

THE AIM INITIATIVE

WE ARE EXCITED TO BE OFFERING YOUR STUDENTS THE OPPORTUNITY TO ENGAGE WITH THE AIM INITIATIVE AT ST EDMUND'S COLLEGE.

THIS EXPERIENCE WILL ALLOW FOR GOALS TO BE ACHIEVED WITHIN THE AREAS OF

ADVOCACY · IMMERSION · MISSION







Advocacy for young people with an intellectual disability is a focus for us here at St Edmund's.

It is important for us to enable opportunities for students in other schools, to participate in programs that broaden their awareness of disability, and enrich their understanding about the many capabilities, gifts and talents our students have.



IMMERSION

Immersion is the best way to bring about awareness.

Our initiative will provide for your students a one day program onsite, that allows for them time to interact with our St Edmund's students in formal and informal settings, learn about disability-specific skills (eg Braille and assistive technologies), participate in Key Word Sign, blind sports and sighted guide technique, and attend timetabled learning sessions in classrooms.



Mission is at the heart of Catholic education, in particular Edmund Rice Education.

We know that Jesus' capacity to love and embrace those who were most disadvantaged, and to respect their dignity as a human being created in the likeness and image of God, is the model by which we live each day. Blessed Edmund Rice is a guiding example for how we must extend respect for the dignity of human beings, in particular those with a disability. This is both integral and central to our call as disciples of Jesus.



We would hope, that through their involvement in our AIM Initiative, your students answer the call to be an active and pastoral citizen who continues to serve the needs of others, as they journey into adulthood.

INVITATION

To ensure the integrity of the AIM Initiative is upheld, we are inviting you to select 24 students to attend. We feel that this experience will enhance any future leaders you might have within your student community, along with those who demonstrate a socially just way to relate and connect with those around them, with compassion and sincerity. This experience is best suited to students who are in Year 10, Year 11 or Year 12.

INFORMATION

The program commences at 9.30am and concludes at 2pm. The cost is \$550 per day. We have available the following dates (Tuesdays) for 2025: **Term 1:** 4/3; 18/3; 1/4 • -**Term 3:** 26/8; 9/9; 23/9 *Other dates may be available on request

BOOKING

Please secure your preferred date at www.stedmunds.nsw.edu.au/aim

If you have any questions please email Terry O'Keefe

okeefe@stedmunds.nsw.edu.au

We look forward to welcoming you and your students!

Yours faithfully,

Vanesse Dillor

Vanessa Dillon | Principal

TESTIMONIALS, PRAYERS AND REFLECTIONS

This year our students visited St Edmunds as a part of the AIM Initiative, it was a fantastic day of learning and a sharing of positive experiences for all students from both schools. We would love to be involved again next year.

St Edward's College

Thank you for letting us visit your school and get to know your students. I enjoyed playing soccer with your students and found they are very good with their skills in the game. I also enjoyed helping them with their work and getting the chance to know their strengths and achievements. Going to St Edmund's is an experience that I will never forget.

I learnt so much and it was a really rewarding experience. Attending this school taught me patience, empathy and communication skills. I loved helping the students within the classroom and their unique perspectives and personalities made the day enjoyable and fulfilling. The students were so supportive of each other and their great achievements, which showed me how strong their sense of community is.

Visiting St Edmund's was a wonderful experience that taught me a lot. Mercy Catholic College This excursion strengthened my understanding of Jesus' teaching to love everyone as your neighbour. It has helped me appreciate the importance of compassion and empathy, looking past outward appearances to see the intrinsic value of each person. One should should look at the person, not the disability. This partnership allows us to develop a deeper understanding and appreciation for diversity, build empathy and inclusivity, and learn to overcome differences. It helps us recognise the value of service and community engagement, inspiring us to become advocates for equal opportunity in the future.

Loreto Normanhurst

We found our visit to be transformative. We were proud to adapt and assist in a meaningful way within the classroom and valued the connections we made with the Eddie's students We developed an increased understanding of intellectual disability and focused on what was shared and alike, rather than what was different We had fun passing the footy around with the Eddie's students during break times. We hope to return soon! Saint Ignatius' College Riverview

Prayers of the Faithful

Dear Lord,

We pray for St Edmund's College. That they. . .

Continue learning with an open heart and live a beautiful, happy life. I pray that they are always listened to and welcomed within the community.

Continue the organisation and continue to keep helping the young people in need as they are making a significant difference in their lives.

Are able to live long, happy lives and have the opportunities that they wish for. I pray that they all have equal opportunities and they are protected.

Are always loved and given a chance everywhere they go. I hope they never give up and strive for what they want to achieve. Continue to radiate with positive energy and demonstrate love for learning and joyous support for one another. Receive as much kindness as they give others. We pray that all the staff and teachers are blessed for their patience and

understanding.

Lord hear us.

Response: "Lord help us strive to make the world a better place" Brigidine College

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