

# DISCOVER OUR ST BRENDAN'S COLLEGE FAMILY

St Brendan's College has been a leader in boys' education in Central Queensland since its establishment in 1940. We are a day and boarding school for boys from Years 7 to 12, located on a beautiful 300-acre campus only minutes to the beaches of Yeppoon.

Our emphasis is on the development of the whole person, and, in particular, the need to grow boys into respectful, confident and successful young men of faith. We provide diverse academic and extra-curricular programs, giving boys significant opportunities and pathways for their personal growth and development.

We have a strong academic program which offers multiple pathways for students to pursue tertiary education in a field of their choosing or move into trade-based qualifications. Our dedicated and committed teaching staff work with our students in quality facilities, including a significant and renowned vocational education and training (VET) facility, a state-of-the art music and performing arts centre, as well as a modern multi-purpose hall and classrooms.

The College is recognised nationally for its sporting prowess, and has abundant extracurricular opportunities, including music, cultural and technology programs that are second to none in Central Queensland. We have a strong boarding history and are proud to have been a 'home away from home' for thousands of St Brendan's College men. The boarding residences provide a wonderful living environment for boarders, nestled amongst beautiful gardens, abundant sporting fields and adjacent to the first-class academic facilities of the College.

Our College community strives for excellence and has a reputation for producing friendly, hard-working and down-to-earth young men. Enrolments are drawn from the Capricorn Coast, from rural and regional Queensland and from as far north as the Torres Strait. With this diversity of students, strong cultural and social interactions are assured and friendships are often maintained for life.

"MORE THAN AN EDUCATION, WE ARE PROUD THAT YOUNG MEN LEAVE OUR COLLEGE WITH A BROTHERHOOD AND BELONGING FOR LIFE."

We are a diverse, vibrant and welcoming community founded on the values of the Gospel. St Brendan's College is confident that in providing a well-rounded education in partnership with parents and families, our young men will enter the world with the knowledge, confidence, values and skills to make a difference.



















### OUR MISSION & CHARTER

St Brendan's College operates under the auspices of Edmund Rice Education Australia (EREA), the body of schools offering a Catholic education in the tradition of Blessed Edmund Rice. Blessed Edmund Ignatius Rice was a Roman Catholic missionary and educationalist born in Ireland in 1789. Edmund was the founder of two religious institutes of religious brothers: the Congregation of Christian Brothers and the Presentation Brothers.

Established by the Christian Brothers in 2007, EREA now has full responsibility for the schools operated by the Brothers at that time. There are more than 50 schools with more than 35,000 students through all states and territories of Australia now operating under the EREA. As part of their mission within the Church and shaped by the charism of Blessed Edmund Rice, schools offer an education guided by the Charter for Catholic Schools in the Edmund Rice Tradition.

EREA schools aspire to be faithful to the four Charter touchstones: Liberating Education, Gospel Spirituality, Inclusive Community; Justice and Solidarity.

The College is one of the most affordable boarding schools in Queensland, and, in the spirit of Edmund Rice, is proud to support families in financial need to ensure they have the choice of a St Brendan's College education for their son. Please ask us about our Edmund Rice Bursaries, which are available as means-tested assistance to both day and boarding families.



#### **OUR MISSION**

Faithful to the Gospel and inspired by the life of Edmund Rice, the community of St Brendan's College strives to bring Jesus' vision of a world of justice, compassion and peace to reality.

We seek to fulfil our mission through providing an authentic education that liberates the minds and hearts of all in our community.

We endeavour to be outward looking and engage in partnerships with others beyond our community to advance our learning, transformation and growth.

We open our hearts to the poor and those at the margins and desire to bring hope and change to our world through prayer, formation and action.

We value and support the gifts of each member of our family and celebrate our diversity as a source of strength and a sign of hope.



St Brendan's College works on the core principle that educating boys is simply a different practice to educating girls.

Physiological variations in brain structure, differing rates of language and memory development, changes in hormone types and levels, development of social reasoning and anger management are all factors considered in best practice teaching for both sexes. However, a boy's educational experiences can be significantly enhanced when teachers understand and specifically address these variations.

The College is proud of the fact that its Pedagogical Framework (A.S.P.I.R.E) is designed on research from noted boys' educators and that our teachers use and are mentored in techniques from this framework to suit an all boy environment. We believe that as a community we challenge gender stereotypes and broaden the educational aspirations of our boys.

