

Saints College

2025 Annual Report to the School Community



385 Queensberry Street
North Melbourne VIC 3051

Executive Principal: Michael Crowe

www.saintscollege.vic.edu.au

Registration: 2079 **E Number:** E1398



Saints College
A school for every journey



Blended

Principal's Attestation

I, Michael Crowe, Executive Principal and Acting Director of Victorian Special Assistance Schools attest that Saints College is compliant with:

The minimum standards and other requirements for school registration, and where applicable, school boarding premises, as prescribed under the Education and Training Reform Act 2006 (Vic) and the Education and Training Reform Regulations 2017 (Vic), including all applicable Ministerial Orders and Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority (VRQA) guidelines.

The Australian Government accountability requirements applicable to the 2025 reporting year, in accordance with the Australian Education Act 2013 (Cth) and the Australian Education Regulations 2023 (Cth); and

The Child Safe Standards, as prescribed in Ministerial Order No. 1359 – Implementing the Child Safe Standards and Managing the Risk of Child Abuse in Schools and School Boarding Premises, including ongoing obligations relating to child safety governance, culture, policies, and practices.

The Principal confirms that systems, policies, and practices are in place to monitor compliance with these legislative and regulatory requirements and that any areas of non-compliance are identified, managed, and addressed in accordance with applicable regulatory guidance.

Attested on 25 March 2026

About this report

Saints College, formerly St Joseph's Flexible Learning Centre, is registered by the Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority (VRQA).

The Annual Report to the School Community contains information about the school's activities and achievements throughout the year, including information about various aspects of school performance.

The Report is supplementary to other forms of regular communication to the school community regarding initiatives, activities and programs which support the learning and wellbeing of its students.

Further information about the contents of this Report may be obtained by contacting the school directly or by visiting the Saints College Website. Information can also be obtained from the My School website.

Governing Authority Report

Edmund Rice Education Australia Victorian Schools Limited (EREA VSL) is the proprietor of six Victorian schools, currently serving over 8800 young people across eighteen sites. 2025 has been a year of transformation and growth across each of our school communities. Our shared commitment has been to ensure that the charism of Blessed Edmund Rice is not merely spoken of, but visibly felt in the daily rhythms, relationships, and actions of every school community.

In 2025, we led the development of a values-led roadmap to strengthen our collective action in faithfulness and transformation. Inspired by our touchstones: Liberating Education; Gospel Spirituality; Inclusive Community; and Justice and Solidarity, we have collaborated across our network to shape our vision for 2030. This strategy – developed through deep engagement with leaders, staff, students, and communities across our network – charts a clear course for the next chapter of Edmund Rice education in Victoria. It is organised around three interdependent pillars: Living the Charter through Practice; Aligning Local Identity and Network Strategy; and Stewarding Leadership at Every Level.

We have begun embedding Charter-aligned practices more intentionally across classrooms, leadership, and operations, creating shared language and tools so that justice, Gospel spirituality, and care for the whole person shape what we do, not just what we say. Central to this work is honouring our responsibility to walk with First Nations communities in truth-telling, mutual respect, and healing.

By celebrating the distinctive identity and community connection of each school, we strengthen the coherence and collaboration that allow us to act as a values-aligned network. We continue to support inclusive, locally responsive educational models while investing in shared approaches and improvement strategies that serve every student.

A central priority for EREA VSL is the provision of high-quality education within a safe, supportive and well-governed environment. Robust governance frameworks and effective leadership structures continue to promote student safety, wellbeing, engagement and learning. EREA VSL remains diligent in meeting all relevant legislative, regulatory and policy obligations, particularly those relating to child safety, wellbeing and sound financial management.

Our communities of practice support our leaders across schools to learn with and from one another. I acknowledge with gratitude the dedication and professionalism of our Principals, Leadership Teams, and School Advisory Councils and the ongoing support of our families and the wider community.

Educating young people is a co-responsible task – one shared by every member of each school community. As we look toward 2030, we do so with clear purpose, deep faith, and confidence in the people who bring this strategy to life each day.

