

# Edinburgh College

## ANNUAL REPORT 2019



Character... through nurture, learning and service

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## Section One – College Overview

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### Introduction

Edinburgh College has provided quality Christian education since 1964. Situated on 20 hectares and positioned on a beautiful ridge in Lilydale on the eastern edge of Melbourne, the College consists of an Early Learning Centre, Primary and Secondary schools, providing continuous education for all age groups.

In 2013 the Victorian Registrations and Qualifications Authority (VRQA) approved the current name of Edinburgh College. This coincided with the 50th anniversary of secondary education on the campus. During 2015 the Board of Directors for Adventist Education determined that the Early Learning Centre, Primary and Secondary schools would be amalgamated into a single entity. The VRQA approved the application for an amalgamated College in time for the commencement of classes in 2016.

Organisational changes in 2015-16 included the formation of a single College Council to determine strategic direction, review quality management processes, manage finances, resources and facilities as well as support the learning and teaching program.

The Quality Adventist Schools (QAS) program, introduced in 2014, continued as an important self-improvement tool and incorporates a five-year review of 20 components of an effective school. In October 2016, Edinburgh College successfully completed its first five-year review period. Three improvement goals were identified by the College team and affirmed by the QAS review team:

1. Supportive Christian Culture
2. Quality teaching led by evidence
3. Effective procedures and communication

Since 2017 there has been a 30% enrolment growth rate at Edinburgh College. This has created the need for a new 10-Year Master Plan, due to the double streaming of Primary School and the increased Year 7 numbers in the Secondary School. Our Early Learning Centre opened its brand new third room at the end of 2019. Plans for a fourth room have already begun.





## Commitment to being a Child Safe School

Edinburgh College is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all our students. It has a zero tolerance for child abuse and has procedures in place to protect children, support those at risk and respond to incidents or allegations for all forms of child abuse. These procedures are outlined in the Duty of Care, Child Protection and Child Code of Conduct policies. All are available on the school website.



In 2019, there were 328 students enrolled at Edinburgh College (Prep to Year 12) – up from 287 in 2018. The College has a double-stream Year 7 class and our Primary Prep and Year 1 classes continue to be double-streamed. Due to this growth we were able to successfully apply for a Stage 1 of 3 BGA primary classroom build – which includes 3 new classrooms. Our Early Learning Centre is growing with a third room approved for construction in early 2019. This has all been outlined in our 10-year master plan. It is projected that we will have an increase in student enrolments from 328 to 390 by the start of 2020 – which will include a triple-stream Year 7 class.

## Principal's Comments



At Edinburgh College, we know 'why we come to work each day'. We believe and prayerfully promote the wonderful daily invitation of 'taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in Him' (Psalms 34:8). Our mission is to develop children of character in a faith-nurturing environment that promotes academic excellence and a commitment to service. Caring, talented and dedicated

staff and volunteers endeavour to be the best educators and support possible. We strive to understand each of our student's individual learning journeys; their learning preferences, what inspires them, how they can turn failure and/or disappointment into a growing opportunity, and why it is valuable to be Respectful, Responsible, Resilient and to have a Willingness to Learn in any given community.

Our crest clearly reflects our 'why': the crown recognises that God, in the form of the three members of the Trinity, is at the head of all that occurs at the school. This acknowledgement is supported by the motto "In Him We Live" and encapsulates the view that God is an integral part of our lives. The open Bible and the dove indicate that the school is guided by the word of God as enlightened by the Holy Spirit. The laurel garland on the sides represents the prize of achievement.

Edinburgh College is an Independent Christian School owned and operated by Seventh-day Adventist Schools (Victoria) Ltd. It provides a comprehensive academic program, from Early Learning to Year 12, in harmony with Christian beliefs, values and lifestyle. Edinburgh College provides Christ-centred education for the community. Adventist education is Bible-based, Christ-centred, child safe, service-oriented and Kingdom-directed. It aims for a balanced development in the lives of students, encouraging them to choose a personal relationship with Jesus, serving Him in this world until He comes again. These features, infused through the schools' policies, procedures and practices provide the unique character of Adventist Education, based on the fundamental beliefs and values of the Seventh-day Adventist church.



Edinburgh College is growing, developing better educational practices and connecting with our local community.

Mr. Tim Borgas

Principal

Character through nurture, learning and service



## Section Two – Professional Engagement

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### Staff Attendance



Our Edinburgh College teaching staff continued to demonstrate a strong commitment to their profession during 2019 with an average attendance for the year of 93.1%.

