

ANNUAL REPORT



EDMUND RICE FLEXI SCHOOL Elizabeth—SA

A Catholic School in the Edmund Rice Tradition

A member of the EREA Oscar Romero Flexi Schools Network

2023 EDITION

PRINCIPAL 'S MESSAGE

ERFS is our flexible learning school located south of Adelaide. Our senior school campus is located at Morphett Vale with our middle school campus at Christie Downs. ERFS belongs to the Edmund Rice Flexible Schools National Network, with a further 22 Flexi schools being part of this Network with a footprint in each State and Territory in Australia. Teaching in Edmund Rice Flexi Schools involves working within a unique, trauma informed, educational model designed to cater to the needs of young people who have experienced barriers to accessing mainstream education. Our schools operate under the principles of respect, participation, and empowerment; aiming to create a supportive and flexible learning environment.

Our vision is to provide a student-centred approach to learning where our learning plans are tailored to each student's needs, interests, and abilities. We have strived to build a strong supportive environment where students' wellbeing is our priority and where we build a community based on trust and positive relationships with our young people and the staff. Our EREA Touchstones (Gospel Spirituality, Inclusive Community, Liberating Education and Justice and Solidarity) calls us to be a place that is inclusive of all, where we offer alternative educational programs for young people, supporting our learners with complex needs through our VET offerings and engagement with our local communities and families.

This year our school continued to provide opportunities within our curriculum for our young people to grow and flourish through learning life skills and with many senior young people successfully completing their SACE certificate and gaining employment and apprenticeships. We are proud of the positive school culture we provide for the many young people in our school; where we develop their life skills, including emotional regulation, resilience and social skills. Our tailored curriculum and care of the individual has continued to see a growth of enrolment and waiting lists for both campuses. We are currently building a new site to combine both our senior and middle school. Given the history of ERFS has seen the movement to various locations over time we are looking forward in 2024 moving into a new building that will allow us to facilitate new learnings in a contemporary educational environment that will provide more specialty areas.

Thank you to the dedicated staff of teachers, education support officers, administration support and youth workers who are totally dedicated to the young people they serve each day. The staff adaptability, patience, empathy, creativity and commitment to make a positive difference in the lives of young people who need additional support and understanding is a constant example of them living the Edmund Rice spirit within our community.

“As educators, you are called to nurture the desire for truth, goodness and beauty that lies in the heart of each individual, so that all may learn how to love life and be open to the fullness of life”

Pope Francis

Shaun Clarke

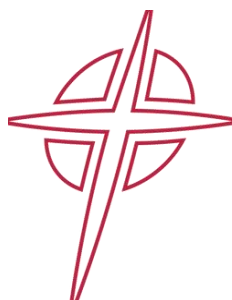
Area Principal (SA)

EDMUND RICE FLEXI SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Edmund Rice Flexi School is currently in its third year of operations as a registered school. Our school provides an educational and wellbeing service for young people aged 12– 21 years of age. In 2023 we continue to deliver our services across two sites. Davoren Park housed our Senior School students (Years 10-12+) while our site at the Elizabeth TAFE Campus held our Middle School classes (Years 7-9).

Our aim for both sites is to re-engage young people who are looking to access a different way of learning in a safe and nurturing environment. Fundamental to our operation is our EREA Flexi Practice Framework – Operation by Principles - Respect, Participation, Honesty and Safe & Legal, and Common Ground. Staff and young people come together on this ‘common ground’ where everyone has an equal voice in making decisions and establishing working agreements to foster a positive environment where young people can achieve positive educational and wellbeing outcomes.