Yours sincerely,

Jacqueline Wilton
Acting Chief Executive Officer
EREA Victorian Schools Ltd, Catholic Schools in the Edmund Rice Tradition

Vision and Mission

Vision

Empowering young people to flourish through holistic education within a grounded, innovative and relationship-based learning community.

Mission

Guided by the Edmund Rice tradition, Saints College offers an inclusive and liberating education that places young people at the centre. Through relationships grounded in respect, justice and hope, we support every young person to thrive in learning and life.

*"Be assured that where there is no respect for the person, there is no education."
– Attributed to Edmund Rice*

College Overview

Saints College is a co-educational Catholic Special Assistance Secondary School operating across the Archdiocese of Melbourne and the Diocese of Ballarat. The College operates within the policy and compliance frameworks of the relevant diocesan authorities, the Victorian Catholic Education Authority (VCEA), the Department of Education and Training (DET), and Edmund Rice Education Australia Victorian Schools Limited (EREA VSL).

The College operates from a principles-led foundation grounded in Catholic Social Teaching, the Common Ground Framework and an Operating by Principles (OBP) approach. Operating by Principles shapes how Saints College functions at every level. This approach is underpinned by the principles of human dignity, rights and responsibilities, the common good, subsidiarity, participation and solidarity. These principles guide how decisions are made, how relationships are formed and how learning environments are structured across the College.

In practice, this means prioritising strong, respectful relationships; recognising student voice and agency; and creating learning environments that are safe, predictable and responsive to individual needs. Behaviour support, curriculum design and daily interactions are informed by shared expectations, clarity of purpose and a commitment to restorative and relational practice.

Throughout 2025, Saints College continued to respond to the complex and diverse needs of young people. Many of which have experienced disrupted education, trauma or disengagement, requiring flexible learning structures and consistent support from trusted adults. Education is delivered through a range of models, including campus-based programs and the BlendED virtual learning platform, supported by multidisciplinary teams working in partnership with families and external agencies including in person supports.

As part of the EREA Victorian Schools Ltd network, the College remains committed to quality practice, accountability and sustainable growth, ensuring more young people can access an education that meets their needs.

Principal's Report

2025 has been a year of consolidation and growth for Saints College, guided by our 2030 Strategy and underpinned by strong relationships, shared leadership and a continued commitment to supporting young people to re-engage in education.

Following the transition from St Joseph's, the College has strengthened its identity as a Special Assistance School, grounded in inclusion, student voice and meaningful pathways. This aligns with our strategic focus on ensuring every young person is known, valued and supported to engage in learning in ways that meet their individual needs.

Demand has continued to grow across both campus-based learning and the BlendED program, reflecting the increasing need for flexible, responsive models of education. This growth reinforces the importance of delivering accessible pathways and innovative approaches that enable young people to reconnect with education and future opportunities.

A consistent focus throughout the year has been the quality of relationships and learning environments across the College. Through the intentional work of staff, young people are supported to experience success, build confidence and develop pathways beyond school – key priorities within our 2030 vision.

Significant milestones in 2025 included the opening of and the development of new campuses in Sunshine, Fitzroy North and Bungaree. This work reflects our commitment to expanding access while maintaining the integrity and consistency of the Saints College model across all settings.

I thank our young people, families, staff and partners for their ongoing trust and contribution. Together, we continue to realise our shared vision of a community where every young person can experience connection, purpose and hope.

Michael Crowe



Catholic Identity and Mission

The Charter for Catholic Schools in the Edmund Rice Tradition continues to guide the mission and identity of Saints College. It shapes how the College responds to the needs of young people and supports a culture grounded in dignity, inclusion and hope.

Inspired by the example of Edmund Rice and Gospel values, the College is committed to walking alongside young people, particularly those who have experienced disadvantage or disengagement. This is reflected in the strong relationships, inclusive practices and student-centred approach evident across all campuses. Throughout 2025, this commitment has also included strengthening our work in reconciliation, building respectful relationships with First Nations peoples and embedding culturally responsive practices across the College.

Achievements

Across 2025, Saints College celebrated Founders Day through a combined virtual and in-person gathering, bringing together young people, staff and alumni across all campuses. This event highlighted the unique gifts, talents and contributions of the College community.

