



S^tPATRICK'S
Technical College

SACE ■ TRAINING ■ APPRENTICESHIPS

Policies & Procedures 1.1

Ethos & Charter

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BACKGROUND & COLLEGE PHILOSOPHY

St Patrick's Technical College was one of twenty-five Colleges established across Australia in 2007 funded by the Australian Government. Three were located in South Australia - the Spencer Gulf region, Southern Adelaide and Northern Adelaide. A consortium consisting of the Northern Adelaide Industry Group and the Catholic Archdiocese of Adelaide successfully won the tender to establish the College in the Northern Adelaide region.

In 2009 the Australian Government decided to no longer fund Technical Colleges and each College was required to submit a plan to the government that identified a state based educational authority under which the College would operate and describe how the College would be financially viable. The Northern Adelaide College was taken over by the Catholic Archdiocese of Adelaide under the umbrella of the Catholic Education Office and its name changed from Australian Technical College – Northern Adelaide to St Patrick's Technical College.

St Patrick's Technical College enables students to achieve trade training through an Australian School Based Apprenticeship while completing Years 11 and 12 of the South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE).

The College offers an alternative to the traditional Year 11 and 12 pathways by integrating SACE subjects with trade, business and life skills. The SACE curriculum is designed specifically for Australian School Based Apprenticeships within an industry context. The learning program is developed to facilitate the transition from school to work and helps students lay the foundations for the career they want by giving them the real world skills to help them be a success. St Patrick's Technical College offers trade pathways for students in the following areas:

- Applied Engineering
- Automotive (General)
- Automotive (Heavy Vehicle)
- Building & Construction
- Food & Hospitality
- Electro-technology
- Hair & Beauty
- Mining, Metals & Engineering
- Plumbing

What sets the College apart from other educational institutions is the involvement of industry. The College forms strong relationships with industry located in the Northern Adelaide region from the industry sectors designated above to facilitate:

- Curriculum development targeting industry needs
- On-the-job training placements via work experience
- Employment of apprentices



GOVERNANCE

The College is governed by a Governing Board which is comprised of ten members and led by an industry chair. Four members of the Board are appointed by industry partners associated with the College and have a background in the preferred industry areas in which training is offered. Five members are appointed by the Catholic Archdiocese of Adelaide. The Principal is an ex-officio member of the Board with voting rights.

MISSION

St Patrick's Technical College ensures within a flexible learning environment the provision of skills training, education and mentoring for its students that will help them find and achieve their potential in a career which suits them and contributes to addressing skills shortages in the Northern Adelaide region.

Through a diverse, flexible and futures oriented response to learning, further education and training the College provides a foundation for students intellectual, physical, social, moral, spiritual and aesthetic development.

The College encourages students to achieve their full potential in their selected trade, in an industry experiencing skill shortages, while undertaking academic studies leading to the successful completion of SACE while keeping open the options for further study including university entry.

By fostering the pursuit of excellence, the College equips students for their transition to lifelong and life wide education and training.

VISION

St Patrick's Technical College provides the highest quality vocational and technical education and training to meet industry needs, and contributes to the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of the young people and the community in the northern region of metropolitan Adelaide.

VALUES

A strong Christian-based values framework is the foundation stone of the development of the ethos, culture and identity of the College and its community. At its centre is a focus on upholding the dignity of each individual and the well-being of students and their families. This Christian-based values framework is demonstrated by:

- Upholding the dignity of each student while attending to their intellectual, moral, physical, emotional, social, spiritual and pastoral well-being
- Case-managing, mentoring and supporting individual student learning programs
- Providing suitable and supportive learning and work environments for each student



- Developing students' self-esteem through their successful engagement in meaningful and integrated learning, structured workplace experiences and contributions to family and social relationships.
- Working in partnership with the families of the young people enrolled at the College for the benefit and common good of the broader community and region
- Developing partnerships with mentors and strong links with existing business, industry groups, other relevant local government and education and training organisations for the mutual benefit of students and the northern region of Adelaide.
- Having a focus on community involvement which heightens the student's sense of justice and leads to a greater awareness of civic responsibility.

PERSONALISED LEARNING & CASE MANAGEMENT

Students develop individual learning programs that meet their aspirations, vocational goals and industry needs with support from the staff of the College. Industry partners visit the College to conduct presentations relating to their particular industry and inform students about expectations and apprenticeship opportunities.

The College provides students with the support structures they require for success in their SACE as well as in their VET training and through their school based apprenticeship. Innovative and flexible methods of delivery enable students to meet their individual SACE requirements and to successfully engage in a school based apprenticeship.

The College offers training in identified areas of skill shortages. Specialist VET Training is offered through contractual arrangements developed with TAFE SA and/or Registered Training Organisations and industry partners.

Students learning programs are customised to maximise options for completion of the SACE and VET competencies, as well as recognition for prior learning.

Students undergo an intensive Year 11 SACE program which includes:

- Completion of compulsory subjects – English, Maths and Research Project
- Minimum six weeks work experience
- Partial completion of a Certificate II prevocational course in their chosen trade

Year 11 is campus-based and considered an important preparatory year to develop employability skills and achieve the essential components to get an apprenticeship (i.e. driver's licence, car, job readiness and industry contacts through work experience).

Year 12 is devoted to completion of SACE as well as gaining an apprenticeship. Apprenticeship opportunities are promoted to students consistently throughout Year 12.



Students who gain school based apprenticeships will graduate with the SACE Certificate as well as successfully being employed as an apprentice.

Students who remain campus based and are successful will graduate with the SACE Certificate as well as completing Certificate II in their chosen trade.

RELATED POLICIES

- *1.2 – Corporate Governance*
- *1.4 – Staff Code of Conduct*
- *1.5 – Sexual Harassment*
- *1.6 – Equal Opportunity*