Community partnerships are paramount to ERFS’s effectiveness in re-engaging young people with learning and wellbeing. These partnerships are key in developing protective factors in young people that transcend their school enrolment. Our partners are critical in supporting the development of strong, resilient and resourceful young people that are empowered to have a positive impact not only in their own lives but also those of their family and community. ERFS currently engages in Partnerships with the City of Playford, City of Salisbury, Town of Gawler, Catholic Education South Australia, Headspace; Metro Youth Health; University of SA; RASA; Youth Justice; NACYS; Legal Services Commission; Healthy Food Co; Centrelink; Local medical centres; Psychologists CAMHS; Creating Connections Therapy (onsite counsellors); Women’s Shed; Hope Street; AFSS; Elizabeth South Community Centres; Pelvic Pain Foundation of Australia; St Vincent DePaul; Playford Immunisation Clinic; Australian Dental Foundation; John McVeity Centre; Ingle Farm Rec Centre; Olympia Gym; EFM Mawson Lakes Gym; Ice Arena; Elizabeth Aquadome; SAPOL Liaison officers; Disability Agencies; Baptist Care; Local government and non-government high schools; Department of Child Protection; SHine; Carly Ryan Foundation; Foodbank; Sammy D Foundation; Sekseed; Maxima; MEGT; MTA; MAS National; SYC; IIFP; Media Makeup Academy; Bridgestone Select; CEG; MMTC and local businesses providing work experience for Edmund Rice Flexi School students.



EDMUND RICE FLEXI SCHOOL STUDENT INFORMATION

Student Profile Data

ENROLMENTS	2022	ATSI	GCE	NCCD	2023	ATSI	GCE	NCCD
Female	50	14	2	43	63	19	4	63
Male	55	13	0	55	63	18	6	63
Total	105	27	2	98	126	37	10	126

Student Attendance Data Percentage

YEAR	2022	2023
7	51.6%	67%
8	63.3%	64.3%
9	63.5%	56.2%
10	62.4%	63.6%
11	64.0%	62.8%
12	54.5%	61.1%

Student Destination Data 2023

DESTINATION	%
Mainstream school enrolment	26%
Transfer interstate	0%
Employment	26%
Further Tertiary Education (TAFE, Uni)	5%
Apprenticeship	0%
Traineeship	2%
Seeking employment	24%
Parenting	0%
Justice	0%
Cultural	0%
Unknown	17%

SCHOOL CURRICULUM PLANS & OUTCOMES

Edmund Rice Flexi School implements the 8 key learning areas of the Australian Curriculum and its 7 General capabilities using the following approaches:

- Numeracy and Literacy based tasks integrated into Project Based Learning activities.
- Using 'hands-on' learning to engage students in learning, utilizing local community spaces.
- Modified timetables to suit the needs of individual students.
- Modified tasks, assessments and adjustments for individual students.
- Scaffolding and differentiation for all activities and young people.
- Individual Learning and Wellbeing Plans created for each young person.
- Basic Key Skills Builder (BKSB) used to provide individualised literacy and numeracy program for each young person.
- Child Protection Curriculum delivered through class delivery and individualised student wellbeing sessions.
- Whole school Trauma Informed Practice using the Berry Street Model and Restorative Justice.

Australian Core Skills Framework (ACSF) is used to determine students' working levels in Basic Key Skills Builder (BKSB). This identifies students' levels in Literacy and Numeracy and allows for teachers to make necessary adjustments for individual students.

Middle School curriculum is aligned to the Australian Curriculum and unit plans are completed by teachers that demonstrate the links. Learning is underpinned by trauma informed practice which has a focus on project-based learning integrating literacy and numeracy. Each young person has unique needs and, as such, has a wholistic individual learning and wellbeing plan that flexibly implements adjustments enabling optimum learning and wellbeing outcomes.

Senior School programs are aligned to the SACE, and LAPs are produced to outline tasks to be completed and uploaded to Schools Online. Senior School students also have a strong focus on Vocational Education and Training with meaningful employment and further education pathways tailored for each student based on their interests and skills.

