

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 instill the core values of our college, demonstrating what it means to be Respectful, Responsible, Resilient and to have a Willingness 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 practise 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 centered 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 everyday 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 Melanie Jacobson



Introducing our Prep Teachers



Our Prep team is a dedicated and passionate team always striving for the student's enjoyment and success at school across all areas including spiritually, socially, emotionally and academically. Both Laura and Rebecca are qualified Early Childhood Teachers and 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."

- Miss Rebecca Brown



"I am so blessed to be a Prep teacher. Every day is a new adventure filled with exciting new learning. I can't wait for your child to begin this adventure and to do it by their side, fostering their love of learning and celebrating all of the success that they will encounter."

- Mrs Laura Conway



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;

Respect, Responsibility, 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 that can be enjoyed in class reading, independent reading and even home reading for the Primary and Secondary students. In the Early Learning Centre, children are invited to borrow books to take back and read at kinder. At times, our ELC and Preps will enjoy this space together reading books growing our love of learning, growing and community all together.

Multi-purpose hall (MPC)

Our Primary and ELC departments make use of the large and equipped multi-purpose hall to un sports and body development activities such as the Perceptual Motor Program (PMP) to allow children to have fun while implicitly improving their bodies fine and gross motor skills, team work and working memory.

Bush kinder

Our school is located on beautiful land that even sees visits and homes some wildlife such as kangaroos and many birds. This offers great space for investigation and enjoyment. The students of the ELC partake in a bush kinder program that see them learning in and of our natural world in these outdoor spaces. As part of our buddies program, these spaces are shared for toasting marshmallows, toasting bread and fantastic real world learning together.

Playground

Our school boasts a well-equipped and enjoyable playground under the shade of huge pine trees creating the perfect play area. Children from ELC, Prep and the rest of the Primary classes often enjoy this space together practicing safe play, group play 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. Edinburgh College Secondary continues Chapel though they complete this at a time more keeping with their timetable.

Buddies

In term 2 and 3, Prep and the ELC Kindergarten rooms meet weekly for buddies. Buddies is a great way for us to support our little minds take on new roles as teachers and school learners. 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. Through buddies, ELC students come to school already having friends and already knowing their teachers and have a basic idea of their way around. 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 be prepared as they learn and move between spaces and 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 the Jolly Phonics literacy program and include and embed elements of Cued Articulation to support speech development and other fun stories and tricks to support students consolidate their learning. By working together on a carefully planned continuum, the literacy expectations for students each year is more achievable and more attainable.

Mathematics Program

Similarly to our Literacy Program, Mathematics is taught as a continuum that supports students 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. We make it our goal to make Maths across the early years a colourful and engaging learning space where children come to appreciate the incredibly important and useful language that Mathematics is.



STEAM

Edinburgh College is committed to providing a holistic education that caters for all students 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. Together with the ELC, the Prep students engage in STEM incursions including Science and through buddies they engage Mathematics and Arts. The ELC is also included includes Digital Technologies at the most introductory level for the following Foundation to Year 2 curriculum to build on.



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 students bodies for learning regulating their bodies and emotions. Both the ELC and the early primary years include PMP into 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 onto 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 you think is necessary. Space is allowed for this on the report as we honour that we are all partners in this journey.

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 and meet and greet their teachers for comfort and becoming 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 the 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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