Staff continued to deepen their sense of connection, faith and vocation through participation in formation opportunities, including the All Staff Gathering. These opportunities support a shared understanding of the College's mission and strengthen the collective commitment to young people. Across all campuses, the values of dignity, compassion and hope are not only articulated but demonstrated daily through relationships, interactions and learning environments. This relational approach remains central to supporting young people to re-engage in education and experience a sense of belonging and success.

Goals and Intended Outcomes

Guided by the Charter for Catholic Schools in the Edmund Rice Tradition, Saints College seeks to provide an education that is inclusive, responsive and centred on the needs of young people.

Key goals include:

- Strengthening student engagement through flexible and responsive learning models
- Supporting young people to develop confidence, voice and agency
- Expanding pathways into further education, training and employment
- Continuing to grow inclusive environments where all students feel safe, known and valued
- Responding proactively to the needs of young people experiencing disadvantage

These priorities reflect the College's commitment to supporting each young person to achieve meaningful and hope-filled futures.

Saints College continues to foster a culture aligned to the four touchstones of the Edmund Rice tradition:

Liberating Education

Supporting young people to build confidence, develop their voice and access meaningful learning and vocational pathways.

Gospel Spirituality

Encouraging compassion, respect and a sense of responsibility for others and the broader community.

Inclusive Community

Creating environments where every young person experiences belonging, connection and acceptance.

Justice and Solidarity

Advocating for young people experiencing marginalisation and ensuring their voices are heard and valued.

These touchstones are reflected in daily practice across all campuses and underpin the College's approach to education and wellbeing.

Learning and Teaching

Goals and Intended Outcomes Goals

Young people's learning journey will be supported, enriched and captured through consistent meaningful and purposeful teaching and learning strategies.

Achievements

- Through professional learning and the All Staff Gathering, staff collectively analysed student data, identified priorities, and set clear goals for improving teaching and learning across the College.
- This whole-school process led to the development and agreement of a shared approach to practice, resulting in a Inclusive Education Framework (IEF) and consistent Instructional Model (CHEER) to guide how teaching occurs in every classroom.
- To support this shift, the College delivered 46 professional learning workshops at the All Staff Gathering, led by internal and external experts, building staff capability in inclusive practice, differentiation, and effective instruction.
- Alongside this, the College developed Developmental Continuums (Years 7–10) aligned to the Victorian Curriculum 2.0 to strengthen how student learning is tracked, moving from content coverage to clear progression and growth.
- This approach was extended into the Senior School (VCE VM/VPC), where assessment practices were refined in our Senior Handbook to provide more flexible opportunities for young people to demonstrate learning and improve the consistency of progress tracking.

Senior Secondary

- 85% of young people participating in a unit 3 or 4 VCE satisfactorily completed that unit.
- From 2024–2025, VCE unit completion across the school increased by over 20%.
- Young people had the opportunity to participate in over 30 VET programs across the state.



Student Wellbeing

Goals and Achievements

Goal

Young people benefit from holistic wellbeing support structures that empower their voice. All opportunities are intentionally designed to support engagement in learning and enhance pathways toward a successful future.

Significant Events & Milestones

- Inaugural Cross Campus Founders Day Celebration
- Official opening of the Bungaree Campus
- Inter Campus Sporting Carnivals
- Young people contributing to the EREA Young Leaders Gathering
- Overnight camp experiences
- Day outdoor adventure activities
- Campus specific fundraisers



Achievements

- Throughout 2025, Wellbeing Leaders (Child Safety, Managers of Practice and Community, and Program Directors – Wellbeing) met regularly to collaborate and strengthen the structures, systems, and processes that enable safe and positive learning environments.
- At the All Staff Gathering, and across the year through the Saints Knowledge Institute (SKI) there were numerous workshops run to strengthen staff practice. These focused on Operations by Principal, trauma-informed practice, responding to dysregulated young people, and the principles underpinning Radical Inclusion.
- In alignment with Inclusive Education Framework, all staff contributed to identifying the key structures and understandings that underpin Saints College's approach to engaging young people. In 2026, this work will continue to be developed into a living framework to support staff, young people, and the broader community to better understand how we remove barriers to education.
- A significant milestone has been the commencement of the Health and Wellbeing Curriculum across the Saints Campuses. This work focuses on gathering and consolidating on the existing practises to support the structures and systems to ensure these resources can meet our young people where they are at.

