. 'Our Christian environment is what really sets us apart from other early learning centres'. To teach children within this environment is truly amazing. Our program allows children to become independent learners striving for their best within our beautiful surrounds"

- Mrs Christine Prosser



Introducing our Prep Teachers



Our Prep team is a dedicated and passionate team that always strives for the student's enjoyment and success at school across all areas including spiritually, socially, emotionally and academically. Both Melanie and Rosie are qualified Primary Teachers equipping them to support your child between these two stages of their education. This young and enthusiastic team welcomes your child into Prep and becomes their biggest fans building an individual relationship with each child and celebrating your child and their success in their class every day.

"I am excited to begin a new Prep year with your child because I know the joys that come with this journey. Our year will be filled with many moments of new learning and experiences. These are the moments I love each day as a Prep teacher."

- Mrs Rosie Croft



"I love the foundation years where children develop their love for school and willingness to learn. Seeing children find a place and a purpose in our classroom is one of the most fulfilling qualities of being a teacher."

- Mrs Melanie Jacobson



Partnered commitment to learning



Wellbeing

Student wellbeing is a priority at Edinburgh College. We know that how a student feels both physically and mentally affects their ability for optimal learning. Our Positive Behaviour for Learning model (PB4L) encourages students to act in and respond to, their environment showing;

Respectfully, Responsibly, with Resilience and Willingness to Learn.

Across the campus, this language and behaviour is used, modelled and fostered in every situation. PB4L encourages positive student voice and relationships nurturing children of character and service. We also have a Wellbeing Officer who leads this area and responds to any needs amongst the student body. A Counsellor and Ministerial Pastor are also available each day for counselling or wellbeing support.

Shared learning spaces

Edinburgh College campus encompasses many learning spaces that provide different and exciting learning opportunities. These spaces are shared by all three departments individually and together.

Library

Our library offers a large collection of books, DVDs, games and ICT devices that can be enjoyed during class, independent time and borrowed for home use. The ELC, Primary and Secondary students are all welcome to borrow from the library. Our ELC and Preps will sometimes read books together developing a sense of community, growing and learning all together.

Multi-Purpose Centre (MPC)

Our Primary and ELC departments use the large and equipped space when participating in physical education, such as the Perceptual Motor Program (PMP), and Chapel worship. Both of these programs will be outlined in further detail below.

Bush kinder

In addition to excellent facilities, the school is surrounded by beautiful land that is visited by wildlife such as kangaroos and many birds. These are great locations for students to conduct investigations and explore. The students of the ELC partake in a bush kinder program that sees them learning in and of our natural world in these outdoor spaces. As part of our buddies program, these spaces are shared for engaging in real-world learning together.

Playground

Our school boasts a well-equipped and enjoyable playground under the shade of varying trees and sails creating the perfect play area. The play area includes a sandpit, playground, oval, basketball court and risky play area. Children from both the ELC and the Primary school enjoy using this space to practise safe, group and developmental play.

Encounter

Edinburgh College is a Seventh-Day Adventist school committed to teaching and fostering relationships with God. From Early Learning to VCE, Encounter is a continuum program that sees students exposed to and investigating God's word and His relevance to their life. We nurture a culture of faith and love with God always at the centre. We walk students' Christian journey with them and enjoy watching them flourish. Encounter is a hands-on and engaging program that allows even little minds to begin to comprehend the enormity of God's love and friendship with them.



Chapel

Each Friday in the Primary school, Kindergarten children join with the Primary School children to worship God through music and devotion. Chapel runs for approximately 45 minutes where the students sing songs and hear from our school Chaplain or a guest speaker who share a message that reflects our mission statement and PB4L values. All year levels including the ELC have the opportunity to host Chapel and lead worship. Chapel is always an anticipated part of our week and an encouraging time together. At Edinburgh College Secondary, Chapel remains a weekly event though it keeps to their own schedule.

Buddies

In terms 2 and 3, Prep and the ELC Kindergarten rooms meet weekly for buddies. Buddies is a wonderful way for us to enable young minds to take on new roles as teachers and students alike. Together we enjoy outdoor play, targeted age-appropriate Literacy and Maths activities, music, dance, movement and most importantly, we enjoy each other's company. This buddies program invites Kindergarten students into the school classrooms and helps to prepare them for the environment they are working to be in full-time once they begin school. The transition program helps children become familiar with their surroundings prior to commencing school. Through buddies, ELC students come to school already having friends and knowing their teachers. We love this time together and all the opportunities for success that come from this.