Our behaviour management processes are based on respect for self and others. Bullying is not tolerated and any incidences are resolved through a restorative justice meeting with the College counsellor, students and families. Teachers follow a set of agreed standards to ensure a calm and harmonious environment and when dealing with conflict, facilitate graduated actions. Knowing that boys need to own their actions before any changes will occur, we also operate a Responsible Thinking Centre. It is here, that the boys articulate their behaviours and create goals for improvement.







The St Brendan's College academic program is designed to meet the learning needs of students as they progress through secondary school, from Middle School (Years 7 - 9) to Senior School (Years 10-12). We understand there are many pathways to a successful future for young men, and we encourage our students to strive and excel to be the best they can be.

In Middle School, the College runs a system of Journey Groups for English, Mathematics, Science and Humanities classes. Journey Groups are classroom structures where students of similar ability are grouped together. These groups allow the teacher to plan and present classroom activities and learning strategies suitable to the student's understanding and needs. Journey Groups are not a rigid system and students are encouraged to move between groups if their learning and knowledge improves over various semesters.

In Senior, in addition to an extensive academic offering we provide a significant Vocational Education and Training (VET) Program to support the skills, learning and development of our students. The College has the largest Manual Arts and Trade Training Centre of any school in Central Queensland, with a dedicated automotive facility and significant first-class equipment across automotive, engineering, furniture making and construction. On its 300 acres, the College also boasts a dedicated Agricultural Centre, rodeo arena and yards, an onsite Chapel Cafe and fully equipped gym; all used to complement our academic program. From Physics, Legal Studies and Agricultural Science to Art, Music Theory and Performance and Certificates in Construction, Automotive or Tourism, our students have the opportunity to choose from a diverse range of subjects.













Our Pastoral Care Program is designed to care for the welfare and personal development of each student while regular faith and formation provides students with a strong foundation in their lives.

Opportunities for reflection and prayer liturgy are embedded throughout the year. This provides students with the opportunity to explore faith and spirituality individually, as a class group, a year level and as a whole school. As part of this, each weekend the Boarding school celebrates the Eucharist either at the College Chapel or the Sacred Heart Parish Church.

On arrival at the College each student is welcomed into a Pastoral Care group for the duration of his schooling. This helps to nurture a sense of belonging and also enables the student to develop a support network made up of young men from his Year Level, his Pastoral Carer and his Year Level Coordinator. The program is supported by an on-site, full-time Counsellor. By working collaboratively, we aim to provide a family environment where each young man can grow in faith and personal understanding.

Special leadership and outdoor education programs offered to each Year Level support each student's growth and development. These experiences provide opportunities for students to experience their personal and religious development in a challenging and supportive context. This is an important aspect of our approach in helping students to explore and develop their own beliefs, ethics and personal value system. The opportunities presented on camp provide learning experiences which cannot be replicated in the classroom and help the boys develop into young men.

Through our Pastoral Care program, all in our College community are challenged to discover and develop their talents and leadership abilities. Values such as compassion, care, inclusion and a strong sense of community underpin all that we do. Consequently, school rules are based on the principles of respect and restorative justice.









## ABUNDANT OPPORTUNITIES

St Brendan's College provides a wide variety of extra-curricular opportunities for students, to suit a diverse range of student interests and ability levels. Participating in sport, music and outside school activities is proven to help shape self-esteem, build confidence and motivates boys to achieve their future goals. We strongly believe these opportunities are not only where social skills are enhanced but goal setting, team-work, time management and leadership skills are developed and utilised as life-long characteristics.

#### **SPORT**

The College boasts a tradition of sporting excellence supported by excellent facilities. In the Multi-Purpose Hall students can enjoy sports such as basketball and volleyball or spend time in the fully-equipped weights room and gymnasium. The College also has expansive sporting fields, a 25-metre swimming pool, four tennis courts, a rodeo arena, cricket nets and turf pitches and a challenging 6-kilometre cross country track, all on our sprawling campus.

St Brendan's College participates in Athletics, AFL, Basketball, Cricket, Cross Country, Rodeo, Rugby League, Rugby Union, Shooting, Soccer, Swimming, Tennis, Touch Football and Water Polo. While the College has had significant success with its rugby league program and continues its high standards of excellence, the development of a wide range of extra-curricular opportunities to suit the diversity of student interests is a priority. Our dedicated staff support our students in their extra-curricular pursuits by coaching and managing teams, attending trials and training.