### Staff Retention

In 2019 there were 41 teachers at Edinburgh College. During 2018/19 year-end, five full-time and/or part-time teachers either retired and/or transferred to another location. This represents a retention rate of 88%.

### Teacher Professional Development

The professional development program for 2019 commenced with a full 2-day system-wide meeting conducted by Adventist Schools Victoria. The focus for this annual conference was 'Breathe', where speakers and dynamic workshops enhanced our understanding in the following areas:

- Wellbeing for students and teachers
- Spiritual development for staff
- Encounter (Bible Program)
- Implementing whole school Wellbeing program for students and staff



During 2019 teacher professional development emphasised whole-school programs, focusing on learning and teaching and well-being of staff. All teachers maintained their First Aid – Level 2 credentials and Resuscitation upgrades, Anaphylaxis and Asthma training. Student free days were utilised for training in Behavioural Management, as well as aspects of student wellbeing as it applies to student nurture. Staff also attended specialised professional development programs targeted at their teaching fields offered by the local branch of the relevant subject association. We continued

implementation of the Positive Behaviour for Learning (PB4L) program across the campus, achieving Fidelity Tier #3 in August this year.

### Teacher Qualifications

Edinburgh College teachers are well qualified and are teaching in their specific fields of expertise. The average teaching experience is 11.4 years. All current teachers have a minimum qualification of at least one Bachelor's Degree in Education. Eight teachers have Masters either in Education or Leadership and five teachers have Bachelor's Degrees in Education with Honours. Their experience, coupled with small class sizes afford Edinburgh College students every opportunity to succeed.





## Section Three – Student Progress and Achievements

### Edinburgh College Program



Edinburgh College operates an open enrolment policy and is therefore, a non-selective entry school. The College provides a varied academic program for its students, and outstanding access to Information Technology resources via the 1:1 laptop (Chromebook) or iPad program and has campus-wide wireless internet access.

Our curriculum is based on the Australian Curriculum and VCE requirements, which includes:

- Early Years Jolly Phonics (ELC and Primary)
- Learning Discoveries program (Primary)
- Gifted and Talented program (Primary)
- Spelling Mastery (Primary)
- Extensive use of Technology
- Music, Drama, the Arts, Physical Education and LOTE (Mandarin F-8)
- The Challenge Program (Secondary)
- Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme (Secondary)
- Sporting Program with Accredited coaches
- Horticulture and Service programs
- New Basketball Academy





## Buddy Programs (ELC, Primary and Secondary)



Our three 'House' groups (Yarra, Gilson, Melba) include all students and staff from Prep – Year 12. Years 4 - 6 students participated in many of the in-house activities with our Years 7 - 12 students, which is a rich enhancement of our whole campus buddy system. Vertical homerooms operate each Wednesday for Year 7 - 12 students – with huge success.

Fostering student leadership across the campus continued throughout 2019. 'The Challenge' program was implemented for Year 9 students, a personal development program that looks at the overall wellbeing of students and teaches them skills for life.

Year 10 expands the options with the introduction of Commerce and Sport and Recreation, as well as an early VCE option of Religion and Society. Vocational Education and Training in Schools (VETiS) offers students a number of options for commencing vocational education.



VCE subjects include Art, Religion and Society, English, Health and Human Development, Accounting, Business Management, General Mathematics, Mathematical Methods, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Product and Design, Psychology, Sports & Recreation and Legal Studies. Students wanting to take other VCE subjects often do so through distance education.

### Annual Band Tour

In 2019, the College Band toured Tasmania for 10 days, performing to primary schools and aged-care facilities.

The Science Enrichment program for surrounding primary schools saw over 750 Year 4-6 students visit the campus for a free one-hour science program, consisting of 8-10 rotating workshops led by Years 7-12 Edinburgh College students.

Students and families were once again invited to volunteer their time to support Road to Bethlehem – an interactive outdoor nativity experience, which sees over 13,000 people visiting the campus each year in December.

### Student Attendance

Student attendance remained at a pleasing level throughout the academic year with an average attendance rate of 93.7%.

### 2019 NAPLAN Results

Below can be found the proportions of Year 3, 5, 7 & 9 students meeting national reading, writing, spelling and numeracy benchmarks. The National Assessment Program scale student outcomes on a ten-band continuum.

For **Year 3**, the minimum standard is **Band 1**.

For **Year 5**, the minimum standard is **Band 3**.