Reports are provided each semester for each student to advise and guide them in their learning and wellbeing progress and goals.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Senior Secondary School 2023

% YEAR 12 enrolled in a vocational certificate	% YEAR 11 and 12 Completed SACE, WACE, NTCET or equivalent	% YEAR 10-12 completed certificate modules and or school subjects
33%	62%	79%

Student Literacy 2023

YEAR LEVEL	BKSB PRE LEVEL-1	BKSB LEVEL 1	BKSB LEVEL 2	BKSB LEVEL 3	BKSB LEVEL 4
7	0	1	2	2	0
8	5	4	3	9	1
9	2	3	7	5	1
10	1	9	8	7	4
11	0	4	8	2	2
12	0	3	3	4	4
TOTAL	8	24	31	29	12

Student Numeracy 2023

YEAR LEVEL	BKSB PRE LEVEL-1	BKSB LEVEL 1	BKSB LEVEL 2	BKSB LEVEL 3	BKSB LEVEL 4
7	0	1	4	0	0
8	2	6	13	1	1
9	0	7	11	1	0
10	1	4	22	3	1
11	1	6	5	5	1
12	0	2	4	4	3
TOTAL	4	26	59	14	6

WELLBEING PROGRAM & OUTCOMES

Edmund Rice Flexi School continues to pave the way to ensure that all students have access to wellbeing supports to enhance their learning and engagement in our school community. 2023, continued to be a focus on our Wellbeing strategy and the four pillars identified for students by students:

- Positive Habits
- Healthy Relationships
- Connection to Community
- Positive Health Outcomes.

We have continued to work in collaboration with external support services, creating referral pathways for our students and offering on-site support. Our 1:1 wellbeing support continues to be an integral part of students learning and wellbeing experience. We understand the importance of, and the impact wellbeing has on engagement and learning, and our Youth Workers and teachers have continued to develop programs and activities to meet the needs of our young people.

We had a strong focus on community connections, including offering on-site support to our young people, such as counselling through our contractor and community referral support. These supports have included 1:1 support and group workshops, ranging from health and safety to nutrition and budgeting as well as visits to our local community supports and services.

Edmund Rice Flexi School understands that in order for young people to thrive, they need to have knowledge and connection to their local community, and we empower young people with information and skills to ensure they have all the tools they needs to be successful in all aspects of their learning and wellbeing.

WELLBEING PROGRAM NAME	DESCRIPTION	OUTCOMES
Community Connection	Students participated in several community explorations, to find out about services and agencies in their local community. These included local community centres, library, Foodbank, St Vincent de Paul, Hope, Elizabeth South Community Centre and Healthy Food Co. Students visited agencies and services in Playford and Salisbury Council Areas and participated in community events such as 'Daffodil Day' and 'Wear it Purple Day.	Students developed knowledge and resilience through connection to the local community.

WELLBEING PROGRAM & OUTCOMES – CONT.

Sexual Health and Relationships	<p>Students participated in workshops designed to increase their understanding of sexual health, reproductive system, consent, healthy and positive relationships and personal safety.</p> <p>Pelvic Pain Foundation of Australia attended our two sites to raise awareness on endometriosis, early detection and access to supports.</p> <p>SHINE SA provided on-site support to students, increasing their knowledge of SHINE SA services regarding LGBTIQ+ health, contraception, sexual health and counselling.</p>	<p>Students developed knowledge of sexual health, consent and establishing and maintaining positive relationships.</p> <p>Young people attended the SHINE SA workshop across both sites.</p>
School Counsellor	<p>Students participated in workshops delivered by Sammy D Foundation and Carlv Rvan Foundation to explore the</p> <p>Edmund Rice Flexi School partnered with Creating Connections Therapy to provide a mental health practitioner on site 1 day a week, providing immediate access to mental health support for young people, including referral and connection to other services and supports.</p>	<p>Students developed</p> <p>Students have access to mental health support and referral pathways.</p> <p>Furthermore, young people were supported to obtain a Mental Health Care Plan and receive specific mental health supports external to school counselling support.</p>
School Breakfast Program	<p>With the support of Foodbank, ERFS continued to provide a range of breakfast options to young people across both sites.</p>	<p>Access to nutritional breakfast, enhancing student focus and engagement.</p>
Legal Services Commission	<p>Legal Services Commission attended Davoren Park and Elizabeth site to provide information and support to young people around understanding their rights and responsibilities on: sexting, vaping, use and distribution of drugs and alcohol, social media, including distribution of images and child pornography.</p>	<p>Young people gained an understanding of South Australian laws on topics that affect them, including their rights and responsibilities.</p> <p>49 young people engaged in the workshops across both school sites.</p>

WELLBEING PROGRAM & OUTCOMES – CONT.