Literacy Program

As an Edinburgh community, we are committed to providing quality education to provide students with real skills that will help them be successful. We want your child to feel successful and prepared as they learn and move between year levels. For this reason, we collaborate and plan our curriculums together so that each year of Literacy extends from the year prior. In our early years, we run a synthetic phonics program while including and embedding elements of Cued Articulation to support speech development. Together with the help of stories, acting and songs students consolidate their learning of phonics and phonemes. By working together on a carefully planned continuum, the literacy expectations for students each year are more achievable and attainable.



Mathematics Program

Similarly to our Literacy Program, Mathematics is taught as a continuum that supports student's holistic and long-term learning. Teaching is carefully planned to cater for the age group and see students using Mathematics in context in all situations through intentional language, hands-on experiences and then explicit teaching. Maths in the early years is intended to be a colourful and engaging learning space that enables children to appreciate Mathematics as an incredibly useful language.



STEAM

Edinburgh College is committed to providing a holistic education that caters for all student's needs and interests. By actively embedding STEAM into our programs we allow children to be exposed to different types of learning and big picture ideas. As part of the ELC, students will also learn Digital Technologies at an introductory level, which allows them to build on what they learn once they commence school.

Perceptual Motor Program (PMP)

Cognitive learning is at its richest when students are whole-body learning. The Perceptual Motor Program is a program that strengthens and builds children's fine and gross motor skills as well as working memory. It works to include elements of Brain Gym and prepares student's bodies for learning by regulating their bodies and emotions. Both the ELC and the early primary years include PMP in their programs targeting children at their most ready age for development and growth.



Transition to school



Transition reports

At the duration of your Kinder years, your child's Kindergarten teacher will complete school readiness testing including basic literacy and mathematics skills and will compile this, along with all social and emotional progression points into a Transition Report. This report is available to you as parents and is passed on to the Prep teachers for them to gauge the skills and strategies that your child is coming to school with. This helps us be prepared not only for a new cohort but specifically for your child. On handover of these transition reports, the Kindergarten teachers are also able to pass on any notes to the Prep teachers that they think are necessary.

Orientation days

In the year prior to your child beginning Prep, Edinburgh offers three orientation days where your child comes to school for a few hours in the morning. During this time the children are invited to explore their future classroom, interact with their future peers, meet and greet their teachers for comfort and become familiar. Teachers run a purposefully planned program for the day that allows them to see evidence of the things reported in the transition reports and to make a note of any new observations. Following these orientation days, teachers are very happy to discuss how your child performed and interacted.

Information evenings

Leading Educators at the Early Learning Centre run information nights at the beginning of your child's year to inform you of their program and pathway for the year. This is a time to welcome you into the learning space and the community and to share the important dates and details of the year. Similarly, when your child is enrolled to begin Prep at Edinburgh College, in October of the prior year we welcome parents to a meet and greet information night. At this time we invited you to come with your questions to work with you to make your child's transition as smooth and enjoyable for them and for you. This is also a great opportunity to meet your child's teachers and the community that you are coming into. We are excited to see you there. We also welcome you to attend one or both of our school Open Nights that are held each year. These are fun and engaging demonstrative nights of the exciting learning that we pursue and the success we achieve at Edinburgh College. Please contact our College office at the beginning of the year or keep a watch on the College website to confirm dates.

Meeting with the teachers

If you feel that you need to meet a teacher one-on-one to discuss your child's introduction to Prep please contact either the Primary or the ELC administration to begin this organisation. We are always happy to work with you to make sure that you feel supported before and during your time here with us. If you feel it would be helpful for your child's current Kindergarten educator to be present we are happy to oblige this for some specific handover.



Contact us

Appointments

We welcome you to come and enjoy a tour of our Edinburgh College campus. By making an appointment you will be able to meet with the head of each department as well as the College Principal. You will be invited to view our classrooms in action and speak with teachers.

To make an appointment please call Edinburgh College and talk to the department most relevant to your child's current age. Alternatively, you can visit the College website and complete the booking form. You will also find access to our school policies and procedures on the website for your reading.

We invite you to come with high expectations for us to meet and exceed.

Contact details

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