For **Year 7**, the minimum standard is **Band 5**.

For **Year 9**, the minimum standard is **Band 7**.





### **Year 3 NAPLAN Results**

Percentage of students at or above the Year 3 National Minimum Standard in:

Reading:	100%
Writing:	100%
Spelling:	100%
Grammar & Punctuation:	100%
Numeracy:	100%

### **Year 5 NAPLAN Results**

Percentage of students at or above the Year 5 National Minimum Standard in:

Reading:	100%
Writing:	100%
Spelling:	100%
Grammar & Punctuation:	100%
Numeracy:	100%

### **Year 7 NAPLAN Results**

Percentage of students at or above the Year 7 National Minimum Standard in:

Reading:	95.35%
Writing:	93.02%
Spelling:	95.35%
Grammar & Punctuation:	93.02%
Numeracy:	100%

### **Year 9 NAPLAN Results**

Percentage of students at or above the Year 9 National Minimum Standard in:

Reading:	100%
Writing:	88.46%
Spelling:	88.46%
Grammar & Punctuation:	100%
Numeracy:	100%

## Senior Secondary Outcomes

Edinburgh College seeks to attract families wanting a Christian, values-based education and all students are welcome to participate in the VCE program. In 2019 a total of 11 Year 12 students completed the VCE. The top ATAR score for 2019 was 94.95. This year Edinburgh College had 11.8% of study scores being above 40. Once again, the students at Edinburgh College achieved at median score over 30, resulting in Edinburgh College being ranking in the top 25% of Victorian Schools.





## Student Recognition



Recognition of Prep to 12 students' academic success and leadership potential is evident from Presentation Night awards including Values-based Awards, Academic and Citizen Awards, Australian Defence Force, Duke of Edinburgh, Kwong Lee Dow Scholarship (University of Melbourne), Caltex All Rounder and recognition of a wide range of sporting achievements.

## Pastoral Care

College students are provided with excellent academic, co-curricular and pastoral care programs to develop young people of character.

The Student Wellbeing Coordinator, Classroom teachers, Roll Marking teachers and Chaplains, coordinate the Pastoral Care programs. The program includes: social coaching and resiliency workshops such as the Buddy Programs (4-year old and Year 5; Prep and Year 6; Years 5/6 and Year 11; Year 7 and Year 11 Peer Support program); outdoor classes, Bush Kinder, class camps; leadership workshops including attending La Trobe's Next Generation Youth Forum. Chaplains conduct Weeks of Spiritual Emphasis.

The service program of the College is popular with students, from 4-Year-old kindergarten through to Year 12 undertaking a number of service activities. These service activities throughout college life culminate in the Year 11 service trip to Vanuatu to assist with a community building program.