Foodbank and Hampers

Support to young people and families with food hampers and access to subsidised grocery items isolation, as well as Christmas hampers.

Over 20 Christmas Hampers were provided to young people in need and their families.

Additional 22 young people received support from school for food items and hygiene products and, Coles/Woolworth vouchers.

These young people were supported to access food vouchers for immediate financial relief.

Drugs and Alcohol

Young people were supported through external and on-site support, including group workshops to access information to understand the impact of drugs and alcohol on their physical and mental health wellbeing. Our local service support NACYS attended both of our sites to create connection and referral pathways for young people.

In group workshops, young people were provided with information on impact of drugs and alcohol and how to access support service.

6 young people were referred to NACYS for specialised drug and alcohol support, including mental health.

School Immunisation and Dental Program

School immunisation is an integral part of supporting young people's physical health. ERFS has developed strong relationship with the Playford Immunisation Clinic who visit our school twice a year to support students physical health and wellbeing through regular vaccination program.

Australian Dental Foundation has attended our school site, connecting with young people and their families to provide free dental check-ups and treatment.

Over 10 young people received up to date vaccination requirements at school.

Young people and their families understand the importance of oral health and have access to free and appropriate dental care.

8 young people received adequate dental care and advice.

WELLBEING PROGRAM & OUTCOMES – CONT.

Mental Health and emotional wellbeing

Headspace provided on-site workshops across both ERFS sites, supporting young people to understand what mental health is, looking after their mental health and developing safety plans for their emotional care and wellbeing.

Young people provided with information to access support and services, develop safety and care plans for their emotional wellbeing.

Wellbeing Outcomes

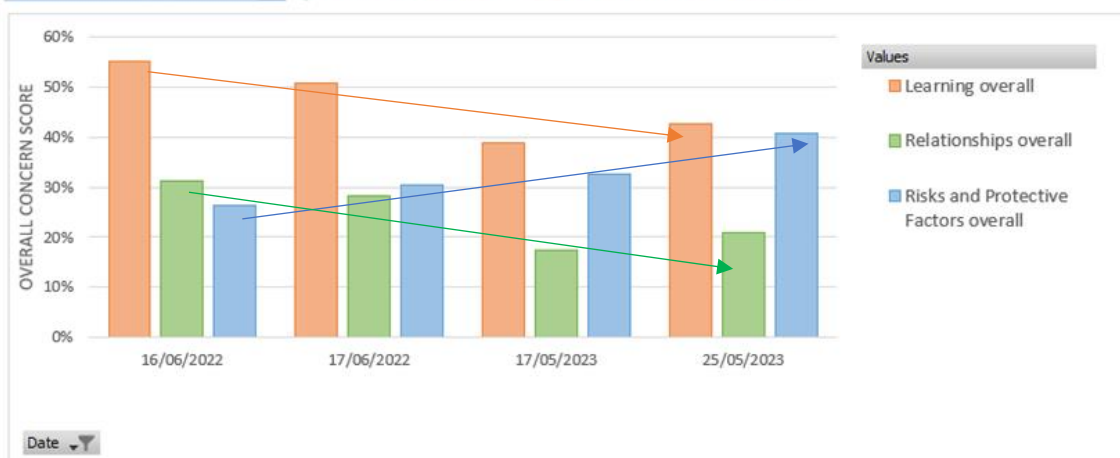
Our wellbeing summary data, using our validated Wellbeing Rubric tool, demonstrates a significant trend towards improvement in overall wellbeing of our cohort of young people from 2022 to 2023. Please note the lower the numerical score means that there is less concern across the 3 domains of wellbeing. The wellbeing scores above have been presented as a 'whole school summary'. The scores take into consideration the weighted importance (ie. high, medium, low, or none) of each aspect of wellbeing and have been standardised and converted to a percentage score that allows for easier interpretation and comparison between Dimensions. To assist in identifying students at risk, the Dimension scores have been calibrated to show - low to moderate concern for scores below 50%, - major concern for scores between 50% and 85%, and - critical concern for scores of 85% and above. The data confirms that there are very strong relationships within the ERFS Cohort with some strong improvement in overall connection to learning and strong relationships. There is increasing concern over risk and protective factors for our young people indicating that there may be increased 'community stress factors' that need addressing further.