Leadership

Goals

Effective organisational, administrative and evaluation systems and processes support staff to do their jobs, young people to learn and flourish, and meet all requirements of the systems in which we work.

Intended Outcomes

1. Our facilities are fit for purpose, attractive, inclusive and compliant.
2. Our diverse funds, budgets and resources are managed ethically and responsibly to ensure the best outcomes for our young people, and to comply with systemic accountabilities.
3. Our staff are supported, developed and managed guided by clear policies and procedures.
4. Our compliance systems and processes at all levels mitigate risk; ensure that data collection and accurate reporting meet the requirements of registration and funding bodies; and are of high quality and timely.
5. Our administrative processes and procedures support staff across the network to do a quality job.
6. Scenarios, models and opportunities for a sustainable future are developed over time and inform the development of flexible education in the Nano Nagle Network.

Staff Composition

Principal Class (Headcount)	8
Teaching Staff (Headcount)	92
Teaching Staff (FTE)	155
Non-Teaching Staff (Headcount)	155
Non-Total Staff	255
Indigenous Teaching Staff (Headcount)	3



Community Engagement

Goals and Intended Outcomes

Goal

Staff and young people participate in a safe and inclusive learning environment that is trauma informed, democratic, relational, and operates through the Four Principles of; Respect, Participation, Honesty, and Safe and Legal to establish Common Ground.

Across 2025, this was further established through the continued support, leadership and guidance of the Child Safeguarding & Managers of Practice and Community.

Intended Outcomes

1. All staff confidently work together and with young people within the Operation by Principles Framework, through Common Ground.
2. Trauma Informed Practice underpins all practice, rhythms and routines.
3. Effective leadership across all levels supported by professional development, coaching and opportunities for directing projects and influencing change.

Community engagement

- Beyond the Gates of Saints
- Cuppa with a cop
- Parent information/ open evenings
- School tours
- Proactive Policing Unit
- Volunteering
- Attendance at ANZAC ceremonies
- Engagement with local sporting and community groups



Financial Performance

The school's financial performance information and a report of the financial activities of the school's boarding premises (if applicable) have been provided to the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) and will be available for the community to access from their website at

www.acnc.gov.au

For more detailed information regarding our school, please visit our website at

saintscollege.vic.edu.au



SAINTS COLLEGE

web: saintscollege.vic.edu.au

BlendED

web: blended.saintscollege.vic.edu.au

North Melbourne

Address: 385 Queensberry Street
North Melbourne, Victoria 3051
Email: northmelbourne@saints.vic.edu.au
Phone: (03) 9269 6900

Geelong

Address: 131 Torquay Road
Grovedale, Victoria 3216
Email: geelong@saints.vic.edu.au
Phone: (03) 5201 8090

Fitzroy North College

Address: 20 York Street
Fitzroy North Vic 3068
Email: fitzroynorth@saints.vic.edu.au
Phone: (03) 9269 6910

Bungaree

Address: 186 Bungaree-Wallace Road
Bungaree, Victoria 3350
Email: bungaree.enrolments@saints.vic.edu.au
Phone: (03) 9269 6985

Colac

Address: 174 Hearn Street
Colac, Victoria 3250
Email: colac@saints.vic.edu.au
Phone: (03) 5297 1810

Ballarat

Address: 9-11 Humffray Street
North Ballarat, Victoria 3350
Email: ballarat@saints.vic.edu.au
Phone: (03) 9269 6980

Sunshine

Address: 80B Harvester Road
Sunshine Vic 3020
Email: sunshine@saints.vic.edu.au
Phone: (03) 9269 6920

BlendED

Address: Level 1, 135 Cardigan Street
Carlton VIC 3053
Email: blended@saints.vic.edu.au
Phone: (03) 9269 6950