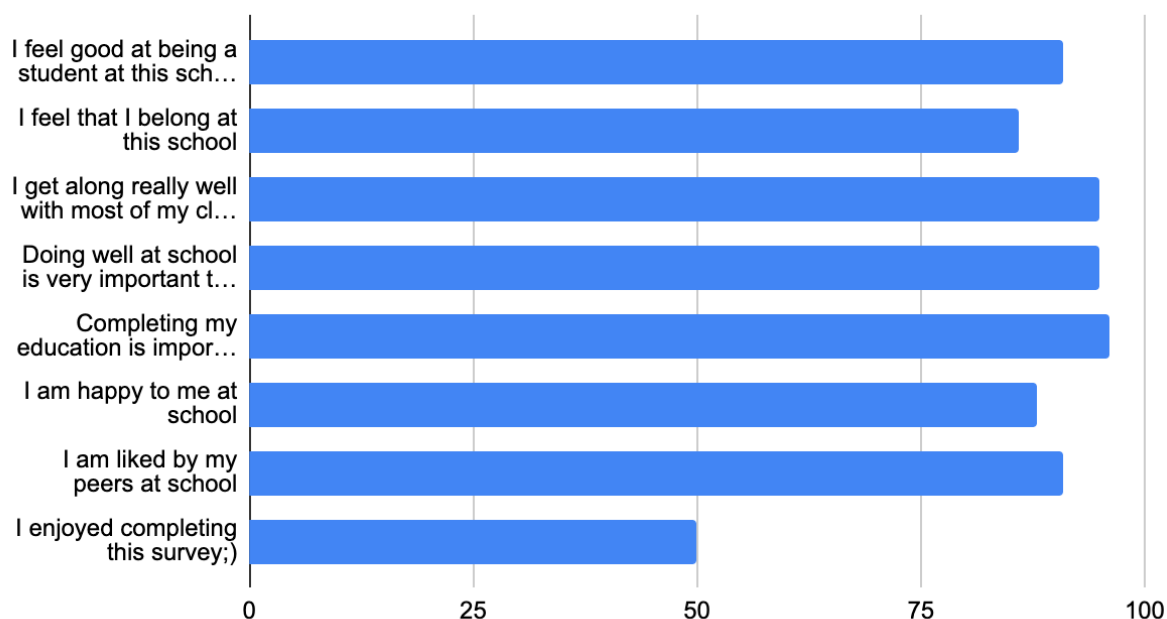


## Section Four – Community Feedback

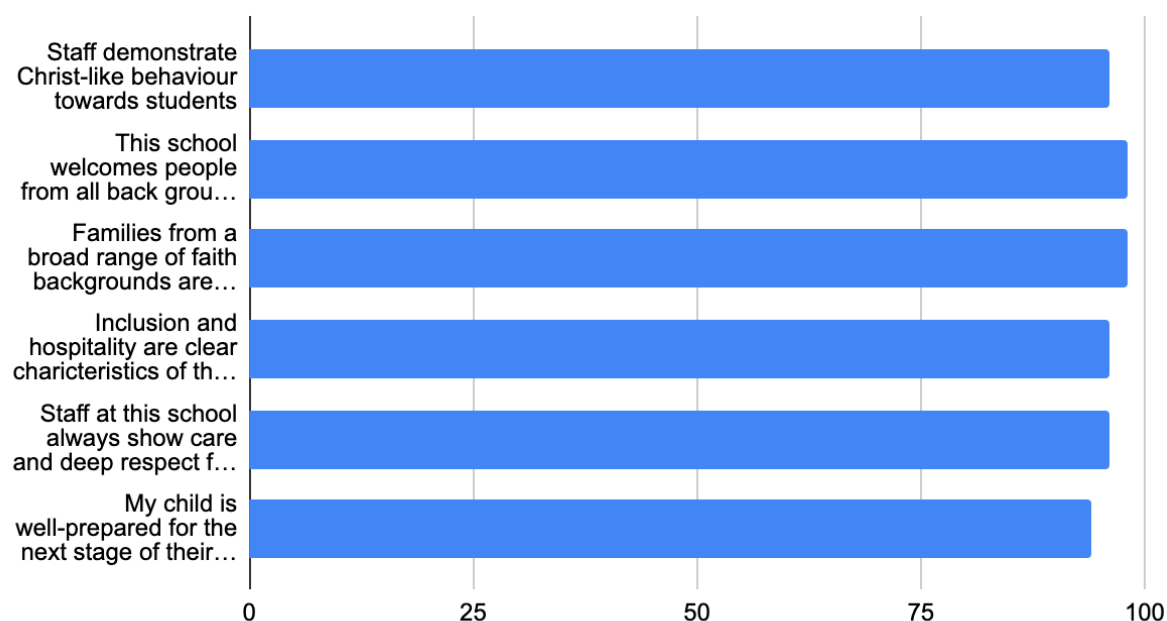
Edinburgh College seeks feedback from our community in order to improve learning and teaching as well as administrative management processes. Insight SRC, a marketing company specialising in school development, is the desired platform for our biannual surveys.