Young Person Wellbeing Profile SUMMARY

Select 'all' or a specific student

27/06/2024

Name: (All) Remember to REFRESH name (Right button click on student name)



Row Labels	Learning overall	Relationships overall	Risks and Protective Factors overall
16/06/2022	55%	31%	26%
17/06/2022	51%	28%	31%
17/05/2023	39%	18%	33%
25/05/2023	43%	21%	41%
Grand Total	51%	28%	29%

Select date range

ATTENDANCE RETENTION STRATEGY

At Edmund Rice Flexi School we provide students with transport to and from school. Our Youth Workers continue to work with the Senior Students around developing independent skills by catching public transport. All students have breakfast provided onsite every day as well as lunch. Youth Workers follow up non-attendance every single day, making contact with families to find out reasons for any non-attendance. If we do not sight a young person within a fortnight, home visits are organised to go out and see the young person face-to face.

Our school also offers an Outreach program. This program is designed for students that do not have the capacity, at this point in time, to be on a school site. We have a teacher and youth worker allocated to this group and they meet with the young people in the community around their wellbeing and build on their capacity to link in with learning and perhaps returning to our school onsite.

A snapshot of the processes Edmund Rice Flexi School has in place to support our young people include:

- Daily transport to and from school.
- Daily Wellbeing check in circles to build a sense of connection and community.
- Daily morning activities to support students to prepare for engagement in learning.
- Building a sense of community through shared daily meals of breakfast and lunch
- Family food parcels and referrals to local emergency relief services.
- Operation by Principles and Common Ground Practice Framework where young people and staff all operate within a common ground framework eliminating traditional power paradigms and giving young people a voice.
- Daily awards: "Spirit Awards" and recognition of effort and achievement
- Working closely with other agencies to provide a holistic, whole of community response to meet the young person's social and emotional needs.
- Individualised learning programs tailored to student needs.
- Young person interest-driven School Timetable for PM learning block.
- Hands on- Project based learning strategies applied in class for engagement focused learning.
- Community Connection in learning to support positive engagement pathways.
- Home-based learning with regular teacher and youth worker connection and support.
- School holiday programs to continue connection and support networks with peers and agencies.
- Home wellbeing visits to support setting wellbeing and engagement goals.
- Regular meetings with families and young people to support their engagement, learning and wellbeing.
- Daily contact with family and student to follow up of non-attendance.
- Involvement of key local Community members in whole school events and celebrations.
- Home-based Services "OUTREACH Program" - these services are aimed at engaging extremely complex young people that are not able to physically attend the school site for

a variety of reasons.

- Referral to health services, home based wellbeing and engagement activities and remote learning packs are key elements to the successful engagement of young people in 2022.
- Engagement of on-site school counsellor who attends our school sites weekly to provide mental health, emotional and social wellbeing supports.

EDMUND RICE FLEXI SCHOOL WORKFORCE 2023

Position	FTE	Qualification	ATSI
Principal	0.3	Masters Bachelor Diploma Graduate Diploma x 3	
Deputy Principal	0.3	Masters Bachelor x 2 Graduate Diploma Diploma x 2 Certificate IV	
Head of Campus	1.0	Bachelor	
Associate Head of Campus	1.0	Bachelor	
Teachers	5.2	Bachelors x 7 Graduate Certificate x 2 Masters x 2 Graduate Diploma x 1 Certificate IV x 2	
Administration	5.8	Bachelor x 5 Diploma x 2 Certificate IV x 4 Certificate III x 2	
Youth Workers	3.7	Bachelor x 2 Diploma Certificate IV x 4 Certificate III	1

EDMUND RICE FLEXI SCHOOL SURVEY

Community Voice

How do Young People feel about ERFS?

STUDENT QUOTES

"I love Flexi, coz its different to other schools" – YP1

"I love Flexi, coz its better learning" – YP2

"I love Flexi, coz you guys pay for my TAFE course, giving me an opportunity to get into my career that I would never had received not being here" – YP3

"I love Flexi as it gave me the opportunity to join the Ice factor program, which has given me heaps more confidence and Flexi in general makes it heaps easier to learn" – YP4

"At my old School I didn't do any work, here I can do the work" – YP5

"I like that I get to do the things I enjoy, like art!" – YP6

"It's much easier for me to learn and there are lots of nice people." – YP7

"I like not having to wake up early, the classes are easier for me to learn in, and the teachers are kinder." – YP8

"I love Everything! I like that's it's flexible, there's less pressure and I'm not anxious about going to school anymore." – YP9

Testimonial

"When I first started at 'Edmund Rice Flexi School' I honestly didn't think I had any future. I Just come from a school that didn't care about me or my wellbeing. I was skipping school almost every day and on the days I did go, all I did was get mixed up in the wrong crowds and instead of the school trying to help me get an education, all they did was give me detention, a detention I also didn't go to!

Edmund Rice promised support, and a healthy learning environment and they delivered! They changed my timetable to better fit me, and offered work that was at my level. All the staff welcomed me and did all they could to get me to care about school again and it worked! I want from having no life goals, to graduating a year early with two Jobs that I love.

There's something for everyone here. They offer many different classes, courses, and help get your learner's and get jobs!

All I can say is 'Edmund Rice Flexi' saved me and my education. Thank you, 'Edmund Rice Flexi School' and all the loving staff."

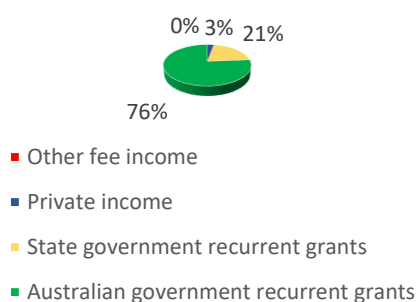
Parental Feedback

"My kiddo is finally enjoying school. Just finding his feet. We are so grateful. X"

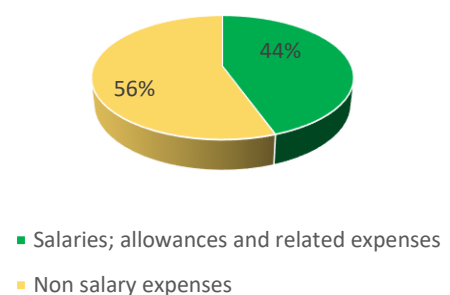
EDMUND RICE FLEXI SCHOOL FINANCIAL STATEMENT

REPORTING FRAMEWORK	AMOUNT \$
Recurrent income	
School fees	-
Other fee income	-
Private income	178,960
State government recurrent grants	1,302,645
Australian government recurrent grants	4,741,893
Total recurrent income	6,223,498
Recurrent Expenditure	
Salaries; allowances and related expenses	2,024,887
Non salary expenses	2,525,665
Total recurrent expenditure	4,550,552
Capital income and expenditure	
Government capital grants	-
Capital fees and levies	-
Other capital income	-
Total capital income	-
Total capital expenditure	104,215
Loans (includes refundable enrolment deposits and recurrent, capital and bridging loans)	
Total opening balance	-
Total closing balance	-

Edmund Rice Flexi School Recurrent Income 2023



Edmund Rice Flexi School Recurrent Expenditure 2023



Paula Bacchiella
EREA SA/WA Regional Director & Principal

P. J. Bacchiella