The College Rodeo Club, Cattle Club and Shooting Club allow students with an affinity for agricultural pursuits to continue or extend their interest; and gives all students the opportunity to engage in these unique activities. The College holds an annual College Rodeo onsite, strongly supported by the community, and students have the opportunity to participate in weekly practices and rides at The Great Western Hotel.

#### **MUSIC**

The Music Program and facilities at St Brendan's College are undoubtedly the most inclusive, modern and state-of-the-art in Central Queensland. The College is proud of the fact that more than 50 per cent of the student population is involved in some form of music instruction at the College. At St Brendan's College, music is for everyone; there is no knowledge required when our students start so the opportunity is for every student to participate, enjoy and excel at music. Students can be involved in private music tuition, join a large number of College bands and ensembles or be involved in the music program embedded in the academic curriculum.

#### **CULTURAL & PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT**

There are numerous other opportunities including Debating and Public Speaking, Chess Club, Robotics Club, Technical Production Crew, Indigenous Dance Groups, 3D Printing Club and Eddies Eco Warriors.

St Brendan's is proud to offer abundant opportunities to suit the differing interests of our students. The College celebrates its diversity as a source of strength and as the basis of a well-balanced education.







### **A BOARDING FAMILY**

**St Brendan's College Boarding gives boys the space** For medical treatments there is a Health Centre to grow and develop from boys to young men. Our sprawling campus is located beside grassed paddocks — mornings and Sunday afternoons. Doctors are in where cattle graze and at the foot of Mt Barmoya; mirroring the space of home for many boys. Our dedicated boarding staff strive to provide a 'home away from home' for our boarding students.

We operate four modern boarding residences located on the southern side of the campus – Edmund Rice, Fitzpatrick, McKennariey and Wallace. All Residences have wireless internet access, air-conditioned common rooms with kitchenettes, BBQ areas for dorm nights and get-togethers, study areas in bedrooms, as well as designated group study spaces. For our senior students our Study Hub runs every week night in the College library, giving students a more formal opportunity for study and support from dedicated academic staff.

The boys enjoy most of their meals in the Waterford Dining complex, a modern and appealing facility, offering a variety of nutritious and tasty meals on a rotating menu designed by a nutritionist. Afternoon tea and supper are also provided during the week in the Residences. There is an onsite laundry for the washing and mending of clothes in addition to small washing machines and dryers located in the Residences.

staffed by nurses Monday to Friday, Saturday attendance three mornings per week.

Our dedicated and qualified staff provide a safe and structured environment and support the boys through any academic or personal issues that may arise. The daily routine for each Residence is guided by Heads of Residence and House Parents, with the overarching support of our Head of Boarding. We encourage open and regular communication between parents and boarding staff, so parents can be assured their son is safe, happy and well cared for.

Our boarding students are encouraged to participate in the wide variety of extra-curricular opportunities available at the College. They can also take part in fixtures with local sporting clubs, travel downtown and visit Yeppoon shops and beaches, participate in organised boarding day trips to local destinations, attend Rodeo practice weekly or catch the bus on regular, organised shopping trips to Rockhampton. If that's not enough, there are always boys ready for a game of touch footy, basketball, ping pong or chess.





## A GIVING COMMUNITY

St Brendan's provides many opportunities for students to be involved in community service programs. Particularly for our senior students the Eddies Van program is the cornerstone of the service aspect of the College. Every Thursday afternoon students and staff volunteer at St Vincent de Paul to provide a meal and companionship to the less fortunate in the community. This gives the students an opportunity to develop a practical understanding of what justice is, and what it means to walk in the footsteps of Edmund Rice.

The annual Year 11 Community Service Program, established more than 25 years ago, gives students the opportunity to interact with elderly people in aged care facilities in Yeppoon and Rockhampton. Throughout the three day program the boys visit residents, sit and talk with them, play games and accompany them on their walks. The students conclude the program by inviting residents to the College for a luncheon and entertainment. The boys benefit by observing the compassionate and selfless work of the staff and gain an understanding of the importance of friendships and the importance of keeping connected with the elderly in our community.

For the younger students, the cultural immersion program is a student exchange program with two EREA Colleges in Victoria, allowing boys to have a cultural experience within the school context. In addition, there are many other service opportunities available for students such as clean up events, Relay for Life, our annual Walk Against Domestic Violence, Shave for a Cure, community door knock appeals and fundraising.

These community service programs provide the boys with opportunities to further explore their character, faith and action, and to encourage development of young men with strong minds and gentle hearts.