### Satisfaction Surveys: Summary of Responses 2019

#### Student Survey



#### Parent Survey

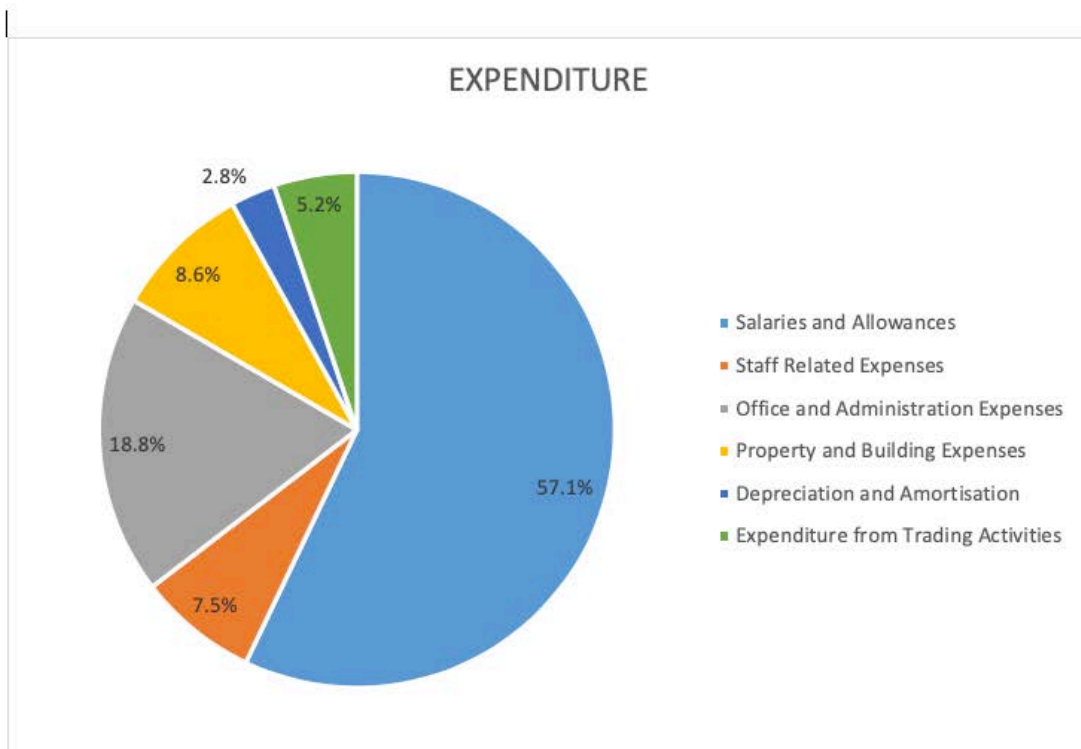
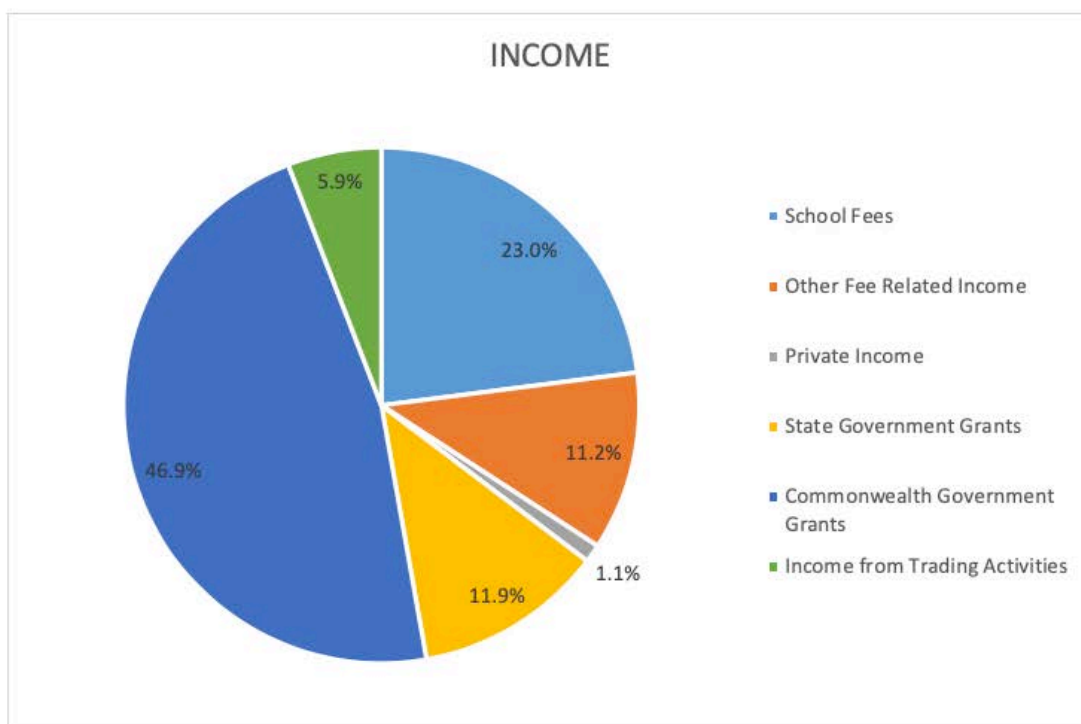




## Section Five – Financial

Financial activity at Edinburgh College during 2019 is summarised in the following graphic representations:

### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE



## Section Six – In Him We Live!

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Our mission is to develop children of *character in a faith-nurturing environment that promotes academic excellence and a commitment to service.*



# In Him We Live!