



18 October 2022

PARENT CONSULTATION MEETINGS

Dear Parents and Carers

The College Senior Leadership Team and St Edward's teaching staff maintain a strong commitment to ongoing school improvement to ensure we provide the best possible educational experiences for the students in our care. Each year, we strategically set goals for specific areas of improvement and evaluate progress through a range of feedback processes. Some of the major themes for these strategic goals over the past few years have centred on the implementation of a high-quality professional learning model for teachers which focuses on collaborative planning, team teaching, quality assessment and student feedback and the evaluation and development of our approach to Pastoral Care and Student Well-Being.

We regularly create opportunities for staff and students to provide feedback on how we are progressing and at times have invited parents to complete surveys on various initiatives that have been introduced. The purpose of this correspondence is to launch a further opportunity for parents and carers to have input into the operations of the College. We are committed to maintaining a strong relationship with our families and truly value parent and carer input into our ongoing school improvement agenda. It is therefore my intention to establish voluntary Parent Consultation Meetings which will be held once per term. I am aware that family life can be quite busy so these meetings will be offered in two sessions, one daytime and one evening session, on the topics for the term. Parents will be sent an invitation via a survey link in the lead up to the meetings to register their attendance, with an outline of the topics for discussion. These meetings are not designed for parents to raise individual concerns regarding their son, and parents are encouraged to follow the normal channels of communication to inform appropriate staff of any concerns that arise.

The first Parent Consultation Meeting will be held on Wednesday November 9. The morning session will be held at 9.00am with the evening session commencing at 7.00pm. The venue for the meeting will be determined by the number of parents who register to attend. The topics to be covered at the meeting this term are related to Student Safety and Student Learning.

Topic 1: Student Safety:

The College is committed to ensuring that all students feel safe and cared for while at school, and research strongly indicates the link between student well-being and learning. We have implemented strategies in alignment with the [EREA Child Safeguarding Standards](#) and throughout this year have improved policies, procedures and introduced a range of initiatives to promote student well-being. We would like to provide parents an overview of the [EREA Child Safeguarding Standards](#) and an opportunity to provide feedback on one key area, our Bullying Policy. In a large community like St Edward's, it is critical that we remain proactive in our approach to student well-being. In particular with the rise in Cyber Bullying, we have worked with our students



through various areas of the curriculum, at Pastoral Meetings and workshops, to assist them in developing a deeper understanding of the impact of bullying on well-being. We have implemented a consultation process with staff and students to gain feedback this term and believe that it is also important that we ask parents for feedback as well.

I will lead the facilitation of this session and will be accompanied by Mrs Josephine Emmett, Leader of Risk and Compliance and Ms Jodie Connor, Deputy Principal.

Topic 2: Student Learning Profiles

We continue to challenge our students to take responsibility for their learning and work with them on establishing learning goals on areas for improvement. In 2010, the College established the Code for Learning which provided explicit guidelines in relation to application and effort associated with student learning. We have continued to monitor student performance according to the descriptors in the Code for Learning and have provided feedback to parents and students on these descriptors within the School Reporting process each term. We have been extremely pleased with how the boys have responded to this challenge and where the Code for Learning has provided students with great guidance for many years, we believe it is time that the guidelines are updated. A team of teachers, led by the Senior Leadership Team, have developed a more current Learning Profile that better reflects the contemporary learning skills and values required for students to succeed today. We have commenced the consultation process with staff and students and we would like to receive feedback from parents on the new Learning Profile.

Parents who would like to attend this first Parent Consultation Meeting are invited to complete the registration form available at the following link: [Parent Consultation Meeting Registration Form](#). Parents who are unable to attend this meeting but wish to offer suggestions on future topics that they would like discussed in 2023 are encouraged to also complete this form.

It is anticipated that these meetings will provide us with excellent feedback to inform our practice and I encourage all parents to consider attending. Please contact me at principal@stedwards.nsw.edu.au if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely

Mark Bonnici
College Principal