St Patrick’s Technical College is a purpose built, multi-million dollar trade training school that offers a specialist trade focused SACE program and award winning apprenticeship training for Year 11 and 12 students. St Patrick’s specialises in developing individual programs for students who wish to complete their SACE in conjunction with an Australian School-based Apprenticeship.

St Patrick’s began operations in 2007 as the Australian Technical College – Northern Adelaide, an initiative of the Australian Government in partnership with the Catholic Archdiocese of Adelaide and the Northern Adelaide Industry Consortium. In July 2009, the College governance and ownership passed to the South Australian Commission for Catholic Schools on behalf of the Archdiocese of Adelaide, and the College began a new journey as St Patrick’s Technical College within Catholic Education South Australia.

The teaching and learning programs at St Patrick’s have been developed specifically to support the trades in which the College delivers pre-vocational training. Core subjects including Mathematics, English and Science are each taught in a context that makes them relevant to each specific trade / career pathway. These programs have been developed with significant input from industry and with the assistance of Registered Training Organisations.

St Patrick’s aims to create a real workplace experience for students. From the fully equipped commercial kitchen, specialist workshops and live building sites to the six weeks of structured work placements that form a key component of the teaching and learning programs, the College places a strong emphasis on the transition from school to work.

The College embeds the subject of Workplace Practices across all courses assisting students in developing interview skills, resume writing and goal setting. The College boasts a significant proportion of teaching staff that hold trade qualifications and have extensive experience in industry. In addition there is an emphasis on pastoral care with a full-time Student Development Manager, Industry Relations Manager and a Counsellor.

Trade Courses

St Patrick’s offers pathways in the following trade areas:
- Automotive
- Building & Construction
- Electrotechnology
- Food & Hospitality
- Hair & Beauty
- Metals & Engineering
- Plumbing

The College’s Advanced Technology Unit offers a trade and tertiary pathway in:
- Applied Engineering

Apprenticeships & Industry Partnerships

St Patrick’s Technical College works in collaboration with an extensive network of industry associations, employers, training providers and group training organisations to present opportunities for students to start their trade careers through Australian School-based Apprenticeships.

It is important to note that the School-based Apprenticeships at St Patrick’s Technical College are unique.

Due to the flexible approach the College takes to timetabling, St Patrick’s students can spend up to 34 weeks full-time during Year 12 engaged in paid employment and training with an employer enabling them to complete the first year of an apprenticeship while completing the requirements of the SACE.

Whilst the College can’t guarantee a student an apprenticeship, two out of every three students who has attended St Patrick’s Technical College since 2007 has gained an apprenticeship during their enrolment.

Location

St Patrick’s Technical College is located at the gateway to the Edinburgh North Smart Industries Precinct with transport links from across Northern Adelaide, the Barossa Valley, northern Adelaide Hills and